

Some Geostrategic Aspects in Russia vs. U.S. Relationship by Ari RUSILA

“It is not about ideology, democracy nor respect for borders - It is about money and global power.”

(AR viewpoint to issue)

A Viewpoint...





The break-up of Yugoslavia

- ★The ten-year long crisis in the Balkans began when Germany forced its European partners to recognize the non-negotiated secessions of Slovenia and Croatia from Yugoslavia. Germany & Co reasoned that the disintegration of the Yugoslavia and the creation of a series of weak mini-states in its place (i.e., in the Balkans) would be "easy pickings" for the European business elites.
- ★U.S. started military aid to Croatia after Feb. 1994 through U.S. military advisors from *Military Professional Resources Incorporated* (MPRI), air-strikes against Serbs intensified later especially after Srebrenica and in 1999 became wider with Nato bombings against Serbia.
- ★Milosevic was ousted 2000 by help of Otpor movement funded by the U.S. government via e.g. USAID, etc., and NGOs like the Freedom House and the Open Society Institute.
- ★Later Otpor experience was used in so-called Color revolutions e.g. in Ukraine and Georgia 2003-2004, (failed) Green revolution in Iran 2009, Kyrgyz Revolution of 2010 as well during Arab Spring 2011.

The Silk Road Strategy (SRS)

Just five days before the bombing of Yugoslavia (19 March 1999), the US Congress adopted the Silk Road Strategy Act, which defined America's broad economic and strategic interests in a region extending from the Mediterranean to Central Asia. The Silk Road Strategy (SRS) outlines a framework for the development of America's business empire through development of an Europe-Caucasus-Asia transport corridor.

CHINA-CENTRAL ASIA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



The core of the game (1)

One of the keys to G7, SRS and today's conflict in Ukraine may be found at Zbigniew Brzezinski's 1997 book, *The Grand Chessboard* (a book viewed by many as a blueprint for U.S. world domination) in which he wrote:

★ “Ukraine, a new and important space on the Eurasian chessboard, is a geopolitical pivot because its very existence as an independent country helps to transform Russia. Without Ukraine, Russia ceases to be a Eurasian empire.”

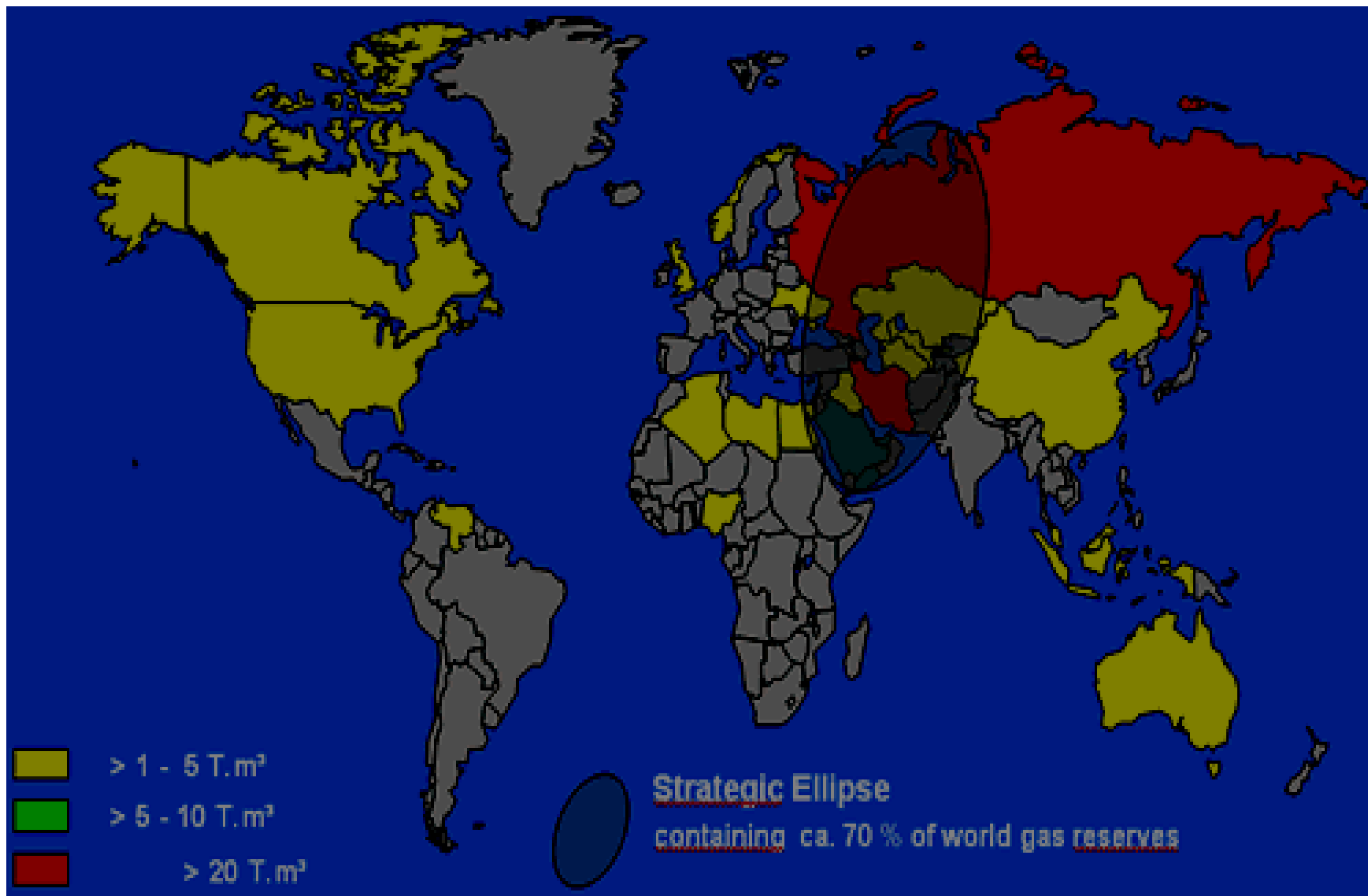
★(Eurasia is) “the chessboard on which the struggle for global primacy continues to be played,” ...

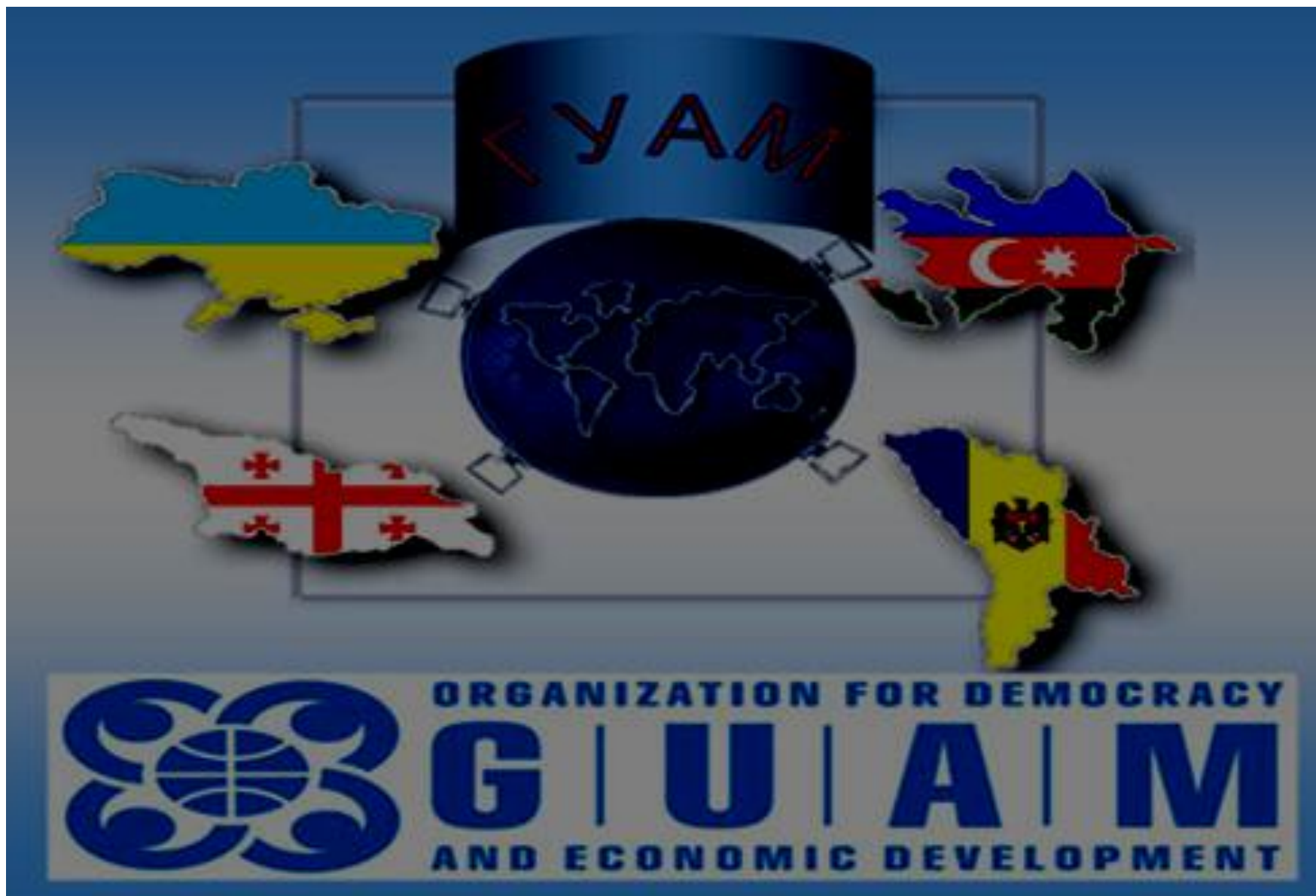
The core of the game (2)

...from Brzezinski's *The Grand Chessboard*:

★“However, if Moscow regains control over Ukraine, with its 52 million people and major resources as well as access to the Black Sea, Russia automatically again regains the wherewithal to become a powerful imperial state, spanning Europe and Asia.”

★“Geopolitical pivots are the states whose importance is derived not from their power and motivation but rather from their sensitive location... which in some cases gives them a special role in either defining access to important areas or in denying resources to a significant player.”





GUUAM



GUUAM

- ★GUUAM's (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova) birth mother is the CFE [Conventional Armed Forces in Europe] negotiations, and its foster mother was NATO.
- ★GUUAM Group was founded 1999 with help of U.S. to foster favorable conditions conducive to economic growth through development of an Europe-Caucasus-Asia transport corridor.
- ★GUUAM was dominated by Anglo-American oil interests, ultimately purports to exclude Russia from oil and gas deposits in the Caspian area, as well as isolating Moscow politically.
- ★Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria and Poland were engaged in discussions within GUUAM.

GUAM and counteractions

Now GUAM is coming to end of its short road:

- ★Uzbekistan withdraw from it leaving behind a stump GUAM**
- ★Georgia started its aggressions with false idea of western support leading Russia to control Abkhazia and South-Ossetia**
- ★Moldova was aiming towards Nato and EU but after conflict in Georgia it started to look other alternatives**
- ★Ukraine is in Civil war and might become a frozen conflict**
- ★Azerbaijan waits for the best deal**
- ★In October 2013 the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) signed a MoU. This agreement, involves the creation of a full-fledged military alliance between China, Russia and the member states of SCO/CSTO.**

Soft intervention: NED & Co

- ★The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) is the coordinating Washington agency for regime destabilization and change. It is active from Tibet to Ukraine, South-America and MENA in reshaping the post-Soviet world.
- ★NED is doing similar operations which earlier were made covertly by the CIA.
- ★NED is dependent on the US taxpayer for funding, but because NED is not a government agency, it is not subject to normal Congressional oversight.
- ★U.S. government is also operating through a number of "other" front organizations" such as USAID, NGOs like the Freedom House and the Open Society Institute.

Gateway Strategy

- ★ Gateway nations - strategic locations in which private firms can establish the equivalent of financial boots-on-the-ground.
- ★ In the Middle East and Ukraine the battle is justified (from U.S. viewpoint) by freedom and western “democracy” (aka capitalism).
- ★ In these global gateways, private banks can infiltrate resource-rich locales fortified by political will, public aid and military support to garner lucrative market advantages.
- ★ Naturally there’s Russia (and China) playing at the same table, e.g. Russia’s biggest oil company, Lukoil, estimated construction of the first branch of a pipeline to Iraq’s West Qurna-2 field at a cost of up to \$1 billion. Lukoil holds a 75% stake in West Qurna-2 and has invested over \$4 billion in the project, which is already producing more than 200,000 barrels of oil per day.
- ★ The real battle between the U.S. and Russia is over the gateway countries in political flux. The real winners will be MIMAC.

MIMAC (Military–Industrial -Media-Academy-Complex)

★MIMAC still rules the world. Recently, global military spending exceeds US\$1.7 trillion – more than US\$4.6 billion a day.

★The military industry is a dominant player in the US economy. More than one-third of all engineers and scientists in the US are engaged in military-related jobs.

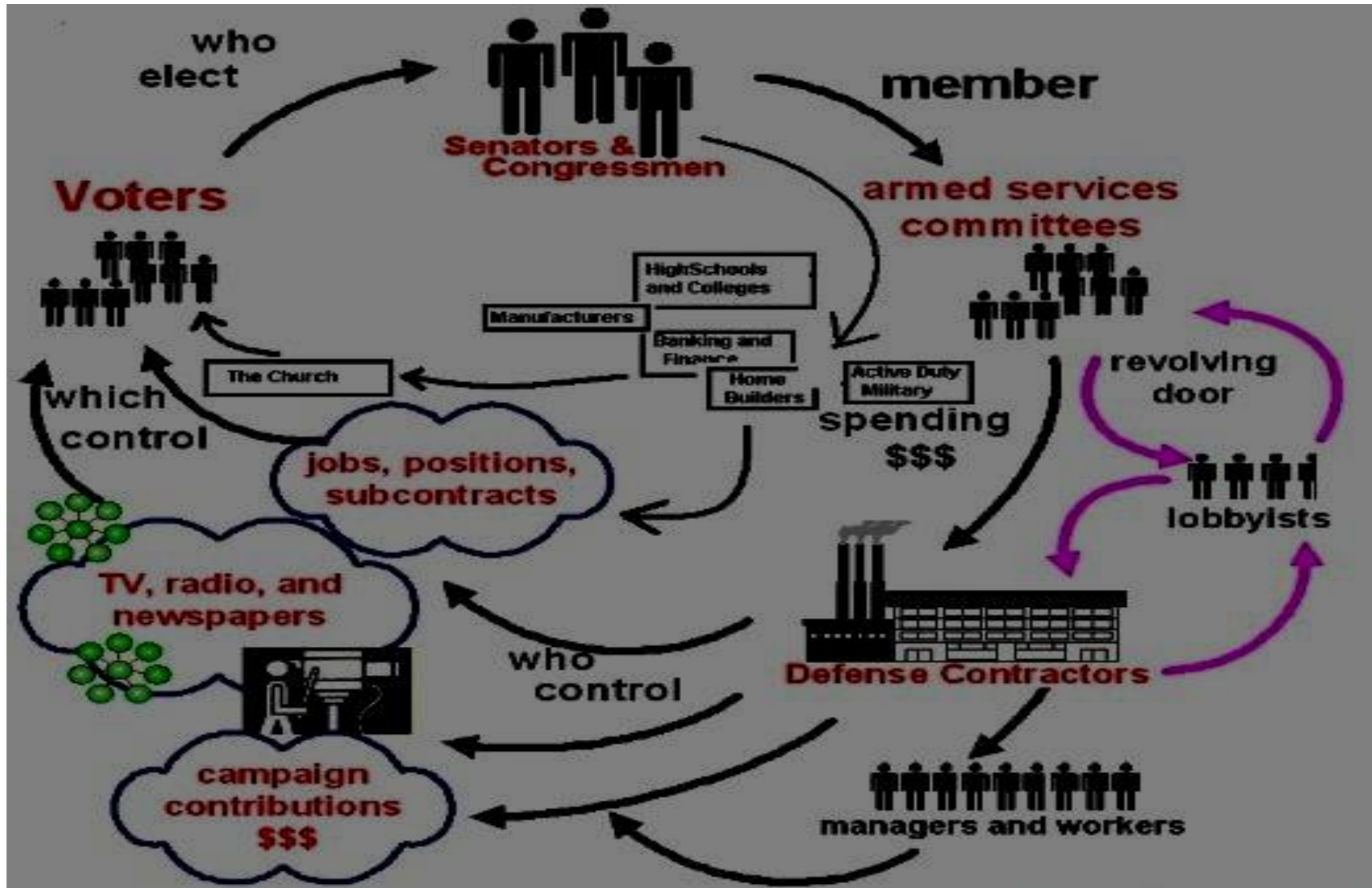
★Development of tools for killing is much more lucrative than peace research. Against one peace researcher, is estimated to be more than 1100 researcher for weapon (and their use) developers.

★Pentagon spares no effort to keep the media on its side. The military allocated at least US\$4.7 billion 2011 to “influence operations” and has more than 27,000 employees devoted to such activities.

★Congressional Research Service (CRS) Report as of June 2009 in Afghanistan/Iraq theatres operated 73,968 private contractors.

★Trivia: One gallon oil costs the invading troops \$ 400 and annual expenditure of one soldier is almost one million US dollar according to a recent statistics.

Military-Industrial-Complex



The bottom line

One can claim that Russia has been occupying Transdnistia, part of Georgia and Crimea, but one should not forget that

★The U.S. has established its control over 191 governments which are members of the UN.

★The conquest, occupation and/or otherwise supervision of these various regions of the World is supported by an integrated network of military bases and installations which covers the entire Planet (Continents, Oceans and Outer Space).

•The U.S. operates and/or controls between 700 and 800 military bases Worldwide, there is presence of U.S. military personnel in 156 countries. NATO has its own Network of 30 military bases.

My conclusions (1)

“U.S. position: keeping the Russians down, NATO in, and the oil and gas flowing outward.”

★It is critical to view Ukraine within the framework of an energy-rich Eurasian corridor that has been increasingly militarized by the US and the West since the late 1990s, and more aggressively under the 9/11/ ”war on terrorism” pretext. America’s Silk Road Strategy Act, adopted in 1999, explicitly calls for “strong political, economic and security ties among countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia”.

★The Russian military and ruling class observed – with a sense of national humiliation – as one after another of the Eastern European countries and even some which had been part of the Soviet Union were brought into the West’s sphere of influence after the collapse of the USSR. The break-up of Yugoslavia and the bombing of Serbia also contributed to a feeling of the Russian military of being encircled and under siege.

★The war against Georgia in South Ossetia represented a turning point, where Russia eventually managed to turn to its advantage the mistakes of the U.S. in overstressing their forces and Russia's superior forces on the ground on a regional level.

My conclusions (2)

- ★“Anglo-American axis” in defense, foreign policy and especially corporate capital is the driving force behind the military operations in Balkans, Central Asia and Middle East.
- ★Since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, the U.S. has pursued a strategy of encircling Russia, just as it has with other perceived enemies like China and Iran.
- ★U.S. is getting ready to export shale gas to EU. In addition Shell and Chevron have started to extract shale gas through fracking in Ukraine as well, in the city of Slavyansk fracking equipment was being brought in immediately after the rebels were forced to flee the city. (Small trivia: the son of Joe Biden was appointed to the board of a Ukrainian gas company.

My conclusions (3)

- ★ There is a difference between U.S. – or Anglo-American -interests and EU interests. After “Cold War” U.S. has all the while expanded its influence post-Soviet territory with aim to guide those region’s natural resources under U.S. companies.
- ★ The U.S. aim is to strenghten its hegemony over Europe and deny Europe direct access to the oil regions of the Eurasian land mass.
- ★ One part of the U.S. strategy is to play "New Europe" off on "Old Europe"
- ★ With Ukraine U.S. is simultaneously undermining Russia and the EU. Russia would be left without a large amount of export profits and the EU would be forced to buy gas somewhere else.

HERE'S A HANDY U.S. FOREIGN POLICY FLOW CHART

