

## The Riyadh Declaration of Escalated Regional Wars, A Statement of Mass Deception

By Stephen Lendman

Global Research, May 23, 2017

Region: Middle East & North Africa
Theme: Terrorism, US NATO War Agenda
In-depth Report: IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?,

**SYRIA** 

On the phony pretext of combating ISIS, America and its regional allies support, a so-called Riyadh Declaration was agreed to by 55 Muslim countries in the Saudi capital on Sunday.

Claiming it's "to combat terrorism in all its forms, address its intellectual roots, dry up its sources of funding, and take all necessary measures to prevent and combat terrorist crimes in close cooperation among their states" is a statement of mass deception.

Saudi Arabia, Israel and America's regional presence constitute the epicenter of regional and global state terrorism – supporting its scourge, not combating it.

The Saudi Press Agency, saying

"a global center for countering extremist thought...combating intellectual, media and digital extremism, and promoting coexistence and tolerance among peoples" based in Riyadh would be laughable if the threat posed by Washington, the Saudis and other regional roque states wasn't so grave.

Riyadh Declaration signatory countries committed to provide "a reserve force of 34,000 troops" – not "to support operations against terrorist organizations in Irag and Syria when needed," as claimed.

They'll partner with Washington's destructive imperial agenda, a plot to eliminate Syrian and Iranian sovereignty, assuring endless Middle East wars.

Iran was especially singled out, the document saying signatories "confirmed their absolute rejection of the practices of the Iranian regime designed to destabilize the security and stability of the region and the world at large and for its continuing support for terrorism and extremism" – polar opposite Tehran's agenda.

It's targeted for its sovereign independence, a nation America doesn't control, a Saudi rival. Imperial plans call for regime change.

On Sunday, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif tweeted

"Iran – fresh from real elections – attacked by @POTUS in that bastion of democracy & moderation (Saudi Arabia). Foreign Policy or simply milking KSA of \$480 billion?"

Separately in a London-based al-Araby al-Jadeed news network op-ed, Zarif said

Trump "must enter into dialogue with (the Saudis) about ways to prevent terrorists and Takfiris from continuing to fuel the fire in the region and repeating the likes of the September 11 incident by their sponsors in Western countries."

"(T)he Iranophobia project (was) initiated and promoted by the Zionist regime for years...Iran (seeks) stability in the entire region because it knows that achieving security at home at the expense of insecurity among neighbors is basically impossible."

Sadly as Zarif knows, US and Saudi policies foster terrorism, using ISIS and like-minded groups to further their imperial agendas.

Trump's Sunday Muslim world address was an exercise in deception – exposed by longstanding US policies, its endless wars of aggression, and announced deal to sell Riyadh hundreds of billions of dollars worth of powerful weapons over the next decade, entirely for offense, not defense.

Washington's goal isn't "stamping out (terrorist) extremism," as Trump claimed, it's supporting and encouraging it to further US aims for unchallenged global dominance.

The Riyadh Declaration is part of the scheme to pursue this objective, polar opposite what its signatories claim.

**Stephen Lendman** lives in Chicago. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net">lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</a>.

His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html

Visit his blog site at <u>sjlendman.blogspot.com</u>.

Featured image: thebaghdadpost.com

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © Stephen Lendman, Global Research, 2017

## **Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page**

## **Become a Member of Global Research**

Articles by: **Stephen** 

<u>Lendman</u>

## About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as

editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cuttingedge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**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>