

Breaking - Tillerson Unveils 'New' US Syria Plan: 'Assad Must Go!'

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Confirming that the US military presence inside Syria had little to do with fighting ISIS, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson unveiled in detail today the real US strategy for Syria: overthrow of the Assad government.

In a speech at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and introduced by President George W. Bush's Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary Tillerson vowed that the United States military would continue to occupy Syrian territory [until three conditions are met](#):

First: ISIS must be destroyed.

This condition is made all the more problematic by the well-reported fact that it is the United States government that at every turn seems to pull ISIS chestnuts out of the fire. From [handing them weapons](#) to [allowing them to escape](#) when they are trapped in places like Raqqa, it almost seems like the US does not want to really see the end of ISIS.

Second: Assad must go.

Tillerson's admission that this is a *sine qua non* for any US military departure from Syria confirms that the Trump foreign policy is no different from that of Hillary Clinton or her former boss, President Obama. Recall that as part of his "thank you" tour, President-elect Trump reiterated promises made by candidate Trump to break with the past:

We will pursue a new foreign policy that finally learns from the mistakes of the past. We will stop looking to topple regimes and overthrow governments. ...In our dealings with other countries we will seek shared interests wherever possible..."

It is clear that he lied, as it is reported that he signed off on this new Syria strategy last month at a meeting of his National Security Council.

Secretary Tillerson said today that new elections should be held in Syria and that President Assad should lose:

The United States believes that free and transparent elections ... will result in the permanent departure of Assad and his family from power... Assad's regime is corrupt, and his methods of governance and economic development have increasingly excluded certain ethnic and religious groups... Such oppression

cannot persist forever.

Tillerson's [speech](#) reveals that the old myth about the Syrian people "rising up" to overthrow Assad is still very much viewed as Gospel truth in Washington:

...our expectation is that the desire for a return to normal life ... will help rally the Syrian people and individuals within the regime to compel Assad to step down.

Translation: we are going to continue to make life miserable for you until you overthrow Assad. Then it will return to "normal." Presumably the people of Syria understand what "normal" life after a US "liberation" looks like from examples like [Libya](#), [Iraq](#), and [Ukraine](#).

Tillerson also made the [bizarre assertion](#) that US troops will remain in Syria to prevent the Syrian government from re-establishing control over the parts of Syria abandoned by a defeated ISIS. So the legitimate government of Syria will be prevented by an illegal United States military occupation from reclaiming its own territory? This is supposed to be a coherent policy?

Third: Refugees must be returned to Syria.

Secretary Tillerson said today at Stanford University:

America has an opportunity to help people who have suffered greatly. The safe and voluntary return of [#Syrian](#) refugees serves the security interests of the U.S. and our allies and partners. We must give Syrians a chance to return home and rebuild their lives.

But the one event that led to [the biggest return of refugees back to Syria](#) was [violently opposed](#) by the US government: the Syrian government's liberation of east Aleppo from al-Qaeda control!

For additional consideration:

The US military is busy creating a 30,000-strong Kurdish militia to reportedly guard Syria's borders with Turkey and Iraq. NATO-ally Turkey is violently opposing US moves to further arm Kurd groups that it considers terrorist.

The discredited "Free Syrian Army" (FSA) is back in Washington begging the Trump Administration to [re-open the CIA weapons pipeline](#). The FSA is perhaps best known for immediately [handing any weapons it gets from Washington directly to al-Qaeda](#) in Syria. Will Trump's neocon-filled ecosphere convince him to once again put some wind in al-Qaeda's sails?

Will Congress awake from its slumber and finally dust off the part of the Constitution directing the Legislative Branch to decide on matters of war and peace? It's probably an ill-advised bet, however there are [a few whispers](#) on Capitol Hill that a shift in US military focus from anti-ISIS to anti-Assad and anti-Iran might be slightly problematic.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has just unveiled a [100 percent neocon approved](#) "new" US

policy for Syria: No more pussyfooting around. We won't abandon our project in Syria like Obama "abandoned" Libya (presumably, as the neocon myth goes, on the verge of becoming a new Switzerland after its "liberation" only to be thrust back into the mire by Obama's premature withdrawal).

President Trump is set to out-neocon the neocons with this foolish and destructive policy. The showman is shown to be nothing but a fraud.

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