

NATO at 75. A Diamond Anniversary of Security by Fair Means or Foul

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*"The aim of all is but to nurse the life
With honour, wealth, and ease, in waning age;
And in this aim there is such thwarting strife,
That one for all, or all for one we gage;
As life for honour in fell battle's rage;
Honour for wealth; and oft that wealth doth cost
The death of all, and all together lost."*

- **William Shakespeare**, from the poem The Rape of Lucrece [1]

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Seventy-five years ago, major states in Europe and North America forged a global military alliance known as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).[2]

This alliance was conceived, according to its stated purpose, "to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means. Collective defence is at the heart of the Alliance and creates a spirit of solidarity and cohesion among its members." [3]

Awesome! However, its applied operations in the last 25 years - namely the military incursions in Yugoslavia (1999), Afghanistan (2001-2021), and Libya (2011) - on reflection,

seemed to do little to address the personal freedoms and securities of the big boys on the global stage. It wasn't exactly helpful to the unfortunate souls on the ground of their righteous rage for justice.[4][5][6]

Most recently, NATO has driven Russia to a military incursion in Ukraine and fight for more than a year, where the Ukrainians fight and die, and NATO's grand service has been to keep supplying them with more arms, which it looks now that they only use to keep the war going on a little longer.[7]

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the former Soviet Union made it clear that they were not comfortable having the countries between Germany and Russia joining NATO. In that time frame, NATO, absorbing a number of Central and Eastern European countries, and consequently doubling the number of its members.[8][9]

We are currently in a situation unmatched since the days of the Cuban Missile Crisis, with the threat of a nuclear exchange being plotted as the final desperate act before admitting defeat. A move that would be fatal for all living beings.[10]

On this hour of the Global Research News Hour, we take a reflective look on NATO's 48th anniversary, what the United States led organization is really all about, and why we would all be well-advised to pursue a new, different and cheaper approach to ailing our fears.

In our first half hour, we talk with activist, author, and Canadian foreign policy critic **Yves Engler**. He explains NATO's true background, and why Canada should leave it. In our second half hour, journalist **Rick Rozoff** takes a larger look at NATO and where it is headed. Finally, we hear from peace activist **Ajamu Baraka** about what is threatening about NATO from a Black Radical Perspective.

***Yves Engler** is one of Canada's foremost Canadian foreign policy critics and dissidents. He is the author of ten books on Canadian foreign policy including [Canada's Long Fight Against Democracy \(with Owen Schalk\)](#) (2024) and [Stand on Guard for Whom?: A People's History of the Canadian Military](#) (2021). His articles have appeared at [globalresearch.ca](#), [rabble.ca](#), [canadiandimension.com](#), and on his own site [yvesengler.com](#).*

***Rick Rozoff**, renowned author and geopolitical analyst, actively involved in opposing war, militarism and interventionism for over fifty years. He manages the [Anti-Bellum and For peace, against war website](#). He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization*

***Ajamu Baraka** is Chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the Black Alliance for Peace and an editor and contributing columnist for the Black Agenda Report. Baraka serves on the Executive Committee of the U.S. Peace Council and leadership body of the U.S. based United National Anti-War Coalition (UNAC) and the Steering Committee of the Black is Back Coalition.*

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Notes:

1. <https://shakespeare.mit.edu/Poetry/RapeOfLucrece.html>
2. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_224204.htm
3. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_68144.htm
4. <https://www.globalresearch.ca/the-war-on-yugoslavia-25-years-later-natos-blueprint-for-the-conflicts-of-the-twenty-first-century/5852815>
5. <https://www.globalresearch.ca/anniversary-of-usnato-invasion-of-afghanistan-graveyard-of-empires-birthplace-of-opium-tragedy/5836202>
6. <https://www.globalresearch.ca/the-us-hand-in-libyas-tragedy/5444887>
7. <https://www.globalresearch.ca/kiev-rift-neighbors-widens-continues-flooding-eu-cheap-grain/5852181>
8. <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/russia-programs/2017-12-12/nato-expansion-what-gorbachev-heard-western-leaders-early>
9. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_52044.htm
10. <https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/2022/are-we-closer-to-nuclear-armageddon-than-any-time-since-1962-as-biden-suggested/>

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