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## USA, disorder and imperial confinement

Since 2001, all world leaders have seen Westerners, and especially the United States, as a dangerous wound. They dare not confront her and look for a way to carefully direct her towards the slaughterhouse. No one foresaw that the beast would isolate itself to die."



For several decades, at least, the fall of the American empire has been announced from different sectors of the world. Some with noticeable anxiety and others, observing some signs in the fall.



According to University of Wisconsin-Madison history professor <u>Alfred W. McCoy</u>, in his article, "<u>The Decline and Fall of the American Empire</u>," "Viewed historically, the question is not whether the U.S. will lose its undisputed global power, but how precipitous and heartbreaking the decline will be." According to the historian, "instead of Washington's illusions, let's use the National Intelligence Council's own futuristic methodology to suggest how, resoundingly or with a whimper, U.S. global power could come to an end in the twenties of this century, a fast-approaching future." The same author proposes that, "America's decline is actually on a 22-year trajectory from 2003 to 2025."

And it is that, equally historically, McCoy points out, for example, that, some empires have been short-lived, their decline began, "only one year in the case of Portugal, two years, the Soviet Union, eight years, France, 11 years in the case of the Ottomans, 17 years for Great Britain, and it is very likely that it will be 22 years for the UNITED STATES, to count from the crucial year 2003".

Similarly, the writer <u>Kirk Patrick</u> Sale, indicates "All empires end up collapsing: Akkad, Sumer, Babylon, Ninevah, Assyria, Persia, Macedonia, Greece, Carthage, Rome, Mali, Songhai, Mongol, Tokugawa, Gupta, Khmer, Habsburg, Inca, Aztec, Spanish, Dutch, Ottoman, Austrian, French, British, Soviet, all, all fell, and most in a few centuries."

Generally speaking, the fall of the U.S. empire is already looming, "But since 2003, the U.S. economic system has ceased to be what it pretended to be. Officially, the U.S. was still a country of "liberal economy," but we can all see that it no longer produces the food it needs, nor its own basic necessities and that it also lives only on looting," according to the article, "No one foresaw that the U.S. would isolate itself to die: the end of Western domination," from the digital medium Cronicón.



Likewise, the writers Amy Goodman, Nermeen Shaikh, in his article "<u>The American</u> <u>Empire is Imploding</u>", in an interview with Cornel West, Professor of The Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University and African-American activist, expresses "the failures of the predatory capitalist economy to meet the basic needs of food, health care and quality education, of jobs with a living wage and, on the other hand, the disintegration of the political class, the disintegration of the professional class... it reveals "how the American empire is imploding, how its foundations are being shaken."

In this sense, the aforementioned author Alfred W. McCoy, in his article, "The Decline and Fall of the American Empire", says "Simon Jenkins of the British Guardian, summarized the situation as follows: "The waste of money is amazing. (American) aid payments are never controlled, never audited, never evaluated. The impression is that the world superpower wanders helplessly through a world in which no one behaves as they should... Washington reacts like a wounded bear in its imperial instincts, but its projection of power is unproductive."



Let us look at the decadent-misadventure military plane of the United States, where the writer Alfred W. McCoy, in his article, "The Decline and Fall of the American Empire," emphasizes in this regard, "Against the intuition, as their power weakens, empires often fall into reckless military adventures. This phenomenon is known among historians of the empire as "micro-militarism" and seems to involve psychologically compensatory efforts to save the stinging of retreat by occupying new territories, however brief and catastrophic it may be. These operations, irrational even from an imperial point of view, often produce expenses that bleed the economy or humiliating defeats that only accelerate the loss of power."

"<u>In 2001 and 2003, the U.S. occupied Afghanistan and invaded Iraq</u>. With the extreme arrogance that has marked empires for millennia, Washington increased its troops in Afghanistan to 100,000, expanded the war to Pakistan, and extended its commitment into 2014 and beyond, exposing itself to disasters large and small in that guerrilla-infested and nuclear-armed graveyard of empires."



Another perspective on this issue is raised by the writer James Petras, in his article "Five Myths and Realities of the American Empire", in his myth number two "The American empire has successfully spread due to its military activities, wars, invasions and special equipment to carry out assassinations", noting, "In reality, US wars and military interventions have been the least appropriate weapons to build an empire, as evidenced by the protracted and costly wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as popular resistance in Haiti. Imperialist advances have gone the best way in conquering countries through the least expensive civil route, political intervention, fraudulent elections, organization and financing of straw leaders and "facades" of non-governmental organizations, and bribes to political parties. The cases of Ukraine, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan are illustrative. Other previous successes included Nicaragua and El Salvador in Central America. In South America, U.S. economic, political, and ideological influence and strategic alliances with supposed "center-left" parties and regimes have successfully turned Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador into free-market clients of the Empire."



However, Petras concludes by saying, "The strategic weakness of the US empire lies in its failed military interventions and in the systematic destruction of its productive and technological structure within the US. While the "superstructure" of the Empire continues to grow, the "domestic base" of the Republic is rapidly collapsing; Demagogic politicians promote mystical religious fundamentalism, military chauvinism and mass speculation in the real estate field. The Empire will collapse not because of competition with Asia or

Europe but because it has become too competitive and has destroyed its domestic foundations along the way."

Let's look at the current plane of the economy down in the US, in this aspect we quote again the author Alfred W. McCoy, in his article, "The decline and fall of the American Empire", "There are currently three main threats to the dominant position of the US in the global economy: the loss of economic influence due to the decline of its share in world trade, the loss of U.S. economic influence and the end of the dollar's privileged status as a world reserve currency."

"In 2020, as long expected after years of growing deficits fueled by incessant wars in distant lands, the US dollar ends up losing its special status as the world's reserve currency. Suddenly, the cost of imports skyrockets. Unable to pay for the growing deficits by selling devalued Treasury securities abroad, Washington ends up being forced to reduce its bloated military budget. Under pressure inside and outside the country, Washington is slowly withdrawing U.S. forces from hundreds of overseas bases to a continental perimeter. But now, however, it's too late."

Another aspect mentioned by McCoy is, "One casualty of America's weakened economic power has been its control over global oil supplies. Accelerating ahead of the U.S. gasoline-hungry economy, China became the top consumer of energy this summer, a position the U.S. has held for more than a century. Energy specialist Michael Klare has argued that this shift means China will "set the pace for our global future."

On the same economic issue, another huge mistake on the way to its destruction is the one raised by the analyst Basem Tajeldine, who emphasizes in his article "The decline of the American financial empire", "At the gates of the long-awaited Summit of the Americas, the United States once again receives new blows that tend to break, even more, its hegemony in the global financial architecture. This time, the slap came from their own European allies. The pressures and blackmails of the arrogant AMERICAN empire could not prevent countries such as Britain, Germany, France and Italy from joining the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) created by the People's Republic of China." "The old and infamous international financial institutions: the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) led by the big US private financial banks, which are responsible for the neoliberal economic policies imposed in many countries of the world (to boost globalization and ensure US hegemony) are witnessing their own decline."

To conclude this section, author Anneken Tappe, in his writing "<u>The U.S. economy</u> <u>contracts drastically in the first quarter of 2022</u>," reports quoting CNN, "The U.S. economy slowed in the first quarter of 2022, data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis revealed. The country's gross domestic product (GDP) (the broadest measure of economic activity) contracted at an annualized rate of 1.4% between January and March, in an abrupt reversal of the strong growth it recorded the previous year. While a single quarter doesn't set a trend, it does represent a warning sign about how the recovery is going: two consecutive quarters of downward growth meet the commonly used definition of recession."

To conclude, we want to review what the aforementioned author, Kirpatrick Sale, points out in his article, "<u>The collapse of the American empire</u>", when proposing four reasons that explain the collapse of empires, including that of the United States.

1. "Environmental degradation. Empires always end up destroying the lands and waters on which they depend for their survival, especially because they build, cultivate and grow without limits, and ours is no exception, even if we still have to live the worst part of our attack on nature."

2. "The economic overload. Empires always depend on an excessive exploitation of resources, usually derived from colonies that are further and further from the center, and in time collapse when resources are exhausted or when they become too expensive for everyone, with the exception of the elite. It's exactly the path we're on: the peak of oil extraction, for example, is predicted to occur in a year or two, and our economy is based entirely on a fragile system where everyone produces and we, in general, consume (U.S. production is only 13 percent of its GDP)."

3. "Military over-extension. Empires, because they are colonizers by definition, are forced to extend the reach of their armed forces further and further, and to expand them more and more against ill-disposed colonies, until the coffers of the state are exhausted, the lines of communication are over-extended, the troops become unreliable, and the periphery resists and ends up revolting. The U.S. empire, which began its global reach long before Bush II, now has some 446,000 active troops at more than 725 recognized (and countless secret) bases in at least 38 countries around the world, plus a formal "military presence" in no less than 153 countries on every continent except Antarctica – and nearly a dozen perfectly armed fleets in every ocean."

4. "Inner dissent and agitation. Traditional empires end up collapsing from within just as they are often attacked from outside, and so far the level of dissent within the US has not reached the point of rebellion or secession, thanks to the increasing repression of dissent and the escalation of fear in the name of "homeland security" and the success of our modern version of bread and circus, a unique combination of entertainment, sports, television, internet sex and gaming, consumption, drugs, alcohol, and religion, which effectively desensitize the general public, leading to their lethargy."

To conclude, we wish to refer to, as indicated by the digital media Cronicón, when it alludes to the idea of US confinement, "More than confronting Russia and China, Washington has chosen to retreat towards its empire, to isolate the West from the rest of the world to maintain US hegemony."

"Knowing, supposedly, inferior on the military plane, but economically superior, for example, in the Russian case, "In other words, in practice the US is not isolating Russia, but isolating the West (10% of humanity) from the rest of the world, that is, 90% of humanity."

"We are witnessing a tremendously surprising phenomenon. The U.S. managed to get a majority of states to take its side... but they are the least populous states in the world. Everything seems to indicate that Washington has run out of means of pressure on the countries really interested in being independent."

"In practice, we are witnessing the end of four centuries of Western domination and the empires established by the nations of the West. We're seeing the clash between very different ways of thinking."

Finally, he points out, "Since 2001, all world leaders have seen Westerners, and especially the United States, as a dangerous wound. They dare not confront her and look for a way to carefully direct her towards the slaughterhouse. No one foresaw that the beast would isolate itself to die."

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Read in The Pen: No One Foresaw America Would Isolate Itself to Die: The End of

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