Intelligence Report: Trump Apparently Pivots on Russia – Abstract – Full Report Feb 20

New Era World News

Intelligence

ABSTRACT

THIS PAST WEEK NEWERA provided two articles detailing President Trump's unexpected release of his National Security Adviser and seemingly ludicrous request that Russia return Crimea to the Ukraine. This controversial and highly unexpected request was immediately rejected by Russian statesmen; as one Russian reporter noted: this will happen as soon as the United States gives California back to Mexico. Together, these controversial actions appear to signal a weakening of what looked like support for a rapprochement with Russia. After gathering relevant data from various and conflicting sources, breaking the data into component parts, comparing and contrasting the parts and determining veracity of the information (is there evidence that reported events really happened), considering the ideological motivations of news outlets and the web of relationships among the data points, comparison and contrast ended with propositional judgement (is there evidence that events really happened as reported). This was a followed by a synthesis of the data involving not only historical, cultural, political and economic variables, but philosophical and theological variables as well as unexpected turn of events and discernible global patterns that indicate emerging trends and serve as catalysts to unexpected change. These methodological components are all necessary parts behind a robust Intelligence Report, which is further checked for its own

logical validity followed by a forecast relevant to the events under scrutiny.

CONCLUSION: President Trump's actions can be understood as a practical rational response to internal pressures arising from the so-called "deep government" (people who exercise a powerful influence on political affairs, but not necessarily elected officials (financiers, bureaucrats, corporate interests, and those who prefer to manipulate and, if possible, control events from behind the scenes). Newera prefers the term "shadow-government" to "deep government" because this "government" is operated by veiled doyens skilled at circumventing exposure, doyens and intelligence agents who avoid "transparency" by operating under a veil of darkness that casts a shadow over occurring events. Clearly, someone is leaking data detrimental to the Trump Team, not even the President of the United States, whom these intelligence officers supposedly work for, knows who they are - he is in a dim shadow because they are operating under cover of darkness. The only evidence of their operation, all that can be observed is a shadow, a shadow formed by the fact that light has been blocked out. No exposure of light is permitted, no cracked windows though which it might flow because there are no windows in this wall. This is how a strong shadow is formed, hence the term, "shadow government", one unnamed massive wall of operatives, which President Trump is up against. The real question is whether or not Mr. Trump is up to a life and death struggle to reclaim America for All Americans thereby making "America Great Again."

FORECAST: Despite the monumental bulwark known as the "shadow government', the United States and Russia will continue down a path of rapprochement but not without significant interference from a ubiquitous shadow-government. Because it is, or appears to be, "ubiquitous", interference can be expected from all ends of the political and social-cultural spectrum. Constant, well orchestrated and confusing (shadows can be used to cast confusing and mixed messages) series of events can be expected as agents from both the left and right proceed to push confrontation to a boiling point. Nonetheless, in the long run, the shadow government will fail as it has consistently failed and been out maneuvered in its foreign policy initiatives for the past decade - we have no discernible reason to believe that this chain of events will cease unfolding. The shadow-government is being opposed by more than Mr. Trump – they are losing their grip on power, and they know it. Again the real question is what will Mr. Trump he continue down the road of his immediate do? Will predecessors, or be bold enough to set America on a new course?

Full Intel Report Tomorrow, Monday, Feb. 20

President Trump Going Back on Russian Platform Part Two: Bromance to Standoff?

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Interpretation, Extrapolation and Forecasting are provided in Weekly Intelligence Reports released each Saturday

AS STATED IN ARTICLE ONE, in recent days the Trump administration has engaged in some surprising behavior that

has reporters and intelligence agents scratching their heads. Not only has his National Security Adviser resigned, President Trump has also indicated that he expects Russia to return Crimea to the Ukraine. This controversial and highly unexpected request came out of no where, as one Russian reporter noted: this will happen as soon as the United States gives California back to Mexico. Together, these executive actions might signal a weakening of what looked like support for a rapprochement with Russia.

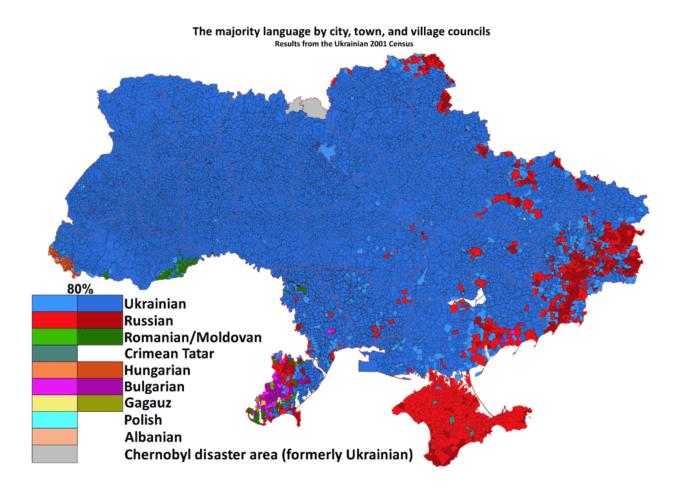
The Crimean Question

Russian history begins in the Ukraine with the first East Slavic state, the Kievan Rus (Kiev is the modern capitol of the Ukraine). In 988 Prince Vladimir of the Kievan Rus accepted the Christian faith and had his people baptized in the Dnieper. Due to Mongol invasions in the 13th century power shifted northward to what was then a small Rus outpost named Moscow and Ukraine fell prey to foreign invaders. Nonetheless, in the mind of Russian leaders, Ukraine retained its Russian identity; as late as the 19th century czars still referred to the Ukraine as "Little Russia."

Ukraine did not become an independent nation until 1917 at the end of World War I and the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Empires; it was, however, incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1922. It remained under Soviet dominance until 1991 when the nation voted for independence with the dissolution of the USSR. Clearly, Russia has an historic affinity to Ukraine, the Ukrainian capital of Kiev is the birthplace of Russia and czars of Russia trace their lineage back to Prince Vladimir.

Likewise, Russia has historic ties to Crimea which has become a significant point of contention between Moscow and Kiev. After being occupied by the Kievan Rus in the Medieval period, Crimea fell to the Monguls and became part of the Golden Horde, which was followed by the Crimean Khanate and then the Ottoman Empire, which held it unit 1783 when Catherine the Great defeated the Ottomans and Russia reassumed control of Crimea. Historically, Crimea does seem to be part of Russia. However, geographically speaking Kiev is connected to Ukraine by several strings of land, it appears to be part of Ukraine. Nonetheless, Russia lies only several miles off shore and Russia has ruled Crimea for centuries. This problem was resolved in 1954 when Nikita Khrushchev, for whatever reason, gifted Crimea to the Ukraine.

Since that time, Crimea has been under the control of the Ukraine *albeit* with ongoing conflict and calls for reunion with Russia, calls that broke out into a cacophony in 2014 during the Color Revolution that split the Ukraine. During that year a referendum to decide if Crimeans wanted to remain a part of the Ukraine or rejoin Russia was held. When <u>97% of Crimeans voted for union with Russia</u>, Crimea once again became a Republic of Russia. The Russian argument becomes stronger when considering the ethnic-language map below. Clearly, Eastern Ukraine and *esp*. Crimea are linguistically Russian



Nonetheless, many countries, including the United states and Canada, considered the Crimean referendum to be illegitimate. Thirteen members of the UN Security Council (comprised of 5 permanent — with veto power — and ten non-permanent members) also declared that the referendum was illegitimate; however, the vote was vetoed by Russia and China abstained. The measure was then taken up by the UN General Assembly which passed a resolution by a vote of 100-11 (58 abstentions) that the referendum was invalid.

The Security Council action was legitimately and legally vetoed and the General Assembly could only muster a "resolution", a resolution with no bite behind it because the Security Council had already vetoed the resolve. Russia, moreover, has made the somewhat compelling argument that people everywhere have a right to secede from one nation and enter into a union with another or to remain independent if that is their common desire. For example, Scotland recently held a referendum to secede from Great Britain and Kosovo held a referendum to secede from Serbia despite the fact that the <u>Preamble of the Serbian Constitution</u> declares that **Kosovo** 'is an integral part of the territory of Serbia'.

Nonetheless, Kosovo, backed by US military might, unilaterally declared its independence leading to protracted and violent warfare. Although Kosovo was recognized by many members of the European Union, five nations refused to recognize her secession: Spain, Slovakia, Cyprus, Greece and Romania. There does seem to be some validity to the desire of the Crimean people to decide for themselves what nation they want to belong to – besides, the Crimean referendum backed by Russia was carried out peacefully; whereas, the Kosovo referendum resulted in an ocean of violence, war brutality, and ethnic cleansing over a protracted period of 16 months. It included a NATO bombing campaign that never gained approval of the UN Security Council and caused at least 488 Yugoslav civilian deaths – Russia did not drop any bombs on either the Ukraine or Crimea.

Nonetheless, The <u>Obama administration almost immediately</u> <u>imposed sanctions</u> on Russia:

"We're making it clear that there are consequences for their actions," the president said. And, he warned, "If Russia continues to interfere in Ukraine we stand ready to impose further sanctions."

"A senior administration official later called the action, "far the most comprehensive sanctions applied to Russia since the end of the Cold War."

<u>The European Union also imposed sanction</u> saying it would "freeze assets of, and ban travel for, 21 officials in Russia and Ukraine" adding: "We urge our counterparts and financial institutions around the world to shun these individuals."

Conflict between the United States and Russia was apparently heating up and began to reach fever pitch toward the end of the Obama administration. For example, Obama's good-bye gift to Putin was a further deployment of US troops to the Russian border. <u>According to the BBC</u>, just four days before the Trump inauguration:

"More than 80 main battle tanks and hundreds of armoured vehicles have already arrived in Germany and are now being moved into eastern Europe by road and rail. The US Armoured Brigade will also carry out military exercises in the Baltics, all part of President Obama's response to Russia's intervention in Ukraine and to reassure nervous NATO allies.

"Russia says it views the arrival of more than 3,000 US soldiers in Poland as a threat to its own security....It is the largest US military reinforcement of Europe in decades."

"President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov told the BBC that the move "threatens our interests and our security....It's a third country that is building up its military presence on our borders in Europe," he said. "It isn't even a European country."

All this despite the fact that President-elect Trump indicated that he prefers non-intervention, unless American interests are directly at stake; he respects the sovereignty of nation states; a reduction of global involvement and of international institutions; and accordingly prefers bi-lateral agreements brokered by the United States itself. He even indicated that he might support Russia's acceptance of Crimea, and that the issue is a <u>European not an America problem</u>. But as of this week, his National Security Adviser has resigned and Trump is alleging that Putin "TOOK" Crimea from Ukraine and that <u>Obama</u> was "too soft" on Russia. Now, he wants Crimea given back to the Ukraine. In this regard, White House spokesman Sean Spicer said earlier this week that the Trump administration <u>expects</u> <u>Russia to "return Crimea" to Ukraine</u>.

"President Trump has made it very clear that he expects the Russian government to deescalate violence in Ukraine and return Crimea," Spicer nuanced his remark by adding that "at the same time, he (President Trump) fully expects to and wants to get along with Russia"

This might be hard feat to accomplish, since Russia has no intention of giving up Crimea.

In response to Spicer's statements, Maria Zakharova, Russian Spokeswoman for Foreign Affairs immediately rose to correct President Trump's allegation that Russia "TOOK" Crimea and should give it back.

"We don't return our territories. Crimea is a territory of the Russian Federation."

Echoing Zakharova, <u>Viktor Ozerov</u>, <u>Chairman of the Defense</u> <u>Committee in the Russian Upper House</u> stated:

"The issue of Crimea return is absolutely clear — it is part of Russia and it cannot be subject of bargaining between Russia and the United States, no matter what is at stake." From a campaign strategy that featured a rapprochement with Russia, working together to defeat ISIS, and seeking global peace, the Trump administration has apparently changed course drastically; they are now saying the United States needs to be tougher on Russia. Trump has apparently confirmed the buildup of troops on the Russian border sent there by President Obama days before he left office and now is making ludicrous request for Russia to return Crimea – All this from a president who indicated during his campaign that <u>Crimean's were happier</u> being a part of Russia.

"But you know, the people of Crimea, from what I've heard, would rather be with Russia than where they were."

Since there have been no uprisings and anti-Russian demonstrations in Crimea and indicators are that the people are pleased with Russian rule, at least more than they were with Ukrainian rule, it can be presumed that the referendum was a valid expression of the majority and that President Trump was correct about their rather being with Russia. Does he want the people of Crimea to suffer a set-back by negating their referendum and being forced back into a union with the Ukraine that 97% of them indicated they do not desire? This does not seem to be a prudent diplomatic, democratic or humanistic move to make.

Why the Turn Apparent Around? What is going on?

The whole situation might be explained as a power move by Trump to enhance his bargaining position vis a vis Putin. In this regard. After signing in "Mad Dog Mattis" as Secretary of Defense, Trump stated:

"I'm signing an executive action to begin a great rebuilding of the armed services of the United States, developing a plan for new planes, new ships, new resources and new tools for our men and women in uniform," Trump said after the swearingin the retired Marine general. "I'm very proud to be doing that."

"Our military strength will be questioned by no one, but neither will our dedication to peace," he added. "We do want peace."

To which the new Secretary of Defense responded:

"Thank you very much for your confidence in me and welcome to the headquarters of your military — your always loyal military — where America's awesome determination to defend herself is on full display," said the new secretary of defense at his swearing in ceremony.

"You've made clear Mr. President your commitment to a strong national defense," he added.

Trump has instructed Secretary Mattis to get the United States in a position to bargain with Russia, to bargain from strength. The problem is that Putin is also stacking his deck; in response to American aggressiveness, President Putin has ordered the Russian Air Force to prepare for a "time of war".

According to Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu:

"In accordance with the decision by the Armed Forces Supreme Commander (President Putin), a snap check of the Aerospace Forces began to evaluate readiness of the control agencies and troops to carry out combat training tasks."

"Special attention should be paid to combat alert, deployment

of air defense systems for a time of war and air groupings' readiness to repel the aggression."

Before anyone gets war crazy, it was and is highly expected, as we indicated at the close of <u>Part One</u>, that relations with Russia will be brought to a boiling point, but this does not necessarily mean war. Given the highly unusual tenor of this should be no story (The resignation of Flynn and Crimean situation), Newera has shuffled the issue to its Intelligence Department for further analysis. The Flynn-Crimean debacle appears to be part of a related story necessitating a broader investigation into the Neocon-Neoliberal deep government, Russia and American Foreign Policy, Fatima and an Era of Peace.

An Intelligence Report on this topic is planned for Sunday Reading

Access Part One

President Trump Appears to be Reversing His Russian Platform

New Era News limits itself to reporting and in-depth analysis/synthesis of breaking events.

Interpretation, Extrapolation and Forecasting are provided in Weekly Intelligence Reports released each Saturday IN RECENT DAYS PRESIDENT TRUMP has engaged in some surprising behavior that has reporters and intelligence agents scratching their heads. Not only has his National Security Adviser resigned, President Trump has also indicated that he expects Russia to return Crimea to the Ukraine. This controversial and highly unexpected request came out of no where, as one Russian reporter noted: this will happen as soon as the United States gives California back to Mexico. Together, these executive actions might signal a weakening of what looked like support for a rapprochement with Russia.

Flynn was one of a few that was open to reset with Russia and a proponent of Trump's retreat from Neocon Global Intervention (the highly vaunted American Moment), an intervention that involves the US military spread thin across the globe and involves the United States in broad international agreements brokered by international agencies involving many countries that the US must abide by. Trump prefers non-intervention, unless American interests are directly a stake, and bi-lateral agreements brokered by the United States itself. He has even indicated that he might support Russia's acceptance of Crimea, and that the issue is a European not an America problem, but now his National Security Adviser has resigned and Trump is alleging that Putin "TOOK" Crimea from Ukraine and that Obama was "too soft" on Russia and he wants it given back to the Ukraine. What is going on?

President Trump indicated opening to Russia Nonintervention and possible acceptance of Crimean Referendum – What has happened?

National Security Adviser First

Earlier this week **Michael Flynn** resigned as President Trump's National Security Adviser. Previously, he was head of military

intelligence in Afghanistan and Iraq. He also served as Director of intelligence for the U.S. Central Command and was Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, a position from which he was removed by President Obama following Flynn's Congressional testimony in which he stated, contrary to President Obama's wishes, that ISIS did *not* constitute a "major threat" and therefore could not be used as a justification for prolonged engagement in the Middle East.

Mr. Flynn resigned from the Trump team due to pressure for withholding information from Vice President Pence, information regarding a phone conversation that took place before inauguration (December, 29, 2016) with the Russian Ambassador, Sergei Kislyak. During that conversation Flynn responded to questions from the foreign ambassador about US sanctions imposed on Russia (on the same day that thirty-five Russian diplomats were expelled from the US), which he later left out of his report to the Vice President

Others report that sanctions were not part of the conversation. Recalling his conversation with the Russian Ambassador, Flynn himself stated:

"It wasn't about sanctions. It was about the 35 guys who were thrown out.... So that's what it turned out to be. It (the conversation) was basically, 'Look, I know this happened. We'll review everything.' I never said anything such as, 'We're going to review sanctions,' or anything like that."

Either way, the Vice President was not fully informed (either about the sanction conversation [if it did occur] or the expulsion of the 35), which might be interpreted as the Vice President was "misled." According to the President's Counselor, Kelly-Anne Conway: <u>"Misleading the vice president</u> really was the key here." Flynn continues to assert that he "crossed no lines" in his conversation with the Russian ambassador: "If I did, believe me, the FBI would be down my throat, my clearances would be pulled. <u>There were no lines crossed</u>."

In his final interview before resigning, Flynn indicated that he "was most concerned" about classified information being leaked by people with security clearances; he was (and is) more concerned about information leaks than he is with his own resignation.

"In some of these cases, you're talking about **stuff that's taken off of a classified system and given to a reporter. That's a crime**,"

"We have to wonder that **people who work for our government**, who are entrusted with classified information, decisionalbased materials are leaking that information out. That, I do believe is a big story," he said voicing serious concerns about the "politicization of intelligence."

The "politicization of intelligence" (a euphemism for illegal leaks of information so highly protected that it is above "top-secret" [that is, it is off of the charts]), politicization of intelligence is a big story indeed, but *not* even Flynn knows where the leaks are coming from. The intelligence community was monitoring the National Security Adviser himself – that is how the information about his private conversation with the Russian ambassador made it to the desk of President Trump and then into the press. Flynn simply does not know where the information is coming from:

"One has to wonder, 'Are they coming out of people in the National Security Council? Are they coming out of people in the intel community? Or State? Or Defense?'"

Not even the President of the United States knows how

information regarding statesmen on his administrative team is being leaked. President Trump <u>tweeted</u> that

"The real story here is why are there so many illegal leaks coming out of Washington? Will these leaks be happening as I deal on N. Korea etc?"

In other words, the intelligence community that works for the president is spying on the president. Events such as this leave us wondering, who is in charge here?

According to Eli Lake writing for <u>Bloomberg</u>:

"Normally intercepts of U.S. officials and citizens are some of the most tightly held government secrets....Selectively disclosing details of private conversations monitored by the FBI or NSA gives the permanent state the power to destroy reputations from the cloak of anonymity. This is what police states do."

Before jumping to the conclusion that Eli Lake is accusing Trump of running a police state, it is necessary to be cognizant of the fact that Lake is *not* referring to a police state run by President Trump — unless Trump is the one ordering the monitoring and making the leaks or ordering them too. In this case, apparently, not even the President knows what is going on. Which state is in charge, the duly elected one or the so-called "deep-state" controlled by people opposed to the president? To support this contention that the police state referred to by Lake is not one overseen by Trump, Trump himself thanked Lake for his reporting. Responding to this Article, Trump Tweeted:

"Thank you to Eli Lake of The Bloomberg View — 'The NSA & FBI...should not interfere in our politics...and is' Very serious situation for USA."

■ Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump

Thank you to Eli Lake of The Bloomberg View — "The NSA & FBI...should not interfere in our politics...and is" Very serious situation for USA

<u>6:28 AM - 15 Feb 2017</u>

According to Devin Nunes (R), Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

"There does appear to be a **well orchestrated effort to attack Flynn and others** in the administration," he said. "From the leaking of phone calls between the president and foreign leaders to what appears to be high-level FISA Court information, to the leaking of American citizens being denied security clearances, it looks like a pattern."

Retired Col. James Williamson, told The Daily Caller that,

"What is illegal is that Flynn has his conversations eavesdropped on."

The fact is Flynn did not violate any laws; he was asked to resign for failing to fully inform the VP, which is *not* a criminal act. As reported and concluded by <u>NBC News</u>:

"There had been no finding that Flynn did anything illegal."

Related to this incident, it has been widely reported that there are many unanswered questions regarding Trump's connections with Russia. This could be the key to unraveling this story; it could also involve an attempt to purge Flynn before he helps the President purge the intel community: According to <u>Bloomberg</u>, Flynn: "...has cultivated a reputation as a reformer and a **fierce critic of the intelligence community leaders** he once served with when he was the director the Defense Intelligence Agency under President Barack Obama. **Flynn was working to reform the intelligence-industrial complex**, something that threatened the bureaucratic prerogatives of his rivals." Flynn also "joined the crowd at the Republican National Convention from the dais calling for Hillary Clinton to be jailed."

Asked by Richard Pollock (The Daily Caller Reporter) why he was calmly avoiding confrontation, Flynn responded:

"I haven't been fighting back because I'm not that kind of guy. I'm behind the scenes. **I've always been behind the scenes**. But this is ridiculous. It's so out of control. I've become an international celebrity for all the wrong reasons."

Will Flynn continue to work as a highly placed "behind the scenes" intel officer? This is a question that Newera is not prepared to approach until a thorough Intel analysis of our own has been conducted. Two safe presumptions can be made at this juncture, *viz.*, the Neocons will do everything they can to assure (1) that one of their members is pegged to replace Flynn and (2) that hostilities with Russia reach a boiling point.

Acces Part Two

Transdniestria and Moldova Affirm Russian Preference Alarm Globalists

New Era World News

GLOBAL LIBERALISM CONTINUES TO UNRAVEL as nation after nation questions its moral, economic and or political agenda and resets formal relations with Russia. This week it is Transdniestria, the eastern neighbor of Moldova, which also recently elected an anti-liberal and pro-Russian President, Igor Dodon, on November 13, 2016. Since pro-Russian Dodon defeated pro-World Bank and pro-European Union Maia Sanduhis, the election heralded a significant shift toward Russia and away from the European Union (EU).

"Speaking to Russian television after the vote, President Dodan said <u>Moldovans had voted for "friendship with Russia,</u> <u>for neutrality, for our orthodoxy, for the country's union</u>."

Dodan is aware that "a very serious combat is ahead", a combat between EU liberal globalists leaning westward and Moldovan patriots leaning to the east. However, he said, "we are ready for this combat."

To aid him in this battle, eastern neighboring Transdniestria has also elected a pro-Russian president, Vadim Krasnoselski, who garnered 62% of the vote in the December 11, 2016 presidential election. Since 1991 Transdniestria has sought independence from Moldova, which had affiliated itself with its western neighbor, Romania, a member of the United Nations and the European Union, while Transdniestria, which has a large Russian and Slavic population remained committed to Russia, a move that helped it attain and retain its autonomy from Moldova in 1992. During this period Russian troops were stationed in the breakaway region of Transdniestria against the wishes of the Moldovan government, which insisted that they leave "completely and unconditionally."

To this day, Russia continues to support Transdniestria, which permits it to retain a small but significant military presence on its soil as an eastern buffer zone bordering the Black Sea. As Moldova moved further into the ambit of the EU and threatened to pull Transdniestria with it, diplomatic relations between Moldova and Russia became so strained that Russia imposed economic sanctions (primarily agricultural) on Moldova. With pro-Russian presidents elected by clear majorities in both countries, it now appears that Moldova and Transdniestria may resume cooperative efforts beneficial to each other and to Russia, which has a strong geopolitical and cultural interest in the region.

Moldovan President Dodon has already indicated his willingness to pursue improved relations with Transdniestria. Since Krasnoselski campaign included reaching a negotiated settlement with Moldova, the process, facilitated by Russia as peacemaker, should proceed steadily. However, since such a development is another blow to EU globalists, they can be expected to step up their game, promote internal dissent and rev up a furious propaganda campaign; these events are most certain in the short run.

The globalists, however, are facing too many challenges around the globe and will have to soon become more selective, there are not enough resources to fight them all simultaneously. France, England and Poland are prime allies, whom the EU must keep in its ambit if it is to survive. A tremendous outlay of resources will be heading towards Eastern Europe as the Slavic nations one after another unhinge from EU influence: Those already in separation mode include Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Belarus, Transdniestria and Estonia. The key is Poland, which has recently proclaimed Jesus Christ as its King. If Poland unhinges, it can be expected that all the Slavic nations, including Ukraine, will join in tandem to form "Intermarium" consisting of East European an nations geographically spread from the Baltic Sea in the northwest to the Black Sea in the southeast.

Therefore, Moldova is a global hot spot; the EU globalists cannot afford to let the dominoes keep falling,

they must stop here!

WHAT CARDS CAN THE EU BE EXPECTED TO PLAY?

Moldova is already a member of NATO and aspires to join the EU. The strongest card the EU has in Moldova is the large number of people still in favor of EU integration including foreign embassies, think tanks, NGOs, media outlets, political beneficiaries and common men and women who have benefited from EU subsidies and economic advantages. Perhaps the globalist's greatest advantage is the continued existence of the EU-leaning Prime Minister and Parliament. Moldova, moreover is a member of the World Trade Organization, which hand in hand with the EU could cripple or promote its financial sector and economic well being.

Interestingly, Moldova also has several Russian media outlets and news agencies, has a strong Russian cultural influence, 93% of its citizens are members of the Orthodox Church with many having strong ties to the Russian Orthodoxy, nearly 20% of the population declares Russian as their native tongue, Moldova imports over 90% of its energy from Russia; and 54% of its population is of Ukrainian and Russian Slavic descent. Moldova was also once part of the Soviet Union and is also a member of the Russian led <u>Commonwealth of Independent States</u> and thus in the Russian ambit as well.

To the extent that Russia can continue to promote Christian and family values while it slashes away at the amoral cultural tentacles of liberalism and simultaneously provide economic benefits and trade stimulus to Moldova while propping up its infrastructure through investments from Russian-Chinese sponsored financial institutions, it might be able to counterbalance the effect of western liberal propaganda, especially at a time when EU institutions are experiencing unprecedented and severe cultural and political pressures that are wrenching them apart along with the significant financial burden of supporting Mediterranean nations states relying on the European Central Bank in Germany to sustain their failing economies.

Despite EU tribulations, they cannot afford to loose this region to the Russians. Either way, with two pro-Russian presidents and large segments of their populations favorable to increased relationships with Russia along with aid from the EU, economic and trade relations between Transdniestria and Moldova can be expected to improve. The two countries can also be expected to increase cultural ties as globalists continue attempts to acculturate Transdniestria and Transdniestria to influence Moldova. Most importantly, a rapprochement with Russia and Moldova can be expected. This time it is voluntary and, assisted by cooperative efforts between President Dodan and President Krasnoselski, it should proceed further than before.

As the United States moves to disengage itself from overextension in foreign affairs thereby leaving a failing to fend for itself militarily at a time when its economies are reeling and social -cultural dissatisfaction is at an all time high, less essential Eastern European nations will receive less economic help. Since it is unrealistic to expect the larger Eastern European nations, such as Poland, will assume responsibility for the economic challenges and mange the economic needs of their poorer neighbors, further anti-liberal Russian influence can be expected.

Fatima – Divine Mercy and World News for an Era of Peace and Hour of Mercy

New Era World News

This series is being written because of the immense importance of Fatima for the modern world.

THIS YEAR THE CHURCH IS CELEBRATING the centenary of the appearance of the Mother of God at Fatima, Portugal in 1917. Since that time Fatima has become the world's most prominent center of Marian devotion, a place that John Paul II referred to as the "Marian capitol of the world." Given the fact that the Our Lady of Fatima precisely foretold the outbreak of World War II, the rise of communism and the persecution of the Church, Her other prophecies concerning the conversion of Russia to be correlated with an "Era of Peace" are of especial relevance since, unlike the former that have already occurred, these prophesied events are in the process of occurring. Any impartial observer of global events can discern the Hand of God at work in the world as Russia is being converted and the nations of the world are one by one in the process of rejecting global liberalism while many are reasserting their Christian patrimonies (Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Africa, Poland, France, Asia, Argentina, Middle East).

While New Era has been reporting on these changes since its inception, secular and liberal pundits have also begun to observe the many changes occurring world-wide. They are, however, misinterpreting, and thus misrepresenting, them as a *political movements*, movements referred to as <u>"Populist</u>", when in fact these are primarily moral, cultural, spiritual and religious movements. Unlike other populist movements that have

focused on economic and social justice, equal rights for the little guy etc. this new "populist movement" differs from previous populist movements because of its global scope and because it is characterized by moral and spiritual dimensions including the frothy rejection of liberalism that, all taken together, indicate or hint at its religious nature. Although the movement has profound political ramifications, it is not political in essence. At its core, the populist movement sweeping the globe is related to Our Lady's promises made at Fatima, promises pertaining to the "Conversion of Russia" and a corollary "Era of Peace". This highly unusual global movement has a religious or theological etiology that intersects with politics, what New Era refers to as theopolitcal or "Theopolitcs".

It behooves everyone, Catholic, Protestant and non-Christian to know the Fatima Message due to the import of its contents, contents that are unfolding in front of our eyes on a daily basis. The current spiritual movement was foreseen by St. Louis Marie de Montfort. De Montfort is a highy significant saint for our times. His evangelical work is so exceptional, that another saint, Saint John Paul II, exhorted the "apostles of today" to draw inspiration from his life and work:

"Now that the need for a new evangelization has become imperative in most parts of the world, Fr de Montfort's zeal for the Word of God, his solicitude for the very poor, his ability to make himself understood by the simplest folk and to stimulate their piety, his qualities for organizing, his initiatives to sustain fervour by founding spiritual movements and to involve the laity in the service of the poor, all that, with practical adaptations, can inspire the apostles of today" (Letter on 50th anniversary of de Montfort's canonization).

De Montfort's facund treatises on the Virgin Mary are so exceptional that John Paul II (in his <u>Encyclical *Redemptoris*</u>

<u>Mater</u>) recommended de Montfort's Marian spirituality to all the faithful:

"Marian spirituality, like its corresponding devotion, finds a very rich source in the historical experience of individuals and of the various Christian communities present among the different peoples and nations of the world. In this regard, I would like to recall, among the many witnesses and teachers of this spirituality, the figure of Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, who proposes consecration to Christ through the hands of Mary, as an effective means for Christians to live faithfully their baptismal commitments".

One of the main reasons for De Montfort's contemporary relevance is his perspicacious understanding of the role of the Virgin Mary in the "End Times", times which we are entering.

How do we know we are entering the end times? One complex and difficult way is the study of sacred scripture especially eschatological literature. A more simple approach is the fact that Jesus promised to be with His Church until the end of time:

"Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world" (<u>Matt 28:20</u>)

And that the Holy Trinity would reveal to the Church all that was going to happen:

"I have yet many things to say to you: but you cannot bear them now. But when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will teach you all truth. For he shall not speak of himself; but what things soever he shall hear, he shall speak; and the things that are to come, he shall shew you" (John 16: 12-13).

Then, years after His Ascension, Jesus appeared to Saint John

on the island of Patmos and He has continued to appear to His saints at special times throughout history.

"And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks: And in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks, **one like to the Son of man**, **clothed with a garment down to the feet, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle**. And his head and his hairs were white, as white wool, and as snow, and his eyes were as a flame of fire, And his feet like unto fine brass, as in a burning furnace. And his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars. And from his mouth came out a sharp two edged sword: and his face was as the sun shineth in his power."

"And when I had seen him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying: Fear not. I am the First and the Last, And alive, and was dead, and behold I am living for ever and ever, and have the keys of death and of hell. Write therefore the things which thou hast seen, and which are, and which must be done hereafter" (<u>Revelation 1: 12-19</u>).

In the 20th century Jesus revealed Himself to a highly regarded Polish saint, Saint Faustina Kowalska, a poor Polish nun to whom He appeared prior to World War II. Among other things, He confided to her His love for humanity and His desire to bless the world with an outpouring of Divine Mercy before His final coming as "Just Judge". He also revealed His special love for the nation of Poland from which He said would come the "spark" that would prepare the world for His Second Coming.

Saint Faustina Divine Mercy Message and the End Times

The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion is based on revelations given by Jesus Christ to Saint Faustina who

recorded the revelations she received about the Mercy of God in a voluminous diary, which contains the Message of Divine Mercy (PDF), mercy that God intends for all humanity, especially for those most steeped in sin. Thanks to the love and work of Saint Faustina, Devotion to the Divine Mercy has spread throughout the world.

(c) Knights of Columbus Supreme Council

Devotion to Divine Mercy has gained the highest approbation of the Catholic Church. It has been placed on the universal liturgical calendar of the Church as the **Feast of Divine Mercy** celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter, also the day on which Pope John Paul II, the "Pope of Mercy" breathed his last breath as the Vicar of Christ and "Apostle of Mercy."

JESUS SPOKE TO SAINT FAUSTINA ABOUT HIS SPECIAL LOVE FOR POLAND

"I bear a special love for Poland, and if she will be obedient to My will, I will exalt her in might and holiness. From her will come forth the spark that will <u>prepare the</u> world for My final coming" (Diary, 1732).

The **spark of fire** that would come forth from Poland began with the pontificate of Saint John Paul II and is spreading around the globe. Poland is the first nation in the 21st century to actually declare Jesus Christ as its king and the Mother of God as its Queen, acts that were carried out by the nation's president, prime minister, parliament and princes of the Church including the Primate of Poland.

In the presence of President Andrej Duda, Prime Minister, Beata Szydło, and other ranking state officials the bishops prayed: "We entrust to you the Polish people and Polish leaders. Let them exercise their power fairly and **in accordance with Your laws**."

"Rule us, Christ! Reign in our homeland and reign in every

nation — for the greater glory of the Most Holy Trinity and the salvation of mankind."

The Polish Parliament (Sejm) announced its conviction that the Mother of God has a place of "special importance" for the nation, so special that they, the Polish Parliament itself, have officially declared 2017 as a jubilee year in honor of Mary whose coronation they have formally recognized as Queen of Poland.

"The Polish Sejm, convinced of the special importance of Marian devotion for our homeland – not only in the religious aspect, but also social, cultural and patriotic – establishes 2017 (as) the Year of the 300th anniversary of the Coronation of the image of Our Lady of Czestochowa,"

The world press is only now beginning to take notice of the special tenor of the events happening in Poland and related events happening around the globe. *The liberal establishment is being shaken to its foundations* as Poland is being joined by Hungary, Slovakia, the Philippines, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Malaysia, France, Austria, Moldova, Bulgaria and Russia *et al.* A general global uprising of Euro-skeptic Christian political parties and social movements is rapidly gaining momentum throughout the continent as well as in Asia and Africa. Increasing numbers are rising to challenge secular liberalism and reasserting their Christian or native patrimonies.

Russia is being converted as promised at Fatima, but Poland has stepped forward igniting the flame of love promised by Jesus. From Poland is coming forth the spark of spiritual renewal, of life giving and cleansing mercy, that flows from the Heart of Christ the King.

Jesus told Saint Faustina that **Poland would be the** instrumental "spark" that would prepare the world for His "final coming". Images of that spark that is igniting a fire across Europe and beyond can be viewed in the video below (be sure to activate English subtitles by pressing "CC").

https://youtu.be/dpC2_BUCTS0

We are living in or about to enter into the "Hour of Mercy", the time preparatory to Christ's final coming, a time foreseen by St. Louis Marie de Montfort, a time, in his words, when

"...great men filled with the Holy Spirit and imbued with the spirit of Mary" ...will destroy sin and establish the kingdom of Jesus Christ."

"They are the "great souls filled with . . . zeal" (<u>True</u> <u>Devotion 48</u>), "superior to all creatures by their great zeal" (<u>True Devotion 54</u>). The action of the "true apostles of the end times" (<u>True Devotion 58</u>) consists of spreading "the fire of divine love" everywhere; they are themselves "a flaming fire" (<u>True Devotion 56</u>). In the battle against evil and the enemies of God, these great saints "will become, in Mary's powerful hands, like sharp arrows," and they will leave "an odor of death" among the worldly (<u>True Devotion 56</u>). Their work will not be limited to reforming the Church, but will include extending it to "the idolators and Muslims" (<u>True</u> <u>Devotion 59</u>).

De Montfort wrote of the Second Coming of Christ to "reign over all the earth and to judge the living and the dead". Prior to His coming, he foresaw "great men filled with the Holy Spirit and imbued with the spirit of Mary", men whom he said will "destroy sin and establish the kingdom of Jesus Christ." Poland has already taken the first steps in bringing this eschatological vision of De Montfort to fruition. As of November 1, 2016, Jesus Christ is the King of Poland. "These great souls filled with grace and zeal will be chosen to oppose the enemies of God who are raging on all sides. They will be exceptionally devoted to the Blessed Virgin. Illumined by her light, strengthened by her spirit, supported by her arms, sheltered under her protection, they will fight with one hand and build with the other."

De Montfort concludes:

"Towards the end of the world ... Almighty God and His holy Mother are to raise up saints who will surpass in holiness most other saints as much as the cedars of Lebanon tower above little shrubs....Mary scarcely appeared in the first coming of Christ....

"But in the second coming of Jesus Christ, Mary must be known and openly revealed by the Holy Spirit so that Jesus may be known, loved and served through her."

All the above provide strong reason to believe that the world is entering (or has already entered) into a graced moment of sacred history, a time that Jesus, Himself, said was preparatory to His final coming, a time that has been confirmed by the highest authority in the Church, a time in which the Virgin Mary's Fatima prophecies pertaining to the conversion of Russia and a corollary Era of Peace are being fulfilled. Since there is strong reason to believe what Our Lady foretold at Fatima is upon us (during this 100th anniversary year of Her 1917 appearances), it is through this "Fatima Lens" that we can correctly discern what is happening around the globe — the so-called global populist phenomenon is a prodigious phenomenon related to Fatima and the coming Christian renewal during an Era of Peace prior to the final onslaught by the anti-Christ at the end of the world.

It is the purpose of this "Fatima Series" to familiarize the reader with the Fatima Message beginning with the **three visits**

by the archangel Michael in 1916, followed by six visits of Our Lady in 1917 and other visits to Sister Lucia at Tuy and Pontevedra, Spain and Rianjo. The series will also include an article on the Three Secrets of Fatima and another about the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart. This later article will conclude the series; it is also the most contentious issue in Fatima circles. There are many strong Catholic traditionalists who argue that the consecration requested by Our Lady has not been fulfilled because She specifically asked for the consecration of "Russia", but John Paul II, who made the consecration in 1984, did not mention Russia.

Specifically, instead of "Russia", John Paul II consecrated <u>"individuals and nations"</u> and the <u>"world" but not Russia</u>.

"In a special way we entrust and consecrate to you those individuals and nations which particularly need to be entrusted and consecrated."

"In entrusting to you, oh Mother, the world, all individuals and peoples, we also entrust to you this very consecration of the world, placing it in your motherly Heart."

Because he did not mention "Russia" specifically, many have wrongly concluded that the consecration is invalid – even though affirmed by every pope since John Paul II and by Sister Lucia herself.

New Era will demonstrate the erroneous nature of this false contention. Using the formal Fatima literature accepted by both parties (those who accept and those who reject the validity of John Paul II's 1984 consecration) it will be demonstrated that **Pope John Paul II's 1984 Act of Consecration accurately fulfill's Our Lady's requests** and that the farright Fatima detractors are not only disobedient but also in

gross error.

In fact, for the first time it will be shown from the Fatima documents themselves that it was the "world" not "Russia" that should have been consecrated In other words, John Paul II after studying the literature brought to him in Gemelli Hospital (where he was treated and recovering from assassin's wounds) acted correctly: The "world" not just "Russia" needed to be consecrated. The pope was not derelict in his papal duties; he was not hemmed in by diplomatic agreements (ostpolitik), nor did he suffer from fear of Communist retaliation as maintained by many ultra-traditionalists. John Paul II acting in his role as Supreme Pontiff understood the Fatima Message and its cultural and historical contexts, the contexts in which it was given in 1917 and in which the Church was living in 1984. After conducting an exhaustive and prayerful study of the documents, graced by wounds he united to the blood of Christ, he purposefully worded the consecration the way it was delivered because it was the correct prayer formula as requested by both Our Lord and Our Lady as will be shown.

UNDERSCORING THE IMPORTANCE OF FATIMA FOR THE MODERN WORLD

Beginning with Pope Pius XII, every modern pope has either pointed out the importance of Fatima, visited Fatima, or consecrated "humanity", the "world", or "Russia" to Our Lady of Fatima. Modern papal consecrations include:

- Pope Pius XII October 31, 1942 consecrated all of humanity over Vatican radio in Portuguese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Pope Pius XII December 28, 1942 repeated the consecration at St. Peter's
- Then on July 7, 1952, the same pope consecrated all the

people in Russian lands to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

- Pope Paul VI November 21, 1964 renewed in the presence of the Fathers of the Vatican Council (but without their participation) the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart.
- Pope John Paul II May 13, 1982 on a trip to Fatima to thank Virgin for miraculous recovery, consecrated the world to the Mother of all Peoples.
- Then on March 25, 1984, Pope John Paul II conducted a worldwide collegial consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at St. Peter's Square before statue of Our Lady of Fatima flown in from Fatima.

Later Sister Lucia, the last survivor of the three children to whom Our Lady appeared in 1917, confirmed the validity of the March 25 consecration made by Pope John Paul II.

WHERE IS FATIMA AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Fatima is situated in the foothills of the Serra de Aire Mountains about one hundred miles north of Lisbon, Portugal. It has become a worldwide pilgrimage destination and international shrine visited by every modern pope as a place of human spiritual and social renewal. Saint John Paul II referred to Fatima as the, "Marian capitol of the world." Fatima was once a little known Portuguese village, until a series of three angelic apparitions prepared the way for a visitation by Blessed Virgin Mary to three small children thereafter drawing more than four million visitors annually to the site. Fatima is of such contemporary importance that one of the first actions taken by newly elected Pope Francis was to consecrate his entire pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima. This was followed by World Youth Day in Rio de Janero, which he also entrusted to Our Lady of Fatima. Then, on Oct. 13, 2013 he entrusted the entire world to Our Lady of Fatima followed by conversations with Vladimir Putin relevant to

Christianity in the modern world and the role of Russia in defending Christians in the Middle East as will be detailed in this series of articles on Fatima.

The first apparition of Our Lady took place on May 13, 1917, just prior to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. On this date the Mother of Jesus appeared at Fatima to three shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto. She came to turn the nations embroiled in world war back to God and to make an appeal for world peace.

Thereafter, she visited the children on the 13th of every month for six consecutive months making a number of prophecies now popularly known as the "Three Secrets of Fatima." According to the official Catholic interpretation, the three secrets involve Hell, World War I and World War II, and the attempted assassination by gunshot of Pope John Paul II. The apparitions culminated with the unprecedented "*Miracle of the Sun*," which she performed before a gathering of some 70,000 pilgrims and skeptics (including atheists and Free Masons) on October 13, 1917 as she had said she would so that "all might believe".

The Virgin Mary told the children that Holy Mother Russia, the bastion of Orthodox Christianity, would become a communist nation and that it would lead a world-wide persecution of the church and that various nations would be annihilated.

She also told the children that in the end Russia would be converted if and when the pope in union with all the bishops of the world consecrated Russia to her Immaculate Heart.

After much stalling, intrigue and diplomacy, as mentioned above, Pope John Paul II finally made the requested consecration on March 25, 1984. He was moved to do this for several reasons, chief among them **the would-be assassin's bullets that struck him landed on May 13, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima**, which he was celebrating in Rome. In his own

words,

"It was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path and in his throes the Pope halted at the threshold of death" (Pope John Paul II, Meditation from the Policlinico Gemelli to the Italian Bishops, 13 May 1994).

While recovering in Rome's Gemelli Hospital he had the Fatima texts removed from the Vatican Archives and personally presented to him. Lying in the hospital, prayerfully studying the Fatima dossier, he recognized himself as the pope "dressed in white" spoken about in the "third secret", the pope whom Our Lady referred to when she told the children that the "holy father" would have much to suffer, implicitly at the hands of the communists.



Pope John Paul II Recognized Himself as the Pope Dressed in White in the Third

Secret of Fatima

Subsequently, he had the bullet removed from his body sent to Fatima to be placed in the crown of the Virgin statue. Then, on March 25, 1984, he proceeded to consecrate the world to Our Lady of Fatima in union with the bishops. Following that collegial act he then also decided to publicly reveal the much guarded "Third Secret of Fatima" for the first time since it was given to the children in 1917.



Pope John Paul II Consecrating the World to Our Lady of Fatima

Following the 1984 papal consecration, as promised, communism was toppled, the Solidarity movement gained momentum in Poland, the Berlin wall came down and one after another the nations behind the "Iron Curtain" were given political and then religious freedom – <u>Russia was being converted as Our</u>

Lady of Fatima had promised.

The granting of religious freedom in Russia was followed by an increasing number of significant events including the removal of the communist flag from over the Kremlin for the last time on *Christmas day, December 25, 1991* thereby symbolizing the end of atheistic communism and foreshadowing the return of Russia as a world power to its ancient Christian patrimony—the rebirth of Christianity on Christmas day.

A new spring-time was occurring in the North. Russia had reemerged as a sovereign nation granting religious freedom to Christians and other world religions. and then Vladimir Putin committed Russia to the protection of Christians throughout the Middle East. On June 1, 2010, President Dmitry Medvedev signed a new law commemorating July 28 as a national holiday thereby officially recognizing the founding of Russia as a Christian nation with the baptism of Prince Vladimir in Kiev in 988. Speaking at the annual celebration commemorating the "Baptism of the Russ," he said:

"The continual work of the Russian Orthodox Church will affect the revival of Christianity in our nation. Thanks to the Orthodox faith, Russian culture through the years, has acquired Biblical values on which the system of moral ideals for our nation is built" (US Department of State, 2010).

It is the purpose of this "Fatima Series" to familiarize the reader with Fatima beginning with the **three visits by the archangel Michael in 1916**, followed by s**ix visits of Our Lady in 1917** and other visits to Sister Lucia at **Tuy** and **Pontevedra**, Spain and **Rianjo**. In all there were 14 apparitions and locutions: Three angelic apparitions prior to the six consecutive appearances of Our Lady in 1917. These were followed by five more post 1917 apparitions/locutions to Sister Lucia from 1925 through 1931 and several important communications between Sister Lucia and her spiritual director that are essential to the Message of Fatima.

NOTE

The following articles will focus on the essential communications that took place on each of these dates. Description of the apparitions are borrowed from Sister Lucia's Memoirs: *"Fatima in Lucia's Own Words"* (2007), Fatima, Portugal.