

Simple Facts on Ukraine War: A War like No Other by Khalid Blankinship

The mainstream media and much of the power elite in the United States are engaged in a campaign for more US intervention against the Russian invasion of Ukraine. But in doing this, they are omitting to mention the most important factual dimensions of this conflict. These are facts which have nothing to do with Ukraine per se.

Rather, the facts are these: The United States and Russia each possess 5,000 to 6,000 nuclear warheads, more than enough to end civilization, destroy the planet, and kill all but a potential handful of the citizens of each in a nuclear holocaust, and there is no possible defense against such a nuclear attack. Because each has this nuclear arsenal, both the United States and Russia are completely invulnerable to any other form of coercion or attack, while either country using the nuclear weapons would only result in mutual annihilation. This is because if the existence of either is threatened, it can and will simply resort to the Great Equalizer and annihilate everything.

The problem is that the warmongering foreign policy establishment of the United States has been bent since 1945 on a policy of gaining “full spectrum dominance,” meaning exclusive control over the planet, for itself. It has frequently expressed this intent through coups, interventions, sanctions, financial pressure, and outright invasions against other countries in complete violation of their sovereignty and of any norms of international law, believing that such principles only apply to others, never itself. Because the Soviet Union’s and subsequently Russia’s possession of parity in nuclear arsenal completely checkmates the US policy elite’s desire for dominance, it has hated on the Soviet Union then Russia ever since the Soviets’ acquisition of the nuclear bomb in 1949 ended the US monopoly in that area. While the policy elite would like to find a means to get at Russia, they cannot, because Russia is invulnerable owing to its having the Great Equalizer, despite its inferiority in every other respect, and any scheme the policy wonks invent always comes up against the Great Equalizer.

When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, there seemed to be a window of opportunity for the US policy elite to achieve the hegemony they desired, but they didn’t even try for it, not even with the pliant Russian president Yeltsin (1991-1999). That was because, though they were then able to cajole Russia in many ways and impose on it some things, they couldn’t even bring up the idea of disarming Russia from its nuclear weapons, since Russia even when prostrate would have demanded the US give up its nuclear arsenal as well. When both Yeltsin and later Putin in 2000 asked for NATO membership for Russia, they were rebuffed, because that would have meant a partnership with Russia, not dominance over it. So the US policy elite continued to wallow in their failed dreams of “full spectrum dominance,” knowing in the back of their heads that they could never get that, while beating up weaker countries like Iraq, Libya, and Somalia, almost as punching bags to express their frustration.

So when the policy elite carried out their Maidan coup in Ukraine in 2014, the focus was brought back against Russia, and Russia was eventually goaded into invading Ukraine, a project which, based on old-fashioned military thinking, one would think would massively fail. Yet all the attempts to counter the invasion when it actually happened proved to come right up against the wall of the Great Equalizer that Russia possesses and thus couldn’t be done, and Ukraine, after all the carefully-orchestrated propaganda, was left in the lurch. That in itself didn’t bother the US policy elite, who care about no one except themselves and their own clinging to power, but it nakedly exposed that the US “full spectrum dominance” had never been achieved and

could not be. In fact, it rubbed humiliation in the faces of the US policy elite, so no wonder they hate on Putin and Russia. But Putin is not the issue; the issue is Russia's Great Equalizer, its parity in nuclear weapons, and nothing can be done about that, nor would any Russian regime of any stripe ever agree to surrender that. So, checkmate!

This basic, fundamental fact of US-Russia nuclear parity has underlain my entire life and certainly is the main background of the Ukraine crisis, for if Russia had not had nuclear parity, it never would have embarked on such an invasion. To evade the Soviet then Russian nuclear parity, schemes were concocted for anti-missile defense, such as the aborted Star Wars initiative of Reagan, but all these plans failed completely because nothing can be done to stop hypersonic ICBMs with multiple warheads, maneuverability, and defensive measures such as decoys, nor is the successful militarization of space by one side even remotely possible, so our whole country lays wide open to nuclear annihilation any and every day, with the only defense being the revenge of an equally destructive retaliation. Given this as the actual situation, it is the pinnacle of stupidity to suppose the US can intervene militarily in Ukraine. Also, hating on Russia is contributing nothing to getting us out of the dangerous confrontational situation.

In the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, the two sides backed down, carefully orchestrating moves that would not humiliate either side so greatly that its existence would be threatened in its own country. Each side has to be allowed to save face. That is what has to happen now, or else it will probably be nuclear annihilation for all of us sooner or later. Ukraine will have to be neutralized; Russia will have to withdraw. The main reason this seems unlikely is that the US policy elite will have to give up its striving for world hegemony, and I don't see that happening, yet it must, because there is no way to such hegemony whatsoever.

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