

Wall Street Vs. Kremlin: Who Really Controls the White House?

By blaming Russia for America's most abhorrent problems and most unforgivable policies, Wall Street is given another 4-8 year free pass.

By [Tony Cartalucci](#)

Global Research, October 02, 2017

Region: [Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#), [Media Disinformation](#),
[Militarization and WMD](#)

Perhaps the only thing more incredible than quickly expanding conspiracy theories regarding the Kremlin's influence over the White House is who is selling them and who is buying them.

Organizations popping up overnight with advisory boards lined with Neo-Conservatives who came to prominence during the administration of former US **President George Bush** and who became notorious for selling the 2003 US invasion of Iraq based on intentional fabrications, now find themselves building an audience of unlikely political allies - left-leaning liberals.

Who is Selling?

The so-called "Alliance for Securing Democracy" recently accused Russia of manipulating news to target the US-based National Football League (NFL). It claims [in its mission statement](#) that:

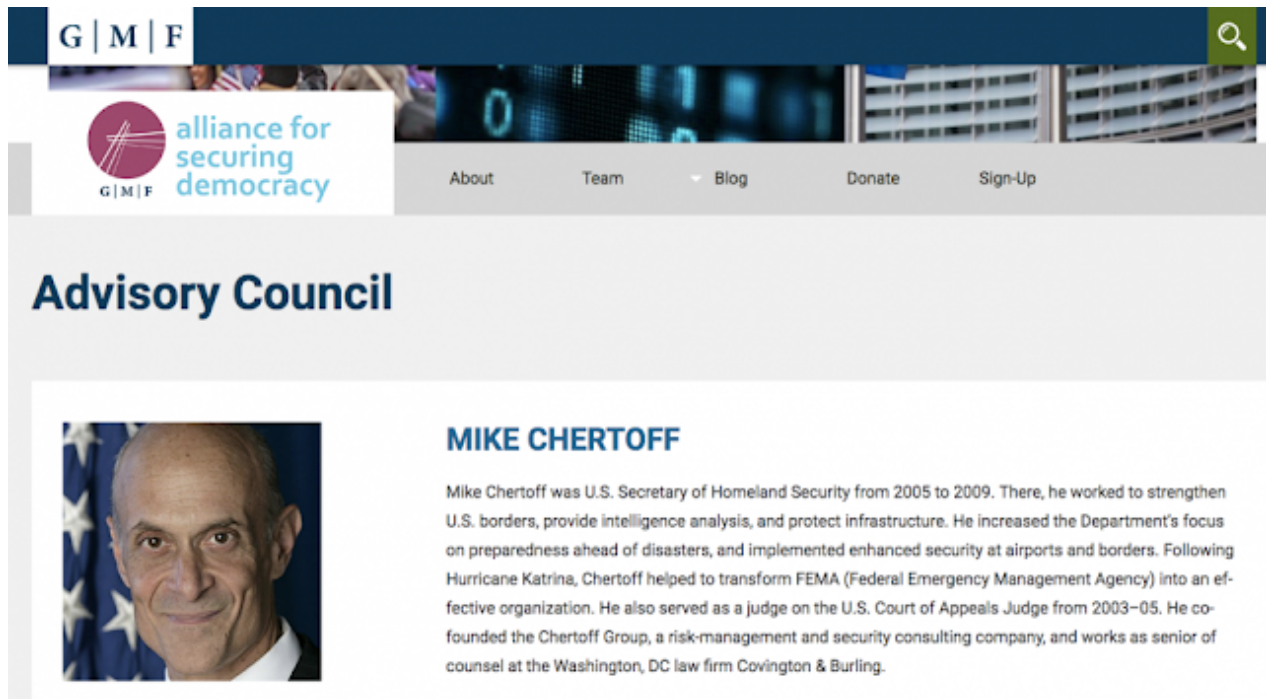
In 2016, American democracy came under unprecedented attack.

The government of the Russian Federation attempted to weaken the pillars of our democracy and undermine faith and confidence in our society's most fundamental right — the ability to choose our own leaders.

The organization's "Disinformation Dashboard" even includes a disclaimer admitting nothing about the information it presents constitutes evidence. Ambiguous terms like "Russia aligned" are never qualified. Instead, it claims (emphasis added):

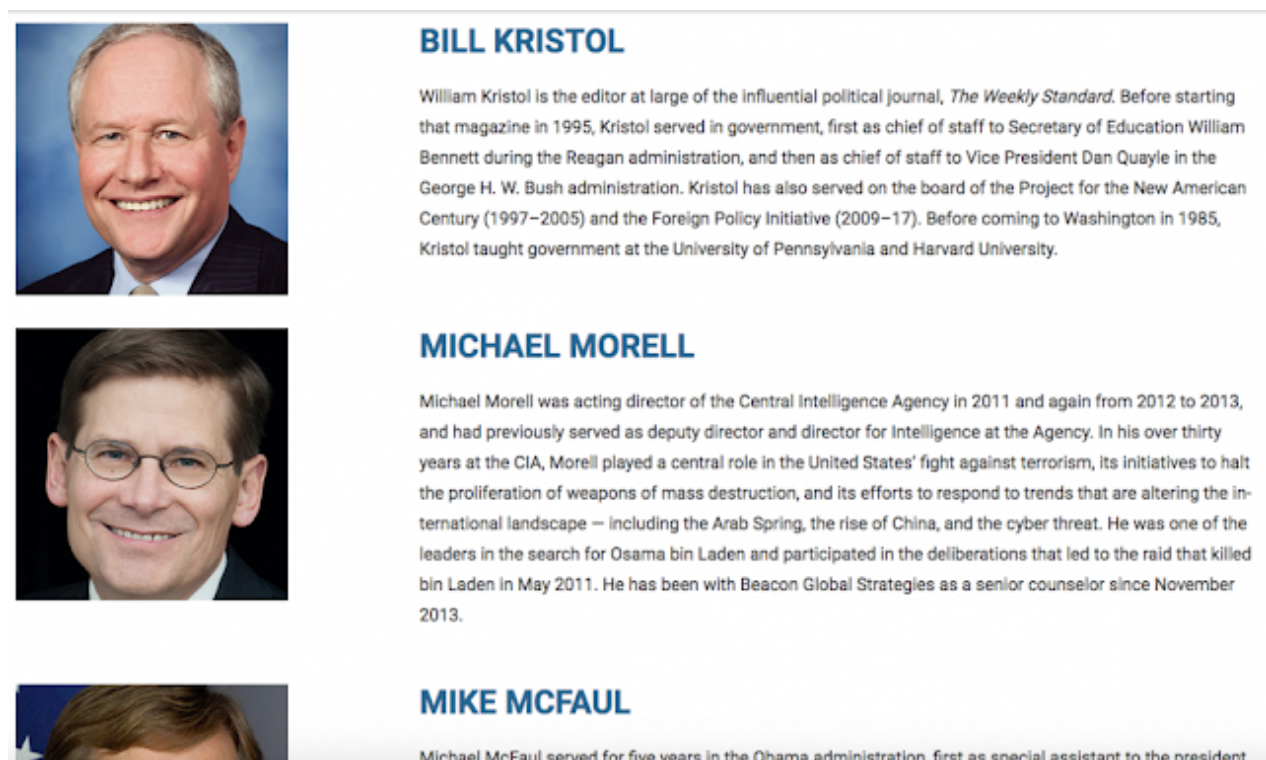
Content is not necessarily produced or created by Russian government operatives, although that is sometimes the case. Instead, the network often opportunistically amplifies content created by third parties not directly linked to Russia. Common themes for amplification include content attacking the U.S. and Europe, conspiracy theories and disinformation. Russian influence operations also frequently promote extremism and divisive politics in Western countries. **Just because the Russia-aligned network monitored here tweets something, that doesn't mean everyone who tweets the same content is aligned with Russia.**

An organization that accuses Russia and in particular, **President Vladimir Putin** for undermining US elections, inferring Russia's responsibility for **Hillary Clinton's** defeat, counts among [its advisory council](#) **Michael Chertoff**, a Bush-era Neo-Conservative who served as President Bush's Secretary of Homeland Security.



The screenshot shows the website for the Alliance for Securing Democracy. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the letters 'G | M | F' and a search icon. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Team', 'Blog', 'Donate', and 'Sign-Up'. The main content area is titled 'Advisory Council' and features a profile for Mike Chertoff. The profile includes a portrait of Mike Chertoff and a text block describing his background as U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security from 2005 to 2009, his work on border security and infrastructure, and his current role as senior counsel at Covington & Burling.

There is also **David Kramer** who served in the US State Department under President Bush, served as president of the Neo-Conservative chaired State Department front, Freedom House, and currently serves as a member of the advisory council for the George W. Bush Presidential Center's "Human Freedom Project."



This section of the screenshot displays three more members of the advisory council. Each member has a portrait and a text block. Bill Kristol is described as the editor at large of *The Weekly Standard* and former chief of staff to Secretary of Education William Bennett and Vice President Dan Quayle. Michael Morell is described as the acting director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 2011 to 2013 and a key figure in the fight against terrorism. Mike McFaul is described as having served for five years in the Obama administration, first as special assistant to the president.

William Kristol, considered by many as one of the chief architects, or at least leading salesman of the 2003 Iraq War, also chairs the Alliance for Securing Democracy advisory

board. He was a signatory of the Neo-Conservative Project for the New American Century and the pro-war Foreign Policy Initiative. He served the administrations of US **President Ronald Reagan** and **George Bush Sr.**

Michael Morell - [who recently declared interest in killing Russians and Iranians in Syria](#) as the armed forces of all three nations fight Al Qaeda and militants of the so-called Islamic State - also serves as an adviser. He has worked in the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for over 30 years, and is currently a senior counselor at [Beacon Global Strategies](#) - an organization that appears to specialize in professional warmongering - along side other former US State Department, Department of Defense, and CIA employees.

Kori Schake is described as having assisted with policy for the White House, Department of Defense, and the State Department as well as serving as senior policy adviser for **John McCain** and **Sarah Palin** during their 2008 bid for the White House

Michael Rogers, a former US Representative for Michigan and a Republican along with **Admiral James Stavridis** who helped wage President Bush's wars and also serves as an adviser for the above mentioned Beacon Global Strategies help round off the advisory board.

It is safe to say that the majority of this exclusively anti-Russian propaganda organization, eagerly promoted by American liberals, consists of Neo-Conservatives many of these same liberals at one point rightfully rejected, opposed, and vehemently condemned as they sold serial wars of aggression during the Bush administration.

A similar [list of Neo-Conservatives and long-time warmongers](#) fills out the "Committee to Investigate Russia" (CIR) who recently made headlines when they hired veteran actor Morgan Freeman to appeal to audiences' emotions rather than their intellect.

CIR includes **Max Boot**, **James Clapper**, and **Norman Ornstein** who occupy various seats and positions at corporate-financier funded think tanks ranging from the Council on Foreign Relations to the Center for a New American Security, to the American Enterprise Institute all of which share sponsorship from big-oil, big-defense, big-banks, and big-industry - in other words - Wall Street.

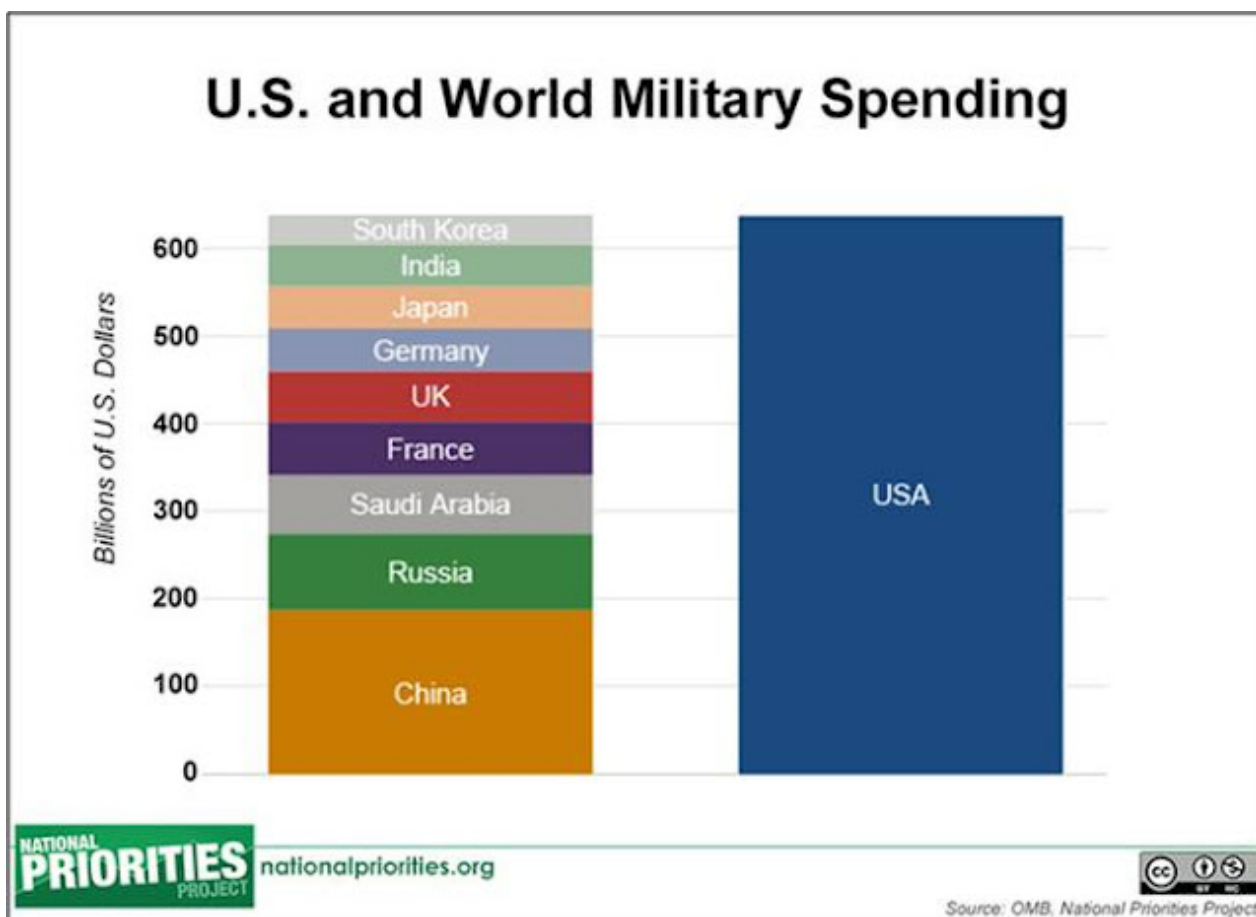
Other pop-up anti-Russian fronts have similar boards of directors, representing similar interests, and are similarly and very ironically, finding fertile ground among American liberals who at one point in recent history opposed the very sort of war propaganda now being sold versus Russia.

Wall Street, Not Moscow Controls the White House

The United States possesses [over 800 military bases worldwide](#), with a military operating on a budget that eclipses the combined military budgets [of the next 7 leading nations](#), including Russia and China. Of the top 10 Fortune 500 international corporations, 4 are American, none are Russian.

While the Russian Federation protects its interests with a formidable nuclear and conventional military, a respectable stake in the global energy sector, and strong diplomatic ties with other alternative centers of power, it lags far behind in military and economic clout, ranked 12 by GDP behind nations like South Korea, Canada, Italy, and Japan, and obviously

behind larger emerging nations including Brazil, India, and China.



The Russian military budget, estimated at around \$70 billion, when compared to the annual net sales of a single Wall Street defense contractor – like Lockheed Martin for example at around \$50 billion in 2016 – helps further put the actual “reach” of Russia in perspective versus interests upon Wall Street.

In fact, US policy think-tanks like those chaired by the above mentioned Neo-Conservatives, are sponsored by some of the largest corporate-financier interests on Earth, who with their combined resources and influence, eclipse even the most fantastic claims made regarding Russia.

Not only do US corporations and financial institutions possess an immense advantage in resources and influence in general, they also enjoy the benefit of proximity – many operating offices or employing lobbying services located directly in Washington D.C.

Wall Street also possesses immense influence over the Western media, often controlling media platforms on both the left and right of American politics, controlling narratives that safely divide Americans against one another and leave special interests on Wall Street in a convenient and well protected void of impunity.



The administration of current US **President Donald Trump** [consists of representatives from these Wall Street corporations and financial institutions](#) – many of them representing the same interests who composed former US President Barack Obama’s administration and who would have composed Hillary Clinton’s administration had she prevailed in the 2016 election.

These interests include large banking institutions, the defense industry and big-oil. While supporters of President Trump blame the “deep state” for his inability to make good on campaign promises, and opponents of President Trump blame “Russians” for his apparent disregard for America’s best interests – it is clear that Wall Street is responsible for both – as it was during President Obama’s administration before him and for decades before him- and as it would have been had Hillary Clinton won the election.

Who is Buying?

The notion that Russia holds more influence over the White House than the multitude of powerful, corrupt multinational multi-billion dollar corporations and financial institutions upon Wall Street is at face value absurd. These interests, however, see an opportunity to jettison responsibility for the most negative aspects of policy implemented under the Trump administration by implicating Russia.

They are able to do this by exploiting anger and frustration following the 2016 presidential election – regardless of the fact that virtually all of President Trump’s “decisions” including expanding wars in Syria, tensions with North Korea and Iran, as well as imposing crippling sanctions on Venezuela were all policies pursued by President Obama and promoted eagerly by Hillary Clinton both in her role as US Secretary of State and on the campaign trail.

Angry and frustrated Americans who might otherwise be tempted to trace the money and motivations underpinning the Trump administration’s flawed policies to Wall Street, are now being intentionally diverted with accusations of “Russian” interference.

Instead of exposing and condemning corrupt corporations like Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Raytheon, Exxon, and BP, or financial institutions like Goldman Sachs, Americans are looking for Russian influence that simply does not exist. Nearly a year after President Trump stepped into office, no significant evidence has emerged implicating Russia or even providing a cursory explanation as to how Russia has managed to eclipse Wall Street’s influence over the White House.

It is another unfortunate case of emotions and ignorance prevailing over suspicion and due diligence. Many are now genuinely concerned regarding “Russian influence.” Others are opportunistically joining this modern day witch hunt for notoriety and attention, while others

still are simply paid lobbyist like those lining the advisory boards of the “Alliance for Securing Democracy” and the “Committee to Investigate Russia.”

What Americans Should Really Be Doing

The White House is supposed to represent the American people. Instead, it represents Wall Street. The corporations that constitute Wall Street enjoy the wealth and influence they currently hold because Americans are easily diverted from recognizing and addressing this unwarranted concentration of power. While Americans fight themselves and phantom Russians, they continue paying their monthly paychecks into these corporate-financier monopolies, enhancing Wall Street’s control over a White House that is supposed to belong to the people.

Should Americans put aside their witch hunt for “Russians” and recognize the true interests holding power over the White House, they may find common ground that transcends race, religion, and even politics long enough to expose and address the disparity of wealth and influence in America that has existed and divided the American people long before President Trump took office.

Emotional appeals to the public featuring Hollywood actors, graphs and articles laced with weasel words such as “likely,” “apparently,” “allegedly,” and “possibly,” and even outright disclaimers admitting nothing resembling evidence underpins accusations should immediately provoke suspicion and investigation - not blind hysteria. The very same interests who sold lies regarding Iraq and “weapons of mass destruction” to American conservatives to initiate a war of aggression that left a million Iraqis dead along with thousands of US troops is now selling similar and equally baseless lies to America’s liberals regarding Russia.

Both conservatives and liberals find themselves the target of manipulation and exploitation by special interests who do not represent the best interests of either political group. In that alone, common ground exists.

Those who oppose the policies presided over by US President Donald Trump need not embrace them. Indeed, they should vehemently oppose them - however, they must identify the true special interests influencing these policies on Wall Street rather than chasing phantoms those who claim they exist know will never be found or caught in the far-off Kremlin.

Tony Cartalucci is a Bangkok-based geopolitical researcher and writer, especially for the online magazine [“New Eastern Outlook”](#).

This article was originally published by [New Eastern Outlook](#).

All images in this article are from the author.

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Tony Cartalucci](#), Global Research, 2017

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

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: **Tony Cartalucci**

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