

# **Security Developments in Europe & Russia's War Against Ukraine**

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# Tenets of European Security

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- ❖ Essence: system to accommodate Russia
- ❖ From Cold War to cooperative security
- ❖ Regional integration
- ❖ System of arms control & disarmament
- ❖ RU testing the limits

# Why RU believed to succeed

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- ❖ *Fait accompli* works!
- ❖ Sanctions don't bite
- ❖ Weaponisation of everything
- ❖ West is weak, disunited
- ❖ Warped domestic information bubble
  - ❖ IRBO is a plot to thwart Russia
- ❖ Suppressed domestic opposition

# Where UA succeeded?

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- ❖ RU cannot win in a battle field
  - ❖ Loss of Kursk
- ❖ Inoperable RU Black Sea Fleet
- ❖ Crimea not a safe heaven of RU
- ❖ Ongoing grain export, diversified energy
- ❖ Secured continued international support

# What we need to do for UA

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- ❖ Meaningful supply of arms & ammo
- ❖ Build UA defence industry
- ❖ Macro-financial support
- ❖ Deprive RU of revenue for war
- ❖ Support Zelensky 10 point Peace Plan
- ❖ EU accession negotiations

# Consequences for Eur security

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- ❖ RU threat will persist into long term
- ❖ NATO swings back to core business
- ❖ Growing security role of the EU
- ❖ Crippled arms control, disarmnt system
- ❖ Blow to Human, Humanitarian rights
- ❖ Belarus with nukes

# LV's security assessment 2024

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- ❖ No direct military threat to Latvia ...
- ❖ ... Russia on war footing for long term
- ❖ Strengthen defence now!
- ❖ LV feels most secure:
  - ❖ NATO 2022 decision: scale-up to brigade (FLF) + 4 more brigades + 1 FIN

# LV's security assessment 2024





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- ❖ No direct military threat to Latvia ..
  - ❖ .. Russia on war footing for long term
  - ❖ Strengthen NATO defence now!
  - ❖ LV feels most secure:
    - ❖ NATO 2022 decision: FLF brigade in 2026
    - ❖ Improved security: FI & SE joined NATO
- => Deterrence works, NATO works!**


# Beefing up Latvia's defense

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- ❖ 3,4% GDP defence spending
- ❖ Re-introduced military draft
- ❖ Procurement: IRIS-T, HIMARS, anti-ship
- ❖ Domestic production of APCs
- ❖ Fortification of Eastern borders of 3B
- ❖ HNS, new training poligon

# What does it mean for Canada?

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- ❖ Hybrid threats trump geography
- ❖ Long term contribution to NATO in LV
- ❖ Deterrence is least expensive,  
opReassurance is a **peace-time** mission
- ❖ CA is in LV for International Rules and HR
- ❖ Positive LV public opinion about 

# Questions?

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Thank you for attention!