

# This Week's Developments

January 23 - 29, 2021

- A war in Ukraine could have global consequences
- Biden warns Putin of personal sanctions
- Gas supplies from the Gulf may come with a catch
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# A war in Ukraine could have global consequences

The Economist, January 29, 2022



**EVENT** Seldom in the field of human conflict did **so much hang on the whims of one man.** Is Vladimir Putin about to invade Ukraine, as the massing Russian troops on its borders suggest? Or is he bluffing, to extort concessions from his neighbour and the West? **No one can be sure of Mr Putin's intentions.** Even his own foreign minister seems to be kept guessing. But, if fighting is about to break out, the world needs to understand the stakes. The coming weeks will determine how Mr Putin chooses, and nobody should doubt the stakes. Europe faces the prospect of Russia throttling the flow of **piped gas.** Even in the absence of a cut-off, it was expected to spend \$1trn on energy in 2022, twice as much as in 2019. War would affect the prices of other commodities, too. **Oil** is already spiking. Russia is the world's largest exporter of **wheat**, with Ukraine close behind. Russia is a big source of **metals**: in today's tight markets even a small shock could send commodity prices upwards.

**COMMENT** There is every possibility that **we are on the brink of the "time of trouble such as never was."** It is not the war in Ukraine itself that is the issue. It is what it could be the catalyst of. The Economist article goes on to say that *"the likelihood of China invading Taiwan would surely rise if Russia invades Ukraine. **The regimes in Iran and Syria would conclude they are freer to use violence with impunity.** If might is right, more of the world's disputed borders would be fought over."* It is easy to see how events with Iran could spark the inner ring war around Israel that comes before Russia descends. **The world is on a cliff edge** of major conflicts and as the Economist says it all hangs on the "whims of one man." Perhaps this is why God tells us so much of Gog i.e. Mr. Putin....

**BIBLE QUOTE** He [Gog / Putin] will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place. He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors ...but will exalt himself above them all. Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. (Daniel 11:36-37)

# Biden warns Putin of personal sanctions

The Times, January 26, 2022



## EVENT

President Biden has threatened to **impose personal sanctions on President Putin if Russia moves to invade Ukraine**. The United States has imposed sanctions on foreign leaders before, including Bashar al-Assad of Syria and President Maduro of Venezuela, but never on a country of Russia's international prominence. Liz Truss echoed Biden's words, telling Today on BBC Radio 4 that the government had "ruled nothing out". **Biden's comments drew an angry response from Moscow**. "Finally, the US leadership has openly said what it wants: Washington wants a loyal Russian president," Vyacheslav Volodin, the Speaker of the Russian parliament, said. Putin has been personally absent from high-level diplomacy taking place over the Ukraine crisis. President Macron said he would speak to Putin by phone on Friday to seek clarity about his position. Yesterday **Boris Johnson said that Moscow would face sanctions "heavier than anything" it had suffered before if it invaded Ukraine**.

## COMMENT

This is very significant. The Bible says that "the king of the south" will **"push"** at the king of Daniel 11:36-39. **That king is Gog himself. The ruler of the Russian people** – Putin. The major **powers of the king of the south are the US / UK**. The word "push" in the Hebrew is the word to "gore" as in a horned animal attacking. But the push is against an individual - the king himself. It is a personal attack – something that **hurts him personally (as well as nationally)**. Therefore Biden's personal threat against Putin if he does invade would definitely fulfil Daniel 11:40. **There is some delay between the "push" and the king of the north coming down. There is a colon in the original Hebrew text which indicates a delay. It is during this short delay that the inner ring wars occurs...**

## BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: **[Notice the colon after the word him – it denotes a time gap between the next thing to happen..]** and the king of the north [Russia] shall come against him [king of the south] like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, (Daniel 11:40)

# Gas supplies from the Gulf may come with a catch

The Times, January 28, 2022



**EVENT** The small Gulf state of Qatar sits atop the world's largest bubble of natural gas. Even so, it cannot keep all the planet's power stations running all at the same time. President Biden will meet Emir Tamim, Qatar's hereditary and absolute ruler who was educated in British public schools, in the White House on Monday to ask him to send more gas if President Putin cuts off supplies. Qatar, home to US central command in the Middle East and with strong historic and financial ties to Britain, has indicated it does not mind helping the West out. But it is not quite as easy as that. Qatar has no major [gas pipelines](#) and so its [exports are all LNG](#). The tiny Gulf state is already a significant supplier of Britain, meeting just under a tenth of the country's needs. But whereas most of Britain's gas comes from the North Sea and Norway, about a third of Europe's gas and more than half of Germany's comes from Russia.

**COMMENT** The world is frantically looking for new gas supplies as Russia could easily turn off the taps if war breaks out. The tiny gulf Arab state Qatar has the largest gas reserves so Biden is turning to this nation for help. This is incredibly interesting with Bible in hand. We often talk about the "king of the south" being the US / UK. But these nations are NOT south of Israel. But the Bible says the "king of the south" is made up of Sheba and Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish and the young lions. Tarshish is Britain and the young lions are her offspring – the English speaking nations – US, Canada, Australia etc. Sheba and Dedan are Gulf Arab states SOUTH of Israel. The article above states that Qatar (Gulf Arab state in the area of Dedan) is home to the US central command in the Middle East. And so we see the "king of the south" powers coming together to try to counteract Gog i.e. the head of the king of the north. Events are aligning quickly....

## BIBLE QUOTE

Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all her young lions] will say to you, "Have you come to plunder? Have you gathered your hordes to loot, to carry off silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods and to seize much plunder?"  
(Ezekiel 38:13)

# Joe Biden warns Russia could attack next month

The Telegraph, January 28, 2022



## EVENT

The White House says President Joe Biden warned Ukraine's president on Thursday that there is a "distinct possibility" Russia could take military action against Ukraine next month. The Kremlin likewise sounded a grim note, saying it saw "little ground for optimism" in resolving the crisis after the US this week again rejected Russia's main demands. Russian officials said dialogue was still possible to end the crisis, but Mr Biden again offered a stark warning amid growing concerns that Russian President Vladimir Putin will give the go-ahead for a further invasion of Ukrainian territory in the not-so-distant future. The White House said Mr Biden's comments to Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a phone call amplified concerns that administration officials have been making for some time.

## COMMENT

Biden has been saying for several weeks that he believes Putin will order an invasion of Ukraine. He has said this week that it could happen in the month of February. Russia needs the harder ground of winter to ensure its troops do not get bogged down. One of the key signs that apparently show if war is imminent is the movement of hospital facilities and blood supplies to the border. Reuters is reporting today that Russia has now added blood and other medical supplies to its military buildup near Ukraine.. Such supplies could be used to treat casualties in the event of a Russian military incursion into Ukraine. The Bible says that Gog will be successful in all he does until he comes to his end on the mountains of Israel. We can expect therefore if Putin does invade that he will succeed. Expect maximum lethal force and objectives secured with speed.

## BIBLE QUOTE

I will summon a sword against Gog on all my mountains, declares the Sovereign Lord. Every man's sword will be against his brother. I will execute judgment on him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour down torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him. This is the end of Gog.... (Ezekiel 38:21-22 NIV)

# Ukraine crisis: How Russia's military forged a path to the forefront of warfare

The Times, January 28, 2022



## EVENT

The Russian army today is far better organised and equipped than it has been for decades. It has a motivated and disciplined officer class and a high-readiness structure based around “tactical groups” — multiple battalions adept at combined arms operations and able to operate independently or as part of a larger force. Andrew Krepinevich, a former senior Pentagon official with 20 years of experience in the US Army, said that Russia’s capabilities had soared since the “embarrassing” 1990s operations in Chechnya after the end of the Cold War, which failed to suppress an insurgency despite massive loss of civilian life. “Things began improving when the military showed its ability to employ cyberweapons against Estonia in 2007, and again against Georgia along with some conventional forces a year later,” he said, referencing Russia’s attack on its neighbour in support of two self-proclaimed republics.

## COMMENT

When Putin came to power as president on May 7, 2000, his first ambition was to revive and rebuild the military. He made it clear that he wanted Russia once again to be a force to be reckoned with. He converted the Russian army from an organisation that was reliant on underpaid, badly equipped and often bullied conscripts into a largely professional volunteer force of 400,000 soldiers, on much-improved wages. Putin had a dream of resuscitating even a small part of what used to be the mighty Soviet empire, and to achieve that he needed a military behind him. We are now finally at the stage where decades of preparation are coming to a fulfilment. Putin has built his forces to a point when he knows he can overpower his enemies. Putin’s plan to resurrect the Russian empire is now about to begin. Gog’s move will ultimately lead to Armageddon.

## BIBLE QUOTE

“Get ready; be prepared, you and all the hordes gathered about you, and take command of them. After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate.  
(Ezekiel 38:7-7 NIV)

# Israel weighing options amid deepening Russia-Ukraine crisis

Jerusalem Post, January 23, 2022



## EVENT

Israel is considering its position as tensions rise on the Russia-Ukraine border, and the Foreign Ministry plans to deliberate the matter on Monday. Jerusalem has generally maintained a position of neutrality between the countries since their 2014 war. Maintaining good relations with Moscow is a strategic interest for Israel in light of Russia's significant military presence in Syria. Israel also has strong ties with Ukraine in a variety of areas, and Kyiv has the support of Israel's most important ally, the US, in the current crisis. Another major concern for Israel is how the Ukraine-Russia crisis will impact the Iran nuclear talks. The US and Russia sit around the same table, and their delegations met in Vienna over the weekend. Mikhail Ulyanov, head of the Russian delegation to the Iran talks, on Saturday tweeted: "Russia-US relations are in extremely bad shape. However, on Iran we managed to work productively so far."

## COMMENT

Israel is very concerned about how a Ukraine / Russian war could play out as far as they are concerned. According to analysts the moment of truth is coming if war begins. There would be pressure on Israel to take a side. The US would pressure to condemn Russian action as well as pressure from Ukraine itself. There is a very large Ukrainian community in Israel who will want Israel to back Ukraine. There is also the concern over how the war in Ukraine could impact the delicate Iranian talks. Russia and the US are working together on Iran at the moment. But conflict in Ukraine could throw a major spanner in the works. This could lead to Iran breaking out for a nuclear weapon with Moscow's blessing as a punishment to the West. We are on the brink of major events...

## BIBLE QUOTE

The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the human spirit within a person, declares: "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem.

(Zechariah 12:1-2 NIV)

## ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

**DebkaFile Review** (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence)    **TV-7 Israel News**    **Watchman Newscast**

2022-01-28 **Rocket Attack Near U.S. Base in Iraq; Iran Proxy Groups Growing Bolder** - Watchman 8.28 min - YouTube

2022-01-28 **Wuhan scientists flag deadlier coronavirus** – Gravitas - 4.00 min YouTube

2022-01-28 **Has Putin overplayed his hand** – Gravitas - 4.52 min - YouTube

2022-01-25 **Will America go to war for Ukraine** - Gravitas - 5.52 min - YouTube

2022-01-24 **Russian & Syrian Fighter Jets Patrol Near Israel's Golan Heights + Ukraine Update** - Watchman - 8.37 min - YouTube

2022-01-22 NATO to hold major naval drills in the Mediterranean Sea - DW News Article

2022-01-21 Yemeni Rebels Say Saudi-Led Airstrike on Prison Killed 70 - World News - US News Article

2022-01-21 USS Harry S. Truman strike group to participate in NATO exercise - Stars and Stripes - Article

2022-01-21 US Carrier to Lead NATO Exercise amid Ukraine Invasion Fears - Military News Article.com

2022-01-21 Iran, China & Russia Conduct Joint Naval Drill; Message to Israel & U.S. - Watchman - 8.29 min - YouTube

2022-01-18 Israel Tests Arrow Missile Defense System; Vows to Support UAE Against Iran Axis – Watchman -11.17 min - YouTube

2022-01-15 United States accuses Russia of sending saboteurs to invade Ukraine - Wion - 2.30 min YouTube

2022-01-14 Iran Posts Trump -Assassination- Video; Rockets Strike U.S. Embassy in Iraq - Watchman - 12.21 min - YouTube

2022-01-14 Can Sanctions Deter Russia From Invading Ukraine - CNBC - 9.18 min - YouTube

2022-01-13 Israel Braces for Conflict in Gaza and Lebanon; Bennett Warns Putin on Iran - Watchman - 11.01 min - YouTube

2022-01-13 End of the road for Boris Johnson - Gravitas - 6.06 min - YouTube

2022-01-11 Iran's Grand Strategy- A Look From Israel's Golan Heights - Watchman - 9.27 min - YouTube

2022-01-10 Tories want Rishi Sunak to be UK'S next Prime Minister - Gravitas - 4.02 min - YouTube

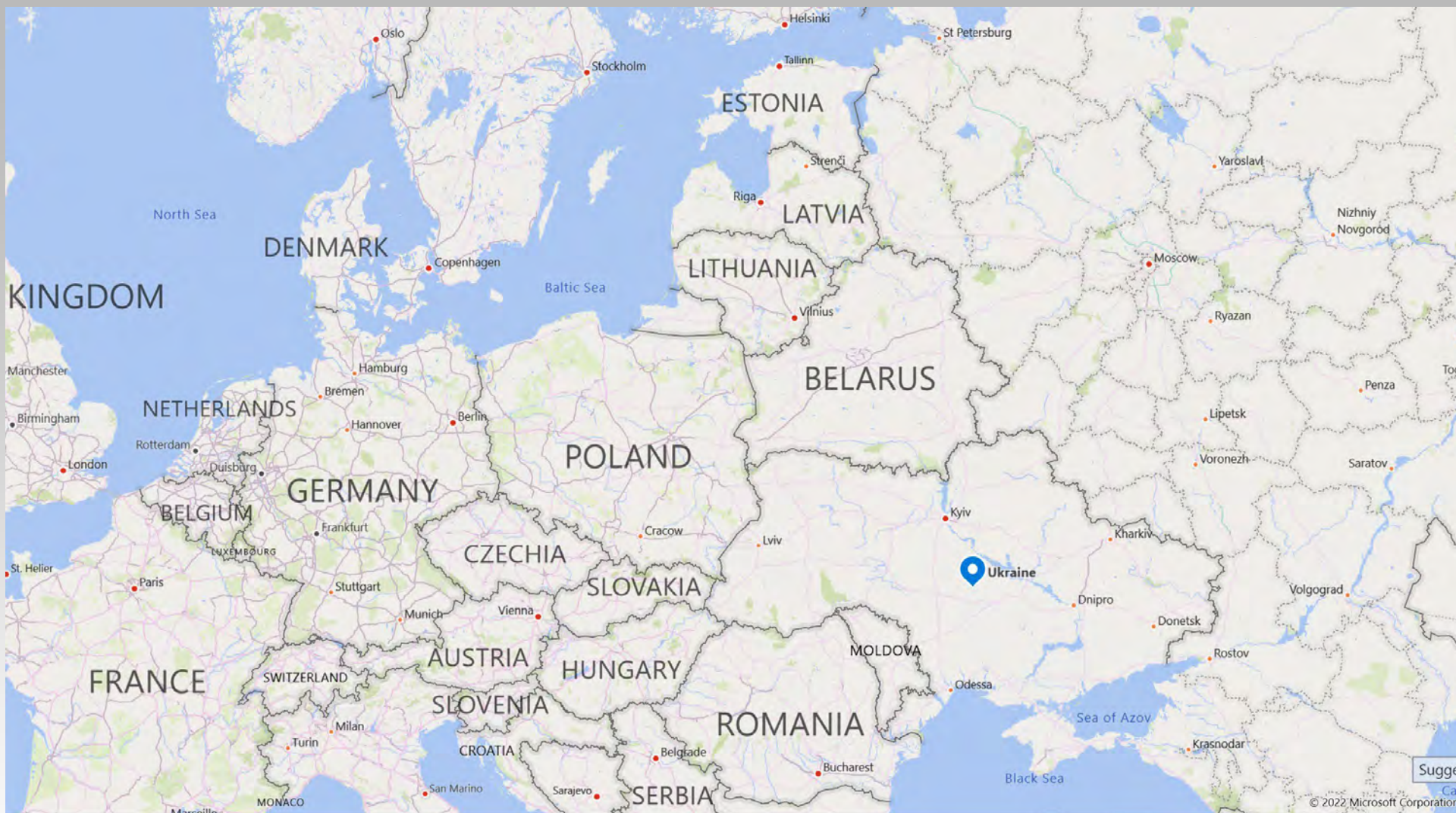




- Kingdom of Ptolemy I
  Kingdom of Cassander
- Kingdom of Lysimachus
  Kingdom of Seleucus I
  Epirus
- Other:  Carthage
  Rome
  Greek colonies







# NATO PRESENCE IN EASTERN EUR



SOURCE: NATO

- Frankish Territory in 481
- Conquests of Clovis 481-511
- Conquests 531-614
- Conquests 714-768
- Conquests of Charlemagne 768-814
- Dependent territories
- Peoples tributary to Charlemagne
- Kingdom of Siagrius in 486
- Visigothic kingdom of Toulouse in 507
- Boundaries of the empire in 814



Carolingian Empire  
481-814

