

# The 9/11 Attacks, Pretext to Wage War on Afghanistan. 12 Years of Illegal Occupation

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

Global Research, October 08, 2013

[RT and GRTV](#)

*This video was first published on October 7, 2011 in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the illegal occupation*

*The decade-long war waged by the US and its allies in Afghanistan does not seem to be coming to an end. With tremendous civilian casualties and a ruined economy and institutions, the justification for the war seems to be dubious and ill-considered.*

*The war against Afghanistan was an act of illegal aggression by the United States and NATO despite its being presented as a response to 9/11, believes Michel Chossudovsky, editor at the Centre for Research on Globalization.*

The decade-long war waged by the US and its allies in Afghanistan does not seem to be coming to an end. With tremendous civilian casualties and a ruined economy and institutions, the justification for the war seems to be dubious and ill-considered.

The war against Afghanistan was an act of illegal aggression by the United States and NATO despite its being presented as a response to 9/11, believes Michel Chossudovsky, director of the Centre for Research on Globalization.

However, "Afghanistan as a country was not behind the attack," he underlines.

The legacy of the war which started in 2001 is a wrecked economy and institutions, lack of public health and mass unemployment, he adds. Chossudovsky doubts that it is possible to plan a large-scale war in Central Asia in just four weeks.

"The war on Afghanistan was on the drawing board of the Pentagon. It was in advanced stages of planning before 9/11," he claims.

"And 9/11 provided the pretext and justification for waging a war on a sovereign country, an impoverished country in Central Asia," he says, labeling it as a fabricated pretext.

"This war still stands out as violation of international law and a crime against humanity," he claims.

On the eve of the 10th anniversary of the invasion of Afghanistan, General Stanley McChrystal, former commander of coalition forces in Afghanistan, has harshly criticized the US campaign in Afghanistan, claiming that allied forces are only "50 per cent of the way"

towards achieving their goals.

The retired general said, "We didn't know enough and we still don't know enough. Most of us, me included, had a very superficial understanding of the situation and history, and we had a frighteningly simplistic view of recent history, the last 50 years."

According to Michel Chossudovsky, "the statement by General McChrystal is a cynical statement." He notes that it somehow suggests that this is a humanitarian operation to come to the rescue of the people of Afghanistan, while all the evidence demonstrates quite the opposite.

The original source of this article is [RT and GRTV](#)

Copyright © [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#), [RT and GRTV](#), 2013

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

#### About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has taught as visiting professor in Western Europe, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. He has served as economic adviser to governments of developing countries and has acted as a consultant for several international organizations. He is the author of 13 books. He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at [crgeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:crgeditor@yahoo.com)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)