

**RE-ENACTING TRUMAN'S DOCTRINE BY NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION (NATO) IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE AMIDST RUSSIA'S ANNEXATION INTEREST**

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**Abstract**

The study sets out to analyse the application of Truman's Doctrine by North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in support of Ukraine in building economic and political stability amidst Russia's subjugation and annexation interest. Scholars and international opinion leaders have averred that the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict gravely undermines Euro-Atlantic and global security, as Russia's continued aggression towards Ukraine is a blatant violation of international law on the right to self-determination and sovereignty with its concomitant effects directly on Ukraine and on the global space. Essentially, the inability of scholars to scientifically address how NATO applies the Truman's doctrine to promote economic and political stability of the Ukrainian state in the face of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine impasse constitutes the problematique of this study. The study adopted causal research design, also known as explanatory research; whereas, the beacon of analysis is hinged on the theory of responsibility to protect (R2P). The study deciphered that NATO has stood in unwavering solidarity with the government and people of Ukraine in the heroic defence of their nation, their land and their values to ensure stability in the polity amidst the conflict. NATO and its allies fully support Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence as enshrined in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. The study recommended that there is need for NATO to increase its supports to Ukraine in building economic and political stability, by bolstering Ukraine's democratic institutions; invest in Ukrainian civil society organisations (CSOs); support independent media organisations and journalists in Ukraine; restore investors' confidence; and support drivers of change in Russia and Belarus.

**Keywords:** Truman's Doctrine; North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO); Sovereignty; Economic Stability; Political Stability; Conflict.

**Introduction**

Fundamentally, relations between Russia and Ukraine have seen a turbulent range of upheavals and escalations, and their shared history dates back to at least the late 1700s, when the region that is now known as Ukraine joined the Russian empire after periods of rule under the Mongols, the Poles, and the Lithuanians. Ukraine, however, proclaimed its independence in 1918, a year after the communist revolution in Russia, but the Red Army eventually seized the majority of it in 1921, transforming Ukraine into a republic inside the Soviet Union (Muzamil, 2022).

The Ukraine crisis, which has its origins in the post-cold war world, erupted in the winter of 2013-2014 after Viktor Yanukovich, Ukraine's then-president, failed to sign the European Union-Ukraine Association Agreement in November 2013, sparking Euromaidan, a wave of pro-EU protests across Ukraine. In order to limit Ukraine's European ambitions, Russia sought to delegitimize the pro-EU leadership in order to maintain the narrative that Ukraine naturally leans toward Russia. However, due

to a series of events, Yanukovich was forced to relinquish the presidency (Muzamil, 2022). A Russian military build-up on Ukraine's border in 2021 and 2022 worsened bilateral relations between the two nations and heightened tensions, which ultimately prompted Russia to launch an invasion of Ukraine. In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Ukraine severed diplomatic ties with Moscow. Numerous locations across Ukraine had streets with Russian historical figures' names on them as well as monuments signifying the friendship between Russia and Ukraine. Toponymy containing names connected to Russia was outlawed by the Ukrainian parliament in March 2023 (Tondo & Koshiw, 2023).

Human security has become a more important factor within the NATO context, which strengthens its new identity being not just a military alliance, but also a political military institution. Post-modern security communities recognize security in terms of human security. During the Cold War, for example, there was a widespread – though by no means universal – consensus among international relations scholars that security meant national security, i.e. the interest and survival of the state (Bellamy, 2004). Among numerous other variations, the concept of human security may be defined in terms of economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security. The three different conceptions of human security – rights/rule-of-law, safety of people, and sustainable development, are marked by different understandings about what constitutes the main threat to human security (Bellamy, 2004).

Meanwhile, the Truman Doctrine is an American foreign policy that pledges American support for democracies under threat from authoritarian regimes. The doctrine's primary goal during the Cold War was to limit Soviet geopolitical expansion. On March 12, 1947, President Harry S. Truman announced it to Congress, and on July 4, 1948, he pledged to quell communist uprisings in Greece and Turkey (McCullough, 1992). In general, the Truman Doctrine implied US support for other nations under threat from Moscow. It became the bedrock of American foreign policy, resulting in the 1949 formation of NATO, a military alliance that still exists today. Historians frequently use Truman's speech to date the start of the Cold War (Michael, 2006).

The full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Putin was unaffected by a barrage of sanctions from the US and EU. Since then, the war has not only resulted in thousands of deaths and millions of displaced people, but it has also had an impact on political stability and the economy in nations all the way from South Asia to Britain (Muzamil, 2022). In response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, NATO significantly reinforced its deterrence and defense posture, including four new battle groups in the eastern part of the Alliance. At the NATO Summit in Madrid, Allies agreed that Russia is the most significant and direct threat to their security and to peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area. Allies also agreed to further strengthen NATO's posture. However, Allies remain willing to keep open channels of communication with Moscow to manage and mitigate risks, prevent escalation and increase transparency, yet Russia's hostility against Ukraine has continued (Merrill, 2006; Muzamil, 2022).

It is against this backdrop that this study seeks to interrogate the application of Truman's doctrine by North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in support of Ukraine in building economic and political stability amidst Russia's annexation interest.

## Conceptual Delineations

### Truman's Doctrine

The Truman Doctrine arose from a speech delivered by President Truman before a joint session of Congress on March 12, 1947. The immediate cause for the speech was the announcement by the British Government that, as from March 31, it would no longer provide military and economic assistance to the Greek Government in its civil war against the Greek Communist Party. Truman asked Congress to support the Greek Government against the Communists. He also asked Congress to provide assistance for Turkey, since that nation, too, had previously been dependent on British aid (Truman's Congress speech of 1947, cited in McCullough, 1992, p. 547).

Accordingly, Truman suggested to the US Congress that it should be US policy to support free peoples who are resisting attempts at subjugation by armed minorities or by external pressures. Truman believed that because totalitarian governments impose their will on free people, they inevitably pose a threat to both the security of the United States and the continuity of the global order. According to him, the region would suffer greatly if aid was not provided to Greece and Turkey because they would inevitably turn to communism (McCullough, 1992; Michael, 2006).

On March 12, 1947, Truman appeared before a joint session of Congress. In his eighteen-minute speech, he stated:

I believe it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures. I believe that we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way. I believe that our help should be primarily through economic and financial aid which is essential to economic stability and orderly political processes (Truman's Congress speech of 1947, cited in McCullough, 1992, p. 547).

This became the cornerstone of American Cold War foreign policy, which was unofficially extended to include the entirety of Europe and the rest of the world. It transformed American foreign policy towards the Soviet Union from one of wartime alliance to one of containing Soviet expansion, as advocated by diplomat George Kennan. It distinguished itself from rollback by implicitly tolerating the earlier Soviet takeover of Eastern Europe (Michael, 2006).

### The Concept of Sovereignty

The concept of sovereignty has had multiple conflicting components, varying definitions, and diverse and inconsistent applications throughout history. The current notion of state sovereignty contains four aspects: territory, population, authority and recognition (Biersteker, & Weber, 1996). According to Biersteker & Weber (1996), the term could also be understood in four different ways:

1. Domestic sovereignty: actual control over a state exercised by an authority organized within this state,
2. Interdependence sovereignty: actual control of movement across the state's borders.
3. International legal sovereignty: formal recognition by other sovereign states.
4. Westphalia sovereignty: there is no other authority in the state aside from the domestic sovereign (such other authorities might be e.g. a political organization or any other external agent).

Often, these four aspects all appear together, but this is not necessarily the case – they are not affected by one another, and there are historical examples of states that were non-sovereign in one aspect while at the same time being sovereign in another of these aspects.[8. Sovereignty can generally be defined as supreme authority (Philpott, 1995). Sovereignty entails hierarchy within the state, as well as external autonomy for states (Spruyt, 1994). In any state, sovereignty is assigned to the person, body

or institution that has the ultimate authority over other people in order to establish a law or change existing laws. In political theory, sovereignty is a substantive term designating supreme legitimate authority over some polity. In international law, sovereignty is the exercise of power by a state. De jure sovereignty refers to the legal right to do so; de facto sovereignty refers to the factual ability to do so. This can become an issue of special concern upon the failure of the usual expectation that de jure and de facto sovereignty exist at the place and time of concern, and reside within the same organization (Spruyt, 1994; Philpott, 1995).

Essentially, the articulations of sovereign power dates back to the 1648 Peace of Westphalia, where the treaty traditionally defined sovereignty in terms of a state's ability to regulate its own political affairs and enter into agreements with other sovereign states. The principles of Westphalian sovereignty also assumed the equality of all sovereign states, regardless of their relative power or size. Before the Peace of Westphalia, religious and ideological leaders such as the Pope often interfered with state political authority, consolidating sovereignty under one religious office (Thomas, 1999; Shaw, 2003). However, this idea of sovereignty can be faulted in the current trend of super-power-states' hegemonic influences on lesser-power states' economies, politics and militaries. These hegemonic controls were evident in the colonial era, during the World Wars, the Cold War, and presently in the neo-colonial and globalized world. In the light of the above, sovereignty cannot be said to be the equalization of states in the global arena.

Similar definitions of sovereignty were also recognized in the establishment of the United Nations Charter in 1945, which stated that the Organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members. It also said, nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter (Jasentuliyana, 1995). State sovereignty is a term that refers to the legal authority and responsibility of an independent state to govern and regulate its political affairs without foreign interference. Sovereign states have supreme authority over their territory. In federations, sovereignty belongs to the federal government. In confederations, sovereignty belongs to the independent states that choose to join the political arrangement (Philpott, 1995).

Currently, it is worthy to note that the international community includes more than 200 sovereign states, most of which are represented in the United Nations. These states exist in a system of international relations, where each state takes into account the policies of other states by making its own calculations (Lauterpacht, 2012). From this point of view, States are integrated into the international system of special internal and external security and legitimization of the problem. Recently, the concept of the international community has been formed to refer to a group of States that have established rules, procedures and institutions for the implementation of relations. Thus, the foundation for international law, diplomacy between officially recognized sovereign states, their organizations and formal regimes has been laid.

### **The Concept of Economic Stability**

Economic stability refers to a situation where all the essential economic resources of a country are available to its citizens, and no economic swings interrupt their daily lives. It helps achieve macroeconomic objectives like reducing unemployment, balance payments, price stability, and sustainable economic growth. Economic stability is the condition in which a country is able to function smoothly and grow at a steady pace in spite of the influence of various outside disruptions and problems happening all around it. It has the ability to take challenges and absorb risk but still invest in infrastructure, maintain its place in global markets and achieve a good living standard for its citizens (Nanditha, 2022). It is an essential factor that affects citizens' lives. It is an indicator of a

healthy economy, free from disruptions. Economic fluctuations can be financial, political, social, legal, or technological. Thus, a country should prepare to minimize its vulnerability to economic troubles.

Economic stability means that people have the resources essential to a healthy life. Factors affecting economic stability include affordable housing; employment that provides a living wage; things that support employment, like worker protections, paid sick leave, and child care; and access to reliable transportation. People experiencing economic instability are more likely to experience health risk behaviours, chronic health conditions, and premature mortality (Nanditha, 2022). Stable economy is a term used to describe the financial system of a nation that displays only minor fluctuations in output growth and exhibits a consistently low inflation rate. Economic stability is usually seen as a desirable state for a developed country that is often encouraged by the policies and actions of its central bank. Maintaining stability in an economy is very important as it creates confidence and certainty in the minds of the investors who want to invest in human capital and technological resources. Moreover, the government can identify the indicators of a stable economy and control them. The stabilization measures, such as fiscal or monetary policies, help keep the economy on track. So, the government may adopt an easy or tight monetary policy according to financial needs (Nicolai, & Marco, 2022).

In conclusion, the consensus among economists is that economic stability occurs when there is consistent growth. However, this growth can be measured in many forms. Many believe that a true measurement of economic growth and stability should rely on real GDP go a step further and add other indicators to the mix but only at the macroeconomic level. As a result, many economists tend to characterize an economically stable region as one, which has consistent real GDP growth, low unemployment and high personal income levels (Nanditha, 2022).

### **The Concept of Political Stability**

Political stability is a situation characterized by the preservation of an intact and smoothly functioning government or political system, avoiding significant disruptions or changes over an extended duration. Political stability signifies a state of tranquillity, organization, and sustained continuity within the political domain. It is marked by consistent institutions and policies, as well as a commitment to upholding the rule of law (Ake, 1975).

Societies with political stability experience a decreased probability of encountering major political upheavals, civil unrest, or sudden changes in leadership. Political stability is essential for a nation's development, economic growth, and social unity. It enables long-term planning, investment, and prosperity, as businesses and citizens can rely on consistent governance and policies (Ake, 1975).

With the ever-increasing pace of the modern world and the unpredictability of domestic, regional and worldwide developments, localised or nationwide events can take place and have far-reaching consequences in a short period of time. In part, due to failures of diplomacy and governance in certain regions and the accessibility of information and means of communication available for governments, official sources, opposing political organisations and the public in general (Tuck, 2016).

Political instability is a natural tendency of a government to collapse either because of conflicts or growing struggles, sometimes violent, between various political parties. Political instability also occurs if there is a rapid change of government and policy, increasing the likelihood of subsequent instability. Economic growth and political stability are also deeply interconnected. The uncertainty associated with an unstable political environment can reduce investment in the country in question and affect the pace of economic development. Additionally, poor economic performance may lead to government collapse and political unrest. These conditions are a persistent and leading cause of the

political instability that we see around the world (Tuck, 2016). Political instability can affect any country or region around the world. This may have numerous causes developing over time or a single issue at an extremely rapid pace. This may occur peacefully or be violent in nature, being especially dangerous for those trapped when this occurs. Instability in a nation's political system can not only cause local or region-wide disruption but can have a global reach and affect nations and corporations around the globe (Tuck, 2016).

### **The Concept of Conflict**

A conflict is a struggle and a clash of interests, opinions, or even principles. Conflict will always be found in society; as the basis of conflict may vary to be personal, racial, class, caste, political and international. Conflict may also be emotional, intellectual, and theoretical, in which case academic recognition may, or may not be, a significant motive. Intellectual conflict is a subclass of cultural conflict, a conflict that tends to grow over time due to different cultural values and beliefs (Roehrs, 2005).

The word “conflict” tends to generate images of anger, fighting, and other ugly thoughts that leave people bruised and beaten. Conflict is not uncommon in the workplace, and it isn't always good. But it isn't always a bad thing, either. A conflict is a fight between armed troops. War is the hostility towards other parties issued officially by governments/states (Roehrs, 2005). Conflicts are part of war, though not every war sees actual conflict, nor is every conflict connected to war. Conflict/armed conflict: when armed force is used by an organised actor against another organised actor, or against civilians, resulting in at least 25 battle-related deaths in one calendar year (Shaw, 2003). The definition includes three types of conflict:

1. State-based conflict takes place between two states (inter-state conflict), or between one state and one or more rebel groups (civil conflict)
2. Non-state conflict is fought between two organized, armed actors, of which neither is the government of a state
3. One-sided violence is perpetrated by an organized armed group, either a state's military forces or an armed group, against civilians (Shaw, 2003).

### **Theoretical Framework**

The study is anchored on the responsibility to protect theory (R2P). The R2P is an international norm and/or theoretical proposition that seeks to ensure that the international community never again fail to stop the mass atrocity crimes of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity (Hehir & Cunliffe, 2011). The concept emerged in response to the failure of the international community to adequately respond to mass atrocities committed in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia during the 1990s. The International Committee on Intervention and State Sovereignty developed the concept of R2P during 2001 (Annan, 1999; Evans, 2006; Mooney, 2010). Proponents of the theory include: Annan (1999); Evans (2006); Mooney (2010); Haines, &Kassimeris (2010); Hehir & Cunliffe (2011); Welsh (2019), etc.

The Responsibility to Protect was unanimously adopted in 2005 at the UN World Summit, the largest gathering of Heads of State and Government in history. It is articulated in paragraphs 138 and 139 of the World Summit Outcome Document.

From paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 UN World Summit, cited in Haines &Kassimeris (2010, p. 3), there are three pillars or cornerstones of the R2P which stipulates, thus:

1. Every state has the Responsibility to protect its populations from four mass atrocity crimes: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing.
2. The wider international community has the responsibility to encourage and assist individual states in meeting that responsibility.

3. If a state is manifestly failing to protect its populations, the international community must be prepared to take appropriate collective action, in a timely and decisive manner and in accordance with the UN Charter.

R2P has been invoked in more than 80 UN Security Council resolutions concerning crises in Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, as well as thematic resolutions concerning the prevention of genocide, prevention of armed conflict and restricting the trade of small arms and light weapons. The Responsibility to Protect has also been invoked in more than 50 Human Rights Council resolutions and 13 General Assembly resolutions.

### **Application of the theory to the study**

Essentially, one organization that has been involved in the application of R2P is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. NATO, as a military alliance committed to collective defense and security, has also recognized the importance of upholding R2P. In fact, NATO has explicitly endorsed the R2P norm in several documents and statements. For instance, the 2010 NATO Strategic Concept reaffirmed the alliance's commitment to R2P and acknowledged that NATO has a role in protecting populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. Moreover, NATO has been involved in various R2P-related operations. Hence, the theory will be applied in this study to explain US led NATO's involvements and its interventionist's moves in the ongoing Russian-Ukrainian war. This is essential, as the theory proposes amongst other things that states (and the international organizations) have the responsibility to protect its populations from four mass atrocity crimes: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing. These negative attributes of war can be evident in Ukraine and its environs as fall-outs of Russia's invasion. It is against this backdrop that the US led NATO is enforcing R2P principle, vis-à-vis the Truman's doctrine in ending the war and reclaiming Ukraine from the claws of Russia.

### **Methodology**

The study adopted causal research design, also known as explanatory research. This kind study design is conducted in order to identify the nature of cause-and-effect relationships. According to Beach & Rasmus (2006), Causal research can be conducted in order to assess impacts of specific changes on existing norms, and various processes. Causal studies focus on an analysis of a situation or a specific problem to explain the patterns of relationships between variables. Essentially, large pool of data for the study came from secondary sources and/or documentary method of data collection. Hence, causal research design was used to situate the topic of discourse, viz.: the application of Truman's Doctrine by North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in support of Ukraine in building economic and political stability amidst Russia's subjugation and annexation interest. The study also adopted content analytical method to analyse the discourses arising from the subject matter.

### **Analytical Discourses**

#### **NATO'S Political and practical support to Ukraine**

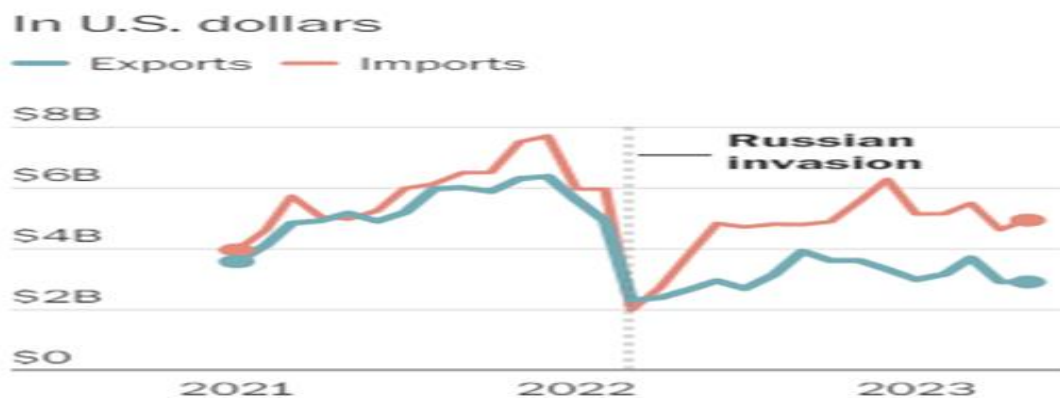
NATO condemns Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine in the strongest possible terms. This aggression gravely undermines Euro-Atlantic and global security, and is a blatant violation of international law. NATO Allies, in concert with relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, demand that Russia stop the war immediately, cease its use of force against Ukraine, and completely and unconditionally withdraw all its forces from Ukraine. The Allies do not and will never recognise Russia's illegal and illegitimate annexations, including of Crimea. Since Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and the beginning of its aggression in eastern Ukraine in 2014, NATO has reinforced its

support for capability development and capacity-building in Ukraine, alongside Allied training of tens of thousands of Ukrainian troops.

Since the NATO Summit in Warsaw in July 2016, NATO's practical support for Ukraine is set out in the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) for Ukraine. At the 2022 Madrid Summit, Allies strengthened the CAP to provide even more support to Ukraine. At the 2023 Vilnius Summit, Allies agreed to further develop the CAP into a multi-year programme of assistance, to help rebuild the Ukrainian security and defence sector and transition Ukraine towards full interoperability with NATO. NATO stands in unwavering solidarity with the government and people of Ukraine in the heroic defence of their nation, their land and our shared values. The Alliance fully supports Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence as enshrined in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. NATO Allies will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes.

**Ukrainian economic status in the face of the Russian invasion**

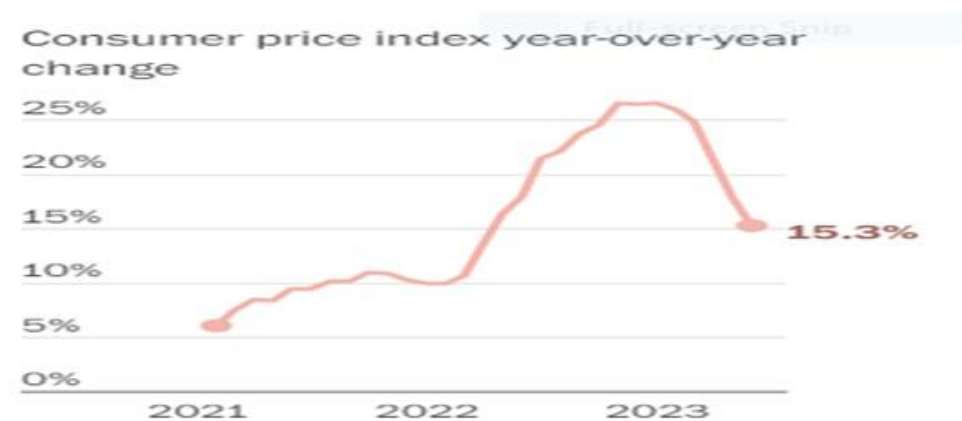
**Figure 1: Ukraine's imports versus exports since the renewed conflict with Russia**



Source: National Bank of Ukraine cited in O'Hanlon, Constanze, & Wessel (2023).

The above figure shows Ukraine's imports versus exports since the renewed conflict with Russia in 2022.

**Figure 2: Ukraine's inflation status**

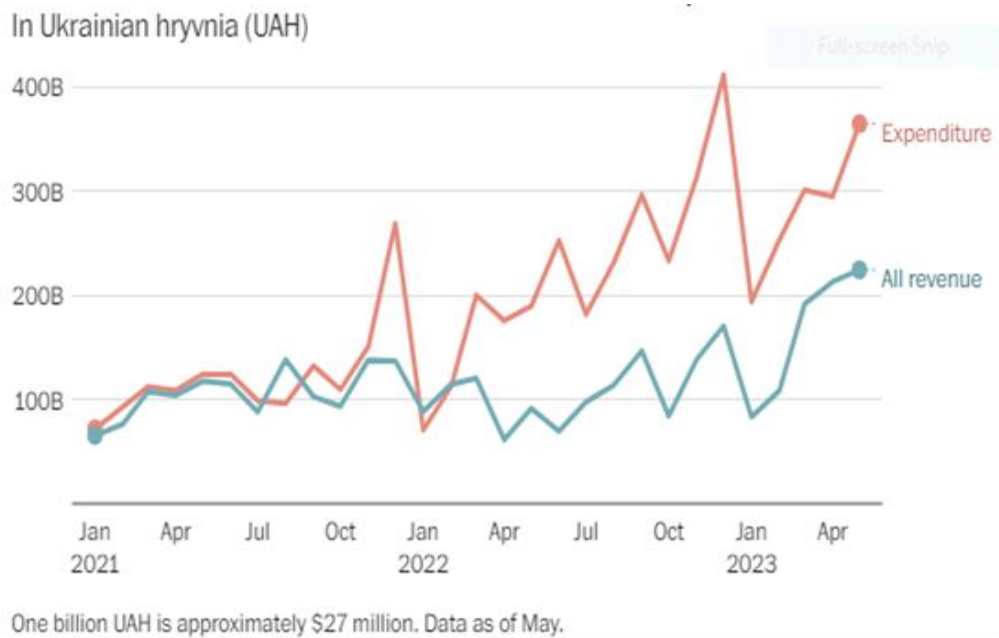


Source: National Bank of Ukraine cited in O'Hanlon, Constanze, & Wessel (2023).

The above figure shows the inflation status from 2021 to 2023, with the period between 2022 and 2023 having the most increase in inflation occasioned by the Russian invasion.



**Figure 3: Ukraine’s revenue and expenditure since the conflict started**



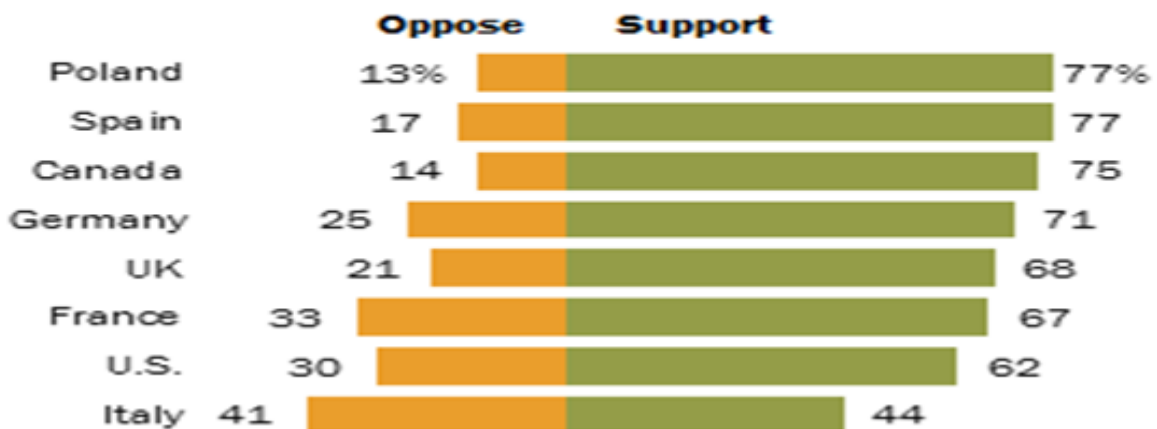
Source: National Bank of Ukraine cited in O’Hanlon, Constanze, & Wessel (2023).

From the figure above, it is evident that Ukraine is spending far more than it collects in revenue.

**NATO and economic support to Ukraine**

**Figure 4: NATO Countries back economic aid to Ukraine**

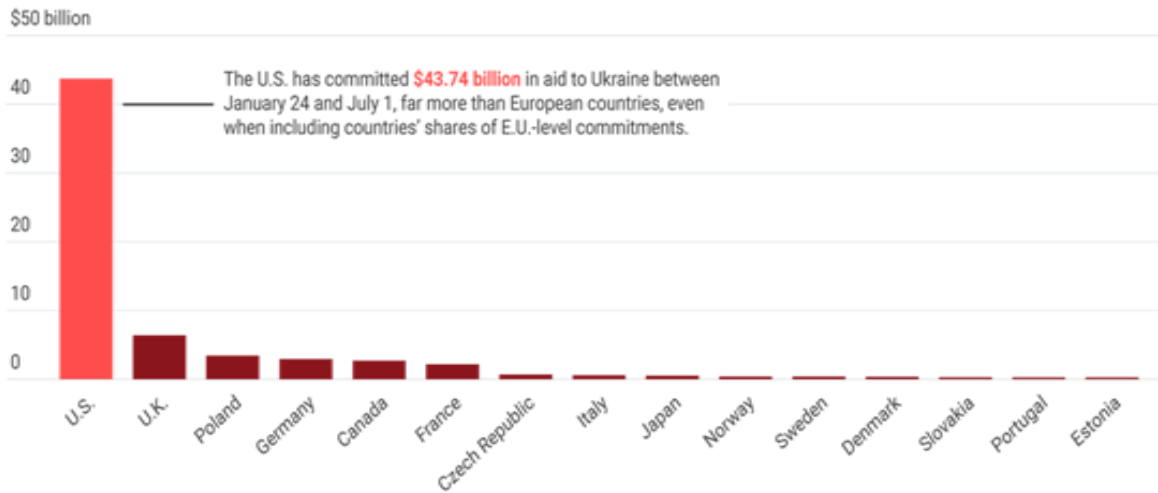
*In response to the situation involving Russia and Ukraine, do you support or oppose: economic aid to Ukraine provided by Western countries?*



Source: Simmons, Stokes, & Poushter (2023).

The above figure shows the percentage of survey of NATO countries in Europe that backed or supported for economic aid to Ukraine.

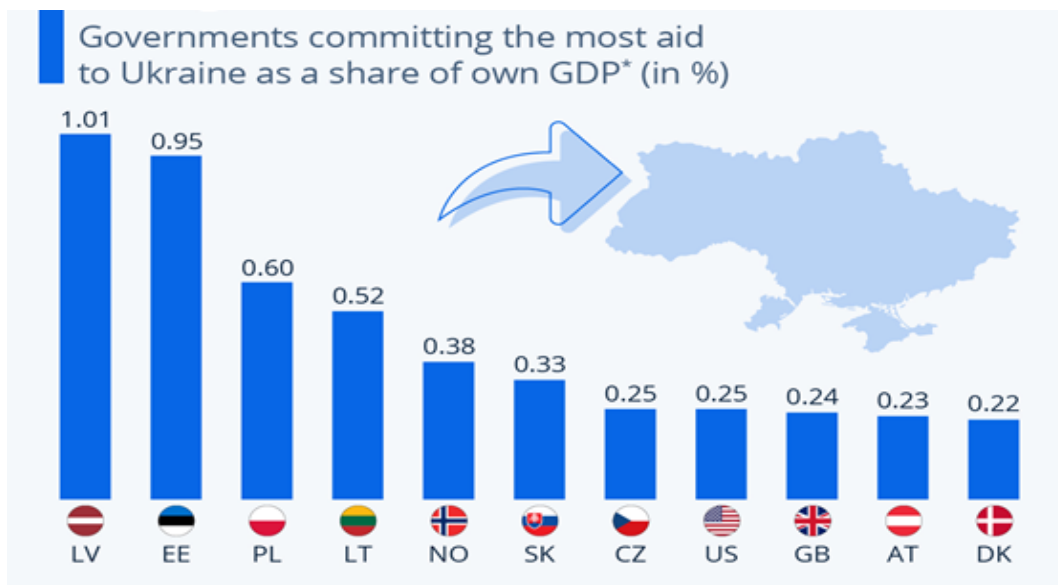
**Figure 5: Economic aid to Ukraine by states as at January to July 2022**



Source: Shifrinson (2022).

The above figure shows NATO countries that provided economic supports to Ukraine as at 2022.

**Figure 6: Countries pulling their weight in Ukraine aid as share of own GDP**



Source: Statista (2022), cited in Armstrong (2022).

Note that from the above figure, LV stands for Latvia; EE stands for Estonia; PL stands for Poland; LT stands for Lithuania; NO stands for Norway; SK stands for Slovakia; CZ stands for Czech Republic; US stands for United States; GB stands for Great Britain; AT stands for Austria; and DK stands for Denmark.

The figure above shows the financial aid commitments of NATO states in terms of their GDP.

**NATO and the support in building Ukrainian economic and political stability amidst Russia’s annexation interest**

Essentially, the security of Ukraine is of great importance to NATO and its member states. The Alliance fully supports Ukraine’s inherent right to self-defence, and its right to choose its own

security arrangements. Ukraine's future is in NATO. Relations between NATO and Ukraine date back to the early 1990s and have since developed into one of the most substantial of NATO's partnerships. Since 2014, in the wake of Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea, cooperation has been intensified in critical areas. Since Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022, NATO and Allies have provided unprecedented levels of support (NATO, 2023). Since the NATO Summit in Warsaw in July 2016, NATO's practical support for Ukraine is set out in the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) for Ukraine. At the 2022 Madrid Summit, Allies strengthened the CAP to provide even more support to Ukraine. At the 2023 Vilnius Summit, Allies agreed to further develop the CAP into a multi-year programme of assistance, to help rebuild the Ukrainian security and defence sector and transition Ukraine towards full interoperability with NATO (NATO, 2023). NATO stands in unwavering solidarity with the government and people of Ukraine in the heroic defence of their nation, their land and our shared values. The Alliance fully supports Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence as enshrined in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. NATO Allies will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes.

Essentially, NATO remains the United States' indispensable alliance and Europe's guarantor of peace, security, and stability. It is the largest and most successful alliance in history and is the preeminent institutional expression of the transatlantic bond and a common commitment to shared values. Yet, it is again under pressure (Jason, Kjellström, & Ewers-Peters, 2021). According to the data in figure 11 on economic support to Ukraine, a median of 70% backs providing the government in Kyiv with financial assistance in response to the situation involving Russia. The strongest proponents of such aid are Poles (77%), Spanish (77%), Canadians (75%) and Germans (71%). The most reluctant to provide financial assistance are the Italians, with 44% favouring it and 41% in opposition. It is older Spanish (81%) and Americans (68%) who back aid more than their younger compatriots (66% of Spanish and 53% of Americans). People on the left are more supportive than those on the right in France, Italy and the UK (Simmons, Stokes, & Poushter, 2023).

Again, on financial aid, extra funding for the EU's program purchasing equipment and supplies for Ukraine's military. Danish Krone (DKK) 2.5 billion (€336 million) in civilian contributions to Ukraine, not including Danish support via the EU. €50 million for NATO fund for purchase of non-lethal equipment. Military donations worth DKK 11.2 billion (€1.5 billion) from February 2022 to 31. August 2023, including: DKK 300 million (€40 million) to the UK led military equipment for Ukraine fund on 21 December 2022. DKK 7 billion (€940 million) to a Danish fund set up in March 2023 to aid Ukraine's military sector, among other sectors. DKK 22 billion (€3 billion) for additional military support from the Danish national Ukraine Fund, of which the majority of the funds will be available in 2023 and 2024. DKK 100 million towards the joint European purchase of 155mm artillery shells for Ukraine (Petter, 2022; Oryx, 2023). In response to Russia's cynical bombing campaign aimed at civilian infrastructure over the winter, NATO also extended its support to help Ukraine rebuild its electrical infrastructure and cope with power shortages (Monaghan, & Bolstad, 2023).

While not directly participating in the war in Ukraine, countries around the world have been contributing to the defence of Ukraine via financial, humanitarian and military aid. In absolute terms, the largest supporter as of October 3, by a very large margin - was the United States, with a total of €52.3 billion made up of €27.6 billion in military aid, €9.5 billion humanitarian aid and €15.2 billion in financial aid (Armstrong, 2022). Thus, it is pertinent to note that the United States' financial supports to Ukraine is not unconnected to the foreign posture of the Truman's doctrine of the US, US leadership role in NATO and its responsibility to protect (R2P).

## Conclusion and Recommendations

Essentially, the Truman's doctrine which is a US policy, was formulated and adopted to support free peoples who are resisting attempts at subjugation by armed minorities or by external pressures. Truman believed that because totalitarian governments impose their will on free people, they inevitably pose a threat to both the security of the United States and the continuity of the global order. As Ukraine continues to fight to liberate its occupied territories and eject Russian invaders, its Western backers (NATO, etc.) debate the likely endgame for the war and its aftermath.

In conclusion, and in line with the above doctrine, the US led NATO condemns Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine in the strongest possible terms. At the 2022 Madrid Summit, Allies strengthened the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) to provide even more support to Ukraine. At the 2023 Vilnius Summit, Allies agreed to further develop the CAP into a multi-year programme of assistance, to help rebuild the Ukrainian security and defence sector and transition Ukraine towards full interoperability with NATO (NATO, 2023).

NATO stands in unwavering solidarity with the government and people of Ukraine in the heroic defence of their nation, their land and our shared values. The Alliance fully supports Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence as enshrined in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. NATO Allies will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes. By that very fact, there is relative support from NATO in building Ukraine's economic and political stability amidst Russia's annexation interest, as NATO stands in solidarity with the government and people of Ukraine in the heroic defence of their nation, their land and our shared values. The study recommended that: there is need for NATO to increase its supports to Ukraine in building economic and political stability, by bolstering Ukraine's democratic institutions; invest in Ukrainian civil society organisations (CSOs); support independent media organisations and journalists in Ukraine; restore investors' confidence; and support drivers of change in Russia and Belarus.

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