

Trump's "War on Terrorism": Going After America's "Intelligence Assets"?

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

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President Donald Trump has committed himself to eliminating terrorism from the face of the Earth. Alongside the ban on Muslims entering the US, Trump has tagged "Islamic terrorism" as a threat to the "Civilized World".

This broad commitment is also based on the building of "alliances" with countries united in a common cause:

"We will reinforce old alliances and form new ones and unite the civilized world against radical Islamic terrorism, which we will eradicate from the face of the Earth."

What's the Difference? *Déjà vu*. Continuity in relation to George W. Bush and Barack Obama?

Trump is using similar words and familiar concepts (civilized world, partner nations, etc.) as his predecessors in the White House. His statement regarding "Islamic terrorism" bears a canny resemblance to the carefully worded script of George W. Bush's historic speech to the US Congress on September 20, 2001, nine days after the 9/11 attacks:

Every nation, in every region, now has a decision to make. Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists. From this day forward, any nation that continues to harbor or support terrorism will be regarded by the United States as a hostile regime.

Our war on terror begins with al Qaeda, but it does not end there. It will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated. ... ([White House](#), September 20, 2001)

Address to a Joint Session of Congress and the American People [\[en Español\]](#)

United States Capitol
Washington, D.C.

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9:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Speaker, Mr. President Pro Tempore, members of Congress, and fellow Americans:

In the normal course of events, Presidents come to this chamber to report on the state of the Union. Tonight, no such report is needed. It has already been delivered by the American people.

We have seen it in the courage of passengers, who rushed terrorists to save others on the ground -- passengers like an exceptional man named Todd Beamer. And would you please help me to welcome his wife, Lisa Beamer, here tonight. (Applause.)

We have seen the state of our Union in the endurance of rescuers, working past exhaustion. We have seen the unfurling of flags, the lighting of candles, the giving of blood, the saying of prayers -- in English, Hebrew, and Arabic. We have seen the decency of a loving and giving people who have made the grief of strangers their own.

My fellow citizens, for the last nine days, the entire world has seen for itself the state of our Union -- and it is strong. (Applause.)



How will Trump Implement his “War on Terrorism”?

Trump has largely endorsed the prevailing Neocon Consensus, which describes the war on terrorism as a humanitarian R2P endeavor (i.e. under the banner of “Responsibility to Protect.”)

Under Trump, the War on Terrorism doctrine remains functionally intact: Both Bush and Obama were committed to waging the “Global War on Terrorism” (GWOT) launched in the immediate wake of 9/11. Moreover, the “war on terrorism” became deeply entrenched in post 9/11 US military doctrine as well as Homeland Security.

Trump has unwittingly joined the bandwagon of the GWB-Obama Fake War on Terrorism, which essentially consists in supporting the terrorists as well as nurturing political alliances with countries which directly sponsor and finance “Islamic terrorism”.

Torturing US “Intelligence Assets”

Trump’s War on Terrorism is upheld as a “holy crusade” against radical Islam. He views Muslims as a threat to Christianity and Western civilization. In turn, Trump’s appointee to head the CIA Mike Pompeo considers the “global war on terrorism” (GWOT) as a “War between Islam and Christianity”.

At the very outset of his mandate, Trump has reinstated torture including waterboarding, to be used against alleged Muslim terrorists. The objective is to “keep our country safe”.

“When they’re shooting, when they’re chopping off the heads of our people and other people, when they’re chopping off the heads of people because they happen to be a Christian in the Middle East, when Isis (IS) is doing things that nobody has ever heard of since Medieval times, would I feel strongly about

waterboarding?”

As far as I'm concerned we have to fight fire with fire.... The answer is yes, absolutely...

In turn, reports suggest that Trump has ordered [the reinstatement of secret CIA's prisons](#) “where many of the worst abuses of CIA's post-9/11 torture program took place”.

Has the CIA's War against Trump subsided?

Trump so to speak believes his own propaganda, namely that Islamic terror organizations constitute a threat to the security of “Western civilization”.

He also reveals a lack of knowledge and understanding of the history of Al Qaeda and the central role of the CIA in (covertly) supporting “Islamic terrorism” since the heyday of the Soviet-Afghan war. In this regard, he seems to be totally unaware that Al Qaeda is a US Sponsored Intelligence Asset and that the “Global War on Terrorism” is a Lie.

It is therefore highly unlikely that Trump will wage a “Real War on Terrorism” by confronting the military and intelligence apparatus which (covertly) support Islamic terrorism. These include US intelligence, the Pentagon, NATO as well as Britain's MI6 and Israel's Mossad, among others.

Moreover, several of America's allies including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Pakistan, Turkey (in close liaison with Washington) are involved in recruiting, training as well as financing the terrorists. The Terrorists R Us. Lest we forget, al Qaeda is a creation of the CIA going back to the Soviet Afghan War.

Trump has embraced the Neocon Consensus. Moreover, Trump has not taken a position against Obama's counter-terrorism bombing campaign launched in 2014 allegedly against the ISIS strongholds in both Syria and Iraq.

Under Trump, the consensus within the intelligence community which uses the GWOT as an instrument of destruction and destabilization prevails. While waging a campaign against Islamic terrorism, the US and its allies are the “state sponsors of terrorism”.

Torture as an Instrument of Propaganda

In turn, America's “Intelligence Assets” are subjected to acts of torture. That has been the unspoken practice. Torture is a diabolical instrument of propaganda which is intended to sway public opinion.

Torture is upheld by Trump as a humanitarian instrument, as a means to protect Americans against “Muslim terrorists” who threaten the Homeland.

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About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has taught as visiting professor in Western Europe, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. He has served as economic adviser to governments of developing countries and has acted as a consultant for several international organizations. He is the author of 13 books. He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at crgeditor@yahoo.com

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