

Polish Anti-War Debates: Criticism of Kiev Regime or NATO, Punishable with Prison Sentence

By [Konrad Rękas](#)

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Polish Anti-War Debates are a kind of phenomenon. Even though Poland is not formally a belligerent, there is strict war censorship there.

Secret Service has the right to limit access to independent media without giving a reason. The recent amendment to the Penal Code introduced the categories of "unconscious espionage" and "disinformation", i.e. "dissemination of false or misleading information with the aim of causing serious disruptions in the system or economy of the Republic of Poland, an allied state or an international organisation of which the Republic of Poland is a member".

Simply: any criticism of pro-Kiev policy or NATO activities is punishable in Poland with a prison sentence of up to 8 years.

And yet there are still brave people who take this risk, trying to present the Polish public with true information about the war in Ukraine, as well as to raise awareness that even Western public opinion is by no means uniform in supporting the Zelensky regime. Thanks to independent media such as "Myśl Polska", the oldest Polish political weekly, founded in 1941 in exile in London, and the online channel "Wbrew Cenzurze / Without Censorship", Polish viewers and readers get know the opinions of leading Western analysts and activists of anti-war movements from the UK, USA, Ireland and Germany.



Source: Konrad Rekas

International Voices for Peace

The Anti-War Debates hosted i.a.: George Galloway, leader of the Workers Party of Britain and the No2NATO movement; Col. Douglas Macgregor, military expert, former advisor of the President Donald Trump's administration; Larry C. Johnson, security expert, former CIA officer and analyst; Chris Williamson, ex-MP and former Labour Shadow Cabinet member; Diana Sosoaca, Romanian senator, president of the SOS Romania party; Grzegorz Braun, Polish Member of Parliament; Prof. Kees van der Pijl, a leading scientist in international political economy; David Pyne, former Pentagon analyst, advisor to the candidate in the Republican Party primaries, Vivek Ramaswamy; and Scott Ritter, military analyst, former disarmament inspector.

Guests of [the last, special edition of the programme](#) included: Clare Daly, Irish MEP, member of Independents 4 Change, The Left in the European Parliament – GUE/NGL, pro-neutrality, anti-war activist and renowned Palestinian right campaigner; Peter Ford, English diplomat, British ambassador to Bahrain from 1999 to 2003 and Syria from 2003 to 2006. Determined opponent of the British militarist involvement in the Middle East and in the Eastern Europe. Member of the Workers Party of Britain; Tommy Sheridan, Scottish Socialist MSP and current chair of the Scottish independence campaign Hope Over Fear. Mick Wallace, Irish MEP, leader of Independents 4 Change, The Left in the European Parliament – GUE/NGL renowned anti-war activist, a proven friend of the Palestinian cause, engaged in supporting anti-imperialist movements in the Middle East, Africa, South America. The discussion was organised on the anniversary of the outbreak of World War 2, to emphasise a warning against the tragic consequences of further escalation in the international relations.

False Anglo-Saxon Guarantees

Starting a discussion, I recalled the words of general Kazimierz Sosnkowski, Polish Commander-in-chief during the late period of the WW2. He has written to the Polish soldiers in 1944:

“Five years have passed since the day when Poland, having listened to the encouragement of the British government and received its guarantees, stood alone in the fight against the German power”.

After that harsh but true reminder, that Poland was pushed to fight by Britain, Churchill successfully demanded general Sosnkowski’s dismissal. Today we can see with no doubts, that it has been the encouragement of London and Washington pushing Kiev to pursue a policy that resulted in war with Russia.

“Ukraine was definitely under pressure from London and Washington to continue the war. In April last year, a peace agreement was already on the table that could end the conflict and seemed acceptable to Moscow and Kiev. In particular, it was Boris Johnson, then supported by the Americans and part of the EU, who ordered Ukraine to continue fighting. This is the Western proxy war with Russia, and the longer it lasts, the more Ukrainians are thrown into the meat grinder, the more destruction there is, and more territories are lost. This is an absolute disaster for Ukraine, commissioned by supposed Western friends who are in fact not friends of Ukraine at all,” Clare Daly agreed.

Centre of Extremism

“It is clear that British and American policy is failing. In fact, it never had a chance to succeed. The policy makers of London and Washington dreamed, taking their dreams for reality. Of course, they were never going to pay for it themselves. It was the Ukrainians who were thrown into the meat grinder. So it was a highly risky policy, although without much risk for London or Washington themselves. It is worth remembering that 10 years ago, in 2013, the British Labour Party in a Commons vote protected Britain from participating in the bombing of Syria. This was achieved with a small majority and with the help of a group of braves, rebellious Conservative MPs, but it was proof that there was a party of peace in my country. But those days are long gone. There has been a collapse of the true, authentic British left, all the main parties today are in positions of extreme centre, ready to fight to the last Ukrainian,” added Ambassador Ford.

Fight to the Last Ukrainian!

Mick Wallace emphasised that we are also dealing with a European crisis:

“We have just had a meeting of the European Parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee on the financing of Ukraine. Some of the voices were truly shocking, so unreasonable were the speeches of the MEPs who kept repeating that he had to pump up Ukraine’s arsenals or Ukraine would lose the war. There is still talk of Ukraine regaining lost territories and Crimea. Ukraine will not regain Crimea without a nuclear war! Does Europe think of a nuclear war on its own continent as something that could realistically happen?! The speeches of European politicians have no connection with the interests of their own citizens or with the interests of Ukrainians, who are dying *en masse* in this war. This is a serious crisis. Party politics does not attract intelligent people. We are witnessing a serious lack of European leadership.”

Global Reconfiguration

Tommy Sheridan’s voice was particularly strong:

“Only Pope Francis had the courage to say that none of the European politicians had the balls to admit that Russia was provoked to invade. As the Pope said, when a dog barks at someone’s door, one cannot be surprised by the reaction. Would the American government be happy to learn tomorrow that China is installing its weapons in Mexico? This is terrible for socialists like me, who are completely against war, against nuclear weapons, against the very idea of militarism, which I sincerely hate, because only workers suffer because of it, and they die in wars. But I must admit: if I were Vladimir Putin, in the same situation, what could I do other than attack to defend my own sovereignty? So, with all due respect, I believe that this war was made inevitable as a result of NATO’s actions, obviously led by the US. And I must also add that they were wrong in their calculations. They expected that financing Ukraine and the widespread imposition of sanctions would bring Russia to its knees. Meanwhile, what happened was China, India, Brazil, Argentina, subsequent countries declaring: We do not want to be part of your imperialist expansion. We will not follow American orders. This is a global reconfiguration!”

By slightly opening the door of the Polish prison of thought, Polish anti-war groups try to participate, at least partially, in this global anti-imperialist transformation.

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Konrad Rekas is a regular contributor to Global Research.

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