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HOW PUTIN USED ROMANIA TO JUSTIFY THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF DONTESK AND LUHANSK

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When Russian President Vladimir Putin recognized the separatist republics of Luhansk and Donetsk in eastern Ukraine, he reminded his audience that modern-day Ukraine came into being with territories once belonged to Romania.

In his hour-long speech on Monday broadcast around the world to millions, the Russian leader used historical references to justify the military occupation of the two separatist regions,

The Russian leader, sometimes angry and at times sullen, invoked Romania which lost Bessarabia, the Hertsa region and north Bukovina to Ukraine under the terms of a Nazi-Soviet pact in 1939.

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