

Russia is preparing for huge war with west, warns Ukrainian President **World**

Posted by:

Posted on : 2017/9/9 14:00:52

Petro Poroshenko has warned Moscow may not pull its troops out of Belarus after its latest Zapad military exercises Pictured: Russian military jets flying over Moscow. The Kremlin says the drills will not have more than 13,000 troops taking part AP

By [Caroline Mortimer](#) for the Independent (UK), Sep 9, 2017 The Ukrainian President has warned that [Russia](#)'s latest military drill shows it is preparing its forces for war in Eastern Europe. [Petro Poroshenko](#) said that Moscow's latest military exercise, which is due to be held in [Belarus](#) next week with up to 100,000 troops expected to mobilise on the EU's eastern borders, demonstrated its increasing ambitions in the region. Mr Poroshenko, a former oligarch who came to power following mass protests in 2013, said these latest war games show that Russia has no intention of handing back Crimea and or withdrawing from the separatist eastern regions, [local news website Ukrainska Pravda](#). In an address to the Ukrainian parliament he said: "There are no signs at the moment that Moscow would be ready to pull back from Donbass or leave [Crimea](#).

"In fact, there is more and more evidence for its preparations for an offensive war of continental proportions." "Under the guise of strategic command exercises, we are not ruling out the creation of a new assault group of Russian troops to strike Ukrainian territory," he said. "Some 2,000 transporters with soldiers and equipment have approached and are approaching our borders. There is no guarantee that after the end of these manoeuvres all this will return to Russia." Other former Soviet states such as Georgia and Lithuania have also raised concerns about the drill. [...]
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/russia-preparing-for-war-with-west-poroshenko-warns-moscow-may-not-pull-troops-out-belarus-after-latest-zapad-military-exercises-pictured-russian-military-jets-flying-over-moscow-the-kremlin-says-the-drills-will-not-have-more-than-13000-troops-taking-part-ap-7936801.html>