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SAKER

MESSAGE:

Message for my Latin American friends (in the form of a song) UPDATED 2x!

Can Russia (or Iran) survive without China?

👁 2468 Views

📅 November 21, 2019

💬 24 Comments

[this analysis was written [for the Unz Review](#)]

In a recent article entitled "[China, Bolivia and Venezuela are proof that social democracy cannot thrive in the global capitalist order](#)" my China-based friend and correspondent [Jeff J. Brown](#) asked me an exceedingly interesting and important question. He wrote:

Russia is a social democracy, with a large, successful people owned industrial sector and many social services for the 99% from the Soviet era. But, unlike Bolivia and Ukraine, it is avoiding the West's color revolution poison pill, because since 1999, Russia has gone from strength to strength, under the inspired leadership of patriotic President Vladimir Putin. But like all social democracies, the problem is what happens if another Western whore Boris Yeltsin succeeds Putin, and returns Russia to its dystopian Wall Street rape of the 1990s? Then what? It only took Macri four short years to bring Argentina back onto its groveling knees. Without a 100% nationalized media, Russians had better be demanding that Putin & Russian Patriots Inc. work overtime to censor all the Western overthrow garbage that is put in Cyrillic ink and on the airwaves. I would love to hear what my good friend Andrei Raevsky thinks about this at *The Saker* (<http://thesaker.is/>), because let's be honest: without China's, Russia's and Iran's continued anti-imperial independence and socialist success into the 21st century, humanity can kiss its ass goodbye!

Let's begin by deconstructing the assumptions and implications of Jeff's question.

China and Russia **could** be separated

The first assumptions Jeff makes are the following ones:

1. Russia is a social democracy
2. The Russian media is not 100% state controlled
3. A new Eltsin might succeed Putin
4. The West is saturating the Russian information space with garbage
5. That western propaganda can still strongly impact Russia
6. China and Russia **could** be separated (hence the need to prevent that as the central thesis of Jeff)

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And, finally, considering the above, Jeff offers the following compelling implication for the China-Russia-Iran triangle:

1. Considering the above, China's independence and support for Russia and Iran are vital for the sovereignty and freedom, if not survival, of Russia and Iran

Now let's begin by looking into Jeff's assumptions:

Russia is a social democracy:

Yes and no. If we define a social democracy as being a specific polity and system of laws, then Russia is a social democracy. However, if we define social democracy as a specific polity, system of laws **and social culture**, then I would argue that to the extent that Russia is, indeed, a social democracy, she is a rather weird one. What do I mean by that?

By that I mean that thanks to the nightmare of "democracy" under Eltsin and his US curators, and thanks to the recent explosion of "democracy" in the Ukraine, the Russian people have by and large come to consider the words "liberal" and "democracy" as four letter words. For example, the word "либерал" (liberal) has now given birth to a derived word либераст which takes the first letters of the word "liberal" and adds the last letters of the word педераст (pederast – a rude word for homosexual [yes, in Russian homosexuality and pederasty are not separated!]) which results in the new word "liberast" the closest to which in English would be something like "libfag", hardly a compliment. In some interpretations, a "liberast" is also somebody who has been "f**ked by democracy". Not much better... As for the word "демократия" (democracy) for years it has already been called "дерьмократия" (using the first letters of дерьмо (der'mo or shit) and the last letter of democracy to create der'mokratia or "shitocracy". Finally, there is also the saying that "демократия, это власть демократов" (democracy is the rule of the democrats), which for a country which has undergone the 1990s and seen the Ukraine being comprehensively FUBARed is ominous; not funny at all. All this is simply to show that culturally the Russian society is not at all your typical social democracy. It is a sort of democracy in which the majority of the people do not believe in democracy. This is very important, crucial even, and I will address this issue later.

The Russian media is not 100% state controlled:

That is absolutely true! However, it misses an important point: the real profile of the Russian media which is much more complex than "state controlled" vs "free media". To make a long story short, the main TV channels, while not really "controlled" by the state at all, are mostly pro-Kremlin. But here we need to get the cause and effect right: these channels are not pro-Kremlin only because they get state funds or because of the political power of the Kremlin, the main reason why they are pro-Kremlin is the terrible rating of those media outlets who took a strong anti-Kremlin position.

To make my point, I want to mention the rabidly anti-Kremlin TV station which is very well known in Russia (Dozhd' – see [here](#) for the (predictably complimentary) entry in Wikipedia for this TV channel). In fact, Dozhd' is just the best known of a fairly extensive anti-Kremlin media but, in reality, there are many more outlets which hold an anti-Kremlin pro-Empire line. However, as I explained in a 2016 article entitled "[Counter-Propaganda, Russian Style](#)" and then, again, in 2017, in the article "[Revisiting Russian Counter-Propaganda Methods](#)" the Kremlin has developed a very effective counter-propaganda strategy: instead of suppressing the Empire's propaganda (like the Soviets did, most unsuccessfully), the Kremlin now directly funds that same propaganda! Not only does the (state-owned) Gazprom finance Dozhd' – the western and Russian liberal guests which ridicule themselves on Russian TV are also generously paid for each of their appearances. Even hardcore Ukronazi nutcases get invited regularly (when they truly overdo it they also get into fights, or get kicked out of the studios, which is all very much fun to watch and is therefore watched by millions). The truth is that at this point the AngloZionist propaganda in Russia has much more of a very healthy "vaccination" effect than the ability to convince anybody beyond the "traditional" 2-4% of folks in Russia who still think that the West is some kind of heaven on earth and Russia an ugly, vicious and freedom crushing "Mordor".

This being said, there is one channel through which the worst of the western consumer-society propaganda still permeates Russia: commercials. Russian commercials are mostly absolutely disgusting; they basically vehiculate one crude and simple message "Russians must become US Americans". That propaganda via commercials is, I think the single most toxic and insidious form of de-russification I can think of and it is far more dangerous than any other means of "defacing" Russia.

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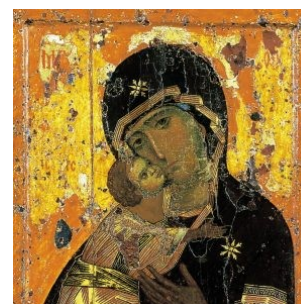
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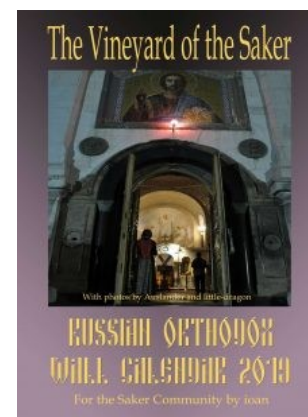
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Finally, and to my great regret, media outlets like RT and Sputnik have decided to “go native” I suppose and they now cater to western tastes much more than to Russian ones. The quasi constant “reporting” about MMA fights, minimally clad ladies, sex in all its shapes and forms and Hollywood gossip – all of this just goes to show that the folks in charge of these media outlets have decided that catering to the lowest possible social common denominator is the way to promote Russia abroad. I am not so sure. What began with “Question More” and “Telling the Untold” now seems more preoccupied with trying to copy the yellow press in the UK than to challenge the Empire. I very much regret that state of affairs.

Unfortunately, there are also a lot of 5th columnists and russophobes in these media outlets (especially in their online, Internet-based, websites; the actual radio/TV shows are mostly better).

So all is not rosy in the Russian media scene, but its not all bad either.

A new Eltsin might succeed Putin

Here I can only completely agree, and that is very scary. Due to the lack of space, I will present my arguments in a short, bullet-point, list:

- “Russia” is still very much a “one man show” meaning that Putin himself, as a person, is still absolutely vital to the current functioning of Russia. Not only are most Russians still strongly supportive of him personally, but there are no credible candidates to replace him. Yes, there are a few potential candidates out there (in no special order: Ivanov, Shoigu and Rogozin would be the best known, but there are others, of course), but what makes it all worse is that historically, Russia, unlike China, has a very **bad** record of successions.
- The 5th column is still there and while it keeps a very low profile (current events favor the Eurasian Sovereignists), it is still there, literally in all branches of power and very much inside the Moscow elites who hate Putin for putting an end to what they saw as the “Bonanza of the 1990s”.
- There *is* a patriotic Russian opposition to Putin, and it is slowly growing, but it is poorly organized, has a lot of clueless nostalgics of the Soviet era and a lot of its criticisms are, frankly, naive or plain silly (along with very valid points too!). I don’t see this opposition capable of producing a strong and credible leader. But that might change in the future.
- Thus the cornerstone of “Putinism” is Putin himself. With him gone, for whatever reason, Putinism could very rapidly fade too. This might be a good or a bad thing depending on the specific circumstances, but the chances that this might be a very bad thing are higher than the opposite being true.

“Putin The Man”, urgently needs to be replaced by “Putin The System”, but that is truly a herculean task because that means reforming/purging most of the immense and powerful Russian bureaucracy and find somewhere a new generation of men and women who could be both effective and trusted. The problem is that in most cases when one man goes against a system, the system wins. Putin is the proverbial case of a very good man in a very bad system. True, he has successfully reformed the two branches of government which were most needed to make it possible for both him and Russia to survive the war the Empire was waging on Russia: the armed forces and the intelligence/security forces. Other parts of the Russian state are still in a terrible shape (the entire legal system for starters!).

I think that the risk of an Eltsin-like prostitute coming to power is real, even if the bulk of the population would not necessarily approve of it (or be divided about it). Long-term historical stability of a huge country like Russia cannot come from a man. It can only come from institutions. And just as Peter I destroyed the traditional Russian monarchy, so can one man destroy the current “new Russia” (for lack of a better descriptor), especially if this “new Russia” has only one man as its cornerstone.

Finally, history teaches us that every time that Russia is weak or disunited, the western powers immediately pounce and intervene, including with military means. The Poles are still dreaming about yet another chance to prove Churchill’s diagnosis about Poland true and pounce on both the Ukraine and Russia if given the chance.

The West is saturating the Russian information space with garbage and western propaganda can still strongly impact Russia

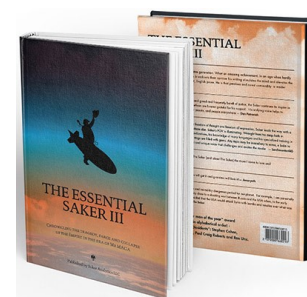
As we have seen above, these are both at least partially true, but they are also not that much of a big deal. This is clearly a source of potential concern, a danger, but not a threat (a danger being

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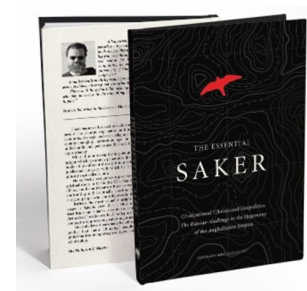
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vague, a threat specific). To the extent that this is a bad thing, this is mostly due to the hyper-materialistic consumer culture which currently competes against a much more traditional, Russian culture. It is hard to say which one will win. The former has much, much bigger financial means, the latter one has a strong 'home turf advantage'. Only time will show which will prevail. So long as many Russians will think "western propaganda lies" (which most understand) AND are attracted to western-style commercials (which are, in so many ways, an even much more effective and insidious form of propaganda), the jury will remain out on who will prevail should instability return to Russia.

China and Russia *could* be separated

This is probably the most important assumption made by Jeff. First, since this is completely hypothetical, and since we are not future-seeing prophets let's first agree to never say never and not dismiss this possibility out of hand. This being said, I would like to remind everybody that Russia and China have gradually changed the labels which they applied to the other side. The latest (as far as I know, Chinese speakers please correct me if needed!) expression used by Xi and other Chinese officials is "**Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era**". There is a lot to unpack here, but let's just say that this does not sound like the Chinese came up with that concept lightly or that they have many misgivings about the future of the relationship with Russia. As for the Russians, they have now openly used the term "ally" on many occasions, including Putin. In Russian that word "ally" (союзник) is a very strong one and contrasts sharply with the cynical and disgusted way the Russians always speak about their western "partners" (which often shocks those who don't speak Russian).

And it is not all sweet talk either. The Russians and the Chinese have had many and major joint military maneuvers, they have practiced the Russian equivalent of the US/NATO "Combined Joint Task Force" concept (see [here](#) for details). Thus, while not formal allies, Russia and China do all the things which close allies do. I would even argue that the "informal symbiosis" between Russia and China is far stronger than the NATO alliance.

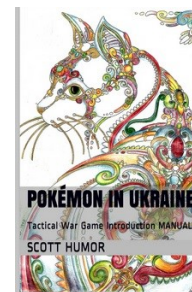
It is my opinion that what Putin and Xi have done is something which has no previous equivalent in history, at least as far as I know. Even though both Russia and China have been empires in the past, I strongly believe that both of these countries have entered a "post-imperial phase" in which the trappings of empire have been replaced by an acute sense that empires are extremely bad not only for the nations which it oppresses, but also for the nation which hosts it. Both Russia and China have paid a horrendous price for their imperial years and both Russia and China completely understand that the people of the USA are also amongst the prime victims of the (transnational) Anglo-Zionist Empire, even if that is all too often forgotten. Not only do they not want to repeat their own mistakes, they see the USA dying in the quicksands of imperialism and the last thing they want is to jump in and join the US.

I believe that the relationship between Russia and China is a symbiosis, which is much stronger than any alliances because while the latter can be broken, the former typically cannot (at least not without extremely severe consequences). I also believe that Putin and Xi both understand that the fact that Russia and China are so completely different is not a problem, but a tremendous asset: they fit perfectly, like Lego or puzzle pieces. What Russia has China does not and vice-versa. And, just to clarify for the logically challenged: both sides also understand that they will never get from the other side by war what they could get by peaceful exchange. Yes, the silly Polish dream of having Russia invaded by China several times (an [old Polish joke](#) of sorts) is only a reflection of the ancient Polish inferiority complex, not of geostrategic realities :-)

Of course, in theory, anything could happen. But I personally see no chain of events which could be sufficient to threaten the Sino-Russian symbiotic relationship, not even a collapse of "New Russia Putinism" (not elegant, but functional for our purposes) or the kind of chaos which a Eltsin type of comprador regime could try to reimpose on Russia. At the end of the day, if Russia collapses then China will hold truly immense financial and economic power over Russia and will therefore be able to impose at least a China-friendly regime. In that extremely unlikely case, Russia would, of course, lose her sovereignty, but not to the West, but to China. That is not quite what Jeff had in mind.

Conclusion:

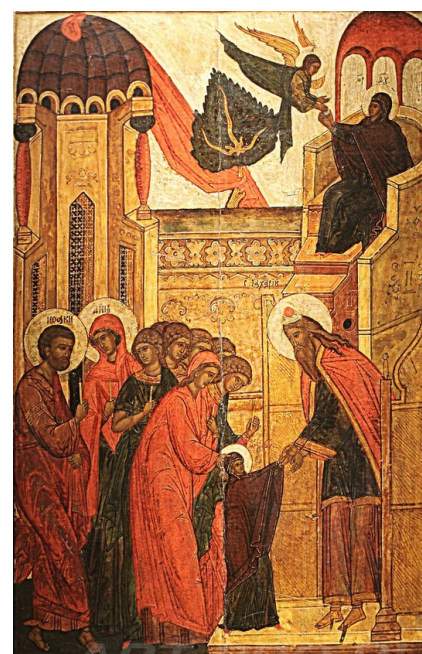
Yes, Russia and China need each other. I would argue that they need each other. Vitally. And yes, the "loss" of one would threaten the other. But that is not just true for Russia, it is also very



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true of China (which desperately needs Russian energy, high-tech, natural resources, weapons systems but most of all, Russian experience: for most of her existence Russia was threatened, invaded, attacked, sanctioned, boycotted and disparaged by a long succession of western states, and she defeated them all. Sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly, but each time Russia prevailed. The determination and ability to resist the West is something which is deeply embedded in the Russian cultural DNA (this in sharp contrast with the rest of the so-called "East European" countries). Finally, and for all their very real recent advances, the Chinese armed forces are still far behind the Russian (or the USA for that matter) and in a one-on-one war against the USA China would definitely lose, especially if the USA goes "all out". Russia, on the other hand, has the means to turn the US and Europe into a post-industrial nuclear wasteland (using nuclear and, most importantly, non-nuclear munitions!).

I would also add something Jeff did not address: Iran. I believe that both Russia and China also very much need Iran. Okay, that is not a vital need, both Russia and China could survive without an allied Iran, but Iran offers immense advantages to both countries, if only because thanks to the truly phenomenal stupidity of the Neocons the USA's breathtakingly stupid policies in the Middle-East ([here](#) is just the latest example) have turned Iran into a regional super-power eclipsing both Israel and the KSA. Furthermore, if Russia has shown much more political and moral courage than China (which, lets be honest, has been pretty happy to have Russia taking the brunt of the Empire's attacks), Iran has shown much more political and moral courage than Russia, especially concerning the slow-motion genocide perpetrated by the Zionist Entity in Palestine.

And this brings us full circle to the discussion of what kind of country Russia currently really is. Russia is not the Soviet Union. Neither is she pre-1917 Russia. But what is she really?

Nobody really knows, I think.

It is a moving target, a process. This process might lead to a new and stable "new Russia", but that is by no means certain. Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 13 of the Russian Constitution say:

1. In the Russian Federation ideological diversity shall be recognized
2. No ideology may be established as state or obligatory one.
3. In the Russian Federation political diversity and multi-party system shall be recognized.

In other words, not only is there no "no official ideology" in Russia, there is an explicit recognition for a multi-party political system (itself an ideological statement, by the way). These are all potentially very dangerous and toxic items in the Russian Constitution which already are hindering a true national, cultural, psychological and spiritual rebirth of Russia. Iran, in contrast, has succeeded in creating an Islamic Republic which is both truly and unapologetically Islamic and truly democratic, at least in the sense that, unlike western democracies which are mostly run by minorities and for minorities (or a [coalition of minorities](#)), in Iran the majority supports the system in place.

And since the vast majority of the Russian people do not want a single-party-system or a return to Soviet times yet don't believe in (western style) democracy, Russian intellectuals would be well advised to take a very close and careful look at what I would call the "Iranian model", not to simply copy it, but to see what aspects of this model could be adapted to Russian realities. Historical Russia was an Orthodox monarchy. That time is gone and will never return. Soviet Russia was a Marxist atheistic state. That time is also forever gone. Modern Russia can only find references, lessons and implications in her past, but she cannot simply resurrect Czarist or Communist Russia. Of course, neither can she reject her entire history and declare it all "bad" (which is what Russian "liberals" always do, which explains why they are so hated).

I don't know what the future Russia will look like. I am not even totally sure that this new Russia will ever really happen (though my gut feeling is that it will). I hope that it will, but whether that happens or not will not be decided in China or by China (or any other country). To conclude on a famous quote by Karl Marx "the emancipation of the workers must be the work of the workers themselves" (in Russian: "Освобождение рабочих должно быть делом самих рабочих") which a famous Russian 1928 book turned into "the salvation of those who are drowning has to be the action of those drowning" (in Russian: "Спасение утопающих — дело рук самих утопающих"). Whatever version you prefer (I prefer the 2nd one), the meaning is clear: you need to solve your problems by yourself or with those who share that problem with you. In other words, Russians are the only ones who can save or destroy the Russian nation (I mean "Russian" in the traditional, Russian, multi-ethnic and multi-religious meaning of the words русский and российский which in



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traditional Russian are both interchangeable or different depending on the context).

The Saker

PS: I leave you with a photo which, imho, speaks a thousand words



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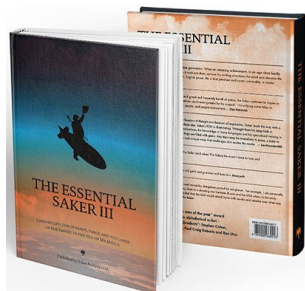
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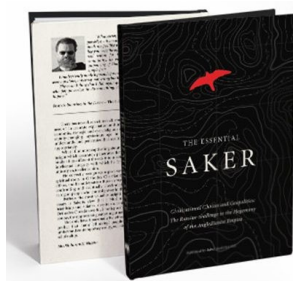
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24 COMMENTS



Anonymous on November 21, 2019 · at 6:22 pm EST/EDT

"I strongly believe that both of these countries have entered a "post-imperial phase"

-And what the people of Hong Kong, Taiwan and Tibet view on this "post-imperial phase"?

[Reply](#)



phe on November 21, 2019 · at 6:50 pm EST/EDT

Don't forget over a thousand Palestinian civilians killed by Israel military in the last decade. Oh and Madeline Albright's 'The death of 500,000 Iraqi children is worth it.' The Democratic Jewish secretary of state in the administration of Hilary Clinton's husband.

[Reply](#)





Larchmonter445 on November 21, 2019 · at 7:05 pm EST/EDT

Why do you hide a persona but challenge so strongly with your inquiry?

Shamed by carrying water for the Hegemon? Your bucket of water has leaks.

Hong Kong was “returned” to China. It’s Chinese.

Taiwan is Chinese.

Tibet was freed from Imperialism and vassalage, and the people of Tibet liberated from feudal slavery practiced by the Buddhist barbarity that treated the masses as animals.

China is not imperialist. It suffered 150 years of Imperialism.

Try again, with facts next time.

[Reply](#)



Anonymous on November 21, 2019 · at 8:13 pm EST/EDT

“Hong Kong was “returned” to China. It’s Chinese.

Taiwan is Chinese.

Tibet was freed from Imperialism and vassalage, and the people of Tibet liberated from feudal slavery practiced by the Buddhist barbarity that treated the masses as animals.”

-Oh, and the people of Hong Kong, Taiwan and Tibet has no say in the matter I suppose? Please show me opinion polls that these people wish to live under a capitalist dictatorship.

[Reply](#)



jiri on November 21, 2019 · at 9:23 pm EST/EDT

Taiwan, Tibet and Hong Kong have one thing in common.

They are all used extensively by the CIA to harass China.

[Reply](#)



The Saker on November 21, 2019 · at 8:38 pm EST/EDT

That is a pretty toxic comment as you don’t know (and neither do I) what the folks there think. The fact that SOME are protesting sure does not mean that MOST agree. Just see the Ukraine (or Syria).

Also, it is funny that you would like Hong Kong since that used to be a British colony.

As for Taiwan, that is a US creation.

As for Tibet – there is ZERO evidence that China is in Tibet for some kind of imperialist reason. Your logic goes like that: if people riot, its against Empire. Except that in Paris or Santiago this is not true. So what you are presenting is a fallacy.

Bottom line: that kind of comment is *totally* useless.

Diagnostic: troll.

The Saker

[Reply](#)



jiri on November 21, 2019 · at 9:27 pm EST/EDT

“Diagnostic: troll.

The Saker”



Saker, you are being unkind.

My diagnosis is that he is a victim who is badly infected by Imperial propaganda.

Reply



Anonymous on November 21, 2019 · at 11:14 pm EST/EDT

Saker, I think your explanation of the Russian media strategy of not only allowing anti Kremlin media, but even funding it was very useful and illuminating' it suddenly made me realize why the self-loathing English language media in India has had the opposite effect of what the West was hoping: instead of brainwashing the India masses, it has created contempt in the majority of their middle and lowr classes for "western" social values, in the Indian context this is referred to as "secular" or "sickular" liberalism, and caused a nationalist-sovereignist backlash. Until I read your article, I had not understood how letting in the stench of western oriented 5th column media would actually inoculate your society against its filth. So thank you for that epiphany.

RT reported that one point almost 25% of Hong Kong's population was involved in the protests against Beijing. Based on those numbers, it's absurd to assume that the massive protests in Hong Kong are only supported by a minority.

I'm no sympathizer of those irresponsible HK youth and protesters that are really going over the top into their behaviour, however, irrespective of my disdain for many of them (who can respect selfish spoiled brats, that have a sickening xenophobic-like contempt for ordinary mainland chinese workers and no sympathy for their mainland compatriots. I certainly don't. That's why avoided doing business with HK people and certainly would never trust them given their extreme selfish and calculated attitude). That said, the support for opposition in Beijing in HK is wide spread and likely the majority (I had personal dealings with HK people for many years and the majority of them have contempt and distrust for mainland China; something I find dishonorable, just on human level, and given how much they've been coddled by Beijing and how they've prospered off the backs of the common chinese in mainland China).

Regarding Taiwan, it doesn't matter that they were created by the USA, the fact is that the present day Taiwanese want to stay independent. If you don't care about self determination, just say so, but don't sweep it under the rug because it's ethically inconvenient.

As for the China and Russia so-called symbiosis, time will tell, I'm betting it will eventually implode (inherent contradictions between the 2 powers), you hold the view that it is a pillar of the new emerging order. We'll see.

China will surpass Russia in technology, they've got the brains, manpower, money and the single-minded focus to make it happen, then what would they need Russia for? Natural gas and oil? That can't be enough.

How long do you think your model will hold? 5 years, a



decade?

[Reply](#)



doe dimble on November 21, 2019 · at 8:58 pm EST/EDT

There is no post imperial phase of anything. The Hegemon (zio-nazi-anglo-israel) is just fine, having bought into AIB, and SCO, and all the clubs that USA hates. Zio has all its bets covered.

Now let's see..

- 1.) 1920's Shanghai was an occupied by USA whore-house
- 2.) Hong-Kong for +100 years was a british whore-house, that shipped opium
- 3.) Taiwan was a whore-house for US soldiers just like they have/had in Okinawa, and Phillipines.
- 4.) CIA has been in Tibet trying to Divide&Conquer forever.

[5.) CUBA – a warehouse for the mob (zio) from 1920's to 1950's, the reason Castro has/had 100% support is because he freed his people from being just sex toys for USA tourists]

Just the past six months Hong-Kong has been completely destroyed by CIA-MI6 (US State Dept).

This deal is very complicated. Let's do a timeline.

- 1.) Last wednesday, say Nov 15, CCP had all HSBC accounts tied to the hk-protests frozen. This why the protests went into panic and weekend, and burn't this themselves out by monday (no more free money)
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So, now we have what we have, in time the CCP will go to the UN and show proof of USA training (molotov cocktails and how throw them). The HK tycoons if they didn't already make it to Singapore (door not shut yet, but will be soon), are going to be re-educated, probably in the war west of China.

Expect in the coming weeks lots of HK stocks to implode, as founders and CEOS, ... just dissappear, but remember its not the people its the complete FREEZING of all their accounts that hurts.

...

Much of current show is about Bolivian Coup, just like HK, just like they wanted in HK, but it didn't work out as planned. Blowback is a bitch.

[Reply](#)



George N. on November 21, 2019 · at 6:36 pm EST/EDT

Question? Is there a possibility that Russia, China, and Iran are the antithesis and the Anglozionists the thesis in the Hegelian dialect to get a New World Order synthesis?

[Reply](#)



ababush on November 21, 2019 · at 8:23 pm EST/EDT





My answer: when the thesis is a bucket filled with of old sh.t, then the antithesis (whether it be made of roses, buffaloes or spacecrafts) fully prevails.

[Reply](#)



The Saker on November 21, 2019 · at 8:40 pm EST/EDT

The short answer is 'no'. Yes, the AngloZionist Empire contained its own contradiction (all empires do), but the current empire will play no role in the shaping of the future multi-lateral order. Simply put: the Empire is not all that relevant any more.

Cheers

The Saker

[Reply](#)



jiri on November 21, 2019 · at 9:40 pm EST/EDT

The Empire has enough nuclear weapons to destroy much of the planet and human civilisation and also a track record of using it. And using it egregiously too.

[Reply](#)



Larchmonter445 on November 21, 2019 · at 6:56 pm EST/EDT

The way to look at the duration of the strategic relationship between Russia and China is the Chinese phrase "New Era". This tells you they are thinking in terms of 20+ years. The key is we are at 2020's arrival and the Chinese anniversary of 2049 is the centennial of the New China. The hopes they have is the success of BRI and a fully functioning new multipolar system of nations will arrive in the 2040s in time for celebrating the uplifting of billions of poor humans around the world, a fully developed middle class of medium income in China, with no rural or urban poor, and all continents connected by belts and roads, with a major Chinese presence in Space (moon, its own space station, or one with Russia).

So the New Era depends on Russia and China coordinating in all sectors of international activity, as well as bilaterally continuing their interdependent trade, commerce, banking, Internet retailing, investments, tourism, military development, mutual defense integration, and educational, scientific, technological research and development and media messaging.

China simply cannot achieve its global goals (BRI and multilateralism) alone. It cannot defend itself without Russian military alliance. Even if China had total free access to all the natural resources of Russia, China could not accomplish its most fundamental need—to resist hegemony from the US and have access to all the world via oceans and land. Russia is China's wingman and technological resource for weapons and systems the Chinese cannot match. During the next 20+ years, China can accomplish so much in sectors of technology, scientific development and global integration. But only because Russia has and will have the next generations of vital products even the US cannot match.

There are also soft attributes that Russia possesses that the Chinese do not have. The most important is diplomacy. The rise of Russia is upon its economic stability and military weapons development, but its global status is built on its first class diplomatic work (led by Sergey Lavrov and brilliant ambassadors in key capitals). Also, the tools of its Intel Special Services provide more soft power. Brilliant Putin allies fill the leadership roles of the Federal Security Council, FSB and SVR. The Ministry of Defense, led by Sergey Shoigu, and its Intel arm, the GRU, enable Russia to work with India and Pakistan, North Korea and South Korean, Afghanistan and Iran which smooth things for China in ways China cannot achieve positive results by itself. The Chinese Ministry of State Security simply is decades behind in external Intel operations.



Thus, its not just that Russia is tough against the USA and NATO. Much more subtle are Russian ways of geopolitics and strategic moves, none of which the Chinese can emulate much less originate for itself.

We see a major problem financed and managed by the US CIA in Hong Kong which the Chinese look hapless to deal with. Imagine when the US turns up the flame for the Taiwanese to follow suit. Going alone is very difficult. China has and will have a big need for many years to be shoulder to shoulder with Russia. They worked in tandem on North Korea vs USA. Russia has already indicated the South China Sea will not be US vs China. Russia (in behalf of Vietnam and Philippines) will help modulate the Chinese insistences in the vast sea region. And thereby, get in the way of the USA vs China.

The entire Asia Pacific region now has the dynamic duo of Russian and China to face down the Hegemon's naval and financial containment. We saw not only naval exercises of the two navies, but a bold aerial display of fighter jets with Russian bombers flying close to the Korean Peninsula. Together, there is no timidity. The Japanese and Americans were stunned by that display of geopolitical intention in support of North Korea, a united Korean Peninsula, and Russia's and China's own freedom of navigation rights in air space thought previously the Hegemon's.

The Double Helix will continue to develop deeper, wider, more subtly and more sophisticated under the pressure from the containment strategy and projection of full global dominance (wishful) of the USA.

Russia students are learning Mandarin. Chinese students are learning Russian. Tourists are visiting places they never thought of traveling to but a few years ago. The common threat they see is a binding force. The accomplishments of these two nations are real and are profoundly changing regions on several continents.

[Reply](#)



Alabama on November 21, 2019 · at 7:46 pm EST/EDT

I do wonder some times why we throw time and achievements around as if accomplishments means everything debt doesn't matter. The world debt today stands at \$259 trillion dollars, that's \$37,000 for every man woman and child on the planet. Now just how many of these 7 billion people are able to comfortably service their share of the world debt? I'll bet the percentage is low, but we are determined to grow during the most expensive times in known history. Somehow I have to believe the consequence have to paid, and possibly in the near future, putting a slowdown in the pace of futuristic hopes of achievement, if caused by nothing more than the debt alone and the worlds ability to service it.

[Reply](#)



jiri on November 21, 2019 · at 9:47 pm EST/EDT

"The world debt today stands at \$259 trillion dollars, that's \$37,000 for every man woman and child on the planet."

The world owes this debt to the world- i.e. to itself

These are just numbers on a ledger.

Once the ideological basis of these debts are removed, they will be gone.

And you will be wondering why you were worried at all.

[Reply](#)



eyegore on November 21, 2019 · at 7:40 pm EST/EDT





The image of Putin, Xi and Rouhani holding hands may be inspiring, but it looks like a fabrication. That image is not found on DuckDuckGo(Bing) or Google.

Xi is fuzzier than the others, and not lit by the same bright lights. Rouhani's turban has a distinct line from top to the right. Putin's has a line around his head. The background behind the flags was changed, Xi and the flag of China inserted in the middle.

However, there are multiple similar images found with Erdogan, instead of Xi, holding hands with Putin and Rouhani discussing peace in Syria. [ex Assad. Assad now seems to be a non-person in the Soviet tradition.]

One very close image here: <http://thelondonpost.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Erdogan-putin-rohani.jpg>

Article: <https://thelondonpost.net/russia-turkey-iran-seek-lasting-ceasefire-syria/>

Qwant search did return one image with Xi, Putin, and Rouhani together.

<https://theiranproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Rouhani-Putin-Xi-Jinping-600x360.jpg>

No flags or hand holding though, and in direct sunlight.

Reply



The Saker on November 21, 2019 · at 8:41 pm EST/EDT

The image was clearly created artificially. Probably took a known event, then changed the background.

That does not mean that it is fake or misrepresents the reality

Cheers

The Saker

Reply



Anonymous on November 21, 2019 · at 8:35 pm EST/EDT

Let's say that Russia is a social-democracy with..."Russian characteristics". An amalgam of autocracy and powerful streaks of anarchism (of the 'liberal' or cossack-raskolnik types). Of staunch Orthodoxy with virulent atheism and renovationist-'sophianic' pseudo-Orthodoxy. Of Realpolitik with utopianism.

But I think that we must recognize that what always saved Russia from the anti-Christian assaults on her was here 'default' ideology, before being formulated as the 'Official Nationality' doctrine, by the ministers of the bugbear of all 'anarcho-liberals', the much hated 'reactionary' Tsar Nicholas I: Orthodoxy, Autocracy, Nationality (Православие, самодержавие, народность). If Russia is to be 'inspired' by Iran, she should be 'unapologetically' Orthodox (avoiding of course the repressive aspects of the Mullahs 'democracy'). It would entail restoration of monarchy as the guarantor of stability and continuity. That was the 'ideology' of the other hate-figures of Russian history, Ivan the Terrible and Peter the Great (the supposedly 'Slavophile' Dostoevski did not share their loathing of Peter, he understood that the reforms of Peter actually saved Russia from the 'Western' conquest and from its '5th column', the pseudo-traditionalist 'raskolnik' boyars).

BTW, it was under their reigns that the movement of 'convergence' with China started to develop. The Transsiberian Railway and the Chinese Eastern Railway were step into 'Eurasian' integration, which was a policy of the hated Tsars and their 'reactionary' ministers. A sign of deepening 'symbiosis' (albeit timid) is that from 2018 Orthodox students from the People's Republic of China can begin to prepare for their future ministries in China in the theological schools of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Reply



doe dimblebrain on November 21, 2019 · at 8:38 pm EST/EDT





A lot here are obsessed with politics, I would like to throw this up into the air, so you can see which way the wind is blow. As you all know here, USA has almost all but destroyed the Hong-Kong financial district, all the University's have been destroyed, and still many trains and routes are not running.

Well yesterday two major Chinese companys imploded that is their stock value went to zero in a day. One company called "ArtGo", but more are to follow.

So here's the background story for those who wish to follow, this is the current throw-back effects of the USA staged COUP in Hong-Kong, in order to Divide&Conquer China.

...

This deal is very complicated. Let's do a timeline.

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Expect in the coming weeks lots of HK stocks to implode, as founders and CEOs, ... just dissappear, but remember its not the people its the complete FREEZING of all their accounts that hurts.

...

Some here might ask "But why would HK tycoons, support a USA takeover of HK?"

1.) Well here's the answer the tycoon's want to expand development on remaining empty land, but have it frozen, they hoped the riots would force the Politicians to open all land to developments, making tycoon's richer.

2.) The second thing is the tycoon's are well aware of CCP take-over, and they know that the CCP will re-shuffle the money-power of HK, once they come in, the tycoon's would prefer the UK-USA balkanization of China, and the tycoon's would very much like to be little dictators in their area, and they have complete cooperation with US-UK gov's, win-win for all.

So the problem now of course is the CCP has frozen all accounts of the tycoons, and defunded all the riot college kid accounts (last week). So the entire HK take-over has collapsed.

The funny thing is US senate & congress just 100% voted for sanctions on HK for the kids "Human Rights", Trump will most likely sign, then the next day the CCP will release to the UN PROOF, that the US-State-Department trained all the kids to make Molotov's, its all on videos its recorded, its going to look real funny for the entire world that all USA politicians voted in concert to destroy a sovereign nation.

[Reply](#)



Nate on November 21, 2019 · at 9:02 pm EST/EDT





In defense of Sputnik and RT, I think they are doing quite a good job countering Western imperialist propaganda, which is why Western governments are so terrified of them. In addition, having some non-political material (e.g. sports, animal stories, gaming, movies, pretty girls, etc) is important to attract readers/viewers who are less political or even totally non-political. Without this type of content, Sputnik/RT would be more like the English language version of TASS, which only a few of us actually read.

I have been an avid reader of what is now called "the alternative press" since 2001. I have also been totally boycotting Western MSM since March 2003. I am very thankful that we now have RT/Sputnik to help in our opposition work.

[Reply](#)



Outlaw Historian on November 21, 2019 · at 9:03 pm EST/EDT

I'll comment by simply pointing readers to two recent works by Glenn Diesen where they can read previews at the links provided: [Russia's Geoeconomic Strategy for a Greater Eurasia \(Rethinking Asia and International Relations\)](#) and [The Decay of Western Civilisation and Resurgence of Russia: Between Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft](#).

IMO, there's no question that the trio of Russia, Iran and China will survive, but the more important question is that posed by the second work—will the West survive and if so in what form? There's a Paradigm Shift occurring under our feet. And for some proof of that reality, [here's a look at real GDP](#) for the Evil Outlaw US Empire that's essentially been negative since the dot.com bust at the end of Slick Willie's reign.

[Reply](#)



Plain Mudd on November 21, 2019 · at 9:21 pm EST/EDT

It was all documented almost 20 years ago by the deagel-report, a -80% collapse in USA population by 2025. All because there are no jobs, mission is almost completed, the only thing holding the USA together today is that a majority of the population are on drugs, the other 1/2 are on EBT and live paycheck to paycheck, in the meantime CHINA has risen a poor nation to middle class in 30 years.

<http://www.deagel.com/country/forecast.aspx>

Background "Deagel Report" is Janes (#1 weapon catalogue on earth) for weapons analysis people, its dedicated to John Deagel 1950's mentor to Rockefeller for the NWO order planning. These are NOT people to be ignored, once again zio-anglo-nazi, always tells you what they're going to do, just like YINION PLAN, just like "Greater Israel",... they always tell you ahead of time your future.

I'm just posting because you ask the rhetorical question "What of the USA future?"

Well if you read the Deagel-Report carefully in the foot-notes, you'll learn that the old all die because they can't find affordable health-care, and the young move to find jobs in another country, sort of reverse from what we saw post WW2. Original Y2K plan/projection in 2000 was that USA population drop from 330M to 80M by 2025, that's a 80% drop.

My guess is that the plowing of meth, fentanyl, cocaine, crack, and legalization of pot, just advances & insures the goal. Lastly, Trump's wall is to keep the remaining zombies (tax cows) contained. Some here say NADA because of 2nd amendment, but nobody fears a nation of druggies living on the streets covered in feces. Just like the zio's did to China (Opium) in the 1800's, they're doing to the USA today.

[Reply](#)





Bosnian Croat on November 21, 2019 · at 10:16 pm EST/EDT

Saker, this is very good text. And I will quote the most important thing

“Putin The Man”, urgently needs to be replaced by “Putin The System”, but that is truly a herculean task because that means reforming/purging most of the immense and powerful Russian bureaucracy and find somewhere a new generation of men and women who could be both effective and trusted.”

Everything else is not that big problem. Russia can have answer and countermeasure to western propaganda attacks, to sanctions and to all kind of brutal attacks, but the most crucial issue is succession of power after Putin.

I believe that Putin will not go away in 2024. Russia is now in process of implementing crucially important colossal NATIONAL PROJECTS. So, he will stay till 2030 if he is alive and well, and this give him enough time to prepare transition into system that does not depend on ONE MAN. DUMA is going to change constitution to make this possible after 2024.

But the main question is how to do that. In my opinion the only way is to do something Americans have, and it is a sort of DEEP STATE IN RUSSIA, a sort of SHADOW GOVERNMENT. So you have elections and elected officials with somewhat limited power and in the shadow to have several mighty patriotic people who will take care that elected ones do not sell Russia to foreign interests.

Yes, I know, in that case who can control that DEEP STATE and how to trust them. Probably they have to be some people from Army, Security and Intelligence Services.

And elected ones have to be aware of existence of Shadow ones.

I know, such system opens some other huge concerns as we can see problems in America now, but I do not see any other ways to protect Russia from possible 1990s scenario.

West is waiting for Putin's departure, it is very obvious. They know that they cannot destroy Russia while he is in Kremlin. But they are waiting and we do not need to have any doubt what will they try and what will they do when Putin leaves.

And next time they get a chance to destroy Russia they are not going to repeat the same mistakes again. West and America are very well aware that they missed great chance because of their arrogance and too much self confidence. But if Russia ever go back to 1990s, Empire will finish with Russia. They will not miss another chance. Russia does not have right to repeat the same mistakes again. They simply cannot trust West and they have to neutralize 5th column everywhere, in media, in politics in government, in business.

I do not understand why they have not done that so far.

Otherwise, Russia will not survive. After that China would be strangled by Empire and its vassals.

And destruction of Russia would be grave and epic disaster for entire world.

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The European Saker In his own words:



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

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