

Conflict in the east of Ukraine

- Russian military support, training and funding threatens Ukraine's survival
- Introduction of rouble, passports demonstrating commitment to Donbas
- Imposing Minsk agreement on Ukraine reinforces status quo
- Suggestion that Russia might be prepared to make concessions, but no party of peace in Ukraine



The war in the east of Ukraine and its effect on regional security



- Exacerbated cleavages between member states
- Over NATO's maritime footprint
- Sanctions

2. Ukraine fatigue

- More entrenched hawkish positions in Ukraine
- Harder to resolve other so called 'frozen' conflicts.

3. Ukrainian fragility

- Conflict in the east has damaged Ukrainian society and economy
- Hampered the reform process
- Evidence of back sliding on reforms
- Little appetite for compromise in the east

4. Unintended effects – Ukraine's new controversial education law

- Aim to modernise Ukraine's education system
- Unspoken aim to ensure national cohesion and de-russify the state
- Alienated near neighbours and damages their support for Ukraine's European integration

5. Maritime security challenges

- Created contested and militarised maritime domain
- Brought conflict to the shores of the BS (again)
- Maritime borders contested
- More traditional MS threats have been crowded out and downgraded
- MSO no longer in operation

Russian Support for the separatists - Military conflict on the shores of the BS (again)

- Mariupol is a key battleground and frontline in the conflict
- Offensive launched by rebels in Spring 2014 and again in January 2015
- Artillery barrage is constant against Ukrainian positions near Mariupol



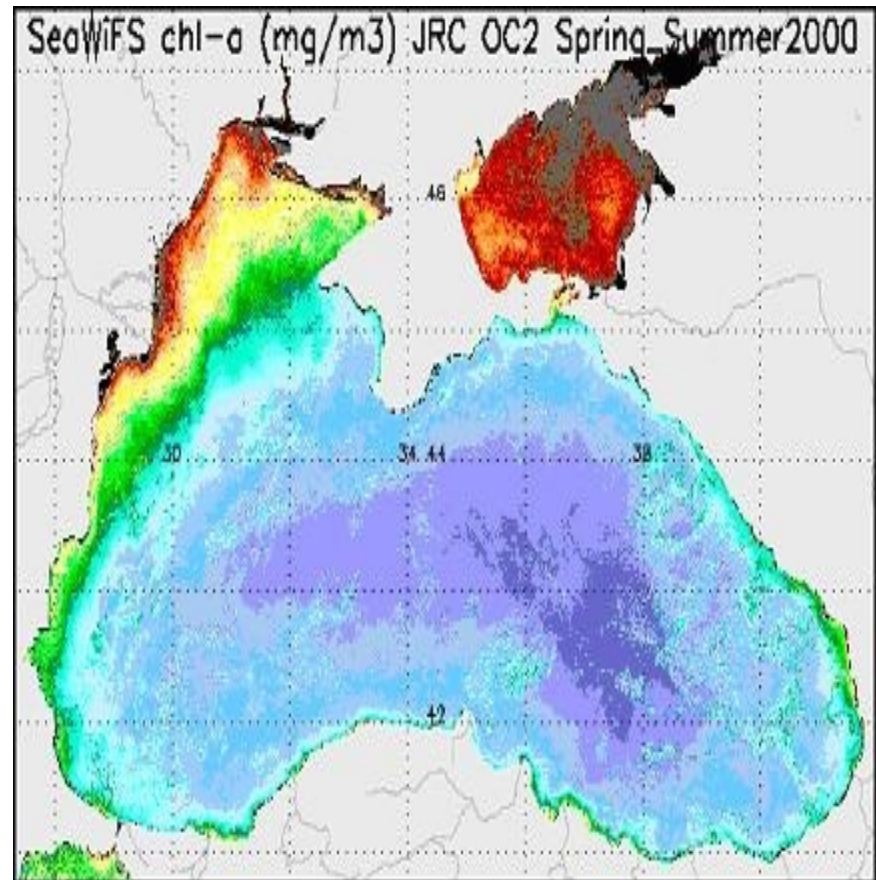
3. We also see increased Conflict at sea

- Dec 2015 Russia hijacks three offshore oil rigs
- July 2016 Russia attempts to drill for oil in Ukraine's EEZ
- Ukrainian coast guard confronted by Russian patrol ships and bomber
- Development of separatist 'micro navy'

6. As a result of the annexation and Russia's militarisation of the BS maritime security threats have pushed off the agenda and much harder to resolve

- Composite satellite image showing high concentration of chlorophyll in the sea of Azov and the North Black Sea - the result of micro algae blooms

- Pollution
- Nuclear trafficking



Effect on Regional security – no MSO

- OBSH
- BLACKSEAFOR

Solutions

- Continued support for Ukraine's reforms and European integration
- Maintain western cohesion and sanctions against Russia
- Improve western relations with Turkey, a key gate keeper in the BS