

Imperialism and the road to socialist revolution

written by Struggle - La Lucha

July 12, 2024



In 1970, Vietnam veterans protesting the Vietnam war, 'We won't fight another rich man's war.'

Introduction to the second edition of "[War and Lenin in the 21st Century](#)" by Gary Wilson.

Over a century has passed since Vladimir Lenin, the leader of the Russian Revolution, wrote "Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism." This work defined the politics of the last century. That's in part because Lenin was the leader of the

first socialist revolution as well as the de facto leader of the Third (Communist) International. Even if Lenin had not led a socialist revolution, his pamphlet likely would have been influential, though maybe not as much as it has been.

To fully understand the importance of Lenin's pamphlet, you need to know the circumstances in which it was written and why Lenin wrote it. Lenin always had a specific political purpose for his major writings.

Lenin wrote "Imperialism" while European capitalism was tearing itself apart in the upheaval of the First World War.

Leaders of the Second International — an international organization that was established in 1889 to unite socialists worldwide — had recognized the growing likelihood of a major conflict among the European powers. While Lenin expected the war, the disintegration of the Second International caught him off guard. As the war unfolded in Europe in the summer of 1914, most of the Second International's branches caved in. They sided with their own countries against the other countries, effectively ending the Second International.

Before the war, the socialist parties of Germany, France, and other European countries had been agitating widely against war. Workers staged mass anti-war rallies in most capital cities, pledging solidarity with workers of all countries against the bosses. At that time, the anti-war struggle was considered an inseparable part of the working-class struggle against capitalism.

Based on the sizable anti-war movement before the war and the anti-war conferences held by the parties of the Second International from all countries, the outbreak of the war was expected to put the overthrow of capitalism at the top of the Second International's agenda. The workers of all these countries were united to defend their own interests against the capitalists and their war.

Workers were expected to unite to overthrow their rulers, who were forcing them to take arms against fellow workers in other countries.

Competitive capitalism had transformed into monopoly capitalism. Monopoly capitalism meant imperialism and the competition for colonial domination and for world markets.

As Lenin points out in “Imperialism,” it wasn’t just about colonizing other countries. In the drive for capitalist profits through the exploitation of labor, a small group of powerful capitalist countries maintain dominance through monopoly control of finance and industry. This exploitation took many forms, such as extracting resources, controlling markets, or dominating trade.

Imperialism (monopoly capitalism) was the root cause of the war; therefore, overturning capitalism would end it. That’s what the Second International had vowed before the war. However, too many of the Second International parties in the imperialist countries ended up supporting their own imperialists in the war.

Lenin’s writings in those years were linked to the Second International’s collapse and the efforts to establish a new Third International. From Lenin’s perspective, the new International would be based on the lessons learned from the Second International’s failure.

The meaning of imperialism

Today’s socialists face the questions that confronted earlier generations of socialists, both in the U.S. and worldwide, especially the question of imperialism and imperialist war. What is the meaning of the word imperialism?

What position should you take on the wars now raging in Palestine, Yemen, and Syria and the threatening spread of a U.S. war on Iran? What about the U.S./NATO proxy war against Russia in Ukraine? Or U.S. AFRICOM’s operations in Somalia,

Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Niger? Or Washington's threats targeting Cuba, Venezuela, and North Korea? Or the war buildup against China?

The struggle for socialism in 1914 and now

Struggles against imperialism are often fought with socialist goals, such as the Cuban Revolution in 1959. Socialists today support and defend Cuba and the Cuban Communist Party.

However, anti-imperialist struggles are not always led by and for the workers. Sometimes, as we have seen, resistance to imperialism is led by reformist political forces that are pro-capitalist, even reactionary (racist and xenophobic), the opposite of all that socialists believe in. What stand should we take when Biden mobilizes the U.S. Army and Navy, the Air Force and Marines, and NATO, then sends billions in weapons and ammunition to Ukraine for war on Russia to enforce, in his words, a civilizing "rules-based [Western] international order" against the "evil" Putin?

Before World War One, socialists in the Second International opposed the imperialist war against the reactionary monarchy of China as a colonialist war of aggression. But the right wing of the Second International began to argue that imperialism had a civilizing mission. They claimed that Western capitalism was bringing "Western civilization" to the "uncivilized nations" (forgetting that the brutality of Western capitalism, colonization, enslavement, and exploitation is the most uncivilized force ever seen in history). They said those countries must go through a stage of capitalism and become "Western civilized."

A majority of the leaders of the Second International rejected this. However, the openly pro-imperialist, pro-colonial, racist right-wing Social Democrats who supported the "civilizing mission" of imperialism were tolerated as a legitimate current within the Second International.

Later, the whole Second International was ripped apart as various sections of the International supported their own imperialist governments against other imperialist governments. After this occurred, Lenin and his supporters concluded that the Third International they were trying to build would have to exclude such racist, pro-imperialist, pro-colonial forces.

Uniting two revolutionary currents

Lenin's pamphlet on imperialism connects two revolutionary currents: the proletarian revolution in imperialist countries and the anti-imperialist liberation struggles in colonized nations.

Rather than being separate, unequal events, Lenin shows they are interdependent; they are linked.

Imperialism is global, making the world revolutionary process also global. Lenin's analysis extended Marxism from being a theory of the proletarian revolution in the advanced capitalist countries to a theory of world revolution.

Lenin wrote in another document that the Communist International's entire policy should rest primarily on a closer union of the proletarians in the imperialist countries and the oppressed masses of all countries for a joint revolutionary struggle to overthrow the landowners and the ruling class. (Thus, the slogan "Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!") That unity alone can guarantee victory over capitalism.

Socialism is now the goal of all revolutions, no matter where they occur. As for why the Second International collapsed, Lenin answered based on an earlier suggestion by Frederick Engels that a "labor aristocracy" had risen in the imperialist countries that were "bribed" from imperialist super-profits.

At that time, the U.S. was an emerging imperialist power. As a settler state, its

colonies were internal, starting with the brutal subjugation and genocide of the Indigenous population and the enslaved African American colony.

Following enslavement, African Americans were forced to sell their labor power at a considerably cheaper price than the white workers and, therefore, perform extra unpaid labor compared to white workers. This extra unpaid labor created a profit above and beyond the average rate of profit, the super-profit that was partially shared with a privileged, segregated labor aristocracy, particularly the labor leaders and politicians.

This is the material basis for the widespread racism among white workers that has so weakened the U.S. working class and the labor unions. The U.S. has also attracted many immigrants from countries around the world who are also super-exploited. Among the most super-exploited were the immigrants from China starting in the late 1800s. The various immigrant communities, in some cases, have served as what amounted to “internal colonies” that produced extra surplus value.

That’s why the fight against racism, against national oppression, for Black and Brown liberation, for gender liberation, and for international working-class solidarity is paramount in the struggle for socialism.

War and Lenin in the 21st century

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“Abolish NATO”: Protest against U.S.-led war machine in D.C.

written by Struggle - La Lucha

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July 7 — Hundreds marched in the streets of Washington, D.C., under the banner of the Resist NATO Coalition, initiated by the International League of Peoples Struggle U.S. Chapter.

A few days later, the 75th anniversary NATO war summit was to be held on July 11 and 12. The key agenda items were the continuing U.S. proxy war against Russia and war maneuvers against China.

Activists gathered at Washington’s McPherson Square and marched to the White House and Lafayette Park, where they joined additional protesters from the “No to NATO, Yes to Peace” rally. Ann Wright, an ex-U.S. Army colonel who resigned in opposition to the Iraq war, declared, “NATO represents U.S. militarism. To end war, we need to end capitalism and imperialism.”

Marchers continued to Farragut Park, chanting, “No bombs in the air, no boots on the ground” for an ending rally. Protesters carried Palestinian flags along with giant banners.

The previous day, the coalition held a “People’s Summit” prior to street marches. Keynote speakers Nicaraguan Ambassador Lautaro Sandino and Ali Barghouti of the Palestinian Youth Movement spoke to an overflow crowd at the New York Ave Presbyterian Church.

Most participants came from Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia. Erica Caines from Black Alliance for Peace and Andre Powell from Peoples Power Assembly, both from Baltimore, explained the connection between NATO and Cop City. Powell proclaimed, “There is a connection between Baltimore — our suffering, our unemployment, our low wages with NATO and the U.S. war machine.

“The trillions and I say trillions spent on the U.S. state apparatus which includes not only NATO, U.S. military bases, AFRICOM, the CIA, the FBI, and every rotten fascist cop in every city and rural area — could provide for our people!”

Filipino diaspora organizers denounced U.S. imperialists’ role in building an Asian NATO. BAYAN USA chairperson Adrian Bonifacio declared, “In the Philippines, more than a dozen youth were recently killed by the fascist Armed Forces of the Philippines, who are backed by the U.S. These are youth who dedicated their lives to the cause of national democratic revolution, who, when faced with the convergence of NATO in Asia Pacific, including the Philippines, and the guns of the U.S. military — they did not back down, and they pointed their guns back!.”

A representative of the Palestinian Youth Movement outlined that NATO is “the armed wing of U.S.-led imperialism suppressing liberation movements, led by ‘Genocide Joe’ and ‘Bloody Blinken.’”





NATO reinforces its war plans during Washington summit

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NATO held a summit in Washington from July 9 to 11 to celebrate its 75th anniversary and discuss strategies for dealing with the current global issues. Instead of reaching any consensus on making meaningful changes to improve global security and advance diplomacy, Western states focused only on thinking of ways to continue the war, despite the disadvantageous conditions for the alliance.

Under the current circumstances, there is little that NATO can do to escalate the war against Russia. The alliance is already sending to the Kiev regime all possible types of weapons, except nuclear ones, as well as a large number of mercenaries. In practice, a further escalation of hostilities would be an extremely dangerous scenario, and could even reach the level of open global war. However, the bloc does not seem interested in de-escalating and starting diplomatic talks. Instead, NATO's internal negotiations are being advanced to further worsen the crisis.

For example, during the summit in Washington, US officials promised to deploy new

long-range missiles to [Germany](#) as part of a “preparation” for the event of open war in Europe. The US plans to use German territory as an important operational hub in case of hostilities against Russia, which is why from 2026 on many advanced missile systems will start to be placed in German strategic areas.

The alliance has not only promised to strengthen its positions in member countries, but has also made it clear that [expansion](#) of the bloc remains a possibility. Despite constant Russian calls for NATO to stop expanding, the group appears to have little interest in any kind of diplomatic dialogue. In a joint statement, the countries announced their intention to grant membership to countries in the Western Balkans region. In addition, it was stated that the Black Sea - a key region of Russia’s strategic environment - is one of NATO’s points of greatest interest, suggesting that an expansion of maritime activities in that area may be about to happen.

“The Western Balkans and the Black Sea regions are of strategic importance for the alliance [We promise to help] counter malign influence, including disinformation, hybrid, and cyber threats, posed by both state and non-state actors (...) NATO supports the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of interested countries in this region,” the statement reads.

It is important to emphasize that any expansion into the Black Sea could cause a serious crisis in the current context. The conflict in Ukraine already forces Russia to maintain constant military activities in the Black Sea. In addition, NATO has been illegally providing intelligence and geolocation data to Kiev’s forces through Western drones that are circulating in the Black Sea region. This data has been vital for Ukraine to plan terrorist attacks against fully demilitarized Russian cities, which is leading Moscow’s patience to gradually run out. If NATO decides to promote further expansion into the Black Sea, it is possible that the escalation of the conflict will reach a point of no return.

Russia was not the only target of NATO’s war plans. [China](#) was also heavily targeted

by NATO strategists during the event in Washington. Delegations from member countries accused China of being an important “enabler” of Russian military actions. According to Western logic, if a country maintains diplomatic and trade relations with Russia, it automatically becomes a co-participant in the hostilities in Ukraine and should therefore be punished, sanctioned and isolated.

Beijing has never supplied weapons to Russia – both because it is not part of Chinese foreign policy to participate in conflicts and because Moscow is strong enough to face its enemies alone, without needing external help. Instead of being interested in conflicts, China is focused on maintaining strategic and mutually beneficial trade ties that generate profits for both sides and gains for ordinary people. This is why Russians and Chinese are increasingly engaged in cooperation projects, with the alliance between the two countries not being a military pact.

The reason why the Russian-Chinese partnership is causing fear in NATO is simple: Moscow and Beijing are rivals of American hegemony and publicly advocate for the reconfiguration of the geopolitical order. For the Atlantic alliance, this is a reason to go to war – which is why Ukraine is already being used as a proxy and tensions in the Pacific are getting worse. The only thing that became clear after the Washington summit is that, even weakened, NATO will not give up its war plans.

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Source: [InfoBrics](#)



U.S.-made missile suddenly 'transformed' into a 'Russian' one and killed 40 civilians

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July 9 — On July 8, the Russian military launched large-scale strikes on various targets across Ukraine. According to the mainstream propaganda machine, one strike was “particularly deadly,” as it allegedly “killed 41 civilians” and “destroyed a children’s hospital.” Reuters says that “Russia blasted the main children’s hospital in Kyiv with a missile in broad daylight on Monday and rained missiles down on other cities across Ukraine, killing at least 41 civilians in the deadliest wave of air strikes for months”. [The report tried playing into the emotional aspects](#) with the graphic descriptions of parents and children affected by these “evil Russian strikes.” Reuters says that “parents holding babies walked in the street outside the hospital, dazed and sobbing after the rare daylight aerial attack,” while “windows had been smashed and panels ripped off, and hundreds of Kyiv residents were helping to clear debris.”

While on his way to the NATO summit in Washington, D.C., the Neo-Nazi junta

frontman Volodymyr Zelensky claimed more than 170 people were injured, while around 100 buildings were damaged, including the aforementioned children's hospital and a maternity center in Kiev, as well as children's nurseries, a business center, and homes. He also stated that "Russian terrorists must answer for this" and that "being concerned does not stop terror; condolences are not a weapon." The Kiev regime announced a day of mourning for today, calling the strikes "one of the worst air attacks of the war," insisting it "demonstrated that Ukraine urgently needed an upgrade of its air defenses from its Western allies." Interestingly, they also claim that their air defenses allegedly "shot down 30 of 38 missiles." Quite peculiar that the Neo-Nazi junta forces are ["so successful" in shooting down Russian missiles.](#)

At the same time, [they still "urgently need" NATO-sourced SAM \(surface-to-air missile\) systems](#). The question is, which is it? Either [the current air defenses are not enough](#), meaning that the reports about shootdowns are a blatant lie, or the reports are "true", meaning that the Kiev regime forces don't really need "[better air defenses](#)". After all, [they "regularly shoot down" six out of two 9-S-7760 "Kinzhal" air-launched hypersonic missiles](#). However, in all seriousness, this is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the [sheer ridiculousness of propaganda in the NATO-orchestrated Ukrainian conflict](#). For instance, Reuters reports that it obtained "an online video showing a missile falling towards the children's hospital followed by a large explosion" and insists that "the location of the video was verified from visible landmarks." And indeed, there's horrifying footage of children injured by the shrapnel and falling debris.

The political West is now also using the UN to spread the narrative about the "brutal Russian attack." Britain called for a UN Security Council meeting, which will take place today, to "discuss a Russian missile attack on Kyiv's Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital that was part of a massive attack on July 8 that hit several cities across the country, killing at least 41 people and injuring at least 140", [according to the CIA](#)

[front Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \(RFE/RL\)](#). So, once again, we're seeing [the UN being used for the political West's "soft power" projection purposes](#). It should be noted that the reports about injuries to civilians are true, as the footage is certainly undeniable. However, there's a "slight problem" with the narrative. Namely, the video that Reuters referenced is also indisputable evidence that Russia didn't conduct the aforementioned strike on the children's hospital in Kiev.

One video clearly shows a SLAMRAAM (Surface Launched AMRAAM) missile falling and hitting a civilian building. This US-made weapon is based on an AIM-120 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) and [is used by the much-touted NASAMS](#) (Norwegian/National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System). However, the Neo-Nazi junta is insisting that the weapon in question is a Russian Kh-101 long-range air-launched cruise missile. The mainstream propaganda machine is also pushing the same narrative, despite the fact that the Russian missile has a massive warhead weighing 400 kg, meaning that the explosion would've completely leveled any building, which was simply not the case with the one damaged by the SAM fired by the Kiev regime forces. What's more, [it's highly likely that the Russian cruise missile has an upgraded warhead weighing 800 kg](#), meaning that the discrepancy is far worse.

In case such a missile hit any residential area, the death toll would've been in the hundreds, if not thousands. However, the mainstream propaganda machine doesn't really care about such inconsistencies. All it cares about is its vaunted narrative. That's precisely why they quote Zelensky's statements about "Russian terrorists" while also openly talking about NATO's and Neo-Nazi junta's terrorist attacks against Russian schoolchildren as if it were a "completely normal thing."

However, [apart from the video evidence showing that Russia didn't conduct the aforementioned strike](#), there's also the history of other blatant lies by the Neo-Nazi junta. Namely, [it regularly uses SAM systems without any consideration for civilians](#),

such as in the case of Przewodow, a Polish village that was hit by 5V55K SAMs fired by the Kiev regime forces back in mid-November 2022. Two civilians were killed.

The Neo-Nazi junta was adamant that Russia “deliberately” attacked Poland. [At the time, I argued](#) that the location of the incident was nowhere near the engagement range of any Russian SAM system that uses the 5V55K missiles. All evidence suggested that the weapon was fired from an older iteration of the Soviet-era S-300 SAM system. At the time, the Kiev regime forces still operated several versions, with the vast majority belonging to the S-300P/PS/PT series. The missile in question has a maximum engagement range of approximately 45 km.

Updated versions of the post-Soviet era were never deployed in Ukraine, while the closest Russian air defense units are at least 150-200 km away in Belarus and operate much more advanced systems such as the S-400. [Poland itself later confirmed](#) that the Neo-Nazi junta lied, [even leading to strained relations between the two](#). The latest incident is in no way different.

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Source: [InfoBrics](#)



Threat of war looms over NATO summit in Washington

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U.S. forming Asian NATO

On June 30, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) blasted the joint military exercises conducted by the U.S., Japan, and South Korea in the region, labeling them as “reckless and provocative.” The DPRK pointed out that the military “war games” disrupt peace on the Korean peninsula and the broader region.

The hostile military drills expose the formation of an “Asian version of NATO” led by the U.S., declared a [statement](#) by the DPRK’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs on June 30.

The three-day military operation known as “[Freedom Edge](#)” took place from June 26 to 29, involving South Korea, Japan, and the U.S. The “Edge” featured all three militaries, including the U.S.’s Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group, headed by

a nuclear-powered U.S. aircraft carrier, Japanese Defense Force naval carriers and destroyers, and Republic of Korea F-16 Falcon fighter jets.

Freedom Edge targeted not only North Korea but also China.

The exercise [draws its name](#) from other U.S. military operations with Japan (Keen Edge) and South Korea (Freedom Shield). The annual Freedom Shield and Keen Edge exercises aim to demonstrate military capabilities near China's borders.

South Korea submits to imperialist Japan

These maneuvers are part of a broader network of Indo-Pacific alliances led by the U.S. to encircle and confront China. The Freedom Edge war maneuvers came out of an agreement between the U.S., Japan, and the Republic of Korea [at Camp David last August](#). That agreement was historic because never before had the Republic of Korea submitted to such an agreement with imperialist Japan, which had occupied and colonized Korea from 1910 to 1945 (when the Korean People's Revolutionary Army ousted them and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was formed).

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's Camp David agreement with Japan has been denounced throughout the Republic of Korea. Some have called it the country's "biggest humiliation." [Yonhap News Agency](#) reported on May 31 that President Yoon's approval rating has fallen to 21%.

The DPRK's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the U.S., Japan, and South Korea for their continuous provocative military actions against the DPRK and other independent states in the region.

"Lurking behind the recent drill is the strategic design of the U.S. to escalate regional military tensions, exert pressure upon the Far East of Russia, and lay siege to China," the Ministry statement said.

In recent years, the U.S. has intensified military exercises surrounding China and Korea, forming new military partnerships like the AUKUS and QUAD.

U.S. President “Genocide Joe” Biden has invited Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to Washington in July for more “trilateral talks” as well as participation in the NATO war summit taking place on July 9-11.

NATO targets China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea

NATO Secretary General [Jens Stoltenberg](#) said at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Sofia, Bulgaria, on May 27 that one of the “main topics at the Washington Summit will be global partnerships, and in particular, our Asia Pacific partners – Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea.”

The U.S.-commanded military alliance called NATO includes the armed forces of the U.S. and all other countries in the alliance, including Britain, Germany, and France.

NATO has undertaken eight military actions, all since 1990. The alliance did not undertake any military operations during the Cold War. Since 1990, NATO has engaged in two actions related to the first Gulf War, two in the former Yugoslavia, and military operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, and Libya.

Stoltenberg said that NATO’s primary focus now is targeting China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. He called them threats to NATO’s dominance. He didn’t talk about the war threats that have come from NATO and the “Asian version of NATO.”

With his stilted bureaucratese, Stoltenberg did add, “NATO will remain Europe and North America, but to work with our partners in the Asia Pacific and therefore welcome that the leaders of the Asia Pacific will be at, we have invited them to attend, the summit in Washington.”

[ChatGPT translation: While NATO's focus remains on Europe and North America, we recognize the importance of collaboration with our Asia-Pacific partners. Therefore, we're pleased to welcome leaders from the Asia-Pacific region to the upcoming summit in Washington — the Asian NATO.]

The specter of war will loom large over the NATO summit in Washington.



U.S.-supplied missiles used in Ukrainian terror attack on Sevastopol

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It was a clear and sunny Sunday afternoon on the beaches of Sevastopol on June 23. Dogs ran along the shore. People swam. Children played. Suddenly, the scene turned from picturesque to grotesque.

Turns out, the Ukrainian armed forces launched a series of missiles armed with cluster munition warheads at the Sevastopol shore, with no apparent military target. While Russian drones intercepted most of the missiles, one detonated within striking distance of the beachgoers. One woman who was swimming died instantly. Four others were eventually pronounced dead at the scene, including three children.

Over 120 people were wounded in this brazen Ukrainian fascist act of terror against the Russian people. However, it was the U.S. imperialists who were ultimately responsible for this horror. The U.S. produced and supplied the advanced rocket missile technology and the cluster munition warhead. The blood of those three children and all those killed or wounded in the attack is firmly on the hands of the U.S.

This is not the first time that the U.S. has enabled Ukraine to strike at Russian civilian populations. For almost a decade, the Ukrainian Armed Forces waged a bloody terror campaign against the Donbas, resulting in the deaths of over 10,000 civilians.

As the NATO war against Russia flounders and the Ukraine forces retreat across the lines, the fascist forces have resorted to the escalation of terrorist attacks on the Russian civilian population.

NATO is simply the international military arm of the U.S. ruling class. Every bomb dropped on Russia is dropped by the U.S. as much as it is by Ukraine.

No NATO war on Russia! Disband NATO! Solidarity against fascism!



NATO is the enemy

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Say no to war, free Palestine!

The People's Summit & Mobilization by the Resist NATO Coalition provides a strong response to the NATO 75th anniversary celebration in Washington, D.C., on July 10-11.

The summit in defense of world peace will draw people from every continent around the globe demanding "No to NATO, No to War, Free Palestine!"

The only way to end the carnage and wars threatening to engulf the world is to say "no more" to the domination of the U.S. military-industrial complex and Wall Street.

When it created NATO in 1949, the United States had two purposes. The first was to threaten the Soviet Union and its new Eastern European allies and, if necessary, put down revolutionary movements in Western Europe. The communist parties in

France, Italy, Spain, Greece, and Portugal were widely popular for fighting against the capitalist governments responsible for the Second World War.

NATO is a military arm of the U.S. world empire. The domestic economies of all its member countries, including the U.S., bear the heavy cost of funding NATO. Being a NATO partner means funding U.S. military expansion. The U.S. is in the business of war.

Dwight Eisenhower, the first supreme commander of NATO, said in 1954, "We do not keep security establishments merely to defend property or territory or rights abroad or at sea. We keep the security forces to defend a way of life." That way of life is the increasing market concentration and the accumulation of wealth and economic power in the hands of a relatively small number of transnational corporations and ultra-rich individuals; monopoly capitalism, also called imperialism.

From its start, NATO adopted a strategic doctrine of "Massive Retaliation" - the threat of a total nuclear war against the Soviet Union. NATO's actions have drawn massive opposition to nuclear weapons and peace demonstrations throughout northern Europe.

An international peace seminar held on May 4 in Guantánamo, Cuba — near the illegal U.S. occupation of the Guantánamo Naval Base — brought together delegates from 30 countries demanding a world free of U.S. imperialist intervention and military bases.

The anti-imperialist meeting echoed the international repudiation of NATO's war operations under the direction and auspices of the U.S.

Iraklis Tsavdaridis, executive secretary of the World Council for Peace (CMP), noted that the U.S. imperialist military presence and NATO are not only the source of the Russia-Ukraine war but also support Israel's genocide against Palestinians.

Venezuelan researcher Gabriel Aguirre, representing World Beyond War, pointed out that according to public information, "there are 6 or more military bases with nuclear weapons in Italy, Belgium, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Germany, Turkey and it is very likely that there are others whose information is not in the public domain."

He added that "there are more than 900 U.S. military bases in 90 countries which of course turn this imperialist force into the main promoter of wars all over the world." More than 1.3 million military personnel are at these bases, the largest number of soldiers and bases stationed outside the country's national territory since the Vietnam War.

Resist NATO Coalition

PEOPLE'S SUMMIT

& MOBILIZATION

Washington DC

SAT JULY 6 PEOPLE'S SUMMIT 5-9PM
NEW YORK AVE PRESBYTERIAN

SUN JULY 7 RALLY & MARCH 12PM
MCPEHSON PARK

RESIST US-NATO AGGRESSION & WAR PROVOCATIONS!
DEFEND PEOPLES' STRUGGLE FOR RIGHTS & LIBERATION!

MORE INFO/REGISTRATION: ILPS.US/RESISTNATO



Graham ‘accidentally’ exposes the true nature of U.S. diplomacy

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[Global Times editorial](#)

Recently, senior U.S. politician and Republican Senator Lindsey Graham unabashedly stated in a media interview that Ukraine holds business value for the U.S. He claimed that there are “10 to 12 trillion dollars of critical minerals” in Ukraine, and the primary reason for supporting Ukraine is to seize these critical minerals by defeating Russia on the battlefield. Furthermore, he advocated for seizing and using frozen Russian assets in Europe and the U.S..

These remarks reveal the true intentions behind the U.S. political elites’ current policy toward the Ukraine crisis. As foreign netizens bluntly stated on social media, “Now you know why the West won’t allow peace talks.”

As a Senate “hawk,” Graham often garners attention with his extreme rhetoric. For

example, he once claimed that parts of Iran must be “blew off the map,” and he touted U.S. military aid to Ukraine as “the best money we’ve ever spent,” hence he was added to a list of “terrorists and extremists” compiled by Russia’s state financial monitoring agency, Rosfinmonitoring. He has also repeatedly stirred up tensions over the Taiwan question, threatening “sanctions from hell” against China.

Many of Graham’s radical ideas can only remain at the level of bluster, but his latest remarks on camera have sparked significant outrage for two reasons: First, because he “accidentally” exposed the true nature of U.S. diplomacy, making it clearer to the world what lies behind the facade of the U.S.’ claim that it wants to “maintain peace”; and second, because of the speeches and actions of the U.S. political elites he represents, which constantly fuel the Ukraine crisis, starkly contrast with the international community’s consensus on de-escalating tensions, and creating conditions for a cease-fire and an end to the war.

Graham views the Ukraine crisis as a business deal, a perspective that is somewhat representative among the U.S. political elites. Many of them talk about peace, but their real concern is not Ukraine, nor European stability. On the contrary, they are keen on Ukraine’s abundant resources and how to exploit Europe’s prolonged and profound crisis to continuously consolidate U.S.’ absolute power and dominance in European security affairs.

Turning the Ukraine crisis into a global conflict is the main policy trend of the U.S. in handling the crisis. Washington intends to turn this crisis into a key propeller for its own geopolitical competition around the world. Such policy goals are quite dangerous. Dialogue and negotiation are the only feasible way to resolve the crisis. This is the common voice of any responsible person in the international community.

However, in the past two years or so, the U.S. and certain NATO countries have continued to undermine the opportunities and efforts of Russia and Ukraine to resume direct dialogue, and even attempted to maximize the use of the crisis for

their own gains, creating pressure in Europe and even the world under which people must choose sides and highlight camp confrontation.

The extreme measures advocated by Graham once again show that the U.S. policy elites are taking a big gamble. The lack of historical reflection is the main reason why the U.S. frequently makes mistakes in major decisions. At present, the U.S. should best learn from the idea of building a “peace without victory” put forward during WWI by Woodrow Wilson, the architect of U.S. diplomacy, and use the idea of ensuring cooperation among major powers and not engaging in camp confrontation to deal with thorny diplomatic issues such as the Ukraine crisis. Regrettably, the current U.S. decision-making elites have both ignored the painful lessons learned from the wars of the 20th century and trampled on the warnings of their predecessors. This is a tragedy of U.S. diplomacy.

The crisis in Ukraine has entered its third year of overall escalation. The war is still ongoing, the impact continues to spill over, and the conflict is in danger of further escalation. If we want to achieve an early ceasefire and end the war, we cannot allow the Graham-style bellicose thinking to spread. U.S. elites often flaunt themselves with terms such as “democracy” and “rules” and deliberately exaggerate that they are “top students” in international relations. Graham has already told the truth about U.S. diplomacy. The U.S. is the one that ignores rules, stubbornly interferes in other countries’ internal affairs, and creates chaos within other countries and in the international community.

Graham’s remarks that Ukrainian resources cannot be given to Russia and China have fully demonstrated the narrow-mindedness of the U.S. in the Ukraine crisis.



Up to half a million NATO soldiers waiting to enter Ukraine

written by Struggle - La Lucha

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When Russia launched its special military operation (SMO) on February 24, 2022, it became the active part of the Kremlin's strategic counteroffensive against crawling NATO aggression. At the time, President Vladimir Putin made it clear that anyone foolish enough to get directly involved would be met with consequences they've never experienced in their entire history. And indeed, [nobody dared to get into a direct confrontation with Moscow](#). This forced the political West to find workarounds in order to provide indirect support for its favorite Neo-Nazi puppets. However, what started out with batches of ATGMs (anti-tank guided missiles) and MANPADS (man-portable air defense systems) ended up with heavy armor and [even nuclear-capable fighter jets](#). In other words, NATO keeps probing Russia, [testing its patience](#) and willingness not to escalate the already highly volatile situation.

And yet, in recent months, the world's most aggressive racketeering cartel has become [more brazen than ever before](#). Its advanced ISR (intelligence, surveillance,

reconnaissance) systems are being actively used for target acquisition and guidance of Western weapons delivered to the Kiev regime forces. Luckily, through the use of its advanced SAM (surface-to-air missile) systems and [world-class electronic warfare \(EW\)](#), Russia is able to [negate most of the advantages that the Neo-Nazi junta is getting in this way](#). All this is making NATO leaders quite nervous, as they believe that Russia's victory would have disastrous consequences for the collective West's geopolitical standing. This is going so far that the mainstream propaganda machine is now [openly advocating for NATO and Neo-Nazi junta-sponsored terrorist attacks](#) across Russia (public schools included).

However, that's not the end of it. [Despite troubles in meeting their recruitment goals](#), countries of the political West are looking to accumulate large concentrations of troops along Russia's borders. Estimates vary significantly, but at this very moment, there could be up to half a million NATO soldiers stationed in Eastern Europe alone, heavily armed and maintaining high battle readiness. According to Western military sources, there are no less than 300,000 troops stationed along the borders of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine. [Quoting a senior NATO official, the Defense Post reports](#) that "[the alliance] countries have comfortably exceeded a target of placing 300,000 troops on high-readiness". The mainstream propaganda machine insists these forces are there to allegedly "stave off any potential Russian attack". However, their composition tells a different story.

Namely, NATO forces in Eastern Europe rely on the same offensive-oriented approach that the belligerent alliance usually uses in its [aggression against the world](#). This means that there's a significant focus on [air superiority](#) and rapid deployment of frontline troops, [particularly airborne](#) and special forces. It's certainly a challenge to coordinate a dozen or so different countries in the region, particularly as they have highly diverging foreign policy frameworks. Namely, while the endemically Russophobic EU/NATO member states such as the Baltic republics and Poland are [far more committed](#), others such as Slovakia and Hungary aren't as

thrilled to get into a confrontation with Russia. There are also those who don't belong to either category, such as Romania, where the political leadership is decisively pro-EU/NATO, but the population is generally more ambivalent.

Interestingly, the belligerent alliance itself also admits that its forces in the area are offensive-oriented, albeit indirectly. Namely, NATO commanders are complaining that "the alliance faces shortfalls in key weaponry such as air defenses and longer-range missiles", insisting there are "capability gaps" and "things that we don't have enough of as an alliance at the moment and we need to tackle". And while [the lack of missiles is not exactly true](#) (as evidenced by constant ATACMS deliveries to the Neo-Nazi junta), the complaint about SAM systems holds, as many of those have been delivered to the Kiev regime forces and [haven't proven to be very effective](#), despite all the war propaganda. [Losses of "Patriot" SAMs](#) and similar NATO-sourced air defense systems led to more "begmanding" from Volodymyr Zelensky and his entourage ([although it was all futile for the most part](#)).

However, once again, the admission that NATO forces lack enough SAM systems suggests that they are offensive-oriented. One of the most prominent Russian military experts, Konstantin Sivkov, also argues that these troops are there to get directly involved in the NATO-orchestrated Ukrainian conflict. [According to his assessment](#), the delivery of F-16s will serve as a cover for NATO air incursions, [followed by land forces](#). Sivkov believes that at least five countries will take part in the operation and that they've already assembled 500,000 soldiers for this purpose. According to his estimates, this incursion could take place as early as August-September. Sivkov's stellar career in the military (specifically the Soviet Navy), as well as the numerous positions he still holds in various domestic and international scientific institutions, imply that his warning should be taken very seriously.

Another clear indicator that the political West is preparing for a large-scale confrontation is the fact that [the U.S. House passed a bill automatically registering](#)

[men aged 18-26 for the draft](#). And while American congressmen are insisting this measure serves “only to cut down on bureaucratic red tape and help U.S. citizens avoid unnecessary legal issues”, the timing is far too peculiar. The draft, while mandatory, hasn’t been invoked in over half a century, particularly after the crushing defeat Vietnam inflicted on U.S. occupation forces. This clearly indicates that the political West is becoming desperate to prevent Russia’s victory. However, [as former U.S. Army Colonel Douglas McGregor warned repeatedly](#), this will be met with a [swift response](#) from Russia, [as its unrivaled hypersonic missiles will rain down and obliterate](#) any large NATO troop concentrations.

Source: [InfoBrics](#)



Resist NATO’s D-Day lies: Join the Counter-Summit in Washington

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The U.S.-NATO powers are exploiting the 80th anniversary of D-Day to justify an imperialist agenda, including escalating their war against Russia and arming the genocide in Gaza. This commemoration, while claiming to honor the sacrifice of soldiers, is an outright promotion of NATO's expansionism and war.

The policies and objectives of NATO today are alarmingly similar to those of the Nazi regime, with parallels in their aggression towards Russia and military armaments to support the apartheid Zionist settler state. The exclusion of Russia from the D-Day memorial and the elevation of Nazi collaborators in Ukraine further highlight the imperialist purpose of the ceremonies.

French President Emmanuel Macron's decision to withdraw Russia's invitation to the D-Day memorial was meant to erase the Soviet Union's incredible defeat of the Third Reich in May 1945.

The U.S. created NATO in 1949 to threaten the Soviet Union and its new Eastern European allies and to stop the spread of socialism across Europe.

After the USSR was destroyed in 1992, the U.S. began taking the Soviet Union's former Eastern European allies and some former Soviet Republics into NATO. The only former Soviet or Soviet-allied countries in Europe that are not now part of NATO are Moldova, Belarus, and Ukraine.

Even though Russia is now capitalist and thus represents no socialist threat to any existing capitalist nation, the U.S. has been tightening its encirclement of Russia through NATO. The goal is to transform Russia, with its vast natural wealth, into a semi-colony of the U.S.

The U.S./NATO proxy war in Ukraine is about the drive of U.S. imperialism to bring Russia's and Ukraine's colossal wealth in natural resources under its control. Both countries are rich in farmland and raw materials such as ores. Already, much of Ukraine's has been taken over by U.S. finance capital. Russian capitalists are fighting to maintain control of their own natural resources.

Macron has said that NATO ground troops should be deployed in Ukraine, expanding the conflict into an open NATO war on Russia.

Biden has already authorized Ukraine to attack Russian territory with U.S.-supplied missiles, an open escalation of U.S.-NATO operations.

Meanwhile, the U.S.-backed Israeli Occupation Forces continue the genocide in Gaza, mirroring the brutal tactics of Nazi Germany, including mass bombings and starvation of civilians. More bombs have been dropped on Gaza than were on

London, Hamburg, and Dresden during World War II.

The official D-Day gathering of imperialist leaders will be followed by a NATO meeting in Washington, D.C., where plans to expand the war against Russia and future operations against China will be discussed.

A Resist NATO Counter-Summit has been called for July 6 in Washington, followed by a rally on July 7.



