

EIR Daily Alert Service

P.O. BOX 17390, WASHINGTON, DC 20041-0390

- Making a Breakthrough for a New Security Architecture
- Blinken Gives Bellicose Interview to German TV
- Doctorow Believes Putin Will Accept Nothing Less than a New Security Architecture
- Biden Open to Meeting with Putin
- Fox Guests Oppose War on Russia, Draw Out Full Lunacy of Bipartisan War Faction
- Joe Biden of Two Minds on Russia and Ukraine
- CSTO Forces Depart Kazakhstan
- Ryabkov Makes Major Remarks at Valdai Club on Arms Control in Europe, and Ukraine in NATO
- First Russian Units Arrive for Russian-Belarusian Joint Exercise
- Bernie Sanders Is Forced To Call for U.S. To Release Afghan Funds
- Elon Musk Laments Low U.S. Birth Rate
- The Uncivil ‘Voting Rights’ Narrative and Schumer’s Curious Defeat

EDITORIAL

Making a Breakthrough for a New Security Architecture

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—Today could prove to be a fateful day for history as U.S. Secretary of State Tony Blinken and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov meet to discuss the security proposals Russia formally introduced in writing on Dec. 15, just over one month ago.

Speaking to an audience in Germany today, Blinken said, “I don’t expect a breakthrough.” But a breakthrough is what is needed to pull humanity back from the brink of nuclear war.

In the United States, former member of Congress and presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard denounced the White House and Congress—on both sides of the aisle—for hiding from Americans the immense danger of ongoing provocations against Russia. Tucker Carlson interviewed a guest who warned that the “U.S. is sleepwalking towards conflict” with the other biggest nuclear power on the planet.

Meanwhile, the U.S. legacy media are in overdrive mode to demonize Russia (while still keeping the pressure on China). They claim that nothing less than democracy and goodness itself are at stake, and that only an enormous display of anti-Russian might can save all that is good in the world from the Russian menace.

Time is running short to avert catastrophe.

The U.S. has participated in tyrannical overreach around the world—20 years in Afghanistan, the murderous Iraq War, the murder of Qaddafi and consequent chaos in Libya, the destruction of Syria, and the 2014 coup in Ukraine that has been being used to demonize Russia. Such tyranny in the name of democracy knows no shame.

And that same tyrannical overreach is increasingly occurring domestically. The failed vote on ending the filibuster for a partisan voting bill was intended not to secure that bill’s passage. Its purpose is more aligned with the declaration that domestic terrorists—that is, people with unorthodox opinions—must be denied rights. It is of a piece with the spreading censorship of non-Atlanticist views on social media.

Do you oppose war with Russia? You must be in Putin’s pocket. In fact, you should be prosecuted for treason. Do you oppose war with China? A Chinese Communist Party spy must have gotten to you. Do you support affordable energy capable of powering a growing human population at higher standards of living? You are supporting ecocide, and should be tried

for your crimes. Have you revealed inconvenient truths? Ask Julian Assange how the British Empire and U.S. treat practitioners of press freedom—a virtue they hypocritically claim to promote around the world.

A new security architecture is needed, one that both ends attempts at unipolar hegemony, and that recognizes that peace is not merely the absence of conflict. What are to be the economic, social, and scientific-technological contours of that peace?

Whatever may be presented as the outcome of today's Blinken-Lavrov discussions, the world needs the analysis and direction of The LaRouche Organization and the Schiller Institute—to be presented at an event on Jan. 22, “Can War with Russia Still Be Averted?”

Learn more on Jan. 22 at 11 a.m. PT, 2 p.m. ET, 8 p.m. CET, on schillerinstitute.com

- Watch **Harley's Updates** with Harley Schlanger on Friday January 21, 2022: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](http://TheLaRoucheOrganization.com) website, Harley will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

Blinken Gives Bellicose Interview to German TV

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—Appearing today on the German ZDF TV program “Heute Journal,” U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken showed no signs of tempering his position towards Russia. The first question was on the risk of Russia invading Ukraine. Blinken's assessment: “The risk is real; the risk is high. Russia has massed considerable forces on Ukraine's border: 100,000 troops. It continues to send forces near Ukraine, including most recently to Belarus. So the risk is very serious, and it's not just the fact that there are forces massed there.” Claiming that the crisis “has been created by Russia,” Blinken maintained that the U.S. had shown many years of goodwill to Russia, but had been rebuffed.

Anchor Bettina Schausten remarked that Biden's differentiation between a Russian invasion of Ukraine and a "minor incursion" had been "corrected." Blinken agreed, saying that such soft warfare methods as pushing for a coup are what Biden meant, and that "If a Russian soldier crosses into Ukraine, then we have a profound problem, a clear attack on Ukraine, whether it's one soldier or a thousand soldiers."

He said that it's not just the U.S. that is threatening Russia with punishing countermeasures, but all of the allies. "I can't remember a time in my own experience where there's been closer consultation on an issue of major importance and a challenge to our common security."

Overall, he stated, "I don't anticipate any breakthroughs" in his Geneva meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov.

Doctorow Believes Putin Will Accept Nothing Less than a New Security Architecture

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—Gilbert Doctorow, a co-founder of the American Committee for East-West Accord with the late Stephen Cohen, expressed his view that Russian President Vladimir Putin will accept nothing less than what he has stated: a "new strategic architecture," essentially to replace NATO—a sentiment shared with Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Doctorow expressed his admiration for Ray McGovern's courage and tenacity for telling truth to power, but, in response to McGovern's report on the Jan. 15 LaRouche Organization forum, which described the agreement between Putin and President Biden to discuss the restoration of some form of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF—signed by Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev in 1987 and discarded by the Trump Administration) as a major achievement, Doctorow dissented.

Doctorow said that Gorbachev has been criticized for negotiating the INF Treaty, since the U.S.S.R. proceeded to destroy its intermediate-range missiles in exchange for a U.S. withdrawal of its missiles from Europe, but "the Americans acted in bad faith by deploying cruise missiles with a range falling within the INF ban, but placed on surface navy ships rather than based on land." Also, he went on, the U.S. developed submarine-based

missiles of the same sort, which patrolled around Russia's borders, which were "in conformity with the letter of the treaty but in flagrant violation of the spirit of the treaty." Doctorow concluded: "And in all events the nature of relations between Russia and the U.S.A. would not change by one iota if all that came about was a new INF. The Russians' belligerence right now is genuinely to change the architecture of security to bring themselves in from the cold."

Doctorow also pointed to the Jan. 15 an article published in the *National Interest* by **David T. Pyne**, a former Army officer who is now the Deputy Director of National Operations for the EMP Task Force on National and Homeland Security, a Congressional Advisory Board. Pyne offers several variations of potential agreements Biden could reach with Putin that would facilitate a new security architecture meeting Putin's demand for security guarantees. Doctorow believes that such an article in a prestigious journal indicates serious consideration for such ideas, and expresses optimism that the current dangerous global crisis can be resolved.

Biden Open to Meeting with Putin

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—Speaking at a **press conference** on Jan. 19, U.S. President Joe Biden said he is open to holding another summit with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin. "Yes," he replied, when asked about the possibility of holding another meeting with the Russian President in order to find a way to settle the situation around Ukraine. Biden said that he and Putin had previously discussed the possibility of holding another summit, if necessary. "So I still think there is a possibility," he said.

Fox Guests Oppose War on Russia, Draw Out Full Lunacy of Bipartisan War Faction

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—On Jan. 18, Fox personality Tucker Carlson hosted Clint Ehrlich to denounce the media-backed drive for war against Russia. After explaining that the U.S. has nothing to gain in backing Ukraine's accession to NATO, Carlson introduced Russia scholar Ehrlich, who said that even if Russia doesn't invade Ukraine, there are many in the U.S. saying that the U.S. should effectively invade, by sending in troops for conflict with

Russia. “It’s not just nuts, it’s dangerous. We’re sleepwalking towards conflict with a country that has 4,000 nuclear weapons. The Russians are talking about potentially deploying strategic forces to Cuba and Venezuela in a repeat of the Cuban Missile Crisis. It’s just shocking that people are not more upset about this, because the lives of Americans are being threatened over a situation where we have no vital strategic interest.”

In a tweet thread, Ehrlich listed insane responses to his appearances:

- “Tucker all-in for Putin” pronounced neocon lunatic Bill Kristol.
- “Your nightly reminder that @TuckerCarlson and @FoxNews are not loyal to the United States of America” said the totally insane Keith Olbermann.
- “We are potentially on the verge of a land war in Europe aimed at extinguishing democracy and sovereignty and the American right wing is on the side of ethno-nationalist authoritarianism. That’s where we’re at,” wrote Ben Rhodes, Obama’s favorite speechwriter.
- Deep thinker and CNN chief White House correspondent John Harwood weighed in: “that the leading Fox host unabashedly makes Putin’s case shows how the disinformation successes of Russian intelligence extend way beyond Trump.”
- “This isn’t journalism, it’s an ongoing FARA violation. Tucker Carlson needs to be prosecuted as an unregistered agent of the Russian Federation and treason under Article 3, Sec. 3, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution for aiding an enemy in hybrid warfare against the United States,” demanded DNC operative Alexandra Chalupa of Russiagate fame.

This followed **Tulsi Gabbard**’s Jan. 17 appearance with Steve Hilton on Fox. Gabbard denounced the White House, particularly Jake Sullivan and Tony Blinken, for being architects of regime-change policies in the past and making policy at present. “They are stoking tensions. They are escalating the situation that can only lead us down a more dangerous path that directly undermines the interests of the American people and our country. Let’s be real about what we’re dealing with here, Steve. We’re

talking about the United States and Russia, two great nuclear-armed powers in the world. There is only one place that that conflict ends. That ends in destruction of this world and life as we know it. Don't be naive, don't be shy about pointing out exactly what is at stake. That is what the American people need to know, and that is what people in the White House and leaders in Congress on both sides of the aisle refuse to tell them the truth about."

Gabbard is correct!

Joe Biden of Two Minds on Russia and Ukraine

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—During his press conference yesterday, **President Joe Biden** sounded as if he were of two minds about Vladimir Putin and Russia and the alleged threat that Russia will invade Ukraine at any moment. When asked about sanctions, he said that "what you're going to see is that Russia will be held accountable if it invades." And then he went on: "And it depends on what it does. It's one thing if it's a minor incursion and then we end up having a fight about what to do and not do, etc.

"But if they actually do what they're capable of doing with the forces amassed on the border, it is going to be a disaster for Russia if they further invade Ukraine, and that our allies and partners are ready to impose severe costs and significant harm on Russia and the Russian economy," Biden continued. He promised that "The cost of going into Ukraine, in terms of physical loss of life, for the Russians, they'll—they'll be able to prevail over time, but it's going to be heavy, it's going to be real, and it's going to be consequential."

Biden said that he thinks Putin "does not want any full-blown war" but that he will "test the West, test the United States and NATO," though "he'll pay a serious and dear price for it that he doesn't think now will cost him what it's going to cost him..."

But then Biden seemed to open a door to a way out of the confrontation. "[T]he two things he said to me that he wants guarantees of it: One is, Ukraine will never be part of NATO. And two, that NATO, or the—there

will not be strategic weapons stationed in Ukraine. Well, we could work out something on the second piece (inaudible), what he does along the Russian line as well—or the Russian border, in the European area of Russia.”

As for Ukraine in NATO, Biden suggested that won't happen anytime soon. “But the likelihood that Ukraine is going to join NATO in the near term is not very likely, based on much more work they have to do in terms of democracy and a few other things going on there, and whether or not the major allies in the West would vote to bring Ukraine in right now,” he said. “So there's room to work if he wants to do that.”

When a reporter raised that it sounded as though Biden was offering an off-ramp on both questions, Biden immediately rushed back to NATO's Article 5. “We won't permanently station,” he said. “But the idea we're not going to—we're going to actually increase troop presence in Poland, in Romania, etc., if in fact he moves, because we have a sacred obligation in Article 5 to defend those countries. They are part of NATO. We don't have that obligation relative to Ukraine, although we have great concern about what happens in Ukraine.”

Noticed by another reporter was Biden's reference to a “minor incursion,” but his answer to the reporter's question did little to clarify what he meant. “So, the question is: If it's a—something significantly short of a significant invasion—or not even significant, just major military forces coming across—for example, it's one thing to determine that if they continue to use cyber efforts, well, we can respond the same way, with cyber,” he said. From there, he went on to retail the story about the Russians allegedly having operatives already in Ukraine “to undermine the solidarity within Ukraine about Russia and to try to promote Russian interest” and to rally NATO unity. “The serious imposition of sanctions relative to dollar transactions and other things are things that are going to have a negative impact on the United States, as well as a negative impact on the economies of Europe as well, and a devastating impact on Russia,”

he said. “And so, I got to make sure everybody is on the same page as we move along.”

About an hour after Biden’s press conference wrapped up, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki issued a statement “clarifying” that even a “minor incursion” will bring severe consequences for Russia. “If any Russian military forces move across the Ukrainian border, that’s a renewed invasion, and it will be met with a swift, severe, and united response from the United States and our Allies,” she said. “President Biden also knows from long experience that the Russians have an extensive playbook of aggression short of military action, including cyberattacks and paramilitary tactics. And he affirmed today that those acts of Russian aggression will be met with a decisive, reciprocal, and united response.”

CSTO Forces Depart Kazakhstan

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—On Wednesday, Jan. 19, Russia’s ambassador to Kazakhstan announced that the **Collective Security Treaty Organization** peacekeeping operation in Kazakhstan had been completed, and that all CSTO troops—from Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan—had departed the country. So much for Secretary of State Tony Blinken’s closing remarks in his Jan. 7 press conference, claiming that “once Russians are in your house, it’s sometimes very difficult to get them to leave”!

Ryabkov Makes Major Remarks at Valdai Club on Arms Control in Europe, and Ukraine in NATO

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—In his address yesterday to the Valdai Discussion Club, titled, “**A Three-Move Game: Will It Be Possible To Avoid Zugzwang?**” Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov reported that Washington does not rule out further discussing the issue of intermediate- and short-range missiles but wants this dialogue to be contingent on some actions by Russia on its territory regarding the crisis in Ukraine. “With regard to the post-INF [Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty], Washington now does not exclude returning to the discussion of this issue but for starters they would like to better understand the substance of our

approach. Even this stance suggests that we should take some actions on our territory relative to Ukraine,” he said, according to the report from TASS.

Moscow took note of the statement made at the Geneva talks, that the United States had no intention of creating land-based nuclear-tipped intermediate- and short-range missiles, Ryabkov said. “We heard calls to return to the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE) and agree on updating the Vienna document on confidence-building measures. We asked the Americans all these questions and they gave us all these answers.”

On Ukraine, he said that if the U.S. vows that it won’t ever vote to accept Ukraine and some other countries to NATO, then Russia will consider this option as an alternative. “There’s a well-known statement from the Bucharest summit of 2008 that Ukraine and Georgia will be NATO members—that must be ruled out,” he said. “That must be replaced by the understanding that won’t ever happen.”

“Or, as an alternative, if the U.S. takes on a unilateral commitment in a legally binding form that it will never vote for accepting Ukraine and other countries to NATO, we will be ready to consider that option,” Ryabkov went on to say. He remarked, “It would be a simpler path for the U.S., of course, if the U.S. has enough political will.” Russia will urge the U.S. to choose “what has more priority to them: European security or some flawed ideas” that prompted the current crisis, he said.

Ryabkov argued that there is no risk of a massive war in Europe, and Russia has no plans to take any aggressive actions against Ukraine. “I am certain that there is no risk of a large-scale war which might break out in Europe or anywhere else. We do not intend to take any aggressive actions. We will not attack, raid, or invade Ukraine,” he stressed.

However, Moscow sees a threat in the fact that Ukraine “is becoming more and more integrated into NATO,” even without obtaining a formal membership in that alliance. “That is what lies at the core of Russia’s security interests,” he said. “We will be doing our utmost to reverse and

rebalance this situation through diplomatic channels. So, the draft agreements that have been proposed to the U.S. are exactly the path [we] should set on for a diplomatic solution,” he said, referring to the proposed **legal security guarantees** with the U.S. and NATO, that Ryabkov presented to U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman, in their Moscow strategic security talks on Dec. 15, 2021.

First Russian Units Arrive for Russian-Belarusian Joint Exercise

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—The Russian Defense Ministry reported yesterday that units from the Eastern Military District have begun arriving in Belarus for the joint exercises that kick off on Feb. 9. “The units of the Eastern Military District involved in the check of the reaction forces of the Union State, with standard equipment and weapons, marched in a combined way (on their own and by rail) to unfamiliar training grounds to places of training tasks on the territory of the Republic of Belarus,” the ministry said in a statement.

The Southern Military District, meanwhile, announced today that combat teams from missile regiments equipped with Iskander missiles have begun live-fire training exercises at the Kapustin Yar training range in the Astrakhan region. TASS reports that the missile formation has advanced there from the Krasnodar region and will practice at least ten combat training tasks to overcome notionally contaminated terrain, deploy missile launchers, and deliver strikes against mock enemy targets in drills that will last about a month. Kapustin Yar is about 425-450 km east of the border with Ukraine.

COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Bernie Sanders Is Forced To Call for U.S. To Release Afghan Funds

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—In response to the devastating situation in Afghanistan and the clear focus the LaRouche movement has placed on an international effort to turn Afghanistan into a crossroads of development, Senator and

former Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders (I-VT)—who plays the role of a principled fighter for justice on TV—has been forced to take a stand.

One day after the Schiller Institute’s Jan. 17 conference “[Injustice Anywhere Is a Threat to Justice Everywhere: Stop the Murder of Afghanistan](#),” the Vermont senator tweeted: “Afghanistan is facing a humanitarian catastrophe. I urge the Biden administration to immediately release billions in frozen Afghan government funds to help avert this crisis, and prevent the death of millions of people.”

Afghanistan’s central bank funds—which belong to the people of that nation—must be released immediately. The leading powers of the world—particularly those NATO nations that helped to create its present disastrous state—must join forces to support Afghanistan in building a proud future. Learn more in Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s Jan. 15 presentation on “[Operation Ibn Sina—Toward a World Health Program](#),” and its namesake, Islamic physician/philosopher Ibn Sina.

GREEN ‘GREAT RESET’

Elon Musk Laments Low U.S. Birth Rate

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—“I think one of the biggest risks to civilization is the low birth rate and the rapidly declining birth rate,” said [Elon Musk](#) told *Wall Street Journal*’s Joanna Stern at the daily’s CEO Council Summit on Dec. 7, 2021.

“And yet, so many people, including smart people, think that there are too many people in the world and think that the population is growing out of control. It’s completely the opposite. Please look at the numbers—if people don’t have more children, civilization is going to crumble, mark my words,” he said.

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC**The Uncivil ‘Voting Rights’ Narrative and Schumer’s Curious Defeat**

Jan. 20 (EIRNS)—To no one’s surprise, the United States Senate defeated Majority Leader Chuck Schumer’s attempt to force a vote on the newly configured “Freedom To Vote: John R. Lewis Act” on Jan. 19. Then Schumer proceeded immediately to “double down” with a doomed attempt to create an exception to the Senate’s filibuster rule. The latter vote, just as expected, was 52-48 to reject Schumer’s move—with Democratic Senators Joe Manchin (WV) and Kyrsten Sinema (AZ) voicing loud and clear “Yeas.” Manchin made the obvious, and correct, point: “The filibuster plays an important role in protecting our democracy from the transitory passions of the majority and respecting the input of the minority in the Senate.”

Normally, clever legislators don’t allow votes that they know they are going to lose, so one is correct to suspect other forces at play here. There is filibuster-proof legislation—that is, with at least 10 Republican Senators on record willing to join with the Democrats—to address the ambiguous language in the Electoral Count Act of 1887 regarding Congress’s role in certifying state electoral votes. Since the open question of Congress’s legal obligations on Jan. 6, 2021 caused such disarray in the country, one would think such legislation needed appropriate, and a basis for some bipartisan collaboration. That the matter is avoided speaks volumes about what the “voting rights” charade has been about.

Broadening access to the ballot and maintaining the integrity of the votes cast have been two key aspects of civil rights legislation for over 50 years. Democrats and Republicans have given large majorities to legislation crafted with those two considerations in mind. Before the “COVID-emergency” conditions of the 2020 election, there was a 571-page bill, the 2019 “For the People Act,” given the status of House Resolution 1 (HR1). It wasn’t actually designed for passage, or even to be seriously considered.

During 2020, there was an objective need to consider how to prevent pandemic considerations from suppressing voter participation; however, in

various states, absentee balloting lost significant aspects of its quality control, whereby, historically, the absentee ballot could be tied to an actual, registered voter. Rather than voter-suppression problems, there were many, many more ballots than ever before. In 2021, there were 19 states, all with Republican legislatures, that passed laws to actually liberalize the use of absentee ballots and expand voter participation. The Georgia bill was the early model. In general, they do not codify some of the excesses of 2020—that is, they disallow mass, unsolicited mail-outs, require a reason for an absentee ballot, and require some form of identification. It is the refusal to discuss or deliberate upon these matters that is enforced by the hyperventilating cries of racism, of “Bull Connor” antics, etc.

The 2019 legislation was expanded in 2021 and has become transmogrified into a 791-page bill, which now guarantees the right to vote “free from any burden on the time, place or manner of voting”! So, states would get in trouble for all sorts of normal procedures. Absentee ballots are to be provided, now excluding any previous requirement of a reason. Applications are to be mailed to everyone, while notarizing or witnessing of signatures is dropped; registration on Election Day permitted; voters can register online (raising the normal concerns of multiple identities and such); and states were to be given much tighter restrictions as to what they could do to purge their voting lists of suspected problems. At one point, even a simple sworn statement was planned as a substitute for a photo or non-photo ID.

The hypocrisy in the “voting rights” discussion may not be as dangerous immediately as the hypocrisy in the run-up to a nuclear confrontation with Russia, but it comes from the same mindset. Schumer’s doubleheader-loss last night was not the mistaken calculation of a legislative leader, but part of the dangerous and divisive game of manufacturing narratives.