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- Kyiv Is Losing, but NATO Says They'll Blow Up the World Before They Let Russia Win
- Zepp-LaRouche Targeted by Ukraine's NATO-Run 'Disinformation Center'
- Lavrov Lets Loose Against the West's 'Modern Version of European Colonialism'
- Putin, Macron and Scholz Teleconference for 80 Minutes
- Russian Offensive Keeps Moving Forward in Donbass
- Reports of More Weapons Going to Ukraine
- German Lutherans Denounce NATO Confrontationism as Leading to Nuclear War
- German Diplomat Argues That Italian Peace Plan, and Not Zelenskyy, Should Have Been the Focus at Davos
- Kissinger Blacklisted by Ukrainian Proscription Site
- Antonov Tells Washington, Blame Your Sanctions, Not Russia, for Food Crisis
- Finance Minister Siluanov: Russia Will Not Default
- More and More Greeks Are Now Buying Less and Less Food Thanks to High Prices
- Russian Chamber of Commerce Wants Interest Rates at 5% or Less
- India Is Increasing Its Purchases of Russian Oil

EDITORIAL

Kyiv Is Losing, but NATO Says They'll Blow Up the World Before They Let Russia Win

May 28 (EIRNS)—As reports came in from the war front last week, indicating that, after taking the port of Mariupol, Russia is methodically advancing westward in the Donbass region and that Ukrainian forces have had to retreat, the British have let it be known, yet again, that they will *not* allow Russia to win the war—even if it means bringing the world to the brink of a nuclear showdown. British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss delivered a speech in Prague on Friday, May 27, in which she asserted: “We must ensure Ukraine wins this great fight for freedom,” adding that Ukraine was fighting not only for itself but for “freedom, sovereignty and the rule of law” in the Western countries. “If he [Russian President Vladimir Putin] succeeds in Ukraine, we will never feel safe again,” she said, according to a copy of the speech released by the U.K. Foreign Office, TASS reported. “We must respond with strength. Appeasement cannot be the answer.”

Prime Minister Boris Johnson, speaking to Bloomberg over the weekend, had to admit that Russia’s military progress in the Donbass was “I’m afraid, palpable.” He stated that it was therefore imperative that Ukraine’s Western allies send long-range MLRS rocket artillery systems to Ukraine, capable of striking deep into Russian territory. This dramatic escalation in weaponry would “enable [the Ukrainians] to defend themselves against this very brutal Russian artillery, and that’s where the world needs to go.... It’s absolutely vital we continue to support the Ukrainians militarily.”

The Biden administration has so far marched in lockstep with this kind of eyeball-to-eyeball provocative actions. As Col. Richard Black (ret.) stated in his dramatic remarks to the Schiller Institute’s May 26 “Dialogue among Experts: The Insanity of Politicians Threatens Nuclear War:”

“We have already assassinated a dozen [Russian] generals, and sunk the flagship of the Russian fleet. On May 13, 2022, Steny Hoyer, the Democrat

House Majority Leader, said that we are now at war with Russia. During her visit to Kyiv in May, Speaker Nancy Pelosi pledged to wage war ‘until victory is won.’ Retired General Breedlove, the former Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, and a close Biden military confidant, proposed landing U.S. forces and advancing two-thirds of the way through Ukraine to the Dnieper River. The U.K. has begun considering naval action to break Russia’s naval blockade in the Black Sea. This is an act which risks retaliation for the sinking of Russia’s flagship.”

Black continued: “Now, we’ve issued a gargantuan \$40 billion check, ensuring a dramatic escalation of this totally unnecessary war. Some politicians have even begun preparing Americans for a suicidal nuclear war. Republican U.S. Senator Roger Wicker said we may consider sending U.S. troops into Ukraine, and that he would not rule out launching a nuclear surprise attack—a first strike, in nuclear parlance. In other words, we should consider launching a Pearl Harbor-style surprise attack; one that would rain down nuclear bombs on the streets of Moscow and St. Petersburg, killing millions of innocent men, women, and children.”

And yet for all its ferocity, this war will not be won or lost in the Ukrainian theater. The key lies elsewhere.

In the Q&A session of an *EIR*-sponsored seminar in Berlin on March 2, 2006, Lyndon LaRouche was asked about regional conflicts such as Iran, and the strategy for stopping escalation to a nuclear war.

“We have to consider the realities of the world,” LaRouche stated. “First of all, we’re not dealing with an East-West conflict—that’s a different position. That’s not the problem. That’s artificial. What there is, is an attempt to maintain an empire. The empire has existed. We don’t have nation-states. We say nation-states, that nation-states negotiate, but that’s not the way the world is run. The world is run by financial powers, a system which existed in Europe, which has been run by the British for years. And they still run it. They still coordinate it. That’s your problem. The question is to create again, on this planet, the right of nations to have true sovereignty.”

LaRouche continued: “You have to recognize that behind this whole thing, there’s a player. The nations are being played. The conflict is not just between nations. The conflict is between the imperial power, sitting in London, or centered in London, which is still controlling much of the world. And if you don’t break that power, if you don’t break it, you’re going to get Hell.... Look ahead to the future, on things that we should be doing. But break the power that is centered right now in London! Otherwise, if you don’t do that, you’re going to get Hell on this planet, and all your negotiations are not worth anything.”

On June 18-19, the Schiller Institute will hold an international conference to take up that challenge posed by LaRouche: to forge an international alliance to stop the danger of nuclear war by putting the London-centered financial system through bankruptcy reorganization, and building a new security and development architecture in its stead.

- Watch [Harley’s Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Monday May 30, 2022: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](#), Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

Zepp-LaRouche Targeted by Ukraine’s NATO-Run ‘Disinformation Center’

May 28 (EIRNS)—The same NATO-run “Center for Countering Disinformation” that launched a broadside against [Col. Richard H. Black \(ret.\)](#) last week for his ground-breaking April 26 interview with *EIR*’s Mike Billington (which now has upwards of 565,000 views), today published a nasty slander attack on Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Clearly upset at the leading role played by Zepp-LaRouche and the Schiller Institute in organizing support for a new international security and development architecture, as the only way to stop the drive for war, the CCD accuses her of spreading “Russian disinformation,” for exposing the

culpability of NATO's eastward march over three decades in provoking the current conflict in Ukraine.

The Center for Countering Disinformation, which functions out of President Zelenskyy's National Security and Defense Council, was set up from the outset as a NATO-run "international hub" for information warfare. Their Instagram posting stated, in machine-translation from the original Ukrainian: "German politician and head of the Schiller Institute Helga Zepp-LaRouche blames Western countries for the fact that their leaders have not listened to Putin. H. Zepp-LaRouche organized an international discussion on the [New Security Architecture](#) of the World and the Threat of World War III. The author discusses the Kremlin's narratives about the fact that for 10 years the world has been trying to dismantle Russia. In her words, the problem of the war in Ukraine is that 'Germany and the EU have set their course towards NATO, the United States and Britain and are in a confrontation with Russia.' H. Zepp-LaRouche has been pushing the rhetoric of Russia in the Western information space for over 10 years."

The off-Center has also published an attack on Ray McGovern, the former CIA analyst and founder of the VIPS (Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity), who shared the podium with Zepp-LaRouche, Colonel Black and others at a May 26 Schiller Institute event to counter the war drive.

Lavrov Lets Loose Against the West's 'Modern Version of European Colonialism'

May 28 (EIRNS)—In an interview with RT Arabic on May 25, Russian Foreign Minister [Sergey Lavrov](#) presented a systematic attack on the outlook of nations in the West that have led to the all-points assault against Russia. The extensive interview is published in full on the ministry's website.

"We know that our Western friends have many phobias, many complexes. They have a superiority complex, the infallibility complex, and I believe they also have some paranoia.... Any process that does not include the West, which the West does not control, they perceive as opposition, a

challenge to their dominance.... It's high time for them to kick this habit," Lavrov stated.

"The insolence of the Anglo-Saxon alliance has no bounds, and we find confirmation of that every day. The West sends its envoys and emissaries every day to every capital without exception ... to deliver ultimatums and to blackmail." Most of the world is not capitulating to those threats, he stated. Speaking of most of the states in Asia, Africa and Latin America, Lavrov said: "Those nations don't want to compromise their national dignity and run around as servant boys doing the chores on behalf of [the West]."

The West's attitude, "is nothing new and is the modern version of European colonialism.... That's the mentality of the Western states. They believe their security depends on the entire world and that thus they should rule the world."

Lavrov added that the Ukraine crisis has the same roots, which is a Western disregard of Russian national security, Lavrov said. It simply ignored for decades Moscow's objections to the enlargement of NATO in Europe, pushing Moscow towards the military option to curb the threat, he said.

Putin, Macron and Scholz Teleconference for 80 Minutes

May 28 (EIRNS)—The leaders of Russia, France and Germany spoke for 80 minutes by teleconference today, reviewing both the Ukraine crisis and the global food emergency. According to the Kremlin readout, President Putin briefed President Macron and Chancellor Scholz on the military situation on the ground in Ukraine and on the failure of the negotiations because of Kyiv. Putin also rejected the media lie that Russia is responsible for world food shortages, and explained that they are a result of wrong Western economic and financial policies. Russia is ready to help improve the situation with supplies of fertilizers and wheat from Ukrainian ports, noting that "Increasing the supplies of Russian fertilizers and agricultural produce will also help reduce tensions in the global food market, but that will definitely require the lifting of the relevant sanctions."

The Kremlin added: “Special attention was paid to the progress on the negotiation track, which has been stalling through Kyiv’s fault. Vladimir Putin reaffirmed the Russian side’s openness to the resumption of dialogue. The President of Russia was critical of the continued dangerous practice of pumping Ukraine with Western weapons, cautioning against the risks of the country’s further destabilization and aggravation of the humanitarian crisis.” Both Germany and France have been among the nations sending such heavy military equipment to Ukraine.

The German government’s readout on the call emphasized that both Scholz and Macron urged Putin to declare an immediate armistice and withdraw Russian troops from Ukraine. Euronews also reported that Scholz and Macron asked Putin to “free the captured Azovstal fighters”—i.e., the Nazi-emblazoned Azov Regiment and others who finally surrendered in Mariupol and are now being held by the Russians.

Russian Offensive Keeps Moving Forward in Donbass

May 28 (EIRNS)—Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, who has been personally leading troops from Chechnya participating in Russia’s special military operation in Ukraine, reported yesterday that fighters from Chechnya have seized full control of the line of contact with Ukrainian nationalists in Severodonetsk, blocking exits from the city. “The first neighborhoods of the well-fortified city have already been cleared of enemy units,” he said on Telegram. Severodonetsk is an important city of some 100,000 in western Lugansk province.

The Ukrainian side has basically confirmed Kadyrov’s account, with their own spin. Lugansk Governor Serhiy Gaidai said Russian troops had entered Severodonetsk, but claimed that Ukrainian forces were still defending it. “We will have enough strength and resources to defend ourselves. However, it is possible that in order not to be surrounded we will have to retreat,” Gaidai said on Telegram, reported Reuters.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov announced this morning that joint operations of units of the militia of the Donetsk People’s Republic and Russian forces fully liberated Krasnyi

Liman, about 50 km west of Severodonetsk. “Missile troops and artillery hit 57 command posts, 618 areas of concentration of forces and military equipment, 42 Ukrainian artillery and mortar units in firing positions, two batteries of Grad multiple launch rocket systems,” he said.

The Russian Defense Ministry said yesterday that prisoner interrogations have revealed that the Ukrainian military leadership is lying about its own casualties, such as by labeling troops killed in action as deserters instead. One prisoner reported being ordered to help dig a 50-meter trench for the burial of 50 soldiers killed in action. “There were people whom I knew among them. Later I learned that those I knew in person were listed as deserters or missing,” he said in a video posted by the Defense Ministry. “It turns out, the command has been hiding the losses, while brazenly lying to friends and relatives.”

Reports of More Weapons Going to Ukraine

May 28 (EIRNS)—The *New York Times*, in its live update page for yesterday, reported that the Biden Administration has approved the transfer of multiple launch rocket systems to Ukraine. The launchers are thought to be the truck-based HIMARS (High Mobility Artillery Rocket System), which could be armed with the M31 guided rocket. According to Wikipedia, the M31 has a range of up to 70 km. An unnamed official told the *Times* that the administration is seeking to make sure that the United States can reasonably make the argument that it is not providing Ukraine with the capability to strike deep into Russian territory.

According to the *Times*, each rocket carries an explosive load roughly equal to a 500-pound air dropped bomb and so a salvo of six such rockets, the maximum that a single HIMARS can fire, would have a devastating effect on the target. The intention, here, is clearly to create the impression of another game-changer coming to Ukraine.

As for other transfers in the weapons pipeline, the Russian website Avia.pro reported a rumor yesterday that Bulgaria had transferred to Ukraine up to 14 Su-25 attack aircraft, some of which had been modernized in Belarus as recently as a year-and-a-half ago. Rather than being flown in,

they were reportedly transferred into Ukraine overland. Avia.pro suggests, however, that the effectiveness of the use of these attack aircraft remains extremely low, since strikes are delivered blindly from low altitudes so as to avoid Russian air defense systems.

Meanwhile, Reuters reported yesterday that the U.S. Army has signed a \$687 million contract with Raytheon to produce a new batch of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to replace those sent to Ukraine. The contract for a total of 1,468 Stingers was awarded Wednesday (May 25), according to a document reviewed by Reuters. There was no timeline for completion of the work, but it was estimated delivery could take up to 30 months. There is currently only one production line for the Stinger, located in Arizona, and it produces at a very low rate.

German Lutherans Denounce NATO Confrontationism as Leading to Nuclear War

May 28 (EIRNS)—The Wiesbaden-based [Martin Niemöller Foundation](#), a senior institution of the Lutheran Church of Germany, has called for “immediate and serious” negotiations on a ceasefire in the Ukraine war. Only a ceasefire would form the prerequisite for being able to conduct negotiations on a peace agreement and a future peace order, the foundation said in Wiesbaden on May 27. The statement calls for solving the Ukraine issue in a broader context of East-West confidence-building and arms control agreements.

The foundation described the proposal by former Bundeswehr Inspector General Gen. Harald Kujat (ret.), who is also former chairman of the NATO Military Committee, to convene the NATO-Russia Council as “a promising way to change lanes from war to negotiations.” Withdrawing Russian troops while reducing sanctions could be the starting point for talks, he said.

Hopes for a victorious military peace in Ukraine with the help of Western weapons, military training and logistics are ill-founded, the foundation said. “It would push militarily overpowered Russia into a corner that could tempt it into even more dangerous, possibly nuclear, escalation

steps.” For that reason, he said, the red lines on arms deliveries and military assistance should not be constantly moved forward. Nor should the Bundeswehr be upgraded with €100 billion, the statement says, calling for action on three main venues:

“With a view to a future peace settlement, a policy must be conceived now that is guided by the principles of the sovereignty of all states and their ‘common security’ developed in the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). We argue for a course correction in current war and security policy.

“The paradigm of arms race and bloc thinking must be rethought into a paradigm of disengagement and disarmament. There is a need to press first for confirmation and then, if necessary, further development of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM), Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF), Unarmed Observation Aircraft (Open Sky), and Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaties.

“This year’s Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) must call for the elimination of all nuclear weapons. Rejection of the spirit, practice and policy of nuclear deterrence remains on the agenda. Armaments are already killing! The associated expenditure of resources hinders the fight against the ecological destruction of the Earth and against the hunger of millions of people.”

German Diplomat Argues That Italian Peace Plan, and Not Zelenskyy, Should Have Been the Focus at Davos

May 28 (EIRNS)—Jürgen Hübschen, former German military attaché in Baghdad and frequent participant to BüSo events in the past, wrote in his blog, [Sicherheits-Bulletin](#), on May 24, that the World Economic Forum should have dedicated its meeting to the Italian peace proposal instead of inviting Zelenskyy and disinviting all Russians:

“In my view, it would have been more opportune to have as the central issue of this year’s forum the Peace Plan proposed by Italy, because it is not

a question of who should win or not lose this war, but of putting an end to it.”

In an assessment of the current situation, Hübschen then quotes from an interview that former Chilean ambassador to China Jorge Heine, now a professor at Boston University, to the weekend *Süddeutsche Zeitung* for May 21-22. There, under the title “The Other View of the War,” Heine expresses himself, among other things, as follows: “About the Ukraine war it is said that it is unique. And therefore it needs extreme measures. Well, I would say look at what has happened in Yemen over the past 8 years. 250,000 people have died there as a result of the war. Most by Saudi Arabian weapons, supplied from NATO countries. There is no attempt to impose sanctions on Saudi Arabia or to exclude it from the SWIFT system. On the contrary, the country is supported by NATO countries. This is another reason why sanctions against Russia are seen as hypocritical elsewhere. They are implemented only because the war is taking place in Europe. What happens elsewhere doesn’t matter.”

The U.S. goal of seeking “regime change” through its proxy war on Russia and weakening Russia so that Moscow will never again be in a position to allegedly start such a war, is not at all shared by most states around the world. In this regard, Jorge Heine states in the interview, “The West seems united, that is correct. That means the United States, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and a few other countries. But, if we look to Africa, Asia and Latin America, the states there disagree with much of what is being said and done in this war. The invasion [sic] of Ukraine should be condemned unequivocally. But in the Global South, there is a feeling that the economic situation is bad enough. And if the sanctions are implemented as the West imagines, more people will die of hunger in Asia, Africa and Latin America than in the war in Ukraine.”

Kissinger Blacklisted by Ukrainian Proscription Site

May 28 (EIRNS)—The infamous Ukrainian website Myrotvorets has blacklisted Henry Kissinger for “participation in Russia’s special information operation against Ukraine.” Kissinger, who turned 99 this

week, is charged with “propaganda, blackmail and encroachment on the territorial integrity of Ukraine” because of his speech in Davos. In that speech Kissinger stated: “Negotiations need to begin in the next two months before it creates upheavals and tensions that will not be easily overcome. Ideally, the dividing line should be a return to the *status quo ante*.”

Myrotvorets is “managed by the government intelligence agency SBU and is affiliated with the Ministry of Interior of Ukraine” according to Wiki in Italian. It has “connections” to both SBU and Interior Ministry according to Wiki in German and is “allegedly curated” by the SBU and “promoted” by Interior Minister advisor Anton Harashchenko according to Wiki in English.

Myrotvorets (“Peacemaker”) is known for publishing proscription lists. Among others, in April 2015 they published the home addresses of Ukrainian writer Oles Buzina and former Rada MP Oleg Kalashnikov just days before they were assassinated.

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Ambassador Antonov Tells Washington, Blame Your Sanctions, Not Russia, for Food Crisis

May 28 (EIRNS)—Due to financial sanctions against Moscow, Russia exporters “often don’t have a chance to make shipments,” Russian Ambassador to the U.S. Anatoly Antonov said according to TASS. “They face blocked payments, denials of loans and insurance, problems with booking freight ships, purchase of farm equipment and even seeds,” he went on to say. “In addition, the U.S. continues to increase import taxes on our fertilizers,” he said.

“We urge a halt to shifting the blame. Russia is committed to its export obligations and is ready for negotiations to resolve this most serious problem, including through the UN.”

The food crisis was already there, originated by wrong Western policies, and the war in Ukraine has only exacerbated it. Food price increases “are associated with miscalculations and systemic errors in the macroeconomic policy—primarily financial and foreign trade policies—and energy and food policies of Western countries,” he said. “At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to significant disruptions of supply chains.”

“Freight costs have almost doubled. Naturally, all this could not fail but lead to a sharp increase in food prices. Wheat prices increased by a quarter over 2021,” he declared.

Finance Minister Siluanov: Russia Will Not Default

May 28 (EIRNS)—Russian Finance Minister Antonov Siluanov stated on Friday, May 27: “Current statements about the default [on Russian foreign bonds] are out of touch [with the reality] at all. This is the default of Western countries before themselves. We have money. I reiterate we will make payments.” Siluanov was referring to the May 25 announcement by the U.S. Treasury that it would no longer permit Russia to make any foreign debt payments, since these would be in violation of American sanctions.

Siluanov went on to denounce the dollar, euro and other currencies as “toxic.” Speaking to students at a Moscow university, he said: “The American and European currencies are toxic for us. What should we do with them? What do we need them for? That is, we are selling our own wealth—gas, while getting candy wrappers, toxic candy wrappers. Who needs them?”

Russia has offered to pay its creditors in rubles if the U.S. prohibits payments in dollars, and the Bank of Russia central bank is arguing that there are “Currency Indemnity” clauses in some of its foreign bond agreements which permit payment in rubles, and their subsequent conversion into foreign currencies. But don’t hold your breath for these technicalities. According to RT, “Maximilian Hess, head of political risk and Russia specialist at Hawthorn Advisors, a London-based consultancy, said the International Swaps and Derivatives Association or international

credit rating agencies could still declare Russia to have defaulted on its debts if ruble payments are made to non-residents, citing ‘problems with the convertibility’ of the Russian currency.”

The next bond due dates are June 23 and June 24.

More and More Greeks Are Now Buying Less and Less Food Thanks to High Prices

May 28 (EIRNS)—A nationwide survey in Greece by Ierax Analytics, revealed that the majority of Greeks are buying less food and less nutritious food because of the high prices. According to the founder of Ierax Analytix, Haris Lalatsis, the increase in prices has greatly affected the eating habits of most respondents (75%) as reported by the Greek economic daily *Naftemporiki*.

In the last six months, according to the survey, 66% of respondents said they buy less food due to inflation and the change is seen mainly in people over 50 years old, 75% of whom responded that way, while the corresponding proportion of young people 18-30 years is 57%. In addition, 67% of respondents, compared to the previous six months, now look more closely at the price of food regardless of age. Even those who are financially comfortable now seem to look at prices more than before (75%).

Lalatsis points to the continuous increases in energy, inflation and materials along with the pandemic, as having sharply reduced the disposable income of households compelling them to turn to cheap food.

Russian Chamber of Commerce Wants Interest Rates at 5% or Less

May 28 (EIRNS)—Vedomosti reported that Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation Elena Dybova is pleased with the recent decision of the Bank of Russia central bank to further reduce interest rates down to 11% from 14%, because it will induce optimism. “However, in order to develop import replacement, domestic production and long-term investment which the economy needs now, the optimal rate should be 5% at the most.” This is an argument that economist

Sergey Glazyev has long made against the monetarist policies championed by Bank of Russia Governor Elvira Nabiullina.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

India Is Increasing Its Purchases of Russian Oil

May 28 (EIRNS)—According to accounts in Bloomberg and RT, India has begun to increase its oil imports from Russia. India is a large oil importer, but heretofore has only purchased small quantities of Russian oil, and so it has been considered a natural to step in and purchase Russian oil that is not being sold in the West, due to sanctions. Russia's Commerce Ministry reported that India purchased over 396,000 tons of Russian oil in March, a 15% rise from the previous month and a 40% increase on an annual basis.

Overall, Asian countries in April for the first time surpassed Europe as the largest importers of Russian oil, Bloomberg reported on Friday, May 27, citing Singapore-based analytics firm Kpler. Most of the Asian purchases have gone to China and India, which are receiving a significant 25% discount, according to press accounts.