

# Global Geopolitical Rundown: Syria, Armenia, North Korea and Beyond. Mahdi Nazemroaya

Global Research News Hour episode 219

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya](#)  
Global Research, May 06, 2018

Region: [Korea](#), [Middle East & North Africa](#),  
[Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)  
Theme: [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#),  
[Media Disinformation](#), [US NATO War](#)  
[Agenda](#)  
In-depth Report: [NORTH KOREA](#), [SYRIA](#)

*“So the Saudis want to get back at the Iranians by fighting in Lebanon because they don’t like the support that Iran gives to Ansarullah ... in Yemen...They’re called the Houthis.*

*So Iran supports the Houthis, not just the Houthis, also the other political forces which are Sunni Muslim as well... it’s mixed: secular, theocratic, Sunni, Shiite, Daesh... in Yemen are in a fight in a war with Saudi Arabia. And you can see that.*

*Arabians have failed in Yemen, and what it wants to do is, and what the United States is doing and even Israel and Britain, is they are arming Saudi Arabia and they’re pushing Saudi Arabia to create an Arab front against Iran.”*

- Mahdi Nazemroaya (from this week’s interview)

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Some dramatic events have been playing out on the international stage in the first half of 2018.

In Syria, the Syrian Arab Army with the assistance of Russian forces [is succeeding in capturing rebel held areas](#). Yet, at the same time, attempts to develop a mostly Kurdish border force, armed by the U.S. resulted in a [major incursion to the Afrin canton](#) by NATO partner Turkey!

And in the month of April alone, [a supposed chemical weapons attack](#) by Syrian military forces in the town of Douma was followed by [a retaliatory missile strike](#) a week later by the U.S, U.K, and France. Later [Israel launched missile attacks against Iranian-backed militia](#) in Syria. The international community very much divided on whether the U.S. led attacks constitute illegal aggression.

Meanwhile, the Caucasus State of [Armenia has been undergoing tremendous upheaval](#) with the elected **President Sargsyan** stepping down in the face of major demonstrations all over the country, reminiscent of the Maidan in 2013 Ukraine.

And perhaps most famously, [after months of acrimonious rhetoric](#) being exchanged between **U.S. President Trump** and **North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un**, [peace on the Korean peninsula](#) is starting to look like a distinct possibility.

But in a media environment where seeing is not always believing and where appearances can be deceiving, a closer examination of the ambitions of all the regional players is in order.

To distill the interests at stake and the realities behind the official rhetoric, the Global Research News Hour is tapping the expertise of a seasoned geopolitical analyst and friend of the program. **Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya** returns to the program for the first time in over a year to break down these and other developments on the world stage.

***Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya** is an award-winning author and geopolitical analyst, author of [The Globalization of NATO](#) (Clarity Press) and a forthcoming book [The War on Libya and the Re-Colonization of Africa](#). He is a Sociologist and Research Associate at the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), a contributor to the Strategic Culture Foundation (SCF) and a member of the Scientific Committee of Geopolitica, Italy.*

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Fridays at 10am.

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