

# The Globalization of War

By Prof Michel Chossudovsky

Global Research, October 13, 2014

Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

The world is at the crossroads of the most serious crisis in modern history. The U.S. and its NATO allies have embarked on a military adventure, "a long war", which threatens the future of humanity. This "war without borders" is intimately related to a worldwide process of economic restructuring, which has been conducive to the collapse of national economies and the impoverishment of large sectors of the World population.

The U.S. weapons producers are the recipients of U.S. Department of Defense multibillion dollar procurement contracts for advanced weapons systems. In turn, "The Battle for Oil" in the Middle East and Central Asia directly serves the interests of the Anglo-American oil giants. The U.S. and its allies are "Beating the Drums of War" at the height of a worldwide economic depression.

The military deployment of US-NATO forces coupled with "non-conventional warfare" –including covert intelligence operations, economic sanctions and the thrust of "regime change" – is occurring simultaneously in several regions of the world.

Central to an understanding of war, is the media campaign which grants it legitimacy in the eyes of public opinion. War has been provided with a humanitarian mandate under NATO's "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P). The victims of U.S. led wars are presented as the perpetrators of war. Civilians in Ukraine, Syria and Iraq are responsible for their own deaths.

Meanwhile, the Commander in Chief of the largest military force on planet earth is presented as a global peace-maker. The granting of the Nobel "peace prize" in 2009 to President Barack Obama has become an integral part of the Pentagon's propaganda machine. It provides a human face to the invaders, it demonizes those who oppose US military intervention.

The Nobel Committee says that President Obama has given the world "hope for a better future". The prize is awarded for Obama's "extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples. The Committee has attached special importance to Obama's vision of and work for a world without nuclear weapons."

...His diplomacy is founded in the concept that those who are to lead the world must do so on the basis of values and attitudes that are shared by the majority of the world's population. 1 (<u>The Nobel Peace Prize for 2009: Barack H. Obama, Press Release</u>, October 9, 2009)

Realities are turned upside down. "War is Peace" said George Orwell. The media in chorus upholds war as a humanitarian endeavor. "Wars make us safer and richer" says the

## Washington Post.

The Big Lie becomes The Truth. In turn, upholding The Truth -through careful documentation and investigative analysis of the horrors of U.S. led wars- is casually categorized as "conspiracy theory".

While Washington wages a "Global War on Terrorism" (GWOT), those who forcefully oppose America's wars of aggression are branded as terrorists. War becomes peace, a worthwhile "humanitarian undertaking". Peaceful dissent becomes heresy.

With unfolding events in Ukraine and the Middle East, humanity is at a dangerous crossroads. At no time since the Cuban Missile Crisis has the World been closer to the unthinkable: a World War III scenario, a global military conflict involving the use of nuclear weapons.

The killing machine is deployed at a global level, within the framework of the unified combat command structure. It is routinely upheld by the institutions of government, the corporate media and the mandarins and intellectuals of The New World Order in Washington's think tanks and strategic studies research institutes, as an unquestioned instrument of peace and global prosperity.

A culture of killing and violence has become imbedded in human consciousness.

War is broadly accepted as part of a societal process: The Homeland needs to be "defended" and protected.

"Legitimized violence" and extrajudicial killings directed against "terrorists" are upheld in western democracies, as necessary instruments of national security.

A "humanitarian war" is upheld by the so-called international community. It is not condemned as a criminal act. Its main architects are rewarded for their contribution to world peace.

Nuclear weapons are heralded by the US government as instruments of peace. The preemptive use of nuclear weapons is categorized as an act of "self-defense" which contributes to an illusive concept of "global security". (see Chapter II).

The so-called "missile defense shield" or "Star Wars" initiative involving the first strike use of nuclear weapons has been developed globally in different regions of the world. The missile shield is largely directed against Russia, China, Iran and North Korea.

Meanwhile, in the context of unfolding events in Syria and Ukraine, there has been a breakdown of international diplomacy. Whereas a Neo-Nazi regime directly supported by the West has been installed in Kiev, the Russian Federation is now threatened by US-NATO with military action on its Western frontier. (See Chapter IX).

#### New Cold War?

While this renewed East-West confrontation has mistakenly been labelled a "New Cold War", none of the safeguards of The Cold War era prevail. Russia has been excluded from the Group of Eight (G-8), which has reverted to the G-7 (Group of Seven Nations). Diplomacy has collapsed. There is no Cold War East-West dialogue between competing superpowers geared

towards avoiding military confrontation. In turn, the United Nations Security Council has become a de facto mouthpiece of the U.S. State Department.

Moreover, nuclear weapons are no longer considered a "weapon of last resort" under The Cold War doctrine of "Mutual Assured Destruction" (MAD). Nuclear weapons are heralded by the Pentagon as "harmless to the surrounding civilian population because the explosion is underground". In 2002, the U.S. Senate gave the green light for the use of nuclear weapons in the conventional war theater. Nukes are part of the "military toolbox" to be used alongside conventional weapons.

The "Communist threat" of The Cold War era has been replaced by the worldwide threat of "Islamic terrorism". Whereas Russia and China have become capitalist "free market" economies, a first strike pre-emptive nuclear attack is nonetheless contemplated.

China and Russia are no longer considered to be "a threat to capitalism". Quite the opposite. What is at stake is economic and financial rivalry between competing capitalist powers. The China-Russia alliance under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) constitutes a "competing capitalist block" which undermines U.S. economic hegemony.

In Asia, the U.S. has contributed under its "Pivot to Asia" to encouraging its Asia-Pacific allies including Japan, Australia, South Korea, The Philippines and Vietnam to threaten and isolate China as part of a process of "military encirclement" of China, which gained impetus in the late 1990s.

Meanwhile, war propaganda has become increasingly pervasive. War is upheld as a peace-making operation.

When war becomes peace, the world is turned upside down. Conceptualization is no longer possible. An inquisitorial social system emerges. (See Chapter X). The consensus is to wage war. People can longer think for themselves. They accept the authority and wisdom of the established social order.

An understanding of fundamental social and political events is replaced by a World of sheer fantasy, where "evil folks" are lurking. The objective of the "Global War on Terrorism" narrative –which has been fully endorsed by the US administration– has been to galvanize public support for a worldwide campaign against heresy.

### **Global Warfare**

The Pentagon's global military design is one of world conquest. The military deployment of US-NATO forces is occurring in several regions of the world simultaneously.

The concept of the "Long War" has characterized US military doctrine since the end of World War II. Worldwide militarization is part of a global economic agenda.

Militarization at the global level is instrumented through the U.S. military's Unified Command structure: the entire planet is divided up into geographic Combatant Commands under the control of the Pentagon. U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) Headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska plays a central role in coordinating military operations.

While surrounding and confronting Russia and China, new U.S. military bases have been set up with a view to establishing U.S. spheres of influence in every region of the World. There has been a reinforcement of the **six geographic commands** including the creation in 2008 of **United States Africa Command (AFRICOM).** 

As heralded by the Pentagon, AFRICOM becomes a "full-spectrum combatant command" responsible for what are described as "defense" and U.S. "national security" operations "through focused, sustained engagement with partners in support of our shared security objectives". AFRICOM's area of jurisdiction extends to the entire "African continent, its island nations, and surrounding waters". 2 US Africa Command, "What We Do",

This US militarization of Africa supports the concurrent economic conquest of the continent, the pillage of its natural resources, the acquisition of its extensive oil and gas reserves, etc.

AFRICOM is an instrument of a U.S. led neocolonial project in alliance with the United Kingdom which consists in expanding the Anglo-American sphere of influence specifically in Central Africa, Francophone West Africa and North Africa largely at the expense of France.

While the US has military bases and/or facilities in more than 150 countries, with 160,000 active-duty personnel, the construction of new military bases is envisaged in Latin America including Colombia on the immediate border of Venezuela.

Military aid to Israel has increased. The Obama presidency has expressed its unbending support for Israel and the Israeli military, which is slated to play a key role in US-NATO led wars in the Middle East. The unspoken agenda is outright elimination of Palestine and the instatement of "Greater Israel".

Michel Chossudovsky, **The Globalization of War. America's Long War against Humanity**, excerpt from forthcoming book, Global Research Publishers, 2014. Expected date of publication November-December 2014.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <a href="Prof Michel Chossudovsky">Prof Michel Chossudovsky</a>, Global Research, 2014

## **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 undertaken field research in
Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan
Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on
the economies of developing countries with a focus on
poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken

research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order (2003), America's "War on Terrorism" (2005), The Globalization of War, America's Long War against Humanity (2015). 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

**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: <a href="mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca">publications@globalresearch.ca</a>

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: <a href="mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca">publications@globalresearch.ca</a>