

## REPORT FROM GERMANY

# Does Chancellor Merkel Want To Intervene Militarily in Syria? We Need a Global Security Architecture!

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Chairwoman of the German Political Party  
“Civil Rights Movement Solidarity” ([Büso](#))

Feb. 24—There can only be one explanation for the internationally coordinated hysteria against Russia and China: an enemy image is being systematically crafted to provide legitimacy for a further arms buildup and the encirclement of these two countries, and to stifle every impulse to cooperate with the New Silk Road Initiative.

In the face of the escalating demonization of these two countries, everyone should pause for a moment, and instead of mindlessly repeating the prejudices against Russia and China, look at the history of wars: the reason for the promulgation of the alleged threat posed by Russia and China is prewar propaganda, aimed at producing popular consent for a coming war. The great war could be triggered either by the military action against the Donbass, which has now been decided by Kiev, or by the EU’s military interference against the Syrian government, which Chancellor Merkel just called for in her recent government statement.

Imagine that Schwabing [a district in the northern part of Munich, the capital of the German state of Bavaria—ed.] was occupied by thousands of ISIS fighters who held the civilian population hostage—partly in cages—and bombarded schools, hospitals, and markets in Munich from Schwabing. Or imagine Schöneweide in relation to Berlin. This is roughly comparable to the situation in which the Syrian government finds itself with regard to the East Ghouta suburb of the capital,



*The pro-jihadi White Helmets are lavishly funded by the UK, Obama’s USAID, and Dutch, French, Danish, and Japanese governments.*

Damascus, where fighters of the al-Nusra Front, currently known as Jabhat Fateh al-Sham, have been ensconced since 2013 and have taken the civilian population hostage.

Former British Ambassador to Syria and Bahrain, Peter Ford, commented on the situation to RT.com as follows: “A naive viewer might imagine that Assad was just bombing civilians for the hell of it, because the jihadi fighters are totally absent from the picture. And the pictures are literally provided by the jihadists themselves.” Ford was referring to the White Helmets organization, which has close links with al-Qaeda, and whose origin is attributed by Scott Ritter, a former UN weapons inspector in Iraq, to former British officer James Le Mesurier, who operates in the intelligence community.

The White Helmets have received a total of \$100 million from the UK Defence Ministry, USAID, and

the Dutch, French, Danish, and Japanese governments. In addition, the White Helmets provided the alleged evidence of the Syrian government's use of chemical weapons, which prompted President Trump, on the advice of the British government, to launch air strikes last April on the night between the two days of the summit of Presidents Xi and Trump in Mar-a-Lago. Fortunately, this attempt to sabotage the summit failed. At a Feb. 2, 2018 press conference, U.S. Defense Secretary James Mattis stated that there is no evidence of the Syrian government's use of chemical weapons.

At the UN Security Council meeting today, the West rejected a resolution proposed by Russia that would allow Syria to continue to fight the jihadists despite a temporary ceasefire, and instead presented a resolution blaming the Assad government and granting protection to the insurgents. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov concluded that the West had returned to "Plan B," the overthrow of the Assad government and the partition of Syria—a clear violation of UN Resolution 2257.

The fact that Ms. Merkel could embrace the British propaganda line in this context, which in the short term could lead to a military conflict between NATO and Russia should EU countries intervene in the Syrian war, is alarming in the extreme. Merkel and French Prime Minister Emmanuel Macron, in a joint appeal to Vladimir Putin, called on the Russian president to intervene to enforce a pause in the siege. It is significant in this context that President Trump, in obvious contradiction to the position of the State Department, emphasized that the task of the U.S.A. in Syria is to defeat ISIS and then go home.

The geopolitical and interventionist neocons of the West, on the other hand, are currently outdoing themselves with pre-war propaganda, and have apparently made Britain's post-World War II demand "to out-Goebbels Goebbels" their own. One of Reich Minister of Propaganda of Nazi Germany Joseph Goebbels' maxims was this insight: "The most brilliant propaganda technique will not succeed unless a fundamental principle is taken into account—it must be limited to a few points and must be repeated again and again."

Obviously, this principle is guiding the various think-tanks, from Australia to the U.S.A. and Europe, that are currently depicting Russia and China as an acute threat. A particularly lunatic example has just been provided by the Washington Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) with a report entitled



*Gen. Harald Kujat*

"Coping with Surprise in Great Power Conflicts," warning the United States of a surprise attack by Russia or China. That Russia could launch a surprise attack on the Baltic states, as it says, is one of the trademark utopian fantasies of the Rand Corporation.

The fact that Russia has absolutely no self-interest in staging such an act of aggression, does not disturb the scribblers of this pamphlet.

Another such "surprise" is alleged to arise from the so-called "Thucydides trap," namely, that a rising China might call into question the status quo of the United States as the dominant power. What the CSIS study conceals, in Goebbelsian fashion, is the fact that the threat in this case originates not from China, but from the geopolitical faction of the West—against whom no less a figure than the former head of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey, had repeatedly warned that it is precisely this "Thucydides trap" that had to be prevented by all means.

It is a fact that China, with its population of 1.4 billion people and its highly successful economic policy geared to scientific and technological progress, is becoming the strongest world power. Cui Tiankai, the Chinese Ambassador to Washington said, in a speech in New York last year, that there had been sixteen cases in history in which an ascending power replaced the one which had hitherto been dominant. In twelve cases, this led to war, while in four cases, the replacement was peaceful. But China does not want to repeat the model of those twelve cases, he said, nor does it want to replace the United States as the dominant power. Instead, he went on, China proposes a new concept of "win-win" cooperation, and a new model for cooperation among the major powers: cooperation for the common

future of humanity.

China has had unprecedented success with its New Silk Road Initiative—joined by more than 70 countries—because for the first time, China’s assistance in financing infrastructure and industrialization projects gives them the perspective of overcoming poverty and underdevelopment. This is proof of the superiority of the Chinese model. The American blog [warisboring.com](http://warisboring.com) made an apt commentary under the heading “China’s Belt and Road Will Change the World”: “For all the bombs and boots on the ground we’ve launched in the last century, China is close to conquering the world without firing a shot, and you would never know from following the U.S. press.”

The reason for this is very simple: the cooperation with the New Silk Road is a completely new concept of international relations, which brings mutual benefits to all partners while respecting their sovereignty, in accordance with the UN Charter.

The former Inspector General of the Bundeswehr, the German army, General Harald Kujat, has warned in the past few days against “nuclear war by mistake.” Other experts are also warning that the growing importance of artificial intelligence, digitization, cyber war-

fare, hacking, etc., has dramatically increased the risk of a military conflict by miscalculation. Kujat appealed to Merkel to call on Trump to urgently resume talks with Putin.

Will Merkel do this? Her demand in her policy statement that the EU should play a bigger role in the Syrian conflict, while ignoring the role of al-Qaeda terrorists, speaks against it. And that should worry every single citizen of Germany.

In his speech to the Munich Security Conference, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov called for a new international security architecture, to include all the major powers: Russia, the United States, China, and the EU. This is the urgent need of the hour, given the many hot conflicts that can quickly get out of hand. If the United States and Europe pick up on China’s offer of cooperation with the New Silk Road, and all nations work together in win-win cooperation on the economic development of the world, then this will also provide the economic basis for a common security structure. The survival of the human species will depend on whether enough people can rise to this higher level of reason, to a truly new paradigm of thinking.

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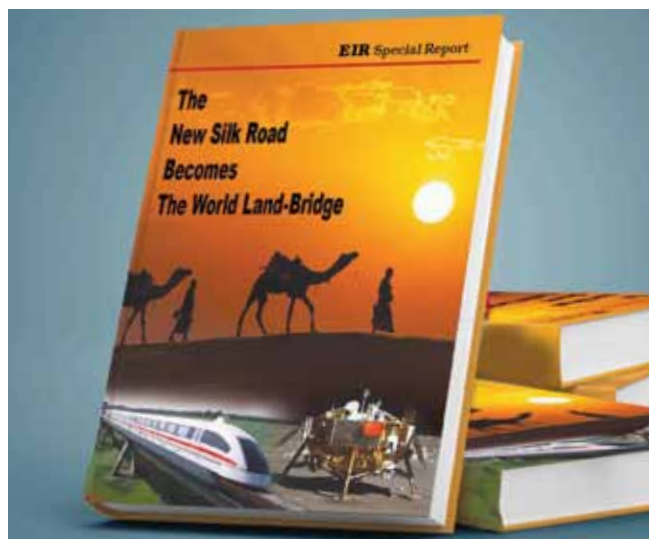
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