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Russia-Ukraine: An avoidable tragedy



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The first article of the Charter of the United Nations states verbatim that the purpose of that organization is "To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures to prevent and eliminate threats to the peace, and to suppress acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace."

Experience shows that **the Atlantic Alliance (the** United States plus the 29 European countries that make up the bloc) has permanently violated the provisions of that article. The case of the former Yugoslavia, bombed by NATO without the authorization of the

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Security Council is one of the most flagrant, being PRESIDENT of the United States Bill Clinton. The final product of this and a previous military campaign Yugoslavia was disintegrated, giving birth to seven new countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo.

None of the governments that today tear their garments in the face of Vladimir Putin's recognition of Donetsk and Luhansk – two republics that, by popular referendum, decided to secede from Ukraine – made any sound of the carnage that NATO practiced in the Balkans. Nor did it do so when that same organization bombed Muammar Gaddafi's Libya for months, ended his rule and made it easier for a mob mobilized by CIA agents infiltrated into the crowd to lynch the Libyan leader with unprecedented cruelty. **In 2003 that organization had collaborated with the United States in the invasion and destruction of Iraq** and its cultural treasures. Some time later he undertook it with Syria, seeking a "regime change" in that country. An arduous task for an Obama eager to show any international success. In desperation he sought the collaborated with funding, media and political protection from the leaders of the "free world." The situation became so untenable because, as Hillary Clinton said in her memoirs, "in Syria we were wrong to choose our friends," that it only managed to stabilize when Putin sent Russian troops who put those fanatical "contractors" of Washington on the run.

While with the approval of the "European democracies" the United States escalated its sanctions on Iran and deepened the criminal blockade of Cuba and Venezuela continued with its adventure in Afghanistan, whose greatest success was to achieve that 85% of the world's opium production originated in that country, under the watchful eye of the US occupation forces. In 2013-2014 Barack Obama provoked, without the slightest cover, a "soft coup" in Ukraine, dismissing, just a year before the already called presidential elections, the Russophile government, Viktor Yanukovych. imposing in his place the businessman Petro Poroshenko and, later, the comedian and humorist Volodymyr Zelensky, currently in office. Everything, with the exclusive protagonism of its <u>Undersecretary of States for Eurasian Affairs, Victoria Nuland,</u> the same one who initialed her activism saying "fuck the European Union."

During all this time the tension between the Atlantic Alliance and Russia revolved around the construction of a legal order that would guarantee the security of all members of the international community and not only the United States. This required the withdrawal of NATO forces to the countries they were in before the collapse of the USSR. Despite formal and written promises that they would "not advance even an inch" in the direction of the Russian border, they rushed to have almost completely encircled that country, from the Baltic to Turkey. Only Belarus and Ukraine did not have NATO troops inside their territory. But if the first is a close ally of Moscow, the second was left in the hands of Russophobic governments and mechados with nationalist and neo-Nazi groups that longed to be able to operate with the protection of the organization. If NATO were to establish itself in Ukraine, its missiles would have the capability to strike cities like Moscow or St. Petersburg in 5 or 7 minutes, depending on the missile. Putin called that threat to Russian national security unacceptable and wondered how Washington would react if his country installed military bases on the U.S. border with Mexico or Canada. There was no response, only new sanctions and, on Biden's part, serious insults published in none other than Foreign Affairs magazine, which can only be attributed to the devastating effects of senile dementia and the ineptitude of his advisers.

All this despite the fact that, in 1997 and under the impulse of Bill Clinton, NATO and Russia, then chaired by Boris Yeltsin, signed "Agreement on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security" and that in 2002 a "Russia-NATO Council" was created with the purpose of stimulating cooperation between both parties. With the Ukrainian coup of 2014 this laborious construction collapsed like a house of cards. Let's remember that as the *New York Times* said so many times, the "nerve and muscle of NATO is the Pentagon," and it does not know the meaning of the word "diplomacy." They engaged in a dangerous "bullying" with Putin and the results are in sight. A tragedy that could have been avoided and in the face of which there is no possible neutrality: there is an aggressor side: the United States and NATO, and another attacked, Russia. There can be no confusion in this.

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