**Should America get involved in the Russia-Ukraine War?**

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Department Affiliation, University Affiliation

Course Number: Course Name

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Assignment Due Date

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In the past few weeks, the world's attention has been gripped by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. There were weeks of tension between European countries and other North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) members. Russia announced through its president Vladimir Putin that it would begin a special military operation in Ukraine. This was a guise for an all-out invasion of Ukraine. It deployed approximately 150,000 troops along the border with Ukraine and in Belarus. It has now attacked strategic Ukrainian military bases and its capital, Kyiv. With the world coming out to condemn Russia's attack on Ukraine, there have been mixed reactions to whether the United States (US) should get involved in the war. Overall, several reasons make it imperative for the US to get involved in the war.

First, the US has been the forefront champion of democracy worldwide. Among all occupants of the former Soviet space, Ukraine is the only properly functioning democracy. Since it gained its independence in 1991, the US has offered much support to make democracy a reality in Ukraine. Therefore, the US has a moral responsibility to preserve this democracy. Additionally, the US believes in the right of every nation to its sovereignty (Deliso, 2022). Therefore, if the US joined the war, it would further the cause for sovereignty and democracy.

Secondly, the Russia-Ukraine war has significant economic implications outside the two nations. The US government has informed its citizens that the war would negatively impact the US. In particular, oil prices could rise owing to the heavy and punitive sanctions placed on Russia by allied countries. Russia is one of the world's leading exporters of oil. In retaliation to these sanctions, it is poised to short the amount of oil exports, triggering a rise in oil prices worldwide, especially in the US (Deliso, 2022).

As mentioned before, the US is a founding member of NATO (Eichler, 2021). Although Ukraine is not a member of NATO, it has been given the opportunity to join the treaty in recent years. The Russian president has been vehemently against this move. Ukraine has significant ties with NATO members and other western countries. In particular, the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances was reached in 1994. It involved the US, Russia, and Ukraine. The memorandum mandated Ukraine to hand over its stock of nuclear weapons, and the United Nations Security Council would provide immediate support should its sovereignty or territorial integrity be under threat (Orlov, 2014). Being party to this agreement, the US has an obligation to be involved in this war to protect Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

As calls continue to come for the US to get involved in the war, several voices warn against US involvement. Russia is one of the world's most potent military powers. It has a large standing army and a significant nuclear capability ("Nuclear weapons," n.d.). According to Usher (2022), no other country surpasses the US in military ability. A confrontation between these two powers could plunge the world into a third world war. Experts warn that this could even lead to nuclear attacks that could be catastrophic to the world. The US government is taking careful steps to avoid aggravating the situation. However, the Russian campaign is already a threat to world peace and is superseded by the many reasons for the US to be involved in the war.

In conclusion, the US has a significant role in the Russia-Ukraine war. As one of the world's most powerful nations, its involvement could end the war or escalate it. For this reason, its response should be measured and well thought out. It has little choice but to be involved in the war. Its interests in Ukraine and countries bordering Russia are at risk. Therefore, it behooves the US to take firm action in the war.

**References**

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