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Russia's Invasion of Ukraine
Investigation Report

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Russia and Ukraine are countries with their own language, culture, social and political awareness from similar origins. Ukraine, one of the parts of the USSR in the historical process, declared its independence after the collapse of the USSR. Although Ukraine has declared its independence, it has never been able to escape from being stuck between the two poles. Russia and the USA have tried and are trying to dominate Ukraine.

The eastern part of Ukraine has a densely political and vibrant Russian population. The western region consists of nationalists. In this sense, nationalists are also pro-US and pro-EU. In this direction, the Ukrainian presidents, like the people, have been pro-Western or pro-Russian. The first president of Ukraine was Leonid Kuchma, who was pro-Russian. In 1997, he signed a 20-year friendship agreement with the President of Russia, Boris Yeltsin. While the eastern citizens of Ukraine were satisfied with Kuchma, the western citizens described Kuchma as a "thief" and accused him for "selling the country to Russia". As a result, anti-Kuchma protests started in western Ukraine in 2001, and elections were held in 2004. Viktor Yushchenko, representing the USA and the EU, and Viktor Yanukovich, representing Russia, had an eventful election process and finally, Yushchenko won the elections.

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But Yushchenko could not solve the problems and handed over the country to the hands of the USA and the EU.

Yanukovych became president in 2010. He announced that Ukraine had suspended the EU Association Agreement to open up its relations with the West. Afterward, the nationalists in the west of Ukraine started to take action. When the protests intensified, Yanukovych fled to Russia. Just at this time, Russian separatists in Ukraine started to revolt in Crimea. On the other hand, Putin connected Crimea to Russia. Then, rebellions started in the Donbas region. With the uprising of the Russian separatists, most of Donbas was separated from Ukraine. Then, the supporters who came together in Minsk, Belarus, declared a ceasefire. When all the data are gathered together, it can be said that there is a case of the Donbas Region. Because Donbas has rich natural resources. While Ukraine wants to take back the entire Donbas region, Putin wants to take the entire Donbas and prevent the US and EU settlements in Ukraine.

Tensions that lasted for many years have now resulted in war. Tense talks have been taking place between Europe and Russia for a while. On February 22, 2022, Ukraine woke up with war sirens and many civilian casualties.

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Caught in the midst of noise and fire, the people of Ukraine desperately formed lines at ATMs, markets, and gas stations for their basic needs. Frightened people took cover in shelters and metro stations. At the same time, although martial law was declared in Kyiv, shelters were opened in various places.

Reactions from the world to Russia's attack were not delayed. There were even threats of sanctions from the USA and European countries. White House spokesperson Jen Psaki stated that Joe Biden will sign an agreement banning new investment and trade in the besieged areas of Donetsk and Luhansk. Secondly, the British foreign secretary, Liz Truss, said that she would coordinate with the Allies and would not allow Russia to violate its international commitments with impunity. On the other hand, French President Emmanuel Macron underlined the urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council and called for the acceptance of European sanctions against Russia. Accordingly, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced that they agreed with Joe Biden and Emmanuel Macron so that Putin's decision would not remain unanswered. NATO and European Union officials also described the attack as "barbaric" and stated that the Russian economy would be targeted with financial and technological sanctions.

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Turkey, on the other hand, found Russia's decision unacceptable and emphasized its commitment to the protection of Ukraine's territorial integrity. Finally, China supported Russia and said that this was not an invasion.

After the attack, many Ukrainians started to leave the country. European countries such as Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, and Hungary reported that they started to prepare for immigrants. In particular, Poland has announced that it can receive 500,000 Ukrainian immigrants. In line with the calls, a massive influx of migration to Europe is expected. In this sense, the world is faced with a new grave situation. People have been forced to give up their homes, their lives, their lives by force of war. Latest news will continue to be shared.

