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## Every war sows fascism



Sources: The Jump

The end of American hegemony has ended up producing a dynamic of systemic chaos that is liberating all the destructive forces of the planet, reviving the delusional narratives of race war, of colonial conquest and oppression, of violence against women and gender minorities.

Three days ago Vladimir Putin recalled in his speech justifying the invasion of Ukraine the history of the idyll of post-Soviet Russia with the capitalist West and NATO. Friend Putin

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did the dirty work of exterminating Islamism in Chechnya and on Russian soil, with methods that Western formal democracies could not yet afford. Putin stabilized an immense state adrift with a huge nuclear arsenal that was in the hands of oligarchs who would make any evil of the 007 saga pale. Meanwhile, Putin recalled, promises of Russia's integration into the NATO system were dispatched with a "tomorrow, the day after tomorrow," while NATO's factual extension plan to Russia's borders advanced. The idyll ended definitively with the strategic defeat of Al Qaeda's Salafist terrorism, and the war dynamic began with the disastrous joint intervention of the EU and NATO in the Ukrainian political crisis that gave rise to the Euromaidan in late 2013.

The end of AMERICAN hegemony has ended up producing, as Giovanni Arrighi foresaw, a dynamic of systemic chaos in an interregnum between hegemonies that is liberating all the destructive forces of the planet, that is reviving the delirious narratives of race war, of colonial conquest and oppression, of violence against women and gender minorities, of introducing the terror of war into the heart of Europe. The Balkan massacre was dispatched as a sad episode of regional savagery, alien to the new European civilization of the Fischers and the d'Alema. Then came September 11 and the American coup that ended empire-building as a mode of planetary capitalist domination with the relative exception of China. Since then capitalism survives in circular movements between imperialist wars under different pretexts, appropriation of natural resources, financial bubbles of an extractive type: real estate, energy, raw materials, rare minerals, economic shocks that reconcentrate wealth and liquidate the scarce democratic substance that remained in Western liberal regimes, while we are increasingly witnessing a capitalization of psychic and social unrest by new fascist devices that turn unrest into the will to die.

Every war sows fascism, reinforces it, accelerates it. Since the twentieth century, modern warfare and fascism have been inseparable dynamics. Part of the macabre comedy is the formation of sides on the left in favor of one or the other of the contenders. War is the continuation of capitalist politics by other means. And vice versa, more and more capitalist politics is the continuation of war by other means. It makes you want to shout: stop doing the clown by choosing sides in the massacre.

And look at the essential thing that touches us: this war changes the rules of the game in the post-pandemic EU, eliminating any democratic process that affects the capitalist elites.

Again Uncle Sam, Boris the Clown and the Putinist Bear have conjured themselves up to overturn the ambiguities that the EU reconstruction plans were determining with the Green New Deal as surely fictitious terrain, but effective in terms of re-legitimizing the capitalist power of command in the face of the climate catastrophe and the devastation produced by the capitalist management of the pandemic. No more "dealing" with the labour forces in terms of wage increases, social protection, the fight against the poisoning of natural resources in cities and in agriculture. And the minimum respect for the commitments to decarbonize the economy at COP26 last November is also over.

There are many Yes and No to war who think that this will be a short episode, that once its objectives are achieved, Russia will withdraw from Ukraine and return to precarious diplomatic channels with delaying commitments. They are wrong. In this war, the cadres of fascism and European and Russian militarism are created that will replace the ambivalences of the European and Russian extreme right with a resounding deadly "decision" in scenarios that increasingly favor them.

This war destroys the foundations of the European Green New Deal and transforms them into a capitalist war economy where the blackmail of energy extractivism takes the reins of the situation, after the probable end of Nord Stream 2 and the rise in energy prices, which benefit the Russian exporting oligarchies and compensate for the effect of sanctions, while suddenly eliminating the effect of wage increases that have accompanied the post-pandemic revival in many parts of the world. They deal a blow to Germany's big brother and rich in their export dealings with Russia and China and re-subordinate it to NATO imperatives. The EU lives in a mountain of debt that today becomes war debt, for war, for extractivist pillage. Any truce is a break in the process of destabilizing the Russian government and state, now that the deck has been broken and no prisoners are taken in the conflict between global oligarchs.

Let us not deceive ourselves, because it would be fatal: the invasion of Ukraine guarantees a situation of generalized war, more or less discontinuous, and therefore the end of all emancipatory aspirations or even of the small social and civil conquests in Europe, while the political spectrum moves to the outskirts of the extreme right, in a terrifying *feedback*.

The response of those of us who are cannon fodder in this dynamic cannot be made to wait, and it is the multiform and massive sabotage of any war effort, both military and informative. It is civil disobedience against the total mobilization for war of populations and public resources. A response that will also be prolonged and that, speaking of Hispania, has to be the heart of the political projects that are illuminated in this post-Podemos phase, but that can only be a European project that also makes the effort to enter into close connection with the sisters and brothers of the Slavic world.

This war has to be the trigger for the foundation of a new Transnational against war and fascism all over the planet, and therefore against a planetary capitalism that accelerates its process of destruction of life on multiple fronts, from direct imperialist war to the catastrophic degradation of the biosphere. We must look horror in the face, prepare and prepare so that no one else succumbs to the fascist fascination with war and revenge, and conjure up for a protracted war against capitalist war and fascism. This time realism is revolutionary, because the capitalist brain is irreversibly rotten with fascism and war. It is the only possible realistic policy that can prevent the twenty-first century from making us long for the horrors and unbearable filth of the last century.

### **Raúl Sánchez Cedillo participates in the Foundation of the Commons**

Source: <https://www.elsaltodiario.com/guerra-en-ucrania/toda-guerra-siembra-fascismo>

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