

ASTROLOGY: Planetary Event Calendar for June, 2022 by Joe DiSabatino, M.Ed

Here's a few observations about Ukraine's national birth chart as it relates to the current Russian invasion. Ukraine declared its independence from the old Soviet Union on August 24th, 1991 at 6:00 pm in Kiev.

Ukraine's Sun (the country itself) is at 1 degree of Virgo (practical and resourceful, spirit of service is strong), its Moon (the motherland, the people) is at 22 Aquarius (tolerant, progressive), and the Ascendant (Ukraine's projected image to the world) is at 16 Capricorn (mature, responsible, stoical, disciplined).

Saturn is Ukraine's ruling planet, strongly placed by sign and house at 1 degree Aquarius in the 1st house. (Saturn rules Capricorn and co-rules Aquarius). Having the chart ruler in its own sign and in the 1st house is powerfully positive.

Ukraine's Lunar North Node (what Ukraine is striving to achieve as a country) is conjunct the Ascendant at 18 Capricorn (strives for self-sufficiency, to be its own authority, and complete independence are the prime aspirations for the country).

Ukraine has 5 planets (Sun, Chiron, Jupiter, Mercury and Venus) and the Lunar South Node in the 7th house (7th house=cooperative partnerships, and also open enemies—in Ukraine's case, Russia).

Ukraine's Chiron (old wounds) and Lunar South Node in the 7th house both represent past existential threats /old national wounds (Stalin starved 3.5-4 million Ukrainians to death in 1932-33).

Whereas Jupiter/Mercury/Venus conjunct in 7th house symbolize good relations and assistance from other countries—currently, from NATO countries). The Sun in the 7th shows Ukraine's spirit of international cooperation, and also its need for strong economic and military alliances.

Cancer is the sign on Ukraine's 7th house cusp, ruled by the Moon. Ukraine's Aquarian Moon is placed in the 1st house (for Ukraine, therefore, the Moon symbolizes both the people and also its open enemies). One explanation for the Moon's 1st house placement: Ukraine's open enemies (symbolized by the Moon ruling the 7th) are right in its face (1st house), bordering the country—the 1st house is the physical body for an individual; for a country, its geographic reality.

Ukraine's 7th house Mercury, Venus and Jupiter are all conjunct in Leo and oppose the natal Moon in Aquarius in the 1st house, and all of these planets square Pluto in Scorpio. This is a very tense T-square and suggests a life-threatening challenge from Pluto (Russia). This natal T-square is the signature for Ukraine's desire to form close economic and cultural ties with the West, and to join NATO (Moon opposite Mercury, Venus and Jupiter: wanting close ties

with West but it is difficult to do so), and Russia's determination to prevent that from happening (Pluto squares Moon, Mercury, Venus and Jupiter).

Also, since the Moon in a national chart symbolizes the people, some of Ukraine's own citizens, namely, the pro-Russians living in the eastern border region, are enemies of the country (Moon rules 7th house of open enemies), demanding annexation by Russia.

So Ukraine's natal chart reveals its geopolitical reality: a country that is strong, resourceful, disciplined, striving for independence, tolerant and progressive, yet its very existence and national boundaries are threatened by its powerful neighbor, Russia.

How all this relates to the war: transits of Saturn bring difficulties when it triggers key planetary alignments in a natal chart. And this is exactly what is happening in Ukraine's natal chart. The war began when transiting Saturn in Aquarius began making a direct hit to that tense and potentially lethal natal T-square. In February, Saturn started to conjunct Ukraine's natal Aquarian Moon, oppose Mercury, Venus and Jupiter, and square Pluto. That was bad news, the Saturn transit mirroring the death and destruction inflicted by Russia. But the fact that Saturn is so strong in Ukraine's chart speaks of its David and Goliath success so far in repelling and defeating Russia's ground attacks.

The current Saturn transit to Ukraine's natal T-square will be in effect until the first week of March, 2023, when Saturn leaves Aquarius and enters the sign of Pisces for 2.5 years. I expect the war will last at least until then. But transiting Saturn's influence in Ukraine's chart unfortunately does not end there. Saturn moving through early Pisces will then oppose Ukraine's natal Sun at 1 degree of Virgo until the end of December, 2023. This will challenge Ukraine's unity as a country. At the same time, transiting Neptune in Pisces will oppose Ukraine's natal Mars (armed forces) in Virgo (military forces may lose energy, possibly because NATO cuts back military assistance) from 3/23-3/24. Pisces is the sign of sacrifice. So there's two very difficult oppositions happening by transit to Ukraine simultaneously in 2023: Saturn opposes natal Sun, and Neptune opposes natal Mars.

One possible scenario: Russia agrees to stop attacking on the condition Ukraine surrenders territory. Ukraine refuses but the NATO coalition splits over supporting their refusal. Faced with dwindling military support, Ukraine may have to concede.

On a positive note: Jupiter enters Taurus in May, 2023 and makes a positive aspect to Ukraine's Virgo Sun and Mars until May, 2024. Jupiter brings protection and success. So there's contradictory influences at play in Ukraine's chart in 2023 and 2024. That probably means Ukraine will win some, and lose some.

Key Dates in June:

June 3: Mercury turns direct at 26 Taurus in square to Saturn until June 9th: roadblocks, detours related to travel, communications of all kinds.

June 4: Saturn turns retrograde at 25 Aquarius. Saturn retrograde periods last about 4.5 months, and are times for taking stock of our career goals and other practical matters.

June 9-14: Mercury in Taurus in positive aspect to Pluto in Capricorn. Communication channels are clear now, good time to finally figure out how to solve practical problems that were stumping you.

June 9th-13th: Venus in Taurus conjuncts Uranus. Good days for doing something fun and out of the ordinary socially such as a day trip to Charleston, etc. Beware of making an impulsive financial decision/purchase because:

June 17-20: Venus in Taurus squares Saturn in Aquarius. You may regret what you purchased between 9th and 13th (above). Relationship issue may need to be faced. If you go out for a meal or to a show, you'll probably be disappointed.

June 14-18: Sun in Gemini makes a flowing aspect to Saturn in Aquarius. Good days for accomplishing a lot at work. Authority figures cooperate with you.

June 25-30: Sun in Gemini squares Jupiter in Pisces. All Sun/Jupiter connections are good luck days, but there's a tendency to go overboard or overindulge with the stressful square. You might buy something on a whim that costs more than you can afford, but you'll love the item anyway.

June 27-July 6: Mars in Aries squares Pluto in Capricorn. This aspect stirs up anger/rage, sometimes violence, particularly with Mars in its own sign of aggressive Aries. Avoid road rage incidents at all costs during these days or other potentially combative encounters. Many motorists will be on edge, so if someone cuts you off, resist saying or doing anything aggressive in response. Keep the expletives inside your own car.

June 28th: New Moon at 7 degrees Cancer occurs in Myrtle Beach at 10:52 pm. Where in your life can you be more nurturing/available with family, friends, the world, the earth?

June 28: Neptune turns retrograde (until January 22, 2023). Time for facing fears, anxieties, self-delusions, and places where you let yourself feel victimized. Facts vs fantasies come up for review. Spiritual growth can accelerate during these months.

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