Why is Russia threatening to invade Ukraine?

１　Russia has amassed more than 100,000 troops near Ukraine's border in recent weeks, raising fears that an invasion could begin at any time.

２　The United States and ①its allies have urged their citizens to leave Ukraine right away as tensions soar.　Australia and New Zealand became the latest countries to urge their citizens to leave as soon as possible, joining Britain, Japan, Latvia, Norway and the Netherlands.

３　U.S. officials said Russia could invade Ukraine before the end of the Winter Olympics on Feb. 20th.

Meanwhile, Russia has repeatedly said it has no ②such plans. Ukraine is less convinced of the risk and its President has appealed to the West not to spread "panic".

４　On Saturday(February 12th), President Joe Biden had one-hour telephone conference with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Biden warned that the US and its allies will respond "decisively and impose swift and severe consequences" on Russia if Putin should decide to invade Ukraine.

threat脅す invade( ) 　amass寄せ集める・収集する　　troop部隊・軍隊　　Ukraineウクライナ invasion( )　　ally同盟国 　urge～to V：～にVするよう促す　　tension緊張　　soar高まる decisively決断力を持って　impose科す　　swift速やかな　　★( )

Q1 What is happening around the border between Russia and Ukraine?

Q2　What are ①its allies?

Q3 What are ②such plans?

Q4　What has Ukraine’s President said to the West?

Q5 If Putin should decide to invade Ukraine, what has Biden said the US and its allies would do?

Q6 What does Biden mean with his words?(Q5)

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|  | 緊迫のウクライナ情勢　BBCのロズ・アトキンスが解説【英語(日本語字幕あり)／6分】<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iji1KZOPNrU> |

Why is Russia threatening Ukraine?

５　During the Cold War from 1945 to 1990, the world was divided into the Soviet bloc countries and the Western powers. Britain, France, the U.S, Canada, and eight other western European countries established the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949. In 1955, the Soviet Union responded by creating the Warsaw Pact(also known as the Warsaw Treaty Organization※１).

６　After the Cold War was over, former Soviet socialist republics became members of NATO. In 1999, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland joined NATO; Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, and Slovakia joined in 2004; Albania joined in 2009.　Russia doesn’t want Ukraine to join NATO. It has demanded no more eastward expansion and an end to NATO military activities in Eastern Europe.

７　Since Russia lost the Cold War, ③Ukraine is a geopolitical key for Russia. Ukraine shares borders with both the EU and Russia, but as a former Soviet republic, it has deep social and cultural ties with Russia, and Russian is widely spoken there.

８　Ukraine’s western region generally supported integration with Western Europe. The country’s eastern side, meanwhile, favored closer ties with Russia. The latest public opinion survey(※２) in Ukraine shows 54% of Ukrainians support for accession to NATO. When asked which international economic union they would join if Ukraine could only join one, 58% of Ukrainians chose the EU. Only 21% support joining a Customs Union with Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan.

※１　ワルシャワ条約機構をWTOと略すこともありますが、世界貿易機関と混同されるので、ここではthe Warsaw Pactとします。

※２　The opinion survey was conducted by the International Republican Institute’s (IRI) Center for Insights in Survey Research (CISR).

establish設立する　Warsawワルシャワ　pact協定　　socialist社会主義者(の)　republic共和国

geopolitical（　　　　　　　　　　）　ties絆・関係・結びつき　　integration統合　　public opinion survey世論調査　　accession加入　　Customs Union関税同盟　　★（　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　）

Q7 During the Cold War, the world was divided into two big groups. What were the two big groups?

And which side did Japan support?

Q8 After the Cold War was over, what did former Soviet socialist republics do?

Q9 What has Russia wanted Ukraine to do?

Q10 What has Russia wanted NATO to do?

Q11 下線③について、７段落の内容を参考に説明しましょう。

Q12　ウクライナ国内では、国民の意見はどのように割れていますか。

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | UKRAINE TIPS FOR TRAVELLERS | THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE GOING TO UKRAINE　<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ffyAG7INhGI>　　(English/3 mins)ウクライナ人の女の子が、ウクライナに旅行する際の５つの注意点を英語で教えてくれます。 |

2014 Crimean crisis

９　The current situation is being taken seriously because Russia has invaded Ukraine before. When violent protesters ousted Ukraine’s pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovych, in February 2014, Russia annexed Ukraine's southern Crimean peninsula. On March 21, Putin signed legislation that completed the process of absorbing Crimea into Russia,

１０　Putin immediately moved to strike in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine. 14,000 people were killed in the armed conflict between Ukrainian government forces and Russia-backed separatists.

After the annexation, the EU and US imposed sanctions on Russia. For example, Russia was expelled from the G8 group, and the group has been called G7 since then.

１１　So why does Russia want Crimea? As Russia is an extremely cold country, it has always wanted

④warm-water ports. Warm-water ports do not freeze in winter, but are available year-round. It can be of great geopolitical or economic interest.　There are only three warm-water ports in Russia now. Vladivostok(the Pacific), St. Petersburg(the Baltic), and Crimea(the Black Sea).

oust～：～を追い出す　　pro-Russian親ロシア派の　　annex～：～を併合する/annexation併合

strike攻撃する　 armed conflict武装紛争 Russian-backedロシアに支えられた　 separatist分離主義者

impose課す　　sanction( 　　)　　★（　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　）

Q13 When(In what year) did Russia invade Ukraine?

Q14 Which part of Ukraine’s territory did Russia annex?

Q15 How many people were killed in the armed conflict between Ukraine and Russia?

Q16 クリミア併合のせいで、ロシアはどんな国際的なグループから追い出されましたか。

Q17　What are ④warm-water ports?

Q18 So why does Russia want Crimea?

Q19 今日学んだ新しいことを3点書きましょう。

★オマケQ：What is the “G7”?

★世界情勢をわかり易く解説してくれる、お薦めの日本語の動画

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| --- | --- |
|  | 【ウクライナ・ロシア情勢①】世界の紛争最前線をわかりやすく解説！<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VxGJIMxB8Q>YouTube大学の中田敦彦さんがわかりやすく解説してくれます。続編②もお薦め |
|  | 「ロシアの論理」で読み解くウクライナ危機【豊島晋作のテレ東ワールドポリティクス】（2022年2月9日）<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9j_-bJnp3Z8&t=636s> |

★次の文を3回以上音読して暗唱しましょう。

１．Russia has amassed more than 100,000 troops near Ukraine's border, raising fears that an invasion could begin at any time.

２．The US and its allies will respond "decisively and impose swift and severe consequences" on Russia

if Putin should decide to invade Ukraine.

３．Ukraine’s western region supported integration with Western Europe, and the eastern side favored closer ties with Russia.

４．After Russia annexed Crimean peninsula, the EU and US imposed sanctions on Russia.

（和訳）

1. ロシアはウクライナとの国境付近に10万人以上の兵士達を駐屯させており、侵略が今にも始まりそうだという恐怖を煽っている。

＊raising以降は分詞構文となっている。(=and raised … . )

1. もし万が一にもプーチンがウクライナの侵略を決定すれば、アメリカと同盟国は断固として対応し、

速やか、かつ厳重な代償を科すだろう。

３．ウクライナの西側は西ヨーロッパとの統合を支持し、東側はロシアとの強い関係を望んでいる。

４．ロシアがクリミア半島を併合した後、EUとアメリカはロシアに制裁を科した。