



Cabinet of the Russian Federation



“Common values and common goals”

Historical Context of the Cabinet of the Russian Federation

Ukraine's aspirations towards closer integration with the European Union and NATO were met with resistance from Russia, and seen as a direct threat to its own sphere of influence. In 2014, the annexation of Crimea by Russia and the subsequent conflict in eastern Ukraine marked a significant escalation of tensions.

On February 24 of 2022 the Russian Federation began its special military operation, with the objectives of protecting the independence of the Republics of Donetsk and Luhansk. The Russian government also hopes to establish a land corridor to Crimea. With this the government hopes to achieve the demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine, while restoring Russia's sphere of influence.

Context of the Central Theme

After almost three years, the conflict has reached a stalemate with the frontline of the war becoming stabilized and the need for peace negotiations. Russia has a bigger military strength than Ukraine, adding the international power the federation has in forums such as MENA and the Security Council.

The main advantage Russia has over the peace negotiations is the energy control it poses over Europe, and by making threats over the energy pipelines and supply they have pressured Ukraine and its allies to make concessions. However the current destabilization in the Middle East could prove a set back in the current negotiations and Russia's strategy with Europe regarding the natural gas supplies.

Achieving its goals of the special military operation in Ukraine is vital for Russia's security by limiting NATO's expansion and restoring the country's status as a superpower, this by giving the world a great demonstration of power and restoring its sphere of influence. Also, being able to control the territory in Ukraine will help boost the economy thanks to the fertile agricultural land and energy resources found there.

Research Questions

TOPIC A: Improving the Federation's economy

1. What were the historical approaches of the Russian Federation towards the natural gas demands of Europe?

2. How have the international sanctions imposed by the west amid the Ukraine war have affected the Russian Federation's Economy? What measures have been taken to mitigate the effects?
3. Who are the Russian Federation's strongest economic and trade partner at the moment? Who has signed the grain deal and who still buy natural gas from Russia?

TOPIC B: Steps towards avoiding friction in the Federal Subjects

1. What are the main frictions and conflicts between the federal government and the different federations? Where are the most critical issues?
2. Who has posed the largest resistance to the federal government and what actions have they taken? How has the federal government responded?
3. What groups have been the largest beneficiaries of the War in Ukraine and which ones have posed the most resistance?

TOPIC C: Ensuring the Russian influence in Asia and the Middle East

1. Who are its biggest opponents and its main allies in the region as well as its main obstacles towards a greater influence?
2. How does the current destabilization in the Middle East helps or impedes Russia's objectives in the region?
3. In what ways has the Ukraine War reshaped Russia's interests in Asia and the Middle East? How can this be used to achieve Russia's goals in the region and victory in the war?

Character Research Questions

- What is my character's position and its main objectives?
- How will my character act towards the different issues to protect its interests and those of the Russian Federation?

Discussion questions

1. How has the war in Ukraine changed the dynamics and tensions within the Russian Federation?
2. What are the main steps the government should take towards expanding its sphere of influence and strengthening its economic relations?

Recommended resources

<https://edition.cnn.com/world/europe/ukraine>

https://beijing.mid.ru/en/countries/rossiya/politicheskaya_sistema/

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Russia/Government-and-society>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/tag/ukraine-russia-crisis/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-60506682>



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