

# Will Donald Trump End Illegal US Sanctions on Russia? Praises Putin as a Good Leader, Better than Obama

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, November 19, 2016

Region: [Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)

*He praised Putin as a good leader, doing a great job, wanting to get along with him. Straightaway he should end US sanctions by executive order, influencing EU leaders to follow suit.*

Imposed without Security Council authorization, they're illegal under international law – based on phony “Russian aggression” claims, nonexistent intervention in Ukraine, and accommodating overwhelming Crimean sentiment to return the territory to Russia, correcting a historic mistake.



**Donald Trump has showered Vladimir Putin with praise as he and rival Hillary Clinton took pointed questions from military veterans.**

The Republican presidential nominee told the forum the Russian president "has been a leader far more than our president [Obama] has been".

---

**Trump elected**

---

**The people around Donald Trump**

**Trump presidency: Your questions answered**

# *At NBC Candidate Forum, Trump Praises Vladimir Putin As Great, Strong, Successful Leader*

On his final foreign tour before leaving office in January, Obama met in Berlin with Germany's Angela Merkel, Britain's Theresa May, France's Francois Hollande, Italy's Matteo Renzi, and Spain's Mario Rajoy – a summit glorifying dirty business as usual, showing unity against responsible change.

They expressed support for NATO, anti-populist globalization and widely despised TTIP (the pro-corporate, anti-consumer, anti-environment US/EU TPP equivalent), along with maintaining illegal sanctions on Russia.

The endorsed peace and stability while continuing to wage aggressive wars. Following their meeting, a White House statement said:

“The leaders agreed on the necessity of working collectively to move the transatlantic agenda forward, particularly on bringing stabilization to the Middle East and North Africa, as well as securing diplomatic resolution to the conflicts in Syria and eastern Ukraine.”

“The leaders also affirmed the importance of continued cooperation through multilateral institutions, including NATO.”

“On Syria, the President emphasized that de-escalation and a diplomatic solution to the ongoing conflict are the only viable ways to end the suffering, prevent another migration (sic) crisis, and move toward a political transition” – while continuing to support ISIS, al-Nusra and other terrorists groups ravaging the country, supported by Pentagon and “coalition” warplanes.

“They unanimously agreed on the continued need for Russia to fully meet its commitments under the Minsk agreements and that Ukraine-related sanctions against Russia must remain in place until it does so.”

They ignored Moscow's all-out efforts for conflict resolution, fully complying with Minsk, its good faith consistently undermined by Washington.

Unlike America and its rogue partners, Russia “never initiated sanctions” against other nations (illegal under international law without Security Council authorization), Putin spokesman Dmitry Peskov explained.

In Lima, Peru for the November 19 – 20 APEC Leaders' Summit, Peskov said Putin and Obama may speak informally on its sidelines. No formal meeting was arranged.

Earlier ones achieved nothing toward normalizing bilateral relations – responsible change hopefully coming after Trump's inauguration.

*Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).*

*His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."*

*<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>*

*Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com).*

*Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network.*

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2016

---

**[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)**

**[Become a Member of Global Research](#)**

Articles by: [Stephen Lendman](#)

#### About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net). His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."  
<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com). Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**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](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://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](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)