

# CIA Director Pompeo Replacing Tillerson at the State Department. Shakeup at the CIA. Hawkish Neocons in Charge of “US Foreign Policy”

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, March 13, 2018

Region: [USA](#)

Feature image: Mike Pompeo

*The change was unceremoniously announced by Trump with Tillerson abroad.*

*On Tuesday, the president tweeted: “Mike Pompeo, Director of the CIA, will become our new Secretary of State. He will do a fantastic job! Thank you to Rex Tillerson for his service!”*

“Gina Haspel will become the new Director of the CIA, and the first woman so chosen. Congratulations to all!”

More on her below, a disturbing choice, a hawkish Pompeo type with a gender difference.

Earlier articles explained Trump’s disagreements with Tillerson on the Iran nuclear deal, North Korea, deep State Department cutbacks, and other issues.

Hawkish administration generals run Trump’s geopolitical agenda, Tillerson out-of-the-loop on key decision-making.

His relationship with Trump soured long before today’s announcement. It came as no surprise – perhaps only surprising that it didn’t happen sooner.

It was likely a meeting of the minds. Trump wanted Tillerson replaced. He wanted out, preferring a graceful exit, not granted by the president.

Pompeo is the latest in a long line of rogue CIA directors. The agency’s diabolical agenda is incompatible with democratic values and rule of law principles.

It’s largely a global Mafia hit squad, its unchecked power threatening everyone. As long as the agency exists, no one anywhere is safe.

Pompeo is a neocon hawk, fully supporting Washington’s imperial agenda, its permanent war on humanity – beliefs incompatible with diplomacy.

Appointing him chief Trump administration diplomat is a giant step in the wrong direction.

He’s militantly anti-Russia, anti-Iran, anti-North Korea, anti-other sovereign independent governments, anti-world peace and stability.

He lied calling Iran “a very dangerous threat to the United States...the world’s largest state sponsor of terror (with) a significant foothold in Syria.”

He lied saying Russia is America’s “enemy,” its intervention in Syria (at the behest of its government) certainly...worse for the Syrian people.”

He lied claiming “America’s interests (involve) providing the conditions (for) a more stable Middle East.”

He lied calling Assad “a puppet of the Iranians...not a stabilizing influence in Syria.”

He lied calling Hezbollah an Iranian “proxy” force, pursuing an “expansionist” agenda with Tehran.

He lied claiming Russia isn’t combating ISIS in Syria. He lied saying Washington is “diligently working to defeat ISIS” it supports.

He lied calling North Korea an existential threat, saying it’s “a handful of months” away from being able to attack America with nuclear weapons.

He threatened Russia, saying “America has an obligation to push back against” Putin.

He’s a rogue actor, a disturbing choice as Trump’s chief diplomat. His undiplomatic record in Congress and at Langley should have automatically disqualified him.

Trump appointed Gina Haspel to replace him as new CIA director, currently serving as its deputy director.

She’s the first woman to head the agency, another disturbing choice, earlier running a Langley black site in Thailand, notorious for using torture during interrogations.

Post-9/11, she was involved in launching global black site torture prisons, along with the CIA’s extraordinary rendition program, abusing targeted individuals in secret global black sites.

Reportedly she was responsible for destroying incriminating videotapes, showing torture at the facility she ran along with others.

Pompeo earlier said waterboarding and other enhanced interrogation methods don’t constitute torture. He called CIA operatives using them “patriots.”

In response to Haspel’s promotion to CIA director, ACLU legal director Jameel Jaffer called her “quite literally a war criminal.”

She’s a hawkish neocon like Pompeo, both officials cut from the same dirty cloth – fundamentally against policies just societies cherish.

Commenting on Pompeo replacing Tillerson at State, Russia’s upper house Federation Council committee on defense and security first deputy chairman Yevgeny Serebrennikov said Moscow will cooperate with Trump appointees, adding:

“We are pursuing a course of reducing tensions in relations between our countries, but our partners (sic) apparently do not share this aspiration.”

Pomeo and Haspel require Senate confirmation before assuming their new positions - expected to be rubber-stamp.

*Stephen Lendman is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization*

VISIT MY NEW WEB SITE: [stephenlendman.org](http://stephenlendman.org) ([Home - Stephen Lendman](http://stephenlendman.org)). Contact at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).

*My newest book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."*

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](http://stephenlendman.org), Global Research, 2018

---

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

**[Become a Member of Global Research](#)**

Articles by: [Stephen Lendman](http://stephenlendman.org)

#### About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net). His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com). Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**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](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://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](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)