



# प्रयास

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## EDITORIAL

# Two Years of Russia-Ukraine War

### Key Points of the Article/Editorial

#### Background

- Russia-Ukraine war second anniversary: On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. Two years later, an end to the biggest war in Europe since World War II is nowhere in sight. The fighting has displaced millions of Ukrainians, altered the geopolitical landscape of Europe, and hit economies around the world by disrupting supply chains, adding to inflation, and triggering great economic uncertainty.
- The momentum in the war today rests with Russia. The Ukrainian forces are feeling an acute shortage of equipment and manpower. Russia, on the other hand, has been able to successfully readjust and readapt their tactics to the new kind of war that is being fought. And most importantly, it has been able to protect its economy from Western sanctions. Today, the Russian economy is actually booming. This is something the West did not expect.

#### Impact of Russia-Ukraine War on India

- India took a balanced position when the war started, and for refusing to join the chorus of condemnation of Russia. India's ability to talk to both sides was useful particularly, when India had to evacuate students from Ukraine.
- The war certainly had a negative effect on the global economy, which was just coming out the downturn following the Covid pandemic. But India was able to somewhat mitigate that effect by ensuring that Russian crude remained in circulation thus helping control global oil prices.
- It helped India too because it had access to cheap Russian oil, helping it withstand any price shock. Given that India is a price sensitive economy, which imports close to 90 percent of its hydrocarbon needs this was significant.
- Moreover, several other impacts on India have been observed due to War between Russia- Ukraine such as:-
  - Energy Prices: India imports a significant portion of its energy resources, including oil and gas, from Russia and Ukraine. Any disruptions in the energy supply from these regions could lead to increased prices and affect India's economy.
  - Diplomatic Relations: India maintains relations with both Russia and Ukraine. Balancing these relations amidst the conflict can be challenging for India's foreign policy.
  - Refugee Crisis: In case of a humanitarian crisis, there could be an influx of refugees seeking shelter in neighboring countries, including India, which could strain resources and infrastructure.
  - Global Markets: Instability in global markets due to the conflict can affect India's economy, especially in terms of trade and investment.



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- Geopolitical Dynamics: The war may prompt India to reassess its strategic partnerships and defense alliances in the region, considering its own security concerns.

### Way Forward

- India is a major, responsible power that has both the capacity and the willingness to step up in defence of the rule of law. The world needs India's voice to carry louder.
- As stated in the New Delhi G20 Leaders' Declaration, peace in Ukraine must be "comprehensive, just, and durable" and "uphold all the purpose and principles of the UN Charter. Only if these principles are respected, can peace in Ukraine keep the spectre of an "era of war" away.
- Therefore, the Russia-Ukraine conflict involves diplomatic negotiations, international mediation, and efforts to address underlying grievances. Key steps may include ceasefire agreements, diplomatic dialogues involving all stakeholders, respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, economic incentives for peace, and long-term solutions addressing security concerns and historical grievances. Additionally, support for humanitarian assistance and rebuilding efforts in affected areas is crucial for fostering reconciliation and stability.



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