

## Madaya: West Engineer Another 'Humanitarian' Media Hoax in Syria

By 21st Century Wire and RT Global Research, January 12, 2016 21st Century Wire 11 January 2016 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Media Disinformation</u>, <u>US NATO</u> <u>War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>SYRIA</u>

This last month has seen a tidal wave of western propaganda regarding the "Siege of Madaya" in Syria.

Some of the mainstream media efforts have centered around <u>the use of old or fake photo</u> <u>images of starving children</u> and residents in the small Syrian town of Madaya. The object of this western government-media-human-rights ring is to provide PR backing for 'regime change' in Syria by blaming this humanitarian disaster on Syrian president Bashar al Assad.

Here are just a few exhibits of mainstream deception...

HBO's pseudo 'Indy' media outlet, **VICE News**, was also caught using some of the same cache of fake photos, but quickly <u>erased them from its website</u> after being exposed by diligent independent watchers online.

Similarly, the **BBC** was also <u>caught red-handed trying to pass off old footage</u> from 2014, from Yarmouk, Syria, as being from Madaya.

In addition, Canada's **CBC** also <u>submitted its own entry</u> into what is turning out to be the mainstream media's own contest for *fake news* coming out of Syria.

Finally, **AI Jazeera** also got into the act, <u>tweeting out its own fake photos</u> of 'starving Syrians' in order to help pile global condemnation on the Damascus government.

Why are these major media outlets engaged in such blatant propaganda?



The image of this starving young girl went viral, only it was taken in Amman, Jordan in 2014, belonging to a Syrian refugee covered in an al-Arabiya news channel report, then referred to as "Syria's Mona Liza."

Below is one excellent and extremely *accurate* report filed by RT, which clearly exposes the fraudulent narrative being plied by mainstream outlets like CNN, the BBC, Al Jazeera and others, deriving some of their fabricated images and heavily-spun 'reports' from organisations like the <u>Syrian Network For Human Rights</u> (SN4HR), and other western 'activist' front groups.

See the full stunning report here:

On its website, <u>SN4HR</u>, posts a twisted version of events, claiming that the Syrian government is responsible for 'mass-starvation'. This is another example of made-to-order propaganda, designed to bolster US State Department and British Foreign Office calls for 'regime change' in Damascus:

"Syrian government forces (army, security forces, local and foreign militias) use hunger as a weapon of war for years in regions under the control of armed opposition. This systemized weapon of human destruction had its impact on the Syrian society, whereas the latest victim of siege and hunger has been Madaya town in Damascus suburbs. Madaya town is located in Damascus suburbs and has been under siege since the end of 2013."

The clear spin shown here by SN4HR collapses when confronted with actual reports on the ground which clearly show that "rebel" and terrorist fighting groups have not only seized international food deliveries, but have also been selling items at inflated prices to trapped residents. RT also documented on camera in the interview segment (above), how **al Nusra** "rebels" terrorists threatened to shoot them if residents tried to flee the town of Madaya.



The SN4HR website has no information on who funds the group, and its website ownership information is <u>hidden from public view</u> but shows that it is hosted in the US. The organisation identifies itself as an outgrowth of "the revolution in Syria" (clearly a partisan organization, see at the very bottom of their <u>home page</u>) claims to be <u>'a trusted source'</u> that supplies information about the Syria Conflict to all leading human rights organisations, charities and government departments including the UN, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and even the US State Department. "The network's database and archives are considered as a reliable source and reference for international and local media outlets, and international organizations and agencies working in the field of human rights."

Note that when readers go to visit the **Syrian Network For Human Rights** (<u>sn4hr.org</u>), they will see at bottom right of the their home page a statement which shows they are a "coalition" member of ICR2P (<u>responsibilitytoprotect.org</u>), part of a larger web of westernbacked "soft power" front organisations, based out of New York City:

International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect c/o World Federalist Movement Institute for Global Policy 708 Third Avenue, Suite 1715 New York, NY 10017

The <u>ICRtoP</u> website states that their mission:

"brings together NGOs from all regions of the world to strengthen normative consensus for RtoP, further the understanding of the norm, push for strengthened capacities to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and mobilize NGOs to push for action to save lives in RtoP country-specific situations."

What we are seeing here is a covert attempt by the US and its allies to cloak their 'regime change' and geopolitical hegemony goals and objects underneath a public relations veil of '*humanitarianism*' through an intricate web of human rights and 'progressive' organisations. According to <u>Sourcewatch</u>: "The Responsibility to Protect-Engaging Civil Society (R2PCS)

project is housed at the <u>Institute for Global Policy</u> (IGP) in New York. IGP is associated with the <u>World Federalist Movement</u> (WFM)." Funding for ICRtoP is delivered by a number of dubious soft power sources including the <u>International Crisis Group</u>, who in turn is financed by George Soros and the Open Society Institute, the Ford Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Syrian Conflict (not a 'civil war' as characterized by western leaders) has become one of the great receptacles for soft power propaganda this century.

What's been shown in this article is <u>the small tip of a much larger iceberg of lies and</u> <u>fabrications</u> which western mainstream media organisations have been manufacturing to help sell their plans for "change" in Syria since 2011.

Just look at what they've done to Syria – and the region so far, and Washington still has the nerve to try and blame it on *the Syrians*.

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