

Obama's Threat to Launch a Nuclear Attack on Iran

By [Prof Rodrigue Tremblay](#)

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"This confrontation [between the forces of the Apocalypse and Israel] is willed by God, who wants to use this conflict to erase his people's enemies before a New Age begins". U.S. President George W. Bush (in a 2003 conversation with French President Jacques Chirac)

"Preventive war was an invention of [Adolf] Hitler. Frankly, I would not even listen to anyone seriously that came and talked about such a thing." [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#)

"We don't desire any nuclear proliferation in our region, and our policy is well known regardless of which country has such programs. For us it doesn't matter whether it is Israel or Iran. I will call on the international community, which is so sensitive toward Iran, to pay attention to Israel, too." Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkey's Prime Minister

"Nothing in this Treaty shall be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of all the Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination."

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

By now, most everybody knows that the (2003-) Bush-Cheney Iraq War was based on fiction [<http://news.antiwar.com/2009/08/10/elbaradei-regrets-not-doing-more-to-stop-iraq-war/>] and on deception [http://www.buzzflash.com/contributors/03/07/22_lies.html]. There was no such thing as "weapons of mass destruction" in Iraq, the rationale for an illegal attack against that country. And Bush II and his accomplices knew that.

But incredibly, just as the Bush-Cheney administration did in order to launch a war against Iraq in 2003 by (falsely) alleging that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, the Obama-Biden administration, in 2010, is arguing for unilateral sanctions against Iran and even beating the drums of war against Iran, alleging that its program to enrich uranium and operate nuclear power plants is posing an existential threat to Israel, to Europe and to the United States.

Besides being a blatant exaggeration, this is nevertheless most dangerous. Indeed, such an eventual military attack—which, by the way, would be illegal under international law—would also have dire economic consequences, because it would almost certainly result in the closing of the narrow Strait of Hormuz. Should we be reminded that it is through this strait that roughly 40 percent of all world traded oil transits out of the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea. Its closing would push the international oil price to unheard of levels.

Therefore, if the [pro-Israel lobby](#) and the pro-war neocon press

[<http://news.antiwar.com/2010/04/29/neocon-press-slams-obama-as-trying-to-soften-iran-sanctions/>] were to succeed in 2010-11 in triggering a hot war against Iran, as they did in 2002-03 against Iraq, this could easily turn the current festering financial crisis into a full-fledged worldwide economic depression. Believe me, the last thing the world economy needs now is an oil-shock that would derail the present feeble economic recovery.

But the most disconcerting of all is no doubt the implicit threat recently made by President Barack Obama, on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, to launch a nuclear attack [<http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=18620>] against Iran and North Korea if these countries refuse to toe Washington's line. That sort of loose language is most dangerous because it may serve to trivialize the military use of nuclear weapons, a disaster that the world must avoid. The round of pronouncements demonizing Iran and the incessant calls for sanctions [<http://www.nationalinterest.org/Article.aspx?id=23134>] against a sovereign country by other U.S. politicians is also most unproductive, even though that may make for good domestic politics.

This is of course in addition to the use of unmanned drones to drop bombs on civilians in Pakistan and other American death squad activities [<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article25346.htm>] in Afghanistan that the Obama administration has intensified since gaining power. There seems to be a pattern here: No law or moral decency seem to be taken into consideration when such decisions, most likely illegal, [<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article25344.htm>] are taken, no matter who is in power in Washington D.C.

It is true that Iran's domestic politics is not without reproach. This is a country that is run by a mixture of democratic and theocratic rules. However, compared to fundamentalist Islamic Saudi Arabia, Iran is somewhat more democratic and less oppressive of women, even though it does not satisfy all the Western criteria to be a true democratic state. But we don't declare war on a country because we don't like its domestic politics. That's not what the U.N. Charter [<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>] or the Nuremberg Charter, [<http://home.earthlink.net/~platter/nuremberg/charter.html>] says.

Logic would have it that all the nuclear countries in that part of the world (Israel, Pakistan, India,) sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), [<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=124679§ionid=351020502>] just as Iran has done, because an accidental, or worse, an intentional or provoked, use of nuclear weapons is the greatest threat to the region and to the world. In the long-run, however, the world needs a new and expanded nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) to prevent nuclear war but, at the same time, to make sure that no country is denied access to nuclear energy that can enhance its economic development. Every country in the world has a right to enrich uranium and operate nuclear power plants.

Rodrigue Tremblay <http://www.thenewamericanempire.com/author.htm> is professor emeritus of economics at the University of Montreal and can be reached at rodrigue.tremblay@yahoo.com.

He is the author of the book "The Code for Global Ethics" at: <http://www.TheCodeForGlobalEthics.com/>

The book "The Code for Global Ethics, Ten Humanist Principles", by Dr. Rodrigue Tremblay, prefaced by Dr. Paul Kurtz, has just been released by Prometheus Books. Please visit the book site at: <http://www.TheCodeForGlobalEthics.com/>

The French version of the book is also now available. See: <http://www.lecodepouruneethiqueglobale.com/>

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