

Former Yugoslav FM: US, NATO Expansion Root Cause of Ukraine War

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Today, the dangers of military escalation are beyond description.

What is now happening in Ukraine has serious geopolitical implications. It could lead us into a World War III Scenario.

It is important that a peace process be initiated with a view to preventing escalation.

Global Research condemns Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

The history of this war must be understood.

The bombing and shelling led by Ukraine’s Armed Forces directed against the people of Donbass started eight years ago, resulting in the destruction of residential areas and more than 10,000 civilian casualties.

A bilateral Peace Agreement is required.

U.S. and NATO military expansion in Eastern Europe is the root cause of the current Ukraine crisis, Zivadin Jovanovic, former minister of foreign affairs of Yugoslavia, has said.

In an interview with *Xinhua*, Jovanovic who currently presides over the think-tank Belgrade Forum for a World of Equals, said that the crisis resulted from “the U.S.-NATO strategy of military expansion to the Russian borders, rejection of the principle of equal and indivisible security.”

Serbia was the first victim of NATO's expansion strategy, Jovanovic recalled.

In 1999, NATO troops led by the United States blatantly set the UN Security Council aside and carried out a 78-day continuous bombing of Yugoslavia under the guise of "preventing humanitarian disasters," killing and injuring over 8,000 innocent civilians and uprooting nearly 1 million.

Jovanovic called for a peaceful solution to the conflict in Ukraine, "taking into account legitimate security concerns of all countries and peoples involved."

Jovanovic said that the Ukrainian conflict and all that had preceded it, "calls to end the policy of military expansion, for recognition of legitimate rights of all countries to equal security without undermining the security of others," as well as for the "global recognition of the new multi-polar world order."

"We hope that the Ukrainian conflict will be resolved as soon as possible peacefully, through dialogue, taking into account the need for equal security of all countries and peoples. Sanctions, threats, double standards, one-sided approaches...are undermining peace efforts and therefore should cease," he added.

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Our thanks to Rick Rozoff for bringing this to our attention.

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