

# This Week's Developments

January 9 - 15, 2021

- US plans to cripple Russia's banks if it invades Ukraine
- Ukraine: 'massive cyberattack' hit government websites
- Nato chief: 'Real risk' of new armed conflict in Europe
- Russia - Ukraine: US warns of 'false-flag' operation
- Iranian nuclear standoff is coming to a head
- North Korea carries out third missile test in nine days
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# US plans to cripple Russia's banks if it invades Ukraine

The Times, January 9, 2022



## EVENT

The US is preparing to respond immediately to a Russian invasion of Ukraine, with financial, technological and military sanctions that would stymie Moscow's ability to continue to function normally on the international stage. The plan, telegraphed before today's meeting between senior American and Russian officials in Geneva, came as Nato's chief warned that the western alliance was prepared for "a new armed conflict in Europe". Severe sanctions on the Kremlin could be imposed within hours of Russian troops crossing the border. After consultations with Nato allies, the measures under consideration include a plan to block Russian banks from Swift, a system that facilitates international payments in the great majority of countries around the world. Such a move would severely limit Moscow's ability to trade. The move has gained popularity, however, and there is a feeling that a tough response would be needed.

## COMMENT

Talks over the crisis between NATO and Russia are getting nowhere. Russia wants total guarantees that Ukraine will never be allowed to join the military alliance – but NATO says no country is barred and if they want to join they should be allowed to. Russia has also demanded the withdrawal of Nato forces and military hardware from countries in central and eastern Europe. The US is pushing back at Putin threatening huge financial sanctions – so severe that it would also impact the West as well. They have also threatened to massively increase military support for Ukraine. We could be very close to the first part of Daniel 11:40 being fulfilled which says "At the time of the end the king of the south shall push (gore / militarily provoke) the king of the north". Verse 36-39. The king is Gog – Putin. The king of the south (US/UK) will soon push at Gog /Putin....

## BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: (Daniel 11:40)

# Ukraine says 'massive cyberattack' hits government websites

Reuters, January 14, 2022



## EVENT

Ukraine said Friday a “massive cyber attack” has knocked offline the websites of most of its government ministries. The websites of the government’s cabinet office, the foreign ministry, emergency services minister, as well as the ministries of energy, education, agriculture and several others, were down on Friday, according to Ukrainian media. The country’s public services platform Diia, which holds Ukrainians’ tax numbers and COVID-19 vaccination certificates, was also hit. A message was posted on the targeted websites reading, “Ukrainians! All your personal data will be uploaded onto the general web. All data on your computer will be destroyed, it will be impossible to restore them. All your information will become public, be afraid and expect the worse. This is for your past, present and future.” It comes amid fears of a Russian invasion of the country, as Moscow has massed around 100,000 soldiers at the border.

## COMMENT

The Ukrainian government has accused Russia of being behind Friday's cyber-attack on dozens of official websites. The US and Nato condemned the attack and have offered support to Ukraine. Russia has not commented on the hack. Modern warfare isn't only physically attacking – it is also virtually attacking using cyber warfare. Russia is very adapt at this. Cyber attacks can impact the nation's ability to run and cause huge disruption. Cyber attacks can be a prelude to physical attacks. One thing to remember is that Gog is a master of deceit. We are told this in Daniel 8. This chapter is about the development of the king of the north. It explains how one of Alexander the Great's general's became extremely powerful. This is talking about Antiochus Epiphanes the little horn that grew. Gog is the latter day Antiochus Epiphanes – both invade Israel....

## BIBLE QUOTE

when rebels have become completely wicked, a fierce-looking king, a master of intrigue, will arise. He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy those who are mighty, the holy people. He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior.

(Daniel 8:23-25 NIV)

# 'Real risk' of new armed conflict in Europe, NATO chief warns after meeting with Russians

Sky News, January 12, 2022



## EVENT

There is a **"real risk"** of a new armed conflict in Europe, NATO's secretary general has warned. Jens Stoltenberg was speaking after a meeting in Brussels between the alliance and Russian officials as fears grow that Russia could be preparing to invade Ukraine. Russia has around 100,000 troops near the border with Ukraine, although it denies any plans to invade the former Soviet republic. Mr Stoltenberg said there is a "real risk for a new armed conflict in Europe" but that the alliance "will do what we can to prevent any such scenario". He added: **"If Russia once again uses force against Ukraine and further invades Ukraine, then we have to seriously look into the need to further increase our presence in the eastern part of the alliance."** There are significant differences between NATO allies and Russia."

## COMMENT

Ukraine was once part of the USSR. When The USSR broke up in 1991 Ukraine became an independent country. Putin sees the breakup of the USSR as the "greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the twentieth century". Russian power was greatly diminished at that point. **Putin's goal has been to re-establish Russia as a super power. To do this he wants Russian influence in the nations that were once part of the USSR.** However, Ukraine has looked increasingly to the West and in recent years has wanted to join NATO. **This is a red line Putin will not accept.** Eastern Ukraine is **mainly Russian speaking** and has historical ties with Russia. These ties go all the way back to when this area was **part of the Scythian empire.** And Ezekiel 38 tells us **Gog is of the land of Magog.** So east Ukraine is part of Magog.

## BIBLE QUOTE

The word of the Lord came to me: "Son of man, set your face against Gog, **of the land of Magog**, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him 3 and say: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

(Ezekiel 38:1-3 NIV)

# Russia-Ukraine: US warns of 'false-flag' operation

BBC, January 14, 2022



## EVENT

Russia is plotting to stage acts of provocation to create a pretext to invade Ukraine, a US official has said. **A Pentagon spokesman said Russian operatives were planning a "false-flag" operation, to allow Moscow to accuse Ukraine of preparing an attack.** Russia has dismissed the claims. Pentagon spokesman John Kirby told reporters on Friday about what he said were Russia's plans. "It has pre-positioned a group of operatives to conduct what we call a false-flag operation, an **operation designed to look like an attack on them or Russian speaking people in Ukraine as an excuse to go in,**" he said. The operatives were trained in urban warfare and using explosives to carry out acts of sabotage against pro-Russian rebels, US officials said. Ukraine's Defence Ministry said similar acts were being prepared against Russian troops stationed in the breakaway Transdnistria region of Moldova.

## COMMENT

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Friday warned, **"We have run out of patience.** The West has been driven by hubris and has exacerbated tensions in violation of its obligations and common sense." Lavrov insisted that the US and its allies respond to Russia's demands in writing next week. **"They must understand that the key to everything is the guarantee that NATO will not expand eastward."** On the same day the US reported that Russia is about to stage provocation acts in Ukraine to blame Ukraine for war starting. The Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said the US wanted the world to know how an invasion could play out, because **this scenario was from the same playbook the Russians used in Crimea.** It's a dramatic move after a week of intense diplomacy that reached no agreement on how to resolve the crisis. **The world is on the brink of conflict** – and one that could ultimately lead to Armageddon.

## BIBLE QUOTE

. "Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed." Then **they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.**  
(Revelation 16:14-16 NIV)

# The Iranian nuclear standoff is coming to a head, and it may get ugly

National Post, January 14, 2022



## EVENT

After nearly 20 years of intermittent negotiations, occasional hope and frequent disappointment, **Iran's nuclear path is likely to be determined in 2022**. Either Tehran will agree to a new deal, or the talks will irretrievably break down. The latter would either mean learning to live with a nuclear-armed Iran, or serve as the **impetus for an Israeli strike against the Islamic republic**. While there are great uncertainties with both options, at least a resolution to this endless dilemma will finally be at hand. The chances of a new deal are poor and growing increasingly dim. There is an emerging sense that Iran is running out the clock, essentially engaging in fruitless discussions that are chiefly **designed to give it further time to complete its weaponization program**. Which brings us to the likely consequence of the talks' failure — an Israeli military strike. It is apparent that **Israel has dramatically stepped up its military preparations** in recent months.

## COMMENT

At the same time that things are coming to a head between Russia and the West, **things are coming to a head with Iran and the West**. The deal that was originally brokered by the Obama administration failed to a great extent when Trump pulled out of it. Biden (who was Obama's vice president) wants to **revive the nuclear deal**, partly to undo one of Trump's policies. However, this has so far failed to happen despite months of talks. Iran is stalling and using the time to progress its nuclear and missile program. Iran might also **use the cover of conflict in Europe to make a final nuclear breakout**. The West fears there could be collusion and coordination between Russia and Iran — sensing an opportunity to **weaken the West further**. The Bible says Iran will support the initial inner ring war around Israel. And this might happen soon...

## BIBLE QUOTE

"Come," they say, "let us destroy them as a nation, so that Israel's name is remembered no more." With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you— the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites, Byblos, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre **Even Assyria [Iran / Syria]** has joined them to reinforce Lot's descendants. (*Psalm 83:4-8 NIV*)

# North Korea carries out third missile test in nine days after new US sanctions

The Times, January 14, 2022



## EVENT

North Korea test-fired more short-range ballistic missiles today, hours after the United States imposed new sanctions on agents accused of helping Pyongyang's nuclear weapons programme. According to South Korea's joint chiefs of staff, at least two ballistic missiles were fired on the west of North Korea, in the third such launch in nine days. There were few details but the missiles flew 430km (267.2 miles) and reached a maximum height of 36km (22.4 miles), South Korea's military said. The landing of at least one projectile was confirmed by the Japanese coastguard, which did not report any damage or casualties, suggesting that, like previous launches, it fell harmlessly into the sea. South Korea's national security council held an emergency meeting and expressed "strong regret" over North Korea's latest missile test.

## COMMENT

Not only do we have a crisis with Russia and Iran but another one is developing again with North Korea. Just as Iran sees opportunity with the crisis over Ukraine so does North Korea. The US can't cope with 3 conflicts at once – it has capacity to only deal with two. The world is in peril right now – and stands on the brink of the time of trouble such as never was. Not only are the nations like waves crashing against each other there are also reports of an underwater volcano erupting and causing a tsunami in Tonga. Reports coming in say, "Waves surged through coastal Tongan areas, crashing into people's homes after Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai erupted around 5.30pm on Saturday." The physical and symbolic sea and waves are roaring as Jesus said they would. All this is the prelude to our Lord Jesus Christ returning to this earth....

## BIBLE QUOTE

"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.  
(Luke 21:25-28 NIV)

## ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

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

2022-01-15 [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

2022-01-08 Kazakhstan adds uncertainty to U.S. talks with Russia on Ukraine - CTV News Article

2022-01-07 Kazakhstan uprising complicates Putin's Ukraine calculus - Axios News Article

2022-01-07 Kazakh president issues 'shoot to kill' order - Gravitas - 5.25 min YouTube

2022-01-07 Iran & North Korea Sharing Ballistic Missile Technology - Watchman - 8.53 min - YouTube

2022-01-06 Kazakhstan protests create a new headache for Putin - Gravitas - 6.31 min YouTube

2022-01-06 Israel Faces Growing Threat from Yemen's Houthis - Watchman - 9.53 min - YouTube

2022-01-04 [Iran demands Trump be -prosecuted and killed](#) - Gravitas - 4.52 min - YouTube

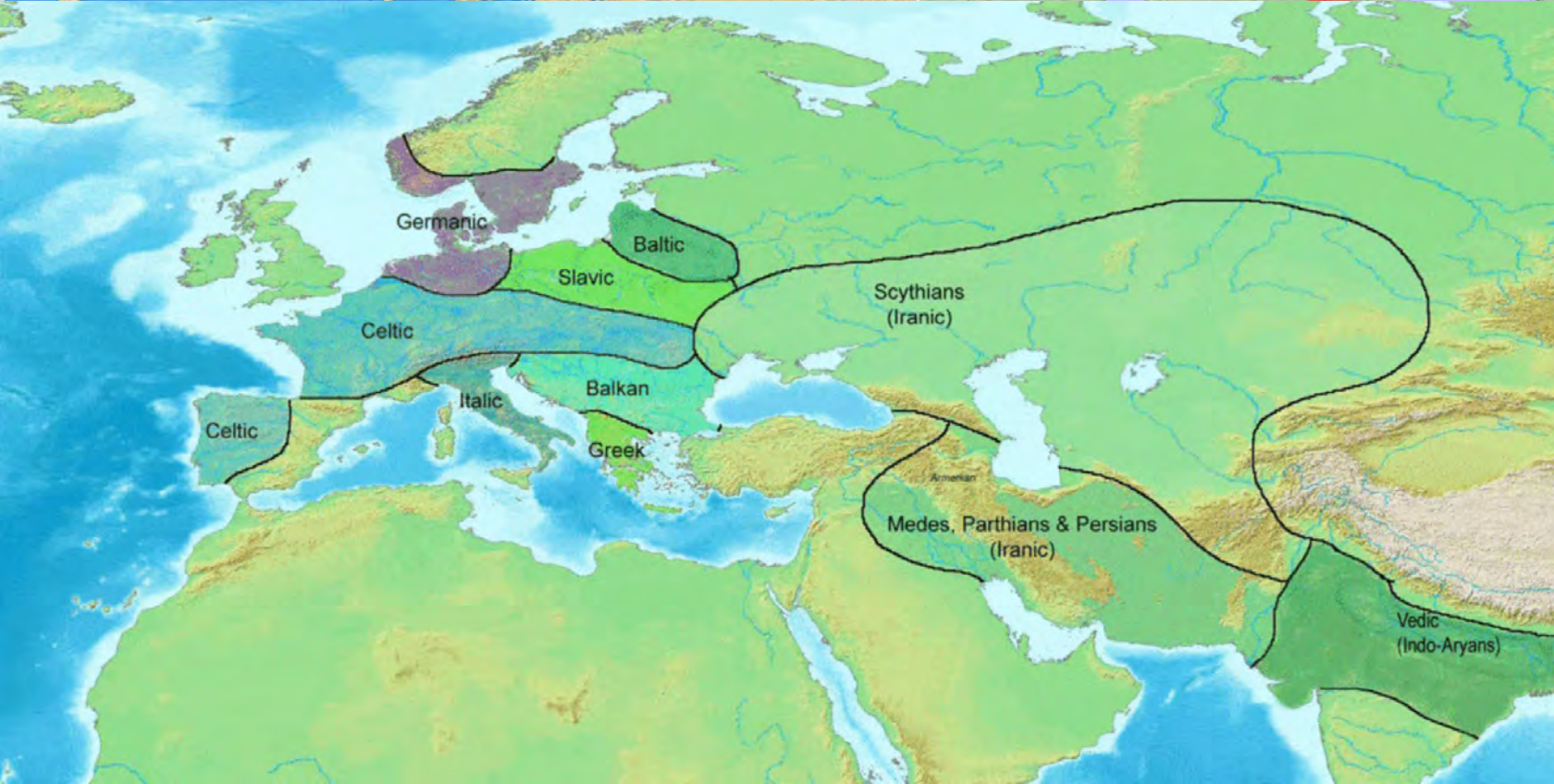
2022-01-04 World powers pledge to avoid nuclear war - Gravitas - 6.03 min YouTube

2022-01-01 Ten Conflicts to Watch in 2022 - International Crisis Group - Interactive Map

2021 12-28 Why is Israel striking Syrian facilities - Gravitas- 4.57 min - YouTube

2021-12-18 Tensions rise between Russia and Ukraine – SkyNews - 2.39 min - YouTube





# N Europe

- 1. LITHUANIA
- 2. LUXEMBOURG
- 3. LIECHTENSTEIN
- 4. CZECH REPUBLIC
- 5. BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
- 6. YUGOSLAVIA



JAN  
MAYAN

SVALBARD

ICELAND

FAROE  
ISLANDS

FINLAND

RUSSIA

Atlantic  
Ocean

Tarshish

NORWAY

SWEDEN

Rosh Tubal  
Meshech

North  
Sea

ESTONIA

LATVIA

ISLE OF MAN

UNITED  
KINGDOM

DENMARK

RUSSIA

1

IRELAND

GUERNSEY

JERSEY

BELGIUM

NETHERLANDS

POLAND

BELARIUS

GERMANY

Magog

UKRAINE

AZERBAIJAN

Gomer

SWITZERLAND

AUSTRIA

HUNGARY

MOLDOVA

GEORGIA

Caspian  
Sea

FRANCE

SLOVENIA

CROATIA

ROMANIA

Black Sea

ARMENIA

PORTUGAL

ANDORRA

SPAIN

MONACO

ITALY

SAN  
MARINO

VATICAN  
CITY

BULGARIA

MACEDONIA

TURKEY

GREECE

ALBANIA

MALTA

Togarmah

Persia

Russia accuses Nato countries of "pumping" Ukraine with weapons. Accusing the US of stoking tensions, Mr Putin said Russia had "nowhere further to retreat to - do they think we'll just sit idly by?"

Russia's counter-claim could become a justification for military action.

Vladimir Dzhubarov, number two on Russia's Federation Council's international affairs committee, said in early

December some 500,000 Ukrainians in the rebel-held areas now had Russian passports. If rebel leaders appealed for Russian help, "of course, we cannot abandon our compatriots", he said.



\*Russia annexed Crimea in 2014