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By Álvaro Verzi Rangel  
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## *More weapons, more destruction, more hunger in Europe*



Sources: CLAE

*When the possibility – vaunted even by the almost octogenarian US President Joe Biden – of a nuclear war looms, the only sensible path would be reflection, diplomacy and the exhaustive search for peaceful solutions, acceptable to both sides.*

Six thousand civilians have already been killed, including more than 370 children. They call them collateral damage of war. And the United States decided to redouble its commitment to the continuation of the war in Ukraine with the senatorial approval of 12 billion dollars in new economic and military aid for the Kiev government, in order to multiply the material and human losses of the Russian force.

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This figure will be added to the 14,500 million "borrowed" since February – without apparent limits – to the government of comedian Volodymyr Zelensky by his peers in the West, co-responsible for so much death and destruction.

Strengthening the supply of arms to the Ukrainian army is a good deal for arms corporations, especially those in the United States, under the guise of weakening Russia, but it is highly unlikely to lead to a Russian defeat and a complete recovery of the territories annexed to Russia.

The United Nations **already warned in June that the situation in the Black Sea could lead the world to the worst famine in a hundred years, and its consequences are being suffered in Western Europe, with the queues of hunger in several countries and the cold due to the lack of energy.**

But it will also be able to cement Russian President Vladimir Putin's conviction that Ukraine is the spearhead of Western maneuvers to shackle Russia and impose absolute submission to the global dominance of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Seen from this point of view, the support in logistics, intelligence and war material only feeds back the motives that led the Kremlin to undertake the attack.

On Monday, Danish and Swedish authorities reported three gas leaks from the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines connecting Russia and Germany, following two explosions near the island of Bornholm, in the area where the pipelines pass. The idea of sabotage or deliberate act immediately arose, in a scenario in which European powers are trying to replenish Russian gas supplies as soon as possible and fear the explosion of energy costs.

**Que se trata de un acto deliberado y que hay actores estatales detrás del sabotaje es seguro. El evento confirma la dinámica de escalada en el conflicto entre Rusia y las potencias occidentales.** Más allá de quien sea responsable del sabotaje, Europa entró en una fase de guerra y disputas entre el «bloque occidental» y Rusia en la que se comienza a atacar infraestructuras esenciales, alertando sobre la desastrosa perspectiva de un conflicto nuclear.

European governments have been preparing all summer to transit a European gas market without Russian gas but this requires them to put in place an energy plan capable of satisfying everyone and not harming anyone. But the crises that have shaken the EU in recent years show that this situation risks arousing nationalist and reactionary sentiments, beyond the social discontent that could threaten the governments of the day.

"Famine and cold: this is the autumn that Putin plans to surrender to the West from a commercial point of view," says the Western press. From the diplomatic point of view, sanctions would have to be relented for Russia to give in to its blockade. It seems like a *full-blown quid pro quo*," they add. Josep Borrell, on behalf of the European Union, lamented that Putin used hunger as a weapon of war.

Meanwhile, [Putin officially announced the annexation to Russia of the regions of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhia](#), after the referendums held in those territories and said that the inhabitants of those areas will be Russian citizens forever.

While the war against Russia arouses Russophobic feelings among citizens and the Ukrainian political class – which are not new – and exacerbates warmongering jingoism, they are already beginning to understand that it is the Ukrainian people who are being used as cannon fodder in a geopolitical dispute in which they have nothing to gain and too much to lose. Something like losing the future.

We all know that wars have only three possible solutions: the annihilation of the adversary; the indefinite prolongation of a low-intensity conflict – as in Kashmir or Nagorno-Karabakh – or sitting at the negotiating tables, to save lives, avoid further devastation, save resources, end the business of arms corporations and start the reconstruction of Ukraine.

No one wanted to listen to Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's call to seek a negotiated solution.

Surely, the ceasefire will not mean the end of the conflict. Interventions based on trade sanctions and the supply of weapons will not end the war, but will make it even more devastating, with destabilizing impacts on the European economy and the whole world.

We all know that in these seven months of battles, both sides have committed atrocities and crossed lines.

But when the possibility – vaunted even by the almost octogenarian US President Joe Biden – of a nuclear war looms, the only sensible way would be to give room for reflection, diplomacy and the exhaustive search for peaceful solutions, acceptable to both sides. Although today it is difficult to know if the parties are Ukraine and Russia, or also the United States and the countries of the NATO warmongering alliance.

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