

Q) Critically evaluate whether war in Ukraine would help resurgence of Russia or the revival of Nato?

1) Introduction:

The 21st century is witnessing the resurgence of Russia. The USSR disintegrated in 1991, leaving USA as the sole Hegemon in the world. However commencing 21st century, Russia is in active pursuit towards growing its influence and repositioning itself as a major power of the world. The attack on Georgia, involvement in the Syrian conflict and Annexation of Crimea in 2014 speaks volume of the surging influence of Russia.

2) Determinants that instigated Russian invasion of Ukraine:

Being a former soviet Union state, Ukraine's growing relations with the west was concerning for Russia. Despite once being a part of soviet-Union, the majority of population of Ukraine is pro-west. Same is the situation in the parliament as well, where Vladimir Zelenskiy, on the basis of pro-west slogans, was able to secure 2/3 majority. Further move, the growing trade relations, increased border relaxations European countries, increased military purchases and finally the anticipated but

very real threat of Ukraine joining Nato, pushed Russia to its boiling point. Ukraine's ~~pro~~ unwavering pro-west rhetoric despite Russia's ~~grei~~ grievances ultimately culminated into Russia's aggression commencing 24 Feb, 2022.

3) Current status of ongoing war in Ukraine:

Russia deployed 200 000 troops including Navy, Artillery, airforce, infantry and armored corp. The attacks were launched from the eastern and south eastern fronts and also from Belarus.

After the initial attack Russia was able to capture Kherson, Dombask and Luhansk, which were then declared as break away regions. Russia was also able to seize most of the ~~east~~ coastal belt along black sea including sea ports & naval bases. Civil nuclear reactors, air bases, highways and Urban centers have all been either captured or bombarded.

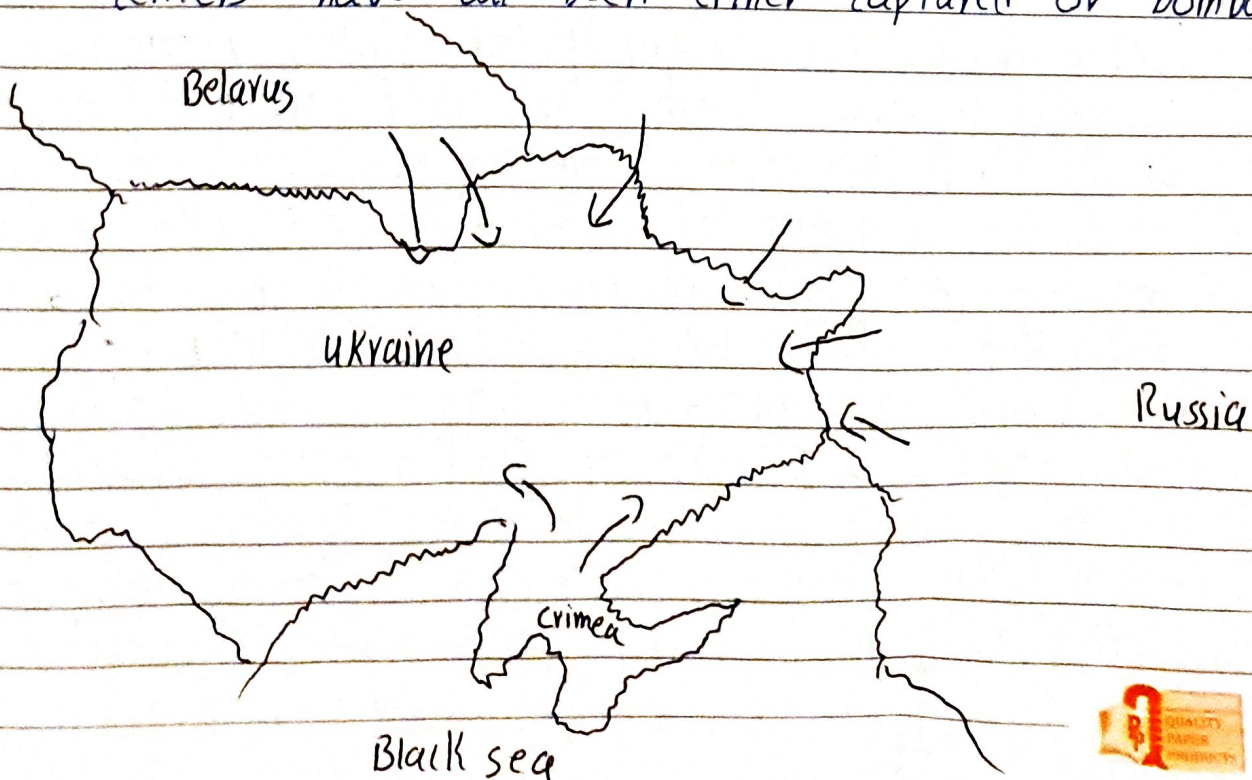


Figure: Shows an overview of Russian invasion of Ukraine on all fronts

4) Revival of Nato:

The war in Ukraine has aided to the revival of Nato. Nato was established in 1949 with the aim of containing the Soviet Union. The recent war events have brought the remarks asserted by US state secretary ~~in~~ In a 2008 Nato conference, under limelight, wherein he stated that Europe must end its peace holiday. Attack of on Ukraine has engraved this idea that Europe must invest in defense and with many European countries such as UK, Germany, France increasing their defense budget, the notion proposed by US secretary in 2008 is reinforced.

4.2) Nato's Policy of collective defense is attracting many states:

The invasion of Ukraine has provided many countries with food for thought over their security issues, as they fear meeting the same fate. The doctrine of collective defense is attracting many countries, especially those of were once a part of the Soviet Union and anticipate Russian aggression to reach their soil. This threat has brought the significance of Nato under limelight.

limelight as many of such states are considering to apply for Nato membership. Many states such as Finland, Denmark, Ukraine have already applied for Nato's membership. The increasing applications for Nato shows that the recent Ukrainian crisis has surged the importance of Nato, that which could be a pivotal step towards its revival.

4.3) Successful armament of Ukrainian army:

The role of ~~a~~ Nato in providing arms and other intelligence ~~a~~ has proved very effective ~~and~~ ~~#~~ for Ukrainian resistance. ~~Nato~~ has left no stone unturned in helping the Ukrainians whether it be weaponry, intelligence or ~~the~~ other aids. The intelligence particularly has been very detrimental to the Russian Army, because of this Ukraine was able to pinpoint key targets that proved effective in weakening the Russian attack. This assistance of Nato has ~~both~~ bolstered the Ukrainian defenses. The vast help from Nato has definitely shown the world, the lengths ~~Nato~~ it is willing to go.

4.4) Sanctions on Russia:

Nato has also persuaded many key ~~trading~~ trading partners of Russia to impose

tough sanctions and to restrict their trades with ~~the~~ Russia. Nato actions have landed a significant blow to Russia as most of the European and American states have cut their imports from it. Being the largest exporter of oil to Europe, these sanctions have weakened the financial power of Russia to support the ongoing war. The adamant stance of Nato to reduce trade with Russia has proved very effective and with many ~~in~~ countries supporting this nation; it is safe to assume that Nato is resurfacing as a major force.

Rivival of Nato in the wake of invasion of Ukraine

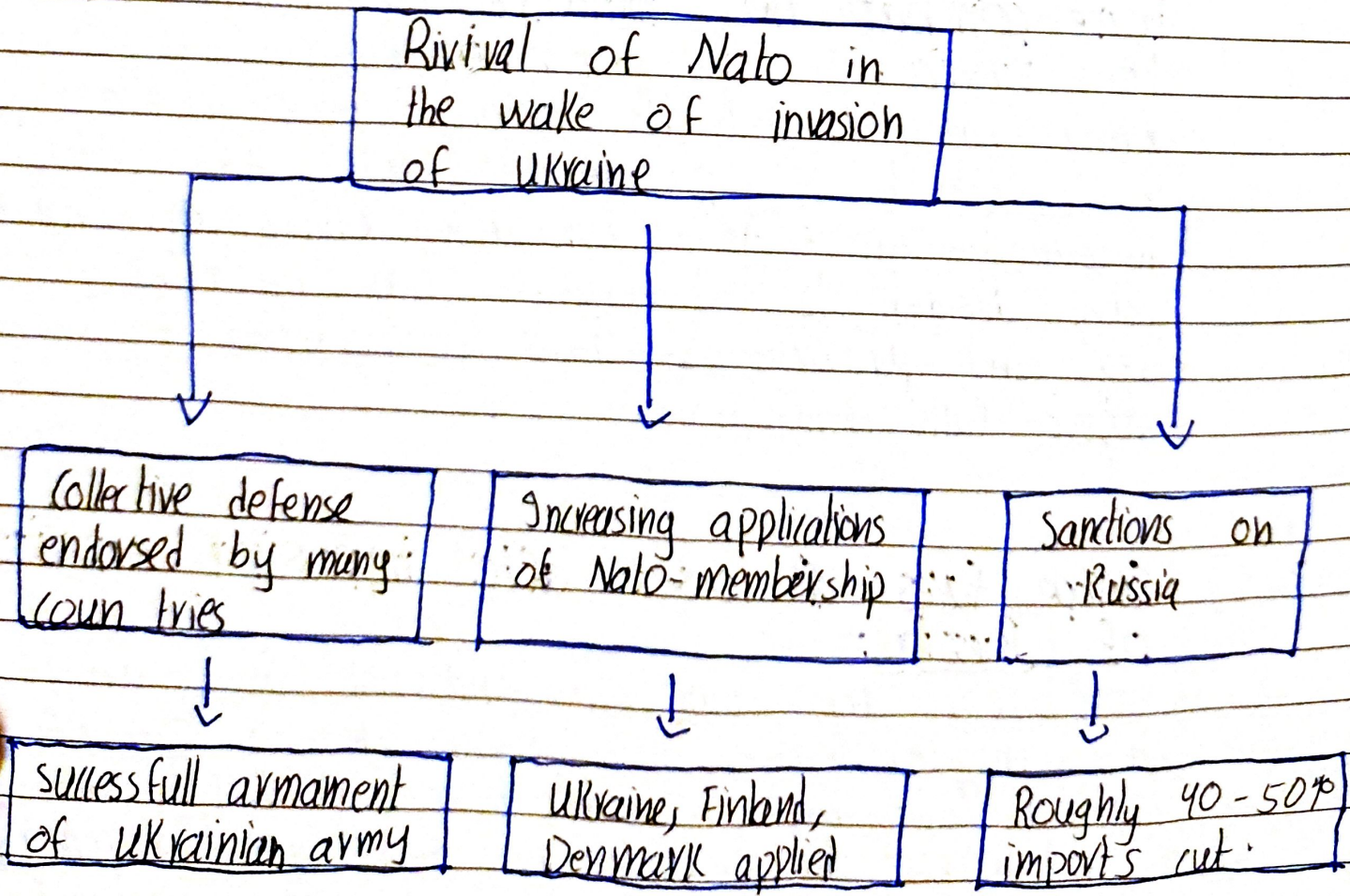


figure: Overview of Nato's revival



5) Russia's Resurgence:

Russia, in the face of the threat posed by a Nato led west, has launched a barrage of counter measures, in a bid to curb the losses inflicted by the enemy.

5.2) Revisited trade markets to compensate for the sanctions imposed by NATO:

Much to the dismay of Nato and Europe, the counter measures launched by Moscow have ~~pre~~ effectively mitigated the damage done to Russia. In order to minimise its financial losses, Russia has revisited its major export markets and offered to provide oil and gas at discounted rates. As a corollary China and India have decided to leverage this lucrative deal and purchase ~~a~~ these commodities to ~~fulfil~~ fulfil their needs.

5.3) Europe faces $\$$ losses after imposing sanctions of Russia:

Moreover, the sanctions imposed by Europe have inflicted more loss on them. Europe is struck by record breaking inflation as many of the legislators feel an exigency to revisit the sanctions imposed. The sanctions,



despite initially viewed ~~as~~ by Europeans* as an ace up their sleeves, have actually proven to be akin^{to} a double edged sword that is exposing its dependency of Russian oil and gas.

5.4) Nato's refusal to direct confrontation with Russian military

Russia's military might seems to be intimidating Nato and its allies. This can be discern from the fact that despite providing financial help and supply weaponry to Ukraine, Nato has unanimously concurred to not directly confront Russia's military. Nato has also decided to bypass Ukraine's request of former's membership, since this would invoke article 5 of which stipulates that attack on one is an attack on all. Since Nato is averse to confronting directly with the ~~mtt~~ military might of Russia that is why it denies the membership status to Ukraine.

6) Conclusion

Both Russia and Nato are introducing policies to undermine the other. The perpetual battle in Ukraine is evidence that aid from

Nato was successful to some extent, as there seems to be a united Europe and America under the umbrella of Nato. Russia, however, seems to have an edge over the former despite having a modicum of losses, both financially and ~~military~~ in military.