

Don't Expect a Radical Response from Russia to the US' Involvement in Ukraine's Invasion of Kursk.

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Putin has proven to have the patience of a saint by refusing to escalate in response to the slew of provocations that have been carried out against his country since the special operation began.

Russia's foreign spy agency SVR [revealed](#) that

“the Ukrainian Armed Forces' operation in the Kursk region was prepared with the participation of the special services of the USA, Great Britain and Poland. The units involved in it underwent combat coordination in training centers in Great Britain and Germany. Military advisers from NATO countries provide assistance in managing the UAF units that have invaded Russian territory and in the use of Western types of weapons and military equipment by Ukrainians.”

They ended their statement to popular newspaper Izvestia by adding that

“The alliance countries also provide the Ukrainian military with satellite intelligence data on the deployment of Russian troops in the area of the operation.”

This coincided with the Russian Foreign Ministry summoning the US charges d'affaires to [protest](#) American journalists' illegal crossing of their border for propaganda purposes in support of this invasion as well as the military role therein played by at least one American PMC.

Commander of the Akhmat Special Forces from Russia's Chechen Republic **Apty Alaudinov** accused the invaders of carrying out a [spree of war crimes](#) as part of Zelensky's [stated goals](#) of carving out a “buffer zone” and bolstering Ukraine's “exchange fund” for future prisoner swaps. Belarusian **President Alexander Lukashenko** had earlier warned in an interview with leading Russian media that Ukraine might actually want Russia to use nuclear weapons, the possible rationale of which was explained [here](#).

What all of these details show is that what's happening in [Kursk](#) is a real NATO-backed Ukrainian invasion of universally recognized Russian territory, not some “5D chess master plan” by Russia to encircle the Ukrainians in a “cauldron” like some in the [Alt-Media Community](#) (AMC) have [speculated](#). The US can [play dumb](#) about this all it wants, but Russia is convinced that it orchestrated this unprecedented provocation, thus raising questions about how it'll respond.

A lot of AMC folks on social media demand something radical like Russia striking targets in NATO and/or having Wagner carry out cross-border incursions against its frontline members from Belarus, but neither are likely to materialize. Regardless of whatever one's personal opinion might be about his approach, Putin has proven to have the patience of a saint by refusing to escalate in response to the slew of provocations that have been carried out against his country since the [special operation](#) began.

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This includes Ukraine's [bombings](#) of the Crimean Bridge, its [destruction](#) of the Kakhovka Dam which risks turning Crimea [into a desert](#), the assassination of journalists like [Darya Dugina](#), incessant attacks [against civilians](#) in Russia's new regions, the bombing of its [strategic airbases](#) and [early warning systems](#), [involvement](#) in the [Crocus terrorist attack](#), and even [attacking the Kremlin](#). All of these provocations and more were carried out with American assistance, yet Russia hasn't radically responded to any of them.

The most that it's done is carry out strikes against Ukraine's energy infrastructure in an attempt to impede its military operations as well as recently carve out a [tiny buffer zone](#) in Kharkov Region, but it won't bomb bridges across the Dnieper nor political targets like the Rada. Time and again, Russia consistently refuses to escalate, only doing the bare minimum of what its most zealous supporters in the AMC demand when it finally decides to do something out of the ordinary.

The reason for this (some would say too) cautious approach is Putin's fear of inadvertently triggering World War III, which he's afraid might become inevitable if Russia radically responds to its foes' provocations due to the fast-moving sequence of events that it could lead to. To be clear, Russia has the right to respond in such a way, but it's voluntarily eschewing that right for the aforementioned reasons that it considers to be for the "greater global good".

Accordingly, it's highly unlikely that Putin will finally throw his [characteristic caution](#) to the wind by deliberately risking World War III (or at least that's how he'd see everything as being) by opting for a radical response to his government's conclusion that the US is involved in Ukraine's invasion of Kursk. The only plausible scenarios in which he'd change his calculations would be if there was a nuclear provocation, a high-level assassination, or a

terrorist attack even worse than the recent Crocus one.

Recalling what was written earlier about how Lukashenko warned that Ukraine might actually want Russia to use nukes, none of these scenarios and whatever other ones might cross Putin's non-negotiable red lines (which the previously enumerated provocations didn't do) can be ruled out. They'd also likely be used in the far-fetched event of a Russian military collapse along its western border, or Belarus' collapse along its own with NATO or Ukraine, and subsequent large-scale invasion.

From Russia's perspective, Ukraine's invasion of Kursk remains manageable despite the US' involvement in this unprecedented provocation, thus meaning that Putin probably won't resort to the radical response that many in the AMC have been fantasizing about. If he finally decided to let loose, however, then he might only ramp up the intensity of the special operation in Ukraine instead of attacking NATO and thus risking the outbreak of World War III that he's worked so hard to avoid thus far.

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