

The Hypocrisy and Immorality of Sanctions

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Theme: Law and Justice

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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.

A Bilateral Peace Agreement is required.

"I friggin' hate war," stammered Nicole, clenching her fists.

"Doesn't everyone hate war?" asked Hiro.

He meant it as a rhetorical question. But Nicole retorted, "No. Lockheed, Boeing, Raytheon and other weapon manufacturers *like*, er ... *looove* war. Wall Street loves war. Blackwater, or whatever they are called now, love war. And so do the mercenaries."

Hiro hadn't meant "everyone" to literally mean "everyone." But he knew his wording was imprecise.

"But one thing should come out of the Russia-Ukraine war... er" Nicole caught herself and reformulated her statement: "At least, one really good thing that is."

Hiro stroked the three-day stubble on his chin and pondered what his clever blonde friend sitting at the opposite end of the fading chesterfield had stated.

"Hmm, okay, I give. What is the one really good thing?"

"It is as simple as what is good for the goose is good for the gander."

Hiro tilted his head slightly to the right. "Not sure what you mean. If the Russians can invade another country, then everyone else can, too? But that's not a good thing. Besides, the US already invades whichever country they want as long as that country can't really fight back."

"No. That's not it. Look, if the world, ah ..., I mean the US, Europe, and Japan are going to sanction Russia for warring, then by all rights, any country that attacks another country without UN Security Council approval should also be sanctioned."

"Fat chance of that happening," said Hiro. "That would mean Ukraine should have been sanctioned for shelling Donbass. The US and Turkey should be sanctioned for invading Syria. Israel would be in a permanent state of being sanctioned."

"Exactly," responded Nicole. "The world, er, US, EU, UK, and Japan will expose themselves as massive hypocrites if they continue to war."

"But they already are hypocrites based on their actions against Russia and lack of action against other countries doing the same thing," said Hiro, rubbing his chin again. "And the US only plays by its own rules. The ICC is for the US to ignore. The World Court is the same. The Rule of Law means law for the others, not for the US."

"True," nodded Nicole, brushing back with her hand a shock of hair that had cascaded over one eye.

"And the western media will twist the meanings and omit whatever info it so chooses," added Hiro.

"True again, but people are starting to clue in. More and more people know the corporate media lies. Independent media is expanding. And hardly anyone watches friggin' CNN these days. Joe Rogan blows them all out of the water."

"And just look what happened to Joe," grumbled Hiro.

"Hiroyuki, it doesn't matter much because millions of people are listening to Joe and not his cancel culture critics."

Hiro flinched imperceptibly. He preferred the shortened form of his name. It sounded to him more heroic.

"But isn't this all whataboutism?"

"Maybe so," said Nicole. "But more so, it is about the equality of nations, and the UN says this is the foundation of the Rule of Law."

"Anyway, sanctions unless approved by the Security Council are illegal. So all the countries sanctioning Russia now are breaking international law," said Hiro pushing his glasses back on his nose bridge.

"Right again."

"And didn't Madeleine Albright say it was okay to kill half-a-million Iraqi kids with sanctions?" asked Hiro.

"Yes, she did. What a scandalous moment of truth it was."

"And doesn't *Foreign Affairs* magazine call them <u>sanctions-of-mass-destruction</u>, the deadliest WMD?"

"Yep," agreed Nicole, "And then there is the argument that sanctions are a declaration of war. Most definitely it is economic warfare."

"So because the US has been sanctioning Russia since before the invasion of Ukraine, it has been at war with Russia the whole time, not to mention with China, Iran, North Korea, and so on."

Nicole rolled her eyes. "Don't forget Cuba. Sixty years of friggin' sanctions. And why doesn't the media tell us about all that?"

It was a rhetorical question, but Hiro answered anyway: "Because we are not part of that mainstream."

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