

The U.S. Has No Legal Standing in Its Involvement in the War on Yemen

By [Patrick Henningsen](#)

Global Research, April 04, 2017

[21st Century Wire](#) 3 April 2017

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#),
[Terrorism](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

Yemen is proving what should be clear by now: President Trump may never make good on his bold campaign promise of less senseless wars overseas. Watch as Trump defers to 'the Generals' to double-down on a bad Obama bet.

This week, [we learned](#) that the US Department of Defense, led by General James Mattis, would like to *increase* its support for Saudi Arabia and its Gulf accomplices, in their effort to continue to further destabilize and bomb Yemen, followed by the installation by force of a US and Saudi-friendly regime in that country.

Following over 2 years of hostilities against Yemen, Mattis has also decided to ask Congress for help in drafting some sort of authorization to give the US some legal standing in its continual involvement with this war. Mattis is erroneously bundling the issue of Yemen into both Syria and Iraq, claiming that this is somehow part of the "[the fight against ISIS](#)".

What is it about Yemen that makes it such a gaping blind spot for members of the US government, its diplomatic corps and the US mainstream media?

Fact: On its face, the joint Saudi-US War on Yemen is illegal under both US and International Law (see US legal analysis below).

With that in mind, shouldn't every person in the US, from the Obama Administration forward and including the Department of Defense, the Pentagon, the CIA and so on, who has been involved in prosecuting this illegal, undeclared war of aggression – be indicted and charged with high crimes?

Is the United States not a *nation of laws*, as so many politicians and pundits proudly proclaim to their public over the airwaves each and every day? Are we really a nation of laws?

Or is Washington DC merely a nation of self-inflated, self-reverential hypocrites?

"In a nutshell the Saudis, Emiratis and the USA are inflicting a war of genocide against the Houthis," – (University of Illinois Professor of International Law, Francis Boyle)

So what is the Trump Administration's solution to this collapsing situation? Of course, *more sanctions*.

Because this war was initiated under President Obama, left-leaning and liberal media outlets and Democratic Party operators were bound to an unofficial regime of silence on the issue of Yemen – hence, almost zero media coverage or commentary throughout 2015-2016. It was sufficient to focus only on Syria, and even then to streamline all mainstream media talking points with foreign policy directives from US State Department. With Syria, just look at the media coverage over the last 6 years and overlay it with the US State Department and British Foreign Office narratives. Totally seamless.

For the US political right-wing and the Pentagon-oriented news outlets like CNN, the War on Yemen was simply reduced down to a binary argument, blaming the entire affair on Iran, claiming that the “Iranian-backed Houthis” were the primary antagonists. By framing it in the Iran-centric geopolitical context – and not the true context of US-Saudi aggression and a battle to control some of the regions most lucrative [untapped oil and gas reserves](#) – it served to somehow justify the organized, international crime which has been taking place. CNN’s Wolf Blitzer was always careful to inject the correct qualifier (as he always does) of “Iranian-backed Houthis” when covering Yemen. By framing it as an Iranian plot, US neoconservatives also reinforced the operation as “good for Israel,” which by extension means its in US national interest by virtue of the neoconservatives doctrine.

Since the War on Yemen began in March 2015, rather than reporting on the carnage and pressuring the US government to recuse itself from its daily military role backing of Saudi Arabia, the mainstream media foreign policy gatekeepers and CFR members like CNN’s Fareed Zakaria have instead opted to ignore the conflict as much as possible, opting instead to continue pushing more *fake news* and [extravagant lies spun regarding Aleppo](#) along with other aspects of the other illegal US operation [arming international terrorists in Syria](#).

Members of the media should be ashamed of themselves, but that assuming the word shame still exists in their lexicon. By now, it should be clear that they simply do not care.



Yemeni resident in Taiz, who lost everything after another Saudi airstrike.

While the establishment and auxiliary CFR public relations mascots like George Clooney have been crusading for the International Criminal Court (ICC) to ‘take urgent action’

against 'the bad guys' in places like South Sudan ([a CIA project](#) from the onset) and fawning over [the US-UK government joint project and pseudo-NGO fraud](#) known as the *White Helmets* in Syria, the United States government and its partners Saudi Arabia, [the UAE](#), Bahrain and of the course the United Kingdom - have been allowed to get away with one of the most obvious and egregious, mass violations of international law and collective murder in modern history.

In short, all the establishment and Deep State players; in Washington, the UNHRC ([bought-off by Saudi Arabia](#)), the mainstream media, Hollywood, and across the billion dollar think-tank industrial complex - have all colluded through their collective inaction and media censorship - in perpetrating an long-running and obvious international crime against humanity in Yemen. Add to this, holding in contempt the concept of the modern nation-state as it pertains to Yemen, by colluding in a violent, neocolonial fashion with the express intent to deny the Yemeni people their right to sovereignty.

"To compare Saudi Arabia's belligerent actions in Yemen to Nazi Germany's undeclared wars of aggression prior to WWII is no exaggeration. In fact, one could make the argument that this Saudi-US joint venture is much worse, and a far more dangerous precedent. Likewise, the failure of a corrupt UN (who effectively sold Saudi Arabia its seat as the head of the UN Human Rights Council), led by an impotent Secretary General in Ban-ki Moon, to censure Saudi Arabia for its flagrant violation of international law, the Nuremberg Principles and the entire Geneva Convention content and implied framework - leaves the UN in the exact same position as the League of Nations in 1938. This is most certainly the case on paper, and with each passing moment we are nudging ever closer to geopolitical déjà vu." ([Vanessa Beeley](#), 21WIRE, Oct 13, 2016)

The original source of this article is [21st Century Wire](#)
Copyright © [Patrick Henningsen](#), [21st Century Wire](#), 2017

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

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Patrick Henningsen](#)

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

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