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World peace summits and their consequences

Nataliia Hrushchynska¹

¹ doctor of economic sciences, professor, professor of the department of international economic relations, business and tourism of the Faculty of International Relations of the National Aviation University, Kyiv, Ukraine

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Abstract: Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 22, 2024, as an escalation of the war that Russia started in 2014 with the annexation of Crimea and occupation of the Eastern regions of independent Ukraine, qualifies as a violation of international law and the principles of international order, and is the most serious challenge to European stability and security since 1945. This crime by Russia violates the fundamental principles of the UN Charter. The consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 are significant for the international security system. War is exhausting and requires the support and attention of all countries of the world. That is why holding global peace summits is relevant today.

On June 15-16, 2024, the first peace summit on Ukraine took place in Switzerland. Leaders of more than 100 countries were invited to attend: the leaders of the European Union, the G7, and the Global South. The goal of the summit is to create a platform for dialogue on ways to achieve a

comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine based on international law and the UN Charter. The results of the first summit are important in achieving recognition of the Ukrainian peace formula and implementing concrete steps in the future.

Keywords: peace summit, economic development, national security.

Introduction.

Peace summits are events where world leaders, diplomats, academics, activists and civil society representatives gather to discuss and promote peace, security and stability at the global level. The history of global peace summits reveals trends in the formation of global security of countries and problems that can be solved jointly.

Research Results.

The history of world peace summits has its own history and several important stages. The Paris Peace Conference (1919). After the First World War, world leaders gathered in Paris to conclude peace treaties and prevent future conflicts. The First World War had a profound impact on the economies of all countries involved (Table 1). The UK's GDP experienced a significant drop due to war spending and reduced production. The national debt increased from 650 million pounds to over 7.4 billion pounds. High inflation, unemployment, which initially decreased due to mobilization, but increased after the war due to demobilization and economic difficulties. Another participant in the war, France, also experienced a decline in GDP due to the destruction of industry and agriculture. The public debt increased almost 5 times from 32 billion francs in 1914 to 150 billion francs in 1919. Inflation led to higher prices for consumer goods. Germany's GDP fell due to the economic blockade and military spending. The national debt, of course, also increased, with the addition of reparations after the war. In the postwar years, hyperinflation began, peaking in 1923. The GDP of the United States of America initially grew due to military orders and exports, but slowed down after the war. The national debt grew from \$1 billion in 1914 to \$25 billion in 1919. The same problems were typical for the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The Paris Peace Conference (1919-1920) led to the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, according to which Germany was recognized as guilty of starting the World War. It lost all of its colonies, some territories were transferred to neighboring states, and military restrictions and reparations for damage caused to the Entente countries were imposed on it.

Table 1

The Impact of World War I on the Economies of the Participating Countries

Country	State debt Before the war - after the war	Inflation	GDP (Gross Domestic Product)	Unemployment
Germany	+ repatriation in the amount of 269 billion gold marks	hyperinflation	abbreviation	growth
France	32 million francs - 150 million francs	high inflation	abbreviation	growth

<i>USA</i>	1 billion dollars - 25 billion dollars.	high inflation	abbreviation	growth
<i>United Kingdom</i>	650 million pounds - 7.4 billion pounds	high inflation	abbreviation	growth
<i>Austro-Hungarian Empire</i>		hyperinflation	abbreviation	growth

Source: author's own development

The next historic event in the field of war and security was the Postdam Conference in Postdam, Germany, in 1945. At the conference, the leaders of the three major Allied powers that had won World War II: Josef Stalin (USSR), Harry Truman (USA), and Winston Churchill (later replaced by Clement Attlee) (UK), formed a new world order, while laying the groundwork for the Cold War between the USSR and the Western Allies. The main focus of the conference was on deciding the fate of Germany, and it was decided to demilitarize, denazify, democratize, and decentralize Germany.

Poland received the territories in the west taken from Germany, while the Soviet Union annexed the territories in the east of Poland. It was agreed that each of the Allied powers would receive reparations from its occupation zone. The USSR received additional reparations from the western zones in exchange for its products. The need to establish the United Nations to maintain international peace and security was confirmed. The United States, Great Britain, and China (the USSR had not yet entered the war against Japan) issued the Potsdam Declaration, which demanded Japan's unconditional surrender.

The Helsinki Conference (1975). Known as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), this conference helped to reduce tensions between East and West during the Cold War.

Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro (1992). Although this summit was focused on sustainable development, it included aspects of peacekeeping, as environmental sustainability is directly related to security.

The UN Millennium Summit (2000). Leaders from all over the world gathered to discuss new challenges in peace, security, human rights and development, adopting the Millennium Declaration.

Global peace forums in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Annual events dedicated to nuclear disarmament and the promotion of a culture of peace are held in memory of the atomic bombings.

The Dayton Peace Agreement, which culminated in the signing of the agreement on November 21, 1995, formally ended the Bosnian war that lasted from 1992 to 1995. Under the Dayton Peace Agreement, Bosnia and Herzegovina was preserved as a single state, consisting of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (predominantly populated by Bosnians and Croats) and Republika Srpska (predominantly populated by Serbs). The Dayton Peace Agreement was an important step toward ending the bloodshed and establishing peace in the region. It stopped active hostilities and created a framework for a political settlement of the conflict. However, its complex political structure and the continuing ethnic divide remain the subject of criticism and challenges for the stable development of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The talks were held with the participation of the main warring parties: President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, and President Slobodan Milosevic of

the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The negotiations were mediated by Richard Holbrooke, the U.S. Special Representative, with the active participation of other international diplomats. This agreement remains the basis of the political system of Bosnia and Herzegovina and a key document for understanding current political processes in the region.

The Nobel Peace Prize Summit (since 1999) is an annual summit where Nobel Peace Prize winners gather to discuss global issues and propose solutions to them.

In recent decades, many new peace summits have emerged to address pressing global issues: The UN Climate Summit - the main focus is on climate issues, with aspects related to peace and security also discussed. Paris Peace Forum (since 2018). The annual forum focuses on global governance and peace, where leaders discuss current challenges and ways to address them. The Oslo Peace Forum is an event where peacekeeping initiatives and conflict situations in the world are discussed.

The Peace Summit, which took place in Switzerland on June 15-16, 2024, united more than one hundred countries in the desire to establish peace and security. The formula for peace proposed by the President of Ukraine at this summit is centered on three points: first, nuclear energy facilities must be safe. Second, food security should not be a "weapon" and should be guaranteed by free navigation in the Black and Azov Seas. Ukraine should have access to third parties for its agricultural products. Thirdly, the principle states that all prisoners of war should be returned to Ukraine, including all "deported and illegally displaced" Ukrainian children and civilians. The most important thing for Ukraine at the summit is to reach agreements with the Global South, which is expected to be a guarantee of global nuclear security, food and energy security. The formula for peace proposed by the President of Ukraine at this summit, after consultations and negotiations, is centered on three points: first, nuclear energy facilities must be safe.

Second, food security should not be a "weapon" - and should be guaranteed by free navigation in the Black and Azov Seas. Ukraine should have access to third-party markets for its agricultural products. Third, the principle calls for the return of all prisoners to Ukraine, including all "deported and illegally displaced" Ukrainian children and civilians. In general, the Ukrainian peace formula consists of ten points and provides for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Ukrainian territory, compensation and a return to the 1991 borders.

The conference was unique, as exemplified in modern history by the Bosnia peace conference, in which Serbia agreed to participate only after its obvious defeats in Croatia and Bosnia (the Dayton peace talks, discussed above).

It is important for Ukraine to reach agreements with the Global South at the summit, which can be a guarantee of global nuclear security, food and energy security. Of course, China's participation in the summit is important. Weakening Russia and increasing its dependence on China is in China's interests. China does not benefit from the escalation of the conflict; it is interested in the development of the international economy and trade. However, on the other hand, China is using the war for its own political purposes, believing that it is a war between Russia and the United States, and for China, a US victory is unacceptable.

At the same time, in preparation for the summit, several rounds of talks were held at the level of advisers to the leaders of the West and the Global South, and a Chinese representative attended only one meeting. Also, China does not condemn Russia for its aggression against Ukraine, and the recent visit of the Russian foreign minister to China was the impetus for China to start talking about the need to hold talks only when both sides are present, meaning Russia.

China is seen as a future mediator in possible negotiations between Ukraine and Russia. However, there may be more than one mediator, such as China, Turkey, and France.

The first meeting can create an atmosphere that will encourage countries to look for ways to negotiate with Russia.

It is important that the position of NATO member states and the United States is clear and that they understand that Russia does not want to end the war, but only temporarily freeze it to build up military capabilities, and that its proposals for peace talks do not correspond to its actual plans.

Conclusions

The results of the first summit are unlikely to lead to concrete agreements, but they may help to achieve recognition of the Ukrainian peace formula, at least in part. The first meeting can most likely be interpreted as laying the foundation for further cooperation and struggle and activating international institutions such as the Geneva Dialogue and the Institute for Peace.

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