

## **A Geographical Study of Geopolitics in Ukraine and Russia**

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### **Abstract:**

Ratzel explains that the three stages of statehood are adolescence, adulthood, and old age. Russia launched a military operation in Ukraine on February 24, 2022. And caught the attention of the whole world. Given the tense situation in Ukraine and Russia, the world is not being pushed into the abyss of World War III! The world seems to be worried about this. In the 9th century, the country of Slavic tribes, Kiwan Russia, came into existence in Eastern Europe. Later, Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus evolved from the same Kiwan region Such is the belief of the people here. The monarchy came to an end in 1917 after the Russian Revolution. The rise of the Soviet Union, or communist ideology, in 1922. In 1991, the Soviet Union disintegrated into 15 countries. At that time, Ukraine declared independence. Fourteen European countries have joined NATO since the break-up of the Soviet Union. Now he wants to include Ukraine in NATO. Because of this geopolitics. Ukraine and Russianist are simmering. The main reason for this is the Cold War between the America and Russia.

**Keyword: Revolutionary, Heartland, Geopolitics, Slavic tribes, Orthodox Christianity.**

### **Introduction:**

Ratzel, using Darwin's law of evolution, proposed the revolutionary idea of geopolitics. The state system, like the living beings, has three stages namely youth, adulthood and old age. Retzel also said that the boundaries of state institutions are like skin on the body. Retzel said that the development of the state institutions is the result of continuous efforts to get maximum space, place, land which is the required habitat. Every state must make efforts to meet the needs of the place. It is also insisted that only huge physical size, maximum area is power.

In 1905, Mackinder proposed the Heartland theory. According to him, there would be a struggle between the supremacists and the naval powers to gain the respect of Agra Puja in the world. Geopolitics is the study of human resources and natural resources in a region by the German fighter and geopolitical expert Carl Hoshofer in the national interest.

The ongoing dispute between Ukraine and Russia is geopolitical. This has been studied in this research paper. Russia launched a military operation in Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Caught the attention of the whole world. Because of the tense situation in the Ukraine-Russia conflict, The world is not being pushed into the abyss of World War III! The world seems to be worried about this.

### **Objective:**

This research essay has been studied with the following objectives in mind.

- 1) Finding the causes of the geopolitical dispute between the two nations, Ukraine and Russia.
- 2) Examining the role of the United States and NATO in the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

### **Hypothesis:**

- 1) Geopolitics is the cause of the war between Ukraine and Russia.
- 2) The NATO alliance sparked a war between Ukraine and Russia.

### **Study Area:**

Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe, with Belarus to the north of Ukraine, Russia Poland to the northeast, Slovakia and Hungary. To the southwest are Romania and Moldova. To the south is the Black Sea and to the southeast is the Sea of Ozov. The area of Ukraine is 603628 sq. Km. Ukraine ranks 46th in the world in terms of area.

Russia is the largest country in the world in terms of area. The official name of the country is the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Russia's area is 2202200 sq. Km. I That's it. The Arctic Ocean to the north, China to the south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.

### **Research Methodology and Data Collection:**

Different types of information have been adopted to make this dissertation analytical. Such as various international events and newspapers, TV channels, various internet data have been used. This research paper is the secondary data method adopted.

### **Discussion:**

American geographer Crazy suggests the term geopolitics. Ukraine and Russia are the two countries that have the biggest geopolitical conflict. Russia's move to end Ukraine's military presence in the two eastern Ukrainian provinces of Luhansk and Donetsk has sparked World War III. Ukraine and Russia are at loggerheads. The answer lies in the history and geography of both the countries.

#### **1) Cultural History of Ukraine-Russia:**

In the 9th century, the country of Slavic tribes, or Russia, came into existence in Eastern Europe. People here later believe that Ukraine, Russia and Belarus evolved from the same Kiwan Russia province. In the 10th century, Prince Vladimir Yanrus ruled in the 10th century. He is also known as Prince Vladimir the Great. It was Vladimir who converted and propagated Orthodox Christianity, so he is known as Saint Vladimir in many countries, including Russia and Ukraine. In terms of religion and ethnicity, Ukraine and Russia originate from the same area. Russia's rule lasted for almost four centuries. But after the fall of Russia, this relationship broke down. Different regional powers were formed in Eastern Europe. The region was once ruled by the Mughal Empire and the Polish Empire. Then, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Ukraine became part of the Russian Empire again. Then, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Ukraine became part of the Russian Empire again.

#### **1) Ukraine in Soviet Era:**

The monarchy came to an end in 1917 after the Russian Revolution. The origin of the Soviet Union, or communist ideology, in 1922. At the time, Ukraine was one of the founding members of the Soviet Union. For 69 years, Ukraine and Russia have been living together as part of the Soviet Union. That is to say, during the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States, Ukraine was at against with the United States. But not everything is going well in these two countries. In 1932-33 there was a great drought in Ukraine. Malians People died in that drought. The drought, known as Holodomor, was man-made. Even today, Ukrainians believe that the policies of the Soviet Union were responsible for this. This dissatisfied was growing day by day. Poverty in the Soviet Union, the impact aftermath of the Cold War, the emergence of new ideas after the fall of communism, and the changes brought about by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev finally led to the disintegration of the Soviet Union into 15 countries in 1991. At that time, Ukraine declared independence. These things

are still sadness of this in Russia's mind after so many years.

### **2) Geographical and strategic importance of Ukraine:**

The distance between the capital of Russia Masco and the capital of Ukraine Kiev is between 700 to 800 kilometers. Inevitably, Ukraine remains strategically important to Russia. During the Cold War, Ukraine had the largest nuclear arsenal in the Soviet Union. From Russia's point of view, having Ukraine on its side has always been a priority for Russia, considering its trade routes to the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Russia sees Ukraine as the main link between Eastern European countries and a buffer zone to the West. Holy Russia has decided to respond to the direct challenge posed by Russia to NATO Military in the buffer zone. Russia does not want European nations to supply arms to Ukraine. In the last few decades Kivhso, the influence of European thought has been growing. As a result, two groups, pro-Russian and pro-European, have fallen into Ukraine. Although Ukraine is part of the European continent, Ukraine is not a member of the European Union and is not a member of NATO.

### **3) Linguistic equations:**

This division already exists in Ukraine. Because even though it is a country, Ukraine is not a linguistic and cultural union. The Ukrainian language is spoken in the western and central parts of Ukraine. The southern and eastern provinces are inhabited mainly by people whose mother tongue is Russian. The cause of the conflict in 2014 is the identity associated with language. At that time, the demonstrations in Kinwa's ground always led to independence. President Viktor Yanukovich had fled the country and taken refuge in Russia. The Europeans then came to power in Ukraine and then decided to split the Russian-speaking Crimean peninsula and move to Russia.

### **4) Russia's ambitions:**

This is written by Oliver Bulo, The Prime Minister of Russia had mentioned in his speech that he would reshape the country. That is to say, Russia has the intention of making it an influential nation again. The President of Russia is keen to establish the identity of a leader who reunites all these Russians, It is as if Russia has invaded Ukraine. As part of this, Russia invaded Georgia, formerly part of the Soviet Union, in 2008 and annexed parts of Georgia's South Ossetia and Abkhazia. From time to time he has been supporting the Russian people in Ukraine, the Russian-speaking people. That is why he decided to merge Crimea with Russia. The same situation has arisen once again. Russia's president has recognized the independence of Donetsk and Luhansk, separatist regions in Ukraine. NATO Military are standing on the threshold of Ukraine and alternatively. In this way, an attempt has been made to find the root causes of the geopolitical dispute between Russia and Ukraine.

### **US-NATO role in Ukraine-Russia dispute:**

After World War II, the Soviet Union and the United States emerged as two major powers. According to Mackinder's heartland theory, these powerful nations wanted to dominate the world. As a result, relations between the United States and the Soviet Union began to deteriorate. The Cold War broke out between the two nations. The communist government of the Soviet Union wanted to establish its dominance over the weakened European countries after World War II. The Soviet Union's plan was for Turkey to dominate Greece. By controlling Turkey and Greece, the Soviet Union wanted to control world trade through the Black Sea. This expansionist policy of the Soviet Union completely ruined its relations with the West, the United States, and eventually European countries and the United States came together and formed NATO to prevent the spread of the Soviet Union in Europe. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, NATO expanded rapidly. This expansion took place mainly between Europe and the countries that were part of the Soviet Union. In 2004, three countries joined NATO. Which was part of the Soviet Union. Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, and all three countries are bordered by Russia. Ukraine, which borders Russia, has been attacking Ukraine for the past few years because of its ambition to join NATO. Because the length of the border between Ukraine and Russia is about 2200 kilometers. Russia is confident that if Ukraine joins NATO, NATO troops will reach Russia's

borders under the pretext of Ukraine.

If Ukraine joins NATO, Moscow's capital will be only 640 kilometers away from the West. At present this distance is about 1600 kilometers. Russia wants assurances that Ukraine will never join NATO. The US is encircling Russia through NATO. Fourteen European countries have joined NATO since the break-up of the Soviet Union. Now he wants to include Ukraine in NATO. Because of this geopolitics. Ukraine and Russianism are simmering. The main reason for this is the Cold War between the US and Russia.

**Conclusion:**

The geopolitical dispute between Ukraine and Russia is a result of the Cold War between the United States and Russia. The US wants to stop Russia. We want to increase our dominance in the world. Russia has objected to the US move to increase its dominance. This has led to geopolitical disputes between Ukraine and Russia.

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