

European Council Backs US Imperial Policy on Syria

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, October 16, 2015 Region: <u>Europe</u>, <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Terrorism</u>

EU heads of state comprise the European Council (EC), Donald Tusk its current president since December 2014.

Political and military developments in Syria were discussed at the EC's October 15 meeting, among other pressing issues, EU leaders ignoring Obama's war, saying in a statement issued:

"The Assad regime bears the greatest responsibility for the 250,000 deaths of the conflict and the millions of displaced people."

"The EU is fully engaged in finding a political solution to the conflict in close cooperation with the UN and the countries of the region and calls on all parties involved to work to that effect."

"There cannot be a lasting peace in Syria under the present leadership and until the legitimate grievances and aspirations of all components of Syrian society are addressed. The European Council expressed its concern about the Russian attacks on the Syrian opposition and civilians and the risk of further military escalation."

EU leaders gave short shrift to fighting ISIS and likeminded terrorists. They irresponsibly blamed Assad for Obama's high crimes, failed to praise Russia's important intervention, lied claiming it's killing civilians and not targeting ISIS.

Putin's righteous mission is extremely effective against a terrorist scourge vital to eliminate. He deserves support from all world leaders.

Ahead of Thursday's EC meeting, Syria condemned its support for Obama's imperial war. A Foreign Ministry source rejected EU-supported naked aggression against the Syrian people, its blatant interference in the internal affairs of the country, partnering with Washington's hegemonic agenda, adding:

EU leaders aim to undermine Moscow's vital mission, fronting for US policy. Earlier reports about France allying with Russia may have been premature.

President Francois Hollande expressed support for EU anti-Assad policy, at the same time urging a political solution involving Western and regional states along with Russia.

At a Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) meeting in Kazakhstan, leaders of former Soviet Republics Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan formed a joint task force to defend their borders from potential terrorist threats during a time of Western-instigated crisis. Putin explained his involvement in Syria, saying an estimated 5,000 to 7,000 Russians and other Central Asians are now ISIS terrorists. "We certainly cannot allow them to use the experience they are getting in Syria on home soil," he stressed.

"By carrying out airstrikes on targets chosen in coordination with the Syrians, our troops have produced significant results. Dozens of command points and depots, hundreds of terrorists and a large number of military hardware have been destroyed."

Russia supports "as big a coalition to fight the extremists and terrorists as possible and is working with major regional and international partners" – in full compliance with international law, following Syria's request for help.

CIS member states need to prepare for possible terrorist attacks, Putin stressed, expressing concern for deteriorating Afghan security conditions.

"The situation is becoming critical," he said. "Terrorists of all flavors are gaining influence there and don't hide their plans to expand. One of their targets is Central Asia. We have to be prepared to respond to this contingency."

Defense Ministry spokesman Major General Igor Konashenkov said Russian warplanes on Thursday flew 33 sorties against ISIS targets in Aleppo, the Damascus countryside, Deir as-Zor, Hama and Idlib, explaining:

"The militants are retreating, trying to establish new positions, and changing underway the course of their existing logistics system for the supply of ammunition, weaponry and equipment."

Fewer combat missions were flown because "the Syrian army's offensive is transforming the contact line with Islamic State terrorist formations."

Syria's Deputy Foreign Minister Fayssal Mikdad said effective Russian intervention is polar opposite US policy to continue endless war and human suffering – together with its rogue EU and regional allies.

"Syria will not sacrifice its sovereignty and independence under any condition," he stressed. "We will not accept any solution where any of these fundamental elements are not safeguarded."

Washington intends to keep resupplying ISIS and other takfiri terrorists, part of its unrelenting campaign to replace Assad with pro-Western puppet governance it controls, no matter the cost in human lives and suffering.

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at 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. 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.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2015

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Stephen Lendman	About the author:
	Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at 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. 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

<u>www.globalresearch.ca</u> 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