The NATO Trojan Horse: How American Hegemony Drags Europe into a Suicidal War

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By Frank Dumon

> In the run-up to the eightieth anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), an atmosphere of self-satisfied rhetoric prevailed in Washington and Brussels, standing in stark contrast to geopolitical reality. While the architects of the transatlantic alliance trumpet about 'unbreakable unity', the alliance increasingly reveals itself as an institutional facade for an aggressive, Washington-dictated world order. The real reason behind NATO's provocative stance is not the defense of democratic values, but the maintenance of an imperial structure that systematically disadvantages its own populations and allies. What good can come from the war drums we hear from Washington DC? The possibility that Moscow will truly take the reins in a multipolar world is real, and the things European leaders were willing to do in their subservience to the US will go down in history books as a monument to strategic blindness.

To the independent observer, NATO looks ridiculous; it is an institution led by what critics aptly describe as a 'dementia patient' heading the world's largest military

alliance. Since the end of the Cold War, it has ceased to be a defensive shield and has become an offensive sword. It provides no real defense to its own European populations, nor to the interests of its allies. The Gulf States, the Middle East, and large parts of Africa can testify: wherever NATO set foot on the ground, destabilization followed. Now the alliance, driven by an existential urge to prove its relevance, suggests it wants to invade the Indo-Pacific. To view this with a healthy dose of cynicism: I didn't know the North Atlantic Ocean also reached the Taiwan Strait. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was transformed long ago into a Trojan horse for American military, political, and economic influence.

> **The biggest victims of this transformation are the feeble Europeans, who voluntarily and without any resistance have allowed themselves to be subjugated to the greater American empire.**

The Illusion of European Sovereignty and the Defense Industry

One of the fundamental problems Americans currently face – and which Europe is blind to – concerns the asymmetry in military capabilities. Europeans in most cases possess virtually no independent, operational defense apparatus, and their defense industry is fragmented, underfunded, and technologically dependent on the US. They are therefore almost entirely dependent on Washington. This dependence is no accident, but the result of decades of policy in which European leaders chose to outsource their own strategic sovereignty in exchange for American 'protection'.



America, on the other hand, has made its own armed forces, or what passes for them, unusable for any operation against an equivalent opponent (peer competitor). For years, the American military has focused on asymmetric warfare: bombing weak, incompetent opponents in the Middle East and Central Asia. The problem the Pentagon and NATO leadership now face is that they continue to behave as if Russia is something it is not. In Washington's war rooms, Russia is

> still described as a regional power that is weak, that is small, and that ultimately has no choice but to essentially submit to American influence and power.

That is not going to happen. This miscalculation is not merely a tactical error, but an existential blunder. The condescending perspective from the US ignores the historical, cultural, and strategic depth of Russia. If NATO continues to squeeze Russian borders and place missile systems, it will provoke widespread anger in Moscow. This is how you get the strategic response from Russia that you as a Western policymaker absolutely do not want.

The Military Industrial Complex as a Rogue State

The driving force behind this escalation is not the national security of the American citizen, but the unbridled profit hunger of the military-industrial complex. It is almost as if the current political leadership in Washington, including President Trump's erratic and often untenable statements, is merely a puppet of the defense industry and Wall Street. Giants like Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and investment funds such as BlackRock together form a kind of rogue state within the American state structure.

These entities have a tight grip on the reins but are steering a race car down a steep mountain. Everyone is being dragged along in this frenzy, whether they want to or not. The war in Ukraine and provocations in the Baltic states are a blessing for these conglomerates. While European cities face deindustrialization due to sky-high energy prices – a direct consequence of blowing up the Nord Stream pipelines and breaking ties with Moscow – billions flow into the coffers of American arms manufacturers and energy giants. The European taxpayer pays for the destruction of their own economy and the rebuilding of the American defense industry.

> Trump, whose public isolationist rhetoric often clashes with the reality of his policy, continues to make statements that are completely untenable in public and are labeled as demented or out of touch by critics. But behind the scenes, Raytheon and Lockheed Martin shareholders dictate policy. They demand constant threat, because without threat there are no contracts. NATO has become their marketing instrument to break open and maintain European markets.

Russia's Strategic Response: Historical Lessons

What American strategists consistently forget is the psychology and historical memory of the Russian people and their leadership. Russians can be the best and most loyal friends in the world, as long as you don't attack or existentially threaten

their country. But if that does happen, they turn into the worst and most ruthless enemy you can imagine. Napoleon and Hitler can testify to this; their empires foundered on Russia's infinite strategic depth and winter determination.

President Putin has explained this precisely multiple times in speeches that were consistently ignored or laughed off in the West. He recently stated the following about nuclear and conventional threats: *"In 2019, we announced that we would not produce or deploy our new generation of missiles as long as the United States did not deploy such systems anywhere in the world.

We now know that the United States not only produces these missile systems, but has also brought them to Europe and Denmark for use in exercises."

The deployment of such medium-range missiles (such as the former INF systems and new hypersonic carriers) in Eastern Europe and Scandinavia shortens the launch time for a nuclear or conventional attack on Moscow to just minutes. This destroys strategic stability and forces Russia into an asymmetric and aggressive response. It is a classic security dilemma: what NATO sees as 'defensive deterrence', the Kremlin sees as existential attack preparation.



The Expansion Drive: From the Black Sea to the Pacific Ocean

NATO's arrogance does not stop at the Urals; the expansion drive now reaches into the Pacific Ocean. Not long ago, it was reported that similar missile systems (such as the Typhon system) were located in the Philippines. It is unclear to the average European citizen why a defense alliance for the North Atlantic region involves itself in geopolitical tensions around China, but for Washington it is clear: it is about containing every rival that challenges the unipolar world order.

> Putin rightly pointed out the dangers of this globalization of NATO: *"In any case, we must respond to this and decide what further steps we will take in this regard. Fortunately, the president of the Philippines decided he did not want to become the Zelensky of Asia. And so he asked America to withdraw those missiles from the Philippines."*

The Philippine leadership showed a rare moment of geopolitical realism and survival instinct here. They understood that placing American NATO missiles in their country would not make it safer, but would transform it into a primary target in any potential conflict with China. The Philippines chose national sovereignty over the role of cannon fodder for Washington. Putin concluded from this: *"So I think that in Asia, at least for now, it is relatively quiet, unless we do something incredibly stupid to provoke others."

Unfortunately, as he added, that is exactly what is happening in Europe. European leaders, trapped in the Brussels bubble and obedient to Washington, remain deaf to these warnings. They confuse the willingness to sacrifice their own nation for US interests with 'moral superiority'.



The Awakening at the Eastern Border and the EU's Blindness

> However, cracks are beginning to appear in the façade of European unity. Everyone on the eastern border with Russia, who can still read the historical and geographical reality, must conclude that participating in this offensive strategy directed against Moscow is essentially suicide. Bulgaria has now understood this as well. Bulgarian politics and a growing part of the population realize that their country must not become the battlefield for a war that is not theirs, and that only benefits the American arms industry.

But the entire EU leadership in Brussels, as well as governments in Berlin, Paris, and The Hague, seem to deny this reality. They have voluntarily submitted. They have destroyed their own energy infrastructure, let their industry wither away, and sacrificed their political independence. They have become vassals in an empire that sees them only as a market for American liquefied natural gas (LNG), a sales area for F-35 fighter jets, and a buffer zone for conflict with Russia.

The Gulf Wars, the destruction of Libya, the destabilization of Syria, and the chaos in the Sahel region of Africa; these are all results of a NATO functioning as the military wing of the American "foreign policy establishment". **Wherever NATO brought 'security', the fall of civilization and the rise of extremism invariably followed.** The victims of this policy are not the American policymakers who move the cards in their air-conditioned offices in Washington, but the European citizens who pay the bill, and the populations in the Global South who clean up the rubble.

The Myth of American Invincibility

The fundamental mistake of the current Western establishment is belief in its own myths. People believe that sanctions, diplomatic isolation, and military provocations can force a nuclear power like Russia to its knees. They believe that the American military machine, despite the blunders in Afghanistan and Iraq, can still dictate to the world.

The reality of 2026, however, is that the US is an empire that has overstretched its forces. Internal division in the US, towering state debt, eroding industrial base, and cultural erosion make the country vulnerable. The 'rogue state' of Wall Street and the defense industry is trying to race down the mountain in a race car to mask internal problems through external conflicts. But Russia, supported by a growing bloc of BRICS countries that are equally tired of the arbitrariness of the American dollar and NATO dominance, will not be intimidated.

> Moscow's warnings fall on deaf ears in European capitals. European leaders, afraid of their own electoral downfall or blackmail from Washington, continue to climb the escalation ladder. They forget that history does not end with the Washington Treaty of 1949. History is a cycle of rise and fall of empires. The Roman Empire, the British Empire, the Soviet Union; all thought their military and political structures were eternal, until economic and strategic reality caught up with them.

Conclusion: A Call for Strategic Realism

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization in its current form is a danger to world peace and an existential threat to the European continent. It is a Trojan horse designed not to protect Europe, but to consume it. American military, political, and economic influence has taken on a parasitic character, fed by the weakness and division of European member states.

As long as European leaders are not willing to create their own independent security architecture based on mutual respect with all neighbors, including Russia, they will continue to dance to the tune of the American defense industry. The race car continues racing down the mountain. The turn toward Asia shows that there is no longer any brake on the Pentagon's expansion drive and its shareholders.

It is time for a European awakening. Countries like Bulgaria, and increasingly other nation-states that recognize the geopolitical shifts toward the East and South, must take the lead. They must find the courage to shake off the illusion of NATO protection and recognize that Europe's only true defense does not lie in the barrel of an American cannon, but in diplomacy, economic self-sufficiency, and respecting the security interests of others.

Because if NATO continues provoking a nuclear power that historically only becomes truly dangerous when cornered, then the crash of the American race car will not only drag down Wall Street and the defense industry. It will plunge all of Europe, and the rest of the world, into an abyss we cannot afford.

The choice is Europe's: continue living in the illusion of the Trojan horse, or find the courage to definitively close the city gates to the imperial ambitions of a declining superpower.

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