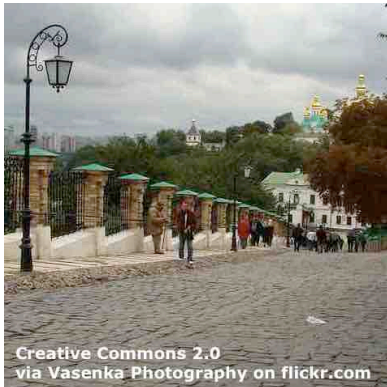


US general says invasion of Ukraine would be 'horrific'

31st January, 2022



Amid growing tensions on the Russia-Ukraine border, a top US general has warned of "horrific" consequences of any armed conflict. General Mark Milley warned that any Russian action would result in a significant number of deaths. He

said: "An invasion will not be cost-free in terms of casualties." General Milley told reporters that Russia's 100,000 troops on Ukraine's border was very worrying. He said: "This is larger in scale and scope in the massing of forces than anything we have seen in recent memory, and I think you'd have to go back quite a while into the Cold War days to see something of this magnitude." Russia says it has no plans to invade and says US support for Ukraine is the biggest threat.

Russia has accused the USA and NATO of being the aggressors in the latest tensions. It says it is unacceptable for US and NATO forces to be so close to Russia's borders. Moscow also called for Ukraine to be banned from joining NATO. The US said this request was untenable. NATO said Ukraine had the right to choose its own allies. Russia said NATO should end any military activity in Eastern Europe, and pull troops out of Poland and the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In addition, it called for NATO not to deploy missiles in countries near or bordering Russia. Ukraine's President Zelensky has accused the West of creating "panic" over a possible invasion.

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com) / [kyivpost.com](https://www.kyivpost.com)

Writing

NATO is a force for good. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

tensions / border / general / armed conflict / invasion / worrying / memory / Cold War / NATO / allies / military activity / Eastern Europe / missiles / Latvia / the West / panic

True / False

- 1) The USA's most important general commented on Ukraine. T / F
- 2) An American general said a conflict would create significant casualties. T / F
- 3) The American general said the Cold War has returned. T / F
- 4) Russia said the USA's support for Ukraine was the biggest threat. T / F
- 5) Russia wants Ukraine to be barred from joining NATO. T / F
- 6) NATO said Ukraine shouldn't be able to choose its own allies. T / F
- 7) Russia wants NATO troops out of the Baltic states. T / F
- 8) Ukraine's president said the West was creating panic. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. tensions | a. clash |
| 2. conflict | b. soldiers |
| 3. casualties | c. blamed |
| 4. massing | d. barred |
| 5. magnitude | e. victims |
| 6. accused | f. strained relations |
| 7. banned | g. indefensible |
| 8. untenable | h. assembling |
| 9. troops | i. position |
| 10. deploy | j. size |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What would happen if Russia gave military aid to the USA's neighbours?
- c) Why does Russia think the USA and NATO are aggressors?
- d) Should Ukraine be banned from joining NATO?
- e) What do you know about NATO?
- f) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- g) How do you think this situation will develop?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Ukraine's president?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Amid growing | a. consequences |
| 2. warned of horrific | b. missiles |
| 3. result in a significant | c. and scope |
| 4. This is larger in scale | d. forces to be so close |
| 5. see something of this | e. tensions |
| 6. unacceptable for US and NATO | f. untenable |
| 7. called for Ukraine to be banned | g. out of Poland |
| 8. The US said this request was | h. number of deaths |
| 9. pull troops | i. magnitude |
| 10. deploy | j. from joining NATO |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about Ukraine?
- What do you know about the current tensions?
- How likely do you think war is?
- How serious might a possible war be?
- Why are so many troops on Ukraine's border?
- What do you know about the Cold War?
- Is the US support for Ukraine the biggest threat?
- What advice do you have for Russia and the USA?

Spelling

- warned of horrific qnsconeucees
- a igisinacfnt number of deaths
- in terms of tiusalceas
- larger in scale and oecps
- see something of this dateuigmn
- it has no plans to ievand
- Russia has ucseacd the USA and NATO
- the rsoagssreg in the latest tensions
- The US said this request was nlunbtaee
- the right to choose its own lalsie
- odelyp missiles
- creating "panic" over a possible isvionan

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. a	3. e	4. h	5. j
6. c	7. d	8. g	9. b	10. i

Role Play

Role A – Ukraine

You think Ukraine is the world's most worrying situation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their situation isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): war on drugs, Yemen or India-Pakistan relations.

Role B – War on Drugs

You think the war on drugs is the world's most worrying situation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their situation isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): Ukraine, Yemen or India-Pakistan relations.

Role C – Yemen

You think Yemen is the world's most worrying situation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their situation isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): war on drugs, Ukraine or India-Pakistan relations.

Role D – India-Pakistan

You think India-Pakistan relations is the world's most worrying situation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their situation isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): war on drugs, Yemen or Ukraine.

Speaking – Conflicts

Rank these with your partner. Put the most dangerous (possible) conflicts at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| • Ukraine | • Iraq |
| • War on drugs | • Yemen |
| • India-Pakistan | • Somalia |
| • Israel-Palestine | • Syria |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	T	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.