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The War Over Ukrainian History and Identity

Monday 7 March 2022, by [GRIM Ryan](#), [ISHCHENKO Volodymyr](#) (Date first published: 5 March 2022).

“Ukraine is not just a neighboring country for us,” declared Russian President Vladimir Putin last week. “It is an inalienable part of our own history, culture, and spiritual space.” This conception of Ukrainian history forms the bedrock of Putin’s justification for invading the former Soviet republic, independent since 1991. On this week’s podcast, Ryan Grim talks with Ukrainian sociologist Volodymyr Ishchenko about his country’s history, from the Dark Ages up the current war. They discuss Ukraine’s history of anarchist politics, the 2014 Euromaidan Revolution that toppled pro-Moscow President Viktor Yanukovich, and the tangled question of modern Ukrainian identity.

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As Putin tries to justify his horrific invasion using history, listen instead to Ukrainian social scientist [@Volod_Ishchenko](#). His research areas are protests and social movements, revolutions, radicalization, right/left politics, and nationalism.

<https://t.co/KHKxr1kA5a>

— Michael ☐☐ (@OmanReagan) [March 5, 2022](#)

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