



SAKER MESSAGE: No current Saker Message.

# Trump, NATO and 'Russian aggression'

14862 Views | July 13, 2018 | 47 Comments

by **Pepe Escobar** ( [cross-posted with the Asia Times](#) by special agreement with the author)

## The US President's blitzkrieg at the Brussels summit, calling NATO obsolete and for member states to boost spending to defend themselves is correct.

Hysteria is at fever pitch. After the NATO summit in Brussels, the definitive Decline of the West has been declared a done deal as President Trump gets ready to meet President Putin in Helsinki.

It was Trump himself who stipulated that he wants to talk to Putin behind closed doors, face-to-face, without any aides and, in theory, spontaneously, after the preparatory meeting between Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was canceled. The summit will take place at the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Presidential Palace in Helsinki, a former residence of Russian emperors.

As a preamble to Helsinki, Trump's spectacular NATO blitzkrieg was a show for the ages; assorted "leaders" in Brussels simply didn't know what hit them. Trump didn't even bother to arrive on time for morning sessions dealing with the possible accession of Ukraine and Georgia. Diplomats confirmed to Asia Times that after Trump's stinging "pay up or else" tirade, Ukraine and Georgia were asked to leave the room because what would be discussed was strictly an internal NATO issue.

Previewing the summit, Eurocrats indulged in interminable carping about "illiberalism" taking over, from Viktor Orban in Hungary to Sultan Erdogan in Turkey, as well as mourning the "destruction of European unity" (yes, it's always Putin's fault). Trump though would have none of it. The US President conflates the EU with NATO, interpreting the EU as a rival, just like China, but much weaker. As for the US "deal" with NATO, just like NAFTA, that's a bad deal.

### NATO is 'obsolete'

Trump is correct that without the US, NATO is "obsolete" – as in non-existent. So essentially what he did in Brussels laid bare the case for NATO as a protection racket, with Washington fully entitled to up the stakes for the "protection".

But "protection" against what?

Since the dismemberment of Yugoslavia, when NATO was repositioned in its new role as

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humanitarian imperialist global Robocop, the alliance's record is absolutely dismal.

That features miserably losing an endless war in Afghanistan against a bunch of Pashtun warriors armed with Kalashnikov replicas; turning functional Libya into a militia wasteland and headquarters for Europe-bound refugees; and having the NATO-Gulf Cooperation Council lose its bet on a galaxy of jihadis and crypto-jihadis in Syria spun as "moderate rebels".

NATO has launched a new training, non-combat mission in Iraq; 15 years after Shock and Awe, Sunnis, Shi'ites, Yazidis and even Kurdish factions are not impressed.

Then there's the NATO Readiness Initiative; the capacity of deploying 30 battalions, 30 battleships and 30 aircraft squadrons within 30 days (or less) by 2020. If not to wreak selected havoc across the Global South, this initiative is supposedly set up to deter "Russian aggression".

So after dabbling with the Global War on Terror, NATO is essentially back to the original "threat"; the imminent Russian invasion of Western Europe – a ludicrous notion if there ever was one. The [final statement](#) in Brussels spells it out, with special emphasis on item 6 and item 7.

The combined GDP of all NATO members is 12 times that of Russia. And NATO's defense spending is six times larger than Russia's. Contrary to non-stop Polish and Baltic hysteria, Russia does not need to "invade" anything; what worries the Kremlin, in the long term, is the well being of ethnic Russians living in former Soviet republics.

### Russia can't be both threat and an energy partner

Then there's Europe's energy policy – and that's a completely different story.

Trump has described the Nord Stream 2 pipeline as "inappropriate", but his claim that Germany gets 70% of its energy (via natural gas imports) from Russia may be easily debunked. Germany gets at best 9% of its energy from Russia. In terms of Germany's [sources of energy](#), only 20% is natural gas. And less than 40% of natural gas in Germany comes from Russia. Germany is fast transitioning towards wind, solar, biomass and hydro energy, which made up 41% of the total in 2018. And the target is 50% by 2030.

Yet Trump does have a sterling point when, stressing that "Germany is a rich country", he wants to know why America should ["protect you against Russia"](#) when energy deals are on the table. "Explain that! It can't be explained!" as he reportedly said to Nato Secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg on Wednesday.

In the end, of course, it's all about business. What Trump is really aiming at is for Germany to import US shale gas, three times more expensive than pipeline-delivered Russian gas.

The energy angle is directly linked to the never-ending 2% defense spending soap opera. Germany currently spends 1.2% of GDP on NATO. by 2024, it's supposed to reach at best 1.5%. And that's it. The majority of German voters, in fact, want US troops [out](#).

So Trump's demand for 4% of GDP on defense spending for all NATO members will never fly. The sales pitch should be seen for what it is: a tentative "invitation" for an increased EU and NATO shopping spree on US military hardware.

In a nutshell, the key factor remains that Trump's Brussels blitzkrieg did make his case. Russia cannot be a "threat" and a reliable energy partner at the same time. As much as NATO poodles may be terrified of "Russian aggression", the facts spell out they won't put their money where their rhetorical hysteria is.



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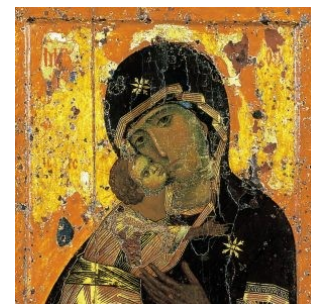
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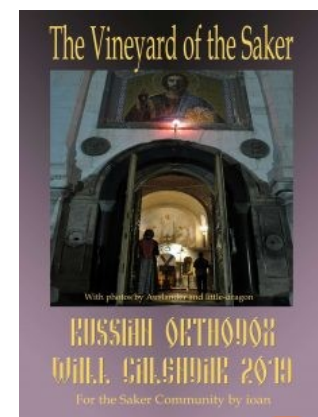
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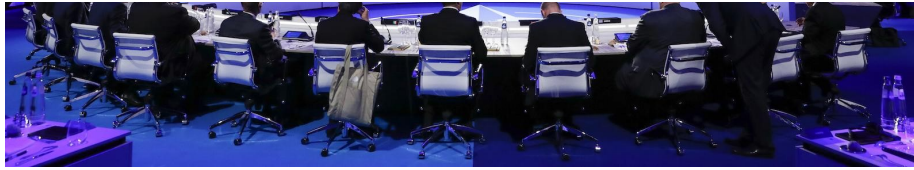


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## 2019 ORTHODOX CALENDAR





Foreign ministers attend a working dinner during the NATO Summit in Brussels on July 11, 2018. They gathered to discuss Russia, Iraq and their mission in Afghanistan. Photo: AFP/ pool/ Yves Herman

**Are you listening now?**

“Russian aggression” should be one of the top items discussed in Helsinki. In the – remote – possibility that Trump will strike a deal with Putin, NATO’s absurd *raison d’etre* would be even more exposed.

That’s not the US “deep-state” agenda, of course, thus the 24/7 demonization of the summit even before it happens. Moreover, for Trump, the transactional gambling man’s Make-America-Great-Again point of view, the ideal outcome would always be to get even more European weapons deals for the US industrial-military-intelligence complex.

Terrified by Trump, diplomats in Brussels over these past few days have conveyed to Asia Times fears about the end of NATO, the end of the World Trade Organization, even the end of the EU. But the fact remains that Europe is absolutely peripheral to the Big Picture.

In *Losing Military Supremacy*, his latest, groundbreaking book, crack Russian military-naval analyst [Andrei Martyanov](#) deconstructs in detail how, “the United States faces two nuclear and industrial superpowers, one of which fields a world-class armed forces. If the military-political, as opposed to merely economic, alliance between Russia and China is ever formalized – this will spell the final doom for the United States as a global power.”

The US deep state (its influential bureaucrats) may be wallowing in perpetual denial, but Trump – after many a closed-door meeting with Henry Kissinger – may have understood the suicidal “strategy” of Washington simultaneously antagonizing Russia and China.

Putin’s landmark [March 1 speech](#), as Martyanov stresses, was an effort to “coerce America’s elites, if not into peace, at least into some form of sanity, given that they are currently completely detached from the geopolitical, military and economic realities of the newly emerging power configurations of the world”. These elites may not be listening, but Trump seems to indicate he is.

As for the NATO poodles, all they can do is watch.

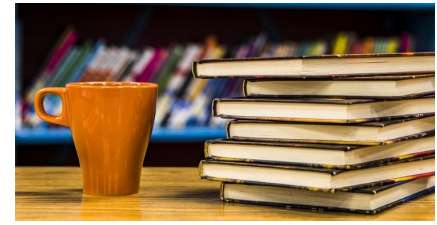


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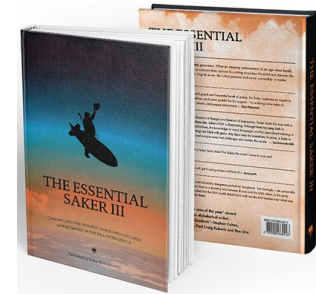
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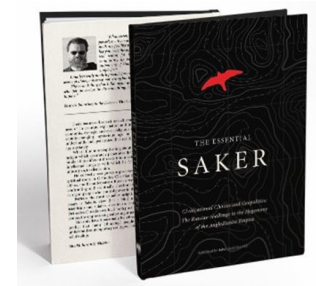
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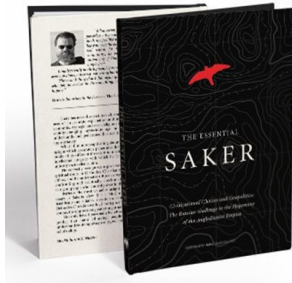
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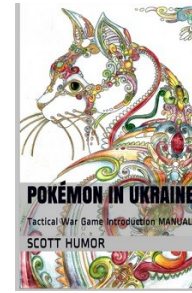


Anonymous on July 13, 2018 · at 1:37 pm EST/EDT

Technically, the current "Threat" involving the Russians apparently concerns their hype-o-mythical invasion of Eastern Europe. They'd have to cross the areas traditionally defined as "eastern Europe" as well as "central Europe" before they ever get to "western Europe".

Of course, the real "Threat" is that the citizens of Europe, and gawd forbid, the United States, might actually demand that their high tax payments be used to improve their lives instead of going to improve the lives of the shareholders of the Merchants of Death. NATO and Trump are united in that they'd fight to the death of their citizens to make sure that awful event never occurs.

Reply



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Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:14 am EST/EDT

A vicious neo-feudal oligarchy like the USA, with record levels of elite wealth, poverty among the proles and consequent inequality, needs an external enemy to take the serfs' minds off their plight, and its architects, the parasitic elites (many of whom owe their first loyalty to a tiny racist, terrorist, ethnocracy, thousands of kilometres away). Russia, and China, serve that purpose.

[Reply](#)



jon on July 13, 2018 · at 1:40 pm EST/EDT

Trump is right about NATO. It is obsolete now and has been for some time. Nothing would please me more than to see the USA rid itself of this obligation, and I think I speak for the majority of Americans.

But, just as the German people will be ignored in their wishes to see US personnel pulled out of their country, so too will the American people be ignored by their own leadership, and that includes the President. Trump is just using the European's weak spending efforts to work out even bigger deals for US "defense" contractors, and likely he'll get what he wants, because the EU and NATO are indeed just scared and confused puppies on the world's stage.

The Putin summit is therefore stillborn in all likelihood, but hope springs eternal that my cynical take on this sorry state of affairs is wrong. Maybe Trump actually believes some of his own campaign rhetoric, after all, in which he signaled that he wanted better relations with Russia. I hope that's true, and I'm praying for it, but I'm not counting on it.

[Reply](#)



Bro 93 on July 13, 2018 · at 2:16 pm EST/EDT

Nice article, but I have to give Pele .....er Pepe.....a head's up regarding the poodle polemic.

Things are changing so fast, that I think we should begin thinking in terms of different dog breeds, because the World Cup means a very, very great deal in global consciousness.

In the first place, Croatia faces France in the Finals Match this coming Sunday, and should the country that possesses the Dalmatian Coast upset the favored France (the origin of the poodle breeds), the Symbolic Ascendant Top Dog of the NATO alliance will necessarily become the Croatian Dalmation.....not the French Poodle.

However, even if Croatia loses, one could argue that the poodle should still be given the boot since most of the Championship Team would really be of African Lineage... and French Poodles can hardly survive the African Climate.

Now Belgium against England for Third and Fourth also has great symbolic significance. But I leave it to others to break down the significance (NATO and EU in Brussels.....Brexit....OMG...my head is swimming!).

All I can say is that when Black Sea Monster (A Russian soccer fan who dropped in ONCE to the Vineyard Moveable Feast Cafe and showed the way to connect soccer the Twilight Days of Empire....) celebrated Russia's win over Spain there....and out-Euro-Trash talked the Euros, he may have been correct after all:

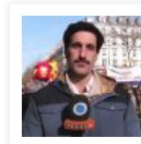
The REAL (if informal) winner of the 2018 World Cup may turn out to be Russia.

[Reply](#)



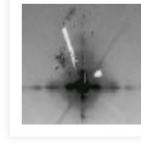
Epithet on July 13, 2018 · at 5:22 pm EST/EDT

Bro,



July 13, 2019

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June 21, 2019

Trump claims he canceled an airstrike against Iran at the very last minute

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Always an entertaining read. The "croatian" Dalmatian?? LOL..... That's a good one. You brilliantly asserted that the checkered hell spawn currently "possesses" the Dalmatian coast.

The "croatian" Dalmatian is a perfect symbol for the fiction, evil and hypocrisy that is the EU. One needs only to scroll down a bit and read yesterday's translated Volyn Massacre article and comments. Here's a couple links for folks to read about the croatian teams exploits off the pitch:

<https://sputniknews.com/worldcup-2018-archive/201807131066332566-croatia-misconduct-wold-cup/>

<https://sputniknews.com/sochi-worldcup-2018/201807081066155841-croatia-footballer-ukraine-russia-match/>

Reply



Chad on July 14, 2018 · at 1:34 am EST/EDT

Ha, ha! It's all going to the dogs , maybe Basenjjs, ultimately, but no worries, because two legs are good, but four legs are better! — good Lord, now back to the excellent article by Mr. Escobar: Some day soon, I pray, the "leaders" of NATO will realize that there are many good Americans as well as Germans who want the Americans out of Germany. Some time ago I read a sobering article about the Ramstein base and how it has been used as the command center for so much bloodshed in so many parts of the world that it would make the Nazis proud. Ah, but remember how a large number of Nazi scientists were brought into the US postwar under "Operation Paperclip", so their awful mind-set could infest the US like a virus. The war never really ended, did it? The satanic mindset that drove it morphed into something even more terrible, and bankrupted our country morally as well as financially, and yet today, 2018, we have people still going on and on endlessly about those bad Russians. Yikes, some of them are Mighty good looking!!! You all have probably heard about how the Pope is "supposed" to consecrate Russia. Why doesn't he consecrate the corrupt Vatican first? Keep poking the bear and he Will bite, and when that happens you're going to hear crying like you've never heard before.

Reply



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:22 am EST/EDT

Chad, the USA made contact with the Nazis from 1943, once their defeat by the Soviet was certain, to ensure the safe escape of various Nazis and eastern European fascists after the war, and the transfer of Nazi technology to the USA. Not surprising seeing as US corporations continued working in Germany through the war and repatriating profits via Switzerland, and US and other Western capitalist elites had been great supporters of Nazism and Italian fascism from the 1920s on. Fascism is just ' corporatism plus State power', as Mussolini declared, or capitalism with the gloves off.

Reply



Little Black Duck on July 14, 2018 · at 7:45 am EST/EDT

I enjoy reading your comments Mulga so let me ease your troubled mind.  
Global warming is as much a hoax as the accusations against Russia.

RSS ITALIAN SAKER

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Climate is a complex system which can't be forecast and can't even be reliably measured imho.

According to the ice record, the world has been warmer than it is now for 9700 of the past 10000 years.

All you can reliably say is that we have fertilised the atmosphere and made the botanical world very happy.

Now instead of having 3 molecules of co2 in 10000 of all gases, we have 4 molecules.

And one day it will be 5 molecules of this odourless, colourless, harmless gas.

We are living in an inter glacial golden age which will end with a deadly cold.

Ask yourself who is pushing this agenda. The usual suspects is it not?

[Reply](#)



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 15, 2018 · at 6:21 am EST/EDT

Sorry, Daffy, my favourite duck, but I regret to say that you are calamitously wrong. But, seeing as it is too late to do anything about it, let's not argue the toss.

[Reply](#)



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:16 am EST/EDT

I hate to tell you 'bro', but you too, and we all, are of 'African lineage'.

[Reply](#)



Anonymous on July 14, 2018 · at 12:18 pm EST/EDT

Can you trace your lineage directly to (bone, fossil) artifacts from Africa???? (or any other place for that matter, for artifacts from many thousands or tens, or hundreds of thousands of years ago, or millions of years ago)

No you can't. No living human can trace their lineage to millions of years ago, where their ancestors really were. Do you know how good or poor the fossil record really is??? It is not suitable to draw any real conclusions!

People believe, think that the lineage is known. People believe some old fragments are related to us. But we don't really know.

Some people believe humans developed along the sea shore (somewhere), and so lots of remnants are lost because of the sea's and coast's movements.

sorry Mulga, it simply isn't known. Can you prove what you believe???

[Reply](#)



Anonymous on July 14, 2018 · at 7:43 pm





EST/EDT

To be fair, Antarctica, and Australia are probably not the origins of Man, nor are N/S America. The choice really does boil down to Africa and Asia/Eurasia somewhere.

[Reply](#)

Mulga Mumblebrain on July 15, 2018 · at 6:26 am EST/EDT

It looks more and more like humanity arose from several populations of Homo who interbred. The Australian indigenous have been in the country for 60,000 years, but evidence suggests it could be double that. But I'm pretty sure that the current state of human paleontology definitely points to an origin for the hominids in Africa. But if you want to go way back, visit northern South Australia and check out the Ediacaran fossils.

[Reply](#)

Anonymous on July 15, 2018 · at 12:57 pm EST/EDT

Hey, that's NLP! 'more and more' 'pretty sure' and 'suggests' . Do I get any points for spotting the NLP?

[Reply](#)

Mulga Mumblebrain on July 16, 2018 · at 5:19 am EST/EDT

'Not Lacking Panache? I plead guilty.

[Reply](#)

Anonius on July 15, 2018 · at 10:01 am EST/EDT

Mulga, this is a heavily peddled myth:  
Enjoy the video's:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f66h\\_2dRcWs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f66h_2dRcWs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWM6z47EGSE>

I could provide you with some video's in Greek about the artifacts in Greece going back to millions of years and nothing to do with Africa (the videos are by Anthropology professor who actually found these artifacts).

[Reply](#)

Mulga Mumblebrain on July 16, 2018 · at 5:21 am EST/EDT

OK, Anonius-what about the DNA evidence?

[Reply](#)

Anonius on July 19, 2018 · at 9:56 am EST/EDT

Mulga, I am back again. My previous comment seems to be on hold at the moment. But anyway.

*[With apologies Folks but this subject is "off-topic" here. Please move the discussion to*





*Moveable Feast where I may put it thru'. The Mod.]*

Reply



Anibal Costa on July 13, 2018 · at 2:27 pm EST/EDT

Pepe Escobar is excellent, as usual. I hope that Brussels is lucid enough to realize that Washington is not interested in stopping the "Russian aggression" which, incidentally, does not even exist. What is going on is a war – commercial – but not Trump's. This is the race to get rid of American dollars.

Reply



Peter on July 13, 2018 · at 2:48 pm EST/EDT

Well I can say that IF by some miracle Russians invade Eastern European countries, the population will join them in cleaning their current ruling, so called "elite". Just like in the past. One of the reasons gun control laws are so strict in this part of Europe. And I bet, the combined armies of Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia (soon to be NATO too) etc. won't even have the fuel and transport capacity to transport themselves to the borders. Again if they don't join the Ruskies at first place, as I said.

Reply



RATM on July 13, 2018 · at 3:44 pm EST/EDT

all that "russian aggression" bullsh!t was contrived in germany.

that fat merkel c@nt had to invent a reason to keep the eu statelets in her "cage" called the eu-common market.

and trump is calling her out. bravo! i sure despise the pindos, but even they can do a thing or two right.

next stop, correctly put the blame for malaysian flight mh17 on merkel. ukie nazis (banderasti) are her step-children & stepan bandera was hiding in munich after the war.

merkel also gave the green light for the ukies to attack donbass, similar to helmut kohl & genscher instigating the break up of yougoslavia.

pain is coming. you wont escape it.

Reply



war is coming on July 13, 2018 · at 3:30 pm EST/EDT

Russian FM: No Evidence Indicted Hackers Linked to Military Intelligence.

The statement, which was released by the ministry's Information and Press Department, goes on to say that the goal of the Friday indictments was to damage the "positive mood" of the Helsinki meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump on July 16, stressing that the move was a "shameful farce."

<https://sputniknews.com/russia/201807131066335137-russian-foreign-ministry-indictments/>

Reply



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:24 am EST/EDT

Assange, Craig Murray, and the Veteran Intelligence Professionals in the USA, including Binney, shewed that the e-mails were leaked, NOT hacked, so the whole thing is a ziggurat of lie piled upon lie-as usual.

Reply



Zico the Musketeer on July 13, 2018 · at 3:50 pm EST/EDT

I really enjoy read Pepe`s articles but he did a mistake in a key information.

“Trump has described the Nord Stream 2 pipeline as “inappropriate”, but his claim that Germany gets 70% of its energy (via natural gas imports) from Russia may be easily debunked. Germany gets at best 9% of its energy from Russia. In terms of Germany’s sources of energy, only 20% is natural gas. And less than 40% of natural gas in Germany comes from Russia. Germany is fast transitioning towards wind, solar, biomass and hydro energy, which made up 41% of the total in 2018. And the target is 50% by 2030.”

Pepe made confusion between installed capacity with real generation.  
Germany renewable part in its generation is barely 13% and it cant grow from there. I think Pepe did not read the Germany Energy plan. Its a total fraud!!! lol

1Mw of solar will do in A YEAR 20% being optimistic.  
1Mw/h of Wind will do 30% being optimistic. Ive sold a 46% project in Brazil. This is very rare to archive.

As you can see in this charts in the link above, Germany “green” generation stalled around 12% over the last 5 years.

The most important(real) chart is “German energy source share in primary energy consumption” and “German energy mix 2017: Energy sources share in primary energy consumption”

<https://www.cleanenergywire.org/factsheets/germanys-energy-consumption-and-power-mix-charts>

Why did i said Pepe did not read the German plan?  
because the plan stated that in the “transition period”(right now) they will invest in COAL(or maybe Russian gas) to stabilize the grid.  
There is nothing green about it...  
And, in the future, they are waiting for New Technologies to come to fulfil the plan.  
If they are waiting for new tech to come to make the plan work is pretty obvious that with the actual tech it cant be done.

So the new Russian pipeline could be the non stated part of the plan. The coal to make the grid stable till new tech come. Since wind and Sun cant make it...fairy tales!

Reply



RATM on July 13, 2018 · at 4:31 pm EST/EDT

Zico, it is not “fairy tales” it is pure **fraud**.

let me explain:

germany is greedy in not letting any other competitor on the eu common market.  
but they can’t raise tariffs, that is a no-go by WTO rules and they could backfire  
(aka used against german products abroad).

so germany had this fraudulent idea, to institute laws which would raise the barriers for entry  
on the eu common market. for example, car manufacturers had to sell cars with euro-4/5/6 etc diesel engines. but conforming to such strict regulations is expensive and almost impossible.  
so many foreign car manufacturers didnt even bother to try and stayed out of the eu.  
sure, one could argue, that the german car manufacturers had to conform to the same regulations – and we know how they did that – **by cheating and the state regulators knew about it and looked away... for years!**  
these are all facts.



now lets look at the **green energy fraud**. germany/eu will introduce laws that prohibit the sale of products (in the eu common market) that were manufactured using "dirty" energy – this will keep the competition from the developing countries away.  
at the same time germany will claim that their products are made using "green energy".  
which will be pure bullsh!t & lies, "powerpoint facts" as i call them.

so there you have it, i'm sure, one day we will see class-action lawsuits from both developing countries and smaller eu countries against germany.

Reply



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:42 am EST/EDT

Well, Zico, what with the current RAPID climate destabilisation, the heatwave throughout the Northern Hemisphere, unprecedented rainfalls and floods worldwide, alternating with deep droughts, the hottest ever recorded temperature in Africa, and the hottest ever daily minimum temperature ever recorded on the planet, plus melting glaciers, Arctic Sea ice and Greenland and Antarctic's ice-caps melting more rapidly than imagined possible, we'd better find an alternative for fossil fuels, or we are stuffed.

Reply



Zico the musketeer on July 14, 2018 · at 4:29 am EST/EDT

We already found it.  
Nuclear energy!

Reply



Brian on July 14, 2018 · at 7:15 am EST/EDT

I haven't seen that many nuclear powered tractors, combine harvesters, trucks etc which supply food to the various regions of the globe that grid electricity doesn't reach and, by the way, are essential to the western just-in-time food delivery system. Nuclear is only a partial solution.

Anyway, we are stuffed any which way you look at it if you consider the total inaction (in any meaningful way) over increasingly rapid climate change and our problem won't, in my opinion, be from rising sea levels and suchlike, but from a collapse in the biodiversity that we all depend to grow food wherever we live.

This is a good link to see just how hopeless alternative energy as the savior of mankind really is:

<https://lokisrevengeblog.wordpress.com/2018/06/04/the-renewable-nightmare/>

Reply



Reader on July 15, 2018 · at 3:41 pm EST/EDT

Please dont be sarcastic over a serious topic.  
Nuclear stalls at ~5% primary production, while



featuring problematic fuel supply, maintenance of plant, lack of physicists, lack of any idea how to disassemble old plants, lack of knowledge about safe working lifetime; not even mentioning distribution of the energy produced, security, waste \*treatment\* etc. etc.

Btw. fusion is not going anywhere since decades.

[Reply](#)



Zico the musketeer on July 18, 2018 · at 5:44 am EST/EDT

It was 25% of Germany energy using outdated reactors.

What ate you talking about?

All stated by you is propaganda.  
And about this issue USA and Russia do the very same thing, lie to the world because this consolidate their position as nuclear powers.

The technology is simple. Dissemble is cheap, who tell the opposite is a lyer.  
Nothing inside the plant become radioactive!  
Nothing!  
So after the removal of the Fuel rods, you simple dissemble as you do with any coal plant.

It's very simple issue with complex lies around it all.

[Reply](#)



David on July 14, 2018 · at 8:14 am EST/EDT

Weather Management using Space based Power Systems –  
Provisional Patent Application # 12-723-618 filed 2002 –  
Inventor: James E. Rogers – Hermosa Beach, CA

Energy from a space based source is applied to weather pattern to alter temperature / direction / airflow —  
now in operation !

For decades – The operation relies on resonance. The energy is supplied by the environment itself. The lasers or other tuned electromagnetic transmission (see HAARP) are just the threshold triggers as it were. This stuff has been developed decades ago.

The UNs multilateral weather weapon treaty didn't manifest out of someone's wild imagination...

No.17119 Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques (with annex). Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1976

[Reply](#)



guest on July 13, 2018 · at 4:14 pm EST/EDT

Very well said, Mr. Pepe Escobar.



If people would only take off their politically correct progressive eyeglasses, they might get a glimpse of the world as it really is. They might even realize that Trump is a realist and pragmatist in a cast similar to Nixon and Kissinger. People who spend their time jumping up and down in rainbow socks, being "cool and progressive", and overlooking Obama's murders by drone, his weekly kill lists and Hillary's declared intent to get "really tough on Russia" are not going to get Trump or his policies.

Anyway, having put the silly little leaders of EU in their place, Trump is now going to sit down with Putin and have some serious, adult conversation. Both these are men – real men – with the weight of the world on their shoulders. Both are geniuses in their own unique ways; both are determined to prevent the crazies and "totalitarian progressives" (or should it be "progressive totalitarians") from triggering the next big one. Cool dudes like Obama and Hillary would have marched us into WW by now. It is these progressive crazies, their lying media, their demented obsessions, and their disconnect from reality that Trump will have to battle. Putin and him will get along just fine.

[Reply](#)



Larchmonter445 on July 13, 2018 · at 4:21 pm EST/EDT

NATO bought into more Afghan war, until 2024 (Putin's final year of this term).

That's concurrent with NATO committed to more Iraq war. They want to help train the Iraqis to fight. (laughable if you look at the record).

NATO also craves joining the US over on the other side of the globe to contain Russia and China in the East Pacific region.

NATO is a cancerous tumor growing everywhere on the body of humanity. Depleted Uranium in Libya (today's official news, that we all know is the "way of the NATO warriors").

The only solution is body bags. Send enough of them home in body bags and NATO will lose its will to persist. Danes, Norwegians, Poles, etc who readily fight on the ground need more casualties. The coalition air forces need more lost planes and pilots.

Ukraine's trainers and enablers from NATO need some arty and sniper rounds cutting them down.

It's a sad fact. What breaks such alliances is battle zone defeats. Casualties in large numbers cripples these armies because they aren't fighting for their nation. They are conquerors, invaders, occupiers. Bleed them and NATO will fold.

[Reply](#)



Mulga Mumblebrain on July 14, 2018 · at 2:47 am EST/EDT

Apparently the apparatchiki of death in Thanatopolis DC envisage Uncle Sam's current favourite death-squad state, Colombia, joining NATO, presaging the Murder Incorporated spreading its tentacles worldwide.

[Reply](#)



Otter on July 14, 2018 · at 4:12 pm EST/EDT

It is unclear from your grammar, Larchmonter445, whether you laugh at the Iraqis, or at the trainers.

Iraqis have shown ability, willingness, and courage enough that 'The Coalition' has often found it necessary to bomb them, lest they win important battles. Also... it is harder to determine... I think they have been supplied on occasion with false intelligence designed to lead them into ambush or away from vulnerable terrorist positions.



Probably should not laugh at the trainers either. Doubtless, many individuals believe they are trying to help. But many others clearly do not believe 'inferior races' are trainable. And do you really think that those who set the curriculae would agree to teach the locals how to evict the invaders?

[Reply](#)



pittige makk on July 13, 2018 · at 5:31 pm EST/EDT

the only reason henry kissinger has talked to trump is to drive a split between russia and china. if putin falls into this trap..... of course trump shall play his (kissinger's) cards in the usual way like he has done in north korea : result nothing at all

[Reply](#)



Mikael H on July 14, 2018 · at 6:27 am EST/EDT

Sorry if I ask this att wrong place but I have seen news that Russia is cancelling SU57 stealth aircraft and that it's not going in massproduction. Is that true

[Reply](#)



Vasiliios on July 15, 2018 · at 10:20 am EST/EDT

Looks as if they will build a couple dozen airframes, more of a testbed/proof of concept I suspect than an actual combat unit but I have heard some discussion of fitting them with specialized strategic stand-off weaponry just in case it's ever needed.

[Reply](#)



B.F. on July 14, 2018 · at 7:29 am EST/EDT

Trump knows that NATO is looking into dissolution. It was created to keep US troops in Europe and prevent a German-Russian economic alliance. This worked for a while. However, it cannot work permanently. In the East we have the Eurasian Economic Union, backed by the Shanghai Cooperation Zone and the Silk Road. It's only a matter of time before Germany joins the Eurasian Economic Union. Trumps demand that EU countries increase their NATO contributions to 4 % of their GDP is absurd and laughable, the US asking Europe to increase the financing of it's own occupation by US troops. As the US empire crumbles, so will NATO.

[Reply](#)



Otter on July 14, 2018 · at 4:32 pm EST/EDT

Sorry, B.F. It is neither absurd nor laughable. Occupiers always require the Occupied to finance the occupation. Although, it is not always stated so bluntly. The Occupied are also expected to entertain the troops, nights and holidays.

[Reply](#)



B.F. on July 16, 2018 · at 3:22 am EST/EDT

Otter

Yes, what you have written is true. However, how long can that last ? Not too long I should think.

[Reply](#)



Anonymous on July 14, 2018 · at 11:48 pm EST/EDT

NATO is expanding – it recently acquired Montenegro, despite Montenegro benefiting from heavy Russian investments, and it is readying Macedonia (under a new name) for NATO. The key is to get a



name that Greece will accept and Macedonia's current traitorous and puppet government is cooperating on that front.

U.S. is also expanding it bases – more in Romania, Bulgaria and other countries.

[Reply](#)



B.F. on July 16, 2018 · at 3:27 am EST/EDT

Anonymous

Yes, NATO is expanding. However, whom has NATO acquired ? Regional "powers" ? Hardly. It has acquired additional land with hostile or semi-hostile populations against membership of NATO. Do you really expect these population's to support any aggression against Russia ? Hardly. NATO is creating a paper empire which will crumble in due course.

[Reply](#)



Jef on July 14, 2018 · at 5:34 pm EST/EDT

I have yet to read the obvious connection of Trumps EU NATO position and the EU migrant situation. There has been more and more talk about US aggression in the ME causing the migration problem in the EU.

Pointing out that EU NATO needs to pay up points out their clear direct involvement in the ME crisis. Nipped that whole Kerfluffel in the bud.

[Reply](#)



Anonymous on July 14, 2018 · at 7:40 pm EST/EDT

"The combined GDP of all NATO members is 12 times that of Russia. And NATO's defense spending is six times larger than Russia's."

Pepe! where did you get your numbers! The GDP of the US alone is between 11 and 12 times that of Russia. And so the combined GDP of all the NATO members is much larger than 12 times that of Russia.

If we add up US + Germany + UK + France + Italy ~ 30 trillion \$US. Russia ~ 1.5 trillion \$US. (These are rough numbers, but they give an idea) So all NATO members adds up to over 20X Russia's GDP.

If Pepe means European part of NATO, he should indicate that clearly. I think that is what he means, looking at the defense spending also, makes more sense.

In any case, it is US, and Russia that are superpowers, not European part of NATO. European part of NATO has same problem as US, expensive and not as effective. "The cost plus" system.

[Reply](#)



V on July 16, 2018 · at 6:22 am EST/EDT

The idea of NATO is a relic of the past and strong-arming nations that are signatory to it to pay more to be in it when it's the US that are the aggressors is madness.

[Reply](#)



Michael Leigh on July 16, 2018 · at 7:24 pm EST/EDT

My guess for what it is worth in todays global set-up, is that Mr D Trump is well aware that the current USA economy is actually bankrupt, and that the 18 private banks which are both protected by the Suisse secrecy Laws of Berne, and through their ownership of and their joint control of the USA's Reserve Banking System about to



bring about a long overdue USA financial default, and the imminent collapse by the self-evident illiquidity of the USA economy.

So the Donald's current strategy is to increase the USA's indebtedness by excessive military contracting and via his similarly placed friends and associates, to personally encash their commissions on these so-called front-ended military expenditures of the current record massive military expenditures which will hastened the day, when the official and unspeakable moneylenders – the unknownst Bankers pull the plug on USA Inc !

[Reply](#)

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#### ABOUT THE EDITOR

##### The European Saker In his own words:



"I am a 'legal alien' currently living in the Imperial Homeland"

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