

Timeline of events in Ukraine

Nov. 21, 2013 – Euromaidan protests begin in Kiev, seeking to oust elected President Viktor Yanukovich and ally the country with the European Union, U.S. imperialism and NATO. Neo-fascists play a leading role.

Nov. 30, 2013 – Openly racist and anti-Semitic Svoboda party organizes Maidan Self Defense Forces, a violent neo-Nazi force. This group will later form the backbone of the coup regime's National Guard.

Dec. 1, 2013 – Violent Euromaidan riots attack government buildings. City Council building attacked with bulldozer.

Dec. 8, 2013 – Svoboda and rival fascist gangs like Right Sector topple and destroy statue of Soviet leader V.I. Lenin in Kiev.

Dec. 15, 2013 – Republican Senator John McCain and Democratic Senator Chris Murphy speak at Euromaidan rally in Kiev, sharing a stage with fascist Svoboda leader Oleh Tyahnybok.

Dec. 17, 2013 – President Yanukovich signs treaty with Russian President Vladimir Putin for fuel assistance and other economic aid.

Feb. 6, 2014 – Phone call between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt posted on YouTube. Call reveals depths of U.S. involvement in instigating and funding the Euromaidan movement, and Washington's choice to head post-Yanukovich government: Arseniy Yatsenyuk.

Feb. 18-23, 2014 – Escalation of violence by Euromaidan forces, using weapons taken from military and police facilities.

Feb. 20, 2014 – Protesters and police killed and wounded by sniper fire in Kiev. Euromaidan forces use deaths as justification for overthrowing Yanukovich. Days later, recorded conversation between Estonian Foreign Minister Urmas Paet and EU's Catherine Ashton reveals Euromaidan supporters hired the snipers.

Feb. 21, 2014 – European Union and some Euromaidan forces reach agreement with Yanukovich to call early elections and meet oppositions' demands. Fascist forces, Ukrainian oligarchs and U.S. reject the deal. Yanukovich flees for Russia.

Feb. 22-23, 2014 – Rump parliament of the far-right passes laws banning Russian and other minority languages, threatens ban on Communist Party. Communist Party office vandalized and occupied by Right Sector. Headquarters of leftist Borotba party raided, members forced to go underground and leave Kiev.

Feb. 27, 2014 – Washington's stooge Arseniy Yatsenyuk tapped as Interim Prime Minister of coup regime. Armed neo-Nazis patrol streets of Kiev and other Western Ukraine cities.

Mar. 1, 2014 – Mass resistance to coup begins with demonstrations across Southeastern Ukraine. Crimea calls referendum on exiting Ukraine and affiliating with Russia. U.S. media claim "Russian invasion" of Crimea, although there is longstanding Russian military base and treaty to station up to 25,000 troops.

Mar. 4, 2014 – U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry arrives in Kiev with \$1 billion loan for junta and promises up to \$9 billion more, just two weeks after Obama administration and Congress agreed to cut \$8.9 billion in SNAP food assistance for the poor.

Mar. 6, 2014 – U.S. announces sanctions against Russia, deployment of fighter jets over Baltic countries, dispatch of Navy warships to Black Sea for "war games" with Eastern European NATO affiliates.

Mar. 14, 2014 – Two anti-fascists in Kharkov killed by Right Sector. Fascist gangs infiltrate Southeastern cities in run-up to Crimea referendum.

Mar. 16, 2014 – Over 97% of voters in Crimean referendum choose to leave Ukraine and join Russia. Protests in Odessa, Kharkov, Donetsk, and other regions demand referendums on autonomy or independence.

Mar. 18, 2014 – Crimea officially joins Russian Federation.

Mar. 24, 2014 – "Night of the Long Knives" as Right Sector terrorist Aleksandr Muzychko assassinated on orders of Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, consolidating neo-Nazis under junta control and eliminating competitors.

March 27, 2014 – IMF agrees to grant Kiev a \$14-billion line of credit. The agreement, drafted by U.S., calls for deep austerity against Ukrainian working class, including pension cuts and fuel price hikes.

Early April, 2014 – Anti-fascist forces from Southeastern cities meet to coordinate plan of action. In response to junta's call for presidential elections on May 25, anti-fascists raise the demand, "No elections without a referendum."

Apr. 6, 2014 – Coordinated day of action by anti-fascists throughout Southeastern Ukraine demands regional referendums on autonomy or independence from Kiev. Mass protest in Donetsk seizes Regional State Administration building. People's Council declares

independent People's Republic of Donetsk and announces referendum on future status for May 11.

Apr. 7, 2014 – Protesters seize RSA building and declare People's Republic of Kharkov, with principles including no alignment with NATO, re-nationalization of former Soviet industry and priority to collective ownership. Fascists and mercenaries sent from Western Ukraine attack Kharkov RSA and arrest 70 people, temporarily dispersing protesters. In Kiev, Svoboda fascists physically assault Communist Party MPs in Rada (parliament).

Apr. 8, 2014 – Donetsk volunteers build barricades, gather supplies and do defense training as coup forces surround new People's Republic.

Apr. 9, 2014 – Kharkov courts sentence 70 arrested activists to 2 months jail or \$14,000 fine each, ban mass rallies. Borotba and People's Unity coalition defiantly call for mass demonstration at Freedom Square April 12. Arsen Avakov sets 48-hour deadline for surrender of Donetsk.

Apr. 10, 2014 – Another U.S. warship arrives in Black Sea. NATO commander says U.S. troops could soon be deployed.

Apr. 11, 2014 – Kiev regime retreats from 48-hour deadline on Donetsk as Special Forces troops reportedly refuse orders to attack.

April 12-13 – CIA Director John Brennan secretly visits Kiev.

April 14 – New "anti-terrorist offensive" against protesters in southeast Ukraine begins immediately after CIA director's visit. Amateur videos show Ukraine military tanks moving toward cities in Donetsk Oblast where anti-fascist forces have seized government buildings.

April 16 - Anti-government activists block a column of Ukrainian Armored Personnel Carriers in the eastern city of Kramatorsk. Military personnel surrender and turn the APCs over to protesters. New York Times reports, "Ukraine's efforts to confront pro-Russian militants in the eastern part of the nation ended in disarray on Wednesday."

April 17 — Russia, the United States, the European Union and Ukraine's coup government in Kiev had reached an agreement expressed in a public text "on initial concrete steps to de-escalate tensions and restore security for all citizens." The Geneva accord is never enforced by Kiev.

April 21 – In a CNN interview, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland confirms the U.S. spent \$5 billion on "regime change" in Ukraine.

April 22 – Joe Biden visits Kiev, signaling the re-start of "anti-terrorist offensive." Warship USS Taylor arrives in Black Sea. 6,000 U.S. ground troops dispatched to Poland and Baltics.

Late April – Neo-Nazi gangs continue to infiltrate southeast cities and carry out provocations against the anti-fascist movement. They are bused in from Kiev disguised as soccer fans traveling to local matches. Hacked emails show collaboration between media and the Interior Ministry in targeting local resistance leaders.

May 1 – Crimea, Donetsk and Russia witness the largest May Day parades since the fall of the Soviet Union, in solidarity with the anti-fascist struggle in Ukraine. Actions are also held throughout the southeast.

May 2 – Neo-Nazis massacre 46 people in Odessa. A protest encampment and the local Trade Union Building are set on fire. Survivors fleeing the blaze are beaten or killed. In Donetsk, at least 13 unarmed defenders of Slavyansk are killed as Ukraine military moves to blockade the city.

May 3 – Ukrainian military kills 10 people in Donetsk city of Kramatorsk.

May 4 – German newspaper Bild reveals that Kiev is "swarming" with U.S. agents of the FBI and CIA who are advising the junta in its campaign against protesters in the southeast.

May 5 - NATO's three-week 'Spring Storm' war games, involving a record-breaking number of 6,000 troops, begin in Estonia.

May 7 – Kiev coup regime bans the Communist Party of Ukraine from participating in parliament.

May 9 – Victory Day (the anniversary of the surrender of Nazi Germany to the Soviet Union) - Parade in Mariupol is fired upon by National Guard, killing at least 20. Anti-fascist organization Union Borotba tells members and supporters to move underground as junta threatens arrests.

May 11 – Mass turnout for the referendums held in Donetsk and Lugansk regions. Vote is over 90 percent in favor of independence from Ukraine. Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics start unification talks

May 16 – Communist Party leader Peter Simonenko announces the party's withdrawal from May 25 elections. He survives assassination attempt in Kiev after making the announcement.

May 25 – Presidential elections called by the Kiev junta to legitimize its rule.