

## NATO Discussing Ways to Provoke Russia Further

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, December 02, 2015 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u>, <u>Russia</u> and FSU Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

On Tuesday and Wednesday, NATO foreign ministers are meeting in Brussels on the pretext of "work(ing) on further measures to assure Turkey's security," and related issues, based on a nonexistent Russian threat.

It sounds like a bad joke, except issues at stake are deadly serious, Russia-bashing featured in all NATO meetings, Erdogan's well-planned act of aggression complicit with Washington called self-defense, Secretary-General Stoltenberg saying:

NATO has "standing defense plans for (member country) Turkey (including) augmented...air defenses, (part of its) long-term commitment to an ally" – despite no nation threatening its security.

Washington "deployed aircraft to support Turkey's air defenses" – Britain to follow suit along with Germany and Denmark. "(W)e have decided to address the need to support Turkey before the incident last week."

Were NATO officials briefed about plans to down a Russian aircraft before the incident? All the fuss about Turkey reflects the latest way of bashing Russia.

Are plans to defend Turkish airspace code language for more anti-Russian provocations?

Turkey already has one of the world's strongest militaries, waging terror war against regional Kurds, entering Syrian and Iraqi airspace lawlessly, killing its fighters battling ISIS, Erdogan lying about combating terrorism.

Aiding its military with US and other NATO member countries' firepower increases the chance of direct confrontation with Russia. Is this what Washington intends, Erdogan recklessly going along, possibly getting embroiled with something way over his head, gravely risking Turkey's security by playing America's dirty game?

Stoltenberg called enhanced Russian eastern Mediterranean and Baltic Sea region military capability a matter of "concern" – ignoring NATO's hostile buildup and provocative military exercises near its borders, Russia responding responsibly to a confrontational US-led threat.

Stoltenberg claims NATO must focus on new ways of deterring a (nonexistent) Russian threat.

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