## Ukraine tensions rise in pro-Russian Crimea

As Ukraine's pro-Western leaders consolidate power in Kiev fears are growing that Crimea, with its large ethnic Russian population, could become the target of Kremlin ambitions and a possible secessionist plot



Dzhankoy ©

C R I M E A

Yevpatoria

Sevastopol:
Base of Russia's
Black Sea Fleet

Armyansk

0

Feodosiya

UKRAINE RUSSIA Strait

Kerch

Empire in 1783 - transferred

Sea of Azov

to Ukraine by Soviet leader *Nikita Khrushchev* in 1954

Yalta ted President of Kerch

BLACK SEA

25 miles

Others

5.0%

Balaclava: Ousted President Viktor Yanukovych – wanted for mass murder protesters – last seen in port town

Interim leaders want him to face trial at International Criminal Court in The Hague

Russians Ukrainians

Crimean
Tatars

12.1%

CRIMEA Status: Autonomous FACTFILE republic within Ukraine

Area: 26,100 sq km Pop: 2 million

■ Sevastopol authorities offering disbanded *Berkut* anti-riot police -blamed for deaths of protesters in Kiev – sanctuary in Crimea

■ Moscow said to be planning to simplify procedure for Crimeans to obtain Russian passports

**Crimean Tatars:** Deported en masse by Stalin to Central Asia and Siberia in 1944. Allowed to return in early 1990s

58.5%

Tatar leaders warn they will resist any attempts to transfer Crimea to Moscow

Picture: Getty Images

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