



Committee: United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Country: Canada

Topic: Russia and Ukraine Crisis

Introduction

The sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine was violated by Russia in the year 2014, by occupying Sevastopol and Crimea, in an illegal manner (Hookway & Trofimov, 2022). Since then, some aggressive actions and attempts were being done continuously by Russia in order to destabilize Ukraine through various means; malicious hybrid, disinformation campaigns, malicious cyber operations, and various military buildups in and around. Ask on my Ukraine and Canada are considered to be the close friend and steadfast partners, therefore, besides its international allies and partners, and in the unanimity with the people and government of Ukraine, Canada is one of the countries to condemn the decision of Russia unequivocally in order to recognize the independence of the regions in Ukraine, including Donetsk and Luhansk (Fisher, 2014).

Bilateral Relations

It is not to be ignored that Canada was one of the first Western countries that recognized the independence of Ukraine on December 2, 1991. Since then, Ukraine and Canada are known to enjoy a very close bilateral relationship that not only dances corporation on defense, trade, and security but also in advancing the economic and democratic reform efforts of Ukraine (Kirby P. , 2022). Since the year 2014, Canada has been known to provide Ukraine with development assistance, humanitarian assistance, peace, and stabilization, through more than \$890 million under the category of multifaceted assistance. Whereas, the task of supporting the security sector and defense reform of Ukraine, has been one of the vital, and flagship areas of Ukraine-Canada engagement.

What has Canada done so far?

Since the year 2014, when an illegal occupation of Crimea was done by Russia, Canada is considered to be a leader in supporting the government and people of Ukraine on the international level (Fisher, 2014). In addition to this, in coordination with the allies and partners, some important sanctions were imposed by Canada against more than 900 Ukrainian and Russian entities and individuals, who were somehow involved in the process of violation of the severity and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

As a response to the recent invasion of Ukraine done by Russia, a few new sanctions are imposed by Canada (Kirby & Guyer, 2022). These new sanctions include a few restrictions on the people who are, in any case, Either the member of the inner circle of the president, our family members or are in close contact with the individuals who are already sanctioned by Canada and a few of its key financial institutions (BBC).

Recently on February 24, 2022, a few restrictions were imposed by Canada on the exports to Russia (Sundby, 2022). According to these restrictions, Canada had to stop the issuance of all the new export permit applications, in addition to canceling all the valid existing export permits for controlled goods and technology, which were supposed to be done to Russia. Hence, for brokering of goods and technology, and exports of all kinds, permits are required under the Export and Import Permits Act of Canada.

The list of the exports which were controlled by Canada identifies some specific technology and goods which were to be exported to Russia and other countries from Canada, regardless of the means of their delivery. It is expected that Canada will be continuing the process of monitoring the evolving situation and might be re-evaluating the export control policy towards Russia in light of the changes on the ground.

The future course of action

1. New sanctions:

It has been announced by the new Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, that some new sanctions will be imposed under the *Special Economic Measures (Ukraine) Regulations* and *Special Economic Measures (Russia) Regulations*. The measures described by these new sanctions include;

- The imposition of restrictions on the members of the Russian State Duma, who have voted in the favor of the decision for recognition of the independence of Luhansk and Donetsk.
- The imposition of sanctions on two very important Russian financial institutions for hindering the ability of Russia to find the aggressive actions any further.
- The imposition of new prohibitions on both; Direct and indirect dealings in the Russian sovereign debt.

2. Military support

It also has been announced by the Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, that an additional military contribution would be sent by Canada to support the NATO; North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as per the rising tensions within the region. So, all these contributions which fall under the reassurance of operations, are responsible to strengthen the deterrence and defense efforts of NATO, by increasing the maritime common land and air capabilities of Canada in Europe. Precisely, it can be said that Canada would be providing up to additional personnel of 460 people to approximately more than 800 currently deployed in support of NATO, in Europe.

3. Economics, humanitarian efforts

As far as the economic sanctions against Russia are concerned, it is to be considered that these are unparalleled yet need to be strengthened while putting a focus on the financial and energy sectors. The European countries are known to be working hard for reducing their dependency on energy from Russia. Here, it is to be considered that Canada is definitely in a position, in which it can help by increasing the production of oil in a very short span of time while working on renewable energy for the long term. Whereas, as far as the humanitarian sector is concerned, it can be seen that Canada has wholeheartedly opened all of its doors to the Ukrainians, who flee the war, including the assisting scholars

Solution

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine is not easy to be resolved, as many repeated attempts at the ceasefires are known to not last for more than a day. In addition to this, the proposal for inviting the peacekeepers of the United Nations into the Donbas has been blocked by Russia. Furthermore, its very own proposal of Russia for the peacekeepers was also rejected by the United States of America and Ukraine, over the most fundamental question of where to deploy them. The United States and Ukraine, both seek to have peacekeepers on the internationally recognized border of Russia and Ukraine, while considering the proposal of Russia for the ceasefire line. Hence, it is imperative that these two countries; Russia and Ukraine, should come to think to an argument over this matter so that the talk of peace can finally start. In addition to this, it is suggested that the powerful countries such as Canada, China, the UK comma united states, and other European states, should also play their part to ease the whole process of peacemaking.

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