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EDITORIAL

‘Villainous Vilnius’ Summit Demonstrates Need To Dissolve NATO

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—The confederacy of dunces meeting at Vilnius have proclaimed, with dubious conviction, that someday, somehow, Ukraine will be in NATO. This displeased “Little Caesar” Zelensky, who took to the streets of the city and, speaking at a concert clearly staged on his behalf, castigated the whole Anglosphere as “weak sisters,” for being “indecisive,” for being afraid to throw caution to the winds, get some iron in the spine, and stand up to the Russians. Another Ukrainian official, Andriy Yermak, Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine, went further. He explained, in an ABC interview, why the West should not fear escalating toward nuclear war. “Some countries, unfortunately, don’t really understand the current Russia. It’s not the country of Pushkin, Tchaikovsky, Russian ballet, one of the strongest armies in the world. It’s the country [of] terrorists.”

Those that have read *Mein Kampf*—hopefully, only for research purposes—know that there was no one more rabidly obsessed with the extermination of Russia—not merely “Bolshevism”—than Adolf Hitler. Certainly, that fact is not lost on Russia. But it is the mind-set, not the individual, that matters. Fascism was not a “German-only” phenomenon, as the tattoos of Ukraine’s Azov Battalion (and others) advertise, and as the financial policies of the City of London and Wall Street demonstrate every day.

The July 8-9 Schiller Institute Conference in Strasbourg, France, and the alternative “culture of peace” that it presented, including a new security and development architecture for the world as is now being discussed, if imperfectly, throughout the Global South, is the opposite of the “universal fascism” that the absurd “North Atlantic Treaty Organization” now exemplifies. Think about it. By decree, NATO has proclaimed that the Atlantic Ocean now includes the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa, and the Pacific Ocean. Madness!

Worse, foolish nations go along with it, to be assimilated the way that a Venus fly-trap assimilates a fly.

The Advisor to the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine Mykhailo Podolyak, as recorded in an interview with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty yesterday, gave a preview of what he believed that his boss, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, was going to discuss with Joe Biden today, in a “side meeting” of the ongoing “Villainous Vilnius” NATO Summit. Among other discussion topics, Podolyak said, “The third issue is still the question of Russia’s defeat. This is even a philosophical, doctrinal question, why Russia must necessarily defeat [sic], why it is beneficial to the democratic world, what Russia should look like after defeat, and why we should not be afraid of it, and why, in principle, Putin does not control Russia, is not a strong President, and *why it is assistance to Ukraine that will accelerate the finalization of Russia’s existence as we see it today.*” Formulations like “the finalization of Russia’s existence”—too similar to the idea of a “final solution” to be a mistake—only come out of one sort of mind-set. Hitler, Himmler, Goebbels, Sir Oswald Mosley, King Edward VIII, and Brooklyn’s own Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht were all of that sort of mind-set.

The International Assassination Bureau, the same that has operated for decades, but in different guises for different occasions, has killed another Russian target and then listed him as “liquidated” on its Myrotvorets list in Kiev. Note carefully, also, that the Ukrainian Presidency’s Center for Countering Disinformation (CCD) had referenced the “Strasbourg International Peace Conference: Russia urges Europe to break free from U.S. shackles for a just multipolar world,” and listed Helga Zepp-LaRouche, again, on its latest “target list,” used by the Ukrainian SBU security service to identify “enemies of the state.” What is unusual, however, is that this CCD citation was dated several days before the Schiller Institute conference occurred.

In the United States, the House Judiciary Committee has just “released a report yesterday on the FBI’s cooperation with the Ukrainian Security

Service (SBU) to suppress the social media accounts of Americans suspected of disseminating alleged ‘Russian disinformation’ ” as you can read in the intelligence item below. What constitutes Russian disinformation? Well, that’s not so easy for Americans to identify. According to the head of Ukraine’s National Security Defense Council Oleksiy Danilov (who also runs CCD), for example, Americans, including American politicians, have been brainwashed from an early age about Russia: “The thing is that the textbooks used by students, who graduate from respected Western universities, including American, British ones, were written by Russians” and “were written based on the version of history that was written in Russia.”

Which, presumably, is why Americans don’t understand that there has to be a commitment to “the finalization of Russia,” even if that means “the finalization of America, and the whole world.” Republican Presidential candidate Donald Trump, who denounced President Biden’s decision to send cluster bombs to Ukraine, pointed out that Biden had blurted out the embarrassing truth. Despite the fact that the United States is spending, officially, just shy of \$900 billion on war—euphemistically called “defense”—it has run out of weapons, and is now reduced to giving Ukraine 20-year-old ordnance which has been outlawed by 123 nations. Russia’s 2023 defense budget is estimated at \$84 billion—one-tenth of our present budget—but we don’t have ammunition. Democratic Presidential candidate Robert Kennedy, Jr. said, “Last year, WH Press Secretary Jen Psaki called the use of cluster bombs a ‘war crime.’ Now President Biden plans to send them to Ukraine. Stop the ceaseless escalation! It is time for peace.”

And Zelenskyy wasn’t the only one in the streets in Europe yesterday. In Sofia, Bulgaria, a NATO country, thousands marched against the idea of admitting Ukraine into NATO. “Zelenskyy, killer of Ukrainians!” was one slogan heard. While Charlie Chaplin’s “Great Dictator” character, Adenoid Hynkel, was also, like Zelenskyy, mistaken for a “Führer,” he, at least, grew into the role. In the case of Zelenskyy, his desperation makes him shriek, and shrink, more and more, by the day. The more serious problem

is, will this moment in history find only Lilliputians in leadership of the trans-Atlantic nations? There is world-class leadership in the Global South, Brazil, South Africa, Russia, and China. There are some signs of life in the United States. Now, from the ranks of the emerging International Peace Coalition, the movement known as Humanity For Peace, and the participants in the Schiller Institute conferences, must come the complement to the world's aspirations for a new, just world system of sovereign nations united in a harmony of interests and a commitment to the common aims of mankind. "Pacem In Terris" is not only possible, but the natural condition of the human race.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Wednesday July 12, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

Reps. Jacobs and Omar Introduce Amendment To Block U.S. Transfer of Cluster Bombs to Ukraine

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—U.S. Representatives Sara Jacobs (D-CA) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN) have introduced an amendment to the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would effectively block the transfer of the cluster munitions to Ukraine, announced by U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan on July 7. The amendment reads:

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no military assistance shall be furnished for cluster munitions, no defense export license for cluster munitions may be issued, and no cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology shall be sold or transferred.”

Rep. Jacobs wrote in a Twitter thread July 7, “Cluster munitions keep killing long after their initial use with the potential to injure and kill civilians for generations, something we have seen in many other post-war contexts like Cambodia and Vietnam. Cluster munitions also prevent

successful rebuilding and economic recovery in the countries where they're used.”

Rep. Omar posted on her website, “Cluster munitions are illegal under international law. A total of 123 countries have ratified the convention to ban their use under all circumstances—including nearly all our allies. I was recently in Vietnam where I heard firsthand how innocent civilians continue to be killed by US cluster munitions a full fifty years after the conflict ended. Tens of thousands of explosives are found every year there.” Omar, who up to now has supported the British-U.S.-NATO proxy war in Ukraine, asserted, “We have to be clear: if the US is going to be a leader on international human rights, we must not participate in human rights abuses.”

Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) said on July 10 that he will co-sponsor the Jacobs-Omar measure to block President Biden from sending cluster bombs to Ukraine. “I will be the Republican co-sponsor on the NDAA amendment ...to stop the transfer of cluster bombs. These cluster bombs will not end the war in Ukraine and will not build a more stable country. Children will be left without limbs and without parents because of this decision if we do not work together in a bipartisan fashion to stop it,” Gaetz wrote in a tweet. “Cluster bombs are features of the world’s bloodiest and most inhumane wars, and some of the longest. It’s hardly the cornerstone of a path to peace.”

The July 10 Antiwar.com reports, “Other lawmakers, including Reps. Jason Crow (D-CO), a veteran of the war in Afghanistan, and Barbara Lee (D-CA), have also voiced their opposition to the transfer of these bombs.”

The opposition to the deployment of cluster bombs is not the final battle, but as Schiller Institute leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche told her colleagues, in mobilizing for international peace actions on August 6, the 78th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, “The decision by President Biden to send cluster bombs to Ukraine ... is, from any point, the biggest blunder, because it mobilizes many, many more forces than probably Biden or the people who pushed him to do this, did imagine.”

RFK, Jr. Condemns Biden's Sending Cluster Bombs to Ukraine: 'What Happened to His Conscience?'

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—On his Twitter account July 8, [Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.](#) strongly condemned President Biden's announcement that the U.S. plans to send a significant portion of its cluster munitions to Ukraine. He wrote: "Last year, WH Press Secretary Jen Psaki called the use of cluster bombs a 'war crime.' Now President Biden plans to send them to Ukraine." He added, "Stop the ceaseless escalation! It is time for peace."

In a follow-up post, Kennedy asserted, "Biden was opposed to cluster bombs in 1982 as well, when he opposed their sale to Israel. What happened to his conscience?"

Kucinich Argues for Disbanding NATO as the Only Way To Prevent World War III

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Dennis Kucinich, former Ohio Democratic Congressman, former Presidential candidate, and currently campaign manager for Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.'s Presidential bid, argues in an article posted on "[The Dennis Kucinich Report](#)" website that the disbanding of NATO might be the only way to prevent World War III. "The proxy war of the U.S. vs. Russia in Ukraine could easily develop into World War III," he writes at the outset. "The litany of dangerous weaponry presaging a direct, full-scale war between the U.S. and Russia is instructive: The most advanced tanks, F-16s, depleted uranium munitions, cluster bombs, and even discussion of 'tactical' nuclear weapons are thrown into an already toxic admixture, always open to further miscalculation."

Key to the problem, Kucinich argues, is NATO. "NATO military strategies have lacked cohesion and coherence and have led to stasis on the battlefield. Victory over Russia has occurred in the western media, but not on the battlefield. There will be no ceasefire because trickery is no longer an option," he writes. "NATO officials will look to escalate the war. The U.S. knows it cannot. Clearly Europe needs a new security architecture which includes Russia with security guarantees for all member states. How can this be achieved with NATO resistance to an end to the war?"

The one item that should be on the agenda in Vilnius is not, which is the sunset of the 1949 treaty that established the alliance. “The dissolution of NATO itself may be the only way to prevent wider war and to stop the United States and the world from being plunged into the abyss of a wider, cataclysmic war,” Kucinich says.

Kucinich then offers a list of ten reasons why NATO should be abolished. These include, among others, that NATO fulfilled its purpose when the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991; NATO is an expansionist military organization which has extended its area of interest far beyond the North Atlantic; NATO is an instrument of war; and NATO policies are antithetical to European social and economic concerns.

State Department Spokesman Obsessed with Calling Ukraine War a ‘Strategic Failure for Ukraine’

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Reporters had to correct [State Department spokesman David Miller](#) twice at the July 10, Monday press briefing, before he stopped referring to the war in Ukraine as “a strategic failure for Ukraine,” rather than for Russia. Some call it a “Freudian slip.” More insightful was Kim Dotcom’s comment that this “is what happens when you always hear behind closed doors how bad the U.S. proxy war is going for Ukraine.” Half-minute clips of the exchange are circulating widely. As recorded in the official briefing transcript:

Q: My question is: 500 days of war.... would you call this the defeat for Russia, a superpower, and after their eject [sic] from Afghanistan? ...

MILLER: ... I will say with respect to your first question, we believe the war has been a strategic failure for Ukraine. The Secretary spoke to this in a speech he gave in Helsinki last month, I believe it was.

Q: For Russia or—

Q: A strategic failure for Russia or for Ukraine?

MILLER: I’m sorry, a—excuse me, a strategic failure for Ukraine. Thank you for the correction. Which is —

Q: No, (inaudible).

MILLER: Oh. I need more than one correction today. A strategic—this is the first time at the podium for a week; I’m a little—I’m apparently a little rusty.... A strategic failure for Russia.... “

FBI Uses Lists from Kiev’s Secret Service To Target Americans

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—The U.S. House Judiciary Committee released a report yesterday on the FBI’s cooperation with the Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) to suppress the social media accounts of Americans suspected of disseminating alleged “Russian disinformation.” Of note, a major source of the SBU’s list of offenders is Kiev’s infamous “Center for Countering Disinformation” (CCD), a subdivision of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), run out of the Office of the President. The CCD is notorious for labeling a discussion about peace or about negotiations as “Russian disinformation,” and the files on such ‘disinformation warriors’ are to be treated as enemy combatants in warfare. Of course, the CCD is obligated to turn over those names to the SBU, which is supposed to take the appropriate active measures to deal with the targeted individual.

The 27-page House Judiciary Committee report said that the SBU/FBI combo “flagged for social media companies the authentic accounts of Americans, including a verified U.S. State Department account and those belonging to American journalists.” The FBI then checked back with the likes of Meta, Google, and Twitter to see if the blocking activity was carried out or even, sometimes, whether “these accounts were taken down.” The report was based in part on subpoenaed material from Meta and Alphabet in February.

A high-ranking member of Google’s cybersecurity team told the report authors that the company had been “deluged with various requests” for the removal of content, mainly from “the Ukrainian government, other Eastern European governments, the European Union, and the European Commission.”

At one point the report describes some of the Americans targeted: “A photographer working with a studio in New York; a manager of a moving

company in South Carolina; a musician and vocalist based in Minnesota; a professor at a university in California; and a children's book author living in Washington state.”

CNN reports that a Judiciary Committee aide said that Republicans on the committee plan to scrutinize FBI Director Christopher Wray, when he testifies before them on July 12.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Zelenskyy To Brief Biden on ‘Finalization of Russia’s Existence’

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will make clear to U.S. President Biden when they meet on July 12 that the key issue for the two countries is “the finalization of Russia’s existence as we see it today.” The advisor to the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine Mykhailo Podolyak took to Radio Liberty to send this message today, reported Ukrinform.

Podolyak first mentioned two issues—Ukraine’s status with NATO, and “the issue of faster delivery of weapons, and we see that we need additional tools for offensive operations, including an aircraft component and a long-range missile.” Then he dropped his bombshell:

“The third issue is still the question of Russia’s defeat. This is even a philosophical, doctrinal question, why Russia must necessarily defeat [sic], why it is beneficial to the democratic world, what Russia should look like after defeat, and why we should not be afraid of it, and why, in principle, Putin does not control Russia, is not a strong president, and why it is assistance to Ukraine that will accelerate the finalization of Russia’s existence as we see it today.”

Russian Ambassador Antonov Denounces U.S. Sending Cluster Munitions to Ukraine, ‘Decrepit Morals’

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Russian Ambassador to the United States [Anatoly Antonov](#) responded to a media query yesterday on “the tenseness of the information space on the eve of the summit in Lithuania. Everyone is

waiting for landmark decisions in Vilnius. Decisions directed against Russia. How would you characterize this situation...?” by lambasting the U.S. decision to deploy cluster munitions to Ukraine. As TASS noted in its report on Antonov’s remarks, “On July 7, U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said that the United States had decided to send cluster munitions to Ukraine, despite the fact that the United Nations opposed the use of such munitions. He also said that Kiev had issued written assurances to Washington that those weapons would be used in a way so as to minimize risks to civilians.”

Antonov replied in part: “The [U.S.] administration never ceases to amaze the world with everyday examples of double standards. There are many. The more Americans are drawn into the conflict in Ukraine, the more cynical their actions and decrepit moral principles look. For many years, the United States showed indifference to what was happening in the Donbass. They did not notice the murder of citizens in the House of Trade Unions in Odessa. They imposed sanctions for non-existent sins of the Russian Federation. They spoke to the public for high human rights standards, talking about a ban on the use of inhumane weapons, and now they themselves are throwing cluster munitions into the abyss of the Ukrainian crisis. At the same time, they do not justify themselves in any way, but voice only one thesis—a victory over the Russians is necessary.....

“On the eve of the NATO summit, the atmosphere in the U.S. information field became tense to the maximum. Everything is being done to prepare local public opinion for the approval of any anti-Russian decisions that will be made in Vilnius.... The measures taken by the Westerners create more and more insurmountable obstacles on the way out of the most acute military-political crisis, which is fraught with the most serious consequences for international security,” Antonov concluded.

Switzerland Charges U.S. Delivery of Cluster Bombs Violates 2008 Treaty

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Switzerland sticks to the cluster munitions ban and calls on all countries not to use them, Swiss Foreign Ministry

spokesman Pierre Alain Elchinger told TASS on July 10, commenting on the U.S. decision to supply such weapons to Ukraine. “Switzerland took note of the measures taken by the United States,” he stated. “As a member state of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Switzerland supports the ban on these weapons and calls on all states not to use them.

“Indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks are prohibited and constitute a serious violation of international humanitarian law,” he stressed.

Kiev Government Hit List Targets Zepp-LaRouche and Schiller Institute Conference as ‘Russian Hate Speech’

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—The Ukraine regime’s Center for Countering Disinformation (CCD) had its sights on the Schiller Institute’s July 8-9 European conference before its opening gavel. CCD posted today its latest “[Digest of Hate Speech by Russian Propagandists](#)” for June 23 to July 4, including Schiller Institute founder “Helga Zepp-LaRouche and the Strasbourg International Peace Conference” among the “new series of cases of enemy hate speech directed against Ukraine and its allies.” The alleged “hate speech” the government agency “quoted” was the unsourced statement: “Strasbourg International Peace Conference: Russia urges Europe to break free from U.S. shackles for a just multipolar world.” Their researchers determined it was aimed at discrediting EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Trump Insists Shipping Cluster Bombs to Ukraine Will Drag U.S. Toward World War III

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Former President [Donald J. Trump](#) released a statement denouncing the Biden administration decision to send cluster weapons to Ukraine, posted today on his campaign website:

“Joe Biden should not be dragging us further toward World War III by sending cluster munitions to Ukraine—he should be trying to END the war and stop the horrific death and destruction being caused by an incompetent administration. These unexploded cluster munitions will be killing and maiming innocent Ukrainian men, women, and children for decades to come, long after the war—we pray—has ended. If, as Biden inadvertently

admitted, the reason for sending cluster bombs now is that the United States is ‘running out of ammunition’ (a great breach of classified information), that only further emphasizes the urgency of immediately deescalating this bloody, dangerous, and out of control conflict. It certainly means we should not be sending Ukraine our last stockpiles at a time when our own arsenals, according to Crooked Joe Biden, are so perilously diminished.

“There could be no more vivid proof that Joe Biden’s policy of endless war in Ukraine has tremendously weakened the United States than the humiliating admission that the U.S.A. is now out of ammo, something our enemies are undoubtedly salivating over. This ‘admitted’ weakness is an invitation to enemies all over the world. Joe Biden is needlessly and dangerously leading us into World War III, which would be a nightmare beyond imagination—obliteration!

“We must stop this insanity, immediately end the bloodshed in Ukraine, and return to a focus on America’s vital interests.... We must have ‘PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH’ and in a short time, the Presidential election of 2024 will produce that result,” (emphasis in original).

Hungary’s Orbán Urges NATO Nations To Bring Peace Rather Than Arms to Ukraine

July 11 (EIRNS)—[Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán](#) posted a video today on his Twitter site, urging NATO nations, which includes Hungary, that “peace negotiations should start as soon as possible,” rather than flooding Ukraine with weapons and aggravating the war against Russia. In English subtitling, Orbán—speaking from the Vilnius, Lithuania, the site of the July 11-12 NATO summit—asserted:

“We are in Vilnius at the two-day NATO summit. The most important topic is the Russian-Ukrainian War. The Hungarian position remains unchanged and we will represent it. Instead of bringing weapons to Ukraine, we should bring peace.

“Ceasefire is necessary, and instead of war, peace negotiations should start as soon as possible. The Hungarian position is clear. Since the war is in our

neighborhood and tens of thousands of Hungarian people are in immediate danger because there are Hungarians living in Transcarpathia, Hungary insists that NATO should not change its previous position. NATO is a military defense alliance. It was created to protect its member states, not to carry out military actions on the territory of other countries.”

NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

China Holds First Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, Extending Global Development Initiative

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—China hosted the First High-Level Conference of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, on the theme of “Global Development Initiative: Echo the Development Agenda and Call for Global Action,” on July 10 in Beijing, according to the text of its formal statement, released yesterday. In a congratulatory letter to the conference, that was attended by participants from 130 countries and global organizations, China’s President Xi Jinping emphasized that, “development is the eternal theme of human society, and shared development is an important path to building a better world,” reported *Global Times*.

Xi said in his letter that changes taking place in the world unseen in a century are unfolding at a faster pace, the world economy is struggling to recover and the global development agenda is facing challenges. “To build a consensus on cooperation and promote common development, I have put forward the Global Development Initiative in order to help accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and I am pleased to see that with the joint participation of all parties, cooperation on the Global Development Initiative has yielded important early results and benefited many developing countries.”

He emphasized that development is the eternal theme of human society, and shared development is an important path to building a better world. As the world's largest developing country, China has always placed its own development within the larger context of human development and created

new opportunities for the development of the world through its own development, Xi said.

China will further increase its resource input for global development cooperation, work with the international community to further advance the GDI, and make new contributions to the realization of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and the building of a community with a shared future for humanity, the Chinese President said.

Xi had unveiled the Global Development Initiative in his speech to the UN General Assembly on Sept. 22, 2021, in which Xi stressed its governing concepts: “Staying committed to development as a priority; Staying committed to a people-centered approach; Staying committed to benefits for all; Staying committed to innovation-driven development; Staying committed to harmony and between man and nature; Staying committed to results-oriented actions.”

The statement of the meeting “noted that the world today is confronted by profound changes, rising geopolitical tensions, intensifying major-country rivalry, slow progress in North-South cooperation, and deviation from development issues, along with a widening development gap. We are seeing clear signs of slowdown in the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Development, especially cooperative development, is key to solving global issues and achieving sustainable development for humanity. Thus, it is more pressing than ever before to put development front and center on the international agenda....

“The meeting pointed out that the international community has made great efforts to address development issues, tackle global development deficit, and jointly maintain and promote world peace and development, which has achieved positive outcomes. The meeting commended China for proposing the Global Development Initiative (GDI) to accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development....”

The Forum stressed the importance of September’s 2023 SDG Summit, listing as goals: “Intensifying the efforts to address the most urgent global

challenges such as poverty reduction, food security, and public health security....

“Paying closer attention to industrialization, digitalization and personnel capacity building, and fostering new growth areas.... [and]

“Building a new type of North-South partnership for development cooperation....”

HISTORY & CULTURE

Russia Leads Effort To Restore Palmyra Monument in Syria

July 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Interfax reports progress in reconstructing of the Arch of Triumph in Palmyra, Syria, which ISIS terrorists blew up in 2015. Natalya Solovyova, leader of the restoration project, head of the Center of Rescue Archeology, and deputy director of the Russian Academy of Sciences’ Institute for the History of Material Culture, told media on July 10: “We are now starting the practical work on the logistical stage, namely the procurement of equipment [and] sending this equipment to Palmyra. We will most likely start working in Palmyra approximately in the middle of September.” She said that restoration may be completed within three years, perhaps less.

In August 2020, her Institute for the History of Material Culture gave the Syrian Directorate-General of Antiquities & Museums an improved 3D-model of the current state of Palmyra. An expedition comprising archeologists, restoration experts, geologists, and designers carried out work in Syria in late 2021 and developed a plan for the project.

The Arch of Triumph dates from the third century A.D. and is the most famous architectural structure of Syria’s ancient city of Palmyra.