

U.S.-NATO Missiles In Europe: Potential Threat To World Peace

By Lugenzi Kabale Global Research, December 18, 2011 Citizen Daily (Tanzania) 18 December 2011 Region: <u>Europe</u> Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

US and Nato should avoid confrontation with Russia

-To understand the side-effects which might result from this missile crisis, America should remember the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

What the US is trying to do in the name of Nato is a true replica of the Cuban missile crisis which almost caused the first global nuclear war.

-Russia's top generals consider the missile shield in Europe project to be a direct threat to its nuclear forces, with US use of 'rogue states' as a target for the planned missiles just a cover-up.

-This is a serious threat not only to the US-Nato alliance but to global peace. America and its hawkish European partners should think twice before going ahead with the missile project. They have to take into consideration that Russia is not a push-over as the Pentagon and Brussels may like to believe.

Even more important Russia is not a soft target like Muammar Gadaffi's Libya, Afghanistan or Iraq where America and its hawkish European partners were certain of victory prior to embarking upon invasion.

The way the United States of America through the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) treats Russia when the former implements its strategic military projects in Europe generates more questions than answers.

This is proved by the planned project to place new missile defence systems and radars in Europe. The project has caused unrest following the involving of new Nato members in Eastern Europe.

US-Russia cooperation since the collapse of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1991 has been tricky for both states, with Russia facing an uphill task of trying to halt the US's strong drive to woo former Warsaw Pact states to join Nato. [All former Warsaw Pact nations outside the former Soviet Union are now full NATO members – RR]

Earlier when Poland, Romania and other former USSR allies under the Warsaw Pact applied for Nato membership, Moscow came up fighting against the move, Russia lost the fight...

A moment to fight Nato presented itself this year following US and its Nato allies unveiling a multi-billion- dollar plan to place land- and sea-based radars and interceptors in different

European locations over the next decade.

Among identified locations to host the missiles are Poland and Romania, two states formerly members of the defunct Warsaw Pact.

While Moscow is furious and spiting fire, Washington claims the new missile sites where new shield missile system are to be placed are not aimed at Russian targets, but are rather aim at protecting US allies against 'rogue states'.

•••

The unfolding Nato-Russia spat as a result of Nato's missile project leads one to question, are the US and Nato underestimating Russia's military strength to the point of daring to provoke the former super power?

Or is US-Nato homework on Russian military strength done competitively to justify a provocation which if it leads to a military confrontation will see the US and by extension Nato emerge victorious, hence tilting the military balance in Europe to Nato's favour?

If that is the calculation by Nato military experts in Brussels and the Pentagon, then they should go back to the drawing board. This is because they are provoking Russia at their own peril. One can't imagine who among Nato members pushed for the missile shield project so arbitrarily with no reasoning as to the need of bringing Moscow on board.

To understand the side-effects which might result from this missile crisis, America should remember the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

What the US is trying to do in the name of Nato is a true replica of the Cuban missile crisis which almost caused the first global nuclear war.

To prove what is in store following the US's thirst to create an imperialist hegemony in Europe, outgoing Russian president Dmitry Medvedev responded to the US-Nato project by warning the US and its European allies that Russia will rightfully target the new proposed missile defense sites.

According to Medvedev, Russia will deploy short-range Iskander missiles in Kaliningrad, a Baltic Sea exclave along the Russia-Poland border. The Russian leader displayed the reaction while wearing a stern face. He said tension would only be defused if the US takes into account Russian proposals to jointly man the sites with Nato. This will help Russia be sure the sites will not target its territory.

Unfortunately the US and Nato flatly rebuffed Moscow by rejecting the proposal.

With such a US-Nato position, automatically the 'understanding' between the two parties will be achieved in the battle trenches.

To show what the menu is for the West, Russia has stated that it will position Iskander missiles and other weapons in Russia's west and south targeting the planned U.S missiles in Europe.

Russia's top generals consider the missile shield in Europe project to be a direct threat to its

nuclear forces, with US use of 'rogue states' as a target for the planned missiles just a cover-up. To bolster the Russian 'warning' on the US-Nato threat, Medvedev went public saying that prospective Russian strategic nuclear missiles will be fitted with systems that would allow them to penetrate missile defenses.

This is a serious threat not only to the US-Nato alliance but to global peace. America and its hawkish European partners should think twice before going ahead with the missile project. They have to take into consideration that Russia is not a push-over as the Pentagon and Brussels may like to believe.

Even more important Russia is not a soft target like Muammar Gadaffi's Libya, Afghanistan or Iraq where America and its hawkish European partners were certain of victory prior to embarking upon invasion.

The writer is a correspondent with The Citizen based in Dar es Salaam.

Stop NATO e-mail list home page with archives and search engine: <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/ group/stopnato/ messages</u>

Stop NATO website and articles: http://rickrozoff. wordpress. com

To subscribe for individual e-mails or the daily digest, unsubscribe, and otherwise change subscription status: <u>stopnato-subscribe@ yahoogroups. com</u>

The original source of this article is <u>Citizen Daily (Tanzania)</u> Copyright © <u>Lugenzi Kabale</u>, <u>Citizen Daily (Tanzania)</u>, 2011

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Lugenzi Kabale

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