

The 'Panama Papers' and 'Regime Change': Who is Behind 'The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists' (ICIJ)?

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The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) is based right in the belly of the beast, Washington D.C. The ICIJ is an offshoot of the Center for Public Integrity (CPI). In an interesting note, ultra-propagandist CNN's Christiane Amanpour was a former board member of the organization. The CPI is also funded by the CIA-connected Ford Foundation, George Soros's 'Open Society Foundation', The Rockefeller Family Fund and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund of the international banking cartel, the Rockefeller family.

The list of the main-stream media (MSM) news outlets has partnered with the ICIJ serve the political and financial establishment. The list includes the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the Guardian (UK) and the Huffington Post (US). The ICIJ also partnered with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty which was established during the Cold War as a CIA front to broadcast anti-Soviet propaganda in Eastern Europe. In 2014, a France 24 titled "Radio Free Europe back on frontline over Ukraine" reported that:

"A quarter of a century after it helped topple totalitarian Communist regimes in Eastern Europe, the US-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is duelling Moscow again, this time in a media war over the Ukraine crisis."

Journalist and author David Satter, a former Moscow correspondent for the *Financial Times* who claimed Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the apartment bombings across Russia in 1999 was an advisor at one time for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. Well-known establishment mouthpieces such as the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* has also partnered with the ICIJ which is highly influential in the Anglo-American foreign policy agenda for the Military Industrial Complex.

The ICIJ is also supported by the *Open Society Foundation* and the *Ford Foundation*. The Ford Foundation's connection to the CIA is a well-documented fact since the 1940's. Frances Stonor Saunders, the author of *'Who Paid the Piper? The CIA and the Cultural Cold War'* wrote "the CIA considers foundations such as Ford "The best and most plausible kind of funding cover". Open Society Foundation has collaborated on a number of occasions with the *United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*, another regime change organization.

Guilty by Association

President Vladimir Putin and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad are the first casualties of the Panama Papers scandal. According to the BBC, Putin recently commented on Russia's "Western opponents" on Russian television when he said that they "are worried by the unity and solidarity of the Russian nation... and that is why they are attempting to rock us from within, to make us more obedient".

NBC news, an American propaganda news outlet did not waste any time accusing Putin of money-laundering with his "*close*" associates:

Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, is not named in the documents, but there are allegations of a billion-dollar money-laundering ring controlled by a Russian bank that has links to associates of the Russian leader. The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), one of the teams that has been analyzing the data, told CNBC the papers show Putin's close aides were involved in a \$2 billion money trail with offshore firms and banks

NBC interviewed one of the journalists from the ICIJ by the name of Jake Bernstein and said:

"We've found a network of people around Vladimir Putin," ICIJ's Jake Bernstein told CNBC Monday. "It's extraordinary, they are moving hundreds of millions of dollars at a time, they are taking money from a subsidiary, a Russian state bank, they are grabbing interests in major Russian companies and although we never see Vladimir Putin's name in the documents themselves, these are people who are very close to him," he added

Interestingly, NBC reported on the role played by the Open Society Foundation and how Putin would respond:

Russia, in particular, could respond aggressively, Bremmer added. Given that the ICIJ was partially funded by billionaire George Soros' Open Society Foundation, the Kremlin may wish to respond, he noted.

"I feel fairly confident that the Kremlin will be going after the U.S., Soros, the CIA and this is going to make Russian policy towards the U.S. actually much more sharp and antagonistic," he said. "That's the kind of thing authoritarian governments need to do to take forced transparency that makes them look bad at home, they have to gin up trouble with enemies abroad"

There is no evidence that Putin did anything illegal, it is Putin's "*close friend*" and his "*childhood friends*" that has offshore accounts in Panama. What is also interesting is that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad is implicated in the '*Panama Papers*' despite no evidence whatsoever that Assad himself has any offshore accounts. It was Assad's cousins who are maintaining the offshore accounts.

Is the West attempting to create revolutions in Russia and Syria on allegations of corruption since the Islamic State has failed to remove Assad from power? There were protests in Iceland against Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson for his links to an offshore company in the British Virgin Islands he and his wife set up with assistance by Mossack Fonseca law firm with money they inherited. *Telesur* reported that social movements in Mexico and Panama also began protests against the "Panama Papers corruption scandal."

That is what the Western media and the regime change organizations such as the Open Society Foundation and the Ford Foundation with collaboration with the CIA and Washington hope for. The West is trying to achieve “*regime change*” in Russia and Syria with protests that would lead to violence which means more “*good*” propaganda for the MSM against Russia and Syria. Washington and its Western partners are clearly behind this operation because they are desperate for regime change even if their close allies are exposed in the *Panama Papers* including Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and Saudi King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Bin Abdulrahman Al Saud. For Washington it is nothing personal against their allies who were sacrificed for a geopolitical agenda, it is just business as usual.

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