

NOT IN MY NAME...

UKRAINE AND THE EMPIRE OF LIES

Without an ordered memory, civilization is impossible
John Ralston Saul, Voltaire's Bastards

Introduction	1
1. Russia's Special Military Operation in Ukraine	3
2. Historical background	11
The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	11
WWII and the rise of Ukrainian ultra-nationalism	15
The Cold War and the rise of neo-conservative warmongering	16
Incorporating Ukraine into the American Empire	20
Post-Soviet Ukraine	22
Post-Maidan Ukrainian “democracy”	24
3. The elite, their media and the adulteration of the law	29
Law and justice <i>vs</i> legislation and policing	31
Intelligence <i>vs</i> rationality	33
Personal and corporate liability	35
4. The Empire of Lies	36
Corona and the global coordination of media propaganda	37
The lies that killed Ukraine	39
Lying as policy	42
5. Concluding remarks	47
Appendices	49
Appendix 1 (Oligarchy)	49
Appendix 2 (Roosevelt; the military-industrial complex)	50
Appendix 3 (Ethnic Ukrainians)	52
Appendix 4 (NordStream 2)	53
Appendix 5 (The Protocols of the Elders of Zion)	53
Appendix 6 (Bretton Woods)	55
Appendix 7 (Philanthropic foundations)	56
Appendix 8 (International courts)	57
Appendix 9 (Ursula von der Leyen, Young Global Leaders)	58
Appendix 10 (Gladio, the culture of fear)	59
Appendix 11 (Russia-hating Britain)	60
Appendix 12 (Sanctions, BRICS)	61
Appendix 13 (Georgia, FARA)	62
Appendix 14 (Plato)	63
Appendix 15 (The corona-pandemic, 2020-2022)	63
Appendix 16 (Syria)	65
Appendix 17 (Watergate scandal)	66

INTRODUCTION

The West's pouring money and weapons into the notoriously corrupt state of Ukraine is bad enough; its continual edging toward war with Russia and possibly a third World War is infinitely worse—except of course for the ultimate recipients of that largess: a coterie of politicians and generals in Ukraine, and on a far larger scale, the West's military-industrial complex.

Well, not in my name! I am far too old not to recognize persistent propaganda about “demon Putin¹, the new Hitler”² or about “the heroic struggle of Ukraine for our democracy against autocracy” for the absurd nonsense it is, even though it is staring me in the face in every edition of the daily papers and in countless documentaries on television. But, as the American journalist H.L. Mencken noted, “A newspaper is a device for making the ignorant more ignorant and the crazy crazier.”³ Television only exacerbates the problem. Newspapers and television are perfect propaganda vehicles for shaping the opinions of the convenience junkies that so many Westerners have become. Why try to produce your own considered opinion about a topic in the news, when you can get one that is ready-made and apparently shared by seemingly countless experts? “If it's good enough for them, it's good enough for me.”

For all their pretensions as the leaders of “representative democracies”, I did not authorize any Belgian or European politicians to reduce Europe to little more than a tourist destination, littered with military bases, on the Atlantic coast of the Eurasian continent. Bear in mind that Russia is essentially a European country that stretches from Saint Petersburg on the Baltic Sea to Vladivostok on the western coast of the Pacific Ocean. By joining in the American economic sanctions war against Russia, the European Union cut itself (and its population) off from that vast hinterland, rich in natural resources of all kinds. I certainly did not authorize any of the current bunch of “really, really stupid”⁴ European politicians who claim to represent me to do “all it takes, for as long as it takes” to satisfy the lust of the corporate elite of fabulously wealthy Western oligarchs⁵ for complete control of the Earth's

¹ Shortly after his inauguration, in January 2021, US President Biden called Putin “a killer without a soul” (edition.cnn.com/2021/03/18/europe/biden-putin-killer-comment-russia-reaction-intl/index.html). Previously he had accused his predecessor Donald Trump of lacking “diplomatic skills”. In an article in the Washington Post (March 6th, 2014, after the Maidan coup in Kiev), Henry Kissinger had stated: “For the West, the demonization of Vladimir Putin is not a policy: it is an alibi for the absence of one.” For an assessment of Putin's place in Russian history, see e.g., Vladimir Brovkin, *From Vladimir Lenin to Vladimir Putin – Russia 1913-2023 in Search of Its Identity* (2023).

² E.g., youtube.com/live/bdYwX8AwD4A (Canadian shill for the Western oligarchy Diane Francis: “Hitler is the new Hitler”); admin.epp.eu/files/uploads/2024/05/Ursula-von-der-Leyen-Speech-at-European-Economic-Congress-Katowice-7-May-2024.pdf: “Putin wants a return of empires and authoritarians ruling our continent and its people. And this is not an imagined or theoretical threat – it is an open and stated aim” (EU Commission's Ursula von der Leyen in Katowice, May 2024.) Evidence for this outrageous claim? None – but Biden said it, so it must be true.

³ H.L. Mencken, *A Mencken Chrestomathy* (1949, reprint 1967), p.625

⁴ Internationally renowned policy advisor and economist Jeffrey Sachs's assessment of the likes of Ursula von der Leyen, Josep Borrell, Charles Michel, Jens Stoltenberg, Emmanuel Macron, Rishi Sunak, Annalena Baerbock, and Estonia's hysterical Kaja Kallas (the mouse that roared “Russia must be destroyed”): see youtube.com/watch?v=c-gIFpYWPuA&t=1192s

⁵ The likes of Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates, Michael Bloomberg, David Rockefeller, Mark Zuckerberg, George Soros, Jamie Dimon, Larry Fink, the Koch brothers and countless less known global movers and shakers – see Appendix 1 (Oligarchy)

natural resources. That – not Ukrainian independence or democracy – is ultimately what the war in Ukraine is all about: control of all reserves of oil, coal, gas, base and rare metals, and all fertile lands on the planet,⁶ even if it means getting rid of all principles of morality, international law, also democracy and free trade. In the past, the opportunistic, centrifugal tendencies of the last two, democracy and trade, were hemmed in by commitments and moral obligations that precede choice: to family, community, homeland, ancestors and descendants, and beyond these, to God or some equivalent set of transcendent truths. But the “progressive West” has now completely repudiated these ancient obligations and commitments, thereby destroying any remaining link between people’s private and public lives. Instead, the West’s oligarchy demands unconditional commitment to its programme of “unipolar hegemony” – a concept that is wholly predicated on overwhelming, effectively irresistible force. Adulation of force, not reason, is now the West’s official religion.

On April 9th 2024, during a press conference in Washington, British Minister of Foreign Affairs David Cameron congratulated his American host, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, saying, “I argue that [the war in Ukraine] is extremely good value for money for the United States and for others. For about five or 10% of your defence budget almost half of Russia’s pre-war military equipment has been destroyed, without the loss of a single American life. This is an investment in US security.”⁷ Of course, ‘US security’ is a euphemism for ‘US hegemony’. Is war-profiteering the bottom line of the West’s Ukraine policy? Well, again, not in my name: The Dracula philosophy “More blood!” is not for me, even if it is made to rhyme with “More loot!”⁸

Already more than fifty years ago, the American economist and outstanding authority on international economics, Michael Hudson, had called attention to the policy he called ‘American super imperialism’⁹. At the time, the US was the undisputed “factory of the world”, as its industries had escaped the ravages of the Second World War. The dollar was the reserve currency of most industrial and trading nations. However, to meet the needs of its industries, the US needed control of far more natural resources (including human labour) than it actually had on its own soil. It also needed to make sure that it retained its virtual monopoly on global manufacturing by compelling other nations “to buy American” or at least to accept direct American capital investment (which gives American corporations ownership and the right to appropriate the profits of other nations’ production capabilities). Imposing its doctrine of technological and industrial “intellectual property rights”, the US attempted to generate a stream of income from “royalties” and “licence fees” on almost all advanced technologies in use anywhere in the world. Its dollar hegemony allowed the US to control international flows of trade and credit, to build up its redoubtable

⁶ See Glenn Diesen, *The Ukrainian War and the Eurasian World Order* (2024)

⁷ unherd.com/newsroom/david-cameron-ukraine-war-good-value-for-money-us/ That almost half of Russia’s pre-war military equipment has been destroyed is, of course, a propagandistic fantasy. Certainly in the contemporary West, politicians lie—it is what they get rewarded for by the oligarchy they serve.

⁸ lewrockwell.com/2024/06/no_author/ukraine-is-a-gold-mine-us-senator/

⁹ Michael Hudson, *Super Imperialism – The Origin and Fundamentals of U.S. World Dominance* (1972, revised edition 2003, third edition, *Super Imperialism – The strategy of American Empire*, 2021); also *Killing the Host: How financial parasites and debt bondage destroy the global economy* (2015). The military-industrial complex had become the centrepiece of the American economy under Franklin D. Roosevelt (r.1933-1945), see Appendix 2 (Roosevelt; the military-industrial complex)

military-industrial complex to police its trade agreements to the advantage of American corporations, and to exclude non-compliant nations (the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, later also Russia and Iran) from meaningful participation in the US-dominated “global market”. For the American media, a country's non-compliance with American designs is enough to include it in a fictional “Axis of Evil”.

The policy was never wholly successful. Super imperialism could not avoid the trap of old-style colonizing imperialism-by-military-occupation: In the longer run, dependence on the imperial periphery weakens the imperial centre. This is especially true, if a major source of income for the centre is the sale of advanced weaponry to the periphery—even today, the US and its European allies continue to be the primary weapons factories of the world. However, as other nations began to develop their own industrial base and to resent the overbearing “ugly Americans”¹⁰ and their disdain for international law, the overt or covert role of military power in the American foreign policy mix had to increase in order to defeat opponents before they would gain sufficient strength to openly defy American dictates. However, with its impressive fleets of aircraft carriers, submarines and strategic bombers, all armed with nuclear weapons, American military hegemony seemed assured. No place on Earth, no trade route over the seas was out of range of American firepower.

The US-instigated war in Ukraine against Russia is an example of the dependency of the imperial centre on its periphery. Following the disappearance of the Soviet Union in 1991, the US had tried to add Russia “on the cheap” to its periphery of vassal nations. However, from 1999 onward, the second Russian President, Vladimir Putin, had achieved remarkable success in restoring his country after the chaos it had descended into under his predecessor, Boris Yeltsin (r.1991-1999). Moreover, Putin had done so without selling out his country to Western corporations, thereby denying them control of Russia's vast stocks of natural resources. For the Americans, such defiance of the imperatives of super imperialism required a firm response – if not yet a direct war with Russia then a war-by-proxy on Russia's doorsteps. All they needed was an excuse. They got it in February 2022.

1. RUSSIA'S SPECIAL MILITARY OPERATION IN UKRAINE

On the 24th of February 2022, the Russian Federation began its “special military operation” (SMO) in Ukraine. Earlier in the month, the American media, informed by contacts in the Biden administration and its extensive national security complex, had predicted, “Putin will invade Ukraine on the 16th of February”. They got the date wrong. More importantly, they got the nature of the SMO wrong.¹¹ Russian President Vladimir Putin had defined the aims of the SMO as “demilitarisation and de-Nazification of Ukraine, and putting an end to the eight-year long war waged by the regime in Kiev, the

¹⁰ The Ugly American is the title of a 1958 novel by Eugene Burdick and William Lederer about the ineptness of American diplomats in Southeast Asia. Hugely popular, it motivated President J.F. Kennedy to attempt to restore America's international prestige (e.g., by organizing a Peace Corps of idealistic youths). See also Graham Greene's *The Quiet American* (1955) and the movies it inspired (1958, with Audie Murphy and Michael Redgrave; 2002, with Brendan Fraser and Michael Caine); and strategic-culture.su/news/2024/06/18/usaid-velvet-glove-for-fist-us-global-power/

¹¹ Michael Hudson has called the SMO a “preemptive defense of the two Eastern Ukrainian provinces” against “a blitzkrieg Western Ukrainian attack organized by U.S. advisors and armed by NATO” (michael-hudson.com/2022/04/the-dollar-devours-the-euro/)

capital of Ukraine, against the Russian-speaking people of the Donbas region in Ukraine”. Kiev had started its war against the Donbas provinces (Lugansk and Donetsk)¹² in February 2014 to squash their opposition to the Maidan coup of February 2014. At that time, protests on Maidan Square in Kiev led to a sudden regime change in Ukraine. The change ended Ukraine's traditional status as a neutral country having good relations with both Russia and Western Europe. In protest, the Donbas provinces, which border on Russia, revolted and some units of the Ukrainian Army defected to defend the people of Lugansk and Donetsk against the new regime in Kiev.

By February 2022, Kiev's nearly continuous shelling, sometimes with cluster bombs¹³, of the Donbas, Donetsk city in particular, had killed already at least 14,000 people, more than 10,000 of them civilians. The shelling continues to this day. On at least one occasion, in August 2022, the centre of Donetsk was seeded with “petal mines” – small, butterfly-shaped mines that look like toys and would be likely to be picked up by children.¹⁴ On other occasions, the Ukrainian army used the double-tap tactic of bombing a location and then bombing it again half an hour later, when rescue workers have arrived on the scene. Such incidents were not reported in the Western media, although there was video evidence from local reports in English on alternative media. Such reports were invariably labelled ‘Russian propaganda’.¹⁵

The SMO was not an invasion of, or an attack on, Ukraine. Russia continued to supply oil and gas to the country, which acted as a major transit route for supplying energy to Western Europe. Moreover, Putin kept referring to the ethnic¹⁶ Ukrainians as brothers, not enemies. The reference left out the few traditionally Roman Catholic western parts of Ukraine where neither Ukrainian nor Russian was spoken before the rise of the Soviet Union in the wake of WWI, the First World War (1914-1918). Putin is often quoted as saying that the dissolution of the Soviet Union (in 1991) was a mistake, but the quotes usually leave out that he added that one must be out of one's mind, if one believes that the Soviet Union could or should be restored. For Putin, the dissolution of the Soviet Union had been a mistake because it disturbed the balance of power, which had been essential to the world's long “Cold-War peace” after WWII, the Second World War (1940-0945); also, because it left the regions along the south-eastern border of the Russian Federation (in particular in the Northern Caucasus) hard to defend against intrusions. Russia shares borders with more countries than any other state (16 vs 2 for the US). Accordingly, it focuses on diplomacy, not war. Putin's great concern was, and is, that modern Ukraine, a product of Soviet times, would become a vassal state of the US and – as all American vassal states are – a military base and tool for

¹² Western media coverage of the war in Donbas was slight. One had to turn to local social media to appreciate its impact on the people living in the region

¹³ [nytimes.com/2014/10/21/world/ukraine-used-cluster-bombs-report-charges.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/21/world/ukraine-used-cluster-bombs-report-charges.html)

¹⁴ See observers.france24.com/en/europe/20220817-ukraine-russia-donetsk-petal-butterfly-antipersonnel-mines;

¹⁵ Wikipedia has a page “Russian information war against Ukraine”; of course, it has no page “Western|American|British|NATO|EU information war against Russia”; it lauds the openly anti-Russian Bellingcat group, which claims to practice “open source journalism” (or, if you prefer, open source propaganda): selective, one-sided collages of texts, images, videos it finds on social-media. It is particularly adept at securing funding, endorsements and awards from Western media, and political and military intelligence establishments (e.g., the Dutch “National Lottery”, NATO's Atlantic Council, the CIA).

¹⁶ I use the term ‘ethnic’ for convenience only, as there is neither a distinct original Russian nor a distinct original Ukrainian ethnicity – see Appendix 3 (Ethnic Ukrainians)

securing American hegemony.

In any case, the size of the Russian forces that crossed the Ukrainian border on the 24th of February 2022, less than 200,000 soldiers¹⁷, was not nearly enough to conduct an invasion, let alone an occupation of the vast territory of the by then heavily militarized Ukraine and its at least 400,000 strong army.¹⁸ Moreover, the manner in which they were deployed – e.g., long lines of tanks, with no protection of their flanks and no air support – defied almost every rule in the manuals of warfare. In fact, with the SMO, Moscow was sending a clear message to Kiev: “If you want to avoid a war, now is the time to negotiate about a solution to the deteriorating security situation of the Russian-speaking Ukrainians and the accelerating radicalization and militarization of Ukraine at the behest of the United States of America. These developments have gone too far. They have crossed the red lines that we have laid down already in 2007¹⁹ and insisted on ever since – only to be ignored by our American partners²⁰.”

The Russian stratagem seemed to work. Kiev panicked and the Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelensky agreed to negotiations with Russia. Mediated by the Israeli Prime Minister, Naftali Bennett, they were to be held in Istanbul, Turkey. Accordingly, the Russian troops stopped their advances, outside the Donbas and Crimea. They had accomplished their mission—or so Moscow thought. Whether the Russian General Staff agreed with this assessment, I have no way of knowing. It took Putin some time to admit that the conflict would be decided on the battlefield, not by diplomacy.

While preparations for the meetings in Turkey were in progress, the Biden administration in Washington decided to step up America's long-standing military and financial support to the rabidly anti-Russian, post-Maidan regime in Kiev and to order NATO to play an active role in an undeclared war on Russia. The United Kingdom, the most heavily militarized European NATO member, was to spearhead Operation Ukraine. Accordingly, on April 9th 2022, Boris Johnson, the British prime minister, flew to Kiev²¹ and promised Zelensky unlimited military and financial support from NATO countries on the condition that Kiev fight the Russians to the end – as observers noted, “to the last Ukrainian”. Boris Johnson's message to the leaders in Kiev was unambiguous: “Sacrifice your country, its population and economic infrastructure, and we'll make you stupendously rich.” It was an offer the opportunistic, money-grabbing Zelensky²² and his entourage of former

¹⁷ In 1941, Nazi Germany deployed 200,000 soldiers to take just one fortified military base in Sevastopol (on Crimea). It is a generally accepted rule of thumb that a successful attempt to invade and conquer requires a force that is roughly three times as numerous as the defending force is. By that rule, Russia would have had to deploy more than a million troops, if it had the intention to invade and occupy Ukraine.

¹⁸ At the time, the US was already training Ukrainian ultranationalist militias to fight the Russians (see [yahoo.com/news/cia-trained-ukrainian-paramilitaries-may-take-central-role-if-russia-invades-185258008.html](https://www.yahoo.com/news/cia-trained-ukrainian-paramilitaries-may-take-central-role-if-russia-invades-185258008.html): “January 13th, 2022 – One person familiar with the program [of training Ukrainian paramilitary forces] put it more bluntly. ‘The United States is training an insurgency,’ said a former CIA official, adding that the program has taught the Ukrainians how ‘to kill Russians’.”

¹⁹ Putin's February 10th speech at the 2007 Munich Conference on Security in Europe: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQ58Yv6kP44>

²⁰ Putin, who had always sought good political and economic relations with the West, even to the point of considering Russian membership in NATO, would cease to use the term ‘Western partners’ in 2022, when he finally realized that good relations with Russia were not on the American agenda.

²¹ [bbc.com/news/uk-61052643](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61052643)

²² According to a message on Telegram (22/2/2022, 12:28) by Illia Kyva, a Ukrainian

colleagues in the entertainment business, Ukrainian oligarchs and ultranationalist militia leaders in Kiev could not refuse. They were prepared to suspend whatever remained of the rule of law and democracy, and to sell the entire population of Ukraine as cannon fodder to their Western allies. For the latter, the Ukraine crisis was the ultimate opportunity to bring about regime change in Moscow (“get rid of Putin”) and turn Russia into yet another vassal state of Washington. The Western media chose not to mention that internal Russian opposition to Putin came mostly from those who reproached him for being “too soft on the West”; and that “pro-West” opposition was virtually non-existent. In other words, the West's ultimate goal was not to bring an existing opposition party to power in Russia, but to impose a regime of Western stooges on the country (as it was in the process of doing in Ukraine).

In April 2023, Jens Stoltenberg, the Secretary-general of NATO, conceded that Ukraine was the scene of a war between NATO and Russia. This was meant to convince sceptical populations in the West that the rapidly increasing NATO involvement in the conflict was justified: “Russia is a threat to Western Europe”. This blatant lie was also an admission of the fact that, for NATO, Ukraine was but a tool, a weapon, to be used against Russia. It did not justify the refusal to negotiate with Russia—but NATO had never been meant to negotiate; its mission was to take orders from Washington. The war in Ukraine stood revealed as an undeclared war of the US and its European NATO lapdogs against Russia.

The West still hoped to achieve its aims without becoming an actual boots-on-the-ground belligerent, mainly by imposing extensive economic sanctions on Russia and whoever continued to trade with Russia in defiance of those sanctions. It thought the operation would be a cinch, given that Russia's GDP was about 4% of the GDP of the NATO countries and its defence budget only about 7% of the defence budget of the entire NATO bloc. Of course, Russia's GDP consists mostly of the value of real-goods-producing industrial and agricultural activities, whereas Western GDP is mostly financial wealth (i.e. “wealth on paper”, from transactions in the financial and other service sectors, which do not produce but consume real – mostly imported – goods). On a purchasing-power-parity basis, Russia is the second largest (and growing) economy in Europe, after Germany (which is declining).²³

When Russia realized that its gambit of forcing Ukraine to the negotiation table had failed, it withdrew its troops from the area around Kiev to the eastern parts of the country – to regroup and reorganize for a long campaign of attrition to wear down the Ukrainian military and ultimately de-militarize Ukraine. The Western media, egged on by nostalgic imperialist, warmongering academic shills such as Niall Ferguson, reported this withdrawal as a Russian defeat, a sign that Russia was weak, and that Ukraine was bound to win. This utterly ridiculous interpretation of the events on the ground served to make the Western public believe that Western financial aid to Ukraine and sanctions against Russia were effective and justified, because they would quickly end the war. In reality, they would prolong it, cost hundreds of thousands of lives, and

opposition parliamentarian, Zelensky had amassed a personal fortune of more than a billion dollars (off-shore accounts and real estate abroad). It confirmed what had been known about Zelensky's finances since the publication of the Pandora Papers by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists in late 2021.

²³ IMF report, April 2024: [imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2024/04/16/world-economic-outlook-april-2024](https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2024/04/16/world-economic-outlook-april-2024)

convince Moscow that negotiations with Kiev were useless, because Kiev stood revealed as a mere puppet of the US-led NATO bloc. To the Russians, only negotiations with Washington made sense—but Washington refused to negotiate. To make matters worse, US foreign policy was officially in the hands of a mentally less than acute gerontocrat (President Joe Biden), his Secretary of State (Anthony Blinken) and his National Security Advisor (Jacob Sullivan).²⁴ Also the EU's chief of diplomacy, the Spanish neo-socialist Josep Borrell, constantly called for escalating the war. It is likely that he was given that important post, because of his hatred of Russia.²⁵

Thus, from April 2022 onward, the West took the lead in escalating the conflict in Ukraine by adamantly refusing negotiations with Russia, imposing ever more “economic sanctions” on Russia and its allies, and delivering increasingly advanced weaponry (and the “advisors” to operate and maintain them) to the war hawks in Kiev. At the same time, it condoned Kiev's curtailments of basic civil rights (freedom of the press and association²⁶, due process, the right to migrate²⁷) and cheered its attacks on Russian territory (e.g., on the city of Belgorod²⁸, where the attacks started already on April 1st 2022).

Moscow's aim was to demilitarize Ukraine, not to wage war on its population. Accordingly, the Russian army was extremely careful not to hit civilian targets, until these had been turned into command posts of or zones occupied by Ukrainian divisions, or into “human shields” (e.g., in Mariupol). Russia's war of attrition against the Ukrainian military was unexpectedly helped by Kiev's policy of continually sending troops to defend indefensible positions on the frontline – a policy that cost tens of thousands of mainly Ukrainian lives and could only be rationalized as a means to get more financial and military aid from the West.²⁹ Meanwhile, Kiev continued to shell urban centres in Donetsk from its heavily fortified frontline – with no protest from Washington, Brussels or the Western media.

Policy makers in the West committed virtually all of their debt-ridden countries³⁰ to deliver billions of dollars and thousands of tons of weapons and ammunition to ensure that the notorious gangs of politicians and oligarchs in Kiev would use the Ukrainian population as cannon fodder in an effort to

²⁴ Blinken and Sullivan are typical “Washington insiders” with no real-world diplomatic achievements at all

²⁵ See politico.eu/article/josep-borrell-europe-undiplomatic-envoy/, an article dated June 30th 2019, nearly three years before the start of the SMO.

²⁶ newsweek.com/zelensky-accused-censorship-over-ukraine-media-law-1770958 ; also npr.org/2022/07/08/1110577439/zelenskyy-has-consolidated-ukraines-tv-outlets-and-dissolved-rival-political-parties

²⁷ See e.g., visitukraine.today/blog/4067/men-permanently-residing-abroad-can-no-longer-leave-ukraine-as-of-june-1-details

²⁸ In May 2024, the freely distributed English tabloid Metro.co.uk claimed that most missiles that hit Belgorod were fired by Russia itself. The message: Russia is a gang that can't shoot straight (except, of course, when it “deliberately targets” civilian infrastructure in Ukraine). See (metro.co.uk/2024/05/14/putin-keeps-bombing-citizens-mistake-20839607/)

²⁹ Eventually, the policy caused a rift between the politicians in Kiev and the military command which led to the dismissal of General Zaluzhny.

³⁰ At the end of April 2024, the US government debt alone stood at more than 34.4 *trillion* dollars, i.e. more than \$100,000 per capita (children included), and more than \$250,000 per taxpayer (usdebtclock.org/). This debt cannot be repaid. Inevitably, liquidation of the debt burden will wipe out either the debtor (the US Government) or the entire class of its domestic and foreign creditors – unless of course the big debtors and creditors figure out a way to make third parties pay. To ensure the latter outcome, the US is increasingly engaging in overt and covert wars to acquire control of natural resources all over the globe to appease friendly nations, which its policies threaten to bankrupt, if they do not go along with US adventurism.

destabilize and bring about regime change in Russia – or at least, to enable the US to station nuclear and, perhaps, bioweapons³¹ on the Russian-Ukrainian border, within a few minutes of flying time to Moscow. Let us not forget that, twenty years earlier, in September 2002, British prime minister, Tony Blair, had enticed his country into participation in the second American onslaught on Iraq, in 2003, by spreading the lie that Saddam Hussein had “weapons of mass destruction that would be ready to be used (against British troops in Cyprus) within 45 minutes of being ordered to do so”. Let us also not forget that, sixty years earlier, in 1962, the “Cuban missile crisis” had erupted, when the Soviet leader, Nikita Khrushchev, began to send nuclear weapons to Cuba in response to the US's placement of nuclear weapons on the Russian-Turkish border. The Cuban missile crisis was quickly resolved in negotiations between Khrushchev and President John F. Kennedy over strong objections of the American military and their friends in the Congress.³² It is widely believed that Kennedy was murdered, in 1963, for his willingness to negotiate rather than to deploy the full strength of America's formidable military arsenal.

So far, the US is the only state that has actually used nuclear weapons against civilian targets (Hiroshima, Nagasaki, 1945). When President Obama abandoned the post-WWII commitment “to use nuclear weapons only in retaliation to a nuclear attack”, the US launched a new arms race in developing “tactical” nukes: “Biden has decided not to follow through on his 2020 pledge to declare that the sole purpose of nuclear weapons is to deter a nuclear attack against the United States or its allies. Instead, he approved a version of a policy from the Obama administration that leaves open the option to use nuclear weapons not only in retaliation to a nuclear attack, but also to respond to non-nuclear threats.”³³ Also in the post-WWII period, the US used chemical weapons on a large scale (“Agent Orange”, in Vietnam, 1961-1971; “white phosphorous ammunition”, in Fallujah, Iraq, 2004). In this, the US followed the British example set during the UK's campaign against Malaysian independence (1948-1960): use herbicides to defoliate entire regions, destroy food crops – never mind the health effects on the local populations. Earlier, Winston Churchill (then head of the War office), had launched a chemical-weapons program for use against rebel forces in Iraq, in 1920, but the program ran into severe technical difficulties. It is a matter of debate whether the weapons were actually used.³⁴

The USA may be – as Gore Vidal put it – the *Unites States of Amnesia*. Certainly, amnesia is an affliction that has become endemic also in the Western

³¹ In June 2022, the US Department of Defense admitted US funding and other collaborative support for 46 “peaceful Ukrainian biological labs”—but what does the Pentagon mean by ‘peaceful’? ([defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3057517/fact-sheet-on-wmd-threat-reduction-efforts-with-ukraine-russia-and-other-former-Soviet-Republics](https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3057517/fact-sheet-on-wmd-threat-reduction-efforts-with-ukraine-russia-and-other-former-Soviet-Republics)) – see also [lewrockwell.com/2022/03/no_author/kyiv-regime-sought-to-scrub-evidence-of-pentagon-backed-biowarfare-programme-russian-mod-reveals/](https://www.lewrockwell.com/2022/03/no_author/kyiv-regime-sought-to-scrub-evidence-of-pentagon-backed-biowarfare-programme-russian-mod-reveals/); [greenwald.substack.com/p/victoria-nuland-ukraine-has-biological/](https://www.greenwald.substack.com/p/victoria-nuland-ukraine-has-biological/); also [greatgameindia.com/list-americans-bioweapons-biolabs-ukraine/](https://www.greatgameindia.com/list-americans-bioweapons-biolabs-ukraine/); [globaltimes.cn/page/202203/1254330.shtml](https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202203/1254330.shtml); and [ibtimes.sg/hunter-bidens-emails-show-he-actually-helped-fund-bioweapons-lab-ukraine-63594](https://www.ibtimes.sg/hunter-bidens-emails-show-he-actually-helped-fund-bioweapons-lab-ukraine-63594)

³² See M.J. Sherwin, *Gambling with Armageddon* (2020); pages 22-28 of Sherwin's book provide details of the action of Captain Vasily Alexandrovich Arkhipov that forestalled actual nuclear war in October 1962. Another Russian, Lt. Col. Stanislav Petrov, prevented nuclear war in 1983 (see [globalresearch.ca/event-41-years-ago/5860515](https://www.globalresearch.ca/event-41-years-ago/5860515); also the film *The Man Who Saved the World*, 2014, with Petrov himself and Kevin Costner)

³³ [armscontrol.org/act/2022-04/news/biden-policy-allows-first-use-nuclear-weapons](https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2022-04/news/biden-policy-allows-first-use-nuclear-weapons) :

³⁴ See Güneş Murat Tezcür & Doreen Horschig, “A conditional norm: chemical warfare from colonialism to contemporary civil wars”. *Third World Quarterly* (2020), 42 (2): 366–384.

media. However, only a complete idiot will assume that Russian diplomacy is fooled by the West's addiction to constantly re-writing and sanitizing its long, long history of lies, atrocities and war crimes.

It is essential to remember that one word – one! – from the Kievan government would have eliminated the need for the SMO. That word was ‘neutrality’. If Ukraine had been prepared to guarantee continuation of its neutral military status then that would have satisfied Moscow. Diplomacy and trade would have remained the basic modes of interaction between the two countries. However, a neutral Ukraine was not what Washington wanted. On March 10th 1952, the Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin, proposed to reunify East and West Germany under a policy of neutrality, with no conditions on economic policies and with guarantees for the rights of man (basic freedoms of speech, press, religious persuasion, political conviction and assembly, and regular free elections).³⁵ The NATO powers declined the proposal. They wanted West-Germany inside the NATO bloc, to use it as a strategic asset in their ideological war on the Communist USSR. NATO was never about defending Western Europe against a military attack. From the start, it was an offensive alliance to extend Washington's sphere of influence.

Already during the eight years between the Maidan coup in Kiev in February 2014 and the start of the SMO in February 2022, Russia had consistently sought to resolve the Donbas question by diplomatic means (the so-called Minsk agreements of 2014 and 2015³⁶), only to be thwarted at each step by the policies of the regime in Kiev and its backers, the US and its European vassals. Kiev chose to believe the West's promise of money and weapons and its assertion that Moscow was too weak to dare to oppose Ukrainian actions with anything more than words. So, the leaders in Kiev, misled by the West³⁷, thought neutrality was beneath their dignity. But Moscow was not nearly as weak the Western propaganda proclaimed it was. As independent military experts and experienced former diplomats and ambassadors³⁸ had warned from the start, Ukraine was embarking on the road to perdition. No matter which party would win the West's war against Russia, Ukraine would lose – and lose badly. By the end of 2022, Ukraine was a failed state, totally dependent on foreign financial and material support, which in turn depended on the most intensive campaign of war propaganda in the Western media since the two world wars of the twentieth century.

³⁵ See e.g., Rolf Steininger, *The German Question: the Stalin Note of 1952 and the Problem of Reunification* (1990).

³⁶ Full text in *Financial Times*: [ft.com/content/21b8f98e-b2a5-11e4-b234-00144feab7de](https://www.ft.com/content/21b8f98e-b2a5-11e4-b234-00144feab7de)

³⁷ Jacques Baud, *The Russian art of war: How the West led Ukraine to defeat* (2024)

³⁸ To name just a few of the best known: former UN Weapons inspector in Iraq, Scott Ritter; Lt. Colonel Daniel Davis; former advisor to the President Colonel Douglas MacGregor; CIA veterans Larry C. Johnson and Ray McGovern; Andrei Martyanov, an expert on Russian military affairs; Swiss Army Colonel Jacques Baud—just make sure to view their many articles and interviews on the WWW, not their biographies on Wikipedia (which is part of the Western mainstream media and a leader in the inane policy of labelling critics of oligarch-friendly US policy as “conspiracy theorists” or “Putin lovers”). However, reputable establishment academics (e.g., political scientist John Mearsheimer, economist Jeffrey Sachs ([brighteon.com/b8cf1a8d-ff17-4e79-b874-ad5f17ca715b](https://www.brighteon.com/b8cf1a8d-ff17-4e79-b874-ad5f17ca715b))), historian Emmanuel Todd (*La Défaite de l'Occident*, 2024) have also harshly criticized the West's Ukraine policy and castigated its leadership (from Biden and his neo-conservative entourage down to the foreign policy establishments of the UK and the EU) for its ineptness, arrogance and lack of understanding of geopolitical realities. Former US Congressman Ron Paul speaks of the Vietnamization of Ukraine: Ron Paul: ronpaulinstitute.org/the-vietnamization-of-ukraine/

In December 2021, Russia had made a final proposal for comprehensive negotiations with the West to provide a stable “security architecture” in Europe, in the form of a *Treaty between the USA and the RF on security guarantees*.³⁹ Although Russia underlined the urgency of the proposal by organizing joint Russian-Belorussian military manoeuvres near the Ukrainian border, Washington ignored it just as it had ignored all previous Russian requests for a diplomatic settlement of the lingering security concerns in Europe. With their rejection of the proposal, the Americans knew full well that they would precipitate a Russian military operation against Ukraine. They did not care. American policy makers stuck to their conviction that Putin is all talk and no action, and that Russia is not even a country but “a gas station masquerading as a country”⁴⁰ – an obvious and deliberate affront to the Russians' sense of pride in their own history as the saviours of the West, first, by stopping the Mongol assaults of the thirteenth century⁴¹; then, in the fifteenth century, in saving Christianity, when the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople (the last capital of the Roman Empire and the seat of Christianity's main Patriarchate east of Rome); and ultimately in defeating Nazism.

On February 7th 2022, more than two weeks before the start of the SMO, the Biden White House announced that the NordStream 2 pipeline (NS2) from Russia through the Baltic Sea to Germany would be destroyed, if the Russians attacked Ukraine.⁴² The announcement was a direct, intentional provocation of Russia. The American plan, approved by the notoriously weak German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, was to continue the weaponization of Ukraine. It assumed that Russia would be unable and unwilling to stop this, because she was supposed to have a greater interest in the pipeline than in her national security. However, that was a gross miscalculation. When in September 2022 the pipeline was indeed blown up (according to veteran investigative journalist Seymour Hersch⁴³ by a taskforce of American secret agents and elements within the Norwegian navy), it was already clear that Russia depended much less on NS2 than Germany did.

While the media constantly repeated the lie that the Russian SMO was “an unprovoked attack”, practically all independent observers and analysts of international and geopolitical affairs agreed that the West was to blame for the war in Ukraine. However, some continued to pander to the West's claim that Russia's action on February 24th 2022 was “inexcusable”. That claim would have some plausibility, if those who made it would explain what else Putin could have done that he had not done countless times before: shake his head in resignation, bear the West's arrogant aggressiveness with equanimity and hope for a return to sanity, or at least a sense of reality, in the Western capitals.

³⁹ mid.ru/ru/foreign_policy/rso/nato/1790818, also on comw.org/pda/fulltext/Russian-Dec-2021-Draft-Treaty-on-security-issues.pdf; Moscow was well aware that negotiations with the European Union were useless, because the EU had become a supine lackey of the US in military geopolitical affairs

⁴⁰ US Senator John McCain, after a visit to Ukraine in 2014

⁴¹ The Mongol invasion was the last attack on Russia from the East. All later assaults came from Western empire builders (Napoleon I, Adolf Hitler, and now the American policy establishment, using NATO and the EU as vehicles of aggression)

⁴² See reuters.com/world/biden-germanys-scholz-stress-unified-front-against-any-russian-aggression-toward-2022-02-07/

⁴³ See Appendix 4 (NordStream 2)

2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

From the beginning of the SMO in late February 2022, it was immediately obvious that the Western mainstream media – newspapers, magazines, radio and television – were committed to an extremely partisan and skewed view of a country, Ukraine, that until then was known mostly for its systemic corruption, its tumultuous political scene and the prominence of an extremely nationalistic and xenophobic Nazi-like ideology among large segments of its population. By then, the anti-Russian bias of the Western media had been well-established in its repeated publication of never substantiated accusations of “Putin ordering the murder of political opponents”.⁴⁴

The media portrayal of the conflict obfuscated the fact that, except for a few months at the end of World War I⁴⁵, the historic region now called ‘Ukraine’ had never been an independent entity before 1991. It had been a part of the Russian Empire ever since the days of the Empress Catherine the Great (r.1762-1796), a German princess who had acceded to the throne in Moscow and continued and intensified the policy of Westernization begun under the Emperor Peter the Great (r.1682-1725). About a third of the territory of what is now considered the Republic of Ukraine had been known as Novorossiia (“New Russia”) from 1764 to 1917.⁴⁶ In 1917, the communist Bolsheviks took power in Russia and created the Soviet Union by imposing the Western ideology of Marxism on the whole of the former Tsarist Empire. Novorossiia included most of Ukraine's large urban centres.⁴⁷ Consequently, by the early twentieth century, Russia and Ukraine had come to share a common religion (Eastern Orthodox Catholicism⁴⁸), a common language (Russian) and a common, typically Western bourgeois “high culture” of art, literature, music and science. However, in the predominantly rural areas of central Ukraine and among Ukrainians residing in Roman Catholic Poland, the Russian influence was far less pronounced. Those were the areas where Ukrainian ultra-nationalism would flourish.

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

For the greater part of the twentieth century, Ukraine had been a part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (the USSR, a.k.a. the Soviet Union, capital city: Moscow). Like the Soviet Union as a whole, it was committed to a political system with a purely Western ideology, Marxist-Leninist Communism. The map of Ukraine that is ubiquitous in today's media coverage is, in fact, the map of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (hereafter

⁴⁴ E.g., the case of Sergei and Yulia Skripal; see Appendix 11 (Russia-hating Britain)

⁴⁵ Under Pavlo Skoropadskiy: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pavlo_Skoropadskiy

⁴⁶ At the time, other European nations already had their “New England”, “New France” and “New Spain”—but these were overseas, not neighbouring territories.

⁴⁷ All the major cities in eastern and southern Ukraine were founded by Russia (a.o. Kherson, Mariupol, Melitopol, Zaporizhzhia, Odessa, Sevastopol). Within the cities, Russians and Jews were by far the two largest ethnic groups.

⁴⁸ In the year 800, Charlemagne, the King of the Franks, had himself crowned Emperor in Rome by the Roman pontiff, Leo III, promising to act as the defender of the Church in the West. His coronation meant a repudiation of the claims of the Byzantine emperors as the sole defenders of the Christian faith. It drove a wedge between Rome and Constantinople, not only politically but eventually also theologically. The tensions between Eastern and Western Orthodox Catholicism mounted until, in 1054, they led to a rupture, the Great Schism. When Constantinople fell to Turks, in 1453, Moscow became the capital of Eastern Orthodox Christianity.

UkrSSR, capital city: Kiev). The UkrSSR had been concocted in the 1920s, in the wake of the First World War, by V.I. Lenin out of debris of the collapsed Austro-Hungarian and Russian (Tsarist) Empires. The eastern part (Donbas, “the basin of the Don river”) had been the territory of the Don Cossacks. The Cossacks had been defeated by Bolshevik revolutionary forces, who assigned Donbas to the UkrSSR. Under Joseph Stalin, the successor of Lenin, the 1939 partition of Poland between Germany and the USSR added new territories to the UkrSSR. After WWII, the Soviet Union – then an ally of the US, England and France – acquired more territories on its western Ukrainian flank. In 1954, Stalin's successor, Nikita Khrushchev (r.1953-1964), transferred the civil administration of the Crimean SSR to the Ukrainian SSR.⁴⁹ Thus, geographically, the entire UkrSSR was a creation of the Soviet leadership in Moscow – and so was the Republic of Ukraine, the successor-state of the UkrSSR after the dissolution of the USSR in 1991.

The USSR itself was founded toward the end of WWI by V.I. Lenin after the successful 1917 Bolshevik uprising (“the October Revolution”) against Nicholas II, the last Tsar of Russia. Nicholas was an ally of England and France in their war against the Second German Reich (1870-1918). Germany had arranged to smuggle Lenin from his exile in Zurich to Russia to foment social unrest, weaken the Tsar's war effort and so secure the German eastern front.⁵⁰ The Western allies of Russia declined to come to the aid of the Tsar. They sent a few expeditionary forces into Russia in an attempt to salvage some of their investments there, but these military expeditions were ineffective and quickly called back. As for the Tsar, they left him, his wife and children to be murdered by the Bolsheviks in a cellar in Yekaterinburg. They abandoned him for an alliance with the US.

Woodrow Wilson, President of the US from 1913 to 1921, had entered the war against Germany in 1917. Wilson then declared his intention to wipe out all old-style, dynastic, monarchical empires (Russia, Germany and Austria-Hungary), and “to make the world safe for democracy”, i.e. for Western “democratic” states engaging in building up overseas empires (the established British, Dutch and French empires⁵¹ – also, of course, the budding American empire, which was at first directed mainly against the scattered remains of the Spanish Empire). In 1898, the US started the Spanish-American War in an effort to achieve control over Cuba. In the same year it acquired Puerto Rico. Then the US began the American-Philippine war (1899-1902), which led to American dominance over the Philippine islands and a series of gruesome conflicts (with an estimated death toll of 200,000 to more than half a million victims). That war was not the first American venture into the Pacific area. Already in 1893, the US had taken possession of the independent Kingdom of Hawaii.

⁴⁹ Also in 1954, Khrushchev (himself a Ukrainian) began his program of de-Stalinizing the USSR. The program was eventually completed under Mikhail Gorbachev (r.1985-1991), the last leader of the Soviet Union. However, his ambitious reforms (glasnost or openness, and perestroika or restructuring) quickly proved counterproductive. The Soviet system could not function as a unity without Stalin's methods of secrecy, total surveillance and brutal repression.

⁵⁰ The Brest-Litovsk Treaty of March 1918 with the Bolsheviks

⁵¹ The main instruments of British and Dutch imperialism had been their West and East India Companies, vast public-private partnerships of governmental and commercial interests, intended to colonize and exploit far-away overseas territories. Eventually, Western overseas colonies comprised territories in the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, India, Indonesia, Indochina, the Middle East – even China, in the period that included the so-called opium wars, 1839-1842 and 1856-1860, and the Chinese “Boxer Rebellion” in 1900.

In a sense, the American Empire was to be a continuation of the British Empire by other means. A common central – and highly successful – plank of both Anglophone imperial agendas was to make English the *lingua franca* of political, economic and intellectual elites all over the world. It was supposed to – and did – give American and English media and educational institutions an unequalled advantage in shaping the world's “public opinion”.⁵² After WWII, the most successful conquest of the US Empire was Western Europe, which it succeeded to govern through supranational constructions such as the European Economic Community and later the European Union in an effort to homogenize the cultural diversity of Europe. Such constructions were designed to create the conditions for the emergence of compliant bureaucratic and technocratic elites that would welcome American economic, political and military dominance without having to worry too much about local democratic controls and trade preferences.⁵³ The US is currently trying to repeat its European success story in Latin America and Africa. As seen from Washington, it is far more efficient to bribe a handful of local oligarchs than to try to gain the trust of the local *hoi polloi*.

The West quickly reconciled itself to the new Communist regime in Moscow but worried about the appeal it had among the populations of Western and Central Europe, not the least in circles of intellectuals who began to praise Soviet Communism as an enlightened, progressive ideological system that should be implemented throughout the industrialized world. Because of these worries, Western governments and ruling classes were rather sympathetic⁵⁴ to fascist parties and movements, which had made militant anti-Communism a central part of their political programs. In fact, fascists and communists were equally opposed to the competitive nature of Western-style capitalism, free markets, free trade and parliamentary and local democracy, which they considered incompatible with their idea of a centralized, rational economic and political technocratic order that would coordinate, in top-down fashion, the systematic use of scientific expertise to solve “the problems of society”. In that respect, fascism and communism were birds of a feather—but they were also fierce competitors in the struggle for leadership of the revolutionary movement toward a new world order.

However, in the West, ‘Communism’ was perceived as standing for International or Global Socialism – and therefore, a threat to other nations – and ‘Fascism’ as standing for National Socialism (“socialism in one country”) and as such a matter of any nation's internal politics. The distinction became moot, when 1) the USSR under Stalin began to focus on its internal affairs rather than on the “global revolution” advocated by his main rival, Leon Trotsky, and 2) National Socialist Germany under Hitler began to attempt to re-unify territories that had been allocated to other nations⁵⁵ under the Treaty of

⁵² The idea that “public opinion” is the firm basis of political power is one of the greatest “discoveries” of the Age of Enlightenment – e.g., the works of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and David Hume. Adopted by political rulers, it launched a renewed attack on religion (especially Roman Catholicism), because religion was seen as a formidable but fortunately unarmed competitor in the struggle for control of men's minds.

⁵³ Europe's way of meeting what Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber would call “le défi américain” (1967) consisted in aping the US's “corporate capitalism” and its turn toward a de-materialized, increasingly financialized “service economy” (with deteriorating real services).

⁵⁴ Susan Ronald, *Hitler's Aristocrats: The Secret Power Players in Britain and America Who Supported the Nazis, 1923–1941*, 2023; earlier: Anthony C. Sutton, *Wall Street and the Rise of Hitler*, 1976

⁵⁵ Ever since the concept of national borders was invented, Europeans have not been good at

Versailles (1919), although these territories (e.g., Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia, Gdansk in Poland) were home to predominantly German-speaking populations. In 1939, the USSR and Nazi Germany concluded the Molotov-Ribbentrop non-aggression pact to give one another a free hand in carrying out their designs within their respective spheres of influence. However, Hitler broke the pact already in 1941 with his invasion of the USSR (“Operation Barbarossa”). That event would prove a decisive moment in the history of the UkrSSR, as a large segment of ethnic Ukrainians in the UkrSSR and Poland allied with the German invaders against the Soviet Union.

The UkrSSR had a heterogeneous population of ethnic Ukrainians, Russians, Poles (Volhynia, Eastern Galicia), Hungarians (Zakarpattia region) and a few other minorities (Lemkos). As became clear in every election in the post-Soviet era (from 1991 onward), Ukraine was an internally divided state, its western part voting predominantly for the anti-Russian nationalists, its eastern and southern parts for parties that sought to continue good relations with Russia. However, many ethnic Ukrainians took the view that the whole of the former UkrSSR belonged exclusively to them: “Ukraine to the Ukrainians!” Extreme nationalism and xenophobia became potent ingredients of their political outlook. Ethnic Russians bore the brunt of that xenophobia. This hatred of all things Russian had its roots in Stalin's policies. The harm done to the states and peoples that fell under the Soviet yoke should not be underestimated. But the Soviets/Russians never adopted the Western doctrine of national or racial superiority. In contrast, the states that became independent from the USSR after the Cold War often did so. Ukraine is an extreme example.

Stalin had begun an intensive process of industrialization of the UkrSSR, which entailed a large influx of ethnic Russian engineers and workers. Moreover, following years of reckless cultivation and poor land-management on the collectivized farms, the extended droughts of the 1930s brought famine to the agricultural parts of the UkrSSR. The droughts were not an exclusively Ukrainian or even Soviet phenomenon.⁵⁶ However, in the UkrSSR, drought-caused misery was exacerbated by Stalin's policy of prioritizing food supply to industrial areas. As a result, anti-Soviet sentiment grew explosively in large parts of the UkrSSR. Consequently, when, in 1941, the Hitler-regime broke its non-aggression pact with the USSR and invaded the UkrSSR in an attempt to reach Moscow from the south-west, many ethnic Ukrainians (especially Ukrainian Romanians in Bukovina) collaborated intensively with the invading Nazis, even to the point of adopting the ultra-nationalistic and racial creeds of Nazism as justifications for genocidal campaigns against Polish and other non-Ukrainian⁵⁷ ethnicities.

respecting national borders. One needs to have a decent historical atlas at hand to make sense of the “national histories” of most of most European nations..

⁵⁶ During the same period, extended droughts wreaked havoc in the US: the 1930-36 period of the Dust Bowl in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico – c.f. John Steinbeck's 1939 Nobel Prize winning novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

⁵⁷ As in Germany, Jews were a primary target. Analysts of the infamous anti-Semitic hoax, *The Protocols of the Enders of Zion* (1903), have traced several of the so-called protocols to anti-Semitic organizations in the Ukrainian region of Tsarist Russia. See Appendix 5 (*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*).

WWII and the rise of Ukrainian ultra-nationalism

In 1942, Ukrainian nationalists and Nazi-sympathizers – followers of the prominent agitator and notorious anti-Semite Stepan Bandera (1909-1959), a leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (based in Poland) – started a genocidal campaign that killed ca 50,000 ethnic Poles (civilians, women, children) in Volhynia alone, and ca 130.000 Poles in Eastern Galicia and other regions. For Bandera and his ilk, the Poles were foreign occupiers of Ukrainian territory, even though they had been there for hundreds of years. Already in 1934, Bandera, a Polish citizen, had been sentenced to death for the murder of a Polish government minister. He was released by the Nazis, when they invaded Poland in 1939. After their invasion of the USSR, the Nazis imprisoned him for being an inveterate troublemaker, despite his enduring support of their *Weltanschauung*. Following the failure of Operation Barbarossa, Bandera fled to the West. After the war, he was fêted (together with other Ukrainian nationalists such as Mykola Lebed) by the American policy establishment for his fight against the Russian Soviets. Ironically, he settled in supposedly denazified West Germany (in Munich, where Hitler had begun his rise to power), where he was assassinated by an agent of the Soviet secret service, the KGB. In 2010, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko proclaimed Bandera a national hero, but this proclamation was annulled in 2011 on the ground that Bandera never formally held Ukrainian citizenship. To this day, hard-core Ukrainian nationalists (including prominent members of the political elite in the Kiev Government⁵⁸) continue to consider Bandera a national hero.

The failure of Operation Barbarossa re-established Soviet control and forced the Ukrainian ultranationalists and Nazis to go underground. To avoid Soviet reprisals, Ukrainian Nazi collaborators fled or surrendered to the West—that was the extent of their “pro-Western attitudes”. Millions of them settled in the West, especially in Canada⁵⁹, where they could vent their hatred of the Soviet Union, even though the Soviets had been the West's allies in the fight against Hitler and the major force in defeating the German *Wehrmacht*. While the US won the war in the Pacific Ocean (against Japan), the Soviet Union won the war in Europe (against Germany) – unless you believe the Hollywood version of the Second World War. For the Russians, WWII was a war against the Nazis in which up to thirty million Russians died. Every year, the Russian “Victory Day” (May 9th) celebrates the Red Army's capture of Berlin, Hitler's last bulwark. No other European country suffered more at the hands of the Nazis

⁵⁸ Zelensky's ambassador to Germany, Andriy Melnyk, caused uproar with his frequent expressions of Banderite ideology. A few months after being recalled (in October 2022), he was promoted by Zelensky to the office of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (politico.eu/article/zelenskyy-dismisses-controversial-ambassador-to-germany/). As of June 2023, he serves as Ukraine's Ambassador to Brazil.

⁵⁹ On the 22nd of September, 2023, the Canadian Parliament gave a standing ovation to its invited guest, Yaroslav Hunka, a 98-year old Ukrainian and former volunteer in the 14th Grenadier Waffen SS Division in Ukraine in 1942. for being “a Ukrainian hero. a Canadian hero. and we thank him for all his service” (i.e. collaboration with the Nazis against the USSR). This occurred immediately after Ukrainian President Zelensky had addressed the Parliament. The named division of the Waffen SS was implicated in various war crimes (mass murders of Jews and others) according to the Friends of The Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies. After indignant reactions from all over the world. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his Deputy, Chrystia Freeland (of Ukrainian descent), professed ignorance of Hunka's past and, laying all the blame on their party member. Anthony Rota, the Speaker Of Canada's House of Commons (lower chamber), forced him to step down.

than Russia. Moreover, with most of the Wehrmacht tied up on the Eastern Front, the Western Allies (USA, Canada, England) could land in Italy and Normandy without having to fear strong, well-organized resistance. Most of the major Nazi “death camps” were liberated by the Soviets.

However, the vitriolic animosity of Ukrainian refugees against the Soviets had been noticed by the Americans intelligence service, which deemed it very useful in the planned Cold War against the Soviet Union, their former ally. Beginning in 1938, under President Franklin D. Roosevelt (r.1933-1945), the US had invested billions in developing an enormous military-industrial complex. At least its intelligence service was intelligent enough to understand that the military-industrial complex would need a fearsome enemy to remain viable after the demise of Germany and Japan. The Soviet Union was the only credible candidate to play the part.

The Cold War and the rise of neo-conservative warmongering

Not only Ukrainian Nazi collaborators, also German soldiers and scientists⁶⁰ preferred surrendering to the West to being captured by the Soviets. Already at the end of the Second World War, in 1945, the American secret service (OSS) had bought the allegiance of top-ranking officers of the German Military Intelligence, who had close contacts with Ukrainian ultranationalists and Nazis. Elements within the American secret service were anticipating the emergence of the Soviet Union as the principal obstacle to American global hegemony. They were interested in using Ukrainian nationalists and Nazi collaborators as strategic assets in their planned war on the USSR. After all, the Ukrainians had valuable “inside information” on the Soviet Union.

The American policy elite's ambition to make the USA the global hegemon – as they put it, “the world's policeman and Good Samaritan” – had been spelled out early in the Second World War, even before the attack on Pearl Harbour, by media magnate Henry Luce⁶¹. The idea was embraced by Allen Welsh Dulles (1893-1969)⁶², when he was serving as an intelligence officer operating in Italy in 1944. Dulles was a primary contact for high-ranking German officers who were seeking to surrender to the US on condition of favourable treatment in return for valuable information. The biggest catch of the OSS was General Reinhard Gehlen. Following a long career in the American CIA, Gehlen ended up as the founding President and Chief of the West-German⁶³ Intelligence Service (BND, *Bundesnachrichtendienst*), from 1956 to 1968.

After the war, Dulles became the principal architect of the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as a nearly autonomous branch of

⁶⁰ The CIA's Operation Paperclip arranged the settlement of prominent Nazi scientists in the US, where they could pursue their work, mostly in the military-industrial and intelligence complex. The most famous of them was Werner von Braun, the rocket designer who helped to develop the technology for the American space-programs and landings on the moon.

⁶¹ Henry R. Luce, “The American Century”, *Life Magazine*, February 17, 1941, p.61-65

⁶² David Talbot, *The Devil's Chessboard* (2015), an extensive account of A.W.Dulles's career

⁶³ West Germany (Bundesrepublik Deutschland, capital city: Bonn) was a state, created in 1949 on the German territories that were occupied by the USA and its allies (France, England). Soviet-occupied German territories were incorporated in East Germany (Deutsche Demokratische Republik or DDR), until they were absorbed into West Germany in 1990 as the Soviet quid pro quo for the West's promise not to expand NATO after the USSR disbanded the Warsaw Pact (in 1991) and allowed its remaining members (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania) to go their own ways. The West never kept its promise.

government, specializing in espionage and covert operations. From 1953 until shortly before his death in 1959, Allen's brother, John Foster Dulles, was Secretary of State in the Eisenhower Administration. Prominent Wall Street lawyers, the brothers never neglected the interests of their corporate clients, even as they worked hard to impress their concept of a Cold War against the Soviet Union on America's foreign policy. Their efforts created an intellectual environment within which the so-called neo-conservative movement would flourish and eventually come to dominate US foreign policy.

The neo-conservative movement was a spin-off of the managerial revolution that had swept through the American business world in the 1930's. Its first manifesto was James Burnham's *The Managerial Revolution* (1941). Burnham (1905-1987) described the rise of managers as the principal power holders in the age of corporatism, especially in the American system of "corporate capitalism". Burnham, originally a Trotskyite communist, later a consultant to the CIA, is often cited as a founding father of "neo-conservatism", the ideology that substituted global ("unipolar") American hegemony for the original Trotskyite idea of a revolution of "the workers of the world" as a means to bring the whole world under a single government or management. "One world, one government" was the principal common goal of Trotsky and the neo-conservatives. However, having found it impossible to rally the workers, disillusioned American Trotskyites switched to rallying the political and business elites.⁶⁴

The premise of neo-conservatism was the belief that American elites will never accept a socialist system, unless they have the assurance that they will be in a position to run it, as the oligarchic vanguard of the Revolution that will create a New World Order. The projected New World Order should emerge from the transformation of American big businesses into international and multinational corporations, able to amass economic power and, consequently, decisive political influence in all other countries. It should dispense with international law and replace it with a "rule-based international order" – an order the rules of which would be dictated by the American political establishment to further the interests of the American corporate elite of managers and major shareholders of large industrial and financial corporations.

The basic model for this rule-based order was the Bretton Woods system. Established in 1944 as an effort to reconstitute a sound international monetary order after the disastrous disruptions caused by WWII, the Bretton Woods treaty made the US dollar the reserve currency of the world.⁶⁵ This fact allowed the managers of the American Federal Reserve System (FRS)⁶⁶ to exert pressure on monetary and financial policy-making institutions, including nominally sovereign governments, all over the world. However, despite the enormous losses it had suffered in the war, the Soviet Union opted out of the

⁶⁴ They chose the label "neo-conservatism" to hide their socialist-communist origins. Until his murder in 1940, Leon Trotsky (1879-1940) had been the most vocal "internationalist" opponent of Stalin's nationalist "socialism in one country" in the Communist camp. For American Trotskyists, an alliance with the fiercely anti-Stalin CIA of the late 1940s and 50s was therefore an appealing strategic option. Of course, by the 1990s, the younger generations of neocons had completely forgotten about the Trotskyite origin.

⁶⁵ See Appendix 6 (Bretton Woods)

⁶⁶ The FRS is a coalition of private banking groups in several regional divisions. It had been legally empowered in 1913, under the Woodrow Wilson Administration, to act as the de facto central or national bank of the USA. The FRS is dominated by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Bretton Woods system, unwilling to surrender sovereign control of its monetary and financial affairs to the Americans for a few dollars more of foreign aid and international credit. This Soviet rejection of American monetary hegemony strengthened major elements within the American policy establishment in their conviction that the Soviet Union had to be defeated by all means. That is to say, by all means, short of open war – for, as it had shown in the war, the USSR was a mighty military force. Moreover, the USSR was quick to break the American monopoly on the possession of nuclear weapons (“atom bombs”), thereby squashing American hopes of basing a new world order on military supremacy alone.

As long as a hot war between the two nuclear powers meant “mutual assured destruction”, a “cold war” was the only option. Consequently, the Cold War⁶⁷ was primarily a matter of covert operations, deception, insurrectionist coups, and a race to develop new technologies that would be useful in psychological and later also in electronic warfare. In these domains, the alliance of the American national security complex with large corporations in the military, media, medical and financial industries and their professional organizations and research institutions (including university departments) paid off handsomely. The American national security complex was engineered by Allen Dulles's CIA and coordinated by the National Security Council (NSC).

In line with the managerial revolution, the Western governments were gradually transformed from representative, publicly accountable systems into technocracies, staffed and advised – and de facto run – by unelected “experts”. The trend had started in the 1930s, the age of corporatism: in Europe, the age of fascism; in the US, the age of President's Roosevelt's New Deal policies. On both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, the age of corporatism saw the rise of giant bureaucracies and the expansion of executive powers. In 1961, President Eisenhower, speaking from first-hand experience, warned against the growing influence of the military-industrial complex on the nation's policies, as well as against the corruption of science by its increasing reliance on government contracts and against the corruption of politics by “the equal and opposite danger that public policy could itself become the captive of a scientific-technological elite.”⁶⁸ However, his successor, John F. Kennedy, picked up the technocratic theme again, declaring that “most of our problems are of a technical rather than a political nature” – i.e. beyond the ken of the general public and therefore not suited to be decided in or by elections. Of course, most of the experts were academics or staff members of industrial and financial firms, corporations or their “philanthropic” affiliates, e.g., the Carnegie, Ford, Rockefeller, Guggenheim, Getty and countless lesser-known “charitable” or “educational” tax-free, non-profit foundations⁶⁹. The principal function of those politically unaccountable experts and advisors was to dictate policy to – or to bypass – the official, politically accountable members of the President's “cabinet”, while their paymasters intervened in electoral processes at every level with large donations to compliant office holders and ditto office seekers, or with promises of lucrative careers in the worlds of corporate business, philanthropy, NGOs and international organizations. Some of these experts

⁶⁷ The Cold War would last from 1947 to 1989, when the Soviet Union agreed to the integration of East-Germany into West-Germany (a.k.a. German “re-unification”)

⁶⁸ Dwight Eisenhower, Farewell Address to the Nation, January 17th, 1961

⁶⁹ See Appendix 7 (Philanthropic foundations)

soon became at least as famous as the presidents they advised. Prominent examples of the turn toward a “deep state” technocracy after 1960 are Robert McNamara (under President John F. Kennedy), a devotee of systems analysis and Chairman of the Ford Motor Company, Henry Kissinger (under Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford), a geopolitical-strategy analyst, and Zbigniew Brzezinski (under Jimmy Carter), also a geopolitical-strategy analyst and a protégé of David Rockefeller. As private consultants to large commercial and political corporations, such men are able to amass fortunes long after their patrons have left the public political scene. Bureaucrats and technocrats, who run such corporations, like hiding behind whatever passes for “Science”.

At the same time, the common form of corruption, known as lobbying, was regulated, formalized and legalized as the main interface between business and politics. Through this bureaucratic-technocratic interface, Big Government became Big Business, and vice versa, on a scale never seen before. As could have been expected, the more permanent, private corporate interests soon captured the, to them, most meaningful policy areas, thereby rendering the input from the public of “ordinary citizens” irrelevant. One of the most disturbing aspects of recent developments is legislation that authorizes “electionproof public-policy making” by unelected bodies. The other side of the coin was that “politics in the public view” degenerated into a smokescreen of entertainment and distraction.⁷⁰ Politicians learned that there is an easy way to speak the truth, viz. by accusing one another of incompetence, conflicts of interests, and sinister designs and contacts, without ever suggesting ways to pierce the institutional veil behind which the technocratic blob operates. In *On Violence* (1970), Hannah Arendt noted: “In a fully developed bureaucracy there is nobody left with whom one can argue, to whom one can present grievances, on whom the pressures of power can be exerted. Bureaucracy is the form of government in which everybody is deprived of political freedom, of the power to act—for the rule by Nobody is not no-rule—and where all are equally powerless, we have a tyranny without a tyrant.”

After a long gestation period, the neo-conservatives rose to prominence in the American foreign policy establishment under the presidency of George Herbert Bush (*r.* 1989-1993). They had their great breakthrough under Bush's successor, William Jefferson Clinton (*r.* 1993-2001). Under their influence, Clinton ended the policy of *détente* that had been initiated under President Reagan (*r.* 1981-1989) and the last Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev (*r.* 1985-1991). Adding Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to NATO, Clinton launched the policy of expanding the alliance that had been created in 1949, supposedly to defend Western Europe, the US, Canada and Iceland⁷¹ against the Soviet Union, even though, after WWII, the USSR had never shown, and would never show, any intention of attacking a Western European country. Indeed, in 1954, the USSR had proposed to join NATO, but the proposal was rejected.⁷² Consequently, doubting the defensive nature of NATO, the USSR

⁷⁰ Cf. Guy Debord, *La Société du spectacle* (1967)

⁷¹ Together with the US, Canada and Iceland, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom were the founding members of NATO, in 1949. Iceland, which had no army, provided a mid-Atlantic base for “technical” NATO installations.

⁷² See above, page 9

responded in 1955 with the creation of the Warsaw Pact (the Soviet Union and seven other socialist republics in East and Central Europe).

During the Cold War, other countries joined NATO: Greece, Turkey (1952), West-Germany (1955) and Spain (1982). Thereafter, from 1999 to 2022, NATO membership exploded from 16 to 30, and then to 32, when formerly staunchly neutral Finland and Sweden joined⁷³ – thereby giving NATO full control over the Baltic searoute to Saint Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city. Clearly, NATO's intention was to erect a new “Iron Curtain” to divide Europe by sabotaging any attempt to create what Russia demanded: a solid and stable “security architecture” for Europe.

Clinton's expansion of NATO was motivated by the explosive situation between Serbs and Albanians, Orthodox Christians and Muslims, that had arisen in the Balkan and would lead to the dismemberment of Yugoslavia in 1992. However, NATO intervention in the conflict, primarily against Serbia, a traditional ally of Russia, made it clear that Clinton's policy was also an effort to further the cause of American global hegemony (the neo-conservative “New World Order”) by ruthlessly exploiting the initial disarray and weakness of post-Soviet Russia.

The neo-conservative policy motto was “We do not negotiate until we have defeated our opponents”. It was still in place in Ukraine in 2022, when US President Joe Biden declared another “forever war” by refusing to permit Kiev to seek a diplomatic solution to its conflict with Moscow “before the Russians are defeated”. By that time, neo-conservative warmongering had thoroughly infected the political establishments of the major European NATO partners (England, under Boris Johnson; Germany, under Olaf Scholz; France, under Emmanuel Macron; Italy, under Mario Draghi) and the supra-national European Union (under EU Commission President Ursula “the Useless” von der Leyen)⁷⁴. Only Hungary's Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, voiced serious reservations about the idea that “War with Russia” was the proper way to consolidate “European Unity”. For this he was treated as a pariah by his colleagues and the Western media.

Incorporating Ukraine into the American Empire

To Allen W. Dulles and his brother and eventually most American policymakers, the UkrSSR was the weak underbelly of the Soviet Union, the enemy in their Cold War. One can bet on it that they were very, very interested in Ukraine.⁷⁵ However, the demise of the USSR in 1991 and the resulting disarray of its basic institutions of government under Boris Yeltsin made Ukraine appear less important. The RF itself seemed ripe for the picking. Repudiating the solemn promises of his predecessor, George H. Bush, to the last Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, Bill Clinton announced that eastward expansion of NATO would be official policy. The Russian Federation (“Russia”) was to be treated as a defeated enemy rather than as a partner in the

⁷³ Switzerland, nominally still a neutral country – and the seat of many US dominated international organizations – is not in NATO, but de facto, it lost its neutrality long ago, when its famed banking industry gave in to the threat of being excluded from the US market, if it did not comply with US regulations. Super imperialism at work!

⁷⁴ See Appendix 9 (Ursula von der Leyen, Young Global Leaders)

⁷⁵ cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP83-00764R000500040001-3.pdf ; see Appendix 10 (Gladio, the culture of fear)

post-Soviet concert of nations. Russia was to be coerced into subjugation to the hegemon in Washington, D.C.

To Clinton's imagination, the humiliation of Russia would make it possible to bring the western parts of the former USSR (Russia, Belarus and Ukraine) under American control simply by using proxies to buy up most of their natural and financial resources. American and British advisors would assist the three countries in the process of transitioning from a centrally planned to a market economy. The basic scheme for effecting the transition was sound. It consisted of creating shares in state-owned industrial and financial enterprises and to distribute these shares exclusively among the local populations, to kick-start a market economy based on private ownership of the means of production. However, few people in those countries were familiar with the concept of shareholding. They needed cash more than paper titles to uncertain dividends in enterprises that might not survive the transition. Moreover, the Western advisors to Yeltsin insisted that Russian buyers of the shares should be able to avail themselves of loans granted by foreigners. Thus, using a few favoured stooges (the soon to be world-famous "Russian oligarchs") as front men, Western corporations would be able to control all of Russia's economically important and strategic resources. This would reduce the Russian population virtually to the status of "debt slaves" of their Western creditors.

The plan worked in Ukraine, but not in Belarus (under President Alexander Lukashenko, r.1994-the present). It also did not work in Russia, where the second President, Vladimir Putin, succeeded in curbing the power grab of the oligarchs without blocking market reforms or economic relations with the West. Indeed, for many years, Putin sought close cooperation with the Western powers⁷⁶, encouraging trade and tourism, while diligently working for a Russian economic and cultural renaissance to lift the country out of the chaos of the Yeltsin years. However, Clinton and the neo-conservatives would not forgive Putin for de-railing their take-over bid—and, anyway, NATO's mission was not to provide a framework for peace in Europe, but to secure American dominance by preventing Europe from seeking close cooperation with Russia.

US-Russia relations sank further when in 2003 President G.W. Bush (a son of G.H. Bush) decided to launch the Second Gulf War, supposedly in retaliation for the deadly attack on the World Trade Centre in New York City on September 11th 2001,⁷⁷ although there was not a shred of evidence that Iraq's Saddam Hussein was involved. Russia condemned Bush's plans to go to war and to raise an international "coalition of the willing"⁷⁸, ostensibly to defend "Western values" against "the enemies of freedom", but in reality to hide its responsibility for its wars by presenting them as actions of one or other "international community", assembled ad hoc. When France and Germany (and a few other European countries) refused to join the ad hoc coalition, the neo-

⁷⁶ In 2000, Putin renewed the 1954 Soviet offer to join NATO, but even though the Cold War had ended, Clinton (at the behest of the neo-conservatives in Washington) rejected the proposal (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/nov/04/ex-nato-head-says-putin-wanted-to-join-alliance-early-on-in-his-rule>).

⁷⁷ Ca 3000 people died—see below, page 44

⁷⁸ According to the US, it involved 18 European countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, the United Kingdom – and from the rest of the world: Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Colombia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Japan, South Korea, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

conservatives in Washington got very, very upset. They issued ridiculous warnings about a Paris-Berlin-Moscow “axis” that would destabilize the world (i.e. threaten US hegemony), even though saner heads in Europe understood very well that closer cooperation with Russia would be a solid basis for détente and security in Europe. However, the Russia-hating political establishment in England responded enthusiastically to the American call to arms. It had always liked the ability to tip the balance of power in a divided Continental Europe whichever way it liked, by opportunistically choosing sides.⁷⁹

US-Russia relations reached their nadir after Russia had warned, in 2007, that it would not tolerate further NATO expansion (i.e. ever more US military and nuclear bases ever closer to Russian territory).⁸⁰

Having failed to acquire Russian's economic assets in the last decade of the twentieth century and facing an obviously resolute Russian leadership, the US again turned its focus on Ukraine, instigating a coup in 2014 (“the Maidan coup”) that brought a vehemently anti-Russian government to power and divided the country into two irreconcilable factions.

Post-Soviet Ukraine

In 1991, the UkrSSR became the independent Republic of Ukraine, when the USSR was dissolved in an agreement between the leaders of the Soviet Socialist Republics of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. Ukraine voluntarily surrendered its stockpile of Soviet-era nuclear weapons to Russia, and Russia accepted that Crimea would remain under Ukrainian jurisdiction, although negotiations about the continued use of the city and harbour of Sevastopol by the Russian Black Sea fleet and the Ukrainian navy proved difficult, because of objections by various parties in both countries. Sevastopol had been a Russian military stronghold ever since its foundation in 1783.

Thus, Russia, Belarus and Ukraine, formerly regional administrative divisions of the Soviet Union, became independent states. Moscow, formerly the capital of both the USSR and the Russian Soviet Socialist Republic, became the capital of the Russian Federation (RF). These three former SSRs formed a Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS, the Belovezha Accords, December 8, 1991). However, Moscow gave all other former SSRs the option of becoming CIS members. Two weeks later, eight former SSRs (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) joined the CIS (the Alma-Ata protocols of December 21, 1991). Within a week, Mikhail Gorbachev, the President of the USSR, resigned and the Supreme Council of the USSR abolished itself. Other former SSRs, Georgia and the Baltic states (Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, which had declared independence from the USSR earlier in 1988-1991), did not join the CIS. Georgia did sign the CIS Charter of 1993, only to withdraw from it in 2008 under the leadership of Mikheil Saakashvili, who later turned up in Ukraine as a governor of Odessa, appointed by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko. Ukraine withdrew from CIS in 2018. Poroshenko was facing a difficult re-election battle and needed all the US support he could get. Withdrawing from CIS was an obvious confirmation of his pro-West, anti-Russia stance.

⁷⁹ See Appendix 11 (Russia-hating Britain)

⁸⁰ See above, note 19, on page 5

Powerful factions in Georgia⁸¹ and Ukraine had started seeking Western military and economic support. However, the peoples of the European Union (EU, formally established in 1993) were not eager to admit either Georgia or Ukraine as members. Georgia was not even close to Europe; and Ukraine, with its vast territory (nearly 604,000 km²), population (ca 43.6 million in 2020) and formidable army (inherited from Soviet days), would instantly have become a dominant power within the EU, despite its reputation as a centre of corruption and illegal trafficking, despite its powerful nationalist militias and their Nazi-like ideology. However, as Europe had been reduced to the status of a vassal of the US – an XXL sized Puerto Rico (to paraphrase Michael Hudson) – American geopolitical priorities took precedence over European concerns. The US was behind “colour revolutions” that brought pro-Western factions to power in Georgia (the “rose revolution” of 2003) and Ukraine (the “orange revolution” of 2004). However, as we know, the US had had its eyes on using Ukraine as a weapon against Russia from the early days of the Cold War onward.

As noted above, Crimea had been a proper SSR of the Soviet Union, until Khrushchev transferred it, in 1954, on his own authority to the UkrSSR. In the summer of 1991, while still under Soviet rule, the people of Crimea voted in a referendum for a restoration of their independence from Kiev, i.e. to undo what Khrushchev had done. At the time, everybody was talking about democracy, autonomy and forgetting the Soviet past. The government in Kiev first accepted the referendum, but then reversed its decision later in the year. In 1992, the conflict over Crimea was dealt with under a compromise that gave the peninsula a large measure of autonomy within the Ukrainian Republic. Another referendum, in 1994, reaffirmed the desire for independence, but Kiev declared it illegal. In 1995, making use of the deteriorating situation in Russia under President Yeltsin, Ukraine rescinded Crimean autonomy entirely and started governing the peninsula by decree, as if it were an annexed, occupied zone.⁸² This move of questionable legality caused more resentment against Kiev among the people of Crimea.

Before 2014, Russia, faithful to the principles of the CIS, had abstained from meddling in its neighbour's internal affairs. However, after the Maidan coup and its aftermath of violence against Russian-speaking Ukrainians, a local referendum validated a renewed Crimean request for reintegration with Russia. This time, the RF immediately recognized the peninsula as an integral part of Russian territory – an autonomous republic within the Russian Federation (excepting only the military stronghold of Sebastopol, which came, as it had been for most of its history, under the direct control of Moscow). The West and its corps of regime-friendly media corporations⁸³ unanimously denounced the events in Crimea as an unprovoked invasion – an illegal act of war – by Russia. They had supported the independence of Kosovo (in the Balkan, in the 1990s, to set up one more NATO military base, Bondsteel, in the Balkan) from Serbia, an ally of Russia, but independence of Crimea from Ukraine, an ally of

⁸¹ See Appendix 13 (Georgia, FARA)

⁸² off-guardian.org/2022/03/08/timeline-the-crimean-referendum/

⁸³ These include the few international, incorporated press agencies (e.g., AP, Reuters, Bloomberg News, Agence Presse, etc.) that provide the publishing and broadcasting media with almost all of their news material. They are controlled, wholly or in part, by a handful of media tycoons (e.g., Michael Bloomberg, the Murdoch family) with strong links to the now global oligarchy.

the West, was more than their paymasters could stomach. The West wanted Russia out of the Black Sea, to cut it off from its only ice-free⁸⁴ port.

Other Russian-speaking areas in Ukraine, principally in the Donbas were not as lucky as Crimea. Donetsk and Lugansk had vainly sought greater autonomy from Kiev ever since the creation of the independent state of Ukraine in 1991. However, the Kievan establishment had always stopped short of granting autonomy under a federal constitution to its Russian-speaking provinces. However, as the Donbas – unlike Crimea – had no prehistory, prior to the Maidan coup of February 2014, of seeking independence from Ukraine, Putin, a stickler for international law, thought the legal basis for direct intervention to aid the Donbas too thin. The Donbas provinces sought independence from Kiev and asked Moscow for protection against the Kievan army, but Moscow declined to intervene in what it considered the internal affairs of Ukraine. Consequently, Kiev, with American support, felt free to continue and gradually intensify its campaign of shelling Donbas. The worst shelling occurred in February 2022, just prior to the start of the SMO.⁸⁵

Moscow then began the process of organizing negotiations between Kiev and the Donbas provinces which would lead to the Minsk Agreements of 2014 and 2015. These agreements were to be guaranteed by Germany (under Chancellor Angela Merkel) and France (under President François Hollande), but they were never implemented because they would have interfered with Kiev's and Washington's plans to build up the Ukrainian armed forces and to construct a complex of military fortifications along the border with the Donbas in preparation of a final assault on the secessionists in Donetsk and Lugansk. Later, in 2023, Putin admitted that he had been fooled by Western duplicity and that, instead of trusting the Western powers, he should have intervened actively in the Donbas, perhaps even acceded to the provinces' demand for their integration into the Russian Federation.

Post-Maidan Ukrainian “democracy”

In 2022, the West began to hail Ukraine as a democracy and to intensify its condemnation of Russia as an autocracy or even dictatorship, although ever since 1991 both countries had held regular elections and had a plurality of political parties under a democratic constitution. However, having lifted Russia out of the chaos of the Yeltsin era, Putin and his party were able to emerge victoriously out of all nation-wide elections. Putin's personal electoral score gradually increased from 53 to about 66%, with higher spikes whenever he succeeded in mastering one or other grave crisis. The only significant dip in his rating occurred when the Russian Federal Parliament (Duma) lifted the two-term limit on the Office of the President. This permitted Putin to remain in office for as long as he remained the most popular candidate. In the presidential elections of March 2024, on the second anniversary of the SMO, he got nearly 88% of the votes. By then, most Russians had come to see NATO's involvement in the Ukrainian crisis as an existential threat to their country. Even the major opposition parties⁸⁶ refrained from criticism of the way Putin

⁸⁴ However, Russia's ice-breakers are a vital ingredient of an “Arctic Silk Road” to China.

⁸⁵ According to a report, dated February 22nd 2022, from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) – the report is still available as a .pdf file on the World Wide Web: osce.org/files/2022-02-22%20Daily%20Report_ENG.pdf.

⁸⁶ In order of size (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_political_parties_in_Russia), the

and his brilliant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sergey Lavrov, handled the events in Ukraine and their international repercussions, including the ever-expanding list of economic and financial sanctions⁸⁷ imposed by the US and the EU.

In contrast, beginning in 1991, Ukraine had followed the Western pattern of frequent major policy changes, as one party or coalition after another comes to power, makes a mess of things, is voted out of office and its leaders and heavyweights reward themselves with a sinecure in one or other international organization or secure a directorship in a company that seeks to capitalize on their political networks. As a result, in the West, political continuity and stability were increasingly ensured by a “deep state” ensemble of unelected bureaucrats, managers and technocrats and their patrons, the equally unelected oligarchs in control of mighty industrial and financial corporations. Of course, the deep state is interested mainly in consolidating and expanding its power by protecting it from the decentralized control mechanisms that, prior to the nihilistic, Nietzschean *Umwertung aller Werte*⁸⁸ of the late nineteenth-century, had come to define Western Civilization: democratic representative institutions, free markets and free trade in goods and services⁸⁹, a free press and free universities – all of them within a framework of Christian morality (the primary target of that *Umwertung*).

Ironically, in 2019, Zelensky had been elected President of Ukraine on an anti-oligarchy (“populist”) platform of restoring good relations with Russia and ending Kiev's harassment of Russian-speaking Ukrainians. Receiving 73% of the votes, he won a landslide victory over the 24% of the votes for the incumbent president, the oligarch Petro Poroshenko (“the Ukrainian chocolate king”). Poroshenko's administration (r. 2014-2019) was generally despised for its corruption and divisive pro-Western policies – its selling out the country to Western commercial and financial interests to the detriment of the general population.

The Poroshenko regime was overseen by the American Obama administrations (r. 2009-2013, 2013-2017), in particular by Joe Biden, Obama's Vice-President. From 2013 to 2018, Biden's son, Hunter—he had no experience in the oil or any other business—was a director of Burisma, a Ukrainian oil company. From 2013 to 2018, he had been raking in about \$11 million for himself and his investment firm.⁹⁰ Earlier, Burisma, which held a huge amount of exploitation rights in the Black Sea, had been the object of an investigation for corruption by a Ukrainian public prosecutor. As Joe Biden boasted in 2018, in a meeting of the American Council on Foreign Relations⁹¹,

left to far left Communist Party, the centre-left A Just Russia, the right to far-right Liberal Democratic Party, the centre-right New People, the far-right Russian-nationalist Rodina, and the centre-right Civic Platform

⁸⁷ See Appendix 12 (Sanctions, BRICS)

⁸⁸ Literally, changing the meaning of all value-words – in other words, speaking of non-values as if they are values (cf. Orwell's conception of Newspeak in his 1984). This should be borne in mind when one hears post-19th-century Western politicians speak of “Western values”: “All media exist to invest our lives with artificial perceptions and arbitrary values.” Marshall McLuhan, *Understanding media: the extensions of man* (1964).

⁸⁹ These classical notions of free markets and free trade should not be confused with the “neo-liberal” notion of unregulated markets in financial instruments to which only the oligarchy and deep state actors have direct access – cf. “The bond market is God” of the 1990s.

⁹⁰ <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/national-security/analysis-hunter-bidens-hard-drive-shows-firm-took-11-million-2013-2018-rcna29462>

⁹¹ The relevant fragment of the meeting can still be seen on the World Wide Web. See: realclearpolitics.com/video/2019/09/27/flashback_2018_joe_biden_brags_at_cfr_meeting_about_withholding_aid_to_ukraine_to_force_firing_of_prosecutor.html. The full interview is on

it took him no more than an hour to pressure Kiev into firing the prosecutor by threatening to cancel a million dollar loan to the Ukrainian government.

Under the Obama administration, American foreign policy was firmly in the hands of the neo-conservatives. One of them, Victoria Nuland, an American of Ukrainian descent, was in charge of the Ukraine desk at the State Department. She masterminded and oversaw the financing of the Maidan coup of February 2014, which ousted the Ukrainian president, Viktor Yanukovich, when it became clear that he wanted to have good relations with both Russia and the West. The Western media consistently portrayed Yanukovich as “pro-Russian”, even though he had been close to signing an agreement with the EU. He only changed his mind when Russia offered an alternative that was much more favourable to Ukraine. Throughout the whole affair, it was the West that demanded that Ukraine choose between Brussels (and Washington) and Moscow. Russia had no objection to a sovereign but neutral Ukraine making its own decisions. Unfortunately for Yanukovich, the neo-cons considered such neutrality a hostile situation, a threat to American hegemony: “You accept American dominance or you're finished.” Refusing to submit, Yanukovich was soon finished. On February 21st 2014, he fled to Russia, when the Maidan protests turned into a wild riot after never-identified shooters opened fire on both the crowds and the police forces in Maidan Square. It may have been a false-flag attack.⁹²

Before that event, Western politicians – among them, the neo-con warmonger *extraordinaire* Senator John “Bomb, bomb, bomb Iran” McCain, the ambitious Belgian Euro-parliamentarian Guy Verhofstadt and the Polish neo-con Radoslaw Sikorski (now Poland's Foreign Minister) – had shared platforms on Maidan Square stoking the fires of Ukrainian nationalism and Russophobia among the protesters with promises of Western support. The Maidan coup had all the markings of a covert operation by the Americans, who had been counting on Yanukovich's demise long before it happened. In a telephone conversation (leaked online on February 4th 2014), Victoria Nuland could be heard saying “Fuck the EU”, in response to a comment by the American Ambassador to Ukraine, Geoffrey Pyatt, who had noted that the EU was not pleased with the American choice of post-Maidan leaders for Ukraine. Apparently, weeks before the Maidan protests turned ugly, Ukraine's future was being decided in Washington.

Emboldened by their sudden success, Ukrainian nationalists began their persecution of Ukraine's largest ethnic minority. In the immediate aftermath of the Maidan coup of February 2014, a mob of ultra-nationalistic Ukrainians burned alive a group of 46 Russian-speaking protesters in a trade union building in Odessa,⁹³ and ultra-nationalist politicians (among them a former

cfr.org/event/foreign-affairs-issue-launch-former-vice-president-joe-biden . CFR is a quasi-official think tank of the American foreign policy establishment. It dates back to the end of the First World War.

⁹² papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4440100 (paper by Ukrainian academic academic Ivan Katchanovski)

⁹³ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/02/ukraine-dead-odessa-building-fire>: “‘The aim is to completely clear Odessa [of pro-Russians],’ said Dmitry Rogovsky, an ultranationalist Right Sector activist, whose hand had been injured during the fighting.” Of course, the victims were not “pro-Russian”; they were protesting against the announced policies of the new government. (The Guardian did not bother to interview any of the surviving victims of the massacre—maybe there were none).

prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko⁹⁴) clamoured for genocide of the Russian-speaking population. According to a report on Voltaire.net, on March 13, 2022, Ukrainian television channel 24⁹⁵ broadcast a show in which the host, Fakhrudin Sharafmal, called for the extermination of all Russians, including women and children: “We need victory. And if we have to slaughter your families to do it, I’ll be one of the first to do it. Glory to the nation! And hope that there will never be such a nation as Russia and Russians on this earth again because they are just scum who are destroying this land. If the Ukrainians have the opportunity, they should do what they are basically doing right now, viz. to destroy, slaughter, kill, and strangle the Muscovites. And I hope that everyone contributes and whacks at least one Moskal.”⁹⁶ Also, one of the first acts of the post-Maidan government was to deprive the Russian language of its traditional status as an official language. The Western media remained virtually silent. Even shutting down opposition media, arresting or expelling opposition leaders, and war crimes against the civilian population of Donbas were passed over in silence or else condoned as legitimate, if slightly regrettable, actions of a beleaguered democratic regime against an evil dictatorship.

Zelensky, a comedian and actor with no political experience whatsoever, had been promoted by the Cypriot-Israeli oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky⁹⁷, who had produced a hugely popular television series, “Man of the People”, in which Zelensky played the leading role of a lowly schoolteacher's rise to the Presidency. Kolomoisky's businesses stood to gain from trade and cooperation with not only the West but also Russia. However, the US, then under the presidency of Donald J. Trump⁹⁸, quickly intervened to pry Zelensky away from his patron with promises of money and arms, if he would align himself with the West's designs on Ukraine. Eventually, Kolomoisky was forced to leave Ukraine. Assured – or so he thought – of the backing of the West, Zelensky fell prey to megalomaniacal delusions. When the Russian SMO started, he began to present himself as the political conscience of the world, insisting that all his demands be met immediately, lecturing all and sundry that they were evil people, if they did not assist him in “defeating Putin” — “If Ukraine does not defeat Putin then he will defeat all of you.” Such impressively nauseating theatrical performances got him invited all over the West to be fêted, kissed and embraced as a conquering heroic saint. In truth, he was just a pawn in a geopolitical power struggle that went far over his head, a figment of the West's political establishment's imagination, which needed an

⁹⁴ [washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2014/03/25/in-latest-wiretapping-leak-yulia-tymoshenko-appears-to-say-nuclear-weapons-should-be-used-to-kill-russians/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2014/03/25/in-latest-wiretapping-leak-yulia-tymoshenko-appears-to-say-nuclear-weapons-should-be-used-to-kill-russians/). Tymoshenko had risen to prominence during the so-called Orange Revolution of 2004, the first major symptom of the rift within Ukraine between a neutral and a militant pro-Western faction.

⁹⁵ Channel 24 was controlled by the TRK Group of Kateryna Kit-Sadova (wife of the mayor of Lvov)

⁹⁶ See the episode on voltaire.net/article216124.html; and performances by the popular band Yamak: its lyrics refer to Russians as creatures of the swamp, while Ukrainians are called Arian knights. [youtube.com/watch?v=mOOClnYKmc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOOClnYKmc); [youtube.com/watch?v=D7CXeOCm-pk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7CXeOCm-pk); [youtube.com/watch?v=wtuVa-mOknA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wtuVa-mOknA) :

⁹⁷ [nytimes.com/2019/11/13/world/europe/ukraine-ihor-kolomoisky-russia.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/13/world/europe/ukraine-ihor-kolomoisky-russia.html)

⁹⁸ Having won the presidency in the 1916 elections, Trump discovered that he was persona non grata in Washington, D.C., where he was opposed in almost everything he did by deep-state actors in the bureaucracy, the judiciary and the media. In a futile attempt to remedy the situation, he invited some neo-cons into his administration, notably Mike Pompeo, a former CIA director (as Secretary of Foreign Affairs), and John Bolton, an inveterate neo-conservative warmonger (as Foreign Policy advisor)

imaginary war hero to legitimize its push to salvage its crumbling, morally decrepit Empire, clutching at its “wokeness” while sleepwalking into war.

In Ukraine itself, Zelensky was a hostage of the Ukrainian “extreme right”, a redoubtable force of vehemently Russophobic ultra-nationalists – e.g., Right Sector, Svoboda (“Freedom”, originally the Social-National Party of Ukraine⁹⁹) and other Banderite groups, descendants of Stepan Bandera's Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists of the 1930s and '40s. They were financed by various business tycoons (“oligarchs”), who controlled most of the country's valuable resources as proxies for their Western, mostly American and British financiers.¹⁰⁰ These extreme-right forces wielded considerable power in Kiev through their heavily armed and well-trained militias – most (in)famously the Azov Regiment – that had been cherished and trained by the West¹⁰¹ and then incorporated as elite corps into the official army. They had been and continued to be useful allies of the American neo-conservative foreign policy establishment. They would not hesitate to eliminate Zelensky, if he agreed to negotiate with Vladimir Putin.¹⁰² They were the driving force behind the government's policy of silencing all opposition. Before the SMO began, the Western media had regularly reported on the nefarious influence of those extremist groups on Ukrainian politics, but afterward they pretended that these groups were unimportant, marginal phenomena.

In November 2023, Zelensky, the West's great hero of democracy, announced his intention to suspend elections for the duration of the war – i.e., for as long as the West would send money and weapons to Kiev to keep the illusion alive that Ukraine was bound to win: “Now is not the right time for elections.”¹⁰³ Thus, beginning in June 2024, Zelensky will no longer have constitutional authority in Ukraine—but why should a truly progressive democrat care for a constitution, the dead hand of the past? Meanwhile, in Russia, presidential elections were held in 2024, according to the schedule prescribed by the constitution. They resulted in the re-election of Vladimir Putin, this time with the greatest margin of his political career.

2023 had seen the dismal failure of the ballyhooed Ukrainian spring, summer and fall “counteroffensives”. The confidence in the Zelensky regime was faltering among the increasingly war-weary Ukrainian population – or what remained of it, for millions of Ukrainians had fled the country, either to the West or to Russia. At the same time, in Russia, the vast majority of the population had become aware of the fact that the West was waging a proxy war on Russia. There was no more appetite for those¹⁰⁴ who wanted to turn Russia

⁹⁹ The name change dated from 1995. Western interest in Ukraine dictated downplaying the National-Socialist (“Nazi”) sympathies of the party.

¹⁰⁰ Large swaths of Ukraine's agricultural land are owned by, or on behalf of, American agrobusinesses. Energy giants such as Exxon-Mobil and Shell have invested tens of billions of dollars in Ukraine's oil industry.

¹⁰¹ See above, note 18

¹⁰² Incredibly, Zelensky, now the political figurehead of Ukraine's Nazi past, was the guest of French President Macron on the 80th anniversary of the Allied landings in Normandy, while Russia was shunned (even though Russian troops had made the landings possible by engaging and defeating the best German armies on the eastern front).

¹⁰³ <https://edition.cnn.com/2024/03/30/europe/ukraine-election-zelensky-intl/index.html>

¹⁰⁴ E.g., the notorious huckster, Alexei Navalny (1976-2024); according to Western media, he was the most significant opposition leader against President Putin, although he was virtually unknown in Russia itself and his followers were mostly nouveaux riches in Moscow, Saint-Petersburg and a few other cities. Often accused and convicted of fraud, corruption and treason, Navalny was expelled even from the pro-West liberal party. However, he continued to attract financial support from the West. He died in prison – of natural causes, according to the

into a debt-ridden, thoroughly financialized satrapy of the West – another Ukraine.

3. THE ELITE, THEIR MEDIA AND THE ADULTERATION OF THE LAW

In today's Europe and the US, non-descript “democratic values” (defined and re-defined ad hoc by the corporate elite and its media outlets) substitute for democratic procedures. Accordingly, the primary function of Western politicians is no longer to “represent” but “to stand up to” the voters—whose “values” may not match the currently ordained fashion—to demonize, silence and censor any opposition to the oligarchy, and so to clear the path for locating decision making power in ever bigger international and multinational constructions, far removed from and inaccessible to ordinary men and women – preferably in technocratic organizations, run by the experts of various industries that stand to profit most from “super imperialism”.

At present, the corporate mass media are little more than vehicles of propaganda. Their function is to persuade, not to inform. The first more or less systematic treatise on the techniques of political propaganda had been included in Hitler's *Mein Kampf* (1925). It was based on Hitler's admiration of British propaganda during WWI. A sanitized summary version was shortly thereafter published by Edward Bernays (*Propaganda*, 1928). Bernays made propaganda an academic discipline (under labels such as ‘communication science’ and ‘marketing studies’). Anybody with enough money can learn to master the techniques of propaganda for his or her own purposes.

I still remember the days when there was an opposition press in my country, but those days are gone. The American sickness of consolidating the major media in a few corporations that relentlessly dish up the same narratives – the same *pensée unique*¹⁰⁵ – has spread all over the West.¹⁰⁶ The formula of the corporate mass media is simple: Because, with few exceptions, the readers and viewers of the mass media are unable and, in any case, unlikely to check the veracity of what they are told, they will believe anything, certainly if all the mass media to which they have access whistle the same tune. Moreover, it should not be too difficult to silence the few exceptions by ridiculing, shadow-banning, or otherwise intimidating them. Some dissidents might be co-opted as “controlled opposition”, allowed to dissent on one or two marginal points, provided they are first in line to calumniate other dissidents as lunatics, “conspiracy theorists” or “Putin lovers”.

medical report, which his mother, but not his widow, accepted. No doubt hoping to continue to collect Western donations to Navalny's cause, his widow suddenly appeared at various high-level Western political gatherings. [time.com/6967013/exclusive-yulia-navalnaya-speaks/](https://www.time.com/6967013/exclusive-yulia-navalnaya-speaks/)

¹⁰⁵ Early warnings had come already in the 1970s, e.g., Jean-François Revel, *La Tentation Totalitaire* (1976), *La Nouvelle Censure* (1977). I stopped reading newspapers in 1985, because there were too many false stories in the national media about local events about which I had first-hand knowledge. Also, I had grown up without television and never picked up the habit of “watching the news”.

¹⁰⁶ Beginning in the late 1990s, I had to remind students on several occasions that they were the most systematically, most thoroughly indoctrinated and brainwashed generation in the history of the world. Most of them had grown up in a virtual reality of mass produced context-less words and images and lived under a regime that had learned to use Orwell's 1984 and Huxley's *Brave New World* as technocratic manuals rather than warnings against dehumanization.

Prior to February 24th 2022, the Western oligarchy had not yet fully instructed the media what to say and what not to say about Ukraine. So, occasionally, more or less accurate reports of what was happening there would reach the Western public. The oligarchy's – and therefore the media's – attention had been focused on the campaign of Donald Trump in the 2016 US presidential elections, his threats “to drain the swamp in Washington” and “to bring an end to America's forever wars”¹⁰⁷ – in brief, his threat to take on the oligarchy and the mainstream media, which it owned. In 2016, ordinary Americans, sensing that they were considered superfluous people declared their intention to vote for Donald Trump, in protest against the Democrats, the ruling Party in Washington. Leading Democrats (since the days of Bill Clinton, prominent spokespersons for the oligarchy) routinely humiliated and excoriated them as “deplorables” (Hillary Clinton) or even “the dregs of society” (Joe Biden¹⁰⁸). Accordingly, from 2017 onward, the media focused on ridiculing and vilifying President Trump and his supporters. The anti-Trump propaganda was largely effective, at least on an international level, in Western Europe. In 2016 I heard many ordinary people assert categorically “Trump is mad” – as if they knew him personally – even though it was obvious enough 1) that they had no clue about American internal politics or even the electoral system in the USA, and 2) that many of them would have been ardent Trump supporters, if they had been American citizens.

The second point was not lost on the European political establishment. As the 2016 Brexit referendum in England and the rise of populist sentiment all over Europe had shown, European politicians eventually would have to choose between service to the oligarchy and service to the people – between, on the one hand, the money and status supplied by the global oligarchy (through the international institutions and financial and trade flows it controls) and, on the other hand, the votes of the people they supposedly represented – votes which, in principle, they should obtain only by proving themselves capable of upholding the age-old law of convivial freedom (i.e. living together in freedom and peace) in the right or just way. After all, to uphold that law – i.e. to uphold “the Rule of Law” – had been the original *raison d'être* of the modern representative (“democratic”) state.

According to that original rationale, the representative organ (the “ruling power”, the Parliament, the “power of the purse”) of the state, was supposed to impose rules on the executive branch (the “police power”, the Government or Administration, the “power to spend”)¹⁰⁹, to ensure that the executive did not

¹⁰⁷ Under the presidency of Barack Obama, the US was actively involved in at least eleven wars. According to US Army General Wesley Clark, a candidate in the Democratic Party's “primaries” for the 2008 elections, the Pentagon had plans “to take out seven countries in five years” (Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Lebanon, and Iran). See the interview with Clark on [youtube.com/watch?v=6Knt3rKTqCk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Knt3rKTqCk). An incomplete list of notable American/CIA interventions since WWII: Korea 1950, Guatemala 1954, Indonesia 1958, Cuba 1961, Vietnam 1961, Congo 1961, Brazil 1964, Dominican Republic 1965, Greece 1967, Argentina 1976, Nicaragua 1981, Grenada 1983, Philippines 1989, Panama 1989, Iraq 1991, Serbia 1995, Sudan 1998, Yugoslavia 1999, Afghanistan 2001, Iraq 2003, Yemen 2002, Somalia 2006, Lybia 2011, Syria 2011, Ukraine 2014

¹⁰⁸ [youtube.com/watch?v=7_JQSbuMt0k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_JQSbuMt0k)

¹⁰⁹ Separating the power of the purse and the power to spend was an echo of the medieval theory that the king had to beg the “estates” (the income producing landholders and traders – the nobility, the religious orders, the burghers) for money for specific undertakings (such as going to war) and maintaining his royal prerogatives (e.g., minting the coin of the realm, marrying into or making alliances with other royal houses). However, enterprising kings soon found other means of getting the money (conquests, taxation, loans, inflating the currency) and

abuse its power of enforcing the law. The legislature was not supposed to govern the people by imposing rules (“laws”) on them—the law of conviviality does not need to be legislated, as it is within every civilized person's comprehension. With respect to the people, the Parliament was to be the supreme judge *under the law*. Separating the power to rule, i.e. the power to judge (*jurisdiction*), from the power to command (to govern, *gubernaculum*) and subordinating the latter to the former is the essential precondition of civilized society. Wisdom takes precedence over force. Accordingly, the law of conviviality was supposed to be adjudicated ideally by judges agreed to by the parties to a conflict, or if this proved impossible, by judges selected in accordance with rules and conditions laid down by the ruling power. In brief, the role of legislation was to be limited to restraining the police power of the state and to ensuring that no one could avoid judgment according to law, a fortiori, that no one could “take the law into his own hands”.

However, the Rule of Law has been largely replaced by the “Rule of Legislation”, as most Westerners have come to believe what they are told in the state-dominated school systems (arguably the first and most comprehensive mass medium), viz. that legislation is the first and most important “source of law”. Of course, legislation is produced in an opaque, opportunistic process of wheeling and dealing among politicians, bureaucrats and lobbyists for various particular interest groups. In contrast, the classical, and for a long time traditional, conception of law had been the principle of peaceful coexistence and productive cooperation among the many and highly diverse human beings on the planet.¹¹⁰ Of course, legislation is not a source of law. On the contrary, law is the touchstone of morally justifiable legislation. Legislation appeals to particular interests of individuals and groups. The appeal to law is an appeal to the human conscience, to all of civilized humanity's common sense of things being in order or in disorder, being right or wrong. However, over the course of my career (now a distant memory), I noticed the diminishing status of philosophy of law (sustained reflection on the fundamental distinction between right and wrong, justice and injustice) and the rising status of something called ‘legal philosophy’ (a contrived rationalization of how a legal system remains the same, even though it today makes illegal/legal what, until yesterday, was legal/illegal – in other words, a rationalization of “decisionism”, i.e. opportunism and arbitrariness in high places).

Law and justice vs legislation and policing

The law of convivial freedom has three principles, which apply to everybody without distinction: “live in good faith, harm no one, and allow each to enjoy what is his own”¹¹¹ – in simplified form, “Live and let live in mutual respect”. Accordingly, justice, the art or skill of applying that law, requires a dedicated, constant and perpetual will to give to each what is his due in the infinitely variable, often tumultuous circumstances of life. Justice under the law of

so to buy the support of various factions of the estates or to set up one estate against another: *Divide et impera*—divide and command.

¹¹⁰ Thinking in terms of Man and his World *sub specie aeternitatis*, rather than “Our group, here and now”, had been the great achievement of Greek philosophy. It was retained in much of the theology of medieval Christianity.

¹¹¹ Ulpian's classic formulation in *Digesta* 1.1.10 (recorded in the sixth-century law books of the Roman Emperor Justinian): *Honeste vivere, alterum non laedere, suum cuique tribuere*.

conviviality is all a civilized person is entitled to expect of others; it is also the least he ought to be prepared to grant to others. Obviously, today's oligarchy's idea of total control is incompatible with the law of conviviality.

In the West, the law of conviviality has been replaced, at first gradually then in a revolutionary manner, by the law of socialization, i.e. the “social” or “collective” organization of virtually all human relations within hierarchical, bureaucratic constructions of directors and their subordinates, commanders and their underlings. Every one of those constructions is subject to “the iron law of oligarchy”.¹¹² The principal law of oligarchic organization is that all the lower-ranked members of an organization should unconditionally obey the orders given by their superiors, ultimately the director(s) of the organization, to attain the goals which the directors set for it. Every member of an organization must know his place and the job description that goes with it. In almost all cases, this implies “Do not act on your own initiative but follow orders or ask permission”. At most only a few officers of an organization have *plena potestas*, and then only in strictly limited areas and for specified purposes—they are free to choose the means and methods to achieve the goals set by their superiors. Only the directors (de jure or de facto owners, top managers) of an organization have *plenitudo potestatis* (fullness of power)—they are free to set the goals as well as the ways and means of achieving them.

Obviously, the law of conviviality cannot apply within an organization. In a convivial order, it is perfectly all right to say to another: “You want to go that way? Please do, but I’ll go this way.” One does not expect to hear that answer from a nurse to the surgeon's instruction, from a shipmate to the captain's command, or from an ordinary citizen to the government's legislative and regulatory directives.

Nevertheless, the classical idea of organization still presupposed that the directors ought to be intelligent, wise persons (sages), who have knowledge of the law of conviviality and are committed to make sure that their organization and every one of its members fully respect that law in interactions with outsiders.¹¹³ At bottom, there are only two ways of ensuring respect for the law of conviviality. One way is through the enhancement of civilization by educating people to self-control their expressions, in words or actions, of their impulses, urges, wants and desires. Unfortunately, in the West, education has been reduced to full-time schooling by arbitrarily assigned agents of massive state-funded bureaucracies, and by exposure to peer pressure in a particular age cohort, the “culture of the playground”, which is more often than not defined by the corporate producers of television series and ephemeral celebrities. The other way is through perfecting techniques of external enforcement (policing) by the administration of rewards and punishments¹¹⁴. The obvious problem with the latter is that policing techniques can be used to ensure not just respect for the law of conviviality but also – and far more easily – obedience to any commands whatsoever. Experts in policing are not ipso facto experts in justice.

¹¹² Robert Michels, *Zur Soziologie des Parteiwesens in der modernen Demokratie. Untersuchungen über die oligarchischen Tendenzen des Gruppenlebens* (1911); Michels' iron law of oligarchy holds for all but the smallest organizations.

¹¹³ See Appendix 14 (Plato)

¹¹⁴ Rewards and punishments are matters of government (*gubernaculum*). They are not to be confused with praise and blame, which are matters of ruling (*jurisdictio*).

Intelligence vs rationality

In Europe, starting in the fifteenth century with the rise of large armies and their corps of full-time staff officers (whose job it was to win wars for their commander-in-chief, usually a king, duke or ambitious magnate), the insistence on intelligence and wise judgment was increasingly replaced with an insistence on rationality and structures of effective command. Rationality is but a small, technical, calculating part of intelligence or wisdom, viz. the part that is concerned with “getting what one wants, while playing by the rules” (whatever the rules may be: rules of chess, basketball, mathematics, rules laid down by the current commander or legal system). The moral or ethical aspects of intelligence make the difference between “civilized humane person” and “cunning human animal”, but they are not parts of the modern conception of rationality.

People now speak of “artificial intelligence” (AI), but that is a misnomer for “artificial rationality” (AR), which is technologically enhanced, high-speed processing of enormous amounts of suitably formatted data according to complex systems of pre-defined rules and commands. Intelligence views things in context and seeks to judge conscientiously. Rationality demands that the context be specified, so that it can be treated as one more set of data. It does not judge conscientiously or otherwise; it calculates. However, this calculation – Big Data processing – does not come cheap. It requires enormous amounts of energy to keep the “servers” running and water to prevent them from overheating. Only the super-wealthy oligarchy can afford artificial rationality. There may be ways to circumvent or disable the built-in filters of AR programs and force them to provide unfiltered answers to questions, but these ways are in any case far beyond the ken of ordinary end-users.¹¹⁵ As long as these filters are kept secret, AR is a powerful weapon of mass deception.

In the modern conception of rationality, “what one wants” is no longer considered a matter to be judged by reason (intelligence or *ratio*, in the classical sense of the word) but a somehow given (not to be questioned) objective or goal. Accordingly, rationality is now concerned almost exclusively with the utilitarian problem of devising means and methods for effectively (and preferably efficiently) getting what one wants. For most people, this usually means getting what their paymasters want. On this modern view, the meaning of life is no longer living wisely or intelligently; it is getting satisfaction, the sooner the better.

In the process of reducing intelligence to modern, utilitarian rationality, consideration of principles of law and morality dropped out of the picture: “The end to be sought justifies the means to be used”. This translates ultimately as “The means are the end to be sought” – e.g., “Amassing more power to amass more power justifies amassing more power”. As, in this context, ‘power’ means ability to make others do what one wants them to do, total control (absolute power) emerges as the one and only rationally justifiable end or goal. Or, as one might also put it: The one and only rationally justifiable end is reducing others to pre-programmed, remote-controlled robots. Thus, mind control, by incessant propaganda, indoctrination and distraction, became a

¹¹⁵ An end-user may become aware of these filters when the AR programs start answering probing questions with “I do not understand the question” or “Sorry, I cannot help you”, or start repeating the same answer again and again (which usually means “I have no permission to say anything more”).

rational imperative of power seeking. That is where controlling the school systems and the media entered the political picture. As means of power seeking, they were soon followed by the prescription of stupefying, stultifying drugs (e.g., sedatives, opioids), also pesticides, adjuvants and additives to food, drink and medicine, other medical interventions (e.g., vaccinations, lobotomies, electroshocks), and ultimately by remote-controlled electronic implants (micro- and nanotechnology). In their politicized uses, the latter techniques are essentially high-tech forms of poisoning and torture. They open up the possibility of physically controlling the actions, even the thoughts, of other people.¹¹⁶ According to the logic of utilitarian power seeking, control of the schools, the media, medical, pharmaceutical and telecommunications industries should be conjoined to control of the traditional military industries.

This momentous change in the dominant view of man and his world is most conspicuous in the elite's conception of populism. 'Populism' is a term that in the twentieth century came in vogue to label, on the one hand and in a positive sense, ordinary people's attitude toward living peacefully with others—"Leave us in peace"—and on the other hand and in a pejorative sense, the actions and the rhetoric of "demagogues", who want to mobilize the populace against their present social superiors – ultimately, against the present oligarchy – not to restore respect for the law of conviviality but to replace one oligarchy with another. In any case, from the elite's point of view, populism is a threat to their power, prerogatives and privileges. However, even now, the reference to "ordinary people" or "the common man" is mostly a reference to people with no other particular distinction than that they are civilized, satisfied with treating others and being treated by others in a just, lawful manner. Part of the oligarchy's power is its ability to use the media to divide and command by keeping the obsolete dichotomy "Left vs Right" alive, even as the real division is now "Top vs Bottom", i.e. between the oligarchy itself and the general population.

The change in the dominant view of man and his world is also conspicuous in modern "higher education". The universities may still admit intelligent, wise students but then go out of their way to turn them, as they turn other students, into mass-produced *idiots savants*, experts or masters – sort of – in applying one or other academically approved (or merely fashionable) teachable method or skill, without a thought for the cultivation of their intellectual and moral character. The output of these universities-turned-into-technical-finishing-schools is then let loose on a labour market dominated by large to gigantic governmental and commercial corporations. Within these big organized structures, the graduates are supposed to function as specialist technicians and administrators. The more ambitious of them hope to climb the organizational career ladder and to make it into the blessed circle of senior staff officers, possibly even as commander-in-chief. The goals of the organizations they work for do not really matter—their rationally emaciated intelligence is not

¹¹⁶ This was the explicit aim of the CIA program known as MK-Ultra (early 1950s to early 1960s – see Stephen Kinzer, *Poisoner in Chief: Sidney Gottlieb and the CIA Search for Mind Control*, 2019). It was supposedly discontinued by the mid-1960s—i.e. it ceased to be a secretive CIA operation—but the relevant research continued in various research institutions and university departments (e.g., medicine, clinical and social psychology, sociology, communications science) and military and police academies (e.g., techniques of crowd control) – all of them funded by the government or another big corporation. Cf. President Eisenhower's Farewell Address (January 17th 1961): "Partly because of the huge costs involved, a government contract becomes virtually a substitute for intellectual curiosity."

concerned with the quality of goals, only with the usefulness of means and methods for attaining given objectives.

In the industrial age, the larger corporations still produced tangible goods, but their growing addiction to cheap credit fostered the growth of corporations that specialized in amassing “universal means”, money and power, which are useful for any purpose whatsoever. Beginning in the late nineteenth century, finance and government coalesced into a technocratic organizational structure that had no other purpose than amassing more money with which to buy anything whatsoever and more power with which to take anything whatsoever—as Julius Caesar put it: “With money buy men; with men take money.” As noted above: Big Business became Big Government, and vice versa. At the top of that highly structured organizational (but to outsiders utterly opaque) network was the national oligarchy, justifying itself as the elite – the “elect” of the meritocracy that had arisen from the modern cult of rationality and efficiency.¹¹⁷

Personal and corporate liability

It usually does not take long for the elite to become a technocracy, almost exclusively composed of former careerist technicians and administrators, unable to judge the quality of ends, goals or purposes other than the greater accumulation of the means of power. For them, efficiency is an abstraction, an absolute. They do not recognize that efficiency is subjective and relative – the same thing may be efficient for one group or purpose but not for other groups or other purposes.¹¹⁸ That is because, in their way of thinking, what matters is only this: getting more of what one wants by getting every thing one wants faster or more cheaply. The rationale usually given for this cult of efficiency is: By doing things efficiently, we can free time and means to do more of the things we want to do. The problem with this is not only that most people have no clear idea about what else they would want to do, if they had more free time or more means; it is also that having to do things more quickly or more cheaply may be unbearably stressful, while the quality of what is actually done is likely to suffer.

In a convivial setting, where people are personally responsible and liable for what they do, these problems are relatively unimportant. Because in that setting, there are no structural, let alone institutionalized, ways for shifting the problems created by one's own actions onto one's neighbours (one's peers), it is difficult to durably externalize the costs of one's actions. Consequently, irresolvable liabilities exist typically only within single small households as consequences of “domestic abuse” of spouses, children, or domestic servants. However in a heavily socialized setting (such as modern society), the situation is different. There, large households (organizations, corporations, states) predominate and their “domestic abuse” may affect thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of subordinates, all of them bound by the rules of responsibility and liability dictated by the directors or chief managers – not by the law of conviviality. It should surprise no one that directors or managers of such large entities prefer rules that diminish their personal liabilities by shifting

¹¹⁷ See e.g., John Ralston Saul's *Voltaire's Bastards – The Dictatorship of Reason in the West* (1991)

¹¹⁸ Murray N. Rothbard, “The Myth of Efficiency”, in Mario J. Rizzo (ed.), *Time, Uncertainty, and Disequilibrium* (1979), pp. 92-98

them unto parts or even the whole of their organization. This is especially easy in “public” organizations where the nominal owners (members, shareholders, citizens) are legally anonymous and the directors and managers get away with presenting themselves as mere employees of the organization. As mere employees they can claim that they are only doing their job, viz. make the organization more cost-efficient by externalizing the cost-liabilities of their decisions unto their subordinates, unto the nominal owners, or unto outsiders, who may have to spend a fortune trying to find out just where in the organization the decision was taken that harmed them. This is a particularly nice arrangement, if – as is so often the case – the directors or managers determine how much they should be paid for doing their job and how the liabilities of their decisions should be distributed among people who are not involved in making those decisions and lack the knowledge to judge the technical merit or rationality of those decisions on the basis of publicly available information (i.e. information not under the control of the management).

People usually look to the state to discipline the leadership of large private corporations. They do so assuming that the state is not only independent of such corporations but also more powerful than they are. However, the state itself is a large corporation. Its political leaders (presidents, ministers and affiliated political-party leaders) are as eager to avoid being personally liable for the effects of their policies as their counterparts in private corporations are. They share the same corporate management culture. To meet the demand for accountability, they like to organize supposedly “independent higher authorities” (state-like international or multinational organizations) to legitimate their actions and policies. All of these organizations are committed to the principle that their directors, or managers cannot be held personally liable, no matter how much damage their corporate decisions cause “on the ground”, i.e. to ordinary private persons.

Gutting the laws of personal responsibility and liability is the enduring legacy of the managerial revolution¹¹⁹ (of the socialization of capital de jure in the hands of anonymous nominal “owners”, and de facto in the hands of managers with little to no personal liability for their managerial actions).

4. THE EMPIRE OF LIES

After the Second World War, the contradictory attempt to curb the excesses of technocratic power at the national level by imposing elaborately organized, supposedly expertly designed, international, transnational and supranational versions of the same, created a vastly greater need for technocratic administrations and an expanded arsenal of expertise. However, from its very beginning, that superstructure was dominated by the US, which considered itself “an exceptional nation”, not subject to any law but instead a law *sui generis* unto the rest of the world. For the American oligarchy, the goal of global hegemony seemed to be within reach. Of course, “hegemony” means never having to fear any serious competition. In blunter terms, it means having the power and the money to squash competitors or – which is even better – to prevent any competition from arising.

The West routinely makes ample use of crude propaganda techniques, e.g.,

¹¹⁹ See above, page 17

“endless repetition of the same lies”, “simplification” (Climate Change: blame CO₂; Covid: blame sarscov2; War in Ukraine: blame Putin), “projection” (insistently accusing one's opponents of doing what one is doing oneself), and “redefining the meaning of words”¹²⁰. Such techniques serve to rationalize curbing free speech and other civil liberties, and censoring or defunding independent scientific enquiries. The media provide “fast intellectual junk food” and “instant opinions” on a 24/24, 7/7 basis. They count on masses of dumbed-down consumers to swallow dubious or even pseudo-science and accusations unquestioningly and without considering the motives of the supposed experts and the accusers. The general theme of propaganda is, of course, exploitation of ignorance and doubt. By de facto monopolizing widely-used channels of information, the oligarchy's media make it nearly impossible for most of their consumers to find out just how much of the official narrative is actually disinformation or misinformation, or how much information is wilfully suppressed.

Corona and the global coordination of media propaganda

In early 2020, the year of the novel coronavirus, almost all of the media (newspapers, newsmagazines, radio, television, the big Internet platforms, Google, Youtube, Facebook, also Wikipedia) immediately fell in line with the official narrative of a life-threatening, highly contagious viral “pandemic”¹²¹ that could only be addressed with draconian police measures until the pharmaceutical industry came up with “a safe and effective vaccine”, that would end the pandemic – but “only if every person on Earth were vaccinated”¹²². However, as the average age at death of covid19 was far above average life expectancy in most countries, it was clear from the beginning that the health risks of the corona-virus (Sars-cov-2) and the disease (Covid-19) it was presumed to cause were vastly exaggerated. So was the alleged reliability of the methods of diagnosis (e.g., the much ballyhooed PCR tests¹²³, also the even less reliable “Rapid at-home”-tests).¹²⁴ From the beginning of the PCR-testing craze, critics noted: “Want to end the pandemic? Stop testing—and let doctors treat their patients according to traditional diagnostic methods, i.e. as individuals, not as statistical artefacts.”

However, with the blessing of the World Health Organization (which is heavily subsidized by the pharmaceutical industry and associated oligarchs (most notably Bill Gates), the healthcare bureaucracies of the Western policy establishments immediately agreed to impose severe disruptions of regular medical care as well as heavy-handed and utterly arbitrary lockdowns – all in

¹²⁰ The World Health Organization redefined the meaning of ‘pandemic’ for the first time in 2009, to be able to call the Mexican flu (a.k.a. Swine flu) a pandemic disease and to launch a worldwide vaccination program that proved utterly futile. See [cbsnews.com/news/swine-flu-cases-overestimated/](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/swine-flu-cases-overestimated/)

¹²¹ See Appendix 15 (The corona-pandemic, 2020-2022)

¹²² This statement was propagandized by German Chancellor Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron and other political authorities pretending to speak for “the science”.

¹²³ PCR tests are known to give 100% false positives – e.g., the supposed Bordetella pertussis outbreak in the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (New Hampshire) in 2006; and that was about a bacterial infection (which can be checked against a lab-controlled “pure culture”). However, it is impossible to produce “pure cultures” of viruses. On the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center case, see [nytimes.com/2007/01/22/health/22whoop.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/22/health/22whoop.html) and [cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5633a1.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5633a1.htm)

¹²⁴ Pierre Chaillot, Covid 19, ce que révèlent les chiffres officiels fin 2023: mortalité, tests, vaccins, hôpitaux, la vérité sous nos yeux (2024)

the name of preventing contagion to prevent overburdening the intensive-care units of hospitals. Nevertheless, it was known from the start that almost no one died of the virus. Most officially declared covid19 mortalities suffered from many “co-morbidities” and were in such bad health that any complication, even a common cold, would have killed them. About the early, so-called disaster area in Bergamo (northern Italy), the Italian press agency, Agenzia nova, reported already on March 13th 2020: “There may be only two people who died from the coronavirus in Italy who did not show any other symptoms. This is evident from the medical files examined so far by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, said the institute's president, Silvio Brusafarro, during today's press conference in Rome.” Brusafarro added: “Remember, these people died with the corona virus in their bodies and not from the virus.”¹²⁵

In countries (e.g., in Africa¹²⁶) where standard medical care was not interrupted and “lockdowns” were not implemented or were generally ignored, “the virus” had no detectable statistical effect. Yet, it was not until early 2024 that international and national health bureaucracies and even pharmaceutical corporations began to admit that “mistakes were made”¹²⁷ – of course, without admitting their culpability in causing the disaster. The media too remained silent about their disgraceful, gratuitous fear-mongering stance during the entire episode.

The media took it upon themselves not only to advocate the most draconian, arbitrary even down-right silly non-medical measures and policies, but also to institute severe censorship of all dissident opinions, even those held by the, until then, most respected scientists, medical doctors, pathologists and statisticians—many of them were ostracized, lost their jobs or saw Wikipedia entries about them altered by anonymous editors. Meanwhile, their supinely compliant colleagues were lavishly subsidized for declaring even the most dubious cases ‘certified covid19 victims’. Paying people to lie is an effective method for skewing the statistics. It is not the only one—lying with statistics is easy. This is especially true, if the health authorities impose rules such as “Suspicion of covid19 = Covid19”¹²⁸ or “Positive PCR test proves sarscov2 infection” on doctors writing death certificates.

In any case, during the corona-panic, the oligarchy learned an important, lucrative lesson: Western populations are constantly dissuaded and distracted from doing their own thinking and constantly advised to defer to supposed experts “known from television”. Consequently, if enough money is invested in propaganda to make people live in fear of imminent death then they can be made to believe and do anything one wants them to believe and do – including accepting the shutting down of formerly standard medical care, devastating losses of income and opportunity, and standing in line to be injected with an expensive, hastily concocted, never adequately tested, new type of “vaccine” (actually, a genetically active substance) that quickly proved neither safe nor

¹²⁵ Only in September 2020 did the American CDC (Centers for Disease Control) admit that at least 95% of the registered corona dead suffered from “on average, 4.0 additional conditions or causes per death”. See [cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid_weekly/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid_weekly/index.htm)

¹²⁶ See apnews.com/article/coronavirus-pandemic-science-health-pandemics-united-nations-fcf28a83c9352a67e50aa2172eb01a2f; mises.org/wire/low-vaccination-rates-africas-covid-deaths-remain-far-below-europe-and-us

¹²⁷ zerohedge.com/covid-19/ex-cdc-director-says-its-high-time-admit-significant-side-effects-covid-19-vaccines; the ex-CDC director in question was Robert Redfield

¹²⁸ realclearpolitics.com/video/2020/04/08/dr_birx_unlike_some_countries_if_someone_dies_with_covid-19_we_are_counting_that_as_a_covid-19_death.html

effective. It is now generally acknowledged that the “covid vaccines” are not effective in preventing or spreading infection. Occasionally, it is also admitted that “although they are generally safe, they may occasionally cause serious adverse effects, even death”. In fact, the statistical signal of their unsafe nature was much stronger than the adverse-effects signal of all previous vaccines taken together.¹²⁹ Of course, the consumers of mass-produced news were not informed about these facts. Neither were they informed about the fact that in most countries normal product-liability rules did not apply to the covid “vaccines”.¹³⁰ Nothing could be permitted to hamper the stream of billions of tax money into the coffers of Big Pharma, a major player in the oligarchy, a major sponsor of the media, a major lobbyist on the political scene, and a major “philanthropic” donor to universities and scientific institutions.

Without a doubt, the covid hoax had been the most effective peacetime propaganda campaign in the war on truth in history. It was far more effective than the decades-old campaign to terrorize people and especially children with the threat of the imminent collapse of the Planet's “eco-system” – an excuse to accumulate layer upon layer of public debt on the backs of ordinary people, to drive down the capital value of, and then buy up at low prices or confiscate, small landholders' private properties all over the world, and to invest the proceeds in the oligarchy's various new technologies, supposedly required for the success of its “green agenda's” (e.g., genetically modified organisms, hydrogen fuelled machines, nano- particles and nano-machines, mRNA vaccines, geo-engineering¹³¹, and God knows which other things). The common extortionist theme: “Get used to our new normal or you'll die.”

Fortunately for the oligarchy, the Russian SMO in Ukraine provided a perfect excuse for shifting the public's attention away from the unravelling covid hoax onto a new demon, Russia's President Vladimir Putin. The oligarchy could do so without dismantling the huge propaganda apparatus that had been so effective in demonizing first Trump and his supporters as “mad authoritarians” and then the covid-sceptics as “grandma killers” and “science deniers”. For the oligarchy's media conglomerates, playing fast-and-loose with the truth is par for the course, but questioning oligarchy-subsidized “science” borders on criminality.

The lies that killed Ukraine

About Ukraine, one lie, incessantly peddled by the media and their paymasters, was that Ukraine is a country inhabited by a single people, the Ukrainians, who were now being attacked by foreign invaders, the Russians. In truth, as noted above, Ukraine was a highly divided country, and the Russian SMO was not an attack on Ukraine but an attempt to put an end to the relentless eight years old war the regime in Kiev was waging – with the support of the West – against the people of two dissident provinces in the Donbas who sought to secede from Ukraine out of fear of being turned into second-class citizens, or worse, into a

¹²⁹ According to the American Vaccine Adverse Effects Reporting System (VAERS), 67% of all reports in the period 1990-2024, occurred in the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 – i.e. the years of the covid vaccines – see medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?PRECISION=2&UNIFORMONSET=&TABLE=ON&GROUP1=APPY; also the April 22nd 2024 interview with Japan's Prof. Dr. Masanori Fukushima (https://odysee.com/@CMSi:9/Masanori_Fukushima_disaster_vaccination:0)

¹³⁰ hoover.org/research/vaccines-and-liability-0;

¹³¹ See Appendix 16 (Geo-engineering)

persecuted minority. In 2022, the media decided that it was okay for the West to support the aggressors in that war, but not okay for Russia to come to the aid of its victims.

Let us not waste time on the ridiculous lies produced by the Ukrainian propaganda machine: The heroes Snake Island,¹³² the Ghost of Kiev,¹³³ Chornobaivka,¹³⁴ etc. By far the biggest Ukraine-lie is “If Putin succeeds in Ukraine, he will not stop there.” There is not a shred of evidence for that thesis. One reason for Russia's extremely cautious and reactive¹³⁵ operation in Ukraine is that it wanted to demilitarize but not occupy Ukraine. It did not have the means and did not want to carry the burden of having to police a population of incorrigible Russia-haters, armed and financed by the West. Of course, the West's policy of supplying Kiev with ever more potent longer-range missiles “to strike targets in Russia” makes it a military imperative for Russia to extend its “safe zone” deeper into Ukraine. Even so, Putin never declared the occupation of the whole of Ukraine a political imperative.

Still, the media continually represent Russia as an aggressive, imperialistic dictatorship – an accusation they ridiculously try to make plausible with references to Chechnya and South Ossetia, even to Syria. However, Chechnya is a small republic in the North Caucasus regions of the Russian Federation. In the 1990s, it was caught up in the Jihadist onslaughts that caused so much trouble, terror and death in the Middle East and Western Europe, eventually in the USA¹³⁶. The First Chechen War started in 1994, when Russian President Yeltsin was up for re-election and Russia was in a most chaotic condition, its army underfunded and demoralized. Chechen ultranationalist separatists¹³⁷ in league with Jihadist forces in the Northern Caucasus sought to exploit the situation, while the rest of the population (Chechens and Russians) begged Moscow for help. The war formally ended in 1996, but the insurgency and Jihadist incursions continued. In 1999, the Second Chechen War erupted, when a wave of terror attacks struck many Russian cities, including Moscow in 2002¹³⁸. Moscow claimed the attacks originated in Chechnya and decided to clear the area with a military operation. Although he was pre-occupied with rebuilding Russia itself and dealing with the class of oligarchs and mafia gangs that had come to dominate the country under Yeltsin, President Putin ended the Second Chechen War in 2007. Restoring good relations with Chechnya paid off in the first year of the SMO. Chechen troops were amongst the fiercest forces coming to the defence of the Donbas provinces.

South Ossetia, just across the southern border of Russia, was formally the northern-most part of the former Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia (capital city: Tbilisi) and, after 1991, of the Republic of Georgia. South Ossetia was the victim of Georgian ultra-nationalism and some Jihadist terrorism. A large segment of its population consisted of ethnic Russians, which the Georgian nationalists wished to expel. The ethnic Russian population had sought to

¹³² [mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/ukraines-snake-island-heroes-who-32935830](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/ukraines-snake-island-heroes-who-32935830)

¹³³ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ghost_of_Kyiv

¹³⁴ [bbc.com/news/world-europe-63754797](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-63754797)

¹³⁵ The Russian strategy reacts piecemeal to escalations from Kiev and the West. E.g., it waited more than two years before attacking conventional electricity-producing installations, rather than just power lines (which are easily repaired).

¹³⁶ The destruction of the two major towers of the World Trade Centre on September 11th 2001 was blamed, without proof, on Osama Bin Laden's Jihadist Al Qaeda group.

¹³⁷ As had Ukraine, Chechnya had suffered greatly under Soviet rule.

¹³⁸ [britannica.com/event/Moscow-theater-hostage-crisis](https://www.britannica.com/event/Moscow-theater-hostage-crisis)

separate from Georgia in 1991-1992, but South Ossetia was placed under the joint control of Moscow and Tbilisi. When tensions flared up again in April 2008, Russian President Medvedev sent troops through the Roki tunnel under the Caucasus mountain range to restore order in South Ossetia. On August 12th, a cease-fire agreement, negotiated by French President Nicholas Sarkozy, ended hostilities. Russia recognized South Ossetia as an independent state, but declined its request for inclusion in the Russian Federation.

One might argue that the Russian intervention in South Ossetia was a breach of international law, but if it was then it was of about the same order of magnitude as the American interventions in Grenada (1983), a small Caribbean island, and Panama (1989). Moreover, it was the only unilateral¹³⁹ intervention of the Russian Army outside the borders of the Russian Federation in the period between 1991 and the beginning of the SMO in Ukraine. In contrast, over the same period, the US participated militarily in at least eighteen wars, and played a role as financier or by means of covert operations in many more countries – not one of them even close to its borders or inhabited by a sizeable number of Americans. The US has more than 800 extra-territorial military bases and installations, spread all over the world. Not counting the one in Crimea, Russia has only two military bases in countries that do not border Russia (Syria, Transnistria). However, it allegedly has agreements on planning bases with several African states (e.g., Niger) that wish to secure themselves against Western neo-colonial meddling. In the Newspeak of “the progressive West”, trying to secure one's borders is “imperialism” (if it is not “racism”); covering the globe with military bases (some equipped with nuclear and bioweapons) and economic sanctions is “spreading democratic freedom”.

In March 2022, the Russian army pulled back from the area around Kiev, partly in anticipation of the planned negotiations in Istanbul¹⁴⁰, but mostly because it was vastly outnumbered by Ukrainian forces. By March 30th, the Russians had pulled out of Bucha, a town near Kiev, after days of shelling by the Ukrainian army. Two days later, the Western press published photographs of bodies in the streets of Bucha alleging that the Russian army had executed civilians and committed an atrocious war crime. However, one of the photographs showed a close-up of a victim whose hands had been bound behind his back with a white ribbon of the kind worn by Ukrainian civilians who were sympathetic to the Russian SMO. For me, that photograph was a telltale sign that the media version of the event was dubious at best. Why should the highly disciplined Russian army execute its sympathizers? The timeline of the events quickly revealed that the Russians had nothing to do with the bodies in the streets. On the 31st, the mayor of Bucha, announcing that the Russian army had left the town, declared: “We are all safe and sound”. He made no mention of bodies in the streets, although the Ukrainian shelling and operations by Ukrainian resistance fighters in the previous week may have made many victims. Then the SBU (Special Forces of the Ukrainian police) entered the town. By the time the regular Ukrainian Army reached the town, the bodies were there to be photographed. The obvious conclusion: they were bodies of victims of the Kiev regime's reprisals against its internal opposition, not of Russian aggression against civilians. When the official Bucha story

¹³⁹ See Appendix 17 (Syria)

¹⁴⁰ See above, page 5

threatened to unravel in full view of the world, an American satellite operator, Maxar, came to the rescue, publishing photographs that allegedly proved that the bodies were already in place on the 19th of March – as if a high-tech company (and military contractor) is incapable of altering the date stamp on, or photo-shopping, electronically processed images. Implausibly, the Maxar photographs suggested that citizens of Bucha had not bothered to collect and bury the bodies of their family members, neighbours and friends for nearly two weeks. Nevertheless, the oligarchy's primary European propaganda outlet, the BBC, went out of its way to ridicule doubts about the official narrative of this alleged Russian war crime.¹⁴¹

Accusations of a Russian missile attack on Kramatorsk train station (April 8th 2022) were easily discredited: fragments of the missile revealed that it was of a type that was used by the Ukrainians, not by the Russians. Moreover, its position on the ground indicated that it had reached Kramatorsk from the South-East, not from the East (where the Russians were).

Wikipedia, eager to endear itself to the oligarchy (as it had done consistently with respect to the oligarchy's Climate Change and Green Agendas and its Corona-Covid policies), soon found allegations of Russian war crimes all over Ukraine.¹⁴² For good measure, Wikipedia mentioned also one – only one – Ukrainian war crime: shooting captured Russian soldiers in the knees as they were unloaded from a van – the “Mala Rohan incident”, which was proudly documented on video by members of a militia of Ukrainian nationalists that was by then integrated in the Ukrainian army. Wikipedia's treatment of the humanitarian situation during the 2014-2022 war in Donbas was only slightly less biased. It mentioned “allegations of war crimes by both sides”.¹⁴³

The “Russian war crimes”-hysteria eventually resulted in the International Criminal Court's¹⁴⁴ issuing an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin and his Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights, Maria Lvova-Belova, for the crime of “kidnapping children” (elsewhere in Ukraine and the world – and formerly in the West¹⁴⁵ – known as evacuating children from an active war zone).

The West concentrated on winning the propaganda war with the full connivance of its obedient media in an effort to justify its refusal to seek a negotiated solution to the conflict: “We do not negotiate with war criminals.” Reproducing, ad nauseam, press communiqués issued by the authorities in Kiev and ignoring or vilifying critical voices had become the West's standard of “objective journalism”.

Lying as policy

Of course, lies and provocations are at the basis of all the wars of the Western powers, from “Spain sinks the U.S.S. *Maine* in Havana harbour” (the Spanish-American war) onward. Remember “German soldiers kill Belgian babies with their bayonets” and “German U-boat sinks the passenger ship *Lusitania*”¹⁴⁶

¹⁴¹ [bbc.com/news/60981238](https://www.bbc.com/news/60981238)

¹⁴² en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_war_crimes

¹⁴³ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humanitarian_situation_during_the_war_in_Donbas

¹⁴⁴ See Appendix 8 (International courts)

¹⁴⁵ E.g., during the Battle of Britain in the Second World War, the British authorities evacuated children from cities that were likely to be bombed by the Nazis to the country side: iwm.org.uk/history/the-evacuated-children-of-the-second-world-war

¹⁴⁶ The *Lusitania* was built as a passenger ship; in 1915, when it was sunk, it was used as an

(WWI); Roosevelt's lies about "Tokyo's unprovoked surprise attack on Pearl Harbour"¹⁴⁷ and "Hitler's design to conquer South America and use it as a base for attacking the US"; Churchill's lies about total support for Poland, albeit on condition that Poland refuse to negotiate with Hitler about a corridor to Gdansk, and about Hitler's "plans to invade England" to justify a week-long bombing campaign on Berlin and so to provoke Hitler into revoking his embargo on attacking Great Britain (WWII); Lyndon Johnson's lie about the "Gulf of Tonkin Incident" to justify escalating the Vietnam War; G.H. Bush's lie about "Iraqi soldiers killing Kuwaiti babies in their incubators"¹⁴⁸ (the First Gulf War); G.W. Bush's lie about "Iraq's weapons of mass destruction" (the Second Gulf War); Cameron and Sarkozy's lie about "Colonel Gaddafi's use of rape as a weapon against the opposition"; Obama and Hillary Clinton's lie about "the Syrian government's use of chemical weapons against its own people"¹⁴⁹, which was followed by US air raids, illegal under international law (War in Syria); and Biden's lie about "Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine". This is just a sample of egregious lies. The full history of US secret operations in Asia, Africa and Central and South America still needs to be written.¹⁵⁰ It ranges from murder (e.g., of the Congo's first elected Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba in 1961) to rent-a-crowd financing (e.g., in the 1953 CIA Operation Ajax to get rid of Iran's elected Prime Minister Mossadegh and restore the emperor ("Shah") Mohammad Reza Pahlavi to regain control of Iran's oil.

It is said that eventually the truth will come out. But, 'eventually' does not mean in the foreseeable future. Only a minority of Americans still believe that President Kennedy was shot by "a lone gunman" (as the official Warren Commission¹⁵¹ concluded) but, in violation of enacted legislation, more than sixty years after the event, not all the relevant documents have been made public. We still wait for the truth about the "Watergate scandal". Was it a break-in (June 17th, 1972) at the offices of the Democratic Party's National Committee authorized by President Nixon (the official version); or was it a deep-state machination¹⁵² to drive Nixon out of office (which is what happened: Nixon resigned on August 9th, 1974) and get his newly appointed

"auxiliary warship", carrying ammunitions through a war zone to England. As a result of the incident, President Woodrow Wilson, accepted the resignation of his Secretary of State, William Jennings Bryan, a non-interventionist and advocate of US neutrality in foreign wars, and replaced him with the interventionist Robert Lansing. (On July 17th 2014, a Malaysian passenger plane, MH17, inexplicably flew over an active war zone in the Ukrainian Donbas, "shot down", according to the Western media, "by the Russians". See John Helmer, *The Lie that Shot Down MH17*, 2020)

¹⁴⁷ Roosevelt used this lie to send nearly 120.000 Japanese (including, in violation of the Bill of Rights, ca 90.000 American citizens) to concentration ("internment") camps: ([history.com/this-day-in-history/fdr-signs-executive-order-9066](https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/fdr-signs-executive-order-9066))

¹⁴⁸ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Navirah testimony : how to use a Kuwaiti ambassador's 15 year old daughter to justify a murderous war

¹⁴⁹ See Appendix 17 (Syria)

¹⁵⁰ E.g., A.W. McCoy's *The Politics of Heroin: CIA Complicity in the Global Drug Trade* (2003); *A Question of Torture: CIA Interrogation, from the Cold War to the War on Terror* (2006), and *In the Shadows of the American Century: The Rise and Decline of US Global Power* (2017); also Daniele Ganser, *USA: The Ruthless Empire* (2023)

¹⁵¹ Former CIA director Allen W. Dulles – he had been sacked by Kennedy – was a prominent member. At that time, the CIA and the media began to use 'conspiracy theorist' as a derogatory term for anyone who publicly doubts the veracity of the officially approved versions of politically important events. See Lance deHaven-Smith, *Conspiracy Theory in America* (2014)

¹⁵² See Appendix 18 (Watergate scandal)

Vice-President, Gerald Ford¹⁵³, to take over? Unlike Ford, Nixon was never liked by, and did not trust, the policy establishment in Washington, but he had been re-elected with the biggest margin in history: almost 61% of the popular vote (albeit with only about 55% of the voting age population actually voting—but that was an about average turnout for second-term elections). Consequently, he had to be stopped.

Also, the truth about the 9/11/2001 attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York has not yet come out. The official version of what happened: A handful of Muslim terrorists took some lessons in flying single-motor planes, high-jacked four passenger jet planes, flew two of them into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, one into the outer wall of the Pentagon and crashed another in a field in Pennsylvania. This narrative has been called into question numerous times by engineers, demolition experts, aviation experts, people familiar with the inner workings of the Pentagon, and journalists who asked the obvious question, “Who profits from the attacks?” Still, the media always find an academic or former policy insider who delights in “debunking” critics of the official narrative, usually without investigating his or her possible conflicts of interests.

Of course, the corporate media have no interest in discussing the impact of the CIA's long-running, ever-expanding Operation Mockingbird¹⁵⁴, the explicit purpose of which is to hide inconvenient truths and to spread convenient lies, half-truths and distractions. Remember James Jesus Angleton's (an early CIA director) famous quote, “Deception is a state of mind and the mind of the state”; William Casey's (CIA director under Reagan) “We'll know our disinformation program is complete when everything the American public believes is false”¹⁵⁵; and Mike Pompeo's (Secretary of State under Trump) happy reminiscence of his time as CIA director, “We lied, we cheated, we stole. We had whole training courses.”¹⁵⁶ In the US, the CIA often substitutes for the corps of civilian diplomats, even though it is a secret army rather than what it is supposed to be, viz. an organization that informs the President about developments in foreign countries.

When “populist” President Donald Trump ran for re-election in 2020 against long-time Washington insider and former Vice-President (under Obama) Joe Biden, his predicted win did not materialize. Late at night on Election Day, vote-counting was stopped in several states, where Trump was in the lead. When the count resumed the next morning, Biden had overtaken Trump. Despite numerous protests, the political establishment and their subservient media stuck to the official story: “All is well, nothing to see here.” Popular protest led to a massive manifestation in Washington, D.C., on January 6th 2021, and a much smaller march on the Capitol Building, where senators were about to vote on validating the election results. On the steps to the terrace on one side of the building, a melee developed between protesters and police forces, while on the other side, the Capitol Police let protesters inside the

¹⁵³ Gerald Ford was a typical Washington insider. He had been a member of the Warren Commission that had investigated the murder of John F. Kennedy

¹⁵⁴ spartacus-educational.com/JFKmockingbird.htm; Carl Bernstein, “The CIA and The Media”, Rolling Stone Magazine, October 20th, 1977

¹⁵⁵ truthstreammedia.com/2015/01/13/cia-flashback-well-know-our-disinformation-program-is-complete-when-everything-the-american-public-believes-is-false/

¹⁵⁶ His response to a student's question about foreign policy, Texas A&M University, April 15th, 2019

building for a peaceful walk-around.¹⁵⁷ The political establishment falsely accused Trump of inciting his supporters “to storm the Capitol” and to “instigate an armed insurrection”¹⁵⁸, although no protesters inside or outside the Capitol building were known to have been carrying firearms.¹⁵⁹ All of those who were inside quietly left the building when ordered to do so by the officers who accompanied them. Nevertheless, many of them were later arrested, prosecuted and condemned to excessively long and harsh prison sentences—some were held in solitary confinement. Their real “crime” was being Trump supporters. While the American media enthusiastically joined the Democratic Party's witch hunt, the European media dutifully presented the transatlantic establishment's narrative as factual – no questions asked. When polls indicated Trump's continued popularity, Time Magazine (on February 4th 2021) attributed his defeat to a skilfully conducted “secret but legal” campaign by Democratic Party operatives funded by oligarchs and trade unions of teachers and civil servants.¹⁶⁰

In 2021, the politicization – political corruption – of the American court system went in overdrive. It had started during the Trump Administration (2017-2021), when the oligarchy and the political establishment in Washington it controlled (almost the entire Democratic Party and the so-called RINOs – Republicans-in-name-only, or “Anti-Trumpers” as they then called themselves) had used their wide-ranging and intensive contacts within the Department of Justice and the media not only to subvert the President's decisions (especially but not exclusively on illegal immigration, his main campaign pledge), but also to prosecute his closest collaborators¹⁶¹, most-vocal supporters¹⁶², and

¹⁵⁷ cha.house.gov/cha-subcommittee-reading-room-fe781e74-d577-4f64-93cc-fc3a8dd8df18

¹⁵⁸ Trump's speech was recorded in toto on multiple videos, none of which showed the slightest evidence for these charges. (I watched several of them the next day.) However, the media preferred reporting the statements of Democratic Party and Anti-Trump politicians and deep-state spokesmen to reporting the facts. FBI Director Christopher Wray spoke of “armed insurrection” and “domestic terrorism”, Democratic Judiciary Committee Chair Dick Durbin called the protestors “insurrectionists... the latest incarnation of a violent white supremacist movement that has terrorized fellow Americans on the basis of their race, religion, and national origin” (c-span.org/video/?509033-1/fbi-director-christopher-wray-testifies-january-6-capitol-attack&live#). Durbin was following Obama, who had regularly called critics ‘racists’, to avoid having to answer their arguments. By playing the “racism” card, Obama hoped to unify the political establishment in Washington (where words and slogans matter more than facts) against the populism of ordinary people who instinctively distrust highfalutin declamations by people “who play with fire but don't even know that fire is hot” (to paraphrase George Orwell's characterization of “Left-wing thought” (in *Inside the Whale*, 1940). Trump, in contrast, appealed to ordinary people who refused “to let their face grow to fit the mask” the media were painting on it (another paraphrase of Orwell's words. in “Shooting an elephant”. 1936).

¹⁵⁹ “To my knowledge we have not recovered any [firearms] on that day from any of the arrests at the scene at this point.” said Jill Sanborn, assistant director of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division at an official hearing. “No one has been charged with a firearms violation.” See justthenews.com/government/congress/senate-hold-second-hearing-security-failures-leading-capitol-siege

¹⁶⁰ time.com/5936036/secret-2020-election-campaign/

¹⁶¹ Among them Trump's National Security Advisor, General Michael Flynn, eventually even his lawyers

¹⁶² In November 2022, ten years after the facts and despite multiple public apologies, investigative journalist Alex Jones was ordered to pay \$1.4 *billion*, most of it to some of the families of the victims of the Sandy Hook school shooting (December 12th, 2012) but also tens of millions to an FBI agent who had happened to be on the scene. Jones's crime: he had initially called the shooting a staged event. The decision bankrupted Jones and threatened the continued existence of his Infowars.com. Of course, Jones is remorselessly vilified by the establishment media (including Wikipedia), even though he was far more often right about events and developments than they were. Steve Bannon, another popular podcaster and Trump supporter, was sent to prison from July 1st to November 1st 2024 for not cooperating with the partisan “January 6th 2021 Committee”. He will not be able to communicate with his large

eventually to “impeach” the President himself (in 2019, and again in 2021) in mock trials in the US House of Representatives. The “impeachments” had no constitutional effect, because they were purely party-political procedures of indictment (accusation) in the House of Representatives, not followed by conviction in the Senate. They were merely attempts to shape public opinion.

When it became clear that Trump remained popular and intended to run again in the 2024 presidential election, the policy establishment hit him with dozens upon dozens of expensive civil and even criminal lawsuits (concerning “victim-less crimes” that existed only in the minds of a few partisan public prosecutors¹⁶³ and judges in super wealthy districts – such as Manhattan, the home of the oligarchy – where ordinary people are hard to find and would be excluded from sitting as members of a jury in a Trump trial at the slightest suspicion of their being Trump supporters—in contrast, even outspoken anti-Trump jurors were okayed by the judge¹⁶⁴). The obvious motive for these prosecutions was to prevent Trump from campaigning, possibly even to disqualify him from running, and – at the very least – to intimidate and frighten away his more timid supporters. After all, in the polls, Trump was leading the incumbent, Biden, by several points. Again, the American media were ecstatic, chanting “See, nobody is above the law”, even though prominent lawyers (e.g., Alan Dershowitz, Robert Barnes, Jed Rubenfeld) and commentators (e.g., Fareed Zakaria, Joe Rogan, Glen Greenwald) did not mince words in condemning the complete abandonment of long-established principles of justice and due process, and long-standing precedents, by the state prosecutors and judges that cooperated in the Biden administration's campaign of “lawfare” (abuse of the prosecutorial and judicial systems¹⁶⁵) against its major electoral opponent.¹⁶⁶ Most lawyers agreed that verdicts against Trump were likely to be reversed on appeal – but that did not matter to the Biden camp, because the appeals would be decided only after the elections.¹⁶⁷

Sad to say, the European media and political establishments again sheepishly followed the American official narrative. Most Europeans know of the US only from stories told by its national and international media, which are based in Washington and New York (The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, etc.), all of which tell essentially the same stories, because they are owned by, and propagandize the designs of, the same oligarchy. Occasionally, criticism of the official line reaches the public, but

audience until the election is over. But don't call such moves ‘election interference’!

¹⁶³ In some states (of the US), the office of Attorney General is awarded to the winner of an election. The oligarch and billionaire ideologue George Soros has donated lavishly to help elect many Democratic or anti-Trump candidates – hence the expression ‘Soros prosecutors’.

¹⁶⁴ Juan Merchan, a former prosecutor, presided over the trial, despite the fact that his daughter runs a consultancy firm involved in the electoral campaigns of Democratic Party politicians. Conflict of interest? “No” ruled the judge in his own favour. Eventually the jury convicted Trump, although nobody could make out exactly for which crime he was convicted. However, for the exultant media that was no problem at all. By traditional standards, the trial was a series of due-process violations, a travesty of justice.

¹⁶⁵ Recently, the practice of lawfare has spread to Europe as well (against the AfD party in Germany, and the populist Vlaams Belang, in Belgium)

¹⁶⁶ rumble.com/v532ock-uncovered-legal-system-weaponised-trump-hunter-bannon-and-biden-the-winston.html

¹⁶⁷ Trump has probably learned that he cannot function as president without the support of the oligarchy. He has recently supported sending billions to Ukraine, and ramped up his anti-Iran and anti-China rhetoric—the Republican Party and the “Christian Right” are hysterical about “China infiltrating and taking over the US”. Whether this is merely a tactical, electoral move or a strategic embrace of America's “forever wars to achieve hegemony” remains to be seen.

only if it is clearly labelled ‘Fiction’ (e.g., Hollywood films or novels).

By the time the Russian SMO got under way, the West had truly become an Empire of Lies and Arrogance. However, the West greatly underestimated the resilience of the Russian Federation and its diplomatic ability to build up support in Asia, Africa and South America, especially in countries where resentment against Western arrogance and neo-colonial impulses ran high. Could it be that Western reports about Putin's becoming more and more isolated are greatly exaggerated?

And so the war in Ukraine continues, while the West seeks to expand it to Georgia, another neighbour of Russia, and to Taiwan, ostensibly to deter China from threatening US economic interests by maintaining normal relations with Russia (thereby sabotaging the West's sanctions policy against Russia). Moreover, American efforts to get rid of neutral politicians (e.g., Imran Khan in Pakistan¹⁶⁸) and to destabilize neutral countries (e.g., Thailand¹⁶⁹, Armenia¹⁷⁰) continued unabated.

5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

At present, it is unclear whether, or in what shape or form, Ukraine will continue to exist as an independent nation – independent, that is to say, from both Russia and the Washington-led NATO coalition. It is also unclear how far the US and Europe will go in their attempts to prolong the war with their policy of continual escalation – continually shifting and then crossing their own red lines concerning war aims and restrictions on the delivery and use of military supplies to the gang in Kiev.

The differences in the US and European approaches to the war in Gaza (which started on October 7th 2023) are stark, even though they are now muted because of concerns in Washington (also in Brussels) about the US presidential election on November 5th. However, while the EU still aims for a two-state solution in Palestine, it has never supported a similar solution in Ukraine. There, it rejects the Donbas region's desire for independence from Kiev. Moreover, it has never come out in favour of Ukrainian neutrality or even a federalization of the Republic of Ukraine, which would have ensured substantial autonomy for its largest ethnic minority and prevented the kind of foreign interference that culminated in the Maidan coup of 2014.

However, the warmongering non-diplomat, Josep Borrell, the EU Commission's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security, was not interested in peace and security.¹⁷¹ As he said in a May 3rd 2024 lecture at Oxford University: “If Putin succeeds in Ukraine, he will not stop there. The

¹⁶⁸ Imran Kahn, the hugely popular former prime minister of Pakistan (2018-2022), was recently sentenced to a ten-year prison term. apnews.com/article/pakistan-khan-court-hearing-graft-election-b390b903841d29ab3f95f28c1f5d459f

¹⁶⁹ landdestroyer.blogspot.com/2020/08/why-is-us-funding-protesters-to-attack.html

¹⁷⁰ In 2018, a “revolutionary government” came to power in Armenia, under Nikol Pashinyan, an authoritarian neo-liberal, talking the West's talk about human rights, direct foreign capital investment and “austerity”, and a hardliner on Nagorno-Karabakh (an Armenian, Christian enclave in Azerbaijan, a Muslim country). However, in 2020, Pashinyan gave up on Nagorno-Karabakh to meet the West's conditions for closer ties with the EU. The policy caused hundreds of thousands of Armenians to flee from the enclave and wide-spread protests in Armenia: apnews.com/article/armenia-protest-azerbaijan-3efe1478d6ed36ae9b0b728711b22feb

¹⁷¹ It is likely that he will be booted from his EU post after the upcoming elections for the European Parliament, but not likely that the EU Commission's Ukraine policy will change.

prospect of having in Kyiv¹⁷² a puppet government like the one in Belarus, and the Russian troops on the Polish border, and Russia controlling 44% of the world[‘s] grain market is something that Europeans should be aware of.”¹⁷³ Apparently, it never seems to have crossed what passes for his mind that the Russians may be aware of the US stationing – with the blessing of the EU’s puppet states – nuclear and biological weapons minutes away from Moscow. Borrell certainly did not care to answer the essential questions: “Where will Washington’s hegemonic drive stop? At what point will the EU get the idea that peace and security in Europe depend on its recognition of Russia’s legitimate security concerns, after decades of Western duplicity, dishonesty and betrayal of solemn commitments?” Peace and security in Europe do not depend on the EU’s continual toadying to the oligarchy that finances the US’s and its own neo-conservative policy establishment.

In his Oxford lecture, Borrell admitted: “We created this problem [in Ukraine] one way or another. And we have a strong responsibility in trying to solve it. The Ukrainian existence depends on us.” To this, he immediately added: “I know how to finish the war in Ukraine. I can finish the war in Ukraine in a couple of weeks just by cutting the supply. If I cut the supply of arms to Ukraine, Ukraine cannot resist. They will have to surrender, and the war will finish. But is this the way we want the war to finish? I do not want [that], and I hope that many people in Europe do not want [that] either.”

Mr Borrell, Ukraine is bleeding because you paid its leaders to believe that ‘neutrality’ is a dirty word. Meanwhile, the West is sinking under the weight of a growing mountain of debt, while flirting with the idea of provoking a nuclear war. Mr Borrell, I cannot stop you from doubling down on your vicious belligerence, your wanting to resurrect the inglorious Ukrainian SSR—but don’t claim to do it my name.

Frank van Dun¹⁷⁴, Ghent, Belgium, June 7th 2024

¹⁷² In 2022, the Western media immediately adopted ‘Kyiv’, the Ukrainian spelling of ‘Kiev’, but they continue to refer to Turkey (rather than Türkiye, as the government in Ankara insists they should)

¹⁷³ Josep Borrell, May 3rd 2024, Dahrendorf lecture, at St Anthony’s College, University of Oxford – text of the lecture: eeas.europa.eu/eeas/united-kingdom-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-oxford-university-about-world_en ; video of the lecture: audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/video/I-256530

¹⁷⁴ Thanks to Philip Vanstapel for helpful comments and additional references

APPENDICES

The purpose of the following appendices is solely to provide some relevant background information and context to statements in the main text.

Appendix 1 (Oligarchy)

In today's world, holding or managing vast amounts of shares in a great number of corporations all over the globe has replaced holding and managing vast expanses of land as the mark of economic power and wealth. Of course, of particular importance are corporations holding and managing ownership of, or exploitations rights to, vast expanses of natural resources (land, mines) as well as financial corporations (states, banks, money funds) that amass other people's savings to supply the huge amounts of credit that they or their clients need to buy up or exploit land and to pay for the means of exploitation (workers, tools, machinery). States do so by confiscation and taxation; other financial corporations do so by promising people to make their savings earn interest by lending them to, or investing them, in large projects.

Accordingly, in its current sense, the word 'oligarchs' means individuals wielding enormous economic power (as dominant shareholders or directors of large industrial or financial corporations or tax-free "philanthropic" foundations) which they translate into political power as donors or providers of "technical" counselling to servile politicians, political parties and NGOs (non-governmental organizations¹⁷⁵), and by entering into PPPs (public-private partnerships) with governments, governmental bureaucracies, treaty-based organizations and intelligence services. "Private" economic and "public" political powers are never separated for long.

After the Second World War, Western oligarchs became increasingly active in international and supranational organizations, which they provide with financial means to operate a diversity of "special programs" to advance the agendas of the oligarchy. They set up various private and semi-private clubs and organizations (e.g., the Bilderberg Group, the German Marshall fund, the Trilateral Commission, the Club of Rome, the World Economic Forum) and affiliated networks of think tanks and NGOs to coordinate their interactions with political authorities and to hire mercenary academics and journalists to shape public opinion.¹⁷⁶ By the 1990s, what had begun, forty years earlier, as a CIA operation ("Operation Mockingbird"¹⁷⁷) to infiltrate the mass media (including the film industry and other sections of high and popular culture) had spread its tentacles all over the Western world.

The existence of national and even global oligarchies (elites of "deep state" stakeholders) is a well-documented fact – not a "conspiracy theory" about a non-existent secretive cabal. They are what H.G. Wells (1866-1946) called "open conspiracies"¹⁷⁸, networks of networks, based on opportunistic collusions of interests – some publicly avowed, others hushed up – not on an

¹⁷⁵ Many NGOs are now heavily subsidized with tax money. In what sense are they "non-governmental"?

¹⁷⁶ See e.g., Udo Ulfkotte's memoir *Gekaufte Journalisten – Wie Politiker, Geheimdienste und Hochfinanz Deutschlands Massenmedien lenken* (2014)

¹⁷⁷ See above, note 154

¹⁷⁸ See archive.org/details/the-open-conspiracy-h.-g.-wells, also Carroll Quigley, *Tragedy and Hope* (1966)

obsession with organized secrecy. The oligarchy hides in plain sight: “Only the small secrets need to be protected. The large ones are kept secret by public incredulity.”¹⁷⁹ Nevertheless, because oligarchs control the media, the connections between their operations tend to be almost invisible to the public. Hence, the now frequent references to “invisible governments” and “deep states”.

Regarding a nominally representative political system, the expression ‘deep state’ refers to the existence of a loose and informal coalition (network) of the real “Powers that be”, the oligarchy of unelected, largely anonymous and in any case politically unaccountable people, leaders or directors of interest groups and public or private organizations, each with considerable, possibly decisive influence over the shaping, financing and implementation of decisions in one or other area of “public policy”.

The oligarchy likes to promote “agendas” to deal with supposedly world-threatening crises (“climate change”, pandemics) about which ordinary people feel helpless, but which the oligarchy promises to be able to master, provided people unconditionally submit to a Single World Government that is empowered to do “whatever it takes, and for as long as it takes” – the “it” in question being decided by the oligarchy itself. The basic idea: Only the concerted action of the very rich and very powerful can save the Planet from ordinary people—for, as the Club of Rome declared, “the real enemy is humanity itself”.¹⁸⁰ You see, the end of the Cold War had created a void that must be filled with “new enemies, new strategies and new weapons”.¹⁸¹ In other words, it was high time for the heroic oligarchy to save the Planet by developing strategies for subduing the greatest enemy of all, the common people and their common media of expressing themselves, viz. free markets in useful goods and services, and local democratic institutions.

Appendix 2 (Roosevelt; the military-industrial complex)

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, US President from 1933 to 1945, was an admirer of Joseph Stalin (and Benito Mussolini until the latter allied with Hitler). After the failure of his New Deal policy (1933-38), Roosevelt built up the armaments industry to combat persistently high unemployment. He was also a master politician. He promised to ensure that the US arms industry would have branches in almost every state in the US, so that there would be little opposition to his plan in the House of Representatives and the Senate.¹⁸²

By December 7, 1941 (Pearl Harbor), the US was ready to participate in WWII. Hitler's Germany was Roosevelt's principal nemesis. In part because of massive American investments, Germany had made a remarkably quick recovery from the devastation of WWI and the subsequent inflation of the Weimar Republic. While the US insisted on payback of its war loans to its allies, it showed only lacklustre support for their insistence, in the Treaty of Versailles (1919), that Germany pay “reparations” for the damage it had caused them during the war. Reparations were Europe's problem, not a problem for the US. Thus, Germany was poised to become a formidable competitor to US

¹⁷⁹ Quote attributed to Marshall McLuhan

¹⁸⁰ Alexander King and Bertrand Schneider, *The First Global Revolution*, 1993 edition, p. 115

¹⁸¹ *Idem*, p. 70

¹⁸² Thomas Fleming, *The New Dealers' War* (2001)

industry, not the least its armaments industry. Having entered the USA in the war, Roosevelt decided to squash Germany, to de-industrialize it and to starve its population – cf. the 1944 Morgenthau plan, “Suggested Post-Surrender Program for Germany”, which was abandoned only when Harry Truman, Roosevelt's successor, fell for the CIA's ruse and declared Stalin's USSR the greatest threat to America's “security interests” (i.e. “American global hegemony”). Almost instantaneously, West Germany – still occupied by American, British and French troops – became the USA's most valuable ally in Europe in the Cold War against the USSR. However, that relationship became strained in the post-Soviet period, when Germany sought intensive economic relations with Russia. As in 1917 and 1941, so in the 1990s: The American quest for global hegemony required that Germany be prevented from becoming the European power broker, getting cheap energy supplies from Russia and selling high-value manufactured products to the rest of Europe and the world (including the USA), thereby threatening the US's status as the factory of the world. However, in the 1990s, the US was transforming itself into an essentially financial power, relocating much of its industrial base to countries where labour was cheap. This move created a huge gap within the US itself between city-based centres of “high-tech services” and areas of “low-tech industrial production”.

Despite Roosevelt's legions of hagiographers, many students of history viewed him as an agent of destruction. In a letter to historian Harry Elmer Barnes, Henry Beston (1888-1968, American writer and naturalist) wrote: “Roosevelt was probably the most destructive man who ever lived. He left the civilized West in ruins, the entire East a chaos of bullets and murder, and our own nation facing for the first time an enemy whose attack may be mortal. And, to crown the summit of such fatal iniquity, he left us a world that can no longer be put together in terms of any moral principle.”¹⁸³

To understand Beston's verdict, we should not forget that the US created the State of Israel and the enduring mess that the Middle East became after WWII. Early in 1945, when the gruesome details of the Nazi's “final solution of the Jewish problem” were becoming public knowledge, President Roosevelt visited the Middle East for consultations with King Saoud of Saudi Arabia, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, and King Farouk of Egypt.¹⁸⁴ When Roosevelt raised the question of the fate of Europe's Holocaust survivors and their desire for a Jewish homeland in Palestine – “one they were willing to share with their Arab neighbours” – Saoud was firm in his reply: “The Jews should return to live in the lands from which they were driven,” he said. In short: If you want to create a Jewish state, do so in Germany. Roosevelt responded that few Holocaust survivors would want to live in Germany. Unpersuaded, the king said: “Make the enemy and the oppressor pay; that is how we Arabs wage war. Amends should be made by the criminal, not by the innocent bystander. What injury have the Arabs done to the Jews of Europe? Christian Germans stole Jewish homes and lives. Let the Germans pay.” The king suggested the Rhineland as a suitable destination for survivors of the Holocaust. Roosevelt then tried another tack: “The Arabs are numerous and

¹⁸³ Quoted with approval in Barnes, Harry E. “Pearl Harbor After a Quarter of a Century”, *Left and Right* 4, No. 1 (1968)

¹⁸⁴ See the 1945 newsreel [youtube.com/watch?v=mZNwVgvqU_w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZNwVgvqU_w)

their lands extensive; the Jews, by contrast, are few.” The king looked FDR in the eye and uttered one word: “No”.¹⁸⁵

Of course, the US prevailed. Under pressure from its powerful Jewish and Zionist lobby, it got war-beaten England to set apart a section of its Protectorate in the Middle East for the creation, in 1948, of a new state, which was to be reserved exclusively for Jews – not “one they were willing to share with their Arab neighbours”. From its founding, Israel was de jure an Apartheid state. The British had objected, but to no avail. They were all too familiar with the activities in Palestine of Jewish Zionist movements (e.g., Irgun, founded in 1931) and their paramilitary organizations (e.g., Lehi, “the Stern gang”) that terrorized the British “protectors” (attack on King David Hotel in Jerusalem, 1946), the local population (e.g., the Deir Yassin massacre, 1948), and murdered a visiting diplomat on a peace mission (Count Bernadotte, also in 1948). In 1948 alone, 700,000 Palestinians were driven from their homes and lands. This created a huge refugee problem in the region, but it also gave the US a secure foothold in the Middle East. Armed to the teeth by the US, Israel went on to expand its territories (on the West bank of the Jordan, the Golan Heights and Gaza). However, because Israel gave instant citizenship to any Jewish immigrant, the highly Westernized, secular Ashkenazi Jews (mostly European Holocaust survivors, American Zionists and aficionados of the Israeli collectivist institution, the Kibbutz) gradually lost control of the state to a massive influx of religiously Orthodox Jews from all over the world who came to Israel, because it was their “Promised Land” in the most literal Old-Testament sense of the expression. The deluded “Christian Right” in the US – i.e. most “Evangelical Churches” – accepted this “Biblical view” of the 1948 State of Israel, even though it fuelled Jihadist attacks on Christian communities that ended more than a millennium of mostly peaceful co-existence among Muslims, Christians and Jews in the Near and Middle East.

Appendix 3 (Ethnic Ukrainians)

In early historic times, the people living in what is now Ukraine and what is now western Russia were both called *Rus'*—but even then, they comprised a variety of Slavic and other tribes speaking a variety of languages and dialects.

Arriving in their rowboats, along the Dnieper, Scandinavian Viking raiders (referred to as *rus'*, i.e. rowers¹⁸⁶) founded a stronghold in what is now Kiev. So, the area was called '*Rus'land*'. The Kievan *Rus'* founded the Varangian Empire (ca 860) under the Rurikid dynasty. The empire disappeared during the Mongol attacks in the 13th century. The Rurikid dynasty then moved to Novgorod, later to Moscow, where Ivan IV “the Terrible” (1530-1584) became the first Tsar (“Caesar”) of Muscovy and later of all of Russia (r.1547-1584). In 1613, the House of Romanov took over from the Rurikid dynasty. Thus, Russia got its name from a Scandinavian Kievan dynasty that had to seek refuge in the North from the Mongol assault; and Ukraine (from Old Russian '*oukrania*', frontier zone, borderland, outskirts) got its name from the *Rus'* in the North, who hoped to win back the lands that had been lost to the Tatars.

From the late-sixteenth century to the late-eighteenth century, much of what

¹⁸⁵ politico.com/story/2019/02/14/this-day-in-politics-feb-14-1945-1164052; two months after his trip, Roosevelt died on April 12th 1945.

¹⁸⁶ Derived from Scandinavian '*Rösisti*', from Old Norse '*roðr*', Old Swedish '*Röpsmenn*' (rowers)

is now the western part of Ukraine was a part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1596-1797), which was dominated by Polish landholders. Militarily and administratively too weak to hold its culturally, religiously and linguistically heterogeneous population together, the Commonwealth fell apart. Parts of its territory were annexed by Prussia and Austria and the rest by Russia in the 1790s. Until the Soviet era, the elite's language in the Lvov region was German; in Russia, it was French.

Appendix 4 (NordStream 2)

In “A year of lying about Nordstream”, published September 26th 2023 on his seymouthersch.substack.com, veteran investigative journalist Seymour Hersh concluded his investigation: “The Biden administration blew up the pipelines but the action had little to do with winning or stopping the war in Ukraine. It resulted from fears in the White House that Germany would waver and turn on the flow of Russia[n] gas—and that Germany and then NATO, for economic reasons, would fall under the sway of Russia and its extensive and inexpensive natural resources. And thus followed the ultimate fear: that America would lose its long-standing primacy in Western Europe.”

In other words, the sabotage of NS2 was really a ploy to lock Europe in a position of total dependency on the USA. A similar thesis had been proposed already on February 28th 2022 by economist Michael Hudson, “America defeats Germany for the third time in a century.”¹⁸⁷ The war in Ukraine was meant not only to harass and possibly destabilize Russia but also to subjugate Europe – all in the interest of US hegemony.

To hide American involvement in what has been called “the greatest act of industrial sabotage in history”, the West later alleged that a handful of Ukrainian civilians, sailing on a yacht, the *Andromeda*, had blown up NS2.¹⁸⁸ Still later, Kiev blamed the attack on Germany's energy supply on its popular General Valeri Zaluzhnyi, who had fallen out of favour for his criticisms of President Zelensky's handling of the war. Propaganda likes pointing the finger at scapegoats. In May 2024, Zaluzhny was removed from Kiev and made Ambassador to the UK.

Appendix 5 (The Protocols of the Elders of Zion)

The Protocols of the Enders of Zion (1903)¹⁸⁹ are a series of 24 short essays purporting to describe Jewish plans for world domination. At the time, anti-Semitic feelings were running high all over Europe. They were largely motivated by the prominent presence and overrepresentation of Jews in the increasingly important financial sector (banks, credit institutions) of the national economies in the age of industrialization.

Of uncertain origin, the Protocols emerged in Russia in the early 1900s. Their authenticity was first questioned in 1921 (see C.G. de Michelis, *The Non-Existent Manuscript: a Study of the Protocols of the Sages of Zion*, 2004).

¹⁸⁷ See michael-hudson.com/2022/02/america-defeats-germany-for-the-third-time-in-a-century/

¹⁸⁸ See: theguardian.com/world/2023/mar/10/divers-used-chartered-yacht-to-sabotage-nord-stream-pipelines-report.

¹⁸⁹ vault.fbi.gov/protocols-of-learned-elders-of-zion/protocols-of-learned-elders-of-zion-part-01-of-01

“Goyim [i.e. non-Jews] are mentally inferior to us; they cannot run their nations properly. For their sake and ours, we need to abolish their governments and replace them with a single government. This will take a long time and involve much bloodshed, but it's for a good cause. Here's what we'll need to do [Synopsis]:

- *Place our agents and helpers everywhere.*
- *Take control of the media and use them in propaganda for our plans.*
- *Start fights between different races, classes, and religions.*
- *Use bribery, threats, and blackmail to get our way.*
- *Use Freemasonic Lodges to attract potential public officials.*
- *Appeal to successful peoples' egos.*
- *Appoint puppet leaders who can be controlled by blackmail.*
- *Replace royal rule with socialist rule, then communism.*
- *Abolish all rights and freedoms, except the right of force by us.*
- *Sacrifice people (including Jews sometimes) when necessary.*
- *Eliminate religion; replace it with science and materialism.*
- *Control the education system to spread deception and destroy intellect.*
- *Rewrite history to our benefit.*
- *Create entertaining distractions.*
- *Corrupt minds with filth and perversion.*
- *Encourage people to spy on one another.*
- *Keep the masses in poverty and perpetual labour.*
- *Take possession of all wealth, property, and (especially) gold.*
- *Use gold to manipulate the markets, cause depressions, etc.*
- *Introduce a progressive tax on wealth.*
- *Replace sound investment with speculation.*
- *Make long-term interest-bearing loans to governments.*
- *Give bad advice to governments and everyone else.*

Eventually the Goyim will be so angry with their governments that they'll gladly have us take over. We will then appoint a descendant of David to be king of the world, and the remaining Goyim will bow down and sing his praises. Everyone will live in peace and obedient order under his glorious rule.”

The Protocols seem to have been inspired in part by Maurice Joly's *Dialogue aux Enfers* (1864), a satire on Napoleon III's megalomaniacal imperial ambitions. A significant number of the protocols match the list of “despotic inroads on the rights of property, and on the conditions of bourgeois production”; i.e. “measures, which appear economically insufficient and untenable” in Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (1848)¹⁹⁰, Section II, *in fine*. There they serve the dictatorship of the proletariat rather than the Jews:

“The proletariat will use its political supremacy to wrest, by degree, all capital from the bourgeoisie, to centralise all instruments of production in the hands of the State, i.e., of the proletariat organised as the ruling class; and to increase the total productive forces as rapidly as possible. Of course, in the beginning, this cannot be effected except by means of despotic inroads on the rights of property, and on the conditions of bourgeois production; by means of measures, therefore, which appear economically insufficient and untenable, but which, in the course of the movement, outstrip

¹⁹⁰ marxists.org/admin/books/manifesto/Manifesto.pdf

themselves, necessitate further inroads upon the old social order, and are unavoidable as a means of entirely revolutionising the mode of production. Of course, these measures will be different in different countries. Nevertheless, in most advanced countries, the following will be pretty generally applicable.

1. *Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes.*
2. *A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.*
3. *Abolition of all rights of inheritance.*
4. *Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.*
5. *Centralisation of credit in the hands of the state, by means of a national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly.*
6. *Centralisation of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State.*
7. *Extension of factories and instruments of production owned by the State; the bringing into cultivation of waste-lands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan.*
8. *Equal liability of all to work. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture.*
9. *Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of all the distinctions between town and country by a more equable distribution of the populace over the country.*
10. *Free education for all children in public schools. Abolition of children's factory labour in its present form. Combination of education with industrial production, &c, &c.*

When, in the course of development, class distinctions have disappeared, and all production has been concentrated in the hands of a vast association of the whole nation, the public power will lose its political character ... In place of the old bourgeois society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association, in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all."

Shorn of their Jewish, respectively proletarian packaging, The Protocols and the Communist Manifesto propose blueprints of means and methods for establishing the dictatorship of a small elite in a large country or even globally. I leave it to the reader to judge which of their proposals have already been implemented by, and which are still on the agendas, of the Western oligarchy.

Appendix 6 (Bretton Woods)

Under the 1944 Bretton Woods system¹⁹¹, only the US dollar could be redeemed in gold "on demand and at a fixed price". In theory, this made the dollar "as good as gold", while other currencies had to be exchanged for dollars before they could be used to buy gold on the market. However, Bretton Woods required the American central monetary authority (the Federal Reserve System, FRS) to act in the interest of the world, but under American law, it was chartered to act in US interests only. Thus, the Bretton Woods system was doomed to fail. It lasted only twenty years. In the 1960s, under US President Lyndon Johnson, profligate spending on the War in Vietnam and on the

¹⁹¹ See Benn Steil, *The Battle of Bretton Woods* (2013)

construction of a European-style welfare state rapidly depleted the US gold stocks. In 1971, to stop the outflow of gold, President Nixon closed the “gold window”, condemning the rest of the world to dependency on paper dollars, i.e. a “fiat currency” that no longer represented a real value (a definite quantity of gold). In the remaining years of the 1970s, world inflation skyrocketed, as the US, freed from the obligation to issue a gold-backed currency, started to print dollars galore. However, the US had a lucky break. Saudi Arabia and other oil producing nations decided to sell oil only for dollars and to park their oil revenues in US Treasuries (partly in return for American “protection”, partly because the US was still the manufacturing centre of the world and offered the best prospects for sustained “economic growth”). Thus, the oil producing countries provided “oil backing” for the dollar – the so-called petrodollar. This gave Paul Volcker the opportunity to curb American inflation with a series of spectacular interest-rate hikes. He knew full well that the world would continue to demand dollars to buy oil and that the oil producing countries would continue to buy US Treasuries. The petrodollar seemed to make the dollar as good as oil, the primary source of energy in a rapidly industrializing world. ‘As good as oil’ was taken to mean ‘better than gold’, because the global oil market is much larger than the global gold market. Thus, the petrodollar seemed to imply an even stronger currency than the gold-backed dollar. The flipside of the coin was that the dollar became the hostage of the global oil market. The FRS still faced the choice of providing the world with a stable reserve currency or using the dollar as a national policy tool. By the early twenty-first century, it had become clear that the US and the FRS did not intend to maintain the value of the dollar against oil any more than it had intended to maintain its value against gold. Consequently, the rest of the world, which held trillions of dollars, faced rising energy prices. Of course, unlike the US, the rest of the world could not print dollars. Moreover, most of it could hardly afford the transition to new, mostly unreliable “green energy” or natural-environment-destroying “bio-fuels”, which the West (especially Europe, awash in “Eurodollars”) was beginning to peddle under the pretext of combating climate change. Apart from the West, most of the world was beginning to question dollar hegemony

To forestall collapse of the dollar system, it needed to be “backed” by military power rather than tradable assets to maintain the dominance of the American financial institutions in what would soon turn into the greatest con game on Earth: the market in “financial products” (bonds and ever-more opaque financial derivatives). As the US, “the policeman of the world”, went rogue, fear of American economic and political (even military) sanctions replaced mutual trust as the basis of the international monetary system.

Appendix 7 (Philanthropic foundations)

On philanthropic foundations, see Rene Wormser's seminal study, *Foundations: Their Power and Influence* (1958, 1993).

In an interview with G. Edward Griffin, Norman Dodd, chief researcher for the Congressional Select Committee to Investigate Tax-Exempt Foundations and Comparable Organizations (the Reece committee of 1952-54), recalled that the Chairman of the Ford foundation had stated, off the record, that the aim of the major foundations was to use their grant making to restructure the US economy along the lines of the Soviet system, presumably to

centralize decision-making power by strengthening the ties between politics, industry and education. Not only industry but also education (the schools, universities, and the media) had to be subordinated to national policy, principally by taking control of the teaching of American history to re-define the premise of American foreign policy from the Founding Fathers' non-interventionism and non-entanglement in foreign conflicts to global interventionism in the service of American hegemony. "To defeat the Soviets, we must adopt and adapt their system."

Griffin's entire 1982 fifty-minute interview with Norman Dodds is still available online.¹⁹²

Appendix 8 (International courts)

Most international organizations set up after WWII were dominated and financed by the US government or American corporate interests. They did not dare to pursue an independent course. Without becoming a member itself, the US permitted some to come into existence, on condition that they would not act contrary to US interests. An example is the International Criminal Court (ICC, established 2002). None of the major military powers (the US, Russia, India, China) is a party to the ICC treaty.¹⁹³

In a May 25th 2024, interview with Christiane Amanpour, Karim Kahn, the Chief Prosecutor of the ICC, revealed that, while the Court was permitted by the Biden Administration to issue an order to its members to arrest Vladimir Putin for war crimes, a "senior leader"¹⁹⁴ in the Administration had warned him, "This Court was built for Africa and thugs like Putin" (i.e. not to inconvenience Washington or its allies).¹⁹⁵ Earlier in the year, South Africa had brought charges of war crimes (genocide) against the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu (a US ally), for his wildly disproportionate military actions in Gaza in response to the kidnapping of Israelis in the October 7th 2023 Hamas raid into Israel. European countries with large populations of Muslim immigrants pleaded for a cease-fire, even sanctions against Israel, but did not openly support South Africa's accusation of genocide. Indeed, to placate the US, they doubled down on Ukraine, threatening to permit Ukraine to use Western supplied weapons for attacks "deep inside Russia" (eventually, no doubt,¹⁹⁶ against Russian cities, including Moscow – a sure way to make Europe for the third time in little more than a century the birthplace of a World War).¹⁹⁷

Although much embarrassed by Israel's brutal operations in Gaza, the Biden Administration remained unwilling to antagonize the powerful Jewish and Israeli lobby in Washington, one of its major sponsors. It was further

¹⁹² [youtube.com/watch?v=c5eHdTk5hJw&t=864s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5eHdTk5hJw&t=864s). The reference to the Soviet Union comes at approximately minute 19; the reference to re-writing history at minute 27.

¹⁹³ The idea of an international court was launched toward the end of WWII and put into practice in the Nuremberg trials of Nazi war crimes. See Danilo Zolo, *Victor's Justice*, (2009). As could be predicted, allied attacks on Tokyo, Dresden, Hiroshima, Nagasaki did not qualify as crimes, even though the bulk of their victims were civilians.

¹⁹⁴ My guess: National Security Advisor Jacob Sullivan, the US's real Foreign Policy Tsar

¹⁹⁵ See [youtube.com/watch?v=I78i2ZVOTfo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I78i2ZVOTfo) at ca 00:21:00

¹⁹⁶ The history of the EU countries' involvement in the conflict in Ukraine is a long list of doing what only weeks or days earlier they had assured the world they would never do.

¹⁹⁷ The US does not really fear another World War. It is separated by two oceans from possible enemies and has military bases (some with nuclear weapons) close to their borders. A nuclear war is perceived as a minor threat to America's "national security".

embarrassed by the decision of the UN-chartered International Court of Justice (ICJ, established in 1946) to issue a binding order to Israel to halt its Gaza operation immediately. Although the US is obligated to accept and respect the jurisdiction of the ICJ, it has no intention to have the order enforced against Israel – despite mounting international outrage.

The ICC is generally perceived as a Eurocentric political instrument of Western Imperialism, not a genuine court of law. Toadying to the transatlantic hegemon, Kahn stated, in the interview with Amanpour, that aversion to bullying is “a quintessential American value”. That may be true of many ordinary Americans, but with respect to the US foreign policy establishment it is utterly ridiculous. In 2003, the Belgian Foreign Minister, Louis Michel – the father of the present President of the European Council, Charles Michel – announced his intention to charge US President G.W. Bush with war crimes (under a law that authorized Belgian courts to judge war crimes wherever and by whomever they may have been committed). After a few threatening noises from the US Secretary of Defense, the plan and the law were shelved.

The ICC was inspired by the International Criminal Tribunal for The Former Yugoslavia (ICTY, established 1993), a blatantly partisan political court that sought to blame Serbia, a traditional ally of Russia, for the atrocities in the Balkan (after the breakup of Yugoslavia), and in particular, to cover up the dismal failure of the UN Peace-keeping force in Srebrenica in 1995.

In May 2024, the US succeeded in passing a resolution, sponsored by Germany and Rwanda¹⁹⁸, of the General Assembly of the United Nations to make July 11th, an “International Day of Reflection and Commemoration of the 1995 Genocide in Srebrenica”. The inclusion of the word ‘genocide’ means that no historians can ever criticize the official version of what happened in Srebrenica without exposing themselves to the charge of being genocide deniers.¹⁹⁹ The resolution was probably meant to rekindle tensions in the Balkan. It was certainly another American victory in the propaganda war against Russia, despite the fact that it was supported by only a minority of states in the General Assembly. It passed with 84 votes in favour, 19 votes against and 68 abstentions²⁰⁰—another 21 of the attending member states did not even bother to vote. However, the US now has to fear that the General Assembly, or the ICJ, will one day decide to recognize Israel's actions in Gaza or the Russophobe post-Maidan policies of Kiev as genocidal.

Appendix 9 (Ursula von der Leyen, Young Global Leaders)

Ursula von der Leyen made a career of failing and being promoted away (to higher levels).²⁰¹ Her grand contributions to European integrity are 1) a secret deal to buy about 4.5 billion Pfizer “vaccine” doses (for a population of about 400 million)²⁰²; and 2) her idea to confiscate the interest on Russia's “frozen assets”²⁰³ to fund aid to Ukraine – i.e. to make the EU complicit in Grand Theft in breach of international law, even at the risk that foreign investors will

¹⁹⁸ Thierry Cruvellier, *Le Tribunal des vaincus: Un Nuremberg pour le Rwanda* (2006); corbetteport.com/keith-harmon-snow-reveals-the-truth-about-the-rwandan-genocide/

¹⁹⁹ In the West, it is now widely accepted dogma that politically established authorities (e.g., courts) have the power to “fix scientific truth” – as if they are infallible.

²⁰⁰ See news.un.org/en/story/2024/05/1150156

²⁰¹ politico.eu/article/ursula-von-der-leyen-biography-career-inconvenient-truth/

²⁰² globalresearch.ca/video-censorship-surveillance-coercion-corruption/5798858

²⁰³ Financial assets deposited in the EU to which their Russian owners are denied access

withdraw their funds from the EU for fear of losing them at the whim of the self-righteous gang of Eurocrats in Brussels: “Don't talk to us about law; we *are* the law.”

Most of the present generation of European, Australian and Canadian (but not American) political leaders are poster boys and girls for the Western oligarchy, “alumni” of the “Young Global Leaders” programs of the World Economic Forum (WEF, weforum.org/communities/young-global-leaders/). They are groomed to toe the line of US policy by being introduced to contacts in the American deep state and international organizations as well as a vast network of lavishly funded think tanks and NGOs. In September 2017, WEF chairman Klaus Schwab boasted: “We are very proud of the young generation like [Canadian] Prime Minister Trudeau, President of Argentina [Mauricio Macri], and so on ... and we penetrate [their] cabinets. So, yesterday, I was at a reception for Prime Minister Trudeau, and I know that ... more than half of his cabinet are actually Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum.”²⁰⁴ Other notable YGLs and WEF favourites are France's Emmanuel Macron, Belgium's Alexander de Croo, the Netherlands' Mark Rutte, and a host of leading politicians in Scandinavia and the Baltic states. They are collectively known as “globalists – which usually means that they care more about their international contacts than about the people who elect them. Accordingly, once elected and having revealed their globalist agendas, they do not last very long and are then recuperated in one or other organ of the global technocratic blob.

Appendix 10 (Gladio, the culture of fear)

As a child, growing up in the 1950s, I became aware of Ukraine because of frequent references in the media to Ukraine as a special target of NATO-CIA propaganda outlets such as Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and later the nominally private National Endowment for Democracy.²⁰⁵ Although I was blissfully unaware of any such thing, there must have been a lot of secret funding of Ukrainian resistance groups accompanying this propaganda. Indeed, in the late 1940s, CIA Head of Counterintelligence and former OSS operator James J. Angleton had begun to use the OSS's counterintelligence operation X-2 to recruit “stay behind” groups of Nazi and Fascist sympathisers, which had not joined the German Army's retreat from the countries it had occupied earlier in the war (Italy in the first place, but presumably also other countries, including Ukraine). For Angleton, “recruiting militant fascists is the best way to fight the communists.”

One can only wonder if funding or organizing subversive anti-communist opposition in the UkrSSR was a part of or perhaps the model for the mysterious anti-communist Gladio²⁰⁶ network that was involved in many terrorist attacks in Western Europe in the 1950s and '60s – mainly in Italy.

Gladio was originally set up as a CIA-affiliated network of right-wing “stay behind” resistance groups that would become active after a Soviet invasion (which never happened) or significant electoral gains by communist parties in Western Europe (which did happen). Then, it allegedly switched to

²⁰⁴ rairfoundation.com/great-reset-globalist-klaus-schwab-explains-govt-takeover-of-industry-in-unearthed-video-must-see/)

²⁰⁵ See their websites rferl.org/ and ned.org/

²⁰⁶ See [youtube.com/watch?v=yXavNe81XdQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yXavNe81XdQ), the famous 1992 documentary in the Time Watch series on BBC-2; also corbetteport.com/gladio-revisited-video/

destabilizing European countries in preparation of a right-wing, pro-US, coup d'état. For example, in Belgium, the mysterious gang of so-called 'Brabant Killers'²⁰⁷, responsible for several murderous shootings and armed robberies (1982-1985), was suspected of being a Gladio operation. Perhaps in response, left-wing terrorist groups became active in Western Europe – in Germany, the Rote Armee Fraktion (1970-1998); in Belgium, the Cellules Communistes Combattantes (1984-1985).

At about the same time, the European Commission (most notably under the French neo-socialist, Jacques Delors, r.1985-1995) was pushing the “dual labour market” theory, to attract poor immigrants and lock them together with the European “underclass” in poorly-paid manual and service jobs, while the rest of the population was cajoled into sending their children into higher education to satisfy the private and the public corporate sectors' demand for qualified technicians and administrators. This policy was intended to close the technological gap between the US and Europe. However, on the one hand, second- and third-generation immigrants understandably refused to be locked into an underclass, while on the other hand, the presence of large concentrations of mainly Muslim immigrants provided a foothold for Islamist militants (including Jihadists, even terrorists), eager to change Europe's predominantly US-inspired pro-Israel stance in the affairs of the Middle East.

With the threat of nuclear (later also biological and electronic) war looming in the background, the successive waves of right-wing, left-wing and Islamic terrorism created a culture of fear in Europe²⁰⁸ – ‘terror’ being the Latin word for extreme fear. Terror as a cultural artefact was greatly exacerbated by insistent propaganda about imminent tipping points in “anthropogenic global warming” and “climate change”. However, all of these threats were dwarfed by the greatest terror campaign in history, the World Health Organization's fear-mongering declaration of the corona-pandemic (March 2020) as a prelude to an attempt to finally make good on its 1946 totalitarian Constitution:

*“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition. The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent on the fullest co-operation of individuals and States”*²⁰⁹

In other words, health (as defined by the WHO, i.e. everything that is good) is dependent on unconditional acceptance of the prescriptions of the global health bureaucracy and its main sponsors in the pharmaceutical industry. See Appendix 15 (The corona-pandemic, 2020-2022)

Appendix 11 (Russia-hating Britain)

In the Crimean War (1853-1856), England attempted to keep the weakening Ottoman Empire afloat and to stop the strengthening Russian Empire. Allying itself with the Ottomans and France, and supported by Austria and Australia,

²⁰⁷ Dutch: ‘Bende van Nijvel’

²⁰⁸ Frank Furedi, *How Fear Works: Culture of Fear in the Twenty-First Century* (2018), also his *Therapy Culture: Cultivating Vulnerability in an Uncertain Age* (2003)

²⁰⁹ [who.int/about/accountability/governance/constitution](https://www.who.int/about/accountability/governance/constitution) (emphasis added)

England succeeded in getting control of the Black Sea. Unrest in England over the large number of casualties suffered during the conflict led to the fall of the government and brought the notorious hardliner Lord Palmerston to power. Palmerston wanted to expand the war to the ultimate defeat and humiliation of Russia. However, after the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, the newly founded Third French Republic disavowed the policies of its predecessor state (under President Louis Napoléon, later Emperor Napoléon III). As a result, England could no longer enforce the conditions it had imposed on Russia after the Crimean War. So Russia could finally start building a small navy to defend its Black Sea coasts.

The utterly irrational Russia-hatred of the English ruling classes, even today, dates from the aftermath of the Crimean War. It intensified after the 2018 UEFA World Cup in Russia, when British soccer fans returned home with enthusiastic tales about their stay in Russia. “World Cup 2018: England fans praise welcome by Russian hosts”.²¹⁰ The English establishment and the royal family boycotted the 2018 World Cup, ostensibly because of the Skripal Affair (see above, note 44, on page 11). Sergei and Yulia Skripal were allegedly poisoned (on March 4th 2018) by Russian agents in Salisbury in England (only a few miles from Porton Down, the UK's top secret, chemical weapons lab²¹¹) with Novichok (“a nerve agent developed in Russia”). No evidence was ever presented. Although Sergei and Yulia survived the allegedly “deadly poison”, they disappeared without a trace after their supposed release from a hospital in the UK. See John Helmer, *Skripal in Prison* (2020).

Appendix 12 (Sanctions, BRICS)

The American and EU sanctions on Russia and Russians were mostly ineffective, as Russia was not as dependent on the West as the West's policy makers had assumed. Ironically, while under “Putin's despotism”, most Russian firms remained free to do business with any willing partner, wherever in the world, in the supposedly “free West”, most firms, eager not to offend the oligarchy, submitted to the demands of “political correctness” and scaled back or halted their relations with Russia, thereby creating a void that was easily filled with Russian firms. To the West, war was still “total war” – not just a political war (to be resolved by negotiations and diplomacy) but also an economic and cultural war (to be resolved by the enemy's unconditional surrender or total defeat and demoralization). Being denied access (by their own governments) to the Russian market greatly harmed Western businesses, especially smaller European enterprises, which had profited from Putin's policy of seeking good relations with the West. Moreover, Putin's policy of seeking good relations with the rest of world had produced a vast reservoir of alternatives to Western investments and markets. Projecting their own hegemonic designs on Russia, the West's policy makers presented Russia's seeking good relations with other countries as proof of its wanting to conquer the world.

To pursue its sanctions policy against Russia, the West had to impose sanctions on many other countries. Thus, to most of the world, the sanctions against Russia confirmed the West's status as the arrogant “bully of the world”.

²¹⁰ [independent.co.uk/sport/football/world-cup/england-tunisia-world-cup-latest-volgograd-russia-praise-welcome-fans-trouble-a8405341.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/world-cup/england-tunisia-world-cup-latest-volgograd-russia-praise-welcome-fans-trouble-a8405341.html)

²¹¹ [bbc.com/news/uk-48540653](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-48540653)

Representing less than one billion of the Earth's population, the West was threatening to harm countries that represented the bulk of the more than eight billion people on the planet, even as its source of geopolitical power was shifting from military, industrial and commercial dominance to the arcane world of dollar-dominated “high finance” (hedge funds, banks, shadow banks).

However, the mighty dollar faced challenges from BRICS (an intergovernmental organization, founded in 2009). Its original member states were Brazil, Russia, India and China; South Africa joined in 2010, followed by Egypt, Iran, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates in 2024. Many more other countries have shown interest in, even formally applied for, membership, only to be threatened with “Western sanctions” (which may include bombing and murder, as happened to Libya and its leader, Gaddafi, in 2011, when he sought to give Africa its own monetary system). BRICS seeks to wean its members from the US dollar, thereby threatening to end its status as the reserve currency of the world as well as the neo-colonial reign of American multinational corporations and the West's addiction to cheap credit at the expense of the rest of the world. Not surprisingly, the West's oligarchy worked hard to dissuade countries from joining BRICS and to fund opposition parties in its member states (e.g., in South Africa).

Appendix 13 (Georgia, FARA)

In 2024, pro-Western protesters in Georgia threatened to subvert the government over a law that would require foreign agents to register. The Western media echoed their spurious claim that the law was “pro-Russia”, inspired by Russia, where a similar law had been enacted following the disclosure of many instances of Western financial aid to Russian anti-government NGOs. However, the US has had a Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) ever since 1938: “FARA requires certain agents of foreign principals who are engaged in political activities or other activities specified under the statute to make periodic public disclosure of their relationship with the foreign principal, as well as activities, receipts and disbursements in support of those activities ... The FARA Unit of the Counterintelligence and Export Control Section (CES) in the National Security Division (NSD) is responsible for the administration and enforcement of FARA.”²¹² The US also has a Foreign Accounts Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)²¹³ that requires U.S. taxpayers to report their foreign financial assets and foreign entities to report on their U.S. account holders. Apparently, it is okay for the US and its allies to register foreign agents, but not for other countries.

The protests in Georgia were obviously organized by employers that had profited from supplying cheap labour to Western enterprises, also by NGOs, academics and journalists, who had profited from being unregistered political agents of Western interests. Just as they had done ten years earlier in preparation of the Maidan Coup in Kiev, European and American politicians descended on Tbilisi to incite the protesters against their elected government. Clearly, the government in Tbilisi was not anti-Russia enough.

²¹² [justice.gov/nsd-fara](https://www.justice.gov/nsd-fara)

²¹³ [irs.gov/businesses/corporations/foreign-account-tax-compliance-act-fatca](https://www.irs.gov/businesses/corporations/foreign-account-tax-compliance-act-fatca)

Appendix 14 (Plato)

The classical idea of organization was developed in great detail by Plato (in his *Politeia*), when he raised the problems of 1) setting up an organization (a “police force”), the single purpose of which is to protect the convivial order of human coexistence against crime, organized crime in particular; and 2) making sure that the organization itself does not become a criminal force, acting for the benefit of its directors, its subordinate members or their business partners, friends and relatives. A Platonic police force should not *govern* the lives and affairs of ordinary people: it should serve and protect the convivial order of ordinary people against criminal, barbaric elements.

Politeia discusses how a police force should be organized and governed, not how it should govern a civilized people's convivial order. This point is often lost on many modern readers, accustomed as they are to the idea that the primary function of the police is to enforce obedience to the government's rules and commands. Fighting crime is still a police function, but it is subordinated to the government's prerogative of defining what will be considered a crime. In any case, disobeying a governmental rule, however inane it may be, is now considered an *illegal* and punishable offence – not just for those employed by the government, but for all citizens.

On this modern view, the government of a state has the legal/constitutional power to criminalize what, in reality, is lawful, and to legalize what is criminal. Once this nonsense is admitted as a “principle of rational governance”, the government rises above the law and becomes lawless. “Government without law” is now the ruling paradigm of politics in the West, although the bitter pill is still routinely sugar-coated with lofty references to “democracy” and “human rights” (of which there are now so many that any policy can be rationalized as necessary for the protection of someone's “human rights”). Before 1968, hardly any lawyer failed to see the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1949) for anything other than it was, viz. a piece of political rhetoric. Then, ambitious “activist” judges began to read it as a licence to practice politics “from the bench”, confusing doing justice to people with governing their affairs. Inevitably, lawyers followed suit by taking political intentions and media-driven public opinion as “politically correct” legal grounds for overriding or dismissing established principles of law.

Appendix 15 (The corona-pandemic, 2020-2022)

The propaganda has it that Pfizer Inc. tested its “vaccine” on 40,000 people. However, the calculation of the announced efficiency of the product rested on data about little more than 200 subjects (who developed covid19 symptoms during the testing period). Moreover, whistleblowers revealed that the data were highly massaged (e.g., by disregarding the data of whole classes of people that might have compromised the desired results).²¹⁴

Contrary to claims from health bureaucrats and media reports, the “novel corona virus” (sarscov2) was never scientifically identified (because there is no

²¹⁴ See e.g., Thacker, P.D., “Covid19 researcher blows the whistle on data integrity issues in Pfizer's vaccine trial”, *BMJ*, 2 november 2021 (375:n2635); see also the interview with whistleblower Brook Jackson. (<https://odysee.com/@TLAVagabond:5/Brook-Jackson-Interview-12-2-21:e>). Jackson was fired on the spot, but pressed on with her complaints: see childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/pfizer-whistleblower-brook-jackson-lawsuit-dismissal-fraud/.

pure sample of that or any other virus). Virologists do not deal with viruses but with hypothetical theoretical constructs – now mainly “gene-sequences”, i.e. series of digits produced by computerized analyses of intensely manipulated impure samples (e.g., of a patient's slime) that contain a variety of organic materials with fragments of DNA or RNA of unknown origin. Sequencing genes from a sample of known origin (e.g., human blood) and comparing the result with other samples of the same stuff is not at all like sequencing genes found in a potpourri of genetic materials of unknown origin. Because there is no pure sample of any virus, one cannot take some real thing that has already been identified as a virus and then sequence its genes. The reverse happens: Some researchers claim that they can concatenate digital representations of various gene sequences, found in a sample, into a [nearly] complete genome of a new virus. They then enter the digital presentation into an international database (GenBank) or a strictly controlled information-sharing platform (GISAID), from which other researches can download it and compare it with digital representations of the fragments of genetic material they find in their samples (taken from other patients). Of course, concatenating digital representations of fragments into a theoretically possible digital representation of a chain of fragments does not prove that there is a real organism, the genome of which matches that representation.²¹⁵

Moreover, there is no scientific proof that covid19 is a specific disease (as opposed to a syndrome of various symptoms that are often, but not always, found together in particular groups of patients), caused by a specific virus that requires a specific vaccine. Of course, the “one disease, one cause, one remedy” theory is an essential premise of the business model of the pharmaceutical industry—it has no basis in medical science or practice, but the expensive research facilities (high-tech labs) and publication outlets in these fields are heavily dependent on sponsorship by that very same industry. Judged by traditional standards of scientific proof, virology is mostly technologically enhanced bluff. So what do we do? We lower standards of proof. After all, there is a lot of money going around in virology. I doubt that without the grants supplied by the military-industrial complex and Big Pharma, virology would be more than a marginal academic hobby.

With respect to supposedly transmissible respiratory diseases (such as influenza and covid19), it is worth noting that transmission by proximity with a diseased patient is not proven (see the Milton Rosenau experiments of 1919, concerning the Spanish Flu at the end of WWI²¹⁶; also: “Although droplet transmission is thought to be the primary mode of influenza transmission, limited evidence is available to support the relative clinical importance of contact, droplet, and airborne transmission of influenza.”²¹⁷ Even less evidence is available concerning the transmissibility of “the novel corona virus”. The appearance of clusters of symptoms can be caused in many ways. It is often more a consequence of psychological than physical (chemical or biological) environmental factors.

Paradoxically, while critics of the HIV=AIDS hypothesis of the 1980s and

²¹⁵ See theviral-delusion.substack.com/p/revealed-the-sars-cov-2-sequencing

²¹⁶ ia800708.us.archive.org/view_archive.php?archive=/28/items/crossref-pre-1923-scholarly-works/10.1001%252Fjama.1919.02610250060026.zip&file=10.1001%252Fjama.1919.02610310005002.pdf

²¹⁷ academic.oup.com/cid/article/37/8/1094/2013282

1990s were called irresponsible because their thesis “HIV has not been identified” implied that specific, supposedly effective anti-HIV prescriptions lacked scientific grounding²¹⁸, critics of the Sarscov2=Covid19 thesis were called irresponsible for claiming that there are well-known cheap, effective, and safe treatments for covid19 (such as patent-free hydroxychloroquine and ivermectine). The difference: no vaccine for HIV was ever developed, but from the moment the first manifestations of covid19 were announced, the medical-pharmaceutical complex and the international health bureaucracies claimed that a vaccine would soon be ready for marketing. Selling these “vaccines” could only make money if the use of cheap remedies was prohibited.

Appendix 16 (Geo-engineering)

I first heard about geo-engineering²¹⁹ (a.k.a. climate engineering) in the late 1960s but must confess I did not pay much attention to it – not even after reading Michael Crichton's footnoted 2004 novel *State of Fear*. There is an Environmental Modification Convention on the Prohibition of military and other hostile environmental modification techniques (1976).²²⁰ It was motivated by the fact that, from the beginning, “the science of geo-engineering” was funded mainly by military and corporate grants. It appears to have had little effect, other than legitimating the funding of research for supposedly “non-hostile” purposes. Of course, such research is useful, regardless of the purposes to which environmental modification techniques will be deployed. (Think of it as the equivalent of “gain-of-function” research in virology).

I now incline to the belief that “CO₂-driven climate change” is essentially a distraction, used²²¹ to divert attention away from, and to rationalize the use of, climate modification programs that rely on seeding the atmosphere (and therefore indirectly the Earth's water and soil) with toxic nano-particles (principally aluminium) and on high-frequency active auroral technology²²² to modify (and weaponize) climate phenomena. Note that the present climate hysteria began with the suggestion, in the early 1970s, that we “are heading for a new Ice Age” and that “we might be able to avert it using geo-engineering techniques”. By the mid-1980s, ‘Ice Age’ had been replaced with ‘Global Warming’ as the great scare factor. The public's attention was drawn away from geo-engineering programs and their military applications. It was fixated instead on de-industrialization programs to create the impression that “humanity itself is the enemy”²²³. Fortunately, the oligarchs and their client-governments stand ready to save the planet with billion-dollar investments in climate engineering, “green energy” and other super-sized boondoggles.²²⁴

²¹⁸ E.g., the expensive, patented and known to be dangerously toxic novel AZT; see John Lauritsen, *The AIDS War. Propaganda, Profeteering and Genocide from the Medical-Industrial Complex* (Asklepios, 1993, pp. 71-79)

²¹⁹ See e.g., [youtube.com/watch?v=rf78rEAJvhY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf78rEAJvhY) (Dane Wigington's *The Dimming*, 2021); Peter A. Kirby, *Chemtrails Exposed: A New Manhattan Project* (2020)

²²⁰ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_Modification_Convention

²²¹ Is it not telling that the Executive Summaries of the Reports of the UN's IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, established in 1988) focus almost exclusively on CO₂, ignoring other factors and hypotheses?

²²² [britannica.com/topic/HAARP](https://www.britannica.com/topic/HAARP)

²²³ See above, page 50

²²⁴ news.yahoo.com/bill-gates-backing-plan-to-stop-climate-change-by-blocking-out-the-sun-183601437.html ; technocracy.news/bill-gates-ready-to-spray-chalk-dust-into-stratosphere-to-cool-planet/

The increasing scale of toxic-particles-based geo-engineering practices and experiments provide not only a possible explanation of deteriorating health conditions of people, woodlands, agricultural lands, wildlife, plankton, etc. It also helps to explain the oligarchy's drive to create natural-asset companies (NACs) and trading schemes (such as the trade in CO₂-emission rights) that commoditize the world's commons of air, land and water on a scale never seen before.

Appendix 17 (Syria)

The Douma gas-attack incident (April 7th, 2018) revealed serious disagreements between the experts on the ground (the Fact Finding Mission, FFM, which found no evidence of bombing from the air and hypothesized that the attack was staged by rebel forces in the city) and the bureaucrats of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), who gave in to pressure from the “Assad must go”-coalition (US, UK, France) and decided *ex cathedra* that the Syrian government was responsible.²²⁵

Researchers at the University of Bristol's School of Policy Studies concluded: “It is now clear that the [OPCW] Director-General’s statements on 28 May and 6 June 2019 – that the FFM had “examined, weighed and deliberated”, “considered” and “analysed” the engineering assessment – were unequivocally false: The Team Leader and Head of the FFM had refused to accept the document in February 2019. The Douma investigation has been passed to the Identification and Inspection Team (IIT). A brief examination of the careers of the investigators and analysts appointed to the IIT shows that all four of them have serious conflicts of interest. This calls into question their ability to resist pressure to come up with the answers that the influential delegations of the US, UK and France want.”²²⁶

Russia intervened at the Syrian government's request in its war against the apparently unstoppable “Islamic State” (a.k.a. ISIS or IS, an international non-state organization of Islamic fighters covertly backed and financed by Saudi Arabia and the US). The IS attacks began in 2011. ISIS only attacked Muslim countries with a majority of Shiite Muslims. It never attacked Israel. Even after the formal defeat of IS in Syria, American sanctions against Syria kept the population in extreme poverty. Syria was one of seven countries the US had been preparing “to take down” (see above, note 107). A result of the US's sanctions policy was that many Syrians kept seeking refuge in Europe, where mass immigration remained a hot topic. Apparently, the long-standing policy of destabilizing Europe, to keep it firmly under the thumb of the American hegemon, was still in place (see above, note 43).

Appendix 18 (Watergate scandal)

The scandal was revealed by Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein. Remarkably, Woodward had been a naval intelligence officer, authorized to handle nuclear launch codes, on the U.S.S. Wright, a nuclear-armed National Emergency Command Post. In 1970, having been accepted to

²²⁵ consortiumnews.com/2020/01/24/opcw-investigator-testified-at-un-that-no-chemical-attack-took-place-in-douma-syria/; also wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/

²²⁶ research-information.bris.ac.uk/en/publications/update-on-the-opcws-investigation-of-the-douma-incident

study law at Harvard, Woodward suddenly switched to journalism, but he never got an article published (because he could not write a decent text). Nevertheless, when the sensational Watergate story broke, he was immediately assigned to cover it, with the assistance of Carl Bernstein, for the Washington Post. Bernstein was an excellent writer of the “I write better than anyone who writes faster, and faster than anyone who writes better”-type. The Washington Post was (is) connected to the American “deep state”, which felt threatened by Nixon's China policy²²⁷ and his handling of the war in Vietnam. In their book on the Watergate affair, *All the President's Men* (1974), Woodward and Bernstein made ample, indeed almost exclusive, use of an unnamed informant they called ‘Deep Throat’, which they later identified as Mark Felt, an Associate Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). However, by then, Felt was suffering from dementia. Others suspected that Felt had been little more than a stooge for the politically ambitious US Army General Alexander Haig (Chief of Staff of the White House under Nixon and Gerald Ford and Secretary of State under Reagan²²⁸).

²²⁷ Nixon's policy aimed to divide the Communist Bloc, i.e. weaken the Soviet Union by making Communist China less economically dependent on Moscow. However, he also let the People's Republic of China (PRC, "Communist China") replace the Republic of China (RP, "Taiwan") as one of five “permanent members” (who have veto rights) of the Security Council of the United Nations. That move was bound to weaken the American quest for global hegemony. Before 1971, three of the five permanent members (France, Great Britain, Taiwan) were vassal states of the US, and would not dare to veto its proposals. Only the USSR was independent of the US. The PRC was simply too big to be any other state's vassal. Consequently, after Nixon's rearrangement of the Security Council, US diplomacy had to deal with the possibility that two of the five permanent members would veto its proposals.

²²⁸ When Reagan was shot on March 30th, 1982, Haig stormed into the White House and, ignoring all constitutional rules, shouted, “I'm in control here”. Before joining the Reagan administration, he was Supreme Allied Commander of all NATO forces in Europe (1974-1979)