

Why Russia and Syria are being targeted by the USA.

My personal favorite among available TV news channels happens to be Al Jazeera. Featuring predominantly middle-eastern news I've been hearing about Syria for some years now and of course the situation in the Ukraine along with Syria are broadly covered in Al Jazeera as well as through every other Western media outlet.

The "official" stories as echoed in Western media [propaganda] just didn't make sense. Being bothered by the obvious manufacturing of "evidence" and facts I set out to study up for myself what the hell is going on here.

Ignoring mainstream news but looking at opinions and articles published by freelancers and people with personal experience as well as studying the available facts behind major events, I started my data trail. Everything is done for a reason, and it usually involves money so... I followed the money.

Having arrived where I'm at right now as far as my own knowledge, data and conclusions I can initially state that the reason the USA is interfering in the middle east has nothing whatsoever to do with toppling tyrannical dictators and giving their people democracy. Everything has to do with a covert concoction of money and geopolitics. As I initially did, when you see the propaganda mouthpieces of the ruling elite begin to demonize a foreign country, your first question should always be "What is actually at stake here?" *Cui bono?*

Writing or suggesting anything outside the official media story easily puts your writing into the "conspiracy theory" category. For anyone who will immediately write this off as loony conspiracy, I invite you to do your own research.

I've provided links to as much as possible and do feel free to look it up. Don't take my word for anything but use this as a means to shape your own opinion. Where I have no absolute knowledge but express my views I will clearly state it as my own conjecture or opinion.

For some time now Russia, China, Iran, and Syria have been in the cross hairs of western media and geopolitics. Once you understand why, the events unfolding in the world right now will make much more sense.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

So, let's follow the money. We'll start with a specific type of money – the mighty U.S. dollar!



The U.S. dollar is a unique currency. In fact, its current design and its relationship to geopolitics are unlike any other in history. What makes the dollar unique is the fact that since the early 1970s it has been, with a few notable exceptions, the only currency used to buy and sell oil on the global market.

Prior to 1971 the U.S. dollar was bound to the gold standard, at least officially. According to the IMF, by 1966, foreign central banks held \$14 billion U.S. dollars, however [the United States had only \\$3.2 billion in gold](#) allocated to cover foreign holdings.

Translation: the Federal Reserve was printing more money than it could actually back. The result was rampant inflation.

In 1971 in what later came to be called the "[Nixon Shock](#)" President Nixon removed the dollar from the gold standard completely.

At this point the dollar became a pure debt based currency. With debt based currencies money is literally loaned into existence.

Approximately 70% of the money in circulation is created by ordinary banks which are allowed to loan out more than they actually have in their accounts.

The rest is created by the Federal Reserve which loans money that they don't have, mostly to governments.

Kind of like writing hot checks, except it's legal, for banks. This practice which is referred to as fractional reserve banking is supposedly regulated by the Federal Reserve, an institution which just happens to be owned and controlled by a conglomerate of banks, and no agency or branch of government regulates the Federal Reserve.

These fractional reserve loans have interest attached, but the money to pay that interest doesn't exist in the system. As a result there is always more total debt than there is money in circulation, and in order to stay afloat the economy must grow perpetually. Technically this is not sustainable.

So how has the dollar maintained such a dominant position on the world stage for over forty years if it's really little more than an elaborate ponzi scheme? Well this is where the dollar meets geopolitics.

THE PETRODOLLAR

In 1973 under the shadow of the artificial OPEC oil crisis, the Nixon administration began secret negotiations with the government of Saudi Arabia to establish what came to be referred to as the petrodollar recycling system.

Under this arrangement the Saudis would only sell their oil in U.S. dollars, and would invest the majority of their excess oil profits into U.S. banks and Capital markets. The [IMF would then use this money to facilitate loans to oil importers](#) who were having difficulties covering the increase in oil prices. The payments and interest on these loans would of course be denominated in U.S. dollars.

This agreement was formalized in the "[The U.S.-Saudi Arabian Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation](#)" put together by Nixon's Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in 1974.

Another [document released by the Congressional Research Service](#) reveals that these negotiations had an edge to them, as U.S. officials were openly discussing the feasibility of seizing oil fields in Saudi Arabia militarily.

In the United States, the oil shocks produced inflation, new concern about foreign investment from oil producing countries, and open speculation about the advisability and feasibility of militarily seizing oil fields in Saudi Arabia or other countries. In the wake of the embargo, both Saudi and U.S. officials worked to re-anchor the bilateral relationship on the basis of shared opposition to Communism, renewed military cooperation, and through economic initiatives that promoted the recycling of Saudi petrodollars to the United States via Saudi investment in infrastructure, industrial expansion, and U.S. securities.

The system was expanded to include the rest of [OPEC](#) by 1975.

Though presented as a buffer to the recessionary effects of rising oil prices, this arrangement had a hidden side effect. It removed the traditional restraints on U.S. monetary policy.

The Federal Reserve was now free to increase the money supply at will. The ever increasing demand for oil would prevent a collapse of the dollar, while distributing the inflationary consequences across the entire planet.

The dollar went from being a gold back currency to an oil backed currency – hence the term “[petrodollar](#)”. It also became America's primary export.

Did you ever wonder how the U.S. economy has been able to stay afloat while running multibillion dollar trade deficits for decades?

Did you ever wonder how it is that the U.S. holds such a disproportionate amount of the world’s wealth when 70% of the U.S. economy is consumer based?

In the modern era, fossil fuels make the world go around. They have become integrated into every aspect of civilization: agriculture, transportation, plastics, heating, defense and medicine, and demand just keeps growing and growing.

As long as the world needs oil, and as long as oil is only sold in U.S. dollars, there will be a demand for dollars, and that demand is what gives the dollar its value.

For the United States this is a great deal. Dollars go out, either as paper or digits in a computer system, and real tangible products and services come in. However for the rest of the world, it's a very sneaky form of exploitation.

Having global trade predominately in dollars also provides Washington with a powerful financial weapon through sanctions. This is due to the fact that most large scale dollar transactions are forced to pass through the U.S.

IRAQ ABANDONS THE PETRODOLLAR



This petrodollar system stood unchallenged until September of 2000 when [Saddam Hussein announced](#) his decision to switch Iraq's oil sales off of the dollar to Euros. This was a direct attack on the dollar, and one of the most important geopolitical events of the year, but [only one article in the western media even mentioned it](#).

In the same month that Saddam announced he was moving away from the dollar, an organization called the [“The Project for a New American Century”](#), of which Dick Cheney just happened to be a member, released a document entitled [“REBUILDING AMERICA’S DEFENSES Strategy, Forces and Resources For a New Century”](#). This document called for massive increases in U.S. military spending and a much more aggressive foreign policy. However the document lamented that, “...Further, the process of transformation, even if it brings revolutionary change, is likely to be a long one, absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event – like a new Pearl Harbor.”

One year later they got it. Riding the emotional reaction to 9/11, the Bush administration was able to invade Afghanistan and Iraq and pass the [patriot act](#) all without any significant resistance.

There were **no weapons of mass destruction** in Iraq, and this wasn't a question of bad intelligence. This was a **cold calculated lie**, and the decision to invade was made in full knowledge of the disaster which would follow.

They knew exactly what was going to happen but in 2003, they did it anyway. Once Iraqi oil fields were under U.S. control, oil sales were immediately **switched back to the dollar**. Mission accomplished.

IRAN ABONDONS THE PETRODOLLAR



Soon after the invasion of Iraq the Bush administration attempted to **extend these wars** to Iran. Supposedly the Iranian government **was working to build a nuclear weapon**. After the Iraq fiasco Washington's credibility was severely damaged and as a result they were unable to muster international and domestic support for an intervention. Their efforts were further sabotaged by elements within the **CIA and Mossad who came forward to state** that Iran had not even made the decision to develop nuclear weapons much less begin an attempt. However the demonization campaign against Iran continued **even into the Obama administration**.

Why?

Well, might it have something to do with the fact that [since 2004 Iran has been in the process of organizing an independent oil bourse](#)? They were building their own oil market, and [it wasn't going to be tied to the dollar](#). The first shipments of oil were sold through this market in July of 2011.

Unable to get the war that they wanted, the U.S. used the U.N to impose sanctions against Iran. The goal of the sanctions [was to topple the Iranian regime](#). While this [did inflict damage](#) on the Iranian economy, the measures failed to destabilize the country. This was due in large part to [Russia's assistance in bypassing U.S. banking restrictions](#).

MUHAMMAR GADDAFI AND LIBYA



In February of 2009 Muammar Gaddafi, was named [chairman of the African Union](#). He immediately [proposed the formation of a unified state with a single currency](#). It was the nature of that proposed currency that got him killed.

In March of 2009 the African Union released a [document entitled "Towards a Single African Currency"](#). Pages 106 and 107 of that document specifically discuss the benefits and technicalities of running the African Central bank under a gold standard.

On page 94 it explicitly states that the key to the success of the African Monetary Union would be the "*eventual linking of a single African currency to the most monetary of all commodities - gold.*" (Note that the page number is different on [other versions of the document](#) that they released.)

Prior to 2011, Libya had the highest standard of living of any country in Africa. This is according to the [U.N.'s Human Development Index rankings for 2010](#). However in the years following the coup, [the country descended into chaos](#), with [extremism and violence running rampant](#). Libya is now widely regarded as a [failed state](#).

The Libyan revolution was Obama's first major foreign intervention. It was portrayed as an extension of the Arab Spring, and NATO involvement was framed in humanitarian terms.

The fact that the [CIA was actively working to help the Libyan rebels topple Gaddafi](#) was no secret, nor were the [airstrikes that Obama ordered](#) against the Libyan government. However, little was said about the identity or the ideological leanings of these Libyan rebels. The [leader of the Libyan rebels later admitted](#) that his fighters included [al-Qaeda linked jihadists](#) who fought against allied troops in Iraq.

These jihadist militants from Iraq were part of what national security analysts commonly referred to as al-Qaeda in Iraq. ISIS in Iraq and Syria was al-Qaeda before it was rebranded.

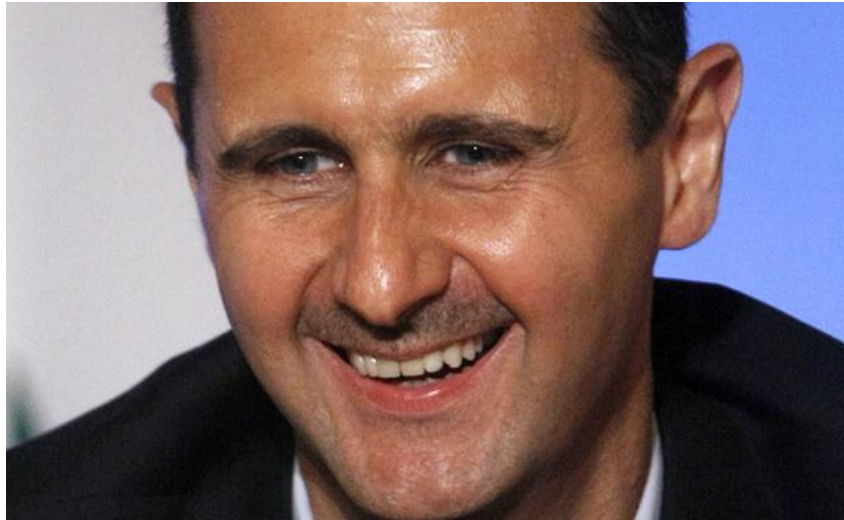
With the assistance of U.S. and NATO intelligence and air support, the Libyan rebels captured Gaddafi and summarily executed him in the street, all the while enthusiastically chanting "Allah Akbar".

I'm sure Gaddafi was no angel, but I'm also sure he wasn't the devil western propaganda set him out to be.

For many of those who had bought the official line about how these rebels were “moderate” (a favorite word used by the U.S. to justify its support of rebels) freedom fighters aiming to establish a liberal democracy in Libya, this was the beginning of the end of their illusions.

Libya and Gaddafi, like Iran and Iraq had committed the unforgivable crime of challenging the U.S. dollar.

SYRIA AND ASSAD



After Gaddafi was overthrown, the NATO intervention in Libya segued into a covert war on Syria. The armories of the Libyan government were looted and the weapons were [shipped via Turkey to Syrian rebels groups](#) working to topple Assad. It was already clear at this point that many of these fighters had ties to terrorist organizations. However the U.S. national security apparatus viewed this as a necessary evil. In fact the [Council on Foreign relations published an article](#) in 2012 stating that *"The influx of jihadis brings discipline, religious fervor, battle experience from Iraq, funding from Sunni sympathizers in the Gulf, and most importantly, deadly results. In short, the FSA needs al-Qaeda now."*

The times of London [reported on the arrival of the shipment](#) on September 14th, 2012. (Secondary confirmation in [this NYT article](#)) This was just three days after Ambassador [Chris Stevens was killed](#) by the attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi. Chris Stevens had served as the [U.S. government's liaison to the Libyan rebels](#) since April of 2011.

While a great deal media attention has focused on the fact that the State Department did not provide adequate security at the consulate, and was slow to send assistance when the attack started, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Seymour Hersh [released an article in April of 2014](#) which exposed a classified agreement between the CIA, Turkey and the Syrian rebels to create what was referred to as a "rat line". The "rat line" was a covert network used to channel weapons and ammunition from Libya, through southern turkey and across the Syrian border. Funding was provided by Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

With Stevens dead and any [direct U.S. involvement in that arms shipment](#) buried, it was easy for Washington to continue to claim that they had not sent heavy weaponry into Syria.

It was at this time that [jihadist fighters from Libya began flooding into Syria](#) as well. And not just low level militants. Many were [experienced commanders who had fought in multiple fronts](#).

The U.S. and its allies were now fully focused on taking down Assad's government in Syria. As in Libya this [regime change was to be framed in terms of human rights](#), and now [overt support began to supplement the backdoor channels](#).

The growing jihadist presence was swept under the rug and covered up.

In 2013 these same al-Qaeda linked Syrian rebels launched two sarin gas attacks. This was an attempt to frame Assad and muster international support for military intervention. Fortunately they were exposed by U.N. and Russian investigators and the push for airstrikes completely fell apart when [Russia stepped in to broker a diplomatic solution](#).

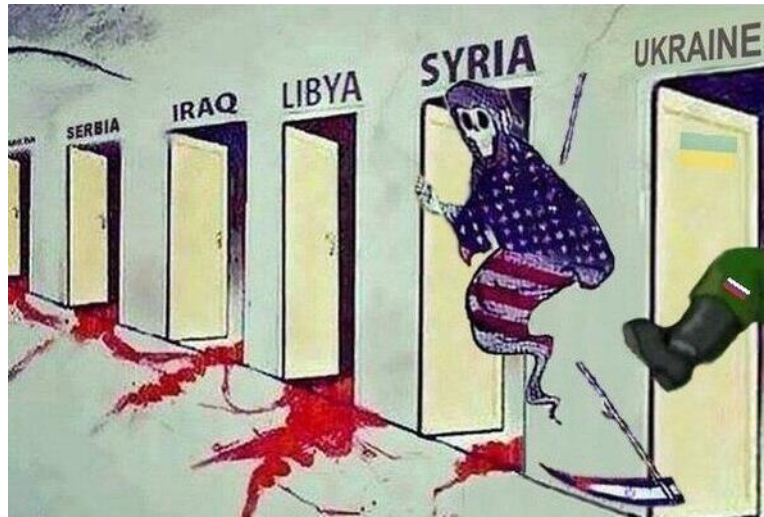
The campaign for regime change in Syria, as in Libya has been presented in terms of human rights. But why would the U.S. be so interested in human rights violations in Syria?

In 2009, [Qatar put forth a proposal](#) to run a natural gas pipeline through Syria and Turkey to Europe. Assad however rejected this, [and in 2011 he forged a pact with Iraq and Iran to run a pipeline eastward](#) cutting Qatar and Saudi Arabia out of the loop completely. Not surprisingly Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey have been the most aggressive regional players in the push to topple the Syrian government.

But why would this pipeline dispute put Syria in Washington's cross hairs? Several reasons:

1. This pipeline arrangement would significantly [strengthen Iran's position](#), allowing them to export to European markets without having to pass through any of Washington's allies. This obviously reduces the U.S. government's leverage.
2. Syria is Iran's closest ally. Its collapse would inherently weaken Iran.
3. Syria and Iran have a mutual defense agreement, and a U.S. intervention in Syria could open the door to open conflict with Iran.
4. In 2006 [Syria changed from the petrodollar to the Euro](#).

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE



In February of 2014 this global chess game heated up in a new venue: Ukraine. It is my opinion however that the real target was Russia.

Russia is the world's second largest oil exporter, and not only have they been a thorn in Washington's side diplomatically, but [they also opened an energy bourse in 2008](#), with sales denominated in Rubles and gold. This project [had been in the works since 2006](#). They have also been [working with China](#) to pull out of the dollar in all of their bilateral trade.

Russia has also been in the process of [organizing a Eurasian Economic Union](#) which includes plans to adopt a common currency unit, and which is [slated to have its own independent energy market](#).

Leading up to the crisis Ukraine had been presented with a choice: either join the E.U. under an association agreement or join the Eurasian Union. The E.U. insisted that this was an either or proposition. Ukraine couldn't join both. Russia on the other hand, asserted that joining both posed no issue. [President Yanukovich decided to go with Russia.](#)

In response the U.S. national security apparatus did what it does best: they [toppled Yanukovich](#) and installed a [puppet government](#). [This article](#) from the Guardian is also worth reading.

In addition, the US State Department was recently exposed [interfering heavily in Russian politics](#). They funded [so-called "independent" election monitor GOLOS](#), who sought to write off recent elections as "stolen."

They organized street protests led by US-funded opposition members who have been caught [literally filing into the US embassy in Moscow](#).

In Crimea a referendum was held and the people [voted overwhelmingly](#) to secede from Ukraine and reunify with Russia. The transition was orderly and peaceful. No one was killed, yet the West immediately framed the entire event as an act of Russian aggression.

Crimea is important geostrategically because of its position in the Black Sea which allows for the projection of naval power into the Mediterranean. It has also been Russian territory [for most of recent history](#).



The U.S. [has been pushing for Ukraine's inclusion into NATO](#) for years. Such a move would place U.S. forces right on Russia's border and could have potentially resulted in Russia losing their naval base in Sevastopol, Crimea. This is why Russia immediately accepted the results of the Crimean referendum and quickly consolidated the territory. Meanwhile in Eastern Ukraine, two regions declared independence from Kiev [and held referendums of their own](#). The results showed overwhelmingly a favored self rule.

Kiev responded to this with what they referred to as [anti-terrorist operations](#). In practice this [was a massive and indiscriminate shelling campaign](#) which killed thousands of civilians. Apparently killing civilians didn't qualify as aggression to the West. In fact the IMF explicitly warned the provisional government that their [17 billion dollar loan package could be in danger](#) if they were not able to put down the uprising in eastern Ukraine.

While the war against eastern Ukraine was raging elections were held and Petro Poroshenko was elected president. It turns out that Poroshenko, was exposed by a [leaked diplomatic cable released by wikileaks](#) in 2008 as having worked as a mole for the U.S. State Department since 2006. They referred to him as "Our Ukraine insider" and much of the cable referred to information that he was providing. (A [separate cable](#) showed that the U.S. knew Poroshenko was corrupt even at that point.)

Having a puppet in place however hasn't turned out to be enough to give Washington the upper hand in this crisis. What does Washington do when they have no other leverage? [They impose sanctions](#), they demonize and they saber rattle (or pull a false flag.)

This isn't a very good strategy when dealing with Russia. In fact it has [already backfired](#).

The sanctions have merely pushed Russia and China into closer cooperation and [accelerated Russia's de-dollarization agenda](#). And in spite of the rhetoric, this has not led to Russia being isolated.

The U.S. and NATO have put a wedge between themselves and Russia, but not between Russia and the rest of the world as is evident by [BRICS](#) which covered 3 billion people, or 40% of the world's population in 2014.

This new anti-dollar axis goes deeper than economics. These countries understand what's at stake here. This is why in the wake of the Ukrainian crisis [China has proposed a new Eurasian security pact](#) which would include Russia and Iran.

CHECHNYA

While there was a time the US feigned solidarity with the Russian government as it fought listed al-Qaeda affiliates carrying out attacks across the Caucasus Mountains in Russia's southern region, [research reveals that the United States](#) has been covertly backing these terrorists all along.

Just as the US created, funded, armed, and directed al-Qaeda in the mountains of Afghanistan during the 1980's, they are to this day funding, arming, and directing al-Qaeda from Libya, to Syria, and in Russia.

In my opinion a far more sinister plot is being prepared - one involving the resurgence of terrorism in Russia's Caucasus region, and sure to spill over into the rest of Russia.

[It is now revealed](#) that many of the propaganda fronts acting as clearinghouses for the Chechen militants were in fact US subsidized.

Just like in Syria, where foreign terrorists are fallaciously portrayed as indigenous, justified "pro-democracy" "moderate" "freedom fighters," a similar narrative is being spun to whitewash terrorists operating in Russia's Caucasus Mountains. In Reuters' recent report, "[Insight: Brutality, anger fuel jihad in Russia's Caucasus](#)," readers are barraged by outright lies regarding the genesis and underlying cause of violence in the region.

Reuters attempts to sell the idea that armed militants are rising up against the government, and the idea it attempts to leave readers with is that people are turning to terrorism for a lack of a better alternative.

Paradoxically, Reuters writes in the same report that these terrorists are also targeting indigenous Muslim sects, because, Reuters claims, they are "state-backed."

While US-backed opposition groups attempt to lay the groundwork for demonizing President Putin, Washington is seemingly working diligently to raise a militant threat that can throw off balance Russia's security apparatus in a very similar fashion prescribed by US policy makers in Brookings Institution's "[Which Path to Persia?](#)" report in regards to Iran.

The creation of a [united front against Iran](#) was the immediate goal of the Arab Spring. It has left the Arab World in disarray and has outright toppled nationalist governments, replacing them with pliable Western proxies. Iraq, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt are run by direct proxies of US foreign policy, while Syria, Lebanon, and Iran are left fighting foreign terrorists fueled by emerging sectarian extremist governments across the region.

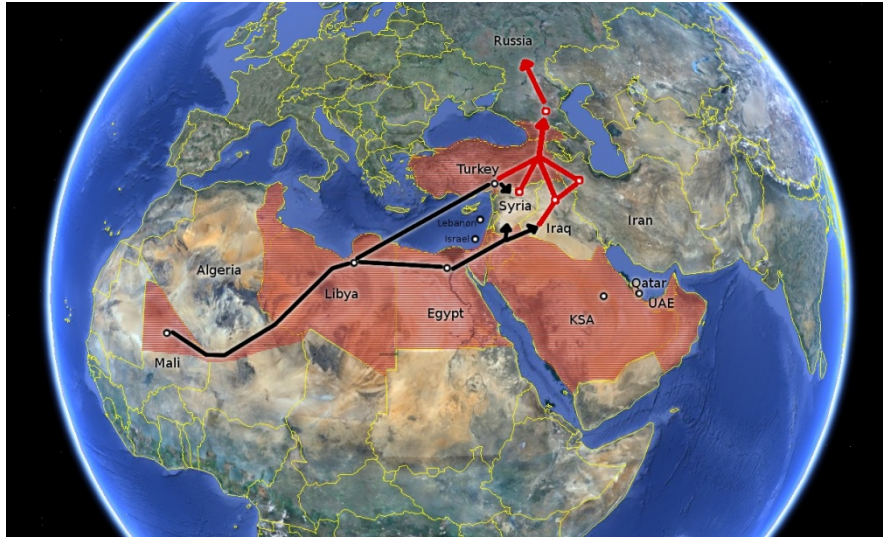


Image: AQIM from northern Mali, LIFG from Libya, Muslim Brotherhood from Egypt, and with support from Saudi Arabia, Israel, Qatar, Turkey, and others - all are converging on Syria (in black), and then Iran.

In my opinion, should Syria or Iran collapse, and the West succeeds in carving out a Kurdish region controlled by militants armed and loyal to its cause, militants from across the Arab World can be trained from Mali and Libya, to Syria and Kurdistan, with weapons and supplies from everywhere in between being directed together, up through the Caucasus Mountains and into Russia.

Nations standing in the way of this horde, including Turkey and Georgia, risk being carved up or drawn into protracted, costly conflict. This also tells me that other nations at grave risk from Western-backed terrorism include Algeria, Pakistan, and China.

The same pattern is happening in 2014 in western China where [US backed separatists](#) have been causing violence in the Chinese region of Xinjiang. These terror campaigns including across the Caucasus and throughout the Middle East and North Africa have all been tied to Western geopolitical ambitions and used both as a pretext to militarily intervene and as proxy forces to destabilize and upturn political orders in targeted nations obstructing the expansion of Western corporate-financier interests.

DENOUEMENT

Consider the implications here as the Obama administration begins bombing in Syria which also has a mutual defense agreement with Iran.

The real stakes of this drama are much bigger than Ukraine or Syria. We are witnessing the final stages of a geopolitical chess game that is designed to end in war.

But in order to succeed they need to convince you, the public, that they didn't see this coming. They need you to believe that the other side was the aggressor. They are counting on you not paying attention to the fact that Obama recently signed an order targeting Russia with sanctions and revoking the visas of a number of Russian diplomats. They are counting on you not noticing that Russia had warned that such a move would result in Russia dropping the dollar and encouraging others to do so as well. They're counting on you being too naive to realize that economic warfare invites physical warfare.

What can we do about it? It isn't going to be easy. To muster any change we have to start reaching out to people in positions of influence. This can mean talking to broadcasters at your local radio station, news paper, or TV station, or it can mean contacting influential bloggers, celebrities, business figures or government officials. But even if it's just your neighbor, or your coworker, every single person we can reach brings us closer to achieving something. The most important step is to start trying.

“The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.”

Lao Tzu