

Question

Critically evaluate how Israel launched terror in Gaza has become a classical example of war crimes. How do you see the discussion of ICJ and response of US government to it? How would it impact its relation with Arab world?

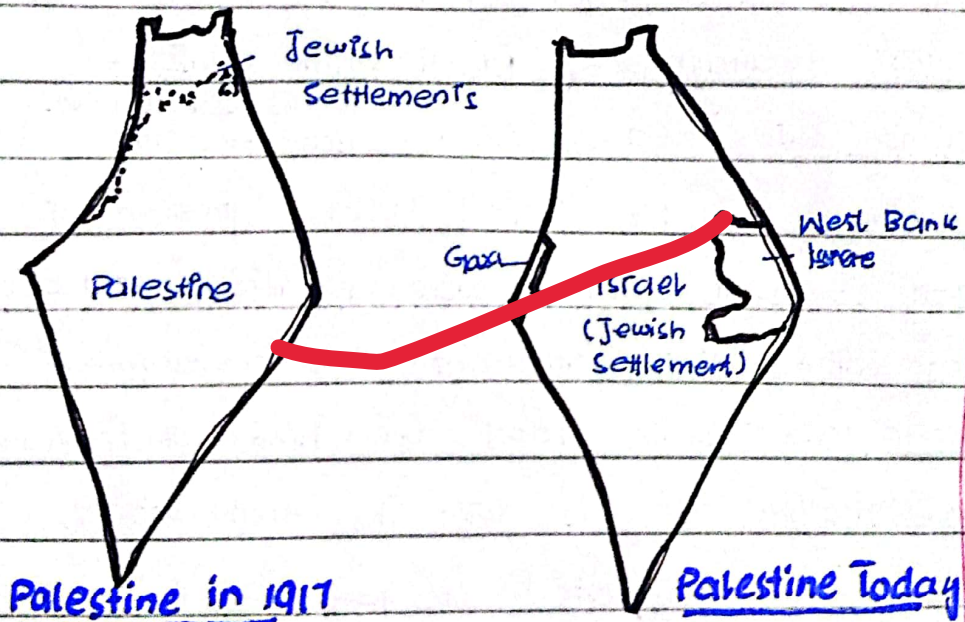
1. Introduction to the War Crimes of Israel

The Israeli offensive that began on October 7, 2023 sees no end. With indiscriminate killings of civilians, particularly women and children, Israel's actions are indeed war crimes. With the war in Gaza only escalating, the International Criminal Court of Justice has issued arrest warrant of Israeli prime minister along with a few others. However, the decision response of the United States government for a war criminal was appalling. Instead of calling Netanyahu out, the government of United States stood for him and gave justification for his act. The Arab world, which has presented a few verbal condemnations, may have to reconsider its relations with the United States and Israel.

11. An Overview of the Middle East Fiasco

Following the Balfour Declaration of 1917, Jews influx in Palestine began. Then since 1948, the Zionists began to dominate Palestine, pushing the Palestinians to two corners only namely Gaza and West Bank.

On October 7, 2023, Hamas fighters crossed the borders of Gaza into the Israeli occupied territory. Tel Aviv, getting an excuse, began strike on Gaza which has killed 4,100 Palestinians at least, with complete displacement of Gaza.



III. ICJ Takes ^{Heed} Action Against The crimes Committed by Israel in Gaza?

In July, 2024, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion in the case brought before it regarding Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories. This was distinct from the genocide case by South Africa as well as the one of ICC issuing arrest warrants.

Having a direct influence of the permanent five (P5) on its decisions, the decision was an ambiguous justification of Israel's offensive and put the responsibility on the international community. It did, however, call Israel's actions a violation of international law.

Attempt these by giving subheadings

IV. The Decisions of the International Court of Justice Are in Limbo

The rulings of the International Court of Justice are advisory in nature until it is asked ^{to act} as an arbitrator. Thus, due to the non-binding nature of the decisions of ICJ, they are often disregarded or have a little impact.

v. The Response of the United States to the Ruling of ICJ

The response of the United States to the ^{decision on} Palestine war by Israel, issued by the World Court was appalling, however, expected since the United States is the biggest ally of Israel.

A. US criticized ICJ opinion on Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territories

The response of the United States of America to the opinion of the World Court was irresponsible. Instead of supporting the ruling, the US State Department issued,

"We are concerned that the breadth of the opinion will complicate efforts to resolve the conflict."

How is an attempt to call out war crimes, though implicitly, to complicate resolution of conflict?

B. US's Stance Was Emboldened Israel for its Offensive

Israel, since US's criticism of

the ICJ ruling. This was manifested in Israel expanding its offensive to Lebanon. Israel, instead of taking it as a warning, took US's response as a go-ahead.

C. US Warning Parties from Using ICJ Opinion Against Israel

The States Department further said that it "strongly discourages" parties from using the opinion of ICJ "as a pretext for further unilateral actions that deepen divisions."

Such a warning was more or less targeted against Iran and its allies.

VI. The Tussle Between The World Court And World Superpower Has Major Repercussions

The exchange between the International Court of Justice and United States is not a good omen for times to come. As

The supervisor of human rights, ICJ has the right to condemn injustice. In fact, it should have ruled a stricter decision. On the other hand, United States stood tall in its criticism of World Court. As the advocate of human rights, the United States turned a blind eye to the war crimes of Israel.

A. The opposition of The ICJ Ruling By United States sets a precedent for Justifying War Crimes

calling the death of 44,000 Palestinians with majority being women and children, a collateral damage that - too by the world superpower is the epitome of irresponsibility. Such an action may set a precedent of normalizing war crime.

Add and highlight references/examples against these arguments

B. Challenging The Decisions of the World Court weakens its Global Standing

Although advisory, the rulings of the ICJ have been followed

In the past. Such discarding of the ruling undermines the sanctity of the court.

VII. US - Arab Relations After the ICJ Opinion And Criticism By US

There is an apparent rift between the United States and the Arab world following the Israeli war on Gaza.

A. A Setback in the Abraham Accords

The Arab-Israeli normalization of ties seem to be on a reversal.

The list to continue after UAE, Bahrain and Morocco may have an end now. Formerly, Saudi Arabia was expected to join hands in the normalization. Now, the manifestation seems impossible.

B. The OIC Summit: A Reaction to The Response to ICJ Ruling

In November, 57 nations met in Riyadh under the banner of Organization

of Islamic cooperation. They condemned the genocide in Palestine.

"While a handful of Western countries provide Israel with all kinds of military support, as well as, moral economic and political support, the in-sufficiency of Muslim countries to react has led us to this situation"

- Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

Such a clear cut out to the West by Arab countries signalled the fading trust of the Arab countries on the West, particularly the United States.

Good answer!

VIII. Conclusion

To conclude, Israel has been committing war crimes against the Palestinians which escalated in October, 2023. US, being the staunch ally and supporter of Israel even during the war, has left no stone unturned to justify the actions of Israel. This included condemning a right ruling of ICJ. However, this action has had direct implications on the relation between the Arab countries and US creating a rift with the Gulf.

Question

Ukraine war is dragging on for more than two years with no end in sight. Critically examine the factors responsible for protracted conflict and its repercussions for global security.

Attempt and upload a single qs for evaluation

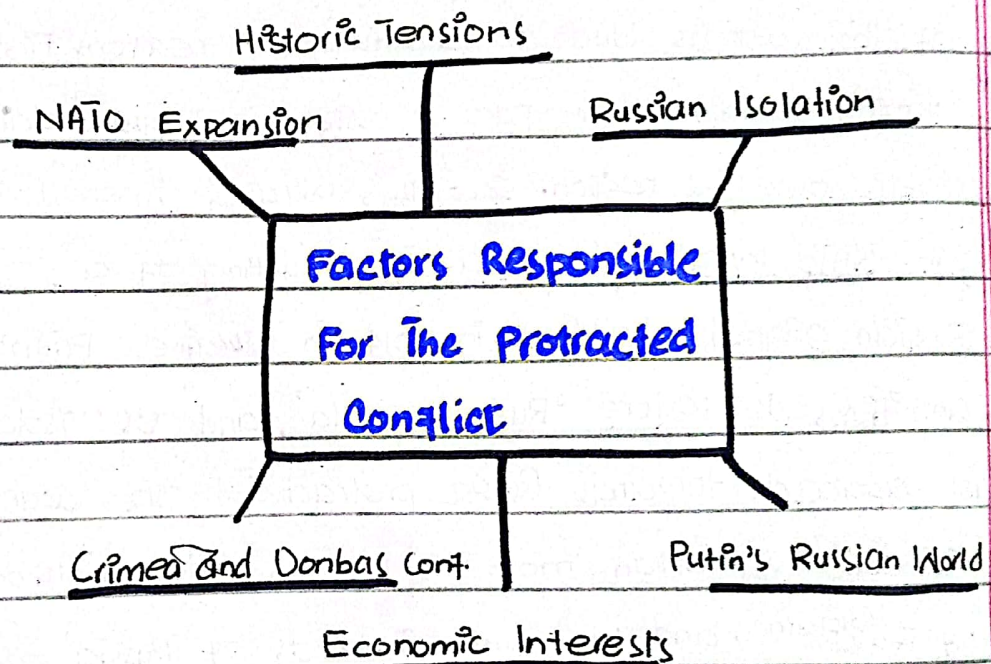
1. Introduction

On February 24, 2022, Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine. Thus, began a war which many scholars dub as 'the beginning of World War III'. The beginning and continuation of the war is due to a multiple reasons. Firstly, Ukraine remained a part of USSR, thus Russia claims rights over the region. Secondly, Ukraine's interest to join NATO threatened Russia. The ousting of a Russian aligned president in 2014 in Ukraine, Putin's ambitions to restore 'Russian world', and US isolationist approach towards Russia protracted the war. Furthermore, Russian move to protect Russian citizens of ^{Ukraine} Russia, and economic interests of Russia added fuel to the fire. Moreover, the war has had multiple impacts on the global security: Europe saw increased militarization and NATO expansion, it encouraged violation of sovereignty which Israel followed, the global energy markets were disrupted, along with food insecurity, escalation of great

- power rivalries, increased nuclear risks, mass displacement, and cybersecurity threats. As the the war continues, a threat of first nuclear Third world war looms large.

II. Causes of the Continuation of Ukraine War

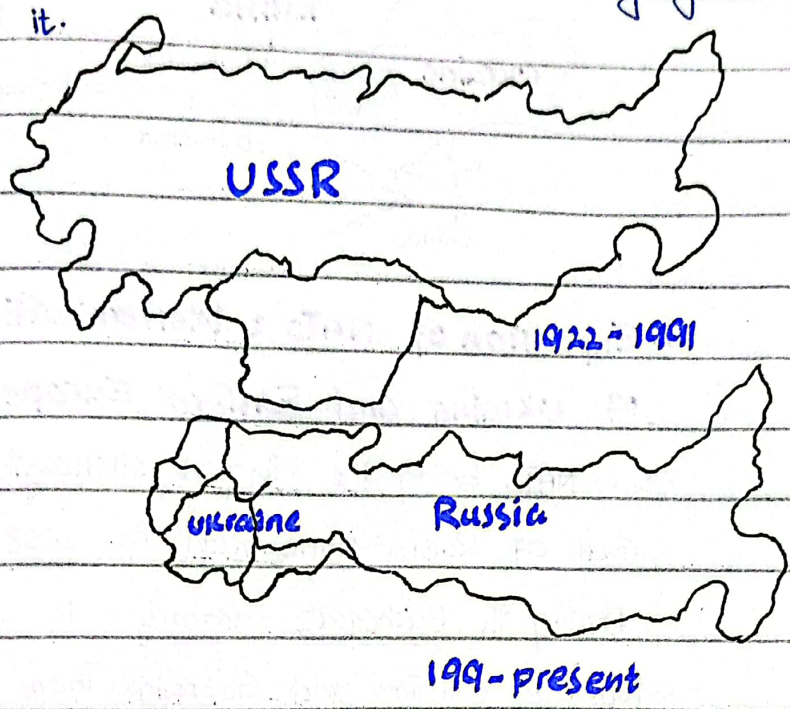
The underlying causes of the Russo-Ukrainian war are:



A. Historic Tensions: Russian Claim On Ukraine

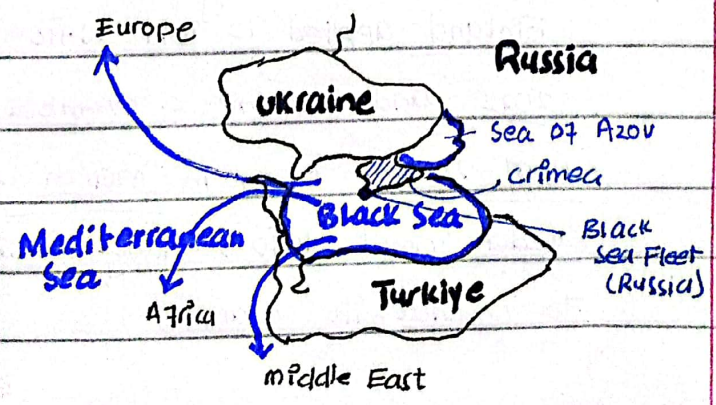
Ukraine Russia remained an integral part of USSR until 1991. So much so that when USSR disintegrated its nuclear

arsenals left in Ukraine made the country the third largest nuclear country after US and Russia. With a large Russian population in Ukraine, Russia claims parts of Ukraine belonging to it.

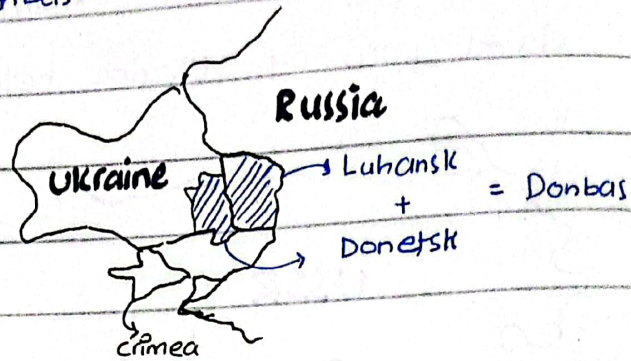


B. Crimea and Donbas Conflict: Protecting Russians in Ukraine

In 2014, Russia annexed Crimea, citing the need to protect the Russians and its strategic interests particularly the Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol.



Simultaneously, pro-Russian separatists began to fight Ukrainian forces in Donetsk and Luhansk collectively known as Donbas.



C. Expansion of NATO: Westernization of Ukraine and Eastern Europe

NATO being the biggest strategic rival of Russia announced in 2008

During its Bucharest Summit to include Ukraine and Georgia. Then in 2021 Brussels Summit, it reiterated the alliance of Ukraine. Feeling threatened, Russia opened a full-scale invasion of Ukraine next year.

Now, the war continues because NATO is expanding in Eastern Europe: Finland applied to join NATO in May 2022 and became a member in April 2023. Then, in March 2024, Sweden joined NATO, giving Russia reasons to continue its war.

D. Putin's Ambitions of Creating a Russian World: The Realist Perspective

Ever since assuming the presidency of Russia in 1999, Putin has been in a quest to bring back the lost glory of the Russian Empire. The implosion of USSR not only ended the Cold War, but also the upward trajectory of Russia as a superpower. Now, it has become a daunting task to make the mark it once had. Thus, by the use of force, is Russia trying to make the name it once had.

E. Economic Interests of Russia

Ukraine is a transit region for Russian supply of gas and grains to Europe. Control over Ukraine will give it control on its trade. However, if Ukraine joins the West, the Black Sea may come under the jurisdiction of NATO.

Moreover, Ukraine has always been called the breadbasket of Europe, because of its fertile land, making it among top three exporters of grains in

world. Control over Ukraine gives Russia a great leverage on the agriculture of the region.

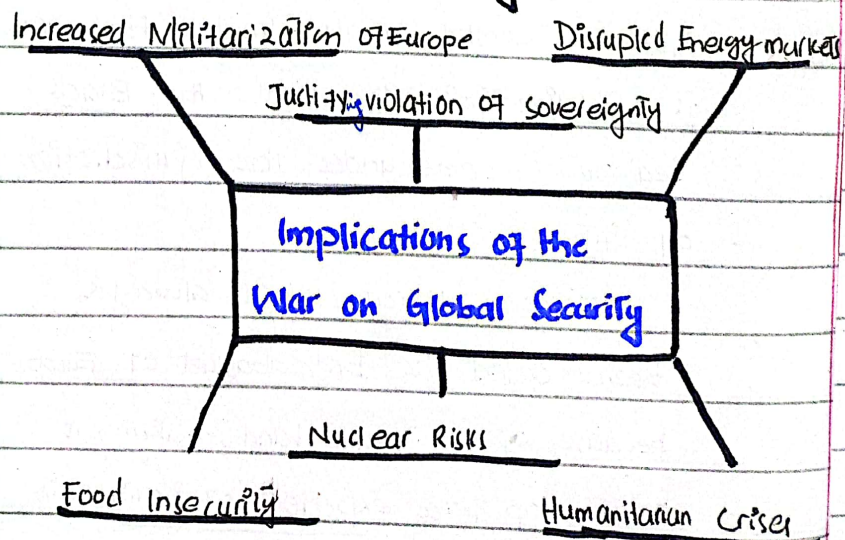
F. Russian Isolation By The West

The Cold War ended in 1991. However, the sidelining of Russia by the West, particularly United States continued.

As Guan Guohai of Peking University highlighted,

“ Russian invasion was more reactionary than offensive, a response to the West, not an attack on a neighbour. ”

III. Repercussions of the Russia-Ukraine War on Global Security



A. Increased Militarization of Europe

The post-cold-war stability ended.

The Ukraine War is the biggest offensive after WWII. Countries like Germany and Sweden have increased defense budget.

The size of NATO has grown to 32.

B. Justification of violation of Sovereignty:

Erosion of International Norms

An offensive of Ukraine has normalized violating sovereignty. This was manifested in the Zionist offensive of Israel invading Palestinian territories a year and a half into the war.

C. Disruption of Global Markets: Energy Security Challenges

The global ^{commodity} energy supercycle, which led to international inflation and skyrocketing of energy fuel prices. Russia being a major energy supplier ^{had} faced sanctions. India and China began to buy Russian oil at discounted prices.

D. Food Insecurity Due to Disrupted Global Supply Chain

Both Russia and Ukraine are major

supplier of wheat and fertilizers. The war has disrupted the supply leading to high prices of food and its insecurity.

E. Increasing Risk of Nuclear Escalation

Russia is a nuclear country. In September, Putin broadened Russia's nuclear doctrine, stating that "an aggression by a non-nuclear state, but with support of a nuclear state" would be a trigger to use Russian nuclear weapons.

F. Mass Displacement and Refugee Crisis

The war has resulted in mass displacement of people in Eastern Europe and Western Russia. Countries like Poland and Moldova have received refugees, setting up economic and security challenges.

IV. Conclusion

To sum up, the Russia-Ukraine war is a major turning point in European order. With reasons originating in the region and intervention from west, Russia invaded and continued the invasion. The implications of the war on global security are far-reaching, alarming the world of a great conflict.