

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



Sevastopol:
Base of Russia's Black Sea Fleet



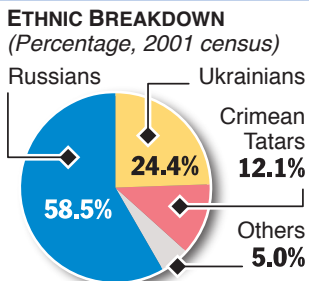
Balacava: Ousted President **Viktor Yanukovich** – wanted for mass murder protesters – last seen in port town

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

CRIMEA FACTFILE Status: Autonomous 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

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