

AFTERMATH OF AN ECONOMY OF VIOLENCE-SCENARIO IN THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN CONFLICT

A COMMENT

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ABSTRACT

The Ukraine conflict, which has been ongoing since 2014, is drawing new political-strategic challenges at the diplomatic supra- and international level with Russia's attack on 24 February 2022 and the surprising resilience of the defenders. Based on this constellation and referring to the Briand-Kellog Pact of 1928, so-called non-belligerent parties are allowed to get involved to ward off the breach of law and to strengthen the fighting capacity of the Ukrainian troops with supporting financial aid and arms supplies. Prolonging the conflict, western parties strive to counteract Putin's ambitious goal of geostrategic border demarcation in the sense of the glorified romanticism of a neo-Russian Soviet Union on the one hand. On the other hand the initial spark of the war of aggression is based on the defensive narrative of maintaining Russia's own sovereignty in the face of an overly expansive NATO. But how can this position continue to be justified as a result of the attack on Ukraine's critical infrastructure, which sends millions of people into undignified living realities (apart from the actual state of war)? Due to the possibility of a sustained conflict between combatants and the burgeoning poverty framed by a unsecure social habitat in which residents fear for their lives, the regional impacts must also be taken into account. What are the further consequences given Ukraine's territorial fragility? Where do lawless spaces of a failed state already exist with what impact on society and economy? And what conditions for achieving sustainable peace would have to occur first? The following commentary abstract provides an initial assessment with emphasis on war economies in general as a result of an external attack.

Keywords: Ukraine, Russia, Putin, Conflict, NATO, Economy, Society.