

Russia Beat NATO Strategically. They Can't Recover From This | Andrei Martyanov

The NATO-Proxy War in Ukraine has always been built on completely false narratives about what Russia is and what it is capable of. The failure of western pundits and politicians to accurately understand the deep structural strength of Russia's civilisation has led from one catastrophic decision to the next. And even now that defeat is obvious and immanent, much of the western establishment is still unable to see that the collapse of their grand strategy is solemnly due to their incapacity to understand the depth of Russia's strength. Today I'm talking to Andrei Martyanov, one of the more brilliant military analysts out there who's been countering much of the western war propaganda on his blog and on YouTube for the past years. Andrei is also the author of several books, among them "America's Final War", "Disintegration: Indicators of the Coming American Collapse", and "Losing Military Supremacy: The Myopia of American Strategic Planning".

#M3

Russia can annihilate Brussels in 15 minutes and turn it into a parking lot. So there you go, so much for the buffer. No, the question is obviously about not having a terrorist entity literally on your border. So per NATO, yeah, as I already stated, you can quote me as saying this nonstop for a number of years: the United States, that is to say the combined West, lost the arms race.

#M2

Hello, everybody. This is Pascal from Neutrality Studies, and today I'm talking to Andrei Martyanov, one of the more brilliant military analysts out there who's been countering much of the Western war propaganda on his blog and on YouTube for the past years. Andrei is also the author of several books, among them America's Final War, Disintegration: Indicators of the Coming American Collapse, and last but not least, Losing Military Supremacy: The Myopia of American Strategic Planning. And he has more books out there, in fact. And let me just add one more word, which is that on Andrei's blog called Reminiscence of the Future over on Blogspot, he features one of the wisest quotes I have ever read: If you desire peace, then prepare wine. And I take such things very seriously. So, Andrei, I think you're saying very wise things. Because weapons are not the way to peace. No, no, no.

#M3

Jack Daniels, on the other hand, is.

#M2

Can you tell us, first and foremost, a little bit about your own story? Because, as I understand, you were born in Baku, back in the Soviet Union, and then you were also a naval officer. Now you're a military analyst based in the US. What's your story?

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Well, my story is very simple. I was born into a family, essentially, of people connected to the Soviet Navy and armed forces. My father was actually a pretty significant figure in the military-industrial complex, especially when it was related to our location when we moved from Baku to Sevastopol, for example. So I was around it all the time. My adoptive grandfather—both my grandfathers died, were killed in World War II. Pretty standard story, actually. So they all were, you know, military people.

So, yeah, I went to the Naval Academy, studied there for five years, and graduated with a degree in a pretty interesting specialization for strategic nuclear power submarines. I went to serve in what at that time was called the Naval Units of the Border Guards of the KGB of the USSR, which is essentially misperceived as the Coast Guard because they are called Coast Guard, but at that time it was a Navy on its own, essentially much more militaristic than, for example, the Coast Guard in the United States or elsewhere for that matter. And so, yeah, I served until 1990. And after that, well, the Soviet Union collapsed.

And we suddenly found ourselves basically in a revolutionary and warm civil war situation. When I had the chance, we had the chance to essentially start a business with the United States. We then traveled to the United States and just stayed because Russia was also disintegrating, and there was no place for us. So that's how we essentially settled in the United States. The rest is history, really, and I probably would have been doing what I was doing then, you know, all kinds of engineering-type affairs, including commercial aerospace in the United States.

But after the situation with Ukraine in 2014, it became very clear that we were on the path to a massive geopolitical clash. The scale of it is even larger, speaking in terms of the consequences, than World War II, despite the fact that World War II was much bloodier, of course. And so, yeah, I started to basically—I wrote a number of posts on my blog, and I called it Total Recall, where I had to recall my military background, what I knew, and what I learned. Also, you have to become an autodidact if you wish to progress in this field, especially in the West, because the way geopolitics, or whatever passes for it, is a rather amusing field of study, let's put it this way.

This is populated with a lot of people who have absolutely no business, you know, speaking on the issues of military power and balance of power. And when you look at what was happening with the United States, especially after 9/11, you would see that the country you used to know was just disappearing. It was like sand slipping through your fingers, you know. And then suddenly you find yourself with the Obama administration, and then we have, obviously, first Trump's term, and then the Biden administration. The country is literally just destroyed basically from the inside. And, you

know, since 2014, I started my blog and I started writing because what was happening was absolutely mind-boggling.

And one of the things that absolutely stunned me was the lack of professionalism and illiteracy of the majority of the so-called intellectual elite in the United States. Those people were just crazy, absolutely illiterate. They are ignoramuses. They didn't understand what they were dealing with. The fact is, I made my career as a military and political analyst by issuing warnings. I have been issuing warnings nonstop since 2014 in the public sphere. And sadly, my warnings came true. Some people say, "Oh, how did you know this?" It's easy to know when you have the toolkit to deal with this issue. And that's what I'm doing.

#M2

You know, may I ask you, I mean, other people who have been issuing warnings and whose predictions came true were people like John Mearsheimer, Jack Matlock, or George Kennan, who all, especially when it comes to Russia, said this is going to end in very, very horrible tears if you continue pushing NATO towards the Russian border. Yeah. One of the things here is that they use a certain analytical toolkit or a theory like IR theory of realism, saying, look, plus they listen to what Russia actually says. They listen to what Russian politicians say and deduce from there what's politically possible or not without getting into war. What toolkit are you using in order to analyze the situation?

#M3

Well, I immediately have to obviously correct a little bit. John Mearsheimer wrote in 2014. I understand where he's coming from, but he's not a realist, or whatever passes under the realist term, you know, the game of semantics. He was writing about Russia as a declining state, which, of course, I have an issue with because my predictions were based specifically on the issues which I know: the military power, the main tool is the correlation of forces and means, which are the first derivative of an industrially advanced and highly advanced economy.

So when you talk about, for example, American economics, which is used, by the way, I have there, you know, I see Mearsheimer's book. Isn't it behind you? No, it's not him. It's blue. So, yeah, the liberal, whatever, the delusions and things of this nature. I mean, those people do not understand that they are the products of the American education system, which pursues this fantastical idea that somehow financial markets are the real economy, which they are not. And this is what comes with my military engineering background, because I understand how the weapon systems are created, what kind of R&D goes into it, what kind of industries are actually tied into this. Because that's the main toolkit.

It's obviously very difficult to explain it in a few words, for example, within the time limits of a fairly short interview. But the point is you have to look at the tangibles. So, yeah, obviously finances are

important as the blood which feeds the body, so to speak, of the economy. But what matters are tangibles. Starting from the simple thing, which is called the CINC, Composite Index of National Capability, which includes six parameters ranging from steel production to mobilizational potential. But most important are those by Geoffrey Barnett, not to be mistaken with the incomparable Corelli Barnett, no relation whatsoever, who in 1992 posited those 14 points.

#M3

On why, for example, the West is leading the world—not anymore. And out of those 14 points he described, what are the main criteria for defining what is essentially advantage and leadership? Out of those 14 points, 12 are related to actual industrial capability, ranging from things like the production of most finished goods, aerospace industries, weapon systems, and things of this nature, to our most advanced R&D, fundamental science, and things of this nature. And only one point is about them owning and controlling the financial system of the world, which it already also doesn't control.

And then, of course, this funny point about exercising moral authority and moral leadership, which have also been completely lost. And so when you look at this, remarkably, these Barnett's things come extremely close to what, for example, Marxists, and not vulgar Marxists, but especially Marxists transmuted by, for example, Stalin's economy, were basically preaching. You know what? You have to build the real industry. You want to play real serious applied geopolitics? Then you have to build a real military-industrial complex, which produces deadly effective weapons that work.

That is why when you read, like, Edward Luttwak, you begin to laugh, simply because it's amateurish, basically, you know, blabbering about some kind of things which, of course, are not there. And when you know and you understand—this is, yeah, this is my professional advantage over many people—when you understand what comes into the design of the most advanced weapon systems. So if you, okay, let me give you my specialization upon graduation from the Naval Academy: a specialist in the gyro-inertial navigation and complexes of the strategic missile systems, naval strategic missile systems, which at that time were Delta 1, Delta 2, Project 667B and BD, strategic missile submarines.

And, you know, after that, obviously, you have the choice to go serve on submarines or fast attack submarines, or I chose to go to the border guards. So, when you understand this, and you already know, for example, what was happening in the Soviet Union in terms of military technology in the mid-80s, you look at those things which have been written and said in the West and you laugh. I mean, those people have no clue basically what they're talking about.

#M2

So may I ask, one of the biggest problems I think that the West put out there and that everybody started repeating is that Russia was a gas station masquerading as a country. But at the same time,

the people who talk about using the USD and cutting Russia off from the world finance markets, thinking that will ruin Russia's war apparatus, don't understand that Russia is able to take out of Ukraine all the minerals it needs from its own ground, transport it itself, manufacture it into weapon systems, and transport those. They then have their own army that uses the ruble and is completely self-contained and able to wage war. Is this more or less what you're talking about?

#M3

Yeah, all those people have no idea. And the fact is, they still, one trick bonus, they are very illiterate, and especially when you look intensively in relation to Russia, it's, I use this term, Solzhenitsynified. Soviet and Russian history have been Solzhenitsynified to the point of complete absurdity, where people do not even understand that mathematically it's impossible. Like, you know, this idiotic claim of 60 million people killed, you know, like, in World War II, well, then I shouldn't be sitting here, you know, if 60 million people had been killed. It's basic mathematics. But you have these people coming out constantly, creating those delusions, especially when you look at the dissident movement of the Soviet Union and Russia and all those so-called Russian specialists. Just because they can speak Russian, they are not specialists, they are not scholars, they do not understand the first thing about the real economy, and of course, they don't understand anything about modern Russia.

But these are the types of people who are all over the US establishment. As a result, we see where it all led to. Basically, speaking about all that, because they are one-trick ponies, they thought that somehow the Soviet Union collapsed because of the war in Afghanistan, which, by the way, the Soviet Union didn't lose. And somehow, for some reason, they think it was due to the Cold War and the West's meddling. No, it has nothing to do with that. The Soviet Union imploded due to its own structural problems, especially ethnic problems and maintaining their empire, which took so much effort and expense. And the expense was primarily borne by the Russian people. So, what can I say?

You have to, those people do not have, as I've already stated, and my latest book is about it, is Echo Chamber. These are people who do not like bad news. They cannot face it because, being cowards, most of them, the collapse of their, you know, comfortable, warm, echo chamber-ish world. Well, in reality, you saw what happened to the United States, how the country was essentially run into the ground, deindustrialized, and it was always grossly overstated as a military power. And now we have what we have, and we have the tectonic shift of historic proportion, a once-in-a-half-millennium shift, paradigm shift, if you wish, and those people still don't understand what hit them, and they cannot.

#M2

Who do you think are the people who understood this correctly? When I say people in the past, like George Kennan or somebody who's still around, Jack Matlock, the last U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union. Jack Matlock, yeah. Did they correctly understand Russia? And then after them came this

vacuum, plus this echo chamber that then just enhances this perception, this wanting to perceive Russia as a defeated, now middle power. Yeah.

#M3

Jack Matlock is one of the few who really properly understood that. George F. Kennan, you know, left, obviously, wonderful memories, you know, at the turn of the century, I believe. It's a wonderfully written thing, but again, even George F. Kennan didn't understand the impact of the Soviet era. He didn't understand that if not for the Soviet era, essentially, the Soviet Union, historic Russia, would have been defeated by the unified forces of Europe, headed by, obviously, Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. And when people say, oh, Nazi Germany, no, no, no, no, no. It was a European affair altogether.

So, many people forget that the Axis forces actually included Romanian, Finnish, and Italian forces. They had the French SS divisions, the Spanish divisions, and so on. When you look at history, as I already stated, the only thing that the American Academy at large is good at is creating narratives. They have some facts which they juxtapose to fit the narrative. In reality, if you talk to the average American Russian scholar, none of them have the capability of establishing causality. Some of them don't do that well.

Because they are wild people and they need to, you know, they are paid by USAID or something like that. Others because they are not very bright people. You can take a look at Mr. McFaul, Michael McFaul. He's a classic example of the Stanford, so to speak, academy. The guy is a certified, pardon me, moron. But here it is. He is the U.S., you know, Russia expert. The guy won't be able to hold a discussion with anybody who is properly educated on the issues which relate to the actual history. Not some, you know, BS which he, and again, it's juxtaposing. He basically has narratives from people who are essentially opposition and fringe elements in Russia.

And now these people, for three years, as it was beautifully written by Tolstoy about Napoleon at Borodino, bear the burden of battle when he was afraid, you know, like in a bad dream when the ruffian approaches him and he is about to strike him with enormous force, but instead his hand limps, and he cannot do anything. And the same here. These guys literally thought that in 2022 they could, as they say, dispose of Putin's regime, thinking the Russians would rise up because they would be struck by sanctions. Those people have no clue, I'm sorry to say. And now, for three years, they have lived through this horror, you know, for them.

#M2

Why? Why do you think it is that—I mean, is it the Fukuyama effect? Is it the idea that the West won the Cold War? Is it that? Is it this belief? You also said the belief in financial markets is very important.

#M3

Yeah, it's the Fukuyama effect. And we have to go back to Schumpeter in his 1945 famous treatise, when he talks about the people who are generally, not all, but the majority of these people are unemployable for any kind of productive intellectual or physical labor. And as a result, they create environments where they establish their own criteria for something, like Edward Luttwak. I mean, it's funny, the guy probably won't be able to hold a conversation with anybody who is actually properly educated. So you have this bunch of people, most of them with all, well, and I understand I might, you know, stomp on somebody's ground, but all those fake sciences, like political science or history, which is created out of their, you know, some, you know, ideation about democracy or something like that. And they really believe that.

Just to give you an example, the real history of World War II has been rewritten by the Anglo-American historians. It was perverted to such a degree that now Mr. Trump believes that it was Russia, the Soviet Union, who helped the United States to defeat their Axis forces. Well, of course, the Soviet Union and the Red Army helped by annihilating 80% of the crème de la crème of the best forces the Axis could throw at them. But this is what it is, and you cannot change this. The illness has progressed so far that we now have those people without any serious knowledge, skills, and things like that, which are required to understand the conflict and geopolitics of the 21st century. And the foundation of the geopolitics of the 21st century, as it was always the case, is what is called the balance of power.

Balance of power is built around the correlation of forces and means. Correlation of forces and means is the science that is taught to real, serious operational strategic-level military people. It involves a lot of mathematics and a lot of verifiable, clear data on, for example, the issues of the actual industry and weapons that this industry produces. If not, what do you get? You get classic GIGO, or garbage in, garbage out. Those models they create are absolute trash. You can throw them away because they do not work, as they don't have the correct inputs they need. They cannot live with the actuality of those inputs because it breaks and destroys their point of view, their narratives.

#M2

What happens, or how does Russia deal with the fact that people with that kind of understanding are on the levers of power in the United States, or at least were, or still are? Because somehow you need a rational counterpart, right? Even in a war, especially while having nuclear weapons, you need rational counterparts who can scale up or scale down based on rational decisions. But what you're saying is people make decisions based on a completely faulty, BS analysis. How does the rational actor on the other side deal with that fact?

#M3

First, there is a certain circle of people in the United States. We cannot say that it is necessarily completely professional, but there are certainly strata in the political and military-political establishment in the United States who understand what is going on. I don't know if you have Larry Johnson on this, but Larry gives an excellent demonstration of this when, for example, analysts from the CIA come with things that contradict the narrative and political desires of the political establishment in Washington and say, no, no, no, no, this is not how it works. This is the real data.

And they will be what? Essentially told to go pound sand. So there are people out there who do understand this. For example, not all, but many people of the rank of colonel or, let's say, brigadier general who are involved on the level of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Pentagon, general operational planning, and issues of ISR—intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance. They know this story. And the story is so damning, for example, in this particular case, to the Biden administration, to all those things that they can go and say it. But many don't. They have mortgages. They have pensions to consider. They have families and things like that.

So they cannot go out and, you know, say, as people of honor sometimes do, "Here are my epaulets," you know, "but this is all BS." So what you get, you have the defense secretary, who is what? Lloyd Austin, you know, the guy, Raytheon baby, you know, this is all, you know, back to Eisenhower. It is so corrupt that you literally have to have something extraordinary happen to break through this thing. We had this sort of break, sort of—it's not complete—with the election of the Trump administration. And basically what he is doing now, I know that two days ago, 75,000 of the bureaucrats from Washington, D.C. took their buyout of their positions.

More need to go, you know, because this is the deep state. These people want the status quo. And they think that somehow by creating this legerdemain and, you know, this verbiage about things going fine, they somehow change their reality. They don't. And when suddenly you have the result of three years of the special military operation, when you have literally the utter technological accumulation of the American and European weapons, you see for yourself the utter lack of qualification in the operational planning, because obviously Ukrainians do not plan that. Those whole things are planned in London, they're planned in actually Rammstein, and they're planned by Americans and British.

And you can see this catastrophe which is unfolding. And you can see what is happening. And those people, I understand their position. They cannot deny their reality anymore. And if they do not understand it rationally, they at least can sense it. And many do sense it. But then again, when you have sociopaths like Blinken or Sullivan, you know, those boys with degrees in law, attorneys who should continue to practice, you know, whatever, the automotive injury cases in the state of New York, they are literally that incompetent. Plus, they are sociopaths. They can go out and lie to your face.

#M2

Yeah, they do. They do. I mean, one of the most horrible things I've ever seen is Blinken standing in front of a graveyard in Ukraine, bemoaning all of these young, dead people whom he sent to these graves. It's like you could have avoided that. And people have been yelling that at the top of their lungs but are not listened to. Is this a big moment of reckoning for the U.S. and even more so for Europe, the collective West, right? Is this the moment when they have to face their internal problems? And is there a parallel to the way the Soviet Union had to reckon with its internal problems in the 1980s? Do you see any parallels or not?

#M3

Very tentative, I would say. You know, the Soviet Union had totally different issues, you know, ruining it, if you wish. Not to mention, of course, the only parallel, which I would say, is utterly corrupt elites. But the top of the Communist Party, let's say the top of the Central Committee and things like that, and those Moscow elites, they wanted to sell the Soviet Union. They wanted to, you know, just basically appropriate those huge treasures that were there, you know, and they wanted to integrate themselves into the combined West. In terms of corruption and ignorance of the elites, yeah, there are some parallels, because basically the combined West elites are in complete decomposition in human and, you know, academic terms.

They are such a past. Most of them are. If you look at them, they are not normal people, essentially, you know. Look attentively at von der Leyen, Baerbock, or Macron, and it's just, it's a freak show, okay? Let's put it this way. And when you look attentively at the academy and those ideologues, yeah, there are Fukuyamas 2.0, 3.0, all kinds, you know, those André Bernard Lévis, and, you know, those people who are war criminals, for lack of a better word, you know, that's who they are. Then when you look at that, there is no way they can self-correct. It's over. In the United States, you still could have Trump. Is he good? No. Is he the best possible outcome? No.

But at least he is some change, radical change in terms. Europe is done. It's over for Europe. And when people say, for example, that's where I disagree with Douglas MacGregor, for example, that, oh yeah, they may change, for example, their political leadership, if you wish, okay? Somehow, AfD, Alternative for Germany, you know, or some other, you know, Le Pen's people come to power in France. Nothing's gonna change in terms of the state of Western Europe, which is, first, it's devoid of their energy. And secondly, for example, when we talk about Russophobia, for example, it's a natural state for the majority of the European population. Simple as that. Americans are different.

For example, I live in America. I am an American, a U.S. citizen. I become, you know, one of them, you know, my neighbors treat me as, you know, American, my buddy, you know. Just to give you an example, in Europe, you cannot do that. You know, I will always be Russian for them and a suspicious guy for most of them, not all of them. I'm not saying that Europeans are all like this, but the majority is. And the body of evidence for this is overwhelming. It is so well documented. This is what many people do not understand. And that's what the difference is. And when you look at the economic state of Europe, that's what you get now. There's a lot of things going on there.

#M2

It is. It is. I couldn't agree more. But I have a question about this term because it dawned on me recently that we may have misnamed it because Russophobia implies fear of Russia. And what I'm starting to realize is that there is no fear. If there was fear, you wouldn't act like that. You would be more careful. It is hate.

#M3

Don't forget, we Russians, for many of those people, are subhumans. We always have been. There is, again, the paradox. If you look attentively, for example, at British elites, okay, they are not elites. This is the inbred cesspool, and this is the most disgusting collection of people. But, I mean, they look at Russians as subhumans.

#M2

They really do, they believe that. How can we explain that? Because, like, we are obviously—it's not racism. We are the same skin color, the same, like, this is the same, right? Even on the continent. Where is it coming from?

#M3

Well, it comes from the fact that, obviously, there is no denial that we live in a world shaped by Western civilization, which produced an enormous input. It shaped us in terms of culture, art, and science. We live on this earth, at least, by the laws of Newton. Newton gave us calculus. You just go through it, and it's just enormous, enormous. The Western heritage is enormous. But it was the 20th century where the West totally committed suicide, first by generating two world wars, which saw an unprecedented level of atrocity and cruelty, with the industrial slaughter of people. This was done initially as a result of imperial aspirations and, of course, national arrogance. And then World War II ended up, of course, with a clearly racial theory in which, for example, Slavs like me were considered subhumans.

It was beautifully and largely shared across Europe. Listen, the French... They lived really well. One of the most scandalous things about the French and the Vichy government and how they basically surrendered was the fact that, yeah, why did they surrender? Well, because there was no real reason to die for when they knew they would be preserved as a nation, you know, and they were. You know, Paris wasn't bombed or anything. Hitler personally, you know, ordered to preserve Paris, you know, the same as obviously goes for Rome. But when you look at this, yeah, that's what it is. It's as simple as that. The main point of French resistance was to spit and throw things at the women; they were called the horizontal French ladies, who were dating German soldiers and German officers during the occupation.

This is how far the French resistance went. France, at the same time, produced the 33rd Waffen-SS Charlemagne Division, and these were the guys, together with elements of the SS Division Viking, who were fighting to the very end defending the Reichstag in May of 1945. So there you go. You cannot change this. And then you get these people who know France, and France has just been one of the examples. Many Spaniards are still proud of the Blue Division. El País recently published an article about one of the anniversaries when this division was absolutely destroyed by the Red Army. They were writing about how they fought back, how they were heroes, and things like that. This is what it is.

#M2

I mean, it bubbled up again a year ago when Canada honored a Ukrainian Nazi, right? That kind of sentiment—anything anti-Russian is necessarily good, right? Even if it is Nazi. Yeah.

#M3

Yeah, so there you go. The Canadian Parliament, well, that was essentially the manifestation or the exhibit A of what the Combined West is. You know, I have to admit, even those in the "prostitute media" in the United States noted that. But the rest of the world was like, yeah, sure, that's fine. Yeah, it happens.

#M2

It's an oopsie-daisy moment. It's like, okay, fine.

#M3

Yeah, oopsie, yeah, yeah.

#M2

How do you... I mean, you're witnessing that from within an environment that is so captured by all of these narratives. How do you avoid personally this cognitive dissonance? How do you not jump out of the window when you read all of these things?

#M3

Well, I have to be professional. I write books on that, you know, so when I see this new bifurcation point, so to speak, I go out and write the book, you know. Actually, my most important book is not the three we spoke about. It is the second book, which is called A Real Revolution in Military Affairs.

My editor was begging me, she was begging me, "Don't use much more math, just don't use math." And I had to kind of, I mean, there's nothing wrong with using this expression, dumb it down a little bit, but it was already done, which was six years ago. I stated it's over for the West.

They lost the arms race. Period. It's as simple as that. It's just that they, and again, they don't do strategy. When you look at that sort of military education in the Combined West, especially in Europe, it's a joke. They do not have really competent officers there. You can't, you know. And so when you look at this, you're like, my God, what were they thinking? And you understand that they were delusional. And, of course, driven by, we already established it really well, yeah, not Russophobia, but hatred, you know. And they hate Russia. And they hate it for a number of reasons. Does this have...

#M2

I mean, I study international relations, right? I try to understand how it is that this globe, which is now made up of 8 billion people, moves. And part of how it moves is by these countries, these collectives of people, interacting with each other. And one thing that I saw in the Second World War is that for the Japanese, it was so difficult to read what was happening over in Europe that they several times completely, utterly misunderstood what was going on, and at least three of their cabinets, between '39 and '41, '42, collapsed.

Because things in Europe happened like, at first, they thought, like, we are all fighting against the Soviet Union, and they were joining that. Then they thought it's now Rome, Berlin, Moscow. So Tokyo also added itself in '41. And Matsuoka came back and said, like, great victory. We have a neutrality pact with Russia. We are now going to push collectively against the Americans. And then came Barbarossa, and they were dumbfounded. It's like, is it? And those were the best of the best at the time, right? Or not the best of the best, but the people in power. So is it like misunderstanding, not being able to comprehend what the other one is about? Is that inherently baked into the system or not?

#M3

Yeah, it's inherent in the system. Yes, you correctly defined it because, as I already stated, humanities education in the United States, for example, is largely corrupt, especially when it relates to, for example, Russian studies. But it is also in other fields too. And there are a number of people, including, for example, Daniel Larison, you know, his speech in history, he writes, he was pretty famous when he was writing for The American Conservative. He is correct. And I actually quote him: Americans don't know the world outside. And neither does Europe, by the way. And as a result, you can thank this for the corruption of higher education when it comes to the humanities field, the arts and letters, which became nothing more than brainwashing and idealization of narrative peddling.

That's what it is. Narrative peddling. I listened recently to this lady. She teaches history and strategy, quote unquote. How can you teach strategy having a PhD in history? I don't know, but she teaches strategy at the U.S. Naval War College. And what can I say? Sarah Payne. When I heard what she was talking about modern Russia, I was like, you have got to be kidding me. I mean, she's stuck somewhere between 1982 and 1989. And she doesn't even understand that what she produces is just... She said, if dictator Putin would spend more money, you know, on the roads instead of his fancy weapons. By the way, yeah, the revolutionary weapon systems, which the West doesn't have.

They're like, did she see highways in Russia recently? It's like the woman doesn't even understand what she's talking about. She lives in some other alternative universe. And then, of course, yeah, you have those people from all those, you know, during Berkeley, which is a craphole, the San Francisco area, or somewhere, or from, they go in, they land in, if they make it, they land in Moscow, and their first impression is a cultural shock, because New York looks like, you know, Vancouver County, you know, village or county fair. And they go to St. Petersburg, they go to Yekaterinburg, they go to Sochi.

You have to understand, they experience cognitive dissonance, which sometimes some people adjust to, but for others, their world comes crashing down on them, and they develop even more hatred. It's the same as, for example, the case with the Ukrainians and Russians. For many Europeans, one of the reasons for the hatred, especially when you look at all those British cities and villages or France, even Paris, is the whole Paris syndrome. That's the name of a real issue. According to this phenomenon, especially Asian tourists imagine Paris being one way, and when they come, it's like it stinks, the narrow streets, the Eiffel Tower looks like nothing, and they are shocked. But all of this is stated about those guys who make it to Russia.

And then they see those modern highways, those high-rises, incredible culture. There's no doubt it always was like that. And they see those people and they see how Russians live. Europeans, Russia is beginning to live better than any European country now. This is another point, and believe me, there are many, you know, insulted Europeans who do not take it lightly when I tell them that you're going to be poor. Not because you cannot sustain your economy with the prices of energy, which you have now. And Russia is not selling this anymore. Russians had it, you know. So there you go. Let them buy at three times the price. Then see where it all goes. It will be deindustrializing, and it's already in progress as we speak. And that's another thing.

#M2

So in this sense, and I agree with you, what Europe is going to suffer over the next at least 20 years is going to be a hole of their own digging. But the hole is by now so deep and so structural that there is no way of escaping it, right? Can you speak maybe a little bit to the reaction that we are seeing right now? We're speaking on February 15th here, 2025, and Donald Trump just announced

that he had a phone call with Vladimir Putin and that they both want to end the war. His Secretary of State and his Secretary of Defense both said we need peace. Peace is what we want; peace is what will be had. The dying has to end. I mean, the Americans are now the ones who are forcing this process from the Western side. I mean, not that the Russians hadn't tried, but the Americans are at least now speaking about it, and the Europeans are shocked. They're saying, like, you cannot make a decision like that without us, implementing it on us. This is quite insane again. What's your impression?

#M3

Oh, it's a very simple impression. I've been on record for many years now. Europe is not the subject of international relations; it's an object. And it's not only that. They really do not understand who they are, and their elites definitely don't. And yeah, they are lunch for the United States. I'm sorry, the United States wants to eat too. Guess what? Europe will be—it already is—just enough to take a look at, for example, the Royal Netherlands Air Force. They will have their F-35s shoved down their throats, then American whatever junky weapons, that's going to happen. And one of the reasons why it's going to happen is because they also have been de-industrialized. And the quality is also falling in what they do. There is a very interesting thing, which seems like it's not related, but it has everything to do with this.

If you take a look at America, for all its flaws and, yeah, huge issues, it still remains a superpower. It's not as large economically as the United States wants to think of itself, but still. And if you look intensively at the October 2024 issue of the Car and Driver magazine in the United States, which is the most respectable automobile publication, out of 25 bestsellers in the United States, not a single European car. Not a single one. No Mercedes, no BMW, let alone French cars and things of this nature. All, you know, American, obviously Japanese, Korean, what have you. Not a single German or any other European car. That tells you something. And America has resources. Not all of them, but she does. Europe doesn't. And that's the sentence, pretty much. And that is going to affect, because we are on the Kardashev scale, you know, the types of civilizations, okay?

We have progressed from probably 0.1, 0.2 in the 19th century, early 20th century, to probably 0.6 now. And this is not linear; it's exponential, okay? So the 0.6 is something like, you know, 20 or more times larger energy consumption than we had even at the start of the last century, and even at the start of this century. But Europeans love their Greta Thunberg, so they have to live with that, as J.G. Wells told them today. And they killed their industries, literally. And when you look at Italy, what's left? Yeah, the French can still build some things in Saint-Nazaire, like a useless aircraft carrier maybe once in a while. And they have Airbus, which is, of course, joint. Germans have Siemens, if they can keep it, which I don't think so. So there you go.

#M2

What else? Do you think, I mean, this is a long process, right? It's a process that predates the Second World War, this kind of, for lack of a better term, becoming a satellite of another great power without realizing it, while deluding yourself into thinking you're an equal partner just because you're sitting at the same table. It is so cute. But the way that Ukraine at some point will... the realization will sink in that they were never more than a battlefield and a manpower provider, right? And a blood provider to a proxy war. The way that realization will sink in at some point, do you think the Europeans will ever understand that they too have been played for 80 years plus? Or is the ignorance about reality so deep that they will continue deluding themselves even for the next decades?

#M3

Which is funny. It's happening today in Weimar, no less. It's like you cannot get any more symbolic than this. So they meet at Weimar, Germany. Europe is already entering the Weimar Republic level of depravity and economic dislocation. It will get much, much worse. And economic stimuli, obviously, are critical. Well, for intellectuals, whatever we understand under this word, you can kind of reassess your life. But for most people, they perceive life as a combination of outside stimuli, with the economic ones being the most important, okay?

And when you suddenly have, you know, people don't talk about it, but I spoke about this in my latest video, my heart bleeds when you understand that thousands of senior citizens in the United Kingdom died freezing, right? I mean, what kind of world is that? I mean, when you have people, thousands, and some people say it's 17,000, which is appalling. I mean, if you have a state that cannot even take care of your most vulnerable, you know, what kind of state are you? You are third world. And yeah, beyond there, you know, but touristy places, London is a crap hole, essentially, you know, as is Paris, for example. And when you look attentively at this, is that what they wanted?

The elites certainly did. But again, as I already stated, when sociopathy, when the sociopath, you know, is becoming not the accident, not the bug, but the feature and the main criterion for getting into politics in Europe, what do you expect? You have Annalena Baerbock. She's an imbecile. She's an imbecile who turns around 360 degrees. You had Liz Truss, who's a complete cretin. She was the Prime Minister of Great Britain, who came and told Lavrov that Voronezh, a historical Russian territory, should be given its independence. That's the type of people. They are morons. And that's what it is. You look at Biden, again, as Solomon or Blinken. They are absolute sociopaths without any skills.

In other words, the West didn't produce a real statesman since, however we cast on him and much of it correctly, since George Bush Sr. Everything else after that, from Bill Clinton to, you know, W to Obama, these are not statesmen. These are not people who understand politics, who understand how the world runs. They were morons. Big Willie, he basically was screwing women left and right, you know, and then killing those people, you know, if you look at them, it's just some kind of moral

depravity, essentially, you know, and they are not statesmen. They are politicians, and they were always good only at one thing: to get themselves elected or reelected or stay within their political power. Look at the US Congress.

#M2

And that's the level of people we have to deal with. I would like to ask you much more about this, but I have one last question, which directly links to the name of this channel. The neutrality issue, especially for Ukraine. Some people in my circles have been saying for years, forever, Ukraine is the standard kind of neutral space in Europe, just like Austria after the Second World War. And Russia actually, even in its draft treaties on December 17, 2021, all but named that policy. And since then, since the war started, they said Ukraine must be neutral. So the concept of neutral, demilitarized spaces, is that something that is still inherently important in Russia's outlook on geopolitics in Europe and in Asia?

#M3

It changed. It obviously evolved. Especially if you noticed, neither Vladimir Putin nor any other big-time political figure in Russia uses the term "brotherly people" anymore. There is no "brotherly people" anymore. What was committed in terms of atrocities by Ukrainians, yeah, it's going to be whatever will be left of Ukraine. But just for you to know, Mr. Naryshkin invited Polish, Hungarian, and Romanian historians to Moscow. And Mr. Naryshkin, of course, being the chief of foreign intelligence. Guess what he did it for?

And they gladly accepted to discuss their territories, which historically belong to places like Poland, which is Volhynia, of course, and the very good old Polish town of Lemberg, which we know as Lwów. So Ukraine is being partitioned. And what's going to be left is going to be something on the order of the scale of 10 million people with no viable armed forces, maybe armed police, and it will be purged of all Nazi elements there, including physical annihilation. So this is what will happen. After that, it will be neutral. Absolutely.

#M2

More generally, one of the mindsets of the NATO people is that you're either with us or against us, right? Their mental space doesn't contain any acceptance of these in-between spaces. Does Russia's military doctrine contain in-between spaces? Let's take the example of, maybe on the other side, Mongolia. The fact that Mongolia is a convenient buffer with Russia and is convenient on the border. Is that something that's important to Russian military thinking, or am I over-interpreting things?

#M3

We have to keep in mind that today we're dealing with the technological paradigm of long-range fires. Russia can annihilate Brussels in 15 minutes and turn it into a parking lot. So there you go, so much for the buffer. No, the question is obviously about not having a terrorist entity literally on your border. So for NATO, yeah, as I already stated, you can quote me as saying this nonstop for a number of years: the United States, that is to say the combined West, lost the arms race. I cannot even emphasize enough how backward they are militarily. And considering this, if you rephrase the famous Clausewitz dictum, that the main object of war is to compel the enemy to do our will, the Russian dictum for war today is that the main object of war is to compel the enemy to do our will by means of the physical annihilation of its armed forces.

And so it has the Gerasimov doctrine, if you wish. And no, the armed forces of Ukraine will be physically annihilated. They will be absolutely filtered. And so that's how Russians view it nowadays, you know. And you know what? There are huge lines at Sheremetyevo Airport because Russians are not letting Ukrainians do what they were doing, for example, at the start of the special military operation. You know why? Because many of the Ukrainian so-called citizens who decided to go to Russia turned out to be assets of the GUR and were working with all kinds of nasty organizations, including committing terrorist acts like they did, for example, recruiting people who killed the chief of their... So it's like, yeah, it's over. It's different.

And so, as per NATO, they can think whatever they want, but as Al Capone stated, with a kind word and a gun, you can get much further than with a kind word alone. And Russians understood it very clearly. And they have the means, which, for example, the Combined West doesn't have. And that's the whole point: balance of power and correlation of forces and means. Simple as that. And you have to understand how it pans out. Like people say on a number of occasions to me, "Oh, how did you see this?" It's very easy. You just give the framework, and that's it. Those conclusions, they float naturally from the knowledge of the main engines, so to speak, all the propellers of international relations, geopolitics, and things like that. And once you understand what balance of power is, and when Washington understood it, then at least they begin to understand it.

#M2

Yeah, I will. I'm sorry. I want to talk to you much more about your framework, but I think we have to do that in another podcast because we're already reaching the hour. But I want to direct everybody. You have a wonderful blog on which you almost post daily on Blogspot, and you have a YouTube channel of your own. Is there any other place where people should go who want to read or hear from you?

#M3

No, that's pretty much it. In the Anglosphere, those are the only two things I have.

#M2

Okay, I'll put all of the links in the description of this video. And Andrei, I thank you very much for your valuable insights. Thank you.

#M3

So, my pleasure. My pleasure.