

## **Burying The Greatest Victory in Spite: Rewriting History to demonize Russia**

By <u>Ulson Gunnar</u>

Global Research, April 29, 2015

New Eastern Outlook

Region: <u>Russia and FSU</u> Theme: <u>History</u>, <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

In efforts to demonize Russia, the history of the Western World is being distastefully rewritten. The monumental sacrifices of the Russian people during World War II are not only being marginalized, but flipped upon their heads. Today, reading through the Western media, one will find a multitude of comparisons between Russia and Nazi Germany, with Russian President Vladimir Putin compared with Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.

Beyond distasteful, this propaganda is dangerous to the point where it borders on exonerating the Nazis, even celebrating their acts of aggression and bolstering those monkeying their ideology today, particularly in Ukraine, Poland and other NATO-oriented Eastern European nations where fascism has been resurrected to once again battle the Russian people.

The most recent example of this can be seen in an ABC News article "Polish Border Guards Refuse Entry for 10 Russian Bikers," where Russian bikers planned to trace the route of Russian soldiers as they pushed back the Nazi tide in World War 2. Their goal was to visit the grave sites of fallen Russian soldiers (which includes many Polish soldiers who fought alongside them) and honor the sacrifices of tens of millions who resisted and eventually ended fascism in Europe.

Politically Motivated Exclusion: Western Free Speech?

The ABC News article admits that Poland has been unable to explain precisely why the Russian bikers were barred from entering the country. No weapons were found and no danger was described. Instead, ABC claimed:

"This is not a normal bike club. They are tools in the hand of Vladimir Putin to make propaganda," said Tomasz Czuwara, spokesman for the Open Dialog Foundation, a Polish group that supports Ukraine.

The German government has also expressed unease at the bikers and said they would not be welcome.

German Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Schaefer said that Germany had decided to revoke the Schengen visas of a small number of people after the government concluded that "there are some people we believe to be in the leadership of the Night Wolves who we do not believe are pursuing a legitimate aim with their actions in Germany."

Reminding the world of the dangers of fascism and extraterritorial military aggression is particularly inconvenient for the West, particularly NATO and especially the current political orders occupying power in Poland, Ukraine and even Germany. Reminding the world of the gradual encirclement and eventual invasion of Russia during World War 2 would make NATO's current encirclement and encroachment along Russia's borders look painfully familiar and could make NATO's already unpopular agenda even more untenable.

Since the Russian bikers pose no real threat, it is clear that the decision to bar them from entering Poland, and possibly even barring them from entering Germany to honor fallen Russians in a war that Germany provoked and Polish collaborators helped facilitate, is purely politically motivated.

It is the West itself that often labels nations "dictatorships" and describes them as lacking "freedom" when activities are banned simply for political reasons, yet this is precisely what is being done now along the border of Poland. "Free speech," an alleged pillar of Western civilization ensures that even unpopular points of view and activism are protected. Honoring those who defeated the Nazis and fascism in Europe is hardly even "unpopular," though it appears there are concerted efforts to change that.

What's even more ironic is the fact that the West currently claims Russia constitutes a grave danger to Western civilization and all of the rights and institutions within, yet it is the West itself dismantling these rights and institutions, brick-by-brick to maliciously array its people against Russia.

## Russia's Thanks For Saving Europe

Before launching the invasion of Russia, Nazi Germany was the uncontested master of Western Europe. It had swept away Polish, French and British forces in a lighting-fast war before consolidating everything under a singular fascist supranational state. The island nation of England was all that was left unconquered, and through a blockade and persistent air war, the Germans were confident they could break the British as well.

But in 1941, three massive German armies comprised of millions of soldiers moved east toward Russia. They aimed to seize Leningrad in the north, Moscow in the center, and the oil-rich southern regions in the Caucasus. The ensuing battle soaked Russia with the blood of its people. Over 20 million Russians, soldiers and civilians, would perish in a battle that first confounded, then exhausted the Nazi military machine, before eventually overrunning them and pushing them back to Berlin itself.

It is commonly understood that if the millions of German soldiers committed to the failed conquest of Russia had been concentrated instead in the west, it is likely that Britain would have finally been conquered and the history of the Western World would have from then on been written by the Nazis.

But because of the monumental sacrifices of the Russian people, followed by sacrifices of Europeans and Americans, the Nazis were defeated.

In the wake of a conflict described as the most expansive military theater of all time, one would expect this sacrifice to lead toward generations of enduring vigilance against fascism. What must those with relatives who perished in this great conflict, in Russia and in both America and Western Europe, think when they see a Ukrainian regime come to power

backed by ultra-violent fascist militias wearing the insignia of Adolf Hitler's notorious Waffen SS divisions?

Hypocrisy and the Shape-Shifting Notion of Freedom

In America, biker clubs too often ride to commemorate the sacrifices of fallen comrades. There have even been <u>events held in Vietnam</u>, a nation the US invaded from almost literally the opposite side of the planet. Yet the Vietnamese have allowed these events to move forward, a nation also described as "not free" by the West, yet apparently more willing to allow such events than the "free" West.

It is clear that the increasing animosity toward, and attempts to defile the sacrifices of millions of fallen Russian soldiers during World War 2 represents not only a temporary political row between the West and Russia, but a dangerous overwriting of history that attempts to obscure the crimes, atrocities and acts of aggression that led up to and lasted throughout the war. Obscuring the warnings taught by history invites history's repeating itself.

It also represents an increasingly obvious hypocrisy pervading Western society, where the concept of "freedom" is used to label enemies as dictatorships, but is willfully trampled when politically convenient at home to an extent even "not free" nations refuse to entertain.

Barring the Russian bikers is just one of many attempts to disrupt this year's Victory Day and reframe Russia as the very threat it helped defeat in World War 2. However, while Russian bikers seek to follow the trail of Russian soldiers as they pushed the Nazis back to Berlin, it is NATO that is following the ignoble steps of the Nazi army as it expanded eastward toward Russia.

Ulson Gunnar, a New York-based geopolitical analyst and writer especially for the online magazine "New Eastern Outlook".

The original source of this article is <u>New Eastern Outlook</u> Copyright © <u>Ulson Gunnar</u>, <u>New Eastern Outlook</u>, 2015

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

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

Articles by: Ulson Gunnar

**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:  $\underline{publications@globalresearch.ca}$