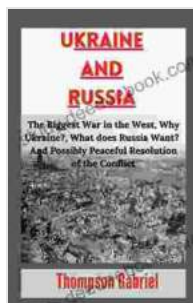


The Biggest War in the West: Why Ukraine? What Does Russia Want? And What's Next?

The war in Ukraine is the biggest conflict in Europe since World War II. It has caused a humanitarian crisis, with millions of people displaced and thousands killed. The war has also had a major impact on the global economy and security.

What are the causes of the war?

The war in Ukraine has its roots in a number of factors, including:



Ukraine and Russia: The Biggest War in the West, Why Ukraine?, What does Russia Want? And Possibly Peaceful Resolution of the Conflict by Jodi Taylor

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Screen Reader	: Supported
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- **The collapse of the Soviet Union:** The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 led to the independence of Ukraine. However, Russia has never fully accepted Ukraine's independence and has continued to exert influence over the country.

- **The expansion of NATO:** The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a military alliance of Western countries. In 2004, NATO expanded eastward to include Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia. This expansion was seen by Russia as a threat to its security.
- **The Ukrainian revolution of 2014:** In 2014, a pro-Russian president of Ukraine was overthrown by a popular uprising. This led to a civil war in eastern Ukraine between Ukrainian government forces and pro-Russian separatists.
- **The annexation of Crimea:** In 2014, Russia annexed Crimea, a peninsula in southern Ukraine. This was a major escalation of the conflict in Ukraine and led to international condemnation.

What does Russia want?

Russia's goals in the war in Ukraine are not entirely clear. However, it is likely that Russia wants to achieve the following:

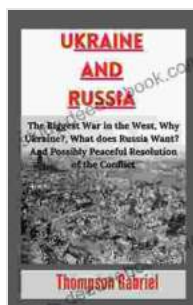
- **Topple the Ukrainian government:** Russia may want to replace the current Ukrainian government with a pro-Russian government.
- **Control eastern Ukraine:** Russia may want to control eastern Ukraine, which has a large Russian-speaking population.
- **Weaken NATO:** Russia may want to weaken NATO and prevent further expansion of the alliance.
- **Restore its influence over Ukraine:** Russia may want to restore its influence over Ukraine and prevent it from becoming a fully independent state.

What are the possible outcomes of the war?

The war in Ukraine could have a number of possible outcomes, including:

- **A Russian victory:** Russia could achieve its goals in Ukraine, which would likely lead to a further weakening of Ukraine and a strengthening of Russia's position in the region.
- **A Ukrainian victory:** Ukraine could defeat Russia and regain control of its territory. This would be a major blow to Russia and could lead to a reassessment of its foreign policy.
- **A negotiated settlement:** The war could end with a negotiated settlement between Russia and Ukraine. This would likely involve some concessions from both sides.
- **A prolonged conflict:** The war could also drag on for years, with no clear winner. This would be a major humanitarian disaster and could destabilize the region.

The war in Ukraine is a major challenge for the international community. It is important to understand the causes of the war, Russia's goals, and the possible outcomes of the conflict. The international community must work together to find a peaceful solution to the war and prevent further bloodshed.



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