

# Al Qaeda Rebels Supported by Uncle Sam: US, Allies to Blame for Chemical Attack in Syria

By Prof Michel Chossudovsky

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War Agenda

In-depth Report: **SYRIA** 

An analyst says the United States and its allies in the region are to blame for having helped militants in Syria to launch the deadly chemical attack on civilians in August.

Michel Chossudovsky told Press TV in an interview on Friday that the US-led "military alliance" backed "the rebels in using chemical weapons" in Syria.

"The United States and its allies continue to support the al-Qaeda-affiliated rebels which are involved in the process of destruction of an entire country (Syria)," he stated.

Chossudovsky noted that "Israeli sponsored rebels" backed by "Qatar, Turkey, [and] Saudi Arabia" staged the chemical attack and "then blamed it on the [Syrian] government."

"And we know unequivocally that that event which used fake videos of children killed was there; it was a false flag and its objective was to blame the Syrian government when in fact those crimes were committed and ordered by the United States and its allies," said Chossudovsky.

He said the militants fighting against the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad "are the foot soldiers of the Western military alliance."

Chossudovsky also expressed regret that the international community has not taken any action to stop "a humanitarian crisis" which is unfolding in Syria.

"A country has been destroyed; there is an outbreak of polio, at least it is reported, and then the question is who is responsible for this hideous crime against the Syrian people and the entire nation. It is what I call the self-proclaimed international community," he said.

Chossudovsky described the international community as a "rogue conjunction of warmongering states... responsible for extensive war crimes against the people of Syria."

#### **Complete Transcript of Interview**

**Press TV:** Michel Chossudovsky, give us the bigger picture here of what is going on in Syria. We know there is a push for this Geneva 2 but at the same time, we know how Saudi Arabia has formed these groups, pretty much going around the US and of course their allies.

What are we to see regarding Syria in the coming months especially on the Geneva 2 and how that is going to translate to any action on the ground?

**Chossudovsky:** I think we have to first understand that this decision by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is a smokescreen because the ploy is ultimately to oblige Syria to close down its chemical weapons facilities when in fact it was not the Syrian government which used chemical weapons against civilians in the alleged Al-Ghouta attacks on August 21.

Precisely the opposite; it was the US and NATO and Israeli sponsored rebels which are also supported by Qatar, Turkey, Saudi Arabia which staged that attack and then blamed it on the government and we know unequivocally that that event which used fake videos of children killed was there; it was a false flag and its objective was to blame the Syrian government when in fact those crimes were committed and ordered by the United States and its allies.

So the question is where is the threat? The threat does not come from the Syrian government; it comes from the rebels but those rebels in fact are the foot soldiers of the Western military alliance and meanwhile, Israel retains its weapons of mass destruction.

The deal was reached with Russia but, at the same time, there were reports of Russian naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean and the United States was not able and not willing to wage a war, a theater war on Syria, under those circumstances. I think what we also have to understand is that this war is not over; there is a deadlock.

The United States and its allies continue to support the al-Qaeda-affiliated rebels which are involved in the process of destruction of an entire country. There is an impasse at the diplomatic level and in essence, the chemical weapons saga including media reports continues to uphold the Syrian government as a threat which is a lie because who is behind these war crimes? It is the Western military alliance which have supported the rebels in using chemical weapons and that is the issue.

We know that a humanitarian crisis is unfolding; a country has been destroyed; there is an outbreak of polio at least it is reported and then the question is who is responsible for this hideous crime against the Syrian people and the entire nation. It is what I call the self-proclaimed international community.

But we have to redefine the meaning of the international community; they are not the international community. They are rogue conjunction of warmongering states and they are responsible for extensive war crimes against the people of Syria.

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Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has undertaken field research in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on the economies of developing countries with a focus on poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order (2003), America's "War on Terrorism" (2005), The Globalization of War, America's Long War against Humanity (2015). He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at crgeditor@yahoo.com

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