

History 2

Ukraine – Russia 1900 - 2000









Bloody Sunday January 1905





Tsushima

May  
1905

Japan  
sinks the  
Russian  
fleet



1905 revolution. St Petersburg





The sailors of the Black Sea Fleet mutinied.  
*Poster for Eisenstein's 1925 film Battleship Potemkin*







The Duma, 1906.

Caption reads:  
Tsar and People:  
speech of the  
Tsar to the  
people's  
delegates





The elegance of  
the Russian  
intelligentsia –

Poet Anna  
Akhmatova

portrait by Nathan  
Altman 1916

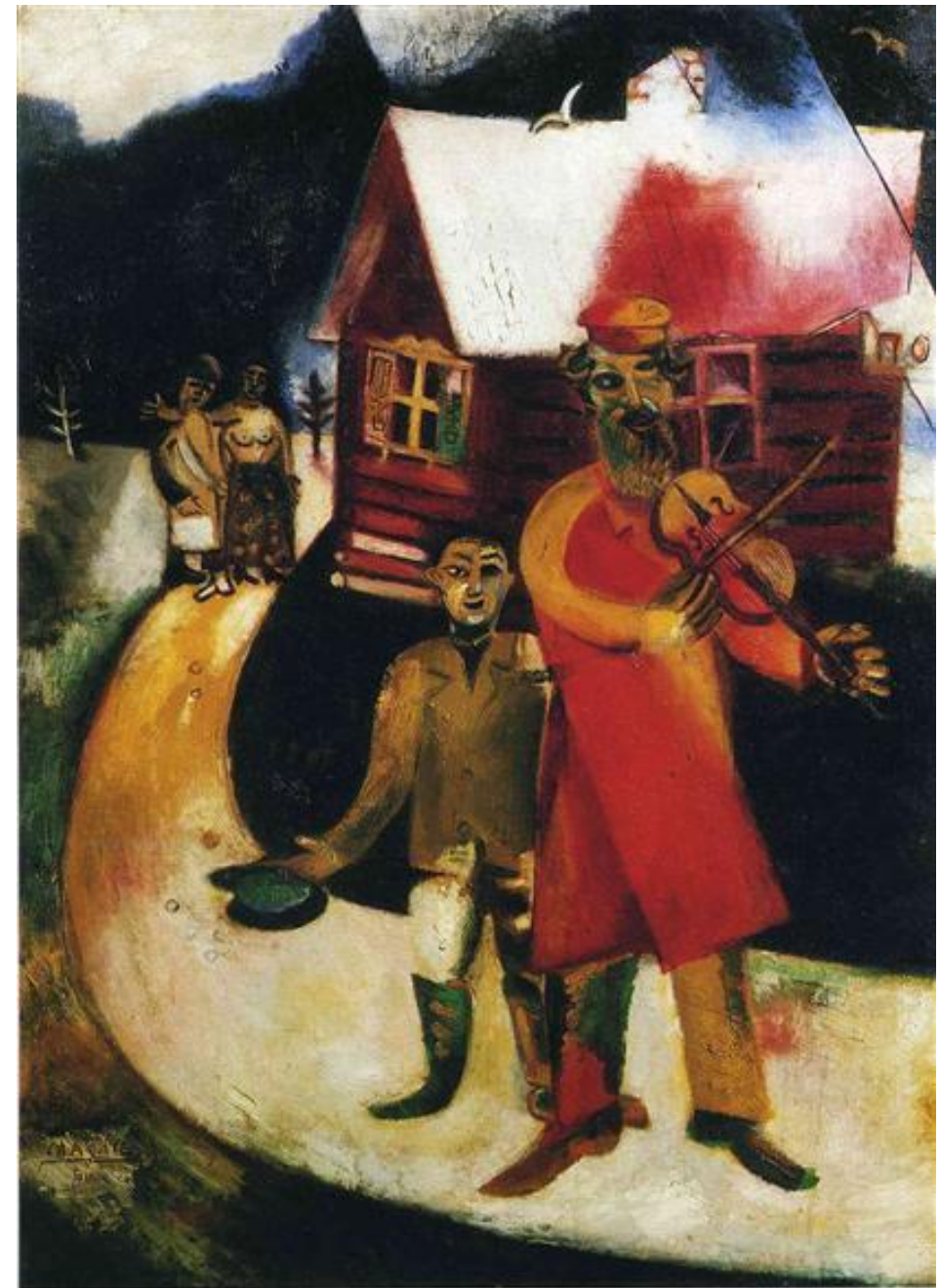




Marc Chagall

My Village, 1911

The Fiddler, 1913



36 The Violinist (1911)





Vadim Meller

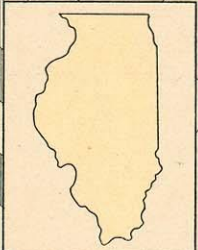
# Ukrainian art of the avant-garde



Alexandra Ekser



# Russian Empire in 1914.



Illinois, 56,650 sq. miles in comparison with Europe



German Empire  
Austria-Hungary  
Italy  
The Triple Alliance



Tsar Nicholas II and Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany





# The three cousins

Nikki

George

Willi





# Russia's economy & integration with Europe to 1914

- Capitalist takeover of landlord estates. Growing number of poor and landless peasants.
- Grain exports.\*
- Loans from French and Belgian banks to build railways and heavy industry. Growing debt.
- Coal and steel complex in the Donbass\*
- Oil complex at Baku. Oil exports.
- Heavy industry including armaments: St. Peterburg, Urals. Concentration in large enterprises.
- High inequality. New rich capitalist class. European travel and shopping.
- *Fastest growing economy in Europe, 1880-1914.*



# Russian soldiers go to the front, 1914



Another short, victorious war?



The Tsar at the front. Soldiers kneel.





Russian trenches WWI. Casualties were 1.7 million dead, 4.9 million wounded.







Down with the Monarchy. Hail the Republic. 1917. The revolution started with bread riots.





Lenin, returns  
from exile, 1917.

End the war.

All power to the  
Soviets.

Peace, land,  
bread



Deserters, 1917. The army broke down as peasant recruits walked home to bring in the harvest.





Trotsky addresses the revolutionary crowd  
Lenin stands to the right. 1917





## “Iron Felix” Dzerzhinsky 1919

Dzerzhinsky, a Pole, was first head of the “Extraordinary Committee” or Cheka, later the NKVD and KGB. Secret police were called “Chekists” throughout the Soviet era.

Today’s Russian FSB, or Federal Security Service, carries on the tradition.



the security police

Okhrana



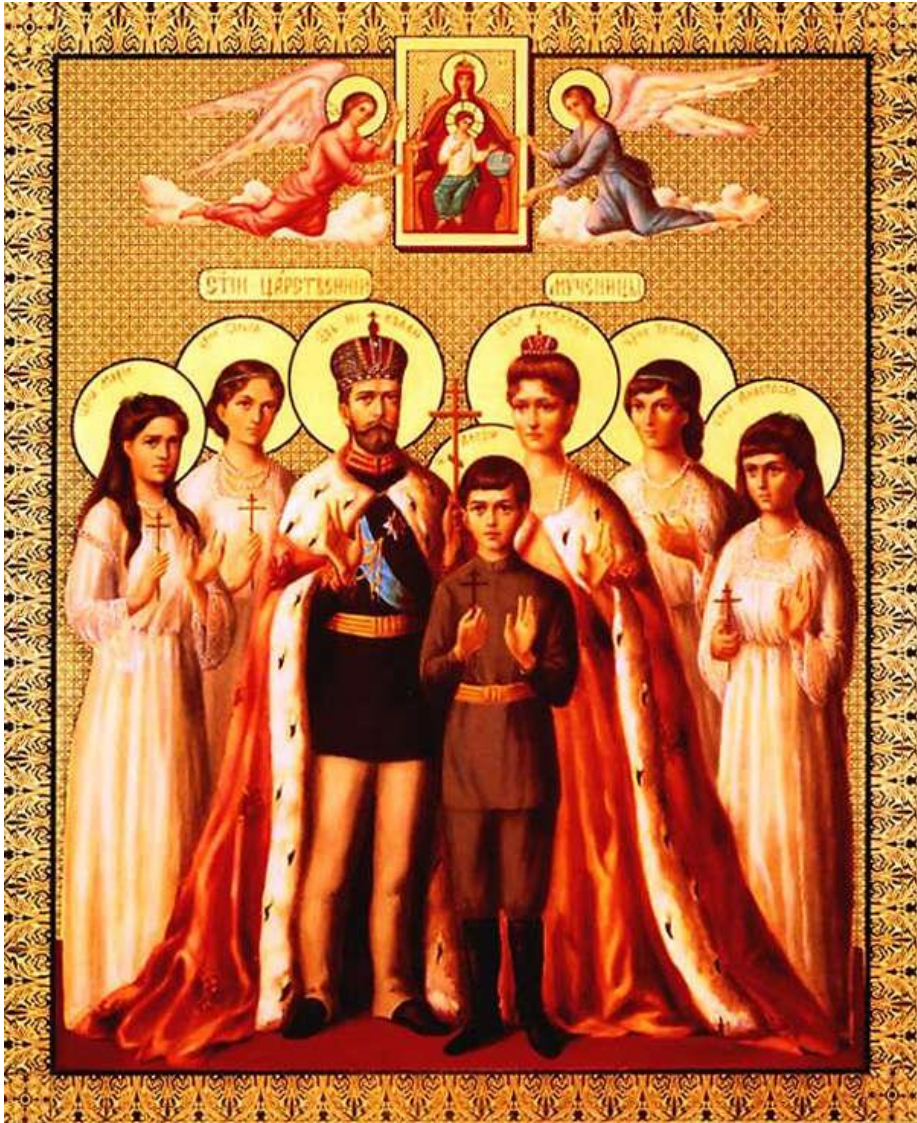
KGB



FSB



Icon of the Romanov family,  
Shot by the Cheka, 1918. Canonized by the Orthodox Church in 2000





## Trotsky organizes the Red Army





YOU!

Have you  
enlisted?

Russian on left

Ukrainian on right









**СВІТОВИЙ МИР НА УКРАЇНІ!**

Г. ГАСЕНКА



Russian civil war, 1918-21. White Generals Denikin, Kolchak, and Yudenich as “running dogs” of their American, French and British masters  
Today, Ukrainian leaders are “running dogs” of the US and NATO.





Donbass - the heart of Russia (1921)



1917 nationalist rally, Kiev

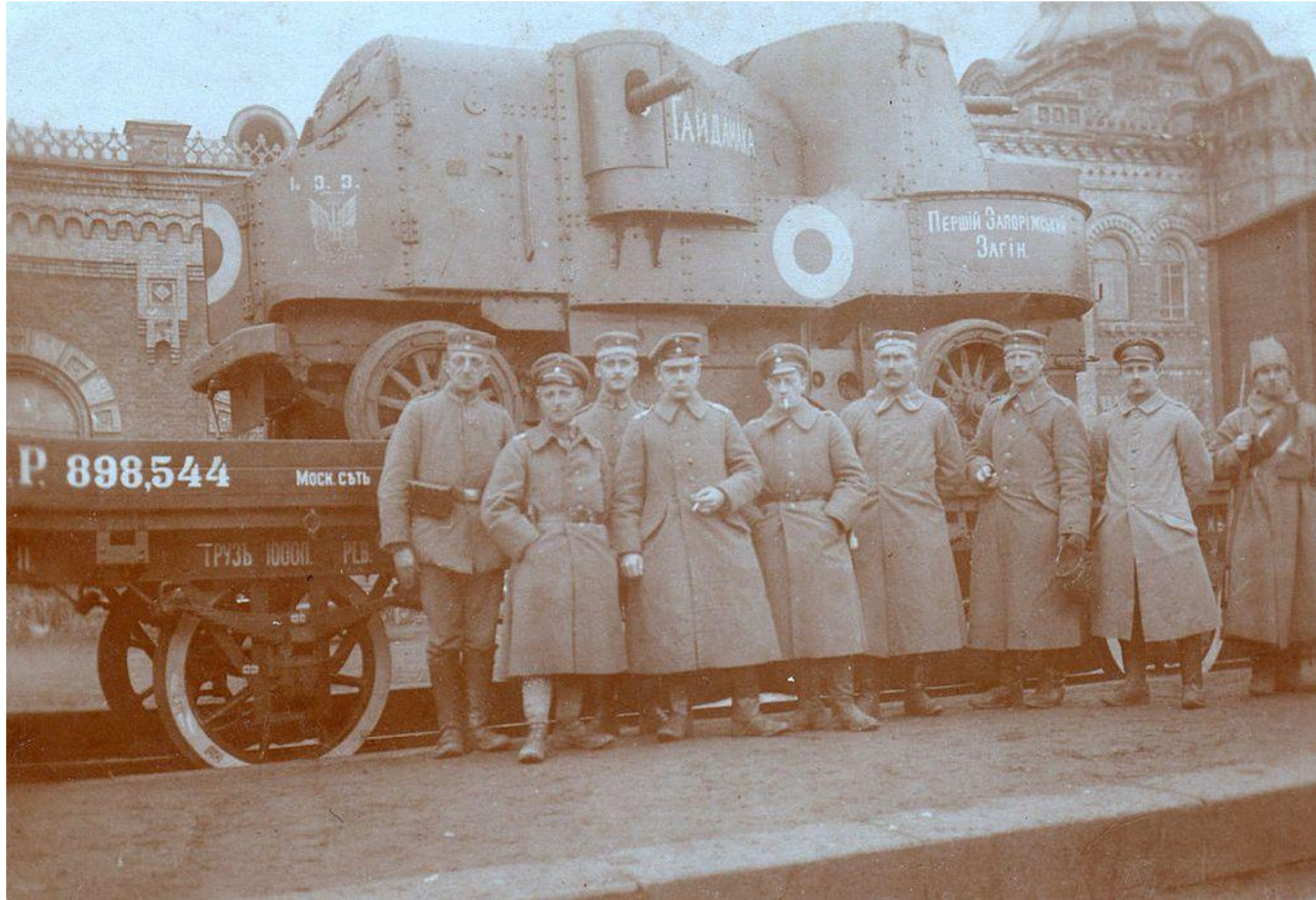


Historian Mykhailo Hrushchevsky, President of the Central Rada, reviews the troops, 1918





# 1<sup>st</sup> Zaporizhzhia Detachment, Ukrainian Peoples Army, 1918





Which side are you on???

Ukrainian soldiers fought the Reds, the Whites, and German-linked Skoropadsky – all of whom had Ukrainians in their ranks.



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fq4xgu8A56w&ab\\_channel=EasternUkrainian](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fq4xgu8A56w&ab_channel=EasternUkrainian)



# Simon Petliura, head of State and Army



- Cossack -Orthodox background
- Hromada Society. Journalist for Ukrainian national publications.
- 1917 became head of Ukrainian General Military Committee.
- 1918-20 led Ukrainian Peoples Army vs Bolsheviks and Whites.
- 1920-21 fought with Poles vs Red Army.
- His army was involved in pogroms against Jews in Ukraine.

# Pogrom victims, 1919



Some estimates say over 100,000 killed in Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa and many other places.

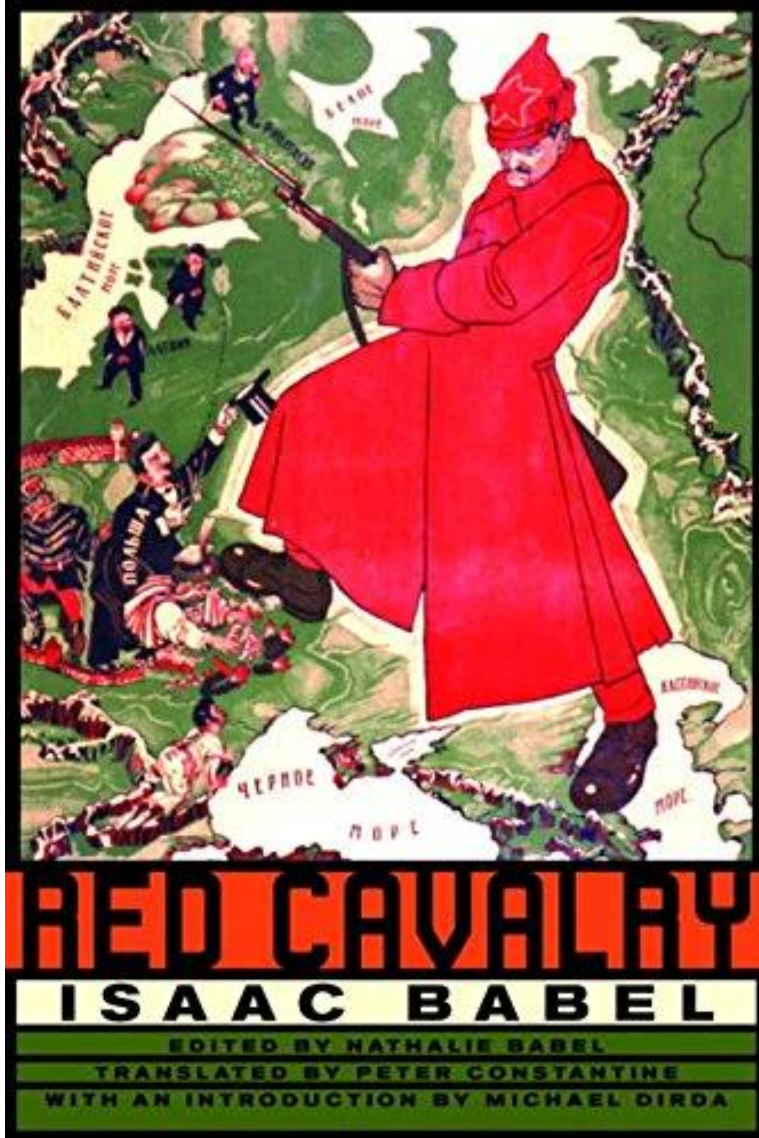


# Nestor Makhno, anarchist peasant rebel leader in Ukraine



“Brother toilers! The Revolutionary, Insurgent Army of the Ukraine (Makhnovists) was called into being as a protest against the oppression of workers and peasants by the bourgeois-landlord authorities on one side and the Bolshevik-Communist dictatorship on the other. Setting itself the goal to fight for the complete liberation of the toilers of the Ukraine from the yoke of this or that power and to create a true soviet socialist order”  
Makhno decree 1920

# Isaac Babel, 1894-1940



- Jewish intellectual from Odessa
- Rode with Budyonny's Red Cavalry
- Wrote *Red Cavalry* and *Odessa Tales*
- Arrested in 1938. Shot 1940.





# Ukrainian Presidents

- Leonid Kravchuk, 1991-94
- Leonid Kuchma, 1995-2005, Viktor Yushchenko Prime Minister from 2000 [contested election 2004, “orange revolution”, Yushchenko wins the rerun]
- Viktor Yushchenko, 2005-2010, Yulia Tymoshenko, Prime Minister
- Viktor Yanukovich, 2010-2014 [maidan uprising, 2014]
- Petro Poroshenko, 2014-2019
- Volodymyr Zelensky, 2019 -

# Soviet Union at its formation, 1922

The USSR was the former Russian Empire minus Poland and the Baltic states.





Famine, 1921-23. Warring armies had taken all the grain. Ukraine suffered along with southern Russia. Herbert Hoover's American Relief Administration sent US food aid, in a deal with Lenin.

Berdyansk, Ukraine, 1922



“A Gift of the American People” – same slogan used for US food aid today.



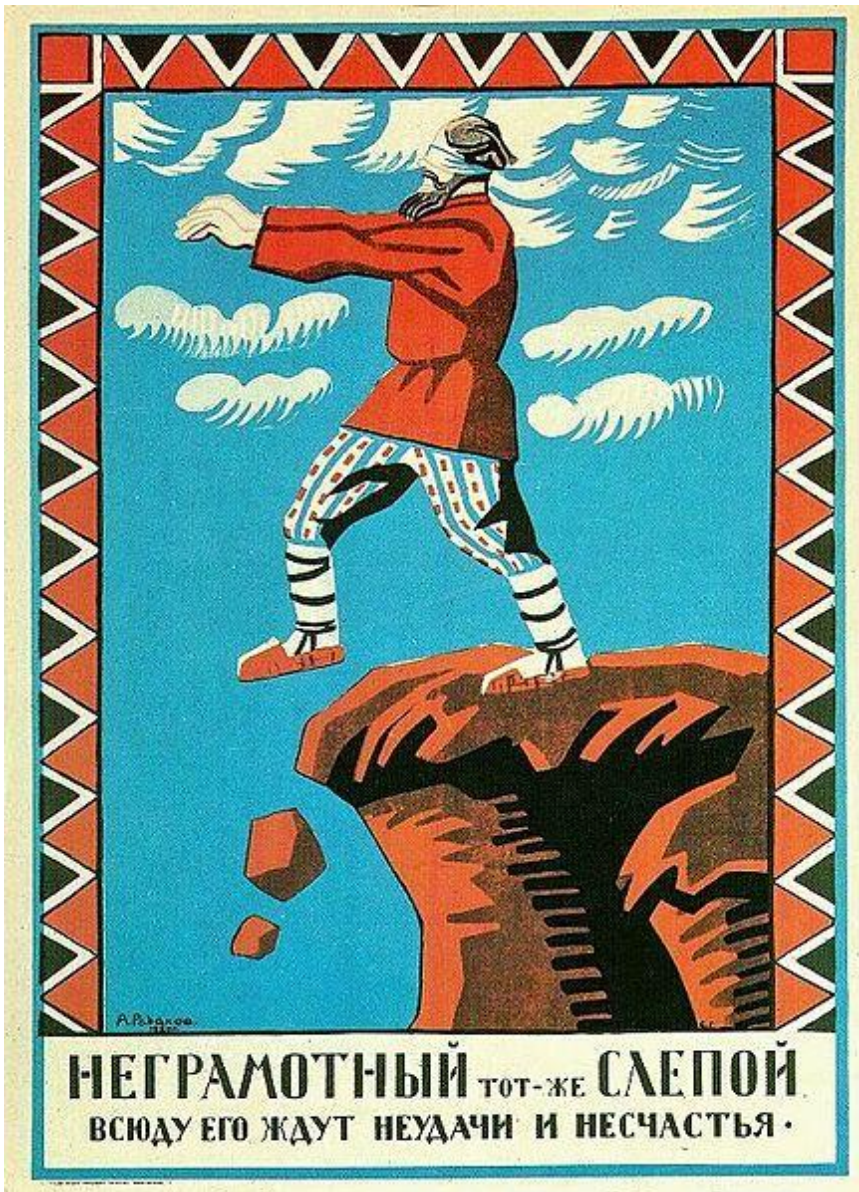


“Comrade Lenin  
cleanses the world of  
dirt.”

Dirt includes priests,  
capitalists, and kings.



# Illiteracy is Blindness



Teacher training at the Kyiv Institute of People's Education, 1920s





# Poster for International Women's Day. 1920



Early Bolsheviks were feminists opposed to “bourgeois morality”

Stalin reversed this and emphasized the traditional male-dominated family.

Putin considers feminism a feature of Western decadence.





Photo probably 1922.

Before he died, Stalin left a letter with his wife, Krupskaya, saying “Stalin is too coarse” to lead the Party. Stalin, head of the Orgburo (administrative bureau), suppressed the letter.



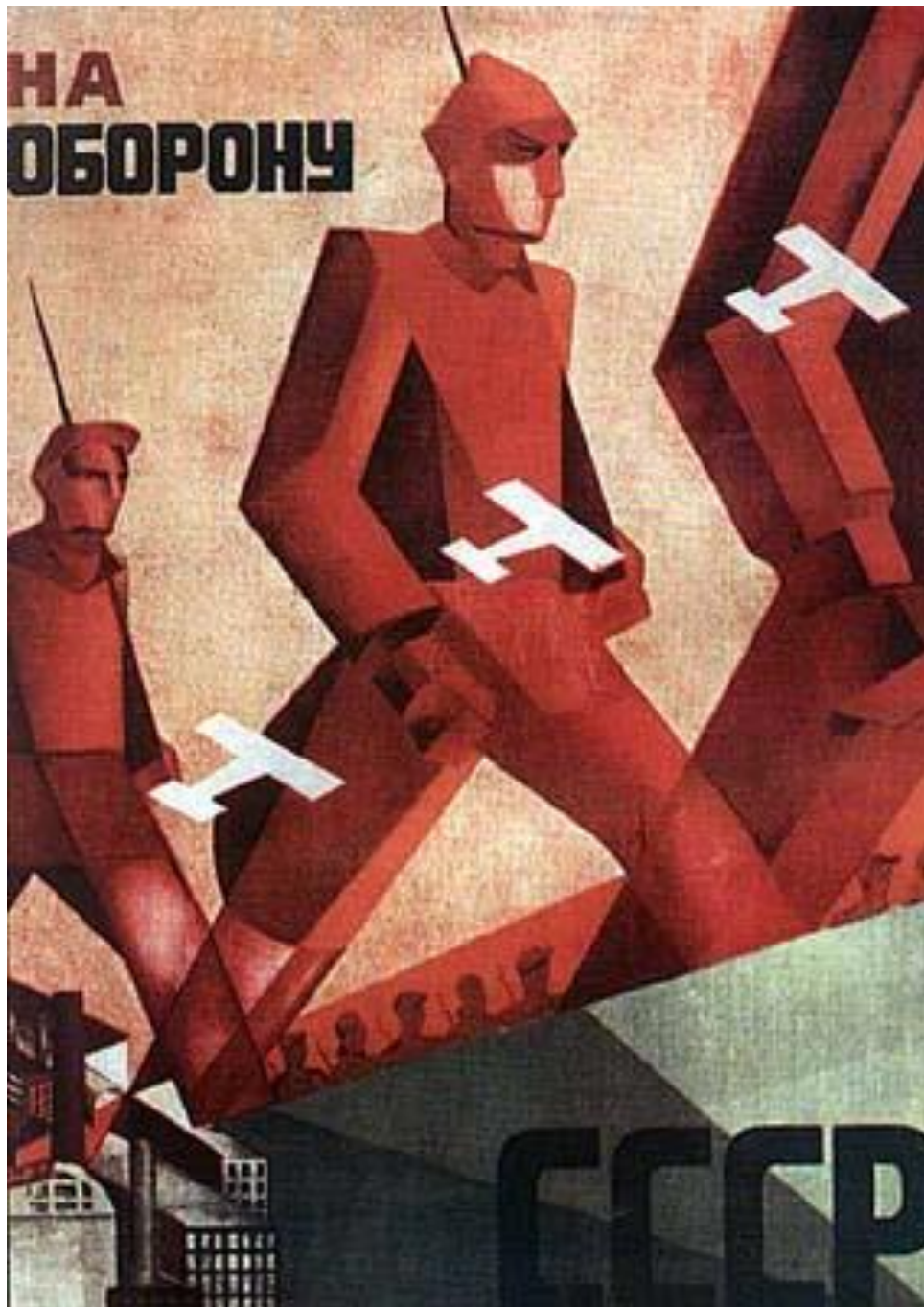
The greatest leader of recent times, according to many Russians. The factories Stalin built at huge cost saved the Motherland.

Build industry – “we must make good this lag in 10 years or they will crush us” - 1931

Collectivize the peasants – and get their grain to feed the workers doing “socialist construction”

No dissent! The time for intellectual talk is over.



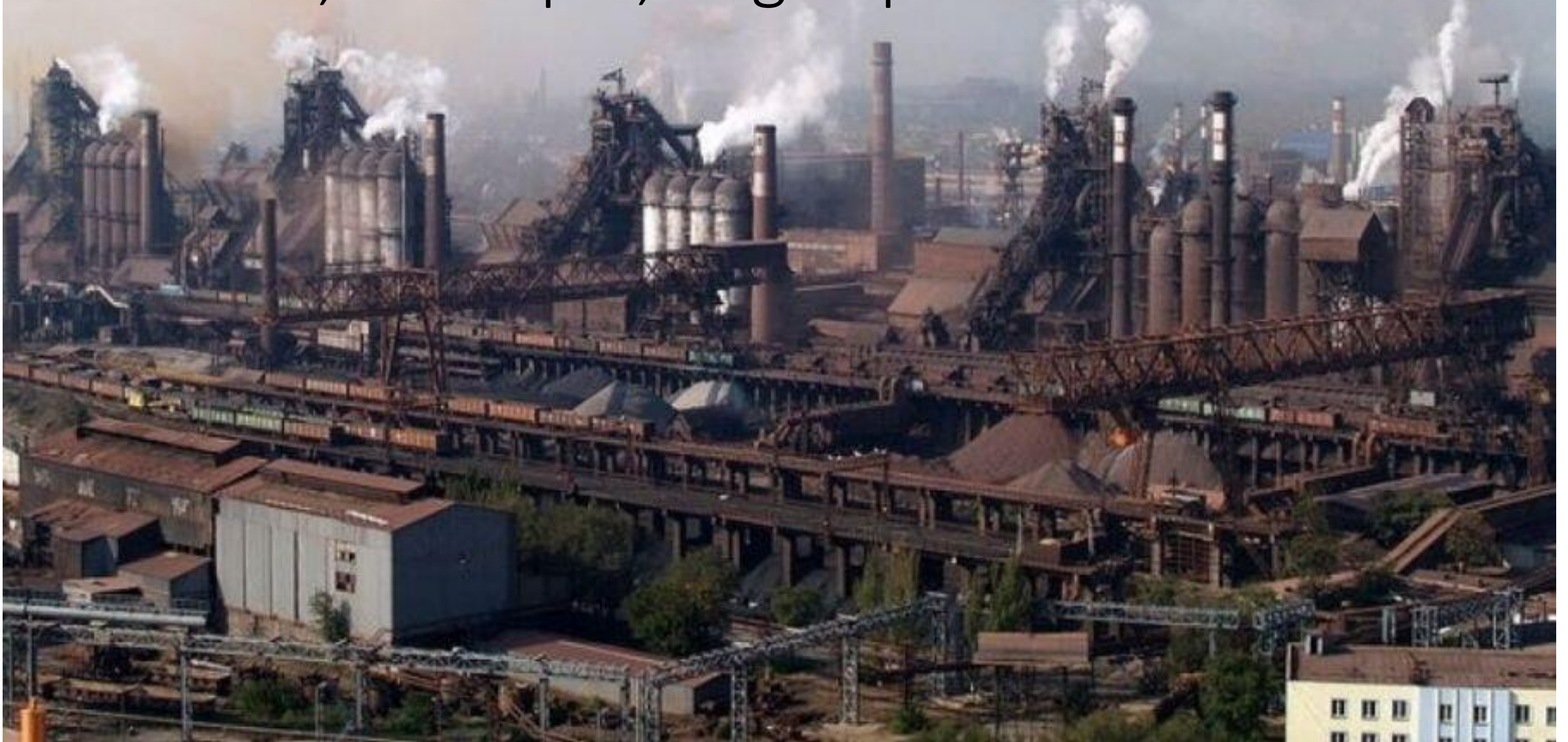


## To the Defense

Probably mid 1930s

Stalin's industrialization was geared to military production.

Azovstal, Mariupol, began production in 1935





Dnipro dam construction, 1930s.



Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet leader 1964-80, was born and grew up near here.



He considered himself “Russian” but his internal passport said “Ukrainian.”



Coal miner Andrei Stakhanov,  
mythologized hero-worker.

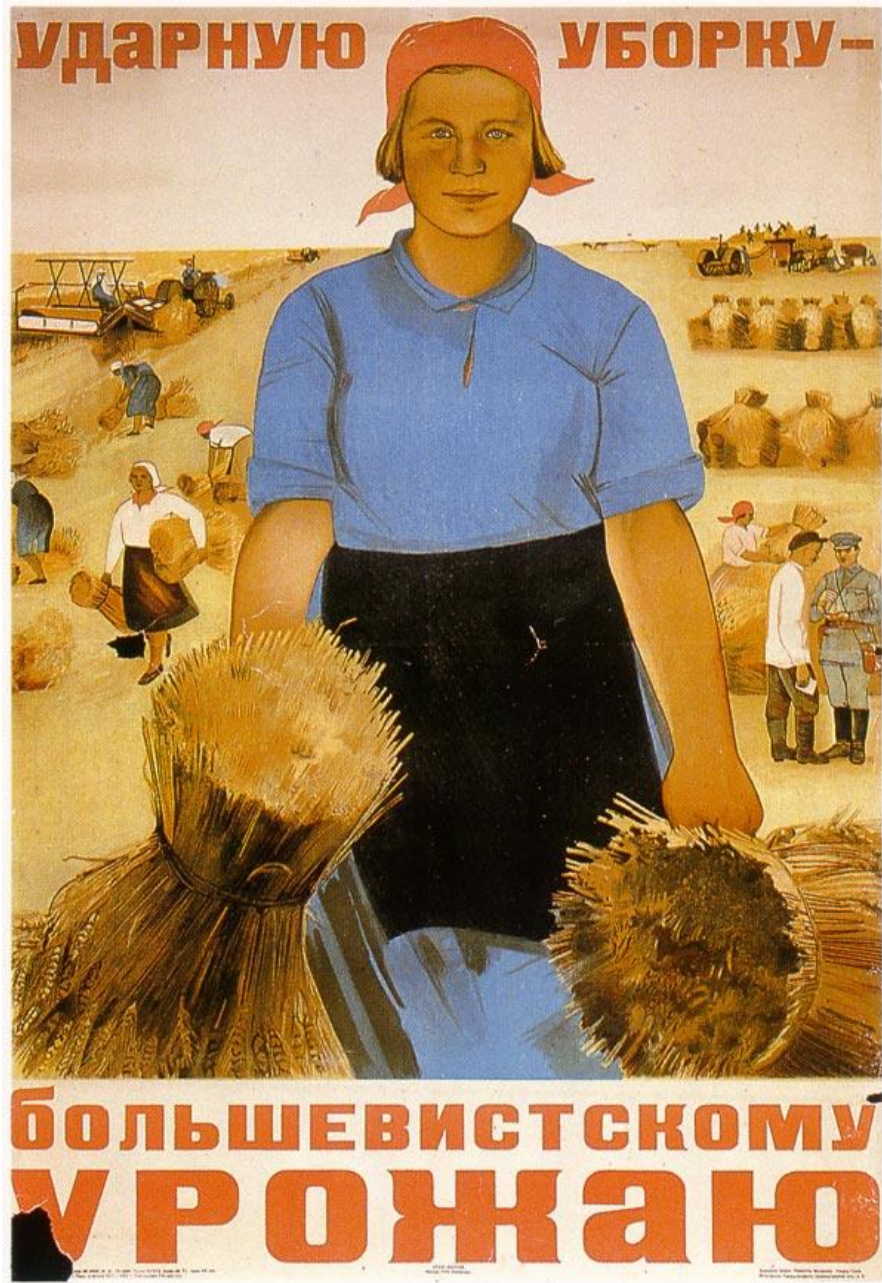
He was from a coal mining town  
near Luhansk.



They still mine coal in Donbas







## The Bolshevik Harvest

To Communists, “dark, mute” peasants were an enemy class. Peasants had to become “proletarians.”

Collectivization had been a Bolshevik idea since before the revolution.



# Poor And Middle Peasants Against the Kulaks



“Liquidation of the kulaks” A family expelled from their home





# Confiscating peasant grain, 1932 Or 1933



Peasants abandoned their villages





Grain stores were guarded against starving peasants



# SIX MILLION PERISH IN SOVIET FAMINE

*Peasants' Crops Seized, They and Their Animals Starve*



Like barnyard fowl, two peasant women garner kernels of grain spilled in sowing. They must do this to keep alive in a land of plenty—the Ukraine

—where 6,000,000 children, women and men have died of starvation. The women were permitted, as a great privilege, to pick the kernels.



Russia's beautiful thoroughbred horses, known the world over, are used now in the agricultural districts. The animals, needed on every farm, are dying off by the million of starvation.

Ten million died in a few years. Here one horse is down, another is too weak to stand. Peasants begging food to save their livestock were driven off by armed soldiers.

## Reporter Risks Life to Get Photographs Showing Starvation

STARVATION stalks through the Ukraine section of Soviet Russia, leaving a ghastly trail of death and agony. The Ukraine is the most fertile grain-producing district in Russia.

The facts contained in the series of articles, of which this is the first, were obtained by Thomas Walker, an American newspaperman, now resident in London, at the peril of his life.

When Mr. Walker entered Russia last Spring he smuggled in a camera.

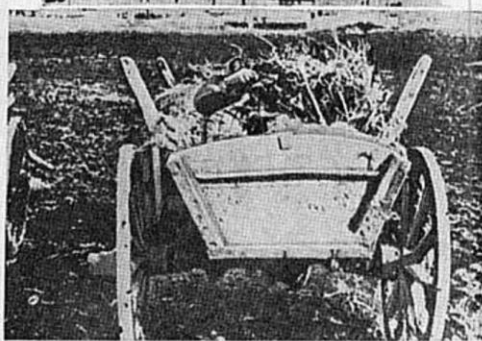
While the photographs shown with these articles were obtained under the most adverse and dangerous possible circumstances, the evidence they present is more grim and graphic than words.

By THOMAS WALKER,

Noted Journalist and Traveler and Student of Russian Affairs, Who for Several Years Has Toured the Union of Soviet Republics.

I HAVE recently toured the Ukraine district of Soviet Russia, where 6,000,000 peasants have perished from starvation in the past eighteen months, due to the excessive tolls made on their crops by the Bolshevik government.

Last winter, Red Army soldiers, under orders from Moscow, took so much of the season's crops from the peasants that they were unable to feed themselves and their livestock through the winter.



Death from starvation in a Soviet hay cart! Although he worked on a community farm where food was plentiful, this peasant could not get enough to eat.

(All Pictures Copyright, 1935, by American Newspapers, Inc.)

The world knew what was happening but paid little attention.

The great famine occurred behind the veil of Stalin's industrialization projects, which got more attention.

Some leading American journalists, like Walter Duranty of the NYTimes, were cheerleaders for Stalin, arguing it was all necessary.



# Happy Ladies of the Kolkhoz (Collective Farm)





Holodomor 3 to 4 million dead in Ukraine, 5-7 million overall

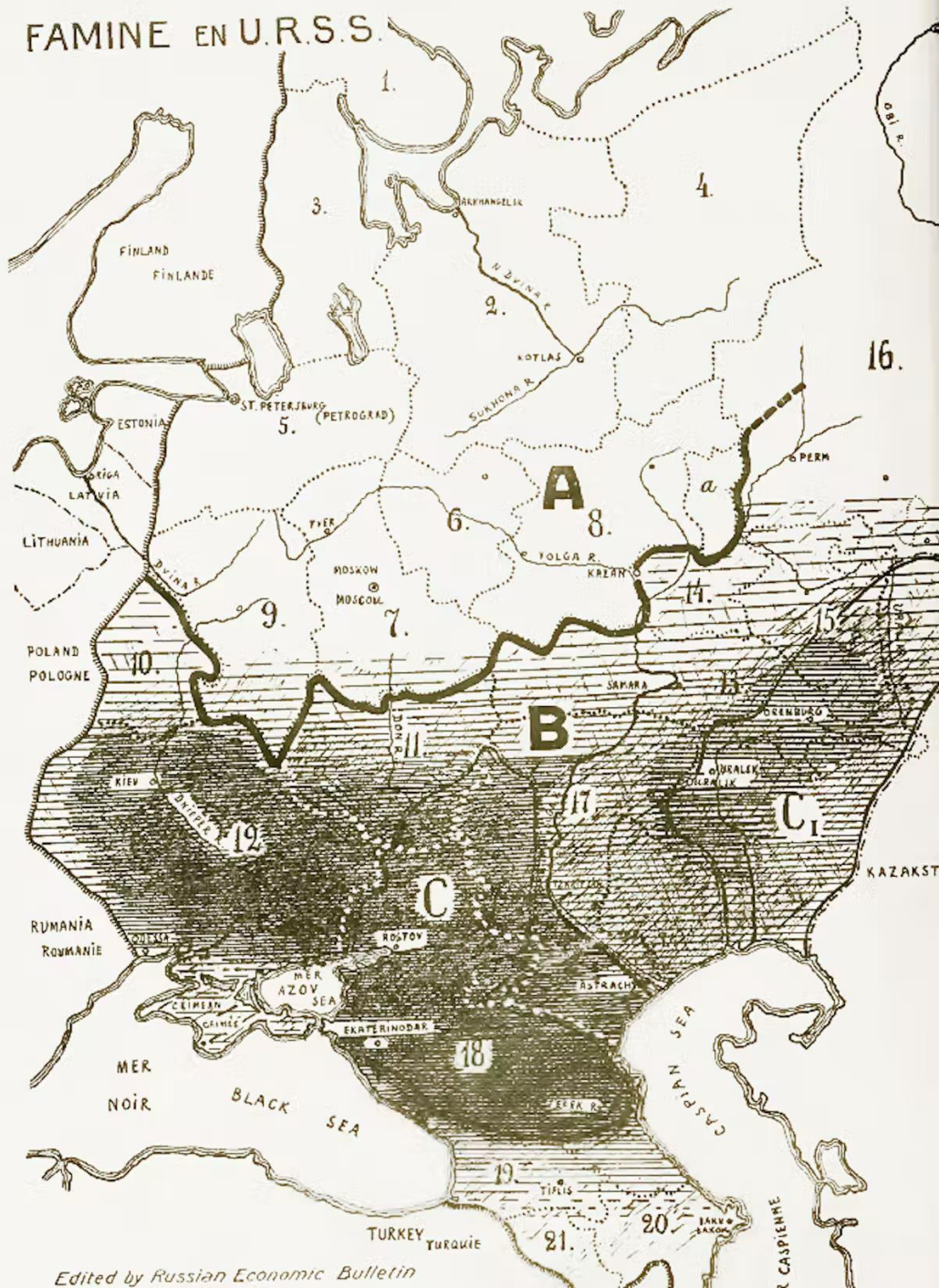


<https://undsoc.org/2021/12/01/the-holodomor/>

© Family of Alexander Wienerberger



# FAMINE EN U.R.S.S.



The great famine spread across Ukraine and southern Russia

The original is in French. Below, it says (in English) “Edited by Russian Economic Bulletin” – a Russian journal founded in 2018. One may wonder what was “edited” and what the original French source was and what its sources were?

# The Great Purge, 1936-38

## Communist Party (CPSU)

Public show trials of “Old Bolsheviks”

1936: Zinoviev, Kamenev + (“Zinovievite-Trotskyite Terrorist Center”)

1937: Pyatakov, Radek (“Anti-Soviet Trotskyite Centre”)

1938: Bukharin, Rykov+ (“Rightists”)

Accusations: plots to murder Stalin, espionage, sabotage. (All confessed.)

In the period 1936-1939, tried, convicted and usually shot

110 of 134 of the members of the Central Committee of the CPSU

1,106 of 1966 delegates to the 1936 Party Congress (“The Congress of Victors”)

## Military (1937-38)

Three of Five Marshals of the Red Army: Tukhachevsky, Blyukher,  
Commanders of the Army and Air force; all eight top Navy admirals.

All military district commanders.

About two thirds of the higher officers.

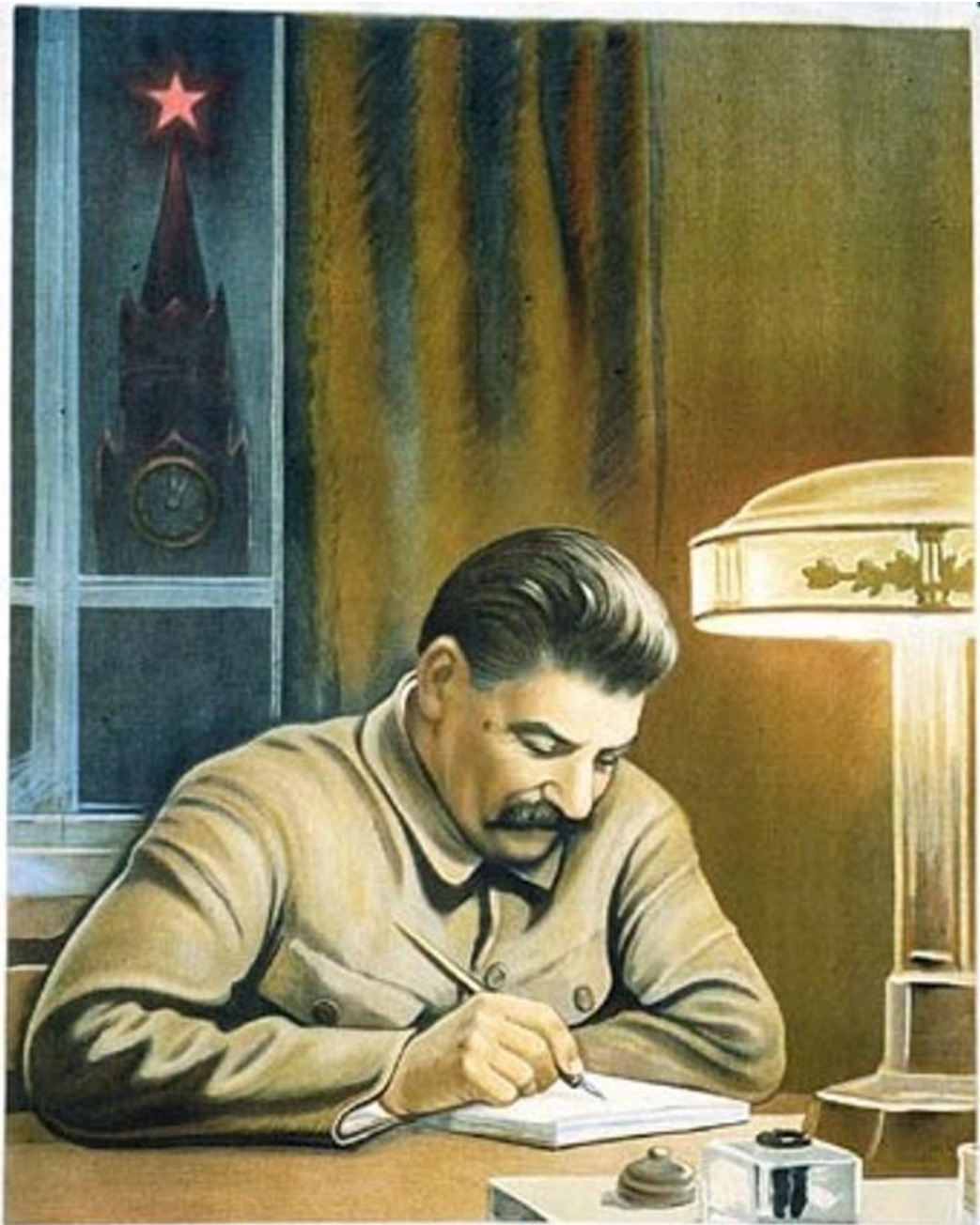
NKVD heads Yagoda, Yezhov. Other top officers of the NKVD. Yezhov in was tried in secret and shot in 1938



# GULag Archipelago

GULag was the acronym of the Glavniye Upravlenie Lagerei, the Chief Administration of Camps, a part of the NKVD (later KGB)



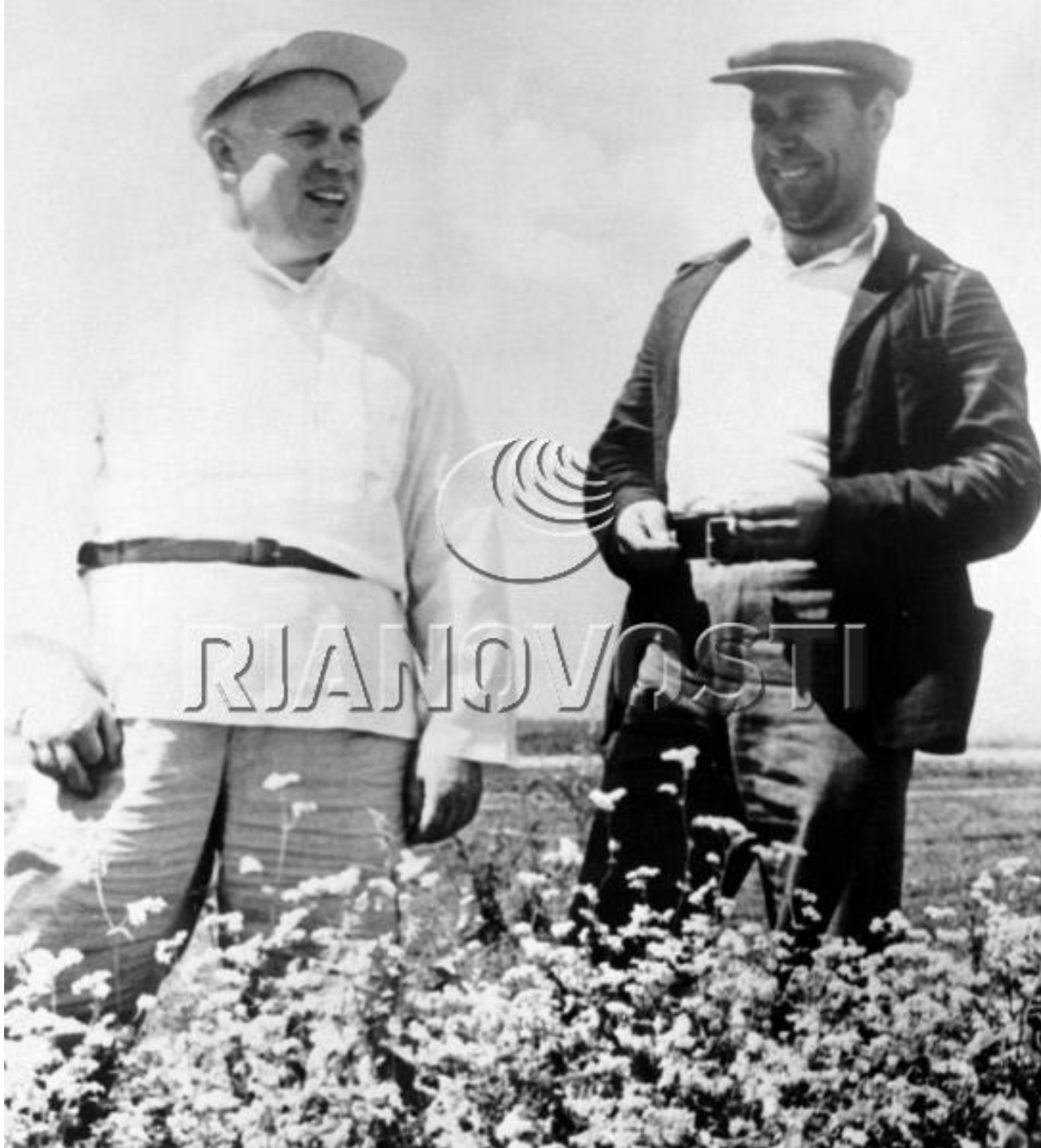


“Stalin in the  
Kremlin cares about  
every one of us”

1930s

О каждом из нас заботится Сталин в Кремле





Communist Party First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev and happy Ukrainian farmer, 1940.

Khrushchev followed the great purge in Ukraine, and returned as 1<sup>st</sup> secretary after the war.



August 23, 1939. Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov and German Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop sign the Soviet-German treaty. Stalin smiles.

Secret clauses divided eastern Europe. Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. The Soviet Army marched into eastern Poland three weeks later.

Note Lenin on the wall.





Soviet POWs  
cover the  
bodies at  
Babyn Yar,  
1941



# Defense of Sebastopol, 1942





## Stepan Bandera, leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists

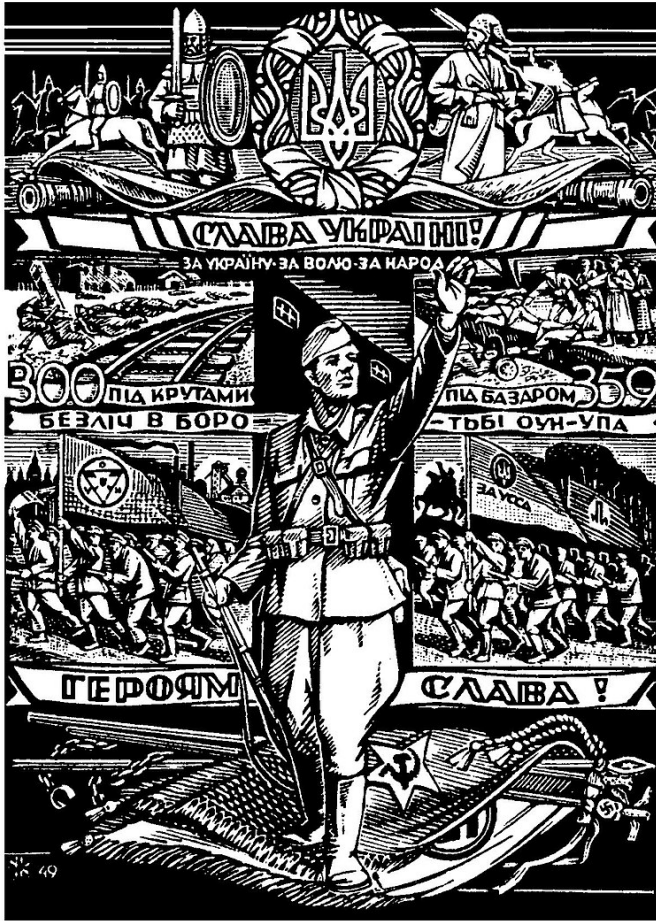


He helped the Nazis kill Poles and Jews, then was imprisoned in a German camp. The KGB murdered him in 1959.

Bandera is emphasized in Russian propaganda to claim that Ukrainian nationalists are “nazis”.



# Ukrainian People's Army (Banderists)



Continued fighting the Soviets after WWII, until 1950. Got help from CIA and British secret service. Western Ukraine was cleared of people in Soviet campaign vs UPA partisans.

In 2019, surviving Bandera fighters were recognized by Ukraine as veterans and given pensions.



Kyiv in 1945





# TERRITORIAL EVOLUTION OF UKRAINE

## FIRST UKRAINIAN STATES AFTER WW I

- 1918 : West Ukrainian people's republic and Carpathian Ruthenia
- 1917-21 : Ukrainian republic of Kiev



## UKRAINIAN TERRITORIAL GROWTH 1922-54

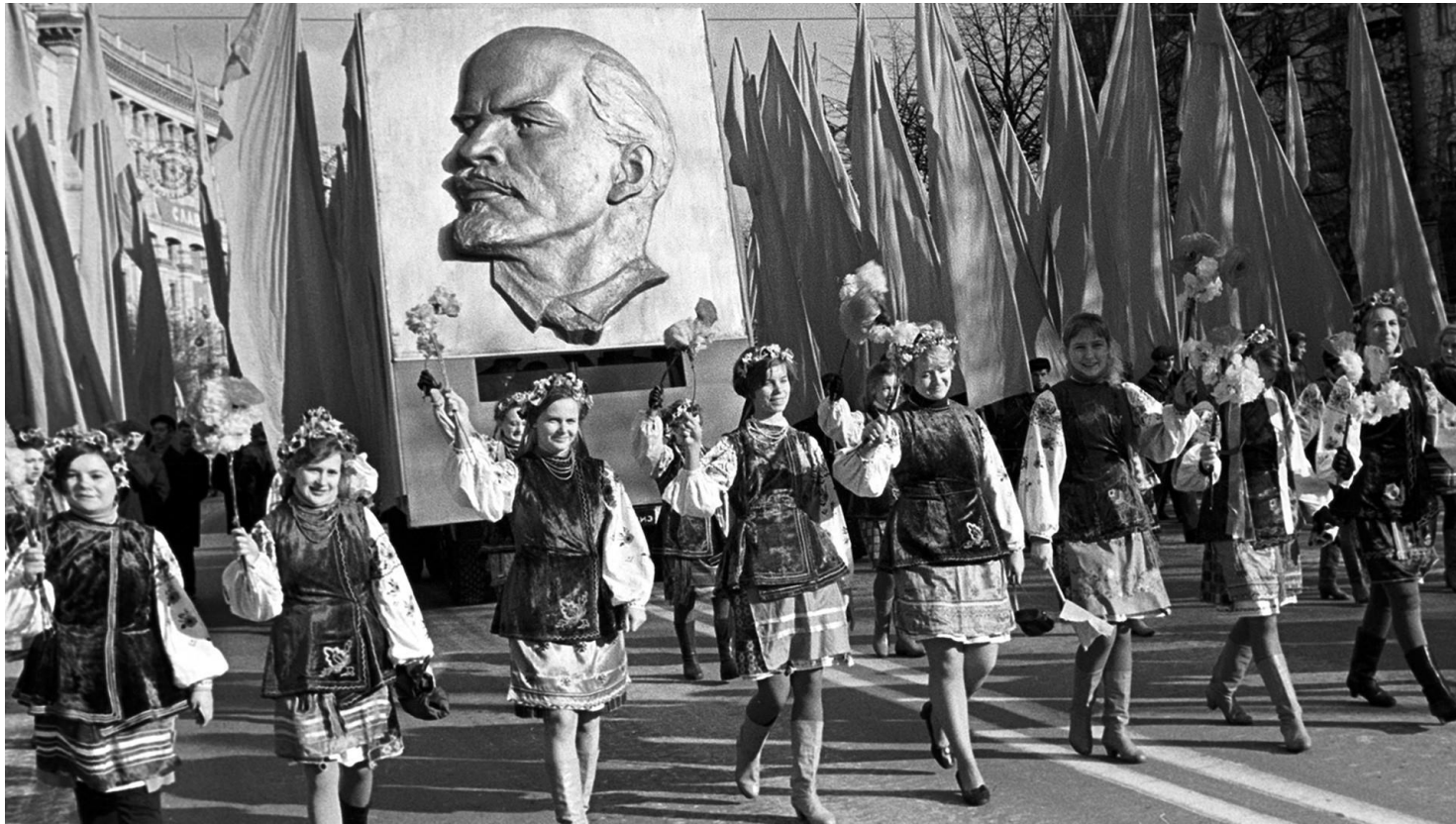
- 1922 : Ukrainian soviet socialist republic
- 1939 : Polish territory given to Ukraine
- 1940 : Romanian territories given to Ukraine
- 1945 : Czechoslovak Ruthenia given to Ukraine
- 1948 : Romanian islands given to Ukraine
- 1954 : Russian Crimea given to Ukraine

## UKRAINIAN LOST TERRITORIES

- 1: Given to Russia in 1924
- 2: Given to Moldova in 1940



“Unbreakable Union of Free Republics  
Brought together forever by Great Russia” – Soviet anthem



- Poster in occupied Kherson, 2022:
- Russia is here *forever*. “Russians and Ukrainians - one people, a united whole.”  
V.V. Putin



# 300th anniversary of union of Ukraine with Russia, 1954.

Soviet nationalities became folklore – “national in form, socialist in content”.



Gala concert on the "300th anniversary of Ukraine's reunification with Russia", Kiev, 1954  
Yevgeny Khaldey/MAMM/MDF







He “gave”  
Crimea to  
the  
Ukrainian  
Soviet  
Republic  
in 1954



# Khrushchovka, Kyiv – no elevator





Yalta 1969





Zaporozhets cars were popular and cheap. Khrushchev called them “tin cans”.





# Antonov AN-225, world's largest aircraft



Kyiv has an important aircraft industry. Ukraine also made locomotives, tanks, armored vehicles (Kharkiv), ships (Mariupol, Kherson), artillery, munitions, and radio gear. Ukraine produced 20% of Soviet military equipment. and continued to supply the Russian military after independence, until 2014.

The famous Soviet T-34 WWII tank was designed and built in Kharkiv. The factory was moved to the Urals in 1941, then returned to Ukraine after the war.

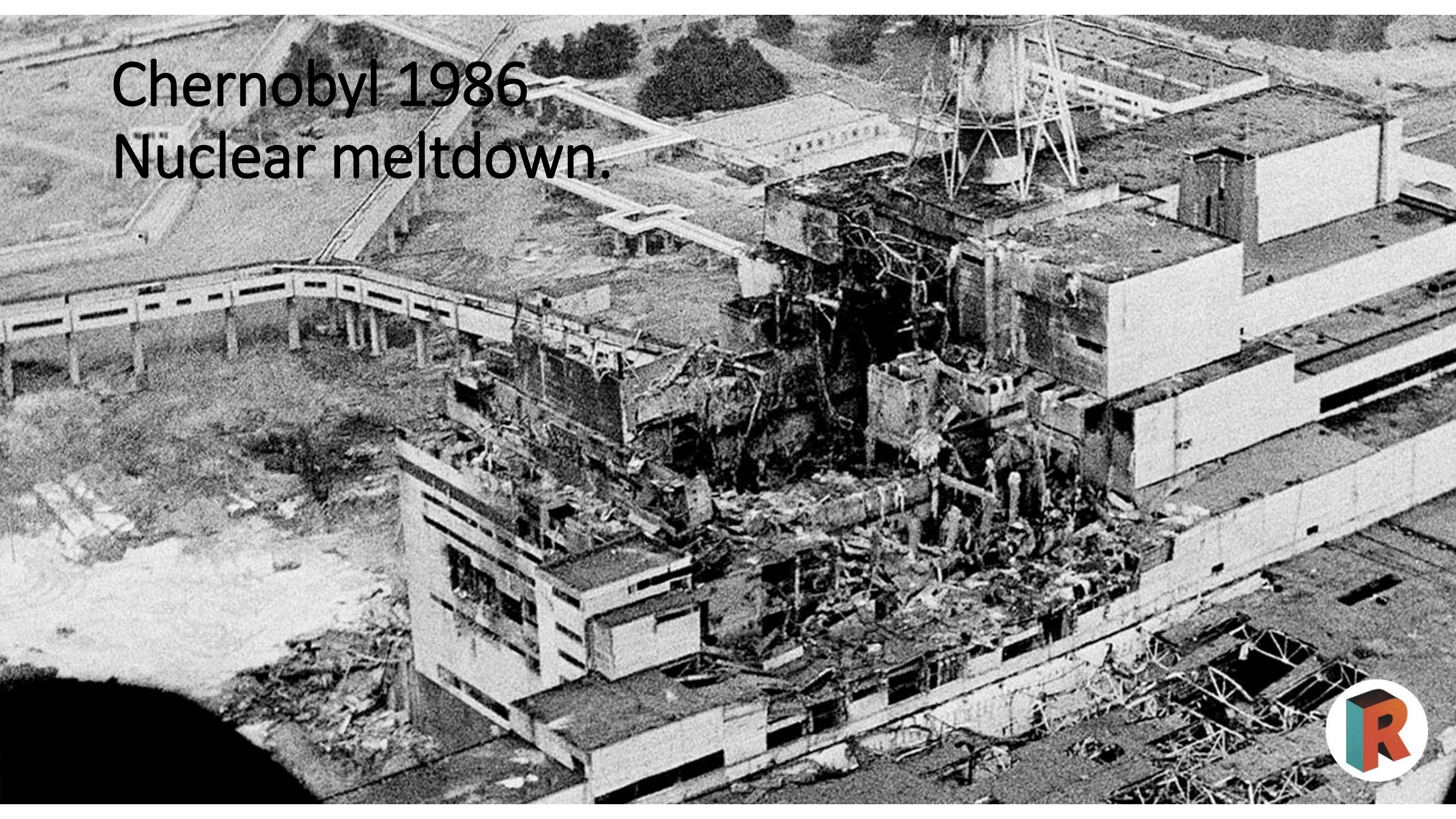


# Remains of the Kharkhiv tank factory, 2019





Chernobyl 1986  
Nuclear meltdown.





# Donbass miners on strike, 1989





1991. Boris Yeltsin embraced nationalism and dissolution of the USSR. The US stuck with Gorbachev.



“Chicken Kiev”. President Bush speaks to the Ukrainian parliament, August 1, 1991. Leonid Kravchuk, Communist Party head and first President of Ukraine, sits behind.



“Some people have urged the United States to choose between supporting President Gorbachev and supporting independence-minded leaders throughout the U.S.S.R. I consider this a false choice. In fairness, President Gorbachev has achieved astonishing things, and his policies of glasnost, perestroika, and democratization point toward the goals of freedom, democracy, and economic liberty.

**[America] will not aid those who promote a suicidal nationalism based upon ethnic hatred.”**



**August 19-21, 1991.** Coup by conservative communists to preserve the USSR fails. The soldiers didn't obey orders. Gorbachev is in Crimea. Yeltsin faces down the coup and takes real power.\*



\*I was in Moscow a week later. Russian colleagues took me to the site. Euphoria. But the food stores were empty and the airport for domestic flights was a madhouse. The provinces – I went east 800 miles – were much worse.



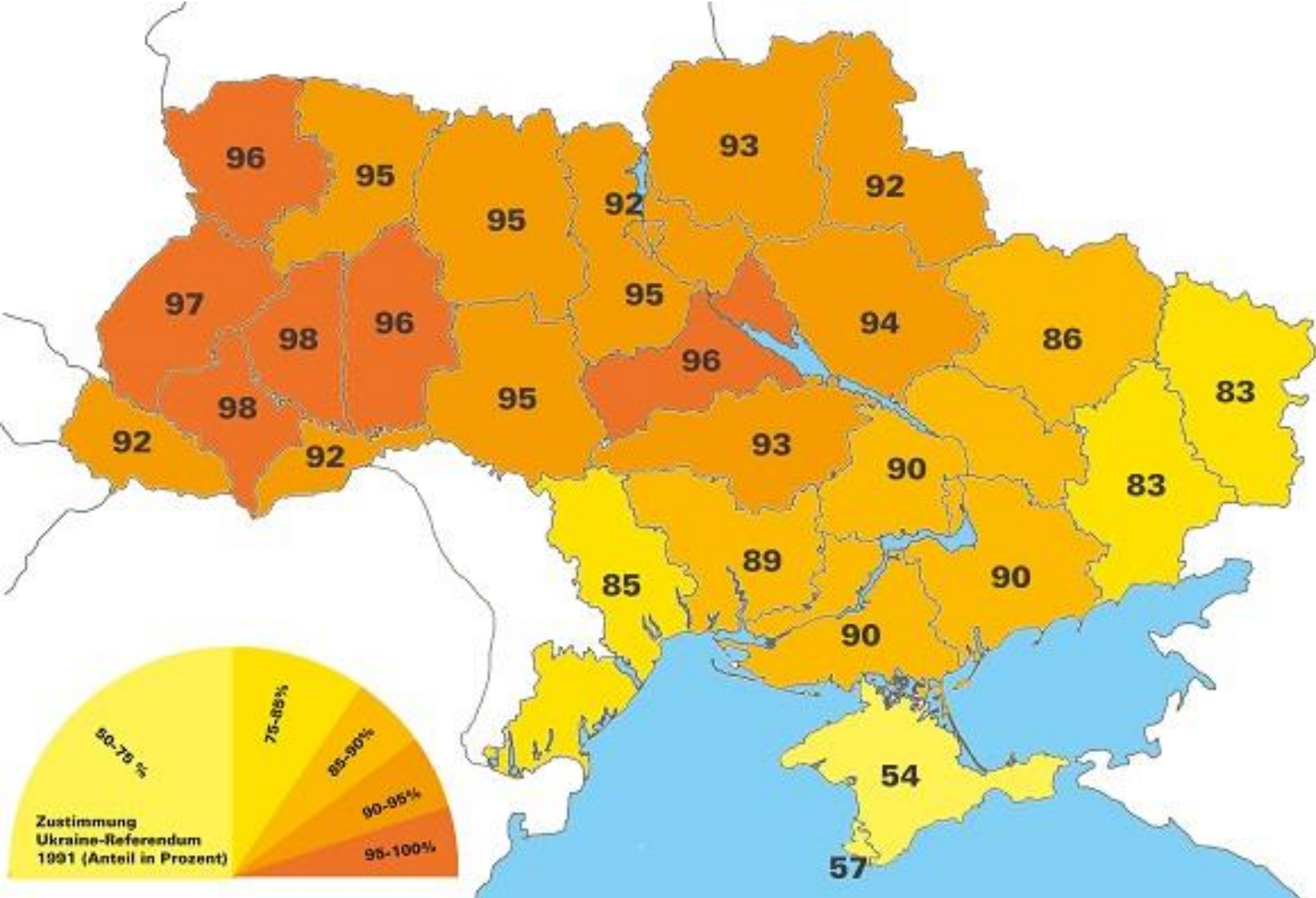
August 24, 1991 Ukraine declares independence.



Were Soviet Ukrainians really enthusiastic about independence in 1991?



# December 1991 referendum on independence vote % in favor



Forming the Commonwealth of Independent States. Kravchuk of Ukraine at left, Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan, Yeltsin of Russia.





# Breakup of the Soviet empire







All things  
Western and  
American

Moscow  
McDonald's line,  
1990



# PRIVATIZATION



Smart  
guys who  
became  
oligarchs  
cheated  
the  
people.

On the farm, you dig potatoes and send them to your city relatives





“Businessmen” provided “protection”





# Dismantling nuclear weapons, 1994.



Financed by the Nunn-Lugar bill which paid for the dismantling and removal and paid redundant Russian and Ukrainian nuclear scientists.





Budapest memorandum 1994.

Ukrainian President Kuchma agreed to give up nuclear weapons in exchange for guarantees.

Anti-Russian nationalism came later.

## **MEMORANDUM**

### **ON SECURITY ASSURANCES IN CONNECTION WITH UKRAINE'S ACCESSION TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE Final Act, to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine.**

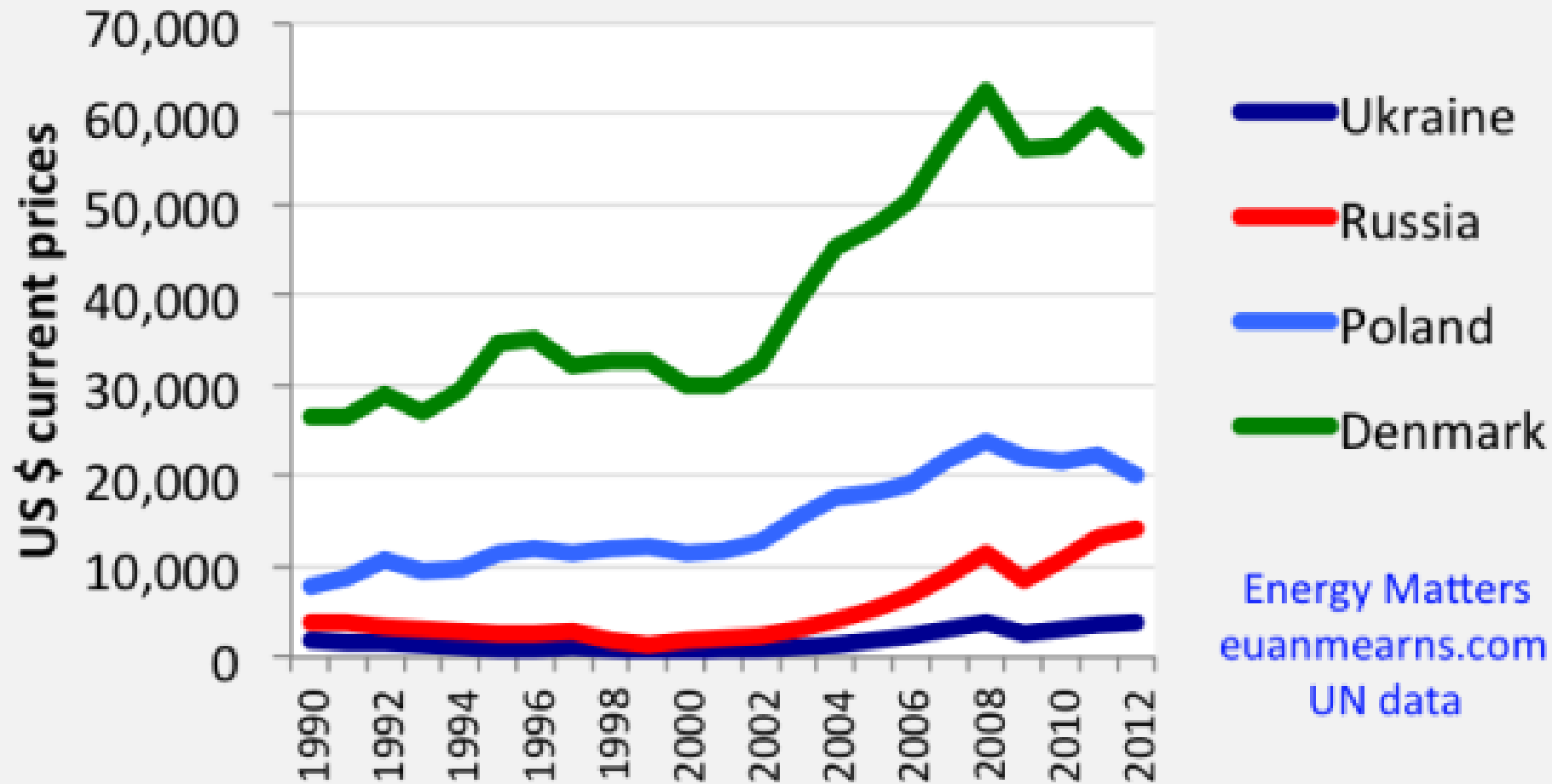
- 2. The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine, and that none of their weapons will ever be used**

Putin in 2014, after annexation of Crimea, said that since the Ukrainian government was illegally replaced, Russia has no obligation regarding its successor:

"a new state arises, but with this state and in respect to this state, we have not signed any obligatory documents".



# Per capita GDP



Between 1989 and 1998 the Ukrainian economy declined by 57 percent



Journalist Georgiy Gonadze, investigating corruption, was murdered in 2000.

## Corruption reached stratospheric levels

- Oligarchs took over industries.
- Criminal syndicates flourished
- Oligarchs and politicians had close ties to Russia

*From a US Department of Justice report, 2000*

Pavlo Lazarenko, former Prime Minister of Ukraine is currently under arrest in the United States charged with money laundering, conspiracy, and transportation of stolen property - and both Switzerland and Ukraine have requested his extradition. Lazarenko was Prime Minister of Ukraine from June 1996 until the summer of 1997 when allegations of corruption forced President Kuchma to remove him from office. It subsequently became clear that he had used his positions as Minister of Energy and then Prime Minister for personal enrichment. He had sent an estimated \$114 million overseas using a wide variety of front companies and bank accounts in Cyprus and Switzerland, the United States, Antigua, and possible South Pacific jurisdictions such as Nauru (Trofmova 2001; Kostiw 2001).