

Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO (Jolas bukatua. Falta dena garbiketa lana da) (eta II)

Sarrera gisa ikus [Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(Jolas bukatua. Falta dena garbiketa lana da\) \(I\)](#)

Segida:

Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO (Jolas bukatua. Falta dena garbiketa lana da) (4)

Game over. What's left is mop-up

Alfred de Zayas

Renegade: Weaponising Our Rights

Published: 18 March 2022

(<https://dezayasalfred.wordpress.com/2022/03/29/renegade-weaponising-our-rights/>)

Weaponising Our Rights

Many Western organisations urgently need reviving, especially in the face of rising global authoritarianism, the weaponisation of human rights, a failing legacy media and the unintended effects of sanctions.

Host, Ross Ashcroft, caught up with the former UN independent expert on international order, [Alfred de Zayas](#), to discuss these topics and how we can begin to rejuvenate our institutions and our democracies.

The politics of human rights

Whenever the topic of human rights is highlighted in the media, the Pavlovian response among the public is invariably positive. The assumption is human rights are exclusively about the universal promotion of liberty and protection of human beings from harm and suffering.

But the point [Alfred de Zayas](#) makes is that although the principles that underpin human rights are worth defending, an industry has grown up around those two words that has been instrumentalized for other agendas.

De Zayas argues from personal experience that institutions such as the Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights who purport to put victims of human rights violations at centre stage, are instead prioritized by geopolitical concerns.

"There's a lot of double standards being applied. Many who work within these institutions are opportunists and careerists with an agenda and who tow the political line, that of course demeans our work in the field of human rights", says de Zayas.

The former UN expert cites the West's imposition of unilateral coercive measures against Venezuela that include sanctions and financial blockades, as examples of how the weaponizing of human rights for geopolitical ends work in practice. While on the one hand institutions claim to defend human rights in that country, on the other the geopolitical-motivated policies of the 'international community' that oversee them, exacerbate the very abuses they claim to be defending.

Instead of using the advice and technical assistance 'carrot' to help prevent the suffering of people in countries like Venezuela, Cuba and Syria, the strategy of the dominant powers is to punish and threaten them with their use of the coercive 'stick'. The end result is that the human rights organisations achieve exactly the opposite of what they claim they want to achieve.

"If we want to help the Venezuelan people," says de Zayas, "the first thing is lift the sanctions."

But the priority of de Zayas's colleagues is to name and shame and engage in retributive

forms of punishment. These are seen as solutions to human rights violations or war crimes and crimes against humanity.

“What’s important”, adds de Zayas, “is to study, and then address, the root causes of the violations of human rights. But [that is not on the agenda of Washington, or for that matter, London, Berlin or Brussels.](#)”

Inventing reality

One of the main reasons why there is so much antipathy among the public to defend the human rights of the West's official enemies, is that they are largely unaware that [the dominate powers engender an illusory reality in order to justify an imperialistic geopolitical narrative](#). The fantasy includes, for example, the notion that [Juan Guaidó](#), who has never stood for election in Venezuela, is the legitimate president of the country.

De Zayas highlights how an increasingly consolidated and monopolistic corporate media work in tandem with governments to help reinforce this kind of fake narrative.

[“The mainstream media is essentially an echo chamber for the US State Department or political establishment.](#) No matter where you turn to, you get the same homologated view which is very anti-democratic because a functioning democracy needs plurality. It needs to ensure that the population have access to all of the information, views and interpretations of that information. [What is needed is access to information, and that is what the government and corporate media are trying to shut out,](#)”, says de Zayas.

As a professor of international law who refuses to tow the line, de Zayas has witnessed, first hand, how this kind of censorship by omission in the media works:

“I have had no invitation by the BBC, CNN or any of the other major corporate media outlets. As scholars, we want to do our research in a manner that is objective. How can I get my conclusions out to the public if these mainstream organs are going to completely ignore me?”, says de Zayas.

Despite raising a series of ‘red flag’ concerns to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council about the IMF, the World Bank and tax havens, [de Zayas has never had an op-ed published in *The New York Times*.](#)

“So what you have here”, says de Zayas, “is not only fake news from the corporate media, you have suppression of anyone who is not going to be singing their song. I believe that to break down their stranglehold and their monopolies we have to adopt antitrust legislation.”

But given the fact that the Stockholm based International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance have recently [downgraded the US](#) to what they call a ‘backsliding democracy’, it’s difficult to envisage how, in the absence of political will, any antitrust legislation could pass through Congress within the context of what is, effectively, an advanced oligarchy. What is needed is an ethical approach to law.

Building a just world order

In his book, [Building a Just World Order](#), de Zayas formulates 25 principles of the rules-based international order which he presented to the Human Rights Council in 2018. This set of principles are intended to be universal as opposed to those which exclusively advance the interests of the West.

They build strongly on what de Zayas calls [the World Constitution](#), an instrument of the Charter of the United Nations, which binds humanity to a basic set of ethical standards pertaining to peace, national sovereignty and the prohibition of interference in the internal affairs of states.

An ethical case that is very close to de Zayas’s heart and that of his colleagues concerns [Julian](#)

[Assange](#). De Zaya visited Assange in 2015, when he was writing a report for the General Assembly on the so-called investment protection chapters in free trade agreements.

[WikiLeaks](#) had just published lots of these ultra secret agreements, which were highly undemocratic and against what the scholar refers to as good morals and ontology because it reduced the possibility of the state to regulate the economy. De Zayas reiterates the fact that Assange did society an enormous service by showing us crimes being committed in our name.

"It's important to know", says de Zayas, "that [the assault on Iraq in 2003 and the participation of 43 countries in the so-called coalition of the willing was the most savage and barbarian violation of the United Nations Charter and of the Nuremberg Principles since the Nuremberg trials](#). The person who is to be prosecuted for it, is the whistle blower, the messenger, not [Tony Blair](#), not [George W. Bush](#), not the late [Donald Rumsfeld](#) and that whole crowd."

De Zayas adds:

"We know that war crimes and crimes against humanity were committed that should have been investigated back then by the International Criminal Court which failed in establishing its credibility because [it applies double standards](#). This is an international court that indicts only ousted African leaders and military instead of investigating and indicting Western leaders."

[SUGGESTED CONTENT](#)

[First They Came For Julian](#)

[Nils Melzer](#), the special rapporteur on torture, recently [published a book on Julian Assange](#), which de Zayas describes as "one of the most important books published in this century." It shows the breakdown in the rule of law in the Administration of Justice in the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Ecuador.

It's perhaps indicative of the corporate media's collusion with the political establishment that the former are reacting to the book as if it didn't exist. De Zayas argues that [the adoption of a charter of rights of whistle blowers must be a priority for the United Nations](#), the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly so that we all have access to information that has been withheld from us.

Tags: [Alfred de Zayas](#), [corporate media](#), [Geopolitics](#), [Human Rights](#), [Julian Assange](#), [Monopolies](#), [sanctions](#), [War Crimes](#)

Footnotes:

[Alfred de Zayas](#) [downgraded the US Building a Just World Order](#) [Nils Melzer](#) [published a book on Julian Assange](#)

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[George Szamuely](#)

(<https://twitter.com/CredicoRandy/status/1509109653623525381>)

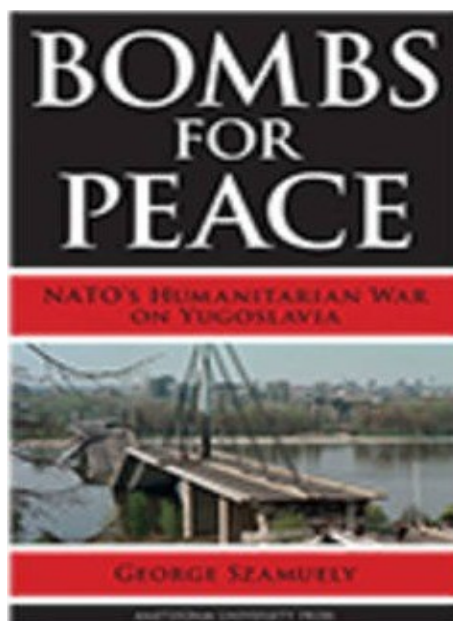
[Randy Credico Live On The Fly@CredicoRandy](#)

[7 h](#)

Friday on Randy Credico Live on the Fly / Assange Countdown on [@WBAI](#)

[@GeorgeSzamuely](#), author of Bombs for Peace: NATO's Humanitarian War on Yugoslavia

April 11 3PM EST 99.5 FM in NYC Stream <http://wbai.org>



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George Szamuely part 2 <https://youtu.be/rYWT5y4cUCc> Honen bidez:
[@YouTube](#)

The Balkan Conflicts Research Team is a collective of researchers and commentators who have collaborated, over more than 25 years in most cases, to try to find out the truth of what happened in Srebrenica in the late summer of 1995. This content of this video reflects the work of more than 30 individuals from Europe, North America and elsewhere.

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[Zenbait twitter](#)

[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[20 h](#)

Russian ruble now at 88, back to where it was on Feb 24 before Russian invasion. LOL! Sanctions working great.

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[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[20 h](#)

Biden proposing the biggest defense budget ever. More military spending. What's never asked: "How we gonna pay for it?" When will this fucking bullshit ever end?

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[2 h](#)

Nationalism is eminently human and inseparable from that inborn desire to shape one's future and that of our children -- it is an expression of self-determination.

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[15 h](#)

As Ukrainians resented having to take orders from the leaders of the Soviet Union in Moscow, Crimeans hated to take orders from the coup regime in Kiev after 2014.

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[15 h](#)

Hard-nosed policies based on power-politics do not make friends. In a globalized world one would have hoped that the economic inter-dependence that the US and NATO countries are destroying, would benefit everyone on the planet.

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[15 h](#)

American "liberalism" is not liberal but Calvinistic-aggressive-exceptionalist-intransigent. It is a kind of utilitarianism that approaches hedonistic fatalism.

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[15 h](#)

Every nation has a right to its history and culture, but chauvinistic mythmaking often leads nations to fight each other. Let's tame our myths

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[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

[22 h](#)

Part 2 of our interview with Balkan expert Dr George Szamuely, "The ICTY - A Law Unto Itself", examines the fundamental flaws of The Hague Tribunal, an illegal court run in complete breach of the instructions set down for it by the UN Security Council <https://youtu.be/rYWT5y4cUCc>

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[14 h](#)

Typical projection. Because US aims are invariably "regime change," pundits assumed that that's what the Russians were going for. **No matter how many times the Russian leaders outlined what their war aims were**, pundits refused to believe them. **Hence the absurd "Russia lost" meme.**

Txioa aipatu

[Michael Brendan Dougherty@michaelbd](mailto:MichaelBrendanDougherty@michaelbd)

16 h

Are people really going with this line? Russia has lost and so will have to settle for obtaining the fake war aims it announced, rather than the real ones we know, via private revelation, that they truly sought.

[2022 mar. 29](#)

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[Max Blumenthal@MaxBlumenthal](mailto:MaxBlumenthal@MaxBlumenthal)

[mar. 29](#)

The BBC & CNN's lone source for 300 dead in the Mariupol theater is a single pro-Azov official no longer in the city. 13 days since the suspicious blast & still no photo or video evidence, no images of casualties or rescuers, no independent confirmation.

thegrayzone.com

BBC correspondent shaping Ukraine war coverage is PR operative involved in "war-messaging tool" -...

BBC reports on the suspicious destruction of a theater in the Ukrainian city of Mariupol were co-authored by a Ukrainian PR agent tie

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](mailto:GeorgeSzamuely@GeorgeSzamuely)

[6 h](#)

<https://washingtonpost.com/world/2022/03/28/ukraine-kyiv-russia-civilians/>

But Ukraine's strategy of placing heavy military equipment and other fortifications in civilian zones could weaken Western and Ukrainian efforts to hold Russia legally culpable for possible war crimes, said human rights activists and international humanitarian law experts. Last week, the Biden administration formally declared that Moscow has committed crimes against humanity.

"If there is military equipment there and [the Russians] are saying we are launching at this military equipment, it undermines an assertion that they are attacking intentionally civilian objects and civilians," said Richard Weir, a researcher in Human Rights Watch's crisis and conflict division, who is working in Ukraine.

[Erakutsi haria](#)

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[6 h](#)

Over the past month, Washington Post journalists have witnessed Ukrainian antitank rockets, anti-aircraft guns and armored personnel carriers placed near apartment buildings. In one vacant lot, Post journalists spotted a truck carrying a Grad multiple rocket launcher. Checkpoints with armed men, barricades of sandbags and tires, and boxes of molotov cocktails are ubiquitous on city highways and residential streets. The sound of outgoing rockets and artillery can be heard constantly in Kyiv, the capital, the squiggly white trails of missiles visible in the sky.

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[5 h](#)

The Ukrainian military has “a responsibility under international law” to remove their forces and equipment from civilian-populated areas, and if that is not possible, to move civilians out of those areas, Weir said.

“If they don’t do that, that is a violation of the laws of war,” he added. “Because what they are doing is they are putting civilians at risk. Because all that military equipment are legitimate targets.”

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[5 h](#)

After every suspected Russian airstrike in the capital and elsewhere, the Ukrainians have dispatched teams to gather video and other evidence to use in a potential war crimes case against Russia at the International Criminal Court at The Hague, but many of those sites could be weak grounds for alleging war crimes.

“If there are military targets in the area, then it might undermine their claim that a specific strike was a war crime,” said Weir of Human Rights Watch.

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Mike Norman@mikenorman

Change in plans. **No immediate payment in rubles now.**

english.alarabiya.net

Russia won't demand immediate switch to ruble for gas payments: Kremlin | Al Arabiya English

Russia will not immediately demand that buyers pay for its gas exports in rubles, the Kremlin said

2022 mar. 30

(Ikus Neil Wilson-en beheko lanak, **bereziki bigarrena.**)

oooooo

Richard Medhurst@richimedhurst

There it is.

Russia's Foreign Minister Lavrov, during a visit to China, says that **Russia, China and its sympathizers are moving towards a "multipolar, just, democratic world order"**.

This is the global realignment unfolding before us.

2022 mar. 30

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Gehigarria:

Transakzio orokorra: NOK, GBP, USD

Niel Wilson-en Anatomy of an FX Transaction

(<https://new-wayland.com/blog/anatomy-of-an-fx-transaction/>)

Ikus ondokoa: [Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(MTM: Moneta-Teoria Moderna\)](#)

Errubloak eta euroak: transakzioak

Niel Wilson-en Rouble Gas Payments are probably a False Flag

(<https://new-wayland.com/blog/rouble-gas-payments-false-flag/>)

Ikus ondokoa: [Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(MTM: Moneta-Teoria Moderna\)](#)

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Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO (Jolas bukatua. Falta dena garbiketa lana da) (5)

Game over. What's left is mop-up

George Szamuely

[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

We proudly present, in 5 daily parts spread over the week, an outstanding in-depth [interview on the Balkan conflicts of the 1990s with Balkan expert George Szamuely](#) of the Global Policy Institute. We start today with [Part One](#), “[Why Yugoslavia had to go](#)”.

youtube.com

George Szamuely Part 1

The Balkan Conflicts Research Team is a collective of researchers and commentators who have collaborated, over more than 25 years in most cases, to try to fi...

[2022 mar. 2](#)

Bideoa: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMYUzyMMzuM&feature=emb_logo

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[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

[Part 2](#) of our [interview with Balkan expert Dr George Szamuely](#), “[The ICTY - A Law Unto Itself](#)”, examines the fundamental flaws of The Hague Tribunal, an illegal court run in complete breach of the instructions set down for it by the UN Security Council

<https://youtu.be/rYWT5y4UCc>

[2022 mar. 29](#)

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[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

[mar. 30](#)

[Part 3](#) of our interview with George Szamuely focuses on [the ICTY's failure](#) to adhere to the cardinal principles of best legal practice, its total lack of accountability and its prolific creation of new humanitarian law

youtube.com

George Samuely Part 3a

The Balkan Conflicts Research Team is a collective of researchers and commentators who have

Bideoa: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6l68XgUqKCI&feature=emb_logo

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[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

[10 h](#)

Part 4 of our interview with George Szamuely, “Demonising the Serbs”, on the false version of history created by the western allies that Serbia was entirely responsible for the break-up of Yugoslavia through its pursuit of a ‘Greater Serbia’ policy

youtube.com

George Szamuely part 4

The Balkan Conflicts Research Team is a collective of researchers and commentators who have collabo

Bideoa: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TThoBKoctp4&feature=emb_logo

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[Balkan Conflicts Research Team@ResearchTeam](#)

[12 min](#)

The concluding part 5 of George Szamuely’s interview, ‘Kosovo to Ukraine- History Repeats’, looks at the parallels between events in the Balkans in the 1990s and those taking place today in Ukraine

youtube.com

Szamuely interview Part 5

The Balkan Conflicts Research Team is a collective of researchers and commentators who have...

Bideoa: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CoLK7d_kBDk&feature=emb_logo

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Zenbait twitter

MFA Russia  [@mfa_russia](#)

[12 h](#)

[Russia government organization](#)



Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov's interview with [@RT_com](#)

...

Sergey Ryabkov: [#BRICS](#) nations  will be one of the backbones of the new "fair world order".

Watch in full ---> <https://is.gd/YUv8hq>

Twitterra: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1509220159030013953>

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[The Grayzone@TheGrayzoneNews](#)

[20 h](#)

US veteran who volunteered to fight for Ukraine [describes 'suicide mission'](#)

An American volunteer for Ukraine tells [@RealAlexRubi](#) how [his foreign legion tried to use him as cannon fodder and threatened to kill him](#)

<https://thegrayzone.com/2022/03/30/us->

oooooo

[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[14 h](#)

[Ruble recouped all its losses](#) (and then some) since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Now Russian stocks are recovering, too. Wouldn't it be ironic if USD tanked along with US stocks? [#LetsGoBrandon](#)

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[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[19 h](#)

[Russia gives up on ruble for energy demand.](#)

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[Gogoratu Niel Wilson-en lanez:](#)

[Niel Wilson-en Anatomy of an FX Transaction](#)

[Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(MTM: Moneta-Teoria Moderna\)](#)

[Niel Wilson-en Rouble Gas Payments are probably a False Flag](#)

[Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(MTM: Moneta-Teoria Moderna\)](#)

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[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[20 h](#)

[Russia Agrees to Accept Euros for Energy Payment, Which Will Be Transacted into Rubles by Gazprombank](#)

theconservativetreehouse.com

[Russia Agrees to Accept Euros for Energy Payment, Which Will be Transacted into Rubles by](#)

[Gazprom...](#)

[Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz will hold further discussions on the purchase of Russian energy products in rubles according to TASS \(Russian News\) and western...](#)

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[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[21 h](#)

[Biden Says U.S. Govt Has No Money to Fight Pandemic, Moments Later Biden Says U.S. Govt Sending \\$500 Million to Ukraine](#)

[theconservativetreehouse.com](#)

Biden Says U.S. Govt Has No Money to Fight Pandemic, Moments Later Biden Says U.S. Govt Sending...

During a speech to highlight the administration's ongoing effort to battle COVID-19, today Joe Biden said: WHITE HOUSE – [...] "Congress hasn't provided enough money to keep purchasing these monoclonal...

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[Mike Norman@mikenorman](#)

[14 h](#)

Has it been [2 weeks yet since the media and armchair pundits were telling everyone Russia would run out of munitions and supplies](#) and not be able to continue the war effort?

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[21 h](#)

If the US tries to "contain" China's economic prowess or forges trade pacts aimed at excluding China, it will have dire consequences on the global economy. [And it will fail.](#)

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[21 h](#)

While the US perceives China as its greatest long-term geopolitical adversary, the simple fact is that [China exists and is not about to go away.](#) Thus, how about making the best of it for everybody?

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[21 h](#)

Competition has proven to be good for most rational countries. Sanctions regimes sabotage commercial relations and fan not only economic but also racial animosities.

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[Alfred de Zayas@Alfreddezayas](#)

[21 h](#)

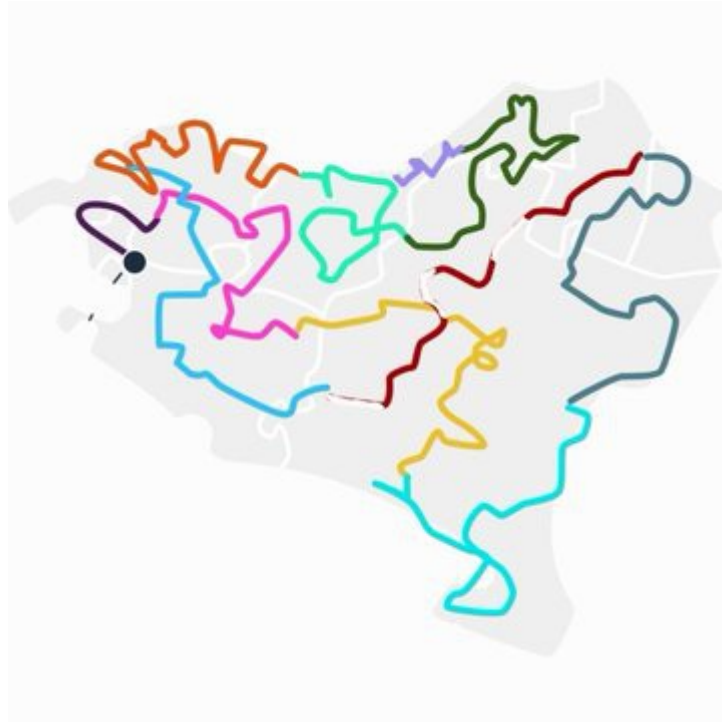
Although Article 20(2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights prohibits incitement to racial and religious hatred, the Western media is awash with vulgar russophobia and sinophobia.

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<https://twitter.com/umoreaskea/status/1509387088805904389>

 @umoreaskea
<p>"Euskara da gure territorio libre bakarra" Has dadila gure festa!</p> <p>#Korrika #HitzEkin</p>





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Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO (Jolas bukatur. Falta dena garbiketa lana da) (6)

Game over. What's left is mop-up

George Szamuely

The New START extension is welcome, but it won't deliver stability. The last thing the US wants is improved relations with Russia

(<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/513765-extension-nuclear-arms-treaty/>)

27 Jan, 2021

(...) [The same applies to Ukraine](#). We know about [the Biden family's](#) involvement in post-Maidan Ukraine. In a recent [interview](#), Blinken promised “to support the arming and training of Ukraine’s military, the continued provision to Ukraine of lethal defensive assistance, and indeed, of the training program as well.” There is a distinct possibility that a Biden administration might be tempted to give the go-ahead to the Kiev government to mount [a lightning strike in the Donbass](#). This would be a very dangerous game to play, but one that should not be ruled out, given the return to power of [Victoria Nuland](#), as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs – the number-three position in the State Department.

So, [the Biden people are not interested in rapprochement with Russia](#); they just want an arms-control agreement. Isn’t that a good thing, though? Won’t that lead to strategic stability? Maybe so. But what’s really behind it? Well, it has been clear for some time to US officials that [Russia](#), for the first time since the start of the Cold War, [enjoys strategic superiority over the United States](#). Russia has succeeded in deploying hypersonic weapons. Such weapons, as the [New York Times](#) explained, fly “at superfast speeds and can easily evade American missile defense systems ... Yet while the United States military was once thought to be well ahead in hypersonic technology, the pace of development flagged in recent years.”

US officials have expressed alarm about falling behind. According to [Michael D. Griffin](#), a former Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, “[We don’t have defenses against those systems ... Should they choose to employ them, we would be today at a disadvantage. We’re playing](#)

catch-up ball.”

It is understandable, therefore, that Washington would want to keep things in place for a few years while it catches up with – and perhaps overtakes – its perceived adversary. However, make no mistake: such an approach will not deliver stability.

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The ideological basis of the new Cold War is clear, and this time the Western powers look set to be on the losing side

[\(https://www.rt.com/op-ed/519189-new-cold-war-ideology/\)](https://www.rt.com/op-ed/519189-new-cold-war-ideology/)

25 Mar, 2021

(...) This ideological vision is worlds apart from that of [the group of countries led by Russia and China](#). This group [insists on national sovereignty, territorial integrity of all states, non-interference in one another’s internal affairs, no threats to use force, no resort to unilateral sanctions, cooperation with all states irrespective of the nature or ideological color of the governments that rule them](#). As [Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov](#) put it in Guilin, *“Moscow and Beijing stand for developing interstate relations on the principles of mutual respect and a balance of each other’s interests, justice, and non-interference in others’ internal affairs. We reject zero-sum political games and the illegal unilateral sanctions which our Western colleagues have been using increasingly more often. ... We pointed out the destructive character of US aspiration to undermine the UN-centric international legal framework by using the military-political alliances of the Cold War period and creating similar closed alliances.”* In a [joint statement](#), Lavrov and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi declared, *“Interference in a sovereign nation’s internal affairs under the excuse of ‘advancing democracy’ is unacceptable.”*

[Chinese Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi](#) did not hesitate to spell this out to Blinken during talks in Anchorage, Alaska, stressing, *“What China and the international community follow or uphold is the United Nations-centered international system and the international order underpinned by international law, not what is advocated by a small number of countries of the so-called rules-based international order.”*

The “rules-based international order” serves only the interests of the Western powers that create the rules – rules that can be made up one moment and discarded the next. As Yang [explained](#), *“I don’t think the overwhelming majority of countries in the world would recognize that the universal values advocated by the United States or that the opinion of the United States could represent international public opinion, and those countries would not recognize that the rules made by a small number of people would serve as the basis for the international order.”*

That “small number of people” who make “the rules” obviously includes NATO. And NATO, Stoltenberg [announced](#) the day before the foreign ministers’ summit, is all *“about protecting the rules-based order, which is being challenged by authoritarian powers like China and Russia. So, we need to work even closer with like-minded partners around the globe. And support our neighbors with more training and capacity-building.”*

As NATO envisages it, the scope for “training,” “capacity-building,” expansion, co-opting others, and invention of new missions is limitless. According to Stoltenberg, *“If there’s any lesson learned both from the Balkans in the 1990s or Afghanistan or Iraq and also from Libya, then it is that prevention is better than intervention to help countries to stabilize themselves. Providing training and capacity-building is perhaps the best way NATO can help to stabilize our neighborhood. And when our neighbors are more stable, we are more secure.”*

[This is no apology for the devastation, bloodshed, and chaos that NATO has caused during the past 30 years.](#) The problem is not too much NATO, but too little. Under color of searching for “stability,” NATO is entitled to do anything, no matter how much instability it creates along the way.

It isn't interested in national interests or national sovereignty. National sovereignty works one way: **there is an absolute, unconditional right to join NATO, but there is no comparable right not to.** Stoltenberg declared that no one is permitted to object to NATO's expansion into its neighborhood. *"It's not for any nation, outside NATO and the aspirant country, to decide whether a country becomes a member of NATO or not. It's a sovereign right of every nation, including Georgia, of course, or Ukraine, or Bosnia and Herzegovina, to choose their own path. And then it's for those countries that are applying for membership and the NATO allies – and only them, and no one else, no one from the outside – to interfere in that democratic process."*

Needless to say, **the US, for example, would not agree that a Russo-Mexican military alliance is no one's business other than that of Mexico and Russia.**

The NATO powers' approach to the world is to impose sanctions the moment they come across anything they don't like. On the eve of the Anchorage summit, the US imposed sanctions on 24 Chinese officials it accused of **"undermining"** Hong Kong's *"autonomy."* On the eve of the NATO summit, the US and the EU imposed sanctions on Chinese officials they **accused** of being involved in *"genocide and crimes against humanity"* against the Uighurs. On the very same day, the EU **imposed** sanctions on two Russians it accused of *"repressions ... directed against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex persons"* in Chechnya.

Russia and China, however, do not threaten, force, or resort to sanctions in lieu of diplomacy. Neither seeks to coerce other countries into joining formal or informal military alliances. Their championing of the principles enshrined in the UN Charter is winning adherents. Earlier this month, the two countries, joined by others, issued a statement on behalf of the newly formed **"Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations."** According to this **statement**, the UN Charter *"has a renewed and even more important value and relevance ... while providing a platform for, among others, promoting the prevalence of legality over the use of force, and for both discussing and coordinating possible joint initiatives for fostering the respect to the purposes and principles enshrined in the UN Charter."*

Seventeen countries are already members of this group. There is an open invitation for others to join, and many will undoubtedly do so. The national sovereignty principles enshrined in the charter are obviously appealing to the part of the world not firmly integrated within the Western system of alliances.

The different approaches of the two blocs towards the internal affairs of other countries were on display during the UN Security Council debates on the military takeover in Myanmar. **The US and the UK, eager to use the Myanmar crisis to target China, sought to push the Security Council into issuing a statement or adopting a resolution labeling the military takeover a "coup" and threatening sanctions.** Russia and China would have none of it. They successfully **insisted** that any **statement** not go beyond condemnation of *"violence against peaceful protesters"* and *"support for the democratic transition."* Significantly, Russia and China's stance was supported by current Security Council members India and Vietnam. The US, UK, and EU, predictably, went ahead with their own unilateral sanctions.

During this new Cold War, China and Russia have gone out of their way to help out countries that have been the victims of Western-inspired unilateral sanctions. When the Trump administration announced it was reinstating sanctions against **Iran, Russia** immediately **announced** that it would continue trading in Iran's crude oil, refining and selling it to third countries. Russia also helped Iran evade sanctions by linking its banking system to Iran's. **China** has purchased and helped transport Iran's oil. **Russia and China** have also both assisted **Venezuela**: Russian oil giant **Rosneft** helped market Venezuelan crude, while China has imported it. Moreover, Russia and China have continued to provide Venezuela with food and medicine.

This is only the beginning. **China's recently launched digital yuan** threatens not only the pre-eminence of the US dollar as the global trading currency, but also the utility of sanctions as a means of coercing recalcitrant states. Even if the US were to try to push China out of the SWIFT system – the network banks use to transfer payments internationally – China would still be able to use the digital yuan in cross-border transactions. Moreover, Russia now has its own alternative to SWIFT. Using sanctions to

coerce others may soon lose its efficacy for the Western powers.

The ideological basis of the new Cold War is becoming ever clearer daily. However, unlike in the first Cold War, the Western powers are likely to find themselves on the losing side.

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Zenbait twitter

[Maria Dubovikova@politblogme](#)

[mar. 31](#)

In a live coverage by Al Jazeera, the journalist is saying that the ambulances are bringing wounded people from Irpin. Watch till the end to see the "wounded" people.

Bideoa: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1509466040765362178>

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[5 h](#)

And it certainly doesn't bind the US--or any other NATO member-state--to go to war if NATO member-states were the ones seeking out, and instigating, the conflict.

[msn.com](#)

[Massie: NATO treaty doesn't bind US to war, sanctions on Russia hurt Americans](#)

[The United States is not obligated by any treaties to engage in the war in Ukraine, including sanctions that will ultimately help Vladimir Putin and hurt Americans, Rep. Thomas Massie](#)

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[Maajid. أبو عمّار@MaajidNawaz](#)

[mar. 30](#)

Even @CNN is now ADMITTING that the AZOV battalion - officially incorporated into Ukraine's army - is a NAZI unit.

All those loud turncoats making ridiculous excuses for NAZISM need to stop.

We will not forget, and time will SHAME you.

30 Mar 2022

<https://cnn.com/2022/03/29/europe/ukraine-azov-movement-far-right-intl-cmd/index.html>



World

TV CHANNELS



A far-right battalion has a key role in Ukraine's resistance. Its neo-Nazi history has been exploited by Putin

Analysis by [Tara John](#) and Tim Lister, CNN

🕒 Updated 1158 GMT (1958 HKT) March 30, 2022

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Farage: We shouldn't have provoked Putin

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Farage: We shouldn't have provoked Putin

Former member of European Parliament Nigel Farage says the West lost its focus in intervening in world affairs on 'Tucker Carlson Tonight.'

[2022 api. 1](#)

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[El 83% dels ciutadans donar suport a les activitats de Putin com a president](#)

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[George Szamuely@GeorgeSzamuely](#)

[5 h](#)

So much for "the international community is behind us" argument. We seem to be at a "Great Reset" moment--not quite the one the WEF crowd envisaged though.

Txia aipatu

Glenn_Diesen@Glenn_Diesen

Washington's inability to mobilise the international community

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West fears China could help support Russia with arms, trade lifelines and propaganda.

Published 05 Mar, 2022 07:11am

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BAQIR SAJJAD SYED | ANWAR IQBAL



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[Dan-Liviu Popa@danucky](mailto:Dan-Liviu_Popa@danucky)

8 h

Then you know there are definitely offensive bioweapons

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9 h

[Pentagon Clarifies There's No "Offensive" Bioweapons At US-Linked Ukraine Labs](https://zerohedge.com/geopolitical/p)

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Michael Hudson

The End of the Dollar Hegemony

April 1, 2022

The End of Dollar Hegemony

by Michael Hudson

Margaret Flowers: Michael Hudson is the president of the Institute for the Study of Long-term, Economic Trends, ISLET. He's a Wall Street financial analyst and a distinguished research professor of Economics at the University of Missouri, in Kansas City. He's also the author of numerous books and recently updated his book, "Super Imperialism: The economic strategy of American Empire." Thank you for taking time to speak with me today, Michael.

Michael Hudson: Well, thanks for having me on Margaret.

*MF: You've talked a lot and written a lot about **dollar hegemony** and what's happening now with de-dollarization. Can you start out by explaining to my listeners what dollar hegemony is and how it has benefited the wealthy class in the United States?*

MH: **Dollar hegemony seems to be the position that has just ended as of this week very abruptly.** Dollar hegemony was when America's war in Vietnam and the military spending of the 1960s and 70s drove the United States off gold. The entire US balance of payments deficit was military spending, and it began to run down the gold supply. So, in 1971, President Nixon took the dollar off gold. Well, everybody thought America has been controlling the world economy since World War I by having most of the gold and by being the creditor to the world. And they thought what is going to happen now that the United States is running a deficit, instead of being a creditor.

Well, what happened was that, as I've described in *Super Imperialism*, when the United States went off gold, foreign central banks didn't have anything to buy with their dollars that were flowing into their countries – again, mainly from the US military deficit but also from the investment takeovers. And they found that these dollars came in, the only thing they could do would be to recycle them to the United States. And what do central banks hold? They don't buy property, usually, back then they didn't. They buy Treasury bonds. And so, the United States would be spending dollars abroad and foreign central banks didn't really have anything to do but send it right back to buy treasury bonds to finance not only the balance of payments deficit, but also the budget deficit that was largely military in character. So, **dollar hegemony was the system where foreign central banks keep their monetary and international savings reserves in dollars and the dollars are used to finance the military bases around the world, almost eight hundred military bases surrounding them.** So, basically central banks have to keep their savings by weaponizing them, by militarizing them, by lending them to the United States, to keep spending abroad.

Dena den, gogoratu Hudson-en eta Warren Mosler-en arteko eztabaida:

Nazioarteko transakzioak: Mosler-en eta Hudson-en arteko eztabaida

Nazioarteko ekonomia eta 'Inperialismoa'

(...)

MH: That's the whole point. Well, **fortunately they've been threatening to kick Russia out of SWIFT for the last two years.** And so, **Russia and China have been putting in place an alternative system.** So, they almost pretty smoothly are shifting over **to using their own currency with each other instead of using the dollar.** And that's part of what has ended the dollar standard and ended dollar hegemony.

If the way you have dollar hegemony is to have other countries deposit your money in your banks and handle their oil trade with each other by financing it in dollars, but all of a sudden you grab all their dollars and **you don't let them use US banks to pay for their oil and their trade with each other, then they're going to shift to a different system.** And that's exactly what has ended the dollar hegemony, as you just pointed out.

MF: So, let's get a little bit into where things are headed with this new situation, a rapidly changing situation. It may be hard to say what's happening, but you talked about a food crisis this summer. Can you talk a little bit about more about that and does the conflict in Ukraine feed into that?

MH: Well, as President Putin and Lavrov have said, the fighting in Ukraine isn't really over Ukraine at all. It's a fight over what shape the world will take and whether the world will be unipolar or, as it now appears, multipolar. The US, for the last year before it began to escalate attacks on the Russian-speaking Ukraine, was trying to block Europe from, and especially Germany, from buying Russia gas and oil.

There are three pillars of American foreign policy that base American power. The first pillar is the oil industry. That's the most powerful industry next to banking in the United States. And United States throughout the 20th century, along with Britain and France, have controlled the world oil trade.

That has benefited the United States in two ways. Number one, we are a major oil exporter because we have a big oil and gas industry. But, number two, our US companies control the foreign oil trade. So that if some country, say Chile or Venezuela, does something that the United States doesn't like, like growing their own food or pursuing a socialist policy, the United States can simply cut off their oil and sanction them. Without oil, they don't have energy to drive the cars or power their factories or drive their GDP.

So, the American war in Ukraine is really a war against Germany. Russia is not the enemy. Germany and Europe are the enemy and the United States made it very clear. This is a war to lock in our allies so they cannot trade with Russia. They cannot buy Russian oil. They must be dependent on American oil for which they will have to pay three or four times as much. They will have to be dependent on American liquefied natural gas for fertilizer. If they don't buy American gas for fertilizer, and we don't let them buy from Russia, then they cannot put fertilizer on the land and the crop yield will fall by about 50% without fertilizer.

So, the war in Ukraine was to make Russia look so bad by defending itself against the attacks by the Ukrainian right wing in the Russian-speaking areas that the US has said, look at how bad Russia is. You've got to forego buying oil and gas or grain or titanium or palladium or anything else from Russia.

And so, the effect of this war has been to lock the NATO countries into dependency on the United States because the great fear of the United States in the last few years is that as America is de-industrializing, these countries are looking to the part of the world that's growing, China, Central Asia, Russia, South Asia. And the United States feared losing control of its satellites mainly in NATO, but also in South America. So, it sanctioned and blocked their ability to buy non-US energy. They're blocking their ability to buy non-US food, blocking their ability to invest in or use their surplus to get prosperous by investing in China, Russia, or Eurasia.

So, this is basically a war of America to lock in its allies. Well, the result is that oil prices, now that you can't get Russian oil, are going to go way, way up, and that is going to create a crisis for many of the Global South countries that are oil deficit countries. The fertilizer companies in Germany have already been closing down because they say, without Russian gas, we make our fertilizer out of gas, and if we can't get Russian gas, we can't produce the fertilizer that. So, world fertilizer prices are going way up.

Russia is the largest grain exporter. And now that grain exports are being blocked by the sanctions, the question is, what are North Africa and the Near East going to do that have been depending very largely on Russian grain exports? Their food prices are going to go way up.

You can imagine just from seeing what's happening in the United States when gas prices go up here, food prices go up here, not only does it put a squeeze on individual family budgets, but throughout the world, it puts the squeeze on the balance of payments of other countries. And so, they're desperate. How are they going to pay the higher prices unless they borrow even more money from US banks? And of course, that's another arm of US policy. The US banks hope to make a killing in making loans at rising interest rates to third world countries.

And of course, arms exports. NATO in the last few days has agreed to make American arms exports to increase their purchase of arms. So, the stock market has been soaring in the last few days. They say this, the world famine, the world crisis is a bonanza for Wall Street. The oil company stocks are going way up, the military, industrial stocks, Boeing Raytheon way up, the bank stocks. This is America's great power grab, and it realizes, when it can create a crisis and tell the Global South or poor

countries your money or your life. This is how most of the great property grabs and conquests have been made throughout history.

MF: And just this week at the NATO meetings, President Biden basically said food prices are going to go up in the United States and Europe as a result of what's happening. And that's just the price we have to pay.

MH: Well, what he should have said, this is the price *they* have to pay *us*. That's how the stock market took it. When he said this is the price we have to pay, this is the price consumers have to pay to the American oil companies, to the American Agricultural food distribution companies. It's the price other countries have to pay to the United States.

This is to say to the rest of the world, you know, we've got you completely, I don't know how to put it, what phrase to use, but you don't have any choice, your money or your life. We've got you trapped. And he's crowing over the fact that this resulting inflation is exactly what was intended by the war in Ukraine that has led to the isolation of Russia and other countries following a non-US policy.

MF: But more and more countries in Latin America, in Africa, are turning to countries like China for partnerships, for investment. Do you see a point coming where there is just this real shunning of the United States and turning to these alternatives?

MH: That is exactly what's going to happen. What's going to happen is, **China's investment** is very different from US investment. US and European investment will give financial investments to countries at interest that the whole country is liable for to repay. **China's investment is taking place by means of the Belt and Road Initiative and direct capital investment in developing ports, infrastructure and railways.** And instead of having a general financial claim against these countries, **China has an equity claim, a property claim backed by the physical means of production that it puts in place.**

Well, this summer, when countries say they cannot afford to pay their foreign debts, the United States has as a backup plan, okay, let's write down everybody's debts, government debts, to each other so that governments can pay the private bond holders and the banks. And they're going to try to, essentially the US will forgive its debts so that Latin America can pay Chase Manhattan Bank and Citibank and the bondholders. And **China is going to say, wait a minute, we don't have any financial claim against these countries. We didn't lend them dollars. We didn't lend them our foreign currency at all. We built assets there and the assets are still in place.** There's no problem there.

So, the question is, whose debts are going to be written down to whom? And all of this is going to lead to, as you can imagine, destabilization. The United States is probably going to try to push regime change on countries that try to trade with China as it's already threatened China with. **And the more sanctions the United States imposes on Latin America, Africa and the Near East and South Asia, they will be creating a crisis, but the crisis will lead the rest of the world to treat the United States in the same way that Russia and China are treating the United States as just the enemy threatening the entire world with their neoliberal power grab.** So, **the United States in a way is isolating itself from the rest of the world by declaring war on it.**

(...)

This is a transcript of Michael Hudson's interview with Margaret flowers on [Clearing the Fog](#), March 29, 2022.

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MMT (Moneta-Teoria Moderna)

Niel Wilson-en lanak

[Errusiaren gaineko zigorrak eta MTM](#)

[Errusiako toketa fiskala¹](#)

[Ukraina/Errusia/AEB/NATO \(MTM: Moneta-Teoria Modernoa\)](#)

[Niel Wilson-en Errubloari buruzko burrunbak segitzen du](#)

¹ Anatomy of an FX Transaction [eta](#) Rouble Gas Payments are probably a False Flag.