

Brief Geopolitics Update

Cuboids Research

April 24, 2022

Russo-Ukrainian War

The second phase of Russia's invasion is [ongoing](#) in what Timothy Snyder dubbed the "[Easter Offensive](#)". The continuing [genocide](#) and deportations are deeply tragic. Ukraine's national ombudsman [has reported](#) that Russia deported over 700,000 Ukrainians between February 24 and April 11.

An erudite and well-informed observer of the Russo-Ukrainian war, Fiona Hill recently joined the Ezra Klein Podcast in [a most illuminating episode](#), as did [the Ukrainian philosopher Volodymyr Yermolenko](#). Timothy Snyder's *On Tyranny* is now available as [an expanded audio edition](#), rated 4.75 out of 5 stars by luminouscuboids.

Despite more Kremlin fearmongering, Cuboids Research does not see evidence for an increase in short and medium-term WOMD risks in the past month. However, long-term nuclear weapon risks may have further increased because of the [disintegration of the post-Cold War nuclear order](#). Spillovers: Moldova is worried it might be the next target, although that seems implausible given RF's lack of firepower.

Economics

Windward AI [reports that 1 in 5 container vessels globally is waiting outside a congested port](#), putting further pressure on supply chains. Cuboids Research expects (a) more [inflation](#), (b) more [rationing](#), and (c) more civil unrest¹.

Article of the Month

["Overcoming COVID-19 the Bhutanese Way"](#) by *The Diplomat*. Compassionate leadership is the key to Bhutan's pandemic success. A crucial lesson for the rest of the world.

¹For example, rising fuel prices and an increased cost of living motivated the yellow vests protests in November 2018.