

Is NATO Preparing for War on Russia?

By Stephen Lendman

Global Research, October 26, 2017

Region: Russia and FSU

Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

VISIT MY NEW WEB SITE:

stephenlendman.org

(Home - Stephen Lendman).

Contact at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>.

Bilateral Russia/US relations are dismal – so far confined to a war of words, risking things turning hot. Hostile US actions include:

- deploying US-led NATO forces close to Russia's border breaching the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE -1991), limiting conventional military equipment in Europe;
- staging provocative military exercises in bordering countries, rehearsing belligerence against the Russian Federation;
- notably using Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland as training grounds for US-led NATO wars;
- preparing for hybrid and conventional war on Russia;
- inventing and hyping a nonexistent "Russian threat;"
- abandoning the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty;
- breaching the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) by creating "weapons systems" violating its treaty obligations, according to Sergey Lavrov;
- falsely accusing Moscow of "aggression" in Ukraine;
- seizing Russian properties in America;
- closing one of its consulates;
- expelling its diplomats;
- falsely blaming the Kremlin for interference in last year's US presidential election;
- accusing it of supporting governments Washington wants toppled;
- imposing illegal sanctions on Russia;
- meddling in its internal affairs; and
- constant daily media and congressional bashing, including unconscionable vilification of Vladimir Putin.

All of the above and more should scare everyone, especially with administration and congressional hawkish neocons dictating geopolitical policymaking.

America is a warrior state, waging endless wars of aggression in multiple theaters, wanting all sovereign independent governments replaced by pro-Western puppet regimes – Russia,

China and Iran its top targets.

According to the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>, US-dominated NATO is set to approve two new commands – to strengthen its ability to confront Russia belligerently.

One command would manage alliance logistics, focusing on moving troops and equipment more swiftly. A second command would focus on protecting Atlantic and Arctic Ocean sea lanes, important supply lines for Europe.

Pentagon commanders want NATO members able to act fast and effectively against Russian forces.

US Army Europe commander General Ben Hodges said

"(t)he alliance has to move as quick or quicker than Russian Federation forces for our deterrent to be effective."

"Speed is what will give our civilian leaders options other than a liberation campaign."

NATO spokeswoman Oana Lungescu said review of NATO's command structure is about "deploy(ing) forces quickly across the alliance."

Member states are "adapting national legislation to allow military equipment to transit faster across borders and are working on improving national infrastructure."

Headquarters for the new commands will be in Brunssom, Netherlands and Naples, Italy. They'll be at the same level as NATO's Joint Forces Commands.

US-installed alliance Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg claimed

"(o)ur deployments are a direct response to Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine, (its) military buildup close our borders, and its lack of transparency when it comes to military exercises such as Zapad 2017."

All of the above accusations are false. Stoltenberg represents US interests, supporting its aggressive wars and unacceptable hostility toward Russia – things likely heading for an eventual showdown, the unthinkable possibility of nuclear war, an armageddon scenario if launched.

US-dominated NATO is a serial aggressor, at war in multiple theaters. Russia's actions are entirely defensive, essential given Western belligerence.

Moscow fosters world peace and stability - notions Washington rejects.

VISIT MY NEW WEB SITE: <u>stephenlendman.org</u> (<u>Home - Stephen Lendman</u>). Contact at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>.

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

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2017

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 cuttingedge 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

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