

## Historical Timeline of Crimea, 1783-2014

Dick Atlee (version 1.1 — 3 March 2017)

<http://orientalreview.org/2017/02/08/what-nikky-haley-should-know-about-annexed-crimea/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Ukraine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Ukraine)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1954\\_transfer\\_of\\_Crimea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1954_transfer_of_Crimea)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kosovo\\_independence\\_precedent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kosovo_independence_precedent)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crimean\\_Khanate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crimean_Khanate)



(For an intense Crimean view of the situation,  
see Andrei Kondrashov's 2015 documentary "[Crimea: way back home](#)")

- 1783 Former Crimean Khanate is annexed by the Russian Empire.
- 1921 Crimea is part of Soviet Russia: Crimean Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (CASSR) was part of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR).
- 1922 After declaring independence in 1918 & falling under German control, Ukraine joins USSR.
- 2/19/54 CASSR transferred from RSFSR to UkraineSSR by Supreme Soviet of USSR.  
Controversial! Done without a quorum, supposedly with the constitutionally necessary consent of both parliaments.  
Ex-poste-claimed reason: 300th anniversary of the Treaty of Pereyaslav that unified Cossack and Muscovy areas leading to Russian acquisition of Ukraine.  
Likely functional reasons: Crimea is an extension of Ukrainian steppe, integration of Crimean/Ukraine economies, Khrushchev fond of Ukraine, and to bind Ukraine closer to USSR because of the Russian Black Sea Fleet at Sevastopol.
- 1990 UkraineSSR Parliament: Declaration of State Sovereignty, new self-determined state within UkraineSSR boundaries, including the ethnically non-Ukrainian (mostly Russian) Crimea.
- 1/20/91 Crimean referendum to restore pre-1954 status in RSFSR (81% turnout, 93% passage).
- 2/12/91 UkraineSSR Supreme Soviet accepts Crimean referendum results, but...
- 8/24/91 UkraineSSR Supreme Court declares Ukraine independent, with Crimea as its territory (specifically failing to hold required Crimean referendum, which would have rejected this).
- 12/1/91 Ukraine-wide independence referendum; most Crimeans boycotted, but quorum was achieved by allowing non-residents to vote in Crimean polling stations.
- 1/92 Russian Supreme Soviet questions constitutionality of 1954 transfer.
- 1992 Ongoing Crimean protests and demands for secession occur.  
Supreme Council of Crimea passes *Act of State Independence of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea*, approves Crimean constitution, passes resolution to hold a referendum.
- 8/2/92 Original date scheduled for referendum, but Kiev manages to postpone it.  
Kiev forces dozens of rewrites of constitution.
- 1994 Referendum held, but only as a public opinion poll.  
First Crimean Presidential election, Russian nationalist administration takes over, promising return to Russia, but plan is shelved.
- 1995 Crimean Presidency and constitution abolished.
- 1997 Ukraine/Russian treaty recognizes Ukraine borders and sovereignty over Crimea.
- 1998 Ukraine aligns Crimean law with Ukrainian law = last step before final annexation.
- until 2014 Any Ukraine attempt to abolish Crimean autonomy met with large protests and demands to restore Republic of Crimea statehood and 1992 Constitution.
- 2/2014 Overthrow of Ukraine government by Western-financed/instigated/controlled rightist forces.
- 2/21/2014 Crimea opposes the coup; Crimean buses returning from Kiev attacked by Ukraine nationalists.
- 3/16/2014 Crimean referendum to return to Russia passes by 96%, citing 2008 precedent of Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence from Serbia. (Hear Crimeans talk about this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpKoXLBtU8>)  
There'd been much international disagreement about the validity of Kosovo as a precedent; even Putin had said in 2008 it was a dangerous precedent **unless approved by both sides** (which was the case in the Crimean situation), and would come back to "bite" the West.

**Important: NO RUSSIAN INVASION: Russians already there at Sevastopol naval base.**