

## War Against Iran as a Method of Promoting Globalism

By <u>Dmitry Sedov</u> Global Research, August 09, 2010 <u>Strategic Culture Foundation</u> 9 August 2010 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?</u>

There is little doubt that the US will hit Iran after pulling its troops out of Iraq. Military spending in the US has gained too much momentum to leave any hope that the current dynamics will change in the foreseeable future. The US military-industrial complex and its Pentagon partners have long been preparing the war-against-Iran project, readily resorting to the most unsavory methods in the process.

Preparations for the war against Iran largely resemble the activity which preceded the US attack against Iraq. Saddam Hussein faced allegations of concealing WMD stockpiles, and the current Iranian leadership is being charged with maintaining nuclear program which is about to become a global peril.

Tehran's statements that it is ready to host IAEA inspections are brushed off just as were Iraq's offers to admit Western experts to its installations. Washington holds that an Iranian nuclear threat is an established fact and remains totally unreceptive to objections.

Rationally, the US at the same time rejects the proposal to establish a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East (as its implementation would create serious problems for Israel) and reacts sluggishly to the more than real risks stemming from Pakistan's illicit possession of nuclear weapons.

On top of the fact that a US military escapade targeting Iran would bear a global negative impact, Russia has to take into account its own vested interests in Iran. Let's face it: US globalism poses a direct threat to Russia, as it automatically reduces Russia's role to that of a dependent supplier of commodities for the unified Pax Americana and imposes on it broader implications of the status. The globalization project leaves nations no chance to sustain their political and cultural sovereignty and thus puts in jeopardy the core values of Russian civilization.

The brewing war can, as one of the options, be viewed through the prism of the conflict between globalization and Islam. At the moment, Shia Iran happens to be one of the biggest obstacles in the way of globalization.

One should keep in mind that – in line with the requirements of its religion – Iran rejects the interest rate which is the cornerstone of the Western economy. Even Iran's banking system manages to avoid charging interest rates, thus sending a kind of a message to the rest of the world.

This is the ideological axis of the Iran-US ideological standoff exposing the ruthless nature of

the US pawnbroking order based on the legitimized exploitation of those in need. The adequacy of the views of Iranian mullahs outrages Washington globalists. It is natural that Tehran became the stronghold of anti-Americanism in the Muslim world and that the US cannot proceed with its plans of transforming the Middle East as long as Iran in its present shape is there.

The objectives of the forces seeking to steer the region towards globalism are to overthrow the Shia regime in Tehran and to install a pro-US government in its place. What would be the consequences of the establishment of a pro-US regime in Iran from Russia's perspective?

The Caspian region and Russia's neighbors – Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan – would be dragged into a new instability zone as their Americanization would be seen as a natural step by the proponents of globalization. The advent of regimes unfriendly to Russia – akin to the former Orange one in Ukraine – in Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan would confront Moscow with unfavorable settings. Another Saakashvili in Azerbaijan would create major problems, especially for Armenia. The consequences of the US making inroads into Turkmenistan are generally unpredictable but obviously negative.

It is worth noting that Russia has important direct links to Iran in the sphere of the economy. The cooperation between Moscow and Tehran is already under pressure and stands no chance in the case of regime change in Iran.

Russia should carefully answer several elementary questions to formulate its position on the Iranian problem. The questions are:

1. Is Russia interested in the existence of Iran in its present form? The answer is that it is, considering that Tehran is open to cooperation with Moscow. Tehran may be a difficult partner, but that is a routine situation. Iran's position reflects the views held by the Muslim world whose respect Russia should do its best to retain.

2. Is Moscow's increasingly obvious pro-US drift a positive development from the standpoint of Russia's own interests? Hardly so – if Moscow hopes to buy the long-promised reset by concessions to Washington in dealing with Iran, the policy is markedly short-sighted. The reset will materialize only to the extent to which it is in the interests of the US. Russia's experts on the US should express their views on how the reset story is unfolding. It is time to assess soberly which factors forced the US to pledge the reset and how much good will there was in Washington's motivation. The impression is that the good will did not play a significant role.

The bottom line is that Russia's politics with respect to Iran should stay clear of any US influence.

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