

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

It's Time for a Change

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Will the collective West (already a fragmenting assembly) regain its sanity and drop the policies that lead the world to global war and nuclear annihilation?

An opportunity is presented this week in the United States, where an expected vote on a War Powers Act resolution will call upon members of the House of Representatives to take a stand on ending the illegal U.S. military presence in Syria.

If a crack forms in the dam of hypocrisy, will a truthful policy be able to sweep it away?

Gen. Milley visited Syria this Saturday, March 4. He was part of an occupying military force that continues to operate in a sovereign country without its permission. What about sovereignty and territorial integrity?

For the U.S.-U.K.-NATO axis, the Kurds, a minority group in Syria, are said to require protection from the depredations of the Damascus authorities, headed by the supposed chemical weapons enthusiast Bashar al-Assad. What of Donetsk and Lugansk, which had been subjected to military attacks by the Kiev authorities for the better part of a decade, with some 14,000 or more killed? The supposed defenders of democracy lied, mouthing support for a Minsk peace process while planning the reconquest of those territories.

Argentina has withdrawn from a 2016 pact with the U.K. that conceded control of the Malvinas Islands to the U.K. But according to U.K. Foreign Secretary Cleverly, the islands are British: “Islanders have the right to decide their own future—they have chosen to remain a self-governing U.K. Overseas Territory,” he said. Are the people of Crimea and the eastern provinces of Ukraine allowed to decide *their* own future?

China is accused of all manner of atrocities in Xinjiang, with demands that the “international community” stand up to what the U.S.-U.K.-NATO axis considers a cruel autocracy. But did those same powers, with direct responsibility for the Minsk process, stand up for the people of Donetsk and Lugansk, a majority of whom plainly do *not* want to be administered by Kiev?

The “rules-based order” appears to have as many exceptions as it does rules. Free trade and open markets are extolled, except for China. Sovereignty and territorial integrity are sacrosanct, except for Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Crimea. Terrorists must be rooted out and punished, anywhere in the world, except for the Nord Stream bombers.

The opportunity to end the occupation of Syria is a flank. So is the exposé by Seymour Hersh of the Nord Stream bombing. These are opportunities ripe to be exploited to induce a much broader change.

A new world is dawning. As the trans-Atlantic financial system crumbles and disintegrates, world power is shifting to Eurasia, to the Global South more broadly. Leaders of many nations increasingly trust China and Russia more than the “West.” The world effects of the NATO-Russia war being played out mostly in Ukraine is only catalyzing, accelerating these changes. The British saw the writing on the wall years ago, and have, with their U.S. friends, deployed Russiagate and the anti-China campaign to maintain control. Although they cannot succeed in this, they may succeed in bringing about nuclear devastation.

The Global South has had enough of this hypocrisy. Have the citizens of the “West”?

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday March 7, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Damascus Denounces General Milley's Trip to Eastern Syria

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—The Syrian Foreign Ministry issued a statement yesterday condemning Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley's visit to U.S. troops in eastern Syria on March 4, calling it a flagrant violation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, reported SANA. "The U.S. chairman of the chiefs of staff made an illegal visit to an illegal U.S. military base in northeast Syria, and claimed that the reason for this visit was to assess the effectiveness of the war against Daesh [ISIS] organization, however, the international community knows very well that Daesh is an illegitimate offspring of U.S. intelligence," a source in the ministry said.

"Syria strongly condemns this flagrant violation by the U.S. military official of the sovereignty and territorial integrity," the source said, calling on the U.S. administration to immediately stop its systematic and continuous violations of international law, and stop its support for separatist armed militias.

Zero Hedge headlined its coverage "[Top U.S. General Makes Rare Visit to Syria, Reaffirms Occupation.](#)" Its lead paragraph is telling, on the eve of the Congressional vote provisionally set for Wednesday, March 8 on the Matt Gaetz War Powers resolution (H.Con.Res.21) for the removal of U.S. troops from Syria: "Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley made a rare, unannounced visit to Syria on Saturday, which was his first trip there as America's top general. The purpose was to reaffirm the U.S. troop presence and mission there even as the public has by and large grown weary of foreign military entanglements." Most Americans are completely unaware that the White House has deployed troops to occupy part of Syria for the last eight years.

Rift in Israeli Governing Coalition over Anti-Palestinian Riot

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Last week, the Israeli military took into custody eight Jewish suspects involved in the Feb. 26 settlers riot in the Palestinian

West Bank town of Huwara. A court ordered them released, reportedly due to lack of evidence, but Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, using an authority frequently used against Palestinians, ordered two of the suspects kept in administrative detention. Yesterday, reports emerged in Israel that Gallant refused a phone call from National Security Minister (and Temple Mount crazy) Itamar Ben Gvir regarding the two suspects. Ben Gvir phoned Gallant on March 3 to seek clarifications regarding the two suspects, according to a report by the Kan public broadcaster, reported the *Times of Israel*.

A spokesperson for Gallant confirmed the Kan report and said it had not been leaked by the defense minister. Ben Gvir responded to Kan with a rant against opposition leader Yair Lapid, whom he accused of “harming the police and now sparking anarchist revolts.” The administrative detention orders against the pair are currently valid for four months, until July 1. Ben Gvir’s accusation of “harming the police” could refer to his attempt to take control of border police units in the West Bank from the Defense Ministry, a move that the Defense Ministry has been resisting, but this is not clarified by the *Times of Israel*. Lapid’s role in this is also not clarified.

Gallant’s decision to put the two suspects in administrative detention followed recommendations by the Shin Bet security agency. A senior security official speaking to Channel 12 news claimed the pair were “planning and had carried out operations against IDF forces. [They] are extremely dangerous.” According to *Ha’aretz*, a senior security source, possibly the same one, said they were involved in initiating the riots.

Hungary Reiterates Effort To End War and Sanctions, Seeks Diplomacy in Neighboring Ukraine

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Leading officials of Hungary are continuing their daily calls for an end to arms deliveries to Kiev and sanctions against Russia, urging a ceasefire in Ukraine and talks to end the conflict.

The conflict could only be ended through a ceasefire, Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto said in an interview for Sweden’s SVT TV channel.

“The first goal is to stop killing people, which means a ceasefire agreement and nothing more.”

According to Szijjarto, EU sanctions have failed to stop the conflict. “We have already introduced 10 sanctions packages; has it brought us any closer to a resolution? No. Has it brought Russia to its knees? No. Has it hurt us? Yes. I think that the ‘solutions’ that we have been trying to find in Europe simply didn’t work, because we’ve got too carried away with the war mentality,” he observed.

When asked why Hungary will not ship weapons to Kiev, the Foreign Minister said: “We are a state that neighbors Ukraine, and we do not want more people to die. This is why we are working to stop it. We do not ship weapons, we continue to advocate peace.”

Harsh remarks against the war drive also came already on March 3 from Laszlo Kover, the speaker of Hungary’s National Assembly, who told Hir TV that massive deliveries of military aid to Ukraine have made multiple NATO and EU nations party to the conflict between Moscow and Kiev. Kover said: “Members of NATO and the EU have already sent almost \$60 billion worth of lethal military equipment to Ukraine, one of the warring parties. This means that individual countries—members of the European Union and NATO—are participants of this war, although not yet fighting,” he said.

Netanyahu Asserts Right To Attack Iranian Nuclear Facilities

March 6 2023 (EIRNS)—In the midst of all the chaos engulfing Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu went ballistic over the statement by IAEA chief Rafael Grossi of yesterday in which he clearly implied that Israeli strikes against Iranian nuclear facilities are illegal. “Rafael Grossi is a worthy person who made an unworthy remark,” Netanyahu said in response at the weekly cabinet meeting. “Outlawed by what law? Is Iran, which publicly calls for our extermination, allowed to protect its weapons of destruction that will slaughter us?”

“Are we forbidden to defend ourselves?” he added. “Of course, we are allowed, and of course, we are doing this ... nothing will prevent us from protecting our country and preventing oppressors from destroying the Jewish state.”

Grossi’s statement came in the context of an agreement signed by the IAEA and the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran intended to clear up concerns about Iran’s compliance with its safeguards agreement. “Any military attack on nuclear facilities is unacceptable and runs counter to international law,” Grossi said during public remarks in Tehran.

Victoria Nuland in Philippines To Consolidate Military Obedience

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Victoria Nuland, the organizer of the Nazi coup in Kiev in 2014 and continuing in the Biden Administration to be a leading war hawk against Russia, is travelling to Manila, Philippines, and Tokyo, Japan, over March 6-9.

The State Department release said that in Manila, she will meet with senior Philippine officials “to discuss key aspects of the U.S.-Philippines alliance, including our shared interest in deepening economic, security, and people-to-people ties. She will also consult with Philippine leaders on the full range of global issues and meet with civil society and young innovators.”

But the Philippines’ recently agreed Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) with the U.S. includes setting up four new marine bases and establishing joint U.S.-Philippine naval deployments in the South China Sea, a situation ready made for an intentional or accidental clash with Chinese warships, that could provide a spark for war.

Friends of the LaRouche movement in Manila, who sponsored a rally and march on March 4 called “Anti-EDCA Bases, Anti-Proxy War, Anti-Joint NATO Sea Patrols” which brought a few hundred people out to the meeting and to the streets, are considering what kind of greeting would be appropriate for Nuland.

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC**House Resolution To Remove U.S. Troops from Syria ‘May Be Considered’ for Vote on March 8**

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—A floor vote on a Congressional resolution ordering U.S. troop removal from Syria “may be considered” this Wednesday, March 8, according to the House legislative calendar released today by the office of House Majority Leader Steve Scalise.

This War Powers Act resolution, [House Concurrent Resolution 21](#) (H.Con.Res.21) was introduced March 1 by Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida. This replaces his earlier H.Con.Res.20. The language is the same, but with a change in the time mandated for the troops’ withdrawal. All Representatives will be accountable for their votes.

H.Con.Res.21 reads: “Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove the United States Armed Forces from Syria. Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)), Congress directs the President to remove the United States Armed Forces from Syria by not later than the date that is 180 days after the date of the adoption of this concurrent resolution.”

This gives any Representatives who voted for the heinous re-affirmation of the deadly Caesar sanctions against Syria on Feb. 27, by a vote of 414-2, the chance to show they have a scintilla of humanity and can begin to undo their crime. The sudden trip of Gen. Mark Milley, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, to the U.S. occupation zone in Syria March 4 to reaffirm U.S. troop presence there, puts the issue in a spotlight on the eve of the Congressional vote. The combination of sanctions and occupation has the undeclared aim and actual effect of turning Syria into a death camp.

EIR is encouraging Americans to urge their congress member to vote up the resolution: The Congressional switchboard, to reach all offices in the House of Representatives, is (202) 224-3121.

Rep. Gosar Supports Chinese Peace Outline, Demands Nord Stream Investigation, Warns World Is Turning Against U.S.

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Congressman Paul Gosar (R-AZ) had several interesting topics in his latest newsletter, including the need for peace in Ukraine, support for the [Chinese peace proposal](#), a call to investigate Seymour Hersh’s claims that the U.S. sabotaged the Russo-German [Nord Stream pipelines](#), and a recognition that major powers of the world—Russia, China, and India, in particular—are turning against the United States.

On the need for peace in Ukraine, Gosar asserts that “the Biden regime continues its frantic and hysterical path to start World War III. Another clown in the Biden administration, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, arrogantly demanded that American taxpayers endlessly fund Ukraine and its war, including payment to its retirees and pensions. With no irony, Yellen claimed it was a ‘moral’ duty to fund this war and kill people. The moral duty is to strive for peace.”

He supports the Chinese peace proposal—in fact, he practically takes credit for it! “The Chinese government, following in my footsteps, has called for peace negotiations before a nuclear world war breaks out between the United States and Russia. China detailed a 12-point cease fire plan that would lead to peace talks. The Chinese government is showing common sense and helping the world avoid a potential nuclear war between the United States and Russia. We need more countries demanding peace and bringing an end to this war.”

Gosar acknowledges that the relationships of China and India to Russia are only growing stronger. “Biden’s reckless actions are creating a situation where India, China and other countries work on creating an alliance, including an economic alliance, that could devalue the dollar and hurt our global standing.”

Seymour Hersh’s exposé of the planning of the attack on the Nord Stream pipelines gets significant play in Gosar’s newsletter. “Credible research and investigation from journalist Seymour Hersh conclude that

U.S. Navy divers planted bombs on a Russian pipeline called Nord Stream, and blew it up. The United Nations concluded that Russia did not bomb its own pipeline, which seems obvious, but it was investigated because the United States claimed Russia did so.” He quotes Hersh at length and concludes: “I have been consistent from the outset. The United States has no business in a war against Russia and spending hundreds of billions of taxpayers’ money. We have no business propping up Ukraine, one of the most corrupt and authoritarian regimes in the world. If Mr. Hersh is correct, and he has a lengthy career of respectable journalism, this would constitute an act of war and endangers all of us. Russia would have the right to retaliate if not escalate directly against us, for example, by bombing the Alaska pipeline. I can tell you directly that we have not debated this in Congress. We did not authorize acts of war against Russia. We did not authorize military attacks on Russian infrastructure. This is a dangerous escalation that could imperil our country. The Biden regime is not authorized to engage in these rogue acts that could bring devastating consequences to us.”

Chris Hedges on Persecution of Jan. 6 Defendants

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—“There is little that unites me with those who occupied the Capitol building on Jan. 6.... But that does not mean I support the judicial lynching against many of those who participated in the Jan. 6 event,” wrote [Chris Hedges](#) on ScheerPost yesterday. “Once rights become privileges, none of us are safe.”

After recounting the overall scale of the Jan. 6 prosecutions—1,003 people have been arrested, 476 have pled guilty, 220 have been sentenced to incarceration, an additional 100 to home detention, and many cases of pretrial detention for months or years—Hedges quotes defense attorney Joseph D. McBride, who became a lawyer after his brother was sentenced to 15 years for a crime he did not commit.

“The post-9/11 model is being applied to American citizens,” McBride told Hedges. “That model is the 19 hijackers. Everyone who is a religious Muslim is a suspect for the next 20 years.... The same thing is happening,

except it's being applied to a new group of people, primarily white Christians, Trump supporters, for now.”

Hedges then turns to the case of Ryan Nichols, living under house arrest in Texas after nearly two years of pretrial detention, much of it in solitary confinement. He cannot use his phone or the internet, except in matters related to his case. Ryan ran a non-profit group dedicated to search-and-rescue operations after natural disasters and had no criminal record. His life has been forever altered by his period of detention, his family is struggling financially, and his case is still not over.

“The cheerleading, or at best indifference, by Democratic Party supporters and much of the left to these show trials will come back to haunt them,” Hedges warns. “We are complicit, once again, of using the courts to carry out vendettas.”

“We are moving ever closer towards tyranny,” he concludes.

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Blinken Doubles Down on Destruction of Syria

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—In a [State Department release](#) today, attributed to Secretary of State Antony Blinken, the policy of full sanctions until a regime change of Syrian President Assad is accomplished: “As the United States and the world comes to the aid of the Syrian people in the aftermath of last month’s earthquakes, we are reminded that their humanitarian suffering long predates this natural disaster. This month marks the twelfth year of conflict in Syria during which the Assad regime has committed innumerable atrocities, some of which rise to the level of war crimes and crimes against humanity.”

Don’t even think about letting the guard down due to the earthquakes, the statement says. “[C]ountries should not normalize relations with the Assad regime absent enduring progress towards a political resolution.... We will continue to support Syrian-led and international efforts to ensure there are consequences for the ongoing human rights violations and abuses

committed in Syria. Our support for the brave Syrians who continue to risk their lives to hold the Assad regime accountable will not waver.”

NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

Putin Opens World’s Largest ‘Big Circle Line’ Metro in Moscow

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Russian President [Vladimir Putin](#) opened the \$6.6 billion Big Circle Line (BCL) in Moscow on March 1—“the largest underground ring in the world.” At 33 stations, it is 70 km long and is expected to transport 3.3 million passengers daily.

In his remarks, President Putin praised the work of the Moscow city government and construction staff, saying: “The main thing is that the BCL will vastly improve the capital’s transport system. It will reduce traffic on many motorways, stimulate the development and improvement of adjacent districts, and make the life of our megacity and its residents and visitors more comfortable and dynamic....

“Overall, I would like to express appreciation for the hard work done by the Moscow authorities over the past few years to develop the urban transport infrastructure. You may remember—Muscovites definitely do—that some time ago we thought about and looked with dismay at the transport situation in large cities, such as Moscow, racking our brains about solutions to all of the city’s problems. In the meantime, the city authorities were working hard and persistently, and they ultimately achieved a good result....”

Russia continues to expand its sights to the country’s east. During his Feb. 21 [Address to the Federal Assembly](#), President Putin underscored Russian infrastructure objectives, specifically highlighting plans to improve rail and road connections with foreign countries. “A decision has already been made to extend the Moscow-Kazan expressway to Yekaterinburg, Chelyabinsk and Tyumen, and eventually to Irkutsk and Vladivostok with branches to Kazakhstan, Mongolia and China. This will, in part, allow us to considerably expand our ties with Southeast Asian markets.”

Namibian President Puts Former German Bundestag Official in His Place

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—“Every time a Westerner comes, it’s about Chinese,” [Namibian President Hage Geingob](#) told the former president of the German Bundestag Norbert Lammert, after he had complained that there are now four times as many Chinese as Germans in Namibia.

President Geingob interrupted him: “Mr. Speaker, what is your problem with that?... It looks more like a European problem than our problem. You are so sorry for us. Chinese will never come and play around here ... which Germans are doing by the way. You talk about Chinese. We allow Germans to come, offered visas here—red carpet. Our people get harassment in Germany! Even diplomatic passport holders—in Germany! And Germans come here as they want. So why Chinese? Talk about Germans! How you are treating us there. Chinese don’t treat us like that, diplomatic passport holders.

“We are in our own country. Don’t be sorry for us. Every time a Westerner comes, it’s about Chinese.” [laughs]

Russian Businessmen Cooperate with Iran, Pakistan, Uzbekistan in Developing Major Projects in Afghanistan

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—Russian businessmen have signed a memorandum on development of coal thermal power in Afghanistan in cooperation with Iran and Pakistan, both neighbors of Afghanistan. Russia is also involved in other projects, including with two other neighbors, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. “One month ago, businessmen from the Republic of Tatarstan signed a memorandum on development of the coal thermal power sector in Afghanistan in Kabul. It is a trilateral project with Iran and Pakistan,” Russian Ambassador to Afghanistan Dmitry Zhirnov told *Izvestia*’s March 6 issue.

He also spoke of other projects. Russian pipe producers are ready to join the construction of the Afghan part of the gas pipeline in the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline project, to which Kabul has been committed, but has lacked the means to advance construction.

Inside Kabul, Russian engineers inspected the boiler houses, heating networks, water supply systems, power substations and prepared a plan for restoration of the utility system. TASS also reports today that Russia will participate in the technical group working on the Trans-Afghan Railway—the proposed line going from Uzbekistan to Pakistan through Afghanistan, that would give landlocked Uzbekistan sea access.

“A project on establishment of modern medical laboratories for the public in Afghan cities is being prepared. Our businessmen may also take part in modernizing the Salang Tunnel. The business council on cooperation with Afghanistan is also at work,” Zhirnov told *Izvestia*. The Soviet Union had originally built the Salang Tunnel in the Hindu Kush, completed in 1964.

“The cooperation in the economy goes on, it is market driven, based on commercial contracts. Our approach implies that this cooperation must be mutually beneficial, and interesting for the business circles from the return standpoint,” Zhirnov remarked, answering a question regarding a proposal put forth by an Afghan minister to exchange Russian oil for Afghan minerals.

SCIENCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

Huge Blackout in Argentina. Did the Country Get Nord Streamed?

March 6, 2023 (EIRNS)—On Wednesday, March 1, Argentina suffered a major power outage which left at least 20 million people, 40% of the population, without electricity in the middle of the worst heat wave the country has experienced in 20 years, as well as a devastating drought. Temperatures have been running as high as 35°C in some places. Large swaths of Metropolitan Buenos Aires and at least seven other provinces were affected and while some electricity was restored after a few hours the same day, power wasn't fully restored in the country until two days later.

Thanks to years of disinvestment under the neoliberal Mauricio Macri government (2015-2019), Argentina's electric grid is not in good shape,

and smaller blackouts happen with some regularity. But Finance Minister Sergio Massa has already filed a criminal complaint with Judge Adrian Gonzalez Charvay calling for an investigation into three fires that had been deliberately set under a 500 KW high-tension transmission line outside the Buenos Aires Metropolitan area which caused it to catch fire. This in turn caused the shutdown of sections of the interconnected grid, requiring the Atucha I nuclear plant to be taken offline as a precautionary move. That removed 10,000 MW from the interconnected grid of the 25,000 MW that were in demand at that moment. Six million households were left in the dark.

Almost immediately circles linked to Macri started screaming that Atucha represented a grave “nuclear threat” to the country. Who needs nuclear energy?

The relevant question here is whether the blackout represents an attack on the nation’s civilian infrastructure that President Vladimir Putin warned could occur internationally were Seymour Hersh’s revelations about the U.S. role in blowing up Nord Stream not thoroughly investigated. Look at the threats that U.S. and Western geopolitical circles are making against the Peruvian port of Chancay that China is building. Look at the threats against Argentina that Rep. Maria Elvia Salazar (R-FL) made at the House Foreign Affairs Committee March 1 for daring to collaborate with China on space and military matters, charging it had “made a pact with the devil” and “should be forewarned” before it’s too late.

Julio De Vido, a former Planning Minister under the two Kirchner governments (2003-2015) and a participant in two Schiller Institute international conferences, told Radio Grafica on March 3: “I think there are interests that want Argentina to abandon its nuclear plan and that’s why Atucha was named as the reason for the system’s failure. There’s a whole operation underway to try to reverse the agreements that we had signed with China and Russia for the building of three more nuclear plants. They try to link [nuclear plants] with corruption and dirty energy.”

He then pointedly added, “We have to see how Germany will manage by returning to coal—on top of which the Yankees blew up the pipeline [Germany] had built with Russia to guarantee its supply,” referring to the Hersh revelations. The reality is that “there are U.S. interests that don’t want Argentina to develop in a sovereign manner. [Southern Command head Gen.] Laura Richardson said it very clearly—no lithium, no nuclear energy, no energy resources.”

As for blaming Atucha for the blackout, De Vido told *La Politica Online* that “Operation Atucha” has a geopolitical smell to it. The country is about to complete its enriched uranium plant which is 100% Argentine; and finishing its CAREM small modular reactor prototype, “and the nuclear powers don’t like that. It worries the Southern Command. Blaming Atucha was no casual mistake.”