

US Media Coverage of Ukraine Neo-Nazi Militia Ignores Embedded Fascism within the Kiev Regime. "The Flowering of Neo-Nazism."

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US media coverage of the neo-Nazi Azov Battalion in Ukraine has diverted attention from the fascism that permeates politics in Kiev, experts told Sputnik.

On July 4, 2015, US media outlet The Daily Beast reported that there were "no doubts" that the Azov Battalion was a neo-Nazi militant group that is leading the fight against independence supporters in eastern Ukraine.

"I don't think this [Azov Battalion coverage] exposes the role of the two main neo-Nazi parties, Svoboda and the Right Sector, within the political power structure," Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG) Director Michel Chossudovsky told Sputnik on Wednesday. "The Western media is involved in a cover up."

Chossudovsky said it was rare for US mainstream reporters to use the term "neo-Nazi" when describing Ukraine fascist groups because most have been trained to use words like "rightwing" and "conservative."



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US mainstream media, Chossudovsky argued, condemns the neo-Nazis in the military on one hand while claiming the government in Kiev is free of fascist tendencies and wholly committed to democracy. "The New York Times has been spinning right from the beginning... that it [Ukraine] is the flowering of democracy," Chossudovsky asserted. "Well, it's a bloody lie... it's the flowering of neo-Nazism."

StopImperialism.com editor and geopolitical analyst Eric Draitser told Sputnik that a trickle of US media coverage regarding the presence of Nazis in the Ukraine military will not change US policy nor will it change the narrative in Washington.

"The narrative of Ukraine as having been caused by 'Russian aggression' is firmly implanted in the public psyche in the United States after 18 months of propaganda from both major parties and every major media outlet," Draitser claimed.

On June 12, 2015, the US House of Representatives passed amendments to the country's Defense Spending Bill to block the training of Ukraine's Azov Battalion.

International watchdogs, including Human Rights Watch, have repeatedly expressed concerns over crimes against civilians committed by Azov and other Ukraine paramilitary groups.

Amnesty International said in September 2014 that the Ukrainian government should bear responsibility for the war crimes and human rights violations committed by its volunteers.

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