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Luis Casado 21.03.2022

## The world is big

Thus, I could see, 88% of untouched land vomit the cart wheels of 'the West'. Everyone, or the vast majority, want – we wish – for Peace to return to Europe. And let NATO disappear.



The world is big, says Luis Casado, but 'the West', that is, the US and the European Union (12% of the world's population), arrogates to itself the exclusivity of the opinion of the 'international community'. The faithful of the scale is moving. The "volatility" of the world order is accentuated.



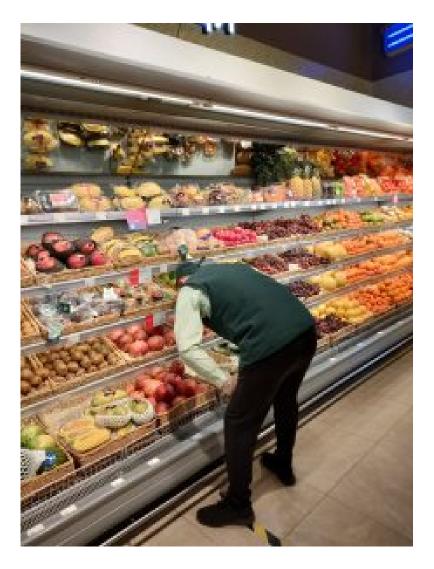
When Russia invaded Ukraine, the condemnation of the 'West' and the 'international community' was total. The whole world rose up against Russia. Seriously? Countries such as India and China abstained. As Senegal abstained, former French colony in which the 'influence' of the Metropolis is still felt. And even other countries that believe that on the Ukrainian issue NATO bears a heavy responsibility hidden by the 'Western' press, radio and TV. The latter – and I measure what I say – adopted a Goebbelian method of reporting: any stupid lie passes disguised between half-truths, and in the end something remains.



It is time to say that I am a supporter of PEACE. That I do not applaud either the war in Ukraine, nor the others. No. But I'm not an either. The US and its colonies will not make me forget that NATO is an instrument of domination at the service of the Empire, and that there is no war in the world, from April 4, 1949 onwards, in which NATO has not been primarily responsible. The wars of independence? In them the US supported the colonial powers as the noose holds the hangman: in this way they increased their power and influence. In some cases they were directly involved by their own decision, and so it was: think of Vietnam.

To construct its own arguments, the 'Western' press first claimed that Ukraine had little, rather nothing, to do with Russia. This made clear Ukraine's right to independence. Then, to argue that many Russians are against the war, they said the opposite: there are many ties between Ukrainians and Russians. The cynicism about "information" is mind-boggling. Nothing new under the sun: to destroy Yugoslavia NATO tolerated and even stimulated the infamous "ethnic cleansing", for example in Croatia. Everything that was Serbian had to disappear. But there were thousands of composite families and a mixture of peoples that, in the heat of the notion of "purity of the race", generated a massacre of proportions. Any resemblance to Nazi propaganda was not pure coincidence.

Since last Wednesday I have been in Moscow. He was curious to see Russia collapse, according to the 'Western' press. Of course, the population is restless. The Russians paid the heavy price in World War II. It was they who liberated Europe. The total number of victims has been estimated at about 25 million dead. It's not to bother, but the U.S. lost 292,000 troops. Including the Pacific War, against Japan.



So are the Moscow supermarkets this week. The sanctions of the 'West' work the other way around...

In Russia, in every *isba*, in every *derevnya*, they know the price of war. On the banks of the Moskva, near Red Square, I asked a lady of a certain age: "What do you think of the war in Ukraine?" His answer was as simple as it was frank: "We don't need any war. And we don't need NATO surrounding us everywhere either." The answer is repeated in the taxi drivers, in the merchants, and in the Ukrainian and Russian friends with whom we shared a wonderful evening in a modest neighborhood of Moscow, near the Nowe Cheryomushki station. None of my friends are part of Vladimir Putin's fan club, but they still hope that their sanity will prevail in managing the crisis. "Because the morons who run 'the West' are mental dwarfs." How can we not agree with them?

On Thursday we attended the performance of a classic of the Russian theater, *Masquerade* of Mikhail Lermontov. At the Wahtangov Theatre on Arbat Street,

which this year celebrates a century offering the best of Russian literature. *Masquerade* was the last play performed before the attack by the Nazis invading Russia in 1941. I had a great time. Of course I could only recognize few words of the even scarcer Russian I have learned. But Aram Khatchatourian's music is extraordinary.



Meanwhile, 'Western' sanctions do more damage to the European Union economy than to the Russian economy. The ruble, which devalued from 50% in a couple of weeks, begins to raise its head: in a couple of days the exchange rate went from 140 rubles for one euro, to only 100. The euro also suffers, as investors flee Europe, frightened by the prospects of war.

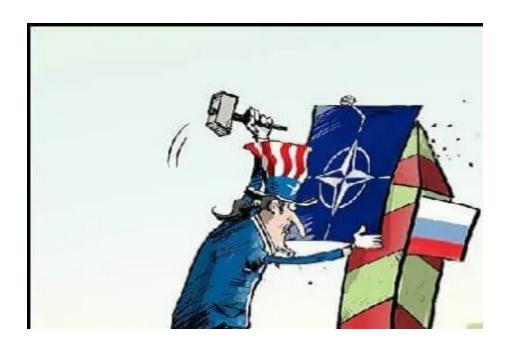
My own impression is that the US, through NATO, has Russia for an appetizer before confronting China. The war in Ukraine, as I have already said, was provoked in the framework of a struggle for control of the planet. For 'the West' Ukraine is a sacrificial pawn in world chess. My Ukrainian friends agree with that view.



NATO: I'm worried about your next move – UKRAINE-RUSSIA

Not only them: waiting for the hour of the theater, I came across a group of young people from India. To my great surprise, two of them are part of the Gandhi family. It was a fruitful exchange. I told them about my travels to Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Secunderad and Hyderabad, as well as my admiration for what they do in the state of Kerala, the nerve center of Indian Hi Tech. Of course we are talking about Ukraine: they are also clear that – whatever they say – NATO bears a great responsibility in this tragedy.

Thus, I could see, 88% of untouched land vomit the cart wheels of 'the West'. Everyone, or the vast majority, want – we wish – for Peace to return to Europe. And let NATO disappear. That was not what I asked of the *Matrona*, that Muscovite virgin whose icon located in the Taganka Temple attracts thousands and thousands of believers, but something much more personal. But that's my business. And I'm still a recalcitrant atheist.



NATO enlargement

Luis Casado for the Pen, March 19, 2022

Edited by María Piedad Ossaba

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