Liberalism Coming to an End in Germany — Alternative for Deutschland?

New Era World News

GERMAN INVESTIGATORS ARE LABORING to identify the person(s) who perpetrated the December 19 manslaughter of twelve people and the wanton injury of 48 more. The attack was purportedly carried out by a Daesh operative who used a 25 ton vehicle to maliciously mow down innocent people shopping at a Berlin Christmas market. Police announced Monday that a Pakistani national who had requested asylum in Germany was thought to be the driver of the vehicular weapon, but he was released due to insufficient evidence. The driver's accomplice was found dead in the passengers seat. Although the suspect has not been found, Daesh claims that it was "their soldier" who carried out the operation.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who made the decision to openly greet asylum seekers, is acutely concerned about the culprit being an apprehended Pakistani seeking asylum. Earlier in July of this year another Pakistani asylum seeker, a Pakistani wielding a knife, attacked German train passengers. These incidents are part of an emerging and apparent pattern of asylum seekers attacking their generous hosts in their hosts own neighborhoods. Merkel should be concerned, very concerned; there is a pro-Traditional Europe, anti-liberal Euro-skeptic movement sweeping Europe. It is readily apparent in Slovakia, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, England, France, Italy Transdniestria, Greece, the Netherlands and Russia in which political parties rooted in Christian values are winning elections and democratically acquiring seats of power.

French voters head to the ballot boxes in the spring of

2017 during which time they are likely to elect a protraditional European cultural candidate (either Marine Le Pen from the National Front or the conservative Francois Fillon from the Republican Party), a candidate opposed to open borders and favoring a rapprochement with Russia. Though Le Pen is the more anti-liberal and "traditional" of the two, regardless who prevails, France will move to amend or abrogate the Schengen Agreement, which created open borders among EU member states.

Following the French elections, Germans will head to the ballot boxes in the fall of 2017 (September-October). In addition to French election results impacting German results, today's assault will likely add fuel to the already kindled fire that is gaining momentum as it moves across Germany in the form of a new political party that calls itself "Alternative for Germany" (AfD). AfD is a conservative, Euroskeptic populist party that seems to be the German counterpart of the anti-liberal front that is raging in Eastern Europe and gaining momentum in the West. In the wake of today's heinous crime AfD leader, Frauke Petry, denounced Merkel saying that her over-zealous decision to host over a million asylum seekers in is threatening German peace and security. According to AfD spokesman, Ronald Glaser, Germany's liberal minded leaders seem more concerned about globalism and political correctness than they do about identifying the underlying causes of social problems and doing something about them.

"Two days ago I joined a meeting of Berlin's... local secret state police. Their focus was on Islamo-critics or Islamophobes, as they call them. No one was talking about radical Islam, which is of course the main reason for growing anger of these Islamo-critics. But our government agencies are [so] obsessed by their dream of a multicultural world that they won't do what's necessary" (Ronald Glaser Spokesman for AfD).

WHO IS ALTERNATIVE FOR GERMANY?

Originally, the AfD was founded to oppose the euro and Chancellor Merkel's handling of the euro economic crisis. Since then AfD has adopted a pro-family, traditional values, anti-immigrant platform, a platform that has made them, according to <u>Der Spiegel</u>, a "dangerous party",

"...a collection of radical-Christian ideologues, archconservative military veterans, buttoned-up business professors and disillusioned business owners."

Interpreted in positive terms this means, a collection of deeply religious men and women committed to their faith and its social cultural expression, virile military veterans committed to upholding Germany's Christian patrimony and family traditions, and who are in favor of moral values (rather than an unseen hand) regulating the market place. AfD's leader is "dangerous" because she has brazenly committed political heresy by daring to trample on political correctness and announce what is wrong in Germany:

"...the refugee crisis, problems with the education system, the "premature sexualization of children."

Nonetheless, AfD continues to gain popularity. The party was founded in 2013, a year in which it surprisingly won 4.7% of the vote barely missing the 5% threshold necessary to sit in the Bundestag (the Lower House of Parliament that represents the people and elects the Chancellor aka the Prime Minister). A year later AfD managed to acquire 7.1% of the vote and 7 of Germany's 96 seats in the European Parliament. By 2016 AfD gained MP seats in ten of Germany's 16 state parliaments and is poised to gain seats in next fall's federal elections.

Speaking about the 2016 state results in the Eastern state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, the BBC reported

"Anxiety about immigration dominated the Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania election on 4 September, enabling the AfD to take second place (almost 21%), behind the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD - 30.6%) but **ahead of Mrs Merkel's Christian Democrats** (CDU - 19%)."

The <u>Telegraph</u> worded the Mecklenberg results this way:

"Almost exactly a year after Mrs Merkel opened Germany's borders to more than 1m asylum-seekers, her party was beaten into third place in her own parliamentary constituency, according to preliminary exit polls."

"The <u>anti-migrant Alternative for Germany party (AfD</u>) surged ahead of Mrs Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) in initial projections with around 21 per cent of the vote."

"Perhaps this is the beginning of the end for Chancellor Merkel," Leif-Erik Holm, the AfD's regional leader, said as the results became clear."

Reporting on 2016 state elections in the capital, Berlin, Politico reported that Germany's two leading parties, the Social Democrats and Christian Democrats, both suffered heavy losses while the AfD was catapulted into the state assembly.

<u>According to Politico:</u>

"Berlin's voters have dealt the embattled chancellor <u>another</u> <u>heavy blow</u>. But what is most remarkable is the fundamental shift in the country's party landscape and political process that this election heralds. Berlin is Germany's political and social laboratory par excellence. It is a microcosm where the country's major challenges play out as if under a microscope. So the stability and consensus that have long been Germany's political trademark may soon be a thing of the past.

It seems that Germany's Euro-skeptic party is on the move making headway promoting a pro-Christian/Humanistic anti-radical-Muslim values campaign. In May of this year, AfD adopted an anti-Islam policy that includes a section explaining why "Islam does not belong to Germany".

"There is no room for Muslim practices and beliefs that go against "the free, democratic social foundation, our laws and the Judaeo-Christian and humanistic bases of our culture.... Moderate (Muslims who accept integration) are valued members of society", the programme says. But it argues that multiculturalism does not work."

Like other Euro-skeptic parties AfD advocates decentralization and opposes "Euro-federalism" as a type of centralization. If the trend toward centralization is not reversed AfD leaders have stated that they will move to "pull Germany out of the EU."

As the result of increasing violence associated with the refugee crisis and the continued acquiescence of Germany to EU stipulations, <u>Merkel's political future looks compromised</u>.

"Mrs Merkel's national approval ratings have fallen to a five-year low of 45 per cent, and she is yet to declare whether she will lead her party into next year's elections. For the AfD, the result is further confirmation that the party has arrived as a force to be reckoned with in German politics."

LIBERALISM COMING TO AN END IN GERMANY

The developing trend (most advanced in Berlin) but in motion throughout most of Germany is clear: The age of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the Christian Democratic Union

(CDU) leadership based on liberal European values is being seriously challenged, perhaps coming to an end.

"The AfD's rightward drift can be seen across Germany, but nowhere is it as clear as in the country's eastern states. Supporters of eastern German AfD chapters are not looking for a conservative alternative on the political spectrum. They are interested in opposing and resisting the established political system."

As indicated by the election results in Mecklenburg and especially in Berlin, it seems that in Germany, as elsewhere, liberalism is being questioned. In Germany, according to Politico:

"The political scene has traditionally been dominated by two Volksparteien, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and the Social Democratic Party (SPD). Each typically garnered around 40 percent of the vote and alternated in leading governments. Sunday's poll (the Berlin result, however, saw five parties land between 21 and 14 percent, effectively leveling the playing field between the erstwhile dominant CDU and SPD on the one hand, and the Greens, the Left, and the far-right (AfD) on the other.... Two-party alliances, long sufficient to secure necessary majorities to govern, will have to make way for three-party coalitions....Now, with representation in 10 of 16 states, the AfD is here to stay."

"The recent vote in the German capital was more than a state election. It was a wake-up call to the fact that German politics is undergoing a sea change that will leave its imprint on the country's federal elections in 2017 and beyond."

With just four years under its belt, the AfD is now the third strongest party in Germany. As in the United States, traditional family oriented European men, men tired of the

abuse they have suffered under a liberal agenda, an agenda that has robbed them of their cultural patrimony, striped them of paternal authority, and reduced them to politically correct sycophants, these men have had enough. According to <u>Der Spiegel</u>, Europe's largest and Germany's most influential weekly:

"There are many conservative, upper middle-class voters — most of them older, white males — who had hoped that the AfD would provide them with a new political home reminiscent of the Helmut Kohl-era Christian Democrats. For these voters, Angela Merkel's CDU has become too liberal, too unprincipled, too un-Catholic and too multicultural. It is a natural pool of voters for a party to the right of the CDU."

Although opposed to the AdF, reporters at *Der Spiegel* are realists able to assess a situation well, even if they despise the result:

"Currently, Chancellor Angela Merkel is governing in a coalition together with the Social Democrats, Germany's large, center-left party. That means that those who disapprove of Chancellor Angela Merkel's handling of the refugee crisis (many people) don't have many choices when it comes to casting a protest vote, particularly given that the Greens are reliably pro-refugee."

Of course, this means that the AdF is the projected beneficiary. Whether or not the AdF will attain power in the fall remains to be seen; it is more of a long-shot than the National Front in France. But if Le Pen's National Font pulls out the victory in the spring of next year and Chancellor Merkel's CDU fails to fix the immigrant problem and address the surge in favor of protecting Germany's cultural patrimony, AdF might be the beneficiary in more than one way in the fall.

The Virgin Mary — Argentina — Pope Francis vs Global Neoliberalism

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IS THE WORLD'S largest religion present in nearly every country of the world, despite what statistical yearbooks say about Islam having more adherents. Those year books often fail to divide Sunni, Shiite and Sufi Muslims, but count them as one body. If Roman Catholics were united with Greek Orthodox and Protestants, the number of Christians would exceed the number of Muslims. When this is done, there are 2.1 billion Christians and 1.3 billion adherents of Islam.

To make an even more detailed and proper comparison, the largest Christian denomination, Roman Catholicism, should be compared to the largest largest Islamic denomination, Sunnism. When that is done, as it should be if there is to be actually objective data, the Roman Catholic Church is the largest:. According to the <u>PEW Research Center</u>:

"Of the total Muslim population, 10-13% are Shia Muslims and 87-90% are Sunni Muslims."

Thus, at a maximum there are 1.13 - 1.17 billion Sunnis Muslims in the world. According to <u>Religion Facts</u>, there are less than 1.13 billion Sunnis:

"With 940 million adherents out of about 1.1 billion Muslims, Sunni Islam is the largest Islamic sect. (Shia Muslims make up about 10% of all Muslims worldwide.)

The "Annuario Pontificio 2016," released by the Vatican Statistics Office announced that:

"The number of baptized Catholics reached 1.27 billion or

17.8 percent of the global population." (<u>National Catholic</u> <u>Reporter</u>).

According to the <u>BBC</u>, there are less than 1.27 billion Catholics: "There are an estimated 1.2 billion Roman Catholics in the world."

Either way, with approximately 1.2 - 1.27 billion Roman Catholics, the Roman Catholic Church is the largest in the world as Jesus said that it would be:

"To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? or to what parable shall we compare it? It is as a grain of mustard seed: which when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that are in the earth: And when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches, so that the birds of the air may dwell under the shadow thereof" (Mark 4: 30-32).

With a body this large, it is nearly impossible to keep an eye on everything that is occurring day to day throughout the world. However, there has been an unusually large amount of news coming out of Latin America lately. The election of Pope Francis as supreme pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church ranks toward the top of the list. The Holy Spirit blows where He wills shaping the global climate from age to age.

During the pontificate of Pope John Paul II, the nations of the world focused on the cold war being fought between East and West, between Communism and Capitalism. As that battle reached a crescendo, Karol Wojtyla was called out of Communist Poland to lead the Church in Her definitive hour against Athesitic Communism. Pope John Paul II knew better than any how to posture the Church vis a vis the many headed behemoth controlled by neighboring Kremlin Apparatchik and Politburo members. Не adopted the diplomatic posture known bending acquiescing "Ostpolitik" a n d he could while standing firm in those few doctrinal areas where he must until such time as the Church could weather the storm and be in a better position to advance the Gospel and build the Kingdom of God?

Pope Francis is also called at a particular time and from a particular place to give emphasis to a particular manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the third millennium. The pope sees himself as an Argentine:

"For me, the people of Argentina are my people, you are important." "I continue to be an Argentine, and I still travel with an Argentine passport. I am convinced that the people are the biggest treasure of our homeland...a people who know solidarity, know how to walk with one another, know how to help, respect," and don't take a step back. "I respect, love and carry (those people) in my heart." (Catholic News Service).

SO WHY HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLED A POPE OUT OF ARGENTINA?

First, there has been an approved apparition of Our Lady there, Our Lady of the Rosary of San Nicolas. On Holy Trinity Sunday, May 22, 2016, The local bishop, Hector Cardelli, approved a series of apparitions that began with the rediscovery of a lost statue of the Virgin Mary and glowing rosaries. The bishop has proclaimed that the apparitions are of supernatural origin and worthy of belief. Read his announcement in English and Spanish.

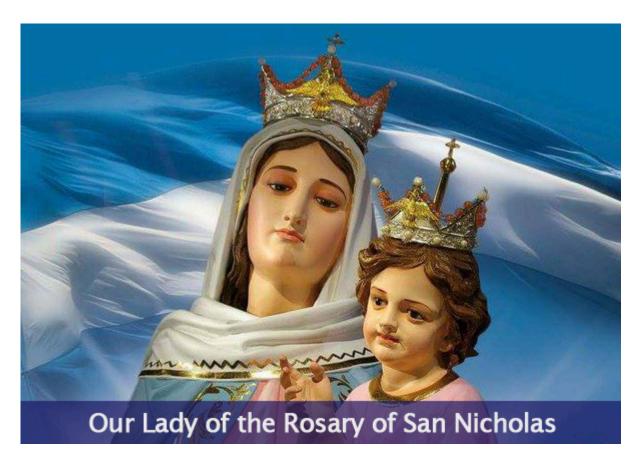
According to Bishop Cardelli"

"In my twelfth year of pastoring San Nicolas and, having followed with faith and responsibility the Marian events that I have known about since the very beginning, I have reached the decision to recognize them for my diocese."

"I recognize the supernatural nature of the happy events with which God through his beloved daughter, Jesus through his Most Holy Mother, the Holy Spirit through his beloved spouse, has desired to lovingly manifest himself in our diocese."

"On the occasion of the Jubilee of Mercy of the pilgrims from the Diocese, I announce this valid decision for the flock which I guide and accompany with it the presentation of a book entitled "SPIRITUAL SCHOOL OF SANTA MARIA DEL ROSARIO DE SAN NICOLAS" highlighting the most important teachings in the messages she gives us for our commitment to everything he tells us because he is the culmination of revelation.

Bishop Cardelli spoke about the apparitions with Pope Francis when the Argentine pontiff was the archbishop of Buenos Aires, and the future pope approved of his confirming them.



The appar ition S began in Bueno S Aires after rosar ies began tο glow in homes

throughout San Nicolas de los Arroyos.

On September 25, 1983 The Virgin Mary carrying the infant Jesus and wearing a blue gown and veil appeared (but did not speak a word) to a simple elementary 4th grade educated housewife and mother of two named Gladys Quiroga de Motta, now 80 years of age.

The Holy Mother spoke for the first time on Oct. 13, anniversary of the last Fatima apparition. "Do not be afraid," She said. She gave Gladys a Bible reference: Ezekiel

On October 25, the Virgin Mary appeared to Gladys while she was praying in the Cathedral in a town named Rosario. The Blessed Mother handed her a white rosary while saying:

"Receive this Rosary from my hands and keep it forever and ever. You are obedient; I am happy because of it. Rejoice, for God is with you."

The Virgin Mary asked Gladys to search the church for a forgotten statue that had been blessed by Pope Leo XII. On November 27, 1983, Gladys found the statue of the Virgin Mary holding the child Jesus in the belfry of the cathedral where it had been placed after being damaged in 1894. Gladys recognized the statue because it resembled the Virgin Mary in the apparitions. Behind the picture were a stained glass window with the Holy Trinity and angels.

On Palm Sunday, 1989, Bishop Castagna relocated the statue from the cathedral to the new Sanctuary of Mary of the Rosary of San Nicolás, which She had requested to be built.



Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Rosary of San Nicholas — Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Gladys has reportedly received stigmata on her wrists, feet, side and shoulder. The many messages she received from Jesus and Mary include topics of penance, peace, return to the sacraments and love of God

Our Lady said,

"Many hearts do not accept my invitation to prayer and to conversion. That is why the work of the devil is growing and expanding."

"It is up to you to set your eyes and your heart on God."

"I want to cure my children from this illness which is materialism; an illness which makes many suffer. I want to help them discover Christ, and I want to make it known to them that Christ prevails over everything."

Jesus told Gladys:

"If this generation will not listen to my mother, it will perish. I ask everyone to listen to her. Man's conversion is necessary."

"Today I warn the world, for the world is not aware: souls are in danger....My mother must be accepted. My mother must be heard in the totality of her messages. The world must discover the richness she brings to Christians."

" I want a renewal of the spirit, a detachment from death, and an attachment to life. I have chosen the heart of my mother, so that what I ask will be achieved. Souls will come to me through the means of her Immaculate Heart."

Other important messages include:

"The demon acts ferociously, do not be astonished. He attacks without compassion surrounding everything what he can touch. Pray my children, prayer fortifies. You are called by Jesus Christ to pray. The prince of evil spills today his poison with all the forces, because he sees that he is concluding his sad reign. He has little left, his end is near."

- "In these times in which the poison of the evil one seems to contaminate everything, the Lord becomes evident for the salvation of souls."
- The enemy is defying me very ruthlessly, is openly tempting my children. It is a fight between the light and the darkness. It is a constant persecution to my dear Church.
- "It is in fact this time, a precious time that does not have to be wasted but to be taken advantage of. The Redeemer is offering to the world the way to face the death that is Satan; is offering as He did from the Cross, His Mother, mediator of all grace."
- "The soul must unite itself to Christ each day, and for that, there is nothing better than Holy Communion: the Food of the soul for life."

Gladys received many of these apparitions in the Cathedral at Rosario, which is the object of hatred captured in an article entitled "Feminist Protestors Assault Catholic Cathedral in Argentina" portrayed in the following video:

In times such as these when liberalism is experiencing its last hurrah and spewing its fury at the Church, Jesus refers all Christians to His Mother whom He refers to as "my Ark." He said:

"In the past, the world was saved by the Ark of Noah. Today my mother is the Ark. It is through her, that souls will be saved, because she will lead them to me. He who rejects my mother, rejects me." Mary spoke several times about a coming victory, it will not come without a spiritual struggle, but "Jesus Christ will win the great battle, my child..." Blessed are those who make reparation for the grave offences which my Son receives.

Finally, Jesus said: "My Heart wishes the salvation of all souls and loves them, even those who are in sin."

Although it is easy to get angry and demand justice for such gross violations and sacrileges, the message here is *not* anger and hatred but, as at Fatima, REPARATION and, as with Divine Mercy, LOVE and COMPASSION, which is the message of Pope Francis. Those men (and women) being spit upon are praying the rosary, and since it is at the cathedral where Our Lady appeared as Our Lady of the Rosary, they are presumably making reparation for those spitting upon them. Reparation means to make up by your own good deeds for the evils committed by others, especially those committed against God such as the blasphemies, outrages, and sacrileges committed by these radical feminists lost in hatred and shouting slogans such as:

"Take your rosaries out of our ovaries," "O let's swear to burn down the Church", and "Church, trash, you're the dictatorship."

CRUX also reports that:

"Several dozen of the Oct. 7-10 workshop participants had gathered in front of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary and staged a parody, which included topless women dancing around a man dressed as Pope Francis while they sang for the legalization of abortion."

On the contrary,

"In Argentina, life is constitutionally protected from "its conception until natural death." Argentine President Mauricio Macri, as his predecessors before him,

has said on several opportunities that he doesn't plan on legalizing abortion, even praying for the protection of life when closing the XI National Eucharistic Congress earlier in the year."

Argentina's Constitution does not allow for abortion; it was strengthened in 1994 by a series of international agreements such as the Pact of San José that declares **a right to life**, **"from the moment of conception."** In 1995, Argentine President Carlos Menem marked the Annunciation, March 25, as the "Day of the Unborn Child." Under Menem, Argentina announced its complete rejection of abortion and contraception and declared that the defense of life was a "priority of Argentina's foreign policy."

With the election of Nestor Kirchner in 2003, relations between Church and state were somewhat strained as Kirchner's administration clashed with the Church over abortion, sex education, and contraception. In 2007, Kirchner was succeeded by his wife Cristina who, like her husband, supported a host of left-wing moral issues including same-sex marriage, which was legalized in 2010 leading to massive protests spearheaded by Catholic and Protestant evangelical groups. At that time Pope Francis was the Archbishop of Buenos Aires. In this position, he called on legislators to opposes the bill referring to it as "a move by the father of lies to confuse and deceive the children of God" (sound like a liberal pope to you?).

The Archbishop also came out against same sex marriage.:

"According to an article in...L'Osservatore Romano, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the Archbishop of Buenos Aires and Primate of Argentina, has said that if a proposed bill giving same-sex couples the opportunity to marry and adopt children should be approved, it will 'seriously damage the family.'"

At stake, he stated is

"... the identity and survival of the family: father, mother and children. At stake are the lives of many children who will be discriminated against in advance, and deprived of their human development given by a father and a mother and willed by God. At stake is the **total rejection** of God's law engraved in our hearts."

To fight the bill, he called on the nation's Carmelites for "their <u>prayers and sacrifice</u>, the two invincible weapons of <u>Santa Teresa</u>." (Does it get more conservative than this?)

In spite of the Kirchner battles, ties between the Catholic Church and Argentine state have remained quite strong.

SO WHY ARGENTINA

In addition to a highly relevant apparition of Our Lady for our time, another reason Argentina is a place to watch is its confrontation with neo-liberalism. Will Argentina be for Latin America what Poland was for Eastern Europe? That is, can Argentina be the vanguard against the many headed behemoth of liberalism controlled by Washington neo-cons and neo-liberals that Poland was against the behemoth of Muscovite Communism, and will Pope Francis and the Virgin Mary have some unique role to play as did the Virgin Mary and Pope John Paul II, until such time as the Church can weather the storm and be in a better position to advance the Gospel and build the Kingdom of God.

ARGENTINA SINCE 2010

Today <u>Argentina is experiencing a populist resurgence that is eroding liberal democratic institutions</u> in search of a new way toward the future. Scenes as those in the above video, serve

only to reinforce national Catholic values and increase disdain for liberalism much as the so-called Trump-Effect is having in America. In Argentina, as elsewhere in Latin America, Argentines are

"...defining a chosen "enemy of the people" (businessmen, foreign and domestic — but especially foreign; the pantomimedevils of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank."

Argentina also has a new president, Mauricio Macri, leader of the coalition "Let's Change". Macri was elected in November 2015. Although identified as a pro-market conservative, the political ramifications of this brand of conservatism

"...escapes the analytical simplifications suggesting a straightforward 'conservative restoration,' or a return to the 'old' 1990s' neoliberalism. There is, no doubt, the birth of a new 21st Century's Right-wing politics in Argentina, as well as in Latin America more generally, electorally competitive and which the nature of Right-wing politics is yet unfolding" (International Policy Digest).

In short, Argentina is experiencing a climate of change away from neo-liberalsim and intent on retaining its Catholic patrimony. (92% of Argintines are Catholic; Argentina has seven Catholic universities and hundreds of elementary and secondary schools funded by the government.

" In Argentina, the connections between the Catholic and the political, the political and the Catholic, pervade, broaden and filter into many different spaces, worlds and spheres."

Thus, in September 2010, "thousands of (liberal) Argentines marched in Buenos Aires to protest the perceived corporate structure of the state and its corrupt ties with business interests, the military, and the Catholic Church. The march's organizer, university professor and political activist Luis

D'Elía, proclaimed it "<u>a disgrace that Catholic schools</u> received state subsidies."

Note: "Historically, the Argentine church has positioned itself as a non-partisan political advocate, clashing with the government over education, marriage and sexual issues. Tension between church and state reached a high point during the government of Juan Perón, who intervened in religious schools and tried to legalise divorce and prostitution. Many of Perón's supporters suspected the church's hand in the 1955 coup that toppled him, which was carried out mostly by staunchly Catholic military officers" (The Economist).

Argentina, is now undergoing a bout with neo-conservatism and neo-liberalism (the World Bank and IMF) that might spearhead change throughout Latin America. Will Argentinians play a role vis a vis liberalism that Poles played vis a vis Communism or will they contribute to the Church in some other way being revealed in the pontificate of Pope Francis?

Amoris Laetitia Endorsed by Cardinal Mueller: "No Problem with its Doctrine"

THE ISSUE OF THE APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, Amoris Laetitia is still in the air. However, this morning it took a sharp turn towards closure; it did so for two reasons. One, Pope Francis punctuated his push for pastoral theology both clarifying his intent and strengthening its dynamism by tying it to the issue of "authority", authentic Christ-like authority. The linking

of pastoral theology to authority by the pope was complimented by Cardinal Mueller, the Prefect for the Sacred Congregation of Faith, who also spoke out clearly, two days earlier, on the doctrinal message and pastoral dimensions of the document, *Amoris Laetitia*.

PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND CHRIST-LIME AUTHORITY

This morning January 10, 2017 <u>Pope Francis gave a homily on authority during morning Mass at Casa Santa Martain</u> in which he stated

"Authority, if true, will enter hearts, like Jesus' did. But if it's just formal, it won't"

To clarify his meaning the pope juxtaposed top down authority imposed by means of bureaucratic position (like that exercised by the Pharisees) to "real" authority acquired by affinity of hearts (like that exercised by Jesus, the Good Shepherd). To further clarify his meaning, Francis examined three characteristics of "real authority".

He begins by noting that the scriptures reveal people were amazed at the teaching of Jesus; they were "amazed" because He taught "as one with authority and not as their scribes" (Matt 7:29). Francis explains that the teaching of the legalistic Pharisees did not enter the hearts of those who heard it. True authority penetrates into the heart. Like the Pharisees, Jesus did not neglect any point of the law, yet He taught it in such a way that His words entered into people's hearts.

A priest who teaches with true authority is able to penetrate hearts because he is a servant of rather than a lord over his flock. It is servant-leadership that confers genuine authority.

Pharisees teach, but they do not touch hearts because they are

too "clerical", too concerned about their positions of authority. This type of priest, Francis emphasized, is infected with a

"...psychology of princes: 'We are the masters, the princes, and we teach you. Not service: we command, you obey.' And Jesus never passed Himself off like a prince: He was always the servant of all, and this is what gave Him authority.'"

Moreover, a true servant leader is in close relationship with those whom he serves.

"Jesus did not have an allergy to the people: touching the lepers, the sick, didn't make Him shudder."

The Pharisees, however, assumed a position of superiority. A Pharisees eshews "the poor people, the ignorant," they liked to parade about the piazzas, in soutains and genteel garb.

"They were detached from the people, they were not close [to them]; Jesus was very close to the people, and this gave authority. Those detached people, these doctors, had a clericalist psychology: they taught with a clericalist authority — that's clericalism."

Quoting Blessed Paul VI (*Evangelii nuntiandi 48*), Pope Francis made clear: "One sees the heart of a pastor who is close [to the people]."

In addition to service and closeness to his people, a man with authority is "coherent'.

Coherence distinguishes the authority of the scribes from that of Jesus. That is, Jesus' life corresponds to His words. A coherent shepherd lives what he preaches as Jesus "lived what He preached." A clericalist is more intent on looking good and dazzling people with his brilliance while assuming a posture

of superiority. Consequently, they are not coherent; their personality is divided on a central point about which Jesus warned His disciples:

"But, do what they tell you, but not what they do': they said one thing and did another. Incoherence. They were incoherent. And the attitude Jesus uses of them so often is hypocritical. And it is understood that one who considers himself a prince, who has a clericalist attitude, who is a hypocrite, doesn't have (true) authority! He speaks the truth, but without authority. Jesus, on the other hand, who is humble, who is at the service of others, who is close, who does not despise the people, and who is coherent, has authority. And this is the authority that the people of God senses."

A priest with authority is a servant that is close to his people, a servant who lives a coherent life. Like Jesus, he is a good shepherd, a good pastor. A pastor knows the truths of the faith but is able to concertize them in love as a shepherd having authority over his flock because he knows them, serves them and coherently loves them. It is the pastoral dimension of his formation that confers the fullness of authority necessary for his office, necessary for success as a pastor.

THE PASTORAL DIMENSION OF AMORIS LAETITIA

To grasp Amoris Laetitia, it must be interpreted in this light, in the light of pastoral theology deeply rooted in the wisdom and truths of the faith, in the constant teaching of the Church, as Francis points out twice in paragraph 300 of Amoris Laetitia"

"Priests have the duty to "accompany [the divorced and remarried] in helping them to understand their situation according to the teaching of the Church"

"This discernment can never prescind from the Gospel demands of truth and charity, as proposed by the Church."

Clearly, the issue at hand is a pastoral one, *viz.*, how to uphold the teachings of the Church in the modern world, a world void of a sense of the sacred, a world in which divorce and remarriage are common place, a world in which the sons and daughters of the Church have been inculturated without their awareness of its effects. Since the whole process is about salvation and pastoral accompaniment during an Hour of Mercy, pastors are being nudged into being more pastorally minded. This is clear to the Archbishop of Dublin, to the Prefect for the Sacred Congregation of the Faith, and to many other cardinals and bishops who stand with the pope in opposition to Cardinal Burke and the misinformed lay men who have lined up to bat for him against the pope.

"Now I beseech you, brethren, to mark them who make dissensions and offences contrary to the doctrine which you have learned, and avoid them. For they that are such, serve not Christ our Lord, but their own belly; and by pleasing speeches and good words, seduce the hearts of the innocent. For your obedience is published in every place. I rejoice therefore in you" (Romans 16:17-19).

Men causing dissension are all misreading the document, which is clear enough to many others, and to the *New Era* staff. Thus, according to Cardinal Mueller:

"It is a misreading" of the Pope's exhortation to say it has been the cause of polemics."

"The Church has no power to change the Divine Law"...not even a pope or council can do that."

Some, like those at *Church Militant* and *The World Over*, like to point out that there is confusion and therefore implicitly (in Arroyo's case — explicitly) take the side of Cardinal Burke. It must be admitted: Yes, there is confusion, but that does not mean that Cardinal Burke is correct in his assessment of *Amoris Laetitia* and that the pope must answer in some way to him.

There is confusion because men like Mr. Arroyo, and ultratraditionalist or liberal bishops are manufacturing confusion. In a response to New Era's third article on the issue (Attack on Pope Francis: Supposed Loyal Catholics Distort Information <u>Defame Pope</u>), Dr. Marzak pointed out that there is always confusion where there is disobedience and pride, when people pursue their own path rather than submit to legitimate magisterial authority in humble obedience. He pointed out that it is liberal bishops and schismatic seda vacantists who are causing the confusion; they are often supplemented by well meaning but over-zealous laymen who misunderstand pastoral theology and the relationship between the practical and speculative intellect as examined in Article One. In response to a comment pertaining to Article Three in the series on Amoris Laetitia, Dr. Marzak stated.

"Watch what will happen this year when Cardinal Mueller begins to deal with them (those liberal and ultraconservative bishops causing confusion). Now that the Church is fully aware of their aberrant polices the CDF (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith) will act — let's watch and see.

"It is just not liberals causing confusion, how do you account for pious sedivacantists who ordain their own bishops contrary to what the Church teaches; they are causing confusion too (and most of it)."

"Nonetheless, it is not confusion that is the issue, it is pride leading to willful disobedience which the self-righteous perpetrators then try to mask in confusion to cover their errancy by instead attacking the papacy as if they were some type of holy body constituted to lead the church instead of the See of Peter."

In this regard, Cardinal Mueller has spoken out, and spoken out clearly. In a January 8, interview with tgcom24, Cardinal Mueller objected to Cardinal Burke and those "Princes of the Church" who publicly challenged the pope by questioning the doctrinal accuracy of *Amoris Laetitia*. According to Cardinal Mueller, the Church's highest ranking doctrinal official, the prefect for the Sacred Congregation of the Faith, according to Cardinal Mueller: Amoris Laetitia is "very clear". This has been New Era's position form the beginning of the controversy, so much so that the staff here has been in a continual quandary over Cardinal Burke and Raymond Arroyo's failure to "get it" speculating that the problem might be either a clerical error having to do with authority or a failure to appreciate the fine differences between the intellectual work of pastoral theology vis a vis dogmatic theology. Now that Cardinal Mueller has vociferously supported the clarity of the document, the staff here is relieved.

Highlighting the pastoral dimension of *Amoris Laetitia*, Cardinal Mueller stressed that it is Pope Francis' desire that priests take time

"...to discern the situation of ... persons living in an irregular union — that is, not in accordance with the doctrine of the church on marriage — and asks for help for these people to find a path for a new integration into the church according to the condition of the sacraments (and) the Christian message on matrimony."

Cardinal Mueller clearly understands the difference between pastoral and dogmatic theology and how they intersect; consequently he sees clarity in the document:

"In the papal document, he said, "I do not see any opposition: On one side we have the clear doctrine on matrimony (dogmatic), and on the other the obligation of the church to care for these people in difficulty (pastoral)."

Cardinal Mueller evidently understands <u>Amoris Laetitia is</u> a "call for the pastoral accompaniment of people who are divorced and civilly remarried or who are living together without marriage.

Concerning the doctrinal clarity of the document, Mueller told the Italian television network:

"A possible fraternal correction of the pope seems very remote at this time because it does not concern a danger for the faith."

"Amoris Laetitia is very clear in its doctrine and we can interpret (in it) Jesus' entire doctrine on marriage, the entire doctrine of the Church in 2000 years of history."

We hope this is clear enough. According to the highest ranking doctrinal official in the Catholic Church; AMORIS LAETITIA DOES NOT CONCERN A DANGER FOR THE FAITH."

Further, in response to a query which asked are the divorcedand-remarried in some cases permitted to receive the Eucharist "without the need to change their way of life" Cardinal Mueller responded:

"If Pope Francis' exhortation "had wanted to eliminate such a deeply rooted and significant discipline, it would have said

Cardinal Mueller is not confused, nor are score of other bishops, nor is the staff at New Era. As Dr. Marzak has previously pointed out, the confusion is being caused, on the one hand, by disobedient liberal bishops such as the one in San Diego and, on the other hand, by far right leaning bishops and churchman nearing schism or already in schism. Confusion emanating from diverse poles of the theological spectra helps generate more confusion among the larger body of sheep and lambs. The confusion is not coming from either Pope Francis or Amoris Laetitia; the confusion is rooted in clericalism, intellectual arrogance, liberal moral weakness (concupiscence and irascibility) that blinds and, above all else, it is rooted in disobedience and pride.

No where does the document *Amoris Laetitia* admit people living in mortal sin to receive the sacraments. What the Pastoral Exhortation does encourage, <u>as Cardinal Mueller correctly points out is:</u>

"A process of (pastoral) discernment, (that), might eventually lead to a determination that access to the sacraments is possible."

If its detractors better understood and appreciated the pastoral dimensions of theology and the extreme difficulties, sacrifice and self-giving pastoral theology demands; if they understood what Francis means by "authentic authority", they might "get it". Some seem more intent on running the Church like a police state, a state in which they can comfortably sit back and play the judge as if God were some type of task master watching closely every day to espy and root out all errors rather than a God of LOVE who humbles Himself, who abases Himself to become little like his flock in order to tenderly serve, love and nurture them by knowing their names and sharing their lives, their pains, joys,

sorrows and tribulations and by confirming His life to the doctrine of His Cross (coherence).

It is too easy to play the judge; it costs nothing but an easy arm-chair accompanied by good cuisine and an ever watchful eye always ready to catch a sinner and even a pope in error. In this they feel self-satisfied and accomplished. This might be dogmatic theology, but without love and authentic authority it fails even at that and it is certainly not pastoral theology, the theology of the Good Shepherd" who lays down his life for his sheep. This is the type of shepherd Francis is endeavoring to be, the type of shepherds he is calling the priests of the Catholic Church to become.

Russian Hacking of DNC - Unsubstantiated Fake News for the Guillable

ON FRIDAY JANUARY, 6 THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (ODNI) released their highly vaunted cyber report: "Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections based on data gathered by the CIA, NSA, and FBI. The Report was billed as conclusive evidence that Russian backed operatives hacked DNC computers and disrupted the political process in America. Finally, the New Era staff

thought, a substantial report buttressed by ample evidence to support the pervasive allegation of a Russian cyber attack.

Result: Expecting a stuffed butterflied filet, the collective palate was fed an unsatisfying cuisine of saltine crackers. The Report, based on unsubstantiated common sense hunches, suffers from a dearth of substantial evidence. It is so unconvincing that it constitutes another egregious embarrassment to the United States and the US Intelligence Community.

Earlier, (three weeks prior to the release of the January, 6 Report) New Age Intelligence Projected that:

"The allegations, even if they are true, and for sake of a strong case, let's presume they are true, will falter for at least three reasons."

- 1. "The CIA and American Intelligence Communities report that America's cyber security was hacked is devastating.... It means that the Russians beat us and are beating us at cyber security; it means that the nation is not safe under President Obama."
- 2. "It further manifests to honest Americans the extent to which Democrats prefer lies to truth. They prefer that Clinton gets elected to Americans being told the truth. They are upset because the truth about Hilary could not remain hidden, that Americans actually learned the truth about her.... It is a lamentable day when Americans have to learn the truth from the Russians because their own politicians lie to them.
- 3. "Finally, the third reason that trying to implicate the Russians will fail is the hypocrisy of it all. By this point, most people are aware that it is common US foreign policy to interfere in the elections of other countries. For the Democrats to raise a tremor about

presumed Russian interference indicates the height of arrogance and their blind hypocrisy. "

In Short, according to <u>Peter Kornbluh Director of the National</u> <u>Security Archive</u>,

"The United States is only getting a taste of its own medicine." The United States is guilty of a "long pattern of ...manipulation, bribery and covert operations to influence the political trajectory of countless countries around the world."

This is hypocrisy. Hypocrites cannot lead a nation. Hypocrisy disqualifies persons from leadership because hypocrites are "blind guides.

"Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites; because you go round about the sea and the land to make one proselyte; and when he is made, you make him the child of hell twofold more than yourselves. Woe to you blind guides" (Matthew 23:15).

If what neo-con and neo-liberal globalists are saying about the Russians is true, they have left America unsafe, have been defeated in cyber wars, and have compromised American security; they prefer lies to truth prefer that Americans believe lies and are upset when the truth is revealed, upset not because they lied but because they were caught and being stripped of power. Above all, they are acting like hypocrites, whom Jesus refers to as "blind guides", a blindness that disqualifies them from leadership.

With the release of the highly advertised intelligence report, the Neocons and Neoliberals have moved from hypocrisy to embarrassment; their situation just keeps getting worse, one distorted and finely concocted report after another. Expectations were high for a quality report; what has come forth is an embarrassment.

WHAT DOES THE REPORT SAY?

The "Intelligence Report", released by the ODNI, was ordered by President Obama. Prior to its release it was billed as a "declassified" version of its "top secret" counterpart, a counterpart that is supposed to prove that the Russians conspired to support Trump in the recent presidential election. New Era doubts that the "top secret" version (the one being conveniently withheld from public scrutiny) is robust; its robustness is doubted because the declassified version is little more than flim-flam dressed up in professional garb to impress specious observers.

Without providing any evidence to the public, the public is expected to believe that the Russian operatives, under direct orders from President Vladimir Putin, hacked DNC computers, lifted private and defaming information, and then filtered it to Wiki Leaks who then purportedly transformed the hacked data into public news to "denigrate" Hilary Clinton and propel Donald Trump into the White House.

MOTIVE

According to the Report:

"We (The Intelligence Community) assess with high confidence that Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the US presidential election, the consistent goals of which were to undermine public faith in the US democratic process, denigrate Secretary Clinton, and harm her electability and potential presidency. We further assess Putin and the Russian Government developed a clear preference for Presidentelect Trump. When it appeared to Moscow that Secretary Clinton was likely to win the election, the Russian influence

campaign then focused on undermining her expected presidency."

"We also assess Putin and the Russian Government aspired to help President-elect Trump's election chances when possible by discrediting Secretary Clinton and publicly contrasting her unfavorably to him. All three agencies agree with this judgment. CIA and FBI have **high confidence** in this judgment; NSA has moderate confidence."

"In trying to influence the US election, we assess the Kremlin sought to advance its longstanding desire to undermine the US-led liberal democratic order, the promotion of which Putin and other senior Russian leaders view as a threat to Russia and Putin's regime."

"Putin publicly pointed to the Panama Papers disclosure and the Olympic doping scandal as US-directed efforts to defame Russia, **suggesting** he sought to use disclosures to discredit the image of the United States and cast it as hypocritical."

"Putin most likely wanted to discredit Secretary Clinton because he has publicly blamed her since 2011 for inciting mass protests against his regime in late 2011 and early 2012, and because he holds a grudge for comments he almost certainly saw as disparaging him."

No one needed the collaborative efforts of virtually an entire intelligence community to tell them that the Russians prefer Trump to Clinton (Point One). Nor is it a crime for anyone any where in the world to prefer one candidate over another. The

fact that Russian news agencies were used to discredit Clinton is basically meaningless (Point Two). Any press agency operating in the United States has the first amendment freedom to speak its mind. Certainly, a foreign press publishing material on the internet is protected by the same freedom and even more so; they operate under their own laws.

Nor should it come as any surprise that Russia is opposed to the liberal global agenda (Point Three) and favors Trump who has indicated some aversion toward liberal global hegemony.

Point Four must be a jest — it is a mere inference from an unrelated incident suggesting a tit for tat approach to intelligence gathering and projection. Finally, Point Five is another mere probable scenario. Putin "most likely" wanted to discredit Secretary Clinton. Of course he did — the two do not get along — so what? Not to be outdone by the tit for tat approach, the Intelligence Community now use grudges as supposed evidence. Grudges and tit for tat arguments suggest that there is no conclusive evidence and that any evidence that does exist is inconclusive or irrelevant unless made to look relevant because it is basically all that exists as seems to be the case illustrated below.

But before racing to this conclusion. **The Report does provide motive**, which is necessary for a crime. The question becomes: what type of evidence exists to support a plausible but hypothetical motive?

EVIDENCE

According to the ODNI Report, the Russian General Staff Main Intelligence Directorate (GRU) chose Wiki Leaks as the outlet for hacked DNC data.

"We assess with high confidence that the GRU relayed material it acquired from the DNC and senior Democratic officials to

WikiLeaks....Moscow most likely chose WikiLeaks because of its self proclaimed reputation for authenticity."

It takes more than a presumption to know this. How does anyone know, without evidence, that Russia hacked the data and filtered it through WikiLeaks? The reader is expected to accept this verbiage because the ONDI verbally assures them that such a statement is made, with "high confidence". Then, with the same bravado, they announce that Moscow "most likely" chose Wiki Leaks. Most likely is only a probability scenario - no evidence has been presented to support the claim that Russia hacked the DNC and passed the data to Wiki Leaks. there was evidence, the report would not have to preface the assessment with a "most likely" statement. No one with an objective mind is in the business of accepting allegations because someone else carries a title and presents a professionally looking report based on "most likely" probability suggestions inferred from unrelated actions. Objective observers require evidence, not mere probability statements. If Russia is behind the hacking, what is the proof to support the allegation. New Era was under the impression that such proof would be abundantly supplied in the Report, instead we were fed with probability statements about the Russian government, statements that were and are exacerbated by contrary statements that are verified by solid evidence, made by Wiki Leaks Director Julian Assange, who asserts that: "Our (Wiki Leak's) source is not the Russian government."

https://youtu.be/bP3wPbbFQ6k

"Our Source is not the Russian Government" (39 second mark).

According to **Vox Press**

"Whether or not that interpretation is right, it's quite clear from the report that US intelligence believes the Russian military intelligence service is WikiLeaks' source. This was always the most likely scenario, and now we've got the ODNI report to back it up."

Russian military intelligence might be a hypothetical "most likely scenario", but their is no demonstrated evidence to back the assertion. Moreover, the director of WikiLeaks denies any connection with the Russians. Thus, Vox's conclusion that, "now we've got the ODNI report to back it up", is fallacious and bogus — as weak as the Report itself.

Thus, according to Whistleblower William Binney, a cryptanalyst-mathematician and former <u>National Security Agency official</u>:

"The various ways in which usually anonymous spokespeople for U.S. intelligence agencies are equivocating — saying things like "our best guess" or "our opinion" or "our estimate" etc. — shows that the emails alleged to have been "hacked" cannot be traced across the network. Given NSA's extensive trace capability, we conclude that DNC and HRC servers alleged to have been hacked were, in fact, not hacked. The evidence that should be there is absent; otherwise, it would surely be brought forward, since this could be done without any danger to sources and methods. Thus, we conclude that the emails were leaked by an insider — as was the case with Edward Snowden and Chelsea Manning. Such an insider could be anyone in a government department or agency with access to NSA databases, or perhaps someone within the DNC.

"In order to get to the servers, they [hackers] would have to come across the network and go into the servers, penetrate them, and then extract data out of the servers and bring it back across the network," Binney explained. "If it were the Russians, it would then go to Russia, and it would have to go from there across the network again to get to WikiLeaks."

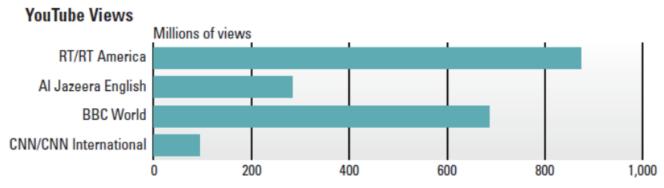
"My point is really pretty simple. There should be no guessing here at all, they should be able to show the trace routes of all the packets, or some of them anyways, going to the Russians and then from the Russians to WikiLeaks,"

SO WHAT DOES THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY PROVIDE AS EVIDENCE?

The only hard core evidence that the Intelligence Community has, has nothing to do with hacking, but rather, it has to do with "trolls" and foreign publications, in this case "Russia Today" (RT) and "Sputnik".

"Moscow's influence campaign followed a Russian messaging strategy that blends covert intelligence operations—such as cyber activity—with **overt efforts** by Russian Government agencies, state-funded media (RT and Sputnik), third-party intermediaries, and paid social media users or "trolls."

The ODNI Report's strongest evidence has to do with RT and thus the Report gives major emphasis to this Russian press agency. For example, according to the ODNI, RT is a propaganda arm of the Kremlin that leads the world in You Tube viewers:



SOURCE: Vox News

If this is true, it means that the Russians are winning the

media war with the Americans under Obama and Clinton. It is also a tacit admission that other governments besides Russia are engaged in alternative media operations, governments such as the UK and Qatar as indicated in the above graphic. The BBC, Al Jazeera (Qatar-US ally) and CNN may engage in propaganda, and along with Radio Free Europe and Radio <u>Liberty</u> seek to subvert foreign governments, but no one else The Russians can engage in alternative news all they want — it is up to the viewer to decide. It is the fault of the American government and the American mainstream press corp (not of the Russians) that people are loosing, and in many cases, have lost, confidence in their veracity. Apparently, many American viewers are beginning to think that it is the liberal American Press that is engaged in subversion and "fake news". As a direct result, many Americans are looking for an alternative news source. RT just happens to fill the bill; they are challenging what they refer to as the American "surveillance state'", "civil liberty abuse"s, "drone use", as well as the US economic system, American Greed, and the overwhelming debt accumulated by all levels of government. is apparently a sin for a foreign government or media outlet to question the *faux pas* of the American Government. according to the Report:

"RT's criticism of the US election was the latest facet of its broader and longer-standing anti-US messaging likely aimed at undermining viewers' trust in US democratic procedures and undercutting US criticism of Russia's political system. RT Editor in Chief Margarita Simonyan recently declared that the United States itself lacks democracy and that it has "no moral right to teach the rest of the world" (Kommersant, 6 November).

[&]quot;RT's reports often characterize the United States as a "surveillance state" and allege widespread infringements of civil liberties, police brutality, and drone use" (RT, 24, 28)

"RT has also focused on criticism of the US economic system, US currency policy, alleged Wall Street greed, and the US national debt. Some of RT's hosts have compared the United States to Imperial Rome and have predicted that government corruption and "corporate greed" will lead to US financial collapse" (RT, 31 October, 4 November).

These allegations prove nothing more than a foreign news agency is reporting on America; if the news is unflattering, perhaps many Americans are involved in unflattering business, perhaps the government is involved in unflattering foreign engagements. That is not RT's fault. If RT is making the "stuff" up, it is doing nothing different than any other government engaged in psy-ops and information wars.

However, the issue of Hilary Clinton's poorly protected private server is another question. For some reason, the Secretary of State imprudently decided to take her sensitive information from behind a presumed government secure wall to be placed on her own server. John Podesta, a high ranking officer in her organization, was daft enough to give out his password to a phishing request. His password was the word "password"; even Huma Abedin, Clinton's right-hand lady had access to Clinton's emails. Clinton's cavalier treatment of American security data is the real crime, along with any other indictable information that surfaces as a result of her carelessness. Clinton was so careless that, according to Assange, "a fourteen year old could have hacked into her server." The Russians did not have to hack Hilary's server, she was giving the information away.

According to the Daily Wire

"The ongoing attempt to blame Russia for the leaked DNC

emails has also clearly irritated Assange, who blasted the campaign for it on NBC News. "In order to divert attention from proof that we (WikiLeaks) published that the (Bernie) Sanders campaign was subverted within the DNC," he (Assange) said, "the Clinton campaign tries to take attention away from a very serious domestic allegation about election interference (that Hillary interfered in the election process herself!) and try and bring in foreign policy (The Russians did it)."

Similarly, in her January 2013 testimony before Congress for the Benghazi debacle, Clinton, under oath, denied having knowledge of weapons procured for Syrian rebels. Assange, however, claims that Wiki Leaks possesses a series of emails proving Clinton not only knew about weapons supplied to rebel forces operating in Syria, but that she in fact "pushed" for weapons to be supplied to "jihadists within Syria, including ISIS." In an interview conducted by Democracy Now Assange stated:

"Those Hillary Clinton emails, they connect together with the cables that we have published of Hillary Clinton, creating a rich picture of how Hillary Clinton performs in office, but, more broadly, how the U.S. Department of State operates. So, for example, the disastrous, absolutely disastrous intervention in Libya, the destruction of the Gaddafi government, which led to the occupation of ISIS of large segments of that country, weapons flows going over to Syria, being pushed by Hillary Clinton, into jihadists within Syria, including ISIS, that's there in those emails. There's more than 1,700 emails in Hillary Clinton's collection, that we have released, just about Libya alone."

Assange <u>told ITV</u> that the information his group had obtained on Clinton could "proceed to an indictment." Because Wiki Leaks has become such a problem for the mainstream media and

American Foreign Policy, it appears that the liberal propaganda machine is now learning from the Russians and reeving up its propaganda campaign under the guise of its own version of "alternative news." Operating under the name of "Political Insider", the globalists posing as right wing conservatives are attempting to undo Assange and the authentic alt-right news services that are benefiting from Wiki Leaks. For example, the people at Political Insider refer to the people at Democracy Now quoted above as "far left morons." and to ISIS as "terrorist scumbags"

According to <u>Political Insider</u>, "Julian Assange of Wikileaks says that they will be soon dropping a bombshell that will absolutely devastate Hillary Clinton, and it has to do with her aiding the **terrorist scumbags** of ISIS!!!" So of course, according to the "Insider"

"There's a lot of reason to believe that Wikileaks is just a Russian espionage operation, which raises even greater concerns about the integrity of our elections."

Ironically, the mainstream media is not questioning the veracity of the Wiki Leaks. According to Sean Hannity:

"For ten years Wiki leaks has never been proven wrong. Not one single time" (9:37 in above video).

No, the globalists and their mainstream outlets are concerned that people are finally getting the truth. Thus, the so-called ODNI Intelligence Report on alleged Russian cyber-hacking might impress the President who ordered it and the sundry players on the global squad, including media and press agents, bureaucrats and high level adepts, but the people are waking up to the chicanery. With reports such as this one, it is the intelligence agencies that are in danger of being exposed as manipulators and deceivers.

The US Intelligence Community claims to have evidence that Russian operatives hacked Clinton's emails but insist that they cannot disclose the information. Who, under current circumstances, trusts such a claim — believe us because we say you should. You know we prevaricate — Hilary's undisputed emails prove this — but trust us anyway.

The only substantial evidence put forward in the Report is the evidence that Sputnik and RT are pro-Russian news media. It is not surprising or appalling that news media operating out of Russia might be loyal to their mother country. What does one expect from the BBC — does the BBC vilify the Queen? Nor is it surprising that Sputnik criticizes materialism, hedonism and sexual immorality rampant in the West; our own philosophers and statesmen do that and much more. People around the globe want the truth; they are tired of being lied to. They are now so accustomed to it, that seeing through so-called Intelligence Reports has become easy sport for any eyes that want to see.

Wise Men Include Theological Analysis in Their Political Projections

Theopolitics is a Broad Attempt to understand and extrapolate political action through the multidimensional lens of geopolitics[1] and theology. Theopolitics, *like* geopolitics, includes analysis of geographical, historical, and cultural characteristics that influence political behavior. Theopolitics, *unlike* geopolitics, extrapolates political action based on further philosophical and theological premises that God exists and acts in human history.

Geopolitical intelligence services increasingly provide inaccurate projections due to (1) the lack of a theological perspective or (2) a sociological tendency to subordinate religious ideas to political ideas. This interpretive tendency is accelerated by ongoing secularization of the public-political forum, which over the long run reduces the impact of religion and tends to subordinate religion to the long-recognized sociological function of cultural legitimization.

Secularization of the sacred has occurred to such an extent in the modern world that the values expressed in the secular temporal sphere have so influenced the spiritual sphere that over-time the two have become less diverse and increasingly difficult to distinguish. That is, religious beliefs have become less and less distinguishable from political beliefs. Religion has been so gradually secularized that the modern acceptance of *political-economic-cultural liberalism* first advanced in the public domain has, overtime, become normative in the religious domain[2].

This diffusion of the secular into the sacred and the subsequent sacralizing of the secular[3] (whereby religious institutions morph into, or become congruent with, economic-political institutions) results in aggressive forms of nationalism justified by belief in a sacred or "Manifest Destiny" for one's own nation leading to the conviction that it is endowed with a sacred mission among nations. In the historic process, secular economic interests and political values are transformed into sacred spiritual ideals that serve as the foundation for a crusading foreign policy. When this happens, it becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish religious perspectives political perspectives. For example, the confusing neoconservative tendency to view America as "God's Country", the "City set on a hilltop", or the equally confusing tendency to present secular American cultural-economic-political values (liberal left or conservative right) as Christian initiatives (human dignity, liberty, tolerance, rights, peace) and the subsequent promotion of American foreign policy as the light to the nations and the means of their liberty.

As a result of this confusion of church and nation, secularist

ideology has both eroded authentic religion (which rightly transcends culture) and become as pervasive (wide-spread) as any religion. Consequently, secularism, or secular values are often presented as sacred values and accepted as religious ideas that represent the "will of God". This transformation and deification of secular cultural values, ideas, sentiments and beliefs into religious values, sentiments, ideas and beliefs has advanced to such an extent that the United States Supreme Court is able to refer to "secular humanism" as a "religion":

"Among religions in this country which do not teach what would generally be considered a belief in the existence of God are Buddhism, Taoism, Ethical Culture, Secular Humanism and others" (note 11, Torcaso v Watkins, 1961).

The sacralizing of secular values gives rise to what sociologists refer to as "Civic Religion" — the spiritualization and subsequent reification of prevailing cultural-political beliefs and ideas (by means of regular public praise and avowal through such things as statues, commemoratives, memorials, monuments, national documents, songs and holiday celebrations etc.) until they become so pervasive and commonly shared that they are accepted on face-value as sacred and deserving of religious respect until they morph with religion itself, a religion commonly referred to as secularism or "secular humanism". Secular humanism is a humanism crafted without God but accepted as if coming from God and therefore used to justify wrongheaded foreign and domestic policy decisions because purely secular beliefs, values, traditions, political institutions etc. have been made to appear sacred. President Abraham Lincoln provides an exhilarating example of America's "Civic religion".

"Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country; and never to tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of seventy-six did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and Laws, let every American pledge his

life, his property, and his sacred honor;—let every man remember that to violate the law, is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the character of his own, and his children's liberty."

"Let reverence for the laws, be breathed by every American mother, to the lisping babe, that prattles on her lap—let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be written in Primers, spelling books, and in Almanacs;—let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay, of all sexes and tongues, and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars".[4]

The sacralizing of secular political-economic-social beliefs occurs on both the right and the left; it is the sacred political and cultural patrimony of the nation. Vestiges of the national ethos are evident in both the zealous liberal political commitment to liberty, which is opposed by many conservatives, and by the equally zealous conservative political commitment to free-market capitalism opposed by liberals although they differ, each carries its own version of and commitment to the secular-religious agenda of the nation known as liberalism, which has become a "civic religion" with its various sects and denominations. Although they differ one from the other, all are committed to political and cultural ecumenism that revolves around the basic tenets of liberalism or secular humanism. Although they are at odds with each other over cultural, political, economic and religious ideas, they are in agreement about such things as rule by the people, popular sovereignty, separation of church and state, secular constitutional law, liberty, the separation of powers, and American exceptionalism et al.

Therefore, both believe in and promote an active foreign policy that advances the exportation of American ideas abroad as if the secular values of the United States are some type of sacred patrimony

necessary for the emancipation and development of mankind. Some are unable to realize that the United States is not an arm of the Church; its secular values are not the sacred patrimony of mankind nor are they the standard by which they are to judge the social dogma of Christianity or any dogma at all. The Secretary of State is not mandated by God to spread liberal ideas (cultural, political, and or economic) throughout the world, nor is America endowed with a God given destiny to replace His Church as the "city set on a hilltop" to be the "light of the nations" (Matt 5:14). These words were addressed to the Apostles and to their successors not to the Founding Fathers or the leaders of the Democratic, Republican or Libertarian parties whose ideas are subject to the scrutiny of the City that is the light of the world; it does not work correctly in converse.

It is the Church that is the teacher of the United States and of all states, especially of those peoples who profess to be "Christian"; it is not the state who is the teacher of the Church. The Holy Trinity did not commission the State Department to teach the nations, but They did commission the Church to do so:

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them....Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matt 28: 16-20)

The Necessity of Theopolitics for Accurate Global Analysis

Because the United States and Great Britain have been undeterred global leaders for nearly three centuries, the liberal values shared by these sister-nations have increasingly dominated international discourse and the outcome of political events for nearly three hundred years. As such foreign policy initiatives, geopolitical global analysis, and intelligence projections have been able to count

on the dominance and consistency of Western liberal ideas and values when crafting insightful intelligence reports and successfully projecting future trends. This long-term dominance of Western liberal ideas and economic interests can no longer be counted upon. In fact, because Western intelligence agencies continue to count upon this fading historical dominance, they have entered into a new phase of confusion, which is becoming increasingly evident. Because of their high accuracy in the past, they have continued to depend on what has always worked before. They, and most other political-economic actors in the West, continue to act from an increasingly outdated mindset seemingly unaware of the signs that we are living at the dawn of a new era, a new time period of authentic Christian renewal. Consequently, they have entered a new phase of mistaken analysis and faulty projections, which, in part, helps explain the ongoing confusion of American foreign policy.

We are living at a pivotal moment of modern human history in which the backward relationship between the secular and sacred, discussed above, is being slowly reversed. That is, the spirit of nationalism (that reifies secular values, imbues them with a sacred identity, and thereby diminishes the voice of the Spirit) is being corrected by an authentic outpouring of the Spirit. In the process, the temporal public square, rather than being increasingly secularized, as it has been for two hundred years, is being increasingly sacralized, but few people are aware of this ongoing reality due to the secular and anti-Christian commitment of media outlets committed to an opposition agenda.

Nonetheless, unreported world events indicate that a significant change is underway.

For example, have you heard of this?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hakb6S0IpgY

The above video is only one of a vast array of accounts that are occurring around the globe and that are regularly reported in our

Daily World News and detailed in our Weekly Intelligence Reports. As promised at Fatima, an Era of Peace is underway; Russia is being converted and a moment of Christian renewal is occurring around the globe as previously secular, liberal, and anti-Christian propaganda is being called into question and openly challenged by men and women who are beginning to realize that something is seriously wrong and that it is time to do something about it. The Catholic Church has elevated devotion to God's Divine Mercy granting this devotion its highest approbation by placing it on the universal liturgical calendar to be celebrated as "Divine Mercy Sunday", the first Sunday after Easter and by canonizing Sister Faustina, the nun to whom Jesus entrusted the message of His mercy for the Modern World. Jesus confided His fondness for Poland to Saint Faustina and the special role Poland will play in preparing the world for His coming:

"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 prepare the world for My final coming" (Diary, 1732).

The red and white of Polish flag is an icon of the water and blood, the red and white rays that flow as a font of mercy for mankind from the heart of Jesus opened on Mt. Calvary. Out of Poland will come the spark that will prepare the world for His "final coming' The fire has already been lit by this Divine Spark. Failure of the previously reliable Intelligence Community to understand or to seriously account for this spiritual and political verity (occurring daily before all eyes that are able to objectively discern world events) is the cause of their increasing inability to correctly forecast political events with much accuracy. American foreign policy is in a state of confusion. Around the world, people are expressing discontent with the liberal agenda of the American State Department, which is having a difficult time accepting the fact that many people do not share America's values or its "good guy" vision of itself. America is not the judge and jury of sovereign nations. Many people do not appreciate the political and economic agenda of liberalism or its idea of freedom, nor do they appreciate interference and political

manipulation of their countries sovereign affairs by the circumspect infusion of foreign aid that, in the name of freedom, works against freedom by enslaving unsuspecting people in debt and the bondage of cultural perversion contrary to their own national, cultural and spiritual patrimony.

Liberalism has been unceasingly at work for two hundred years gradually reaching a crescendo that is resounding throughout the world. Because liberalism has reached the crescendo stage, its take on political, economic, and moral ideas such as unregulated free enterprise, rule by secular law and irresponsible freedom are manifesting the fruit by which they are known. What once sounded good and appeared innocent to many people no longer sounds so good to so Not in third world countries only, but also in the newly emerging democracies of Eastern Europe and in major countries of Western Europe, Christian men and women and those with a sense of morality, Christian and non-Christian, are waking up to the alarming reality that they have been asleep too long and are beginning to rise in opposition. Before this can happen to any great extent, it is predictable that liberal forces will first work to oppose the unexpected turn of events and to keep them out of the news. When this is no longer feasible, it will attempt a race to the finish line to complete its agenda before the opportunity slips away.

Just as the forces of anti-Christian, anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish liberalism were planning their victory maneuvers in the name of "Liberty", just when a liberal victory seemed at hand, Russia removed itself from the Western camp and began to reassert its Christian patrimony. It is the first country to recognize and understand the damage being done in the false name of freedom, mammon and God; they are incompatible (Luke 16:13). Fully aware of the political game and knowing how to manipulate it, Russia has become the vanguard of resistance to the liberal revolution.

The Russian turn-around was unexpected by everyone except the intelligence community of the Catholic Church. These men and women who understand scripture; who are well versed in philosophy and theology, social science and culture; who are in tune with the Fatima Message

and to the hand of God working in history expected a Russian turn around, expected that Russia would be converted. That moment has arrived and it is changing everything.

Intelligence forecasters, if they are to be of any value, must adopt a valid, that is an empirically verifiable theological perspective and accept the consequences of factoring this perspective into their reports or they will continue their downward trend until they fail They can either discern and tell the truth or, like the miserably. prophets of Baal, remain committed to the power and economic benefit that makes them political sycophants of their overlords. Political correctness, and the intelligence community that supports it, work well when the Hand of Providence permits the implementation of their agenda and concurrently, when there are no men and women like Elijah to challenge them with the truth. Elijah saw the hand of God at work, a hand that the prophets of Baal failed to discern because they were not serving God and were providing intelligence to men interested in such things only to the extent that it served as a front to advance their own agenda. Intelligence forecasters such as these when unchallenged by the Spirit of Elijah are usually correct in their analysis, not because they possess any extra-special insight, but because the combination of Divine permissiveness, military power, economic might, and media control make forecasting a somewhat easy business.

This is a situation that is rapidly changing. The divine hand of the Trinity appears to be providing a prophesied moment of grace, what some call a "New Evangelization, others an "Hour of Mercy", and what the Mother of God at Fatima referred to as an "Era of Peace". The Orthodox Church in Russia, various Protestant denominations in America and the Catholic Church throughout the world are in spiritual and social motion. There is a discernible spiritual energy in the air. Throughout the world societies are being affected by religious renewal, but, not as previously, by churches and religions that have become secularized, nor by a form of secular humanism that has become sacralized, but by authentic Trinitarian Christian renewal.[5] Although imperceptible in the West, this trend is increasingly evident

in the East and is becoming more evident in Europe and throughout the globe.

Failure to take this ever increasing religious factor into account is the "Achilles Heel" of the contemporary intelligence community. Theological analysis, which factors in ongoing spiritual renewal coupled with traditional geopolitical analysis is needed. Theopolitical Intelligence (Theopolitcs) is the intelligence of the future, the only intelligence that can be trusted for accuracy because it endeavors to discern the Hand of God at work in political, economic, social, and cosmological current events, the "signs of the times".

END NOTES

[1] Geopolitics studies the interaction of states based on geography (including topography and climate), which shape culture and impact political decision making. Because geography is stable, it is presumed that political reactions are predictable recurring events. These presumptions help the observer to understand political actions and to predict conflict and probable response patterns between and among nations.

[2] For example, the Protestant tendency to equate capitalism with Christianity (conservatism) or of various denominations which at one time defended life in the womb but increasingly support a right to abortion: Quakers (American Friends Service Committee); Lutheran Church in America; Presbyterian Church; Reorganized LDS; Unitarian Universalist; United Church of Christ; United Methodist Church; the Episcopal Church; the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Moravian Church in America. SOURCE: Protestant Churches and Abortion, http://www.life.org.nz/abortion/abortionreligiouskeyissues/christian-religions/

The same could be said about feminism and female clerics,

sexual orientation, and, in extreme cases, American Foreign Policy, and the quasi-religious myth of American exceptionalism (i.e. the City on a Hill motif).

[3] By sacralizing the secular, we mean that secular values becomes pervasive and increasingly sacrosanct, the standard by which even religious matters are judged.

According to Grondelski, December 2015, "The Danger of Theocratic Majoritarianism":

"In the end, the decision to embrace secularism is as much a faith choice as is embracing a particular religion. Secularism after all, makes certain assumptions about the person, society, and the world out of which flows a certain axiology, a certain set of value judgments". In short, overtime, the secular becomes sacred.

[4] Abraham Lincoln, July 27, (1838) The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions: Address Before the Young Men's Lyceum of Springfield, Illinois. http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/lyceum.htm

[5] For example, according to Patriarch Kirill Primate of Moscow and All Russia:

"It is very important that all healthy forces of the society today unite for the true revival of Russia. The Church, science, art, culture, education, sport — all these things should work for strengthening spiritual foundations of our person."

"The things which define the true revival are connected with the person's spiritual life."

Likewise, according to the President Putin, "First and foremost we should be governed by common sense. But common sense should be based on moral principles first. And it is not possible today to have morality separated from religious values."

(http://content.time.com/time/specials/2007/personoftheyear/ar ticle/0,28804,1690753_1690757_1695787-3,00.html)

"We stand against legalization and legal justification of homosexual 'marriages' and other outrages in the sphere of ethics" (Interfax, Dec. 9).

2016 In Review: Western Europe and Collapse of the European Union

PART TWO OF 2016 IN REVIEW FOCUSED on Eastern Europe, Part Three focuses on major political events of 2016 in Western Europe. Eastern Europe is experiencing a revival of Christian based political parties and in most cases a rapprochement with Russia. Western Europe is also experiencing a revival of family-oriented, traditional-values oriented political parties skeptical of Europe and the continuation of the European Union correlated with an openness to Russia.

ENGLAND

The **United Kingdom Independent Party (UKIP)** an anti European Union or Euro-skeptic party emerged in the United Kingdom as similar parties emerged all over Europe, most prominently in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia Greece, Netherlands and France. UKIP was founded only a few years ago in 1991. In a short time UKIP comfortably won the 2014 European elections, received the

third largest vote share in last year's UK general election, and achieved its long-sought goal of an EU exit. With 22 members in The European Parliament, UKIP is the largest UK party in the European Parliament; it has 488 councilors active in UK local government and has placed six of its members on the Welsh National Assembly.

The UK story has extra merit since Nigel Farage, a founding member of UKIP was the first foreign leader to arrive on US soil to meet with president-elect Donald Trump.

In September of 2016 (then again in November, 2016) Farage was in the US to speak at a Trump rally before 15,000 in Jackson, Mississippi. Introducing him, <u>Trump stated:</u>

"On 23 June, the people of Britain voted to declare their independence — which is what we're looking to do also, folks! —from international government."

Mirroring the Trump introduction, Farage told the Americans gathered in Mississippi to ignore the polls and to "stand up and fight the establishment."

"You can beat the pollsters. You can beat the commentators...
Remember, anything is possible if enough decent people are
prepared to stand up against the establishment." He
added: "We can overcome the big banks, we can overcome the
multinationals." Later he stated "I wouldn't vote for Hilary
Clinton if you paid me....So many political representatives are
politically correct parts of the liberal media elite"

Farage spent years advocating for a UK referendum to exit the EU (Brexit). His hard work paid off. By June 2016 the people of the UK voted to exit the EU. Thereafter, Farage became something of a global celebrity among right-wing conservatives including Donald Trump and Marine Le Pen of France. Clinton loathes both Trump and Farage. She has characterized

the two as

"...alt-right" figures who were (are) part of a "rising tide of hardline, right-wing nationalism around the world" (PBS News).

Mrs. Clinton

"... went on to name Russian President Vladimir Putin as "the grand godfather of this global brand of extreme nationalism" (PBS News).

In other words, Putin, Trump and Farage are a threat to globalists like Hilary Clinton. Unfortunately for Ms Clinton, the list in Europe alone, is growing larger year by year. It includes Victor Orban, President of Hungary; Andrzej Duda, President of Poland; Igor Dodon, President of Moldova; Rumen Radev, President of Bulgaria; Vadim Krasnoselski, President of Transnistria; Alexander Lukashenko, President of Belarus; Lega Nord, the Euroskeptic political party on the rise in Italy; Alternative for Deutschland, the Euroskeptic Party on the rise in Germany; Gert Wilders in the Netherlands, and in France the National Front of Marine Le Pen who is poised to be the next president of France in just a few months.

GERMANY

The rise of **Alternative for Deutschland** (**AfD**) came as one of the major political surprises of 2016. The party was founded in 2013, a year in which it surprisingly won 4.7% of the vote barely missing the 5% threshold necessary to sit in the Bundestag (the Lower House of Parliament that represents the people and elects the Chancellor *aka* the Prime Minister). A year later AfD managed to acquire 7.1% of the vote and 7 of Germany's 96 seats in the European Parliament. By 2016 AfD gained MP seats in ten of Germany's 16 **state parliaments** and

is poised to gain seats in next fall's federal elections.

Speaking about the 2016 state results in the Eastern state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, the BBC reported

"Anxiety about immigration dominated the Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania election on 4 September, enabling the AfD to take second place (almost 21%), behind the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD -30.6%) but **ahead of Mrs Merkel's Christian Democrats** (CDU -19%)."

The <u>Telegraph</u> worded the Mecklenberg results this way:

"The <u>anti-migrant Alternative for Germany party (AfD</u>) surged ahead of Mrs Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) in initial projections with around 21 per cent of the vote."

"Perhaps this is the beginning of the end for Chancellor Merkel," Leif-Erik Holm, the AfD's regional leader, said as the results became clear."

Reporting on 2016 state elections in the capital, Berlin, Politico reported that Germany's two leading parties, the **Social Democrats** and **Christian Democrats**, **both suffered heavy losses** while the AfD was catapulted into the state assembly.

According to Politico:

"Berlin's voters have dealt the embattled chancellor <u>another</u> <u>heavy blow</u>. But what is most remarkable is the fundamental shift in the country's party landscape and political process that this election heralds. Berlin is Germany's political and social laboratory par excellence. It is a microcosm where the country's major challenges play out as if under a microscope. So the stability and consensus that have long been Germany's political trademark may soon be a thing of the past.

It seems that Germany's Euro-skeptic party is on the move making headway promoting a pro-Christian/Humanistic anti radical-Muslim values campaign. In May of this year, AfD adopted an anti-Islam policy that includes a section explaining why "Islam does not belong to Germany".

The developing trend (most advanced in Berlin) but in motion throughout most of Germany is clear: The age of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) leadership based on liberal European values is being seriously challenged, perhaps coming to an end.

"The AfD's rightward drift can be seen across Germany, but nowhere is it as clear as in the country's eastern states. Supporters of eastern German AfD chapters are not looking for a conservative alternative on the political spectrum. They are interested in opposing and resisting the established political system."

Whether or not the AdF will attain power in the fall remains to be seen; it is more of a long-shot than the National Front in France. But if Le Pen's National Font pulls out the victory in the spring of next year and Chancellor Merkel's CDU fails to fix the immigrant problem and address the surge in favor of protecting Germany's cultural patrimony, AdF might be the beneficiary in more than one way in the fall.

FRANCE

Perhaps the most dramatic story of 2016 is the meteor like rise of Marine le Pen's **National Front Party**. In France, as elsewhere, the liberal agenda has become so extreme that there is a noticeable counter-current welling up from the reservoirs of the country's deep cultural and spiritual patrimony coalescing into a political current that is swiftly moving in the opposite direction, a counter current being led by the

rising tide of a political party known as the National Front.

Emergence of Marine Le Pen and the National Front

Although the National Front (FN) was launched on October 5, 1972, it is part of a conservative tradition that has long opposed the social

engineering masterminded by the radical doyens of the 1789 French Revolution and their



liberal successors Consequently, the FN rejects both the revolution and its liberal legacy. Sensing the weakness of France's various conservative constituencies, constituencies that represent its cultural patrimony, its historic national ethos, its spiritual traditions and its ancient moral precepts rooted in Christian faith and reason, leaders of the FN realized the importance of forming a national front, an umbrella party that united the conserving elements of France under one political banner.

Then on January 15, 2011, Marine Le Pen unexpectedly became the leader of the FN and since then has catapulted a municipal party into a national political power. The FN received nearly 5 million votes in the 2014 parliamentary elections and gained 25% of all the seats in parliament. Then in 2015 in the first round of regional elections, it placed first in half of the 13 newly reapportioned regions ahead of every party in France. In Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie, little Le Pen won 41% of the vote. News like this sent shock waves throughout Europe (as similar events were happening in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, but no one foresaw such an event in modern France, the Mother of Liberalism.

EU Globalists abhor FN, which has referred to the European Union as:

"...the last stage on the road to world government" and a "puppet of the New World Order."

The rise of Le Pen indicates an acute change in the political atmosphere, the result of widespread discontent with worn-out liberal rhetoric and a broad desire to respect French tradition, its cultural and spiritual legacy as well as the Christian identity of Europe. Consequently,

Le Pen admires Vladimir Putin and refers to him as a <u>"defender of the Christian heritage of European</u> civilization."

Ms. Le Pen elieves that

"Russia is unfairly 'demonized.' She has claimed that the campaign against the Russian leadership is being conducted at the highest levels of the European Union with support from the United States."

Recalling BREXIT, Le Pen has proposed a FREXIT:

"The Brits have chosen their destiny and decided to leave the European Union. They made the choice of independence... <u>I will hold a referendum (if elected president) on France's EU membership because you have the right to speak out... Yes, my friends, it is possible to change things."</u>

As part of this change, Le Pen has not only indicated a desire to work with President Putin, she has also manifested her preference for Donald Trump and went as far drawing similarities between herself and the president-elect. Comparing herself to Trump she stated:

"We are similar because we are not part of the establishment, we are not part of the system, and we do not depend on anybody and we don't take orders from anyone."

Late in 2016, Le Pen stated that her election as president would result in the formation of a trio of world leaders (Le Pen — Trump — Putin) that "would be good for world peace". She also stated that

"There is a worldwide movement. A worldwide movement which rejects unchecked globalisation, destructive ultraliberalism... the elimination of nation states, the disappearance of borders.... The forces at work in these various elections are ideas, forces which could bring about my election as the president of France next May."

An election result that would utterly astound the liberal global elite.

ITALY

Although no where as astounding as developments in France, developments in Italy during 2016 came as quite a surprise, a surprise that is pregnant with ramifications for the future of this leading Mediterranean nation.

Late in 2016 Italian voters registered a resounding "NO" to the liberal pro-European government referendum initiated by Prime Minister Matteo Renzi. A "No-Vote" to the Renzi sponsored referendum could be interpreted as a vote of noconfidence in Renzi and his attempts to strengthen ties with Paris and Berlin in favor of the EU and Eurozone.

It appears that the way is open for an alternative right party to rise in Italy as elsewhere. The most promising candidate to appear in 2016 seems to be **Nega Lord** as part of a coalition consisting of Silvio Berlusconi's **Forza Italia**, right-wing **Fratelli d'Italia** and **Lega Nord**.

As reported by the Guardian:

"When Matteo Salvini took over the leadership of the Northern League (Lega Nord) at the end of 2013, Italian politicians and the media said his job would be to officiate at the party's funeral. Two years later, it is back from the near dead — and stronger than ever."

"Whether you credit the refugee crisis, the Marine Le Pen bandwagon or what party insiders prefer to call the #effettoSalvini (the Salvini effect), the party that sank to an historic low of 4 percent in the 2013 election — below the threshold for seats in the Senate — now has 16-17 percent support in nationwide polls.

Lega Nord, promotes Italy's cultural values, supports the traditional family, is opposed to same sex union, globalism, and the spread of liberalism.

Indicative of its Euro-skepticism, Salvini, hosted a 2106 Milan Conference for a new group in the European Parliament known as <u>Europe of Nations and Freedom Group</u> (ENF), which includes Marine Le Pen and other Euroskeptic party leaders from throughout the continent. ENF is working to establish a "<u>Europe of free nations in which power is fully returned from the European Union to the voters of sovereign states. The group's commitments are to sovereignty, democracy, freedom and ending mass immigration so that members may advance their own interests at the domestic level."</u>

In the words of Marine le Pen VP of ENF and prime candidate to be President of France in the spring of 2017:

"Each day, the Europe of Brussels unveils its fatal design: deconstructing nations to build a new globalist order, dangerous for the security, prosperity, identity, the very survival of the European peoples."

"Faced with the proponents of federalism, we are the guardians informed of the national spirit and the defenders of the interests of European peoples."

At the close of the Milan meeting of ENF hosted by Salvini, Salvini had a photo taken with Le Pen and others containing the caption:

"We will not surrender to the clandestine invasion."

Pro-Christian populism is making headway in Italy as well. If Lega Nord happens to pull a surprise victory in the next election, Italian voters should expect a referendum to withdraw from the European Union or Euro Zone.

NETHERLANDS

Although New Era did not report on the Netherlands in 2016, it too is experiencing the rise of a new alternative party, the "Party for Freedom" (PVV) headed by Geert Wilders, (parliamentary group leader of his party in the Dutch House of Representatives) whom many refer to as "the Dutch Trump". In 2016 the PVV won 5.9% of the vote. Then in 2012 the numbers rose to 10.1%. Polls referring to national elections scheduled for March 2017, indicate the the PVV will get about 20% of the vote, which would make it the largest party in the Dutch

Parliament.

As cited at his weblog:

"Geert Wilders has become politician of the year 2016. 40,000 people participated in the annual public election held by tv-show 'EenVandaag'. Geert Wilders dominated the 2016 political polls. For many participants, Wilders symbolises the dissatisfaction with current politics."

Wilders has called Islamic immigration "an invasion."

Although a fallen-away Catholic, Wilders supports legislation indicative of a turn away from liberalism toward the Euro-skeptic values shared by other alternative right parties throughout Europe with some consideration for the Christianity of his youth. In 2006 he published a version of his political manifesto called *Klare Wijn* ("Clear Wine"). Among the ten proposed points, he included the following:

- Replacement of the present Article 1 of the Dutch constitution, guaranteeing <u>equality under the law</u>, by a clause stating the <u>cultural dominance</u> of the <u>Christian</u>, <u>Jewish and humanist traditions</u>.
- Reduction of the influence of the European Union, which may no longer be expanded with new member states
- A five-year moratorium on the immigration of non-Western foreigners who intend to stay in the Netherlands.
- A five-year moratorium on the founding of new mosques and Islamic schools; a permanent ban on preaching in any language other than Dutch. Foreign imams will not be allowed to preach. Radical mosques will be closed and radical Muslims will be expelled.
- Restoration of educational standards, with an emphasis on the educational value of the family.

Although the PVV will garner a large percentage of the vote in the spring election, the reluctance of other parties to form a coalition government with the PVV indicates that it will have a difficult time becoming the leader of Dutch Parliament, which would keep Wilders from becoming Prime Minister. However, Wilders was in the US for the Republican Convention where he told an American audience that the PVV continues to gain ground; it has been "the number one party in the opinion polls" for the past year.

According to Politico:

"An opinion poll published early July <u>showed</u> that if general elections were held today, the PVV would become the country's biggest party with 35 seats in the 150-seat parliament. It currently has 15 seats.

Thus, according to Wilders, "If this becomes reality in the elections in March next year, I could become the next prime minister." Whichever way it goes, the Wilder's phenomenon indicates the dissatisfaction of Dutch voters with the liberal EU agenda and the search for an alternative.

The Netherlands united with Germany, Italy, France, and England in Western Europe, along with their Eastern compatriots in the Balkans and Eastern Europe (Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece, Transnistria, Moldova, Slovakia, Belrus and Estonia) form a growing pro-family, pro-traditional values, anti-liberal Euro-skeptic cohort, which (when considered in unison with the on-going conversion of Russia and similar anti-liberal movements occurring in the United States, Asia and Africa) indicate that the world is on the cusp of a momentous change, an *Era of Peace* as promised by the Mother of God at Fatima.

2016 In Review Continued:

Recap of Major Political Events — Eastern Europe

PART ONE OF 2016 IN REVIEW FOCUSED ON THE RISE OF RUSSIA and its relationship to prophecies about its conversion made by the Virgin Mary at Fatima in 1917. Part Two will highlight the corollary Fatima Message about a promised "Era of Peace" contingent upon the conversion of Russia and its relationship to the global shift, focused on Eastern Europe, away from liberalism toward traditional family oriented moral values that exploded around the globe in 2016 and is expected to continue resounding throughout 2017.

Repeating what was said in Part One on this matter, the Virgin Mary appeared on the 13th of six consecutive months to three children Jacinta, Francisco Marto and Lucia Santos and confided several messages to them. In July of 2017, just prior to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, She told the children:

"If My requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated.

Nonetheless, Our Lady promised an end to the wars and persecutions and a definitive victory associated with "triumph" of Her Immaculate Heart:

"In the end, My Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to Me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world" (Fatima, July, 1917).

The consecration was finally made sixty seven years later. On March 25, 1984, Pope John Paul II in union with bishops throughout the world consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as requested at Fatima. However, by that time the communists had already spread their errors (atheism, materialism, socialism) around the globe, so much so that the effects are still being felt today. Nonetheless, a significant change is underway in Russia and around the world. Russia's unexpected conversion is throwing a monkey wrench into liberal foreign policy initiatives — the entire global system is being thrown off of kilter by what the Russians are doing; no one expected it. The liberal regime had expected Russia to be a player advancing the global agenda. Instead to everyone's surprise, Russia has taken an about face and is reasserting its Christian identity.

Since March 1984 a long chain of events has occurred validating the Virgin Mary's Message and the power of the consecration, which <u>John Paul II said was "for all times."</u>

"Before you, Mother of Christ, before your Immaculate Heart, I today, together with the whole Church, unite myself with our Redeemer in this his consecration for the world and for people, which only in his divine Heart has the power to obtain pardon and to secure reparation."

"The power of this consecration lasts for all time and embraces all individuals, peoples and nations. It overcomes every evil that the spirit of darkness is able to awaken, and has in fact awakened in our times, in the heart of man and in his history."

Some of the immediate events following in wake of the consecration are listed below, for the complete list go to New 2 Era World News:

May 13, 1984

Feast Day of

Our Lady of Fatima

An explosion at the Soviets' Severomorsk Naval Base destroys two-thirds of all the missiles stockpiled for the Soviets' Northern Fleet. The blast also destroys workshops needed to maintain the missiles as well as hundreds of scientists and technicians. Western military experts called it the worst naval disaster the Soviet Navy has suffered since WWII.

http://www.nytimes.com/1984/07/11/world/soviet-naval-blast-ca
lled-crippling.html

April 26, 1986

Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident

May 12, 1988

Vigil of Our Lady of Fatima

As thousands prayed the Rosary at Fatima, an explosion wrecked the only factory that made the rocket motors for the Soviets' deadly SS 24 long-range missiles, which carry ten nuclear bombs each.

http://www.patriotheadquarters.com/russias-k-project-emp-thre
at/

Nov 9, 1989

Fall of Berlin Wall

Nov-Dec 1989

Peaceful revolutions in Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania

Year of 1990

East and West Germany are unified

Solidarity brings end of Communism in Poland — Walesa elected President -Catholic renewal begins

December 8, 1991

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The Communist Era vanished when the presidents of Russia, Ukraine, and Byelorussia announced its formal dissolution on Dec. 8, 1991, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

http://www.apostoladomundialdefatima.org/html/consacration_im
m_heart_of_mar.html

Dec. 25, 1991

Christmas Day

Communist flag of USSR taken down for last time from atop the Kremlin. Mikhail Gorbachev formally resigned as President of USSR

http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/big/1225.ht
ml

January 1, 1992

Feast of the Mother of God

Russia is reborn as a sovereign nation

http://www.apostoladomundialdefatima.org/pdf/Consecration_Fat
ima ALO corrected .pdf

GLOBAL EVENTS OF 2016 INDICATING MOVE AWAY FROM LIBERALISM TOWARD FAMILY AND CHRISTIAN VALUES

POLAND

Russia is being converted and helping the world to achieve peace, but it was Poland that stepped forward to take the lead in a Christian revival that is sweeping Europe and reaching around the globe. Russian citizens have not risen in defiance, their leaders have, but not the nation. In 1989 it was the audacious Poles who gathered in solidarity; Poles united in love of God and homeland encouraged each other to heroically stand face to face with their communist overlords. Poles were the first among nations to stand firm; Poles united in solidarity led the nations of the world against Communism. It was the same courageous Poles who took the lead in 2016 against all the forces seeking to destroy their patrimony as a Christian nation. At the end of 2015 Poles rose up in vast numbers to set the tone for the New Year, 2016, by sponsoring a series of gallant spirit-filled patriotic marches throughout the country spearheaded by Father Jacek Miedlar vehemently urged his countrymen that the time had come to rise up against Islam and the liberal forces trying to destroy the Church and obliterate the Catholic identity of Poland and Europe. Father Miedlar blazoned:

"Dearly beloved, the enemies of the homeland and the enemies of the Church are furious today because they see a huge, enormous army of patriots, army of nationalists, and army of supporters who have 'God, Honor, and Fatherland' in their hearts and are ready to give their lives for them. But I am more than convinced that leftist propaganda is trying its best to destroy us, to destroy the Church, to destroy the Polish nation. We cannot let them do it.!"

Miedlar did not encourage violence and hatred but the Gospel massage of peace and love, the same message that was the road to the Solidarity victory back in 1989:

"We don't want to fight with the hammer of hate they [the

left-wing] want to push in our hands.... We want to fight with the sword of truth. With the sword of love! With the word of the Gospel! With the Sword that is Jesus Christ, our living Lord and Savior."

https://youtu.be/Hakb6S0IpgY

Then, moved by love of God and nation, Poles gathered at the voting booths throughout the country in October of 2016 to elect Catholic leaders from the Law and Justice Party (PiS) to lead the nation forward. PiS swept the table unexpectedly winning the presidency and an outright majority in the parliament (SEJM). The party now wields more clout over Poland than any government since the end of communist rule a quarter century

(http://www.politico.eu/article/poland-pis-politics-kaczynskitusk/).

The Prime Minister of Poland Beata Szydło, also the Vice Charman of PiS, supports anti-abortion legislation, as does the new Polish President, a devout Catholic, Andrzej Duda. PiS Party leaders proceeded to endorse a total ban on abortion with support from the Church. Jarolaw Kaczyński, Chairman of PiS told reporters that

"In these (moral) matters, as a Catholic, <u>I follow the</u> teachings of the bishops."

Then, in December of 2016, the President and Prime Minister of Poland gathered with the Primate and Polish Episcopate of the Catholic Church to recognize and name <u>Jesus Christ the King of Poland</u>. They gathered at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow to celebrate 1,050 years of Christianity in their nation. Together, Church and State leaders implored Jesus to

reign over Poland, over its people and political leaders as Sovereign Lord — Christ the King. The consecration was repeated in churches throughout Poland. The people united under the leadership of the Polish episcopate and statesmen raised their voices :

"Immortal King of Ages Lord Jesus Christ, we Poles stand before you to acknowledge your reign, surrender to your law, and entrust our homeland and the whole nation to you."

"Humbly bowing our heads before you, King of the Universe, we acknowledge your dominion over the Polish nation, those living in the homeland and throughout the world. Wishing to worship the majesty of Thy power and glory, with great faith and love, we cry out: Rule us, Christ!"

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"

Then, inspired by these unprecedented events, at the close of 2016 again we find the Poles rising up in vast numbers, this time more staunchly identifying themselves as the "Bastion of Europe" the protector of Christianity on the continent and the first of nations conscious of their Christian identity, the first of nations to stand for their faith and protest against all the global forces seeking to obliterate that identity

from the pages of human history. Poles are aware that their country has been called to a special mission by Christ the King.

At Fatima Our Lady promised and *Era of Peace*. Then in a series of approved apparitions that took place in Poland and that have the highest approbation of the Catholic Church, Jesus Christ revealed to a Polish saint, Saint Faustina, that a global change was coming and that the impetus for the change was to be the nation of Poland:

"I bear a special love for Poland (he said), 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 prepare the world for My final coming" (Diary, 1732).

https://youtu.be/dpC2_BUCTS0

HUNGARY

Inspired by their Slavic brothers and sisters to the North, Hungary also rose in defiance of the liberal agenda to claim its Christian identity. The Hungarian corollary to PiS in Poland is Jabbok. Jobbik defines itself as

"A principled, conservative and <u>radically patriotic</u> <u>Christian party</u>", whose "fundamental purpose" is the protection of "Hungarian values and interests."

According to Jabbok Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban .

"Brussels (the EU) can't impose its will on Hungary (that is, its refugee policy or any objectionable neo-liberal policy). The choice was between Brussels (capitol of the European Union) and Budapest (capitol of Hungary), and people chose Budapest" (Hungary First).

In addition, amid harsh criticism from the West, Hungary crafted a friendly foreign policy *vis a vis* Russia, a foreign policy anathema to the EU.

Orban stated that,

'We think that without cooperation with Russia, we cannot achieve our goals." (Business Insider)

Hungary is in the vanguard with Russia regarding the protection of Christians around the globe. Orban has clearly indicated that Hungary will work in tandem with Pope Francis and the Catholic Church to aid persecuted Christians. In fact, he regards Catholics as:

"the most vulnerable Christians in the world" (<u>Vatican</u> <u>Radio</u>).

Jabbok in Hungary, like PiS Poland, has a Christian vision for Europe; Márton Gyöngyösi, a leader of Jobbik responsible for foreign policy, told <u>POLITICO</u>.

"As opposed to liberal values based on individualism, secularism, consumerism and multiculturalism, we support the defense of the nation state, its traditions, ethnic composition and Christian values."

Consequently, both nations have been black balled by the Western media, which refers to anyone that disagrees with them as "Nazis", "Nationalists" and other similar but increasingly worn-out epithets.

Expected vitriol came forth from liberal ideologues manifesting their biased anti-Christian sentiments and also manifesting the growing unity among Slavic nations, a unity which is an increasing challenge to the liberals, a challenge that is not going away:

"Both Poland and Hungary now offer a toxic ideological brew that is reminiscent of interwar Europe: anti-communism and anti-capitalism can be combined and justified in the name of <u>a highly intolerant nationalism based on Christian values</u> that conclusively define who is a true Hungarian or true Pole.

Orban is a strong proponent of democracy and human dignity, but he is opposed to what he refers to as "liberal democracy" (democracy with a neoliberal tinge) in favor of "illiberal democracy", that is democracy without liberalism. In short, Hungary under Orban has pivoted toward its Christian heritage in favor of traditional Christian values; it is increasingly opposed to EU liberalism in favor of a Democratic Christian Commonwealth

SLOVAKIA

Uniting under the banner "We are reclaiming our country," Civic Resistance groups in Slovakia clamored for change in 2016. Their voice resonated throughout the country where it sounded something like this:

"Following the collapse of communism, the state was grabbed by a new regime of corrupt politicians and corporate oligarchs (NEOLIBERALS) who were given a license to engage in theft of public property. Under the guise of "democracy" they have lied to the people and enriched themselves.'

Of course people who say such things are a threat to a well engineered social system built on liberal values. Consequently, they are often branded as lunatics, Nazis, Fascist, etc. by the neoliberal press supported by neoliberal political cronies. Unwelcome and thus lacking a seat in the Ministry of Propaganda, the People's Party found a

viable outlet in the social media from which they were able to successfully promote the candidacy of Marian Kotleba as Governor of the Banska Bystricia region in Southeast Slovakia.

The "People's Party" or "Our Slovakia" then received 14 of the 150 contested seats or 8% the vote. The other pro-Christian party, the Slovak National Party (SNP) won 8.6% of the seats in parliament.

The nascent *Our Slovakia Party* is headed by Marian Kotleba, who is opposed to further integration with the European Union and is skeptical about NATO membership; he has referred to NATO as a "terrorist organization". According to Kotleba, the national election,

"Is the beginning of a new era for Slovakia. And as a result, we will save the country from where it was heading." By this he was referring to the Western liberal agenda imposed after the collapse of communism, which favored foreign investment and liberal values over the interests the Slovakian people and their traditional Christian culture.

Kotleba, although maligned as a "Fascist" by Western pundits, rejects the Nazi label and suspects that it arises from his campaign against ingrained political and economic corruption and the *kulturkampf* against Christian values pursued by ideologues, who favors a neo-liberal agenda contrary to Slovakia's indigenous patrimony.

BULGARIA and MOLDOVA

In 2016 both Bulgaria and Moldova elected new presidents; both men are overtly open to relations with Russia. Rumen Radev, the new Bulgarian president decisively defeated the pro-Western candidate, Tsetska Tsacheva. Radev not only called for the EU to cease sanctions against Russia, he also announced

his willingness to accept the Crimean referendum that made Crimea part of the Russian Federation. During his victory speech, Radev not only iterated his opposition to sanctions against Russia, he also commended President-elect Trump for "seeking increased dialogue" with Russian President, Vladimir Putin.

Likewise, the new Moldovan presidential **Igor Dodon**, is also pro Moscow. He defeated World Bank employee Maia Sandu, who campaigned under an EU banner, for the presidency of Moldova. Since pro-Russian Dodon defeated pro-World Bank and pro-European Union candidate, the election heralded a significant shift toward Russia and away from the European Union (EU). Russia and the EU have hotly contested Moldova, which seems now to prefer the former.

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

<u>Bogdan Bezpalko</u>, <u>Assistant Director of the Center</u> <u>for Ukrainian Studies at Moscow State University</u>, stated

"It is clear that the population of the Eastern European states have become disenchanted with the ideology of 'Eurointegration'; they want to resume normal and pragmatic relations with their neighbors."

According to the French Daily, La Croix:

"Already deeply shaken by the Brexit, the European Union has suffered a new warning this Sunday, November 13, this time from the eastern margins of the old continent. Voters in Bulgaria and Moldova have elected to the presidency of their respective countries openly Russophile candidates, the Moldovan Igor Dodon and the Bulgarian Rumen Radev, who both campaigned in favor of a rapprochement with Russia."

Journalist Roland Oliphant suggests that the election of two pro-Russian presidents "adds to mounting concern about Western unity following Donald Trump's victory in the US election last week."

La Croix of France concludes:

"These elections will ring anyway as a prestigious victory for Vladimir Putin and thunder in the European skies"

ESTONIA

The EU and NATO have both been vigorously courting Estonia, the North Baltic State that borders Russia. Inn 2016 Prime Minister Taavi Roivas Reform Party received a vote of noconfidence from the Estonian parliament. Following the vote, the Center Party, a party that has a collaborative agreement with Putin's United Russia Party, surfaced as the new coalition leader.

The Center Party's agreement with United Russia states that the two share common goals and interests and should cooperate in the areas of information exchange relative to professional party building, legislative processes, financial professionalism, international relations, cultural exchange and work among youth. The agreement exists to deepen the "good-neighborly cooperation between Estonia and Russia."

TRANSNISTRIA

Following Moldova, its eastern neighbor Transnistria has also elected a pro-Russian president, Vadim Krasnoselski, who garnered 62% of the vote in the December 11, 2016 presidential election. Since 1991 Transnistria has sought independence from Moldova, which had affiliated itself with its western

neighbor, Romania, a member of the United Nations and the European Union. Transnistria, 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.

Moldovan President Dodon has already indicated his willingness to pursue improved relations with Transnistria. Since Krasnoselski's campaign included reaching a negotiated settlement with Moldova, the process (to be 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.

CONCLUSION PART TWO

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 Eastern European nations 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. This is more likely at a time when EU institutions are experiencing unprecedented and severe cultural and political pressures that are wrenching them apart. The fractionalization of the European Union is further exacerbated by significant financial burdens necessary to prop up failing Mediterranean nations who rely on the European Central Bank in Germany to sustain withering economies. The West will have to commit significant resources to this area (at a time that it is least able to do so), especially to Poland. If Poland and Eastern Europe liberalism will suffer a from the EU, near unsustainable blow.

Forecast: A tremendous outlay of liberal 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, Transnistria 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 nations geographically spread from the Baltic Sea in the northwest to the Black Sea in the southeast, a solid Christian block leaning towards Russia for military assistance and toward Eurasia for economic benefits, benefits expected from trade along the New Silk Road, the worlds largest infrastructure project underway connecting China to Iran, Iraq, Syria, the Caucus, Moscow, Warsaw and Berlin.

Therefore, Eastern Europe and especially Poland is a global hot spot; the EU globalists cannot afford to let the dominoes keep falling. From their perspective, they must stop here; considerable resources must be spent to keep Eastern Europe facing west! However, 2017 is a very un ique time; it will take more than economic resources to keep Poland and Eastern Europe in the Western camp.

(2016) In Review: Fatima — The Rise of Russia and Demise

of Global Liberalism

2016 HAS BEEN A HIGHLY UNUSUAL AND TUMULTUOUS YEAR, a year marked by increased terror and unexpected turn of events, a year in which a decade of US foreign policy blunders became manifestly apparent as one by one countries around the globe stood up and began to break the shackles of neoliberalism foisted upon them for decades, a year which saw the collapse of Global Liberal Hegemony accompanied by the unexpected rise of Russia to global prominence and their subsequent renunciation by Western media. Russia is now the enemy, not because they are Communist, but because they are reasserting their Christian identity and consequently opposing rampant liberalism. This change came as a surprise to many, forcing leading intelligence agencies such as Stratfor to significantly alter their intelligence forecasts about Russia bringing them into alignment with what New Era has consistently forecast all along.

At the end of 2015 Stratfor projected a gloomy future for Russia, whom it predicted was in a state of imminent collapse

In Feb of 2015 the intelligence group insisted:

"It is unlikely that the Russian Federation will survive in its current form. Russia's failure to transform its energy revenue into a self-sustaining economy makes it vulnerable to price fluctuations. It has no defense against these market forces."

" Russia, the declining power, will increasingly lose the ability to protect its maritime interests.

As late as October, 2016 Stratfor concluded:

"10 years ago... Russia was clearly at the height of a boom,

rebuilding itself into a stable and robust power. **Today, the country is quickly descending** into the next, less pleasant stage. The strategy that revitalized the country is becoming less effective.... Though still assertive, Russia is no longer acting from a position of strength."

"This is not to say Russia is on the brink of collapse, only that the country is entering the next phase of its historical cycle, in which the state is highly vulnerable yet increasingly aggressive. Putin will therefore be acting from a position of survival instead of strength."

"Though we forecast the decline of Russia, Russia poses danger in the short term, particularly with its back against the wall economically."

Stratfor made an Interesting about face in its most recent Annual Report in which it forecasts a reemergence of Russia rather than an imminent collapse. According to the December 26, 2016 report:

"2017 could herald a new phase for Russia's standoff with the West."

In the past three years Russia has expanded its domestic production and consumption and weathered the battery of sanctions meant to cripple its economy; it has also placed its military and technological capabilities on international display. By referendum vote it acquired Crimea and the countries of <u>Bulgaria</u>, <u>Moldova</u>, and the contiguous region of <u>Transnistria</u> have indicated a rapprochement toward Russia and away from NATO and the EU.

Due to the rise of patriotic parties throughout Europe,

parties favoring restoration of traditional family-oriented and Christian values, Europe faces the prospect of fragmentation as nation after nation reasserts its national identity and raises its voice against liberalism. Thus, Stratfor notes that 2017 could be the harbinger of a neoteric chapter in Russian-Western relations.

"Mounting tensions have exposed cracks in the united Western front against Russia. The Brexit vote revealed deep rifts in the European Union, and Donald Trump's victory in the U.S. presidential election may portend a break in Washington's policy toward Moscow."

Stratfor correctly notes that

"Elections across Europe in 2017 — in France, the Netherlands, Germany and possibly Italy — could further widen the divides in the Continental bloc and challenge the future of European integration."

Moreover, recent success in Syria should help Russia in negotiations with the new Trump administration and with newly elected political leaders throughout Europe.

"These changes will enable Russia to recoup some of its influence in the former Soviet periphery. Given the upheaval in the European Union, the bloc (EU) will be hesitant to move forward with proceedings to accede new members in 2017."

In addition, countries of the former Soviet Union that are "already aligned" with Moscow (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) "will probably redouble their cooperation with Russia in the coming year," and the Eurasian Economic Union and the Collective Security Treaty Organization "could become more active in 2017 after languishing over the past two years."

President Vladimir Putin delivered his Annual Address to Russian Federal Assembly (December 1, 2016) in which he highlighted the health of the nation in the face of the global regime arrayed against it. Speaking about liberalism and attempts to erode traditional and family values in Russia, Putin stated:

"The people of Russia have shown convincingly once again that they can rise to the difficult challenges and protect and defend their national interests, sovereignty, and independent course....We need friends. But we will not allow our interests to be infringed upon or ignored. We want to and will decide our destiny ourselves and build our present and future without others' unasked for advice and prompting."

"Two years ago...we found ourselves facing sanctions that were an **attempt to get us to dance to another's tune** and ignore our own fundamental national interests."

"Colleagues, the basis of our entire policy is to take care of people and increase human capital as Russia's most important resource. Therefore, our efforts are aimed at supporting the traditional values and the family, at [implementing] demographic programmes, improving the environment and people's health, and promoting education and culture."

Linked to this these ends, Putin is determined to promote morality, which he has made one of the two primary goals of education. Speaking about education, he stated:

"School education meets two basic goals that Academician Dmitry Likhachev listed: to give knowledge and to foster morality. He rightly believed that morality is the basis that

determines the viability of society: its economic, public, and creative sustainability."

Shifting to the economy and attempts to cripple Russia by sanctions, Putin noted Russia's sustainability and unexpected growth in the IT, agricultural, vehicle and machinery sectors. Russia, which is often presented as unable to feed its own people has passed the United States as the number one exporter of wheat in the world. Russia now exporting more grain than arms.

According to Bloomberg:

"Last season, Russian topped the U.S. in wheat exports for the first time in decades and is expected to extend those gains to displace the EU from the top spot this year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Investors from local farmers to <u>billionaire tycoons</u> are pumping money into the business."

"Russian wheat has crowded out U.S. supplies in Egypt, the world's biggest buyer, and is gaining footholds in some other countries, such as Nigeria, Bangladesh and Indonesia. That's four decades after the Soviet Union turned to U.S. shipments of wheat and corn to offset shortfalls in its own harvests. Over the last decade, Russia has been the biggest single source of growth in wheat exports, vital to meeting surging global demand."

Speaking about the other sectors experiencing growth, Putin stated:

"We have seen a slight overall decline in the automotive industry, although trucks have shown an increase of 14.7 percent, light commercial vehicles, up 2.9 percent, and buses, up 35.1 percent. In railway engineering, there is a 21.8 percent growth, and freight cars are up 26 percent.

Agricultural machinery and equipment have shown very good momentum, 26.8 percent. The light industry is also demonstrating an upward trend."

"We have ensured macroeconomic stability, which is very important, and have maintained financial reserves. The Central Bank gold and currency reserves have not decreased, but have even grown. Whereas on January 1, 2016 they totalled \$368.39 billion, now they stand at \$389.4, almost 400 billion. Here, too, we can see positive dynamics."

"Agricultural produce exports bring in more revenue today than arms exports. Only recently, we would probably have scarcely imagined such a thing possible. I have already spoken publicly about this and can say it again here today. Incidentally, as far as our arms exports go, we are still a serious contender on this market. Our exports came to \$14.5 billion in 2015, and our agricultural produce exports came to \$16.2 billion. This year, we expect a figure of \$16.9 billion."

"The IT industry is one of the most rapidly developing sectors, which is heartening. Russian IT companies have doubled their exports over the past five years..... Our IT exports were almost zero only recently, but they have risen to \$7 billion now."

Putin also cited the growth of profitability in the banking sector

"This year, Russian banks have regained their profitability.

The sector's profit for the 10 months of last year was 193

billion rubles, and rose almost four-fold, to 714 billion

He closed by noting by acknowledging that the sanctions have had an effect but that Russia is weathering the storm"

"While overcoming the current difficulties, we have created a foundation for further movement forward. We never stopped working on the development agenda, which is extremely important. That is, we did not get bogged down in some trivia of the day, like dealing with survival issues, but we thought about the development agenda and contributed to it. This agenda is coming to the forefront today."

With elections of Euro-skeptic and pro-Russian candidates set to take place in France, Germany, England and perhaps Italy in 2017 coupled with changes underway in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Moldova and Bulgaria, as well as a Trump administration scheduled to assume the reigns of US power in January, 2017 could be a banner year for the Russians, quite a change from the imminent doom of the 2016 forecast. Russia's unexpected successes in 2016 apparently nudged Stratfor to reevaluate its projections, at least for the short-term.

The rise of Russia should *not* have been a surprise to anyone well versed in <u>theopolitics</u>, especially when the theopolitical analysis involves a major political actor such as Russia as does a theopolitical analysis that includes the <u>Message of Fatima</u>. New Era Intelligence Reports have been focused Russia throughout the year as incident after incident pointed to the demise of global liberalism and the corollary conversion of Russia promised at Fatima.

Russia under Boris Yeltsin and Mikhail Gorbachev was a key player in the move toward globalism. With Russia on their side, liberal elites were certain to score a global victory, but much to their chagrin, Russia pulled away from the US and EU globalists. After March 25, 1984, when John Paul II made

the consecration of the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, requested at Fatima, an unexpected political and theological current began to push back against the tide of liberalism. When it became apparent that Russia was no longer a member of the globalist team, a relentless media campaign was launched against Putin. However, in Russia and then in other nations of Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia, and then Western Europe and even America change, sometimes almost imperceptible change, was occurring. By 2016 the Christian renewal in Russia and elsewhere became so obvious that only the most hardened hearts could deny the changes that were actually taking place in Russia under Vladimir Putin, the type of changes anathema to the liberal regime. These include, as Putin stated in his annual address, a reversion away from the liberal path, on which Gorbachev and Yeltsin had placed Russia, and a turn towards traditional family values and the renewal of Christianity in Russia. The fruits of this movement are listed on a Newera page entitled "Is Russia Becoming Christian, Decide for Yourself". This list includes events such as declaring the Baptism of Prince St. Vladimir as the National Holiday of Russia, marking Her identity as a Christian nation; other fruits include the outlawing of homosexual propaganda aimed at minors, the introduction of Christianity into the public schools, prohibitions against abortion, and enforced defense of holy places such as Orthodox and Christian churches.

Russia is still in the ascendant mode and will remain in that mode until complimented and then surpassed by a resurgent Europe to be discussed at a later time in 2017. Today, this is the type of cultural event occurring on Red Square at the Kremlin (see video), the type of event anti-Christian globalists abhor and attempt to keep out of the news.

This is the Type of Cultural Event Putin is Sponsoring at the Kremlin

Fatima and the Russian Connection

When Our Lady appeared to Sister Lucia in the Convent of St. Dorothy in Tuy, Spain (June 13, 1929), she came with a message whose seeds she had planted during Her third visit of July, 13, 1917 when She told the three children about (1) World War II and the means to prevent it (2) the consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart and (3) First Saturday Communions of Reparation. She told Lucia that God would provide a sigh that a new world war was ready to break out.

"When you see a night illuminated by an unknown light, know that this is the great sign given you by God that He is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war (World War II), famine, and persecutions against the Church and the Holy Father.

To prevent this, Our Lady told the children that sometime in the future She would come back to ask for the consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of Reparation on the *First Saturdays*.

"To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays."

"If My requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated.

Nonetheless, Our Lady promised an end to all this and a definitive victory associated with Her Immaculate Heart:

"In the end, My Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy

Father will consecrate Russia to Me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world" (Fatima, July, 1917).

Twelve years later when Our Lady appeared to Lucia at Tuy, (June 13, 1929) and announced the following, Lucia knew exactly what She was talking about:

"The moment has come in which God asks the Holy Father, in union with all the bishops of the world, to make the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means" (Tuy, 1929).

It took another 55 years for the consecration to be made on March 25, 1984. By that time the communists had spread their errors (atheism, materialism, socialism) around the world, so much so that the effects are still being felt today. It will take a long time to undo them, but anyone closely observing global events can tell that a change, a significant change, is underway in Russia and around the world. Russia's unexpected conversion is throwing a monkey wrench into liberal foreign policy initiatives — the entire global system is being thrown off of kilter by what the Russians are doing; no one expected it. The liberal regime had expected Russia to be a player advancing the global agenda. Instead to everyone's surprise, Russia has taken an about face and is reasserting its Christian identity.

https://youtu.be/XfSPg0-4uJA

TO BE CONTINUED

Tomorrow, New Era News will provide a a recap of 2016's major political events highlighting the global shift away from liberalism and the emergence of Christianity assisted by the conversion of Russia..

Russia, Turkey and Iran Brokering Syrian Peace, US Excluded

ALTHOUGH THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION scandal allegedly involving Russian hacking has resulted in the expulsion of 35 Russian diplomats and the closure of two Russian diplomatic compounds in New York and Maryland, the bigger news story is the Middle East peace process being conducted by Russia, Turkey, and Iran without US involvement.

Just before the Christmas break, on **December 20**, the **Russian, Turkish**, and **Iranian foreign ministers gathered in Moscow to discuss the situation in Syria**. As a result of the meeting, the three announced their willingness to facilitate **future negotiations** between Damascus and Syrian opposition groups.

According to the New York Times

"Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday to work toward a political accord to end Syria's nearly six-year war, leaving the United States on the sidelines.."

"Secretary of State John Kerry was not invited. Nor was the United Nations consulted."

"With pro-government forces having made critical gains on the ground, the new alignment and the absence of any Western powers at the table all but guarantee that President <u>Bashar</u>

<u>al-Assad</u> will continue to rule Syria under any resulting agreement, despite President Obama's declaration more than five years ago that Mr. Assad had lost legitimacy and had to be removed."

"Andrew J. Tabler, a fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy who studies Syria stated, "When the Turks, the Iranians and the Russians all agree on a process without the U.S. being in the room, you realize there is a problem for us."

As a result of the meeting, the three nations issued a document referred to by the New York Times as "The Moscow Declaration". Among its eight articles, the "Declaration" adumbrates:

- 1. Iran, Russia and Turkey respect the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic as multi-ethnic, multi-religious, non-sectarian, democratic and secular state.
- 2. There is no military solution to the Syrian conflict. The United Nations is essential in the efforts to resolve this crisis in accordance with UNSC resolution 2254.
- 3. The importance of expanding ceasefire, unhindered humanitarian assistance and free movement of civilians throughout the country.
- 5. Iran, Russia and Turkey express their readiness to facilitate and become the guarantors of the prospective agreement, being negotiated, between the Syrian Government and the opposition. They invited all other countries with the influence on the situation on the ground to do the same.
- 7. The Ministers take note of the kind offer of the President of Kazakhstan to host relevant meetings in Astana.

RESULTS OF THE MOSCOW DECLARATION

The Moscow Declaration was promulgated on December 20; last night at midnight (December 29-30) the Assad government and the main Syrian opposition groups agreed to a nationwide cease-fire. Turkey's Anadolu News Agency, reports that Russia and Turkey will jointly guarantee implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

Although other cease fire agreements brokered by the UN have been unsuccessful, Turkey and Russia previously negotiated a cease fire, in the first half of December 2016, that led to the successful evacuation of civilians and rebel fighters from the city of Aleppo. One rebel commander told Reuters: "This time I have confidence in its seriousness. There is new international input" (Turkey and Iran working with Russia)

Thus, this morning, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told the press:

"I hope this cease-fire will turn into a **sustainable peace** that would prevent further bloodshed and the killing of civilians, innocents and children."

The deal involves on one side the Syrian government armed forces, their allies and the Russian Federation. The other side includes rebel factions operating under the umbrella of the **The High Negotiations Committee** (HNC), which represents Syria's opposition groups and the so-called Free Syrian Army terrorists backed by the United States intended to topple the Assad regime; they are now committed to pursuing negotiations in Astana. According to "World Affairs Journal"

"The High Negotiations Committee (HNC), regarded by the UN as Syria's main opposition body, confirmed the deal, which excludes jihadist groups. If the truce holds, peace talks President Putin made it known that the agreement revolves around three major principles:

- 1. Ceasefire among all parties involved in the conflict
- 2. Measures to oversee the truce
- 3. An agreement to initiate peace talks

Although of major importance, Putin referred to the deal as "fragile". According to the BBC, he also indicated that Russia would reduce its military presence in Syria, but would "continue fighting international terrorism and supporting the Syrian government".

Negotiations are expected to begin in January at Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan.

The Cease-Fire Includes Comprehensive Peace Talks in Kazakhstan's Capital Astana

Russia, Iran and Turkey were instrumental in freeing Aleppo and are now poised to take the next step. During the Moscow meeting, December 19, 2016, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the President of Turkey, agreed to call the major parties involved in Syrian combat to meet in Astana, Kazakhstan to begin a peace initiative. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of Kazakhstan, supports the process and the opportunity to host the participants. Interestingly, the UN has announced that it too will conduct negotiations involving the Syrian government and opposition groups scheduled for February 8 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Reuters notes that, at the Astana meeting,

"The Syrian government will be negotiating from a strong position after its army and their allies, including Shi'ite

militias supported by Iran, along with Russian air power, routed rebels in their last major urban stronghold of Aleppo this month."

"Moscow's air campaign since September last year has turned the civil war in Assad's favour, and the last rebels left Aleppo for areas that are still under rebel control to the west of the city, including the province of Idlib."

All sides are agreed that the terrorist groups such as ISIL/ISIS, Al Nusra and Daesh must be defeated. The defeat of the terrorists has taken primary position. Even the Turks who had previously insisted that Assad must be removed have now shifted their emphasis to the Syrian Kurds living on the Syrian-Turkish border whom they consider to be a threat to the stability of Turkey. With every day that passes, it seems more certain that Assad will remain in power to be removed only by a free democratic election that represents the will of the Syrian people, something the United States as opposed but that Russia has insisted upon all along — the United States wants Assad gone. The last time such an election was held in 2014, Assad won 88.7% of the vote.

https://youtu.be/Yetgi-8k0NQ

Since that time, and the fall of Aleppo, things have changed considerably. Turkey watching Russia's success and angered by the United States backing of the Kurds, which Ankara views as an existential threat, has continually distanced itself from NATO and the US; Turkey is now showing sure signs of a shift toward the Russian-Iranian-Syrian-Iraqi camp.

At the meeting in which Russia, Iran and Turkey agreed to "the Moscow Declaration," the United States was not consulted, nor was the UN envoy to Syria invited.

The United States is suffering an embarrassment and must save face vis a vis the Russians somehow. The fact is, the US is playing its foreign policy cards all wrong. As the Russian Insider reports. "So much so that Assad whom the empire had marked for the trash bin in 2011 now looks certain to survive and defeat the jihad against the Syrian Baath government....Ankara has gone from working with the US and Saudia Arabia and Qatar to topple the Syrian government to talking with Iran and Russia how to find a political solution that ends the conflict."

Turkey is quite simply refusing to serve as a US-UN puppet any longer. Ankara views the fight against Kurdish militants as a more important objective than the UN-US objective aimed at the removal of Assad. Thus, according to <u>Aaron Stein</u> of the Atlantic Council:

"This is Turkey bending to Russia....This is putting a fine point on Turkey's policy of 'Assad must go' no longer being the policy."

Consequently, the clear forecast includes the centrality of the Kurds and Kurdistan in the peace talks. Alluding to the Kurds (but also including ISIS/ISIL-Daesh), <u>Turkey's Prime</u> Minister stated:

"We will hunt them everywhere. We will follow them wherever they flee. This is no joke. We will continue our work for the peace and safety of our nation."

Participation of Kurds in Astana Process

The Kurdish problem cannot be comprehended unless it is realized that the Kurds are represented by several political-military groups. Kurds living in Turkey comprise roughly 22% of the Turkish population. They are represented by the

Kurdistan Worker's Party (**PKK**), a party that Turkey considers a terrorist organization, as does NATO, the EU and the United States. The PKK, although existing in Turkey, hopes to establish an independent state known as Kurdistan.

There are other Kurds living in Iraq and Syria. Syrian Kurds are represented by the "Democratic Union Party" (PYD). The PYD was established in 2003 as a major opposition party to the Syrian government located in Northern Syria in an area contiguous with Turkey, thus an additional potential challenge for Turkey as well. In 2012 the PYD (in Syria) formed local militias or People's Protection Units (YPG) to help Kurds cooperate for their own security and to assist the United States in its fight against ISIS. The US armed the YPG through a broader group known as the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). The SDF includes Kurdish militia in Northern Syria — Syrian Kurdish militia (YPG) are being armed with American weapons. When the SDF was founded in 2015, The Economist described it as "essentially a subsidiary of the Kurdish YPG. Likewise CNN reports that

"The United States has denied supplying the YPG with weapons but says it provides tactical support to the Syrian Democratic Forces, the umbrella group in which the YPG is the main component."

Thus, Turkey is weary about any affiliations between the PKK (in Turkey) and the PYD (in Syria), especially since the PYD has established armed security units (YPG) that Ankara believes are armed, dangerous, and affiliated with the PKK in Turkey.

Not only are foreign relations with Turkey involving Kurds on the Turkish border a problem for the future, the future Syrian government will have to be extra creative when handling the indigenous Kurds who have exercised a degree of autonomy during the Syrian conflict unknown previously. In 2012 Assad essentially relinquished control of Northeast Syria to the Kurds. This area is home to the bulk of the country's oil reserves (also across the border of Iraq's oil reserves) and some of its prime agricultural lands. As much as Syria, Iraq and Turkey might want to see them go away, the Kurds are certainly a player in Syria's future as well as the futures of Iraq and Turkey.

To complicate the situation, another group of Kurdish militants known as the Peshmerga exist in Northern, Iraq also close to Turkey and Syria. Since the Peshmerga aided the US in its war with Iraq, they have long been considered a US ally.

Thus, <u>Bilal Wahab Soref Fellow at The Washington</u>
<u>Institute</u> notes the strong toes between the US and Iraqi
Kurds:

"As reliable on-the-ground partners to the United States, the Kurdish forces in Syria, like their brethren in Iraq, have gained a reputation as fierce fighters and a bulwark against the Islamic State (also called ISIS, ISIL, or Daesh). Indeed, the Kurdish fighters have often been portrayed as foot soldiers for the United States in Syria. In that regard, not only did the People's Protection Units (YPG) and Peshmerga defend the Kurdish population, they are also slated to be instrumental in the U.S. led coalition efforts."

Clearly, the participation of Syrian Kurds (who have not yet been invited to participate in the Geneva negotiations) in the Astana Process is a crucial issue. Turkey remains adamantly opposed to Kurdish participation, while Russia continues to insist that the Kurds be included. Since the date of the meeting and list of participants has not yet been concluded, there is still time to include the Kurds. It is hard to imagine a peace process in which a major party to the conflict such as the Kurds (a party with a long standing cultural tradition and historical roots in Northern Syria, Iraq, and

Southern Turkey) is excluded.

Nonetheless, <u>Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut</u> <u>Cavusoglu announced today</u> that:

"The Syria's Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) will not take part in the talks on Syrian settlement in Astana. As for its armed wing, the YPG, if they lay down arms and support the territorial integrity of Syria instead of forming a terrorist canton, they will be included in the country's government. If they do not refuse terrorism... we will continue our struggle against them."

Ankara simply desires a Turkey friendly region in Northern Syria. If Kurdish militants lay down their arms, as far as Turkey is concerned, they will be admitted to the negotiation table in Astana.

The other party whose presence at Astana is as yet undecided is the previously mentioned **Syrian High Negotiation Committee** (HNC) the umbrella group for Syrian opposition groups. What the *World Journal* failed to mention above is that **HNC** is a **Saudi-backed and formulated umbrella organization**.

The HNC has not been invited and it is highly unlikely, in spite of their self-proclaimed importance, that they will be invited. The HNC was formed late in 2015; it has its headquarters in Riyadh home of Sunni radicalism, of Shariah Law and Wahhabi and Salafist ultra-extremism. The Saud monarchs rule their country with a tight fist. For centuries they have been locked in deadly combat with Shiite Iran and have been the prime supporters of jihad and terrorism in Syria. It is hard to imagine a group supported by the Sauds involved in a peace process that will strengthen the hands of its enemies viz., Iran, Russia and Turkey. Moreover, the HNC plan for transition, drafted in 2016 and welcomed by the government of Great Britain, insist that President Assad must be removed from office within six months of

any transition. This is contrary to the Syrian initiated democratic process envisioned by the Russians and the Syrian people themselves who voted overwhelmingly in Assad's favor in 2014.

Moeover, according to Aljazeera News

"Chief opposition negotiator Riyad Hijab... said the HNC would reject any agreement struck by Russia and the US if it largely differed from the HNC's terms."

It is highly unlikely that a newly formed coalition of rebels headquartered in an enemy state will dictate terms to Russia, Iran and Turkey, *esp.* since their combined forces have been victorious thus far deep into the war.

The British, moreover, are working with leaders of the HNC to promote a liberal democracy (a type of democracy that is withering around the globe — not democracy per-se, but "liberal democracy") in Syria to end what they call the "tyranny of the Assad regime." According to the UK Government:

"The UK has and remains at the forefront of international efforts to address the Syria crisis. The UK's membership of the UN Security Council and International Syria Support Group is used to call for adherence to the cessation of hostilities and full humanitarian access."

The UK wants to help build a democracy in Syria, but Syrians do not want the UK; they would rather decide the future for themselves.

What makes the participation of HNC even more remote is the involvement of Turkey whom the Sauds have historically depended upon to balance power *vis a vis* Iran. That scenario is now in jeopardy — a peace process brokered by Iran united to Russia and Turkey is anathema to the Sauds. Thus, it is

extremely unlikely that either the HNC or the Sauds will participate or be offered a voice and certainly not a vote (if there is any vote) in Astana.

It appears that the Turks have already compromised with Russia and Syria on Assad. Consequently, they have some wiggle room to resist Russia on the Kurdish question (see note 2 below). Turkey also faces an imbroglio with Iran. Ankara continues to insists that Hezbollah (an Iranian backed Lebanese shia militia that has supported Assad) vacate Syria. Turkey will probably get its way on this issue as well, as long as all three agree that Assad remains in power. Of the four issues: Assad, Hezbollah, HNC, and the Kurds, the latter seems the most difficult to resolve.

Nonetheless, the issue will be resolved by the Russians, Iranians and Turks. Under President Obama, the United States neocons are suffering a humiliating defeat, an international debacle far from their vision for a New American Century — The US is being taken out of the game and being placed on the bench by the Russians. Putin is now calling the shots (see note 1 below).

"Russia has said the United States could join a fresh peace process once President-elect Donald Trump takes office on Jan. 20. It also wants Egypt to join, together with Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Jordan and the United Nations" (Reuters, Dec 30, 2016).

Russian Secretary of State Sergey Lavrov stressed these sentiments in a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin:

"I would like to express the hope that as soon as the administration of Donald Trump takes office, they will also be able to join these efforts [to settle the Syrian crisis] so that we could jointly work in this direction" (CNN News).

President-Elect Trump has indicated his willingness to cooperate more closely with Russia. He will face opposition from neo-conservative and neo-liberal statesmen and from ranking officials in the Pentagon and intelligence community. Nonetheless, he has an opportunity to work with Russia and the global community toward world peace. But to be successful he must resign himself to the reality that the vision for a liberal new American Century must be modified. The age of liberal global hegemony is coming to an end. Increasingly, the nations of the world are opting for national sovereignty and a restoration of traditional family values as the *Era of Peace* promised at Fatima continues to dawn upon the nations.

The United States can either adjust and cooperate or continue suffering one foreign policy embarrassment after another.

https://youtu.be/bdh4ZcaSntc

NOTE

- New Era does not foresee Russia remaining in this position, but for the moment it is increasing its global prestige until complimented and surpassed by a resurgent Europe.
- The YPG, and its political counterpart, the Democratic Union Party (PYD), have also forged increasingly close relations with Russia, recently symbolised by the formal opening of a PYD representative office in Moscow

Immaculate Heart Triumphs

Over Boko Haram — UN Weapons Found in Aleppo

DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY several significant events occurred that manifest the continued demise of global liberalism as the world continues to move toward an "*Era of Peace*" promised by the Mother of God at Fatima.

Following the demise of the Soviet Union, Republican think tanks, such as the American Enterprise Institute, crafted the "Project for the New American Century" (PNAC) to disseminate America's economic-political-social agenda around the globe by means of war and "nation building" as if a victory over the Soviet Union signaled the moment for American hegemony, even if it was unwanted by many third world countries in Africa and Asia and newly developing nations in Eastern Europe. Nonetheless, according to the "neo-cons" (neoconservatives), the so-called "developing nations" should thank America for interfering in their domestic affairs. They are so backwards and lost in darkness and ignorance that they must be "forced to be free through a program of "nation building" backed by the state as championed by Jean Jacques Rousseau, one of the classical patriarchs of modern liberal democracy. Liberal democracy in the name of "freedom" generated a hedonistic and materialistic world view foisted upon the nations as part of American foreign policy.

Cardinal Glemp, Primate of Poland during the Solidarity Era, foresaw and lamented the spread of Western Liberalism, what he referred to as "materialism."

"We (Poland and the Catholic Church) have withstood the onslaught of 'atheistic materialism', Communism is dead. However, I am not so sure that we can withstand the onslaught of 'hedonistic materialism' (coming from the West)."

Since a materialistic world view has been promoted by American foreign policy, it should be no surprise that PNAC has morphed into the *American Foreign Policy Initiative* (ACPI). ACPI focuses on human rights, a robust military equipped to meet global challenges and global economic outreach. Like PNAC, ACPI is committed to a belief in American exceptionalism and the need for American intervention around the globe. Thus, according to the <u>ACPI Mission Statement</u>:

"In this new era, the consequences of failure and the risks of retreat would be even greater than before. The challenges we face require 21st century strategies and tactics based on a renewed commitment to American leadership. The United States remains the world's indispensable nation — indispensable to international peace, security, and stability, and indispensable to safe-guarding and advancing the ideals and principles we hold dear."

Neocon heavyweights William Kristol and Robert Kagan, who were both project directors of the PNAC, co-founded ACPI in 2009. Since then, American Foreign Policy has included such aberrations as usury, abortion, artificial birth control, homosexuality, gender confusion, and excessive tolerance resulting in a sin filled anti-Christian global culture funded by American dollars disguised as "foreign aid" intended to promote, peace, prosperity and, of course, freedom.

Ironically, none of these objectives (peace, prosperity, freedom-authentic freedom) have been achieved; the nations do not co-exist in peace, prosperity has not been forthcoming in those nations that are recipients of foreign aid, and freedom has been compromised by political interference and a whole host of addictions: chemical addiction, sex addiction, media addiction, food addiction, tobacco and alcohol addiction and a culture of dependency, which enervate and enfeeble human strength and ability to resist temptations leading to an explosion of erotic and irascible behavior. Although liberals

set freedom on a granite pedestal to be honored as a goddess, few people can attain freedom in a culture wherein sin, death, and violence pervasively dominate the air waves in which her torch shines.

"Jesus answered them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin (not free)" (John 8:34).

Nor can peace be attained as long as neo-con war hawks (aided by their neo-liberal allies) continue their push for an "American Century", a period of American global hegemony accompanied by the three pillars of economic, political, and social-cultural liberalism. Peace cannot be obtained in a world without God, in a world dominated by usury that works to the benefit of a few, in a world in which military power is used to disseminate materialism and hedonism upon weaker nations as if the world were an UNREGULATED jungle in which the will of the stronger pervades to the detriment of the weaker.

SO, WHAT HAPPENED OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY THAT SPELLS THE END OF LIBERAL HEGEMONY?

- 1. Weapons made in the United States found in Aleppo
- 2. Boko Haram defeated in Nigeria
- 3. Russia, Turkey and Iran Brokering Peace, US Excluded
- 4. Israeli Expansion Opposed in UN

I Weapons Made in the United States Found in Aleppo

Neo-con globalists must have swallowed hard when, over the Christmas holiday, the Syrian army liberated Aleppo and were greeted not by fear and anxiety as the Western press would have its readers believe, but with thunderous applause from Syrian citizens accompanied by joyous celebration, which

broke out in the streets of Aleppo, a city newly liberated from American backed terrorists euphemistically referred to in the press as "moderates" and "freedom fighters". No one has been able to satisfactorily define just what in fact a "moderate terrorist" is, terrorists equipped by the United States and its allies to free Syria from its supposed despotic leader Bashar al Assad (see "Syrian Army Routes Terrorists Liberates Aleppo Can they Defeat Liberal Propaganda")

Ironically, it is Assad who is freeing Syrians from foreign despotism; the Western backed terrorists were *not* armed and paid to free Syria, but to enslave it (see video below).

"It is a fact that since 2012, those so-called 'moderate' rebels in Syria had been absorbed into al-Qaeda groups or pledged allegiance to ISIS. For the past year, the moderates have been gone. So when the media only calls these groups freedom fighters, [while] these fighters have pledged themselves to al-Qaeda, and to ISIS, make no mistake — they are not looking to make Syria free. They are looking to enslave it, as they have so many other places" (see video).

In this regard, Ben Swann (WGCL-TV Atlanta) took mainstream media to task for its poor coverage of the Aleppo event. Swann demonstrated that the so-called 'moderate rebels' backed by the US are actually supporting the terrorists.

Swan reports that the CIA regularly delivered weapons to the Syrian rebels." The Washington Post confirmed these deliveries, and also implicated the US State Department. The Post reported that the "flow of material" marked "a major escalation of the US role in Syria's civil war." Swann states that through 2016, "weapons and funding from the West continued. In September of this year, 2016, the US delivered three thousand tons of weapons and ammo to fighters in Syria,

including rocket launchers and anti-tank guided weapons systems."

Anchor Ben Swann - WGCL-TV Atlanta

Aleppo Falls American Cache Located and Confiscated

II Boko Haram was Surprisingly Defeated by the Nigerian Army Announced Christmas Eve

Since 2009, Nigeria, one of the largest Christian countries in Africa, has been facing an insurrection from Boko Haram (BH), the radical Islamic State affiliate in Nigeria. BH was founded in 2002 by a Muslim clergyman; translated BH roughly means "western culture is a sin". Nigeria is a country steeped in traditional family values rooted in the natural law manifest in Christianity and Islam. Southern Nigeria is predominately Christian, while the North remains predominately Muslim and a breeding ground for radical Islam. Nonetheless, BH has been a nemesis to both Christian and Muslim cultures, which have consistently lost ground to the terrorists. In 2009 the extremely radical Abubakr took over the group and violence escalated.

Since 2009, BH has killed approximately 20,000 people and driven 2.3 million into exile. The United Nations confirmed the <u>humanitarian crisis</u> in Nigeria, reporting that up to "14 million people [are] in need of humanitarian assistance." In 2014 hundreds of school girls were abducted from a government secondary boarding school in Chibok, Northeast Nigeria.

Prior to the rise of BH, Muslims and Christians lived alongside each other (as in Syria, Russia, Iraq etc). Today, they fight alongside each other as members of the Nigerian army battling BH together.

Nigerian Catholic Bishop Emanuel Badejo confirms this coexistence prior to the rise of BH:

"I'm from the West of Nigeria, where the Yoruba culture is very strong. In the Yoruba culture there are many Muslims. In my particular area we are a minority of Christians living with a majority of Muslims, but we do wonderfully well together. In my diocese—and I think this is something that hasn't gotten into the public media enough—I have 17 schools. Seventy percent of the students in my schools are Muslim children and even some of them — not that many, but quite a number — opt to convert to Christianity and their parents don't have a problem with that. I am telling you the truth."

Bishop Badejo has informed the world that BH is being used by the United States to advance the liberal agenda in Nigeria. According to the bishop, <u>Nigeria is under the liberal threat of "ideological colonization" that is seeking to destroy the family</u>.

"It's so bad, he says, that the "United States has made clear it will not help Nigeria fight the Boko Haram terror group unless the country modify its laws regarding homosexuality, family planning and birth-control."

So BH is being being used as a battering ram to martyr Nigeria in the name of liberalism. Thus, when Nigerian President, Muhammadu Buhari, made the Christmas Eve announcement that Boko Haram had been defeated, the world's liberal elite took notice. The president announced:

"I want to use this opportunity to commend the determination, courage and resilience of troops of Operation Lafiya Dole at finally entering and crushing the remnants of the Boko Haram insurgents at 'Camp Zero,' which is located deep within the

The Nigerians have taken a momentous step forward by defeating BH. The liberal tiger is being de-clawed one nail at a time. The defeat of BH helps rid the country of a radical destabilizing force that has shook it to its foundations. Now, that Christians and Muslims have fought alongside each other to rid the country of a radical Western backed terrorist group a *peace process* can be initiated.

Nigeria and the Blessed Virgin Mary

The <u>Virgin Mary recently appeared in Rosario</u>, <u>Argentina</u> to Gladys Quiroga de Motta, an eighty year old grandmother, whom She presented with a rosary and to whom She confided many messages including the ones below:

"Many hearts do not accept my invitation to prayer and to conversion. That is why the work of the devil is growing and expanding.

"It is up to you to set your eyes and your heart on God."

"I want to cure my children from this illness which is materialism; an illness which makes many suffer. I want to help them discover Christ, and I want to make it known to them that Christ prevails over everything."

The Mother of God spoke to Gladys several times regarding a coming victory, it will not come without a spiritual struggle, She said, but "Jesus Christ will win the great battle, my child..." "Blessed are those who make reparation for the grave offences which my Son

receives." Interestingly, Our Lady not only asked Her sons and daughters to pray the rosary to help bring about a victory over materialism in Argentina, She also promised that the rosary would be instrumental in bringing about a global "Era of Peace" spearheaded by the conversion of Russia; the rosary has been also instrumental in the defeat of BH.

In this regard, Nigerian Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme, of the Diocese of Maiduguri, a diocese that has suffered immensely from BH atrocities, told <u>Catholic News Agency</u> that Our Lord appeared to him in a vision and foretold the defeat of BH. In the vision Bishop Doeme saw the Lord holding a sword, which He extended toward him, and he in turn reached out for it." Immediately, after handing the sword to the bishop it was transformed into a rosary:

"As soon as I received the sword, it turned into a rosary," the bishop said, adding that **Jesus then told him three times:**"Boko Haram is gone."

"I didn't need any prophet to give me the explanation," he said. "It was clear that with the rosary we would be able to expel Boko Haram."

Due to the defeat of BH, Bishop Doeme reports that the Nigerian people are returning home. Thus, another <u>Nigerian Bishop</u>, <u>Emmanuel Badejo</u>, reports that:

"The bombing and the killing has largely diminished. In many parts of the north of Nigeria where you couldn't go before, now you can hear a pin drop. People are returning to their homes, and Boko Haram is largely consigned to the borders of Bishop Doeme has been joined by all the bishops of Nigeria who have collectively placed the future of their country into the hands of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Peace. "The nation's bishops' conference has consecrated the country to her twice in recent years." This consecration has been instrumental in the defeat of BH thereby enabling President Buhari to make the following announcement on Christmas Eve indicating the rebirth of Our Lord in Nigeria as elsewhere around the globe as liberalism is being routed and Christianity reestablished:

President Buhari's Complete Announcement:

"I am delighted at, and most proud of the gallant troops of the Nigerian Army, on receipt of the long-awaited and most gratifying news of the final crushing of Boko Haram terrorists in their last enclave in Sambisa Forest."

"I want to use this opportunity to commend the determination, courage and resilience of troops of Operation Lafiya Dole at finally entering and crushing the remnants of the Boko Haram insurgents at "Camp Zero", which is located deep within the heart of Sambisa Forest."

"I was told by the Chief of Army Staff that the Camp fell at about 1:35pm on Friday, December 22, and that the terrorists are on the run, and no longer have a place to hide. I urge you to maintain the tempo by pursuing them and bringing them to justice".

"I, therefore, call on all Nigerians to cooperate and support

the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security agencies by providing useful information that will expose all the terrorists hiding among the populace."

"Further efforts should be intensified to locate and free our remaining Chibok girls still in captivity. May God be with them."

"I also want to congratulate and commend the able leadership of the Nigerian Army in particular and indeed, that of the Armed Forces in general, for making this possible. This, no doubt, will go a long way in improving the security situation not only in the North East, but the country in general. But we must not let our guards down."

"Once more, congratulations to our troops and all who, in one way or the other, contributed to this most commendable and momentous effort. May the Almighty continue to be with you."

"I wish you a Merry Christmas and a most rewarding and peaceful Year 2017 ahead."

The defeat of BH is another indicator among a growing mountain of indicators (listed below) that global liberalism is in decline and that the *Era of Peace* promised at Fatima is in the making; perhaps in time for the hundredth anniversary of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima in 1917.

The Virgin Mary — Argentina — Pope Francis vs Global Liberalism

Polish Bishops in Union with President Duda Proclaim Jesus

Christ King of Poland

Poland Moves Against Western Liberalism — "The Spark will Come out of Poland"

Poland and European Union Square-off Over National Sovereignty and Liberalism

France, Oldest Daughter of the Church Rediscovering Her Catholic Identity

THE CHRISTIAN RENEWAL OF RUSSIA

Anti EU Pro-Christian Party Emerges in UK Leader Already Meets with Trump

Transdniestria and Moldova Affirm Russian Preference Further Alarming Globalists

Bulgaria, Moldova Join Movement away from EU Liberalism Toward Russia

Unexpected Rise of Christian Nationalist Party in Slovakia

Hungary Like Poland Moves Towards its Christian Roots

Trump Vow to Take on Global Establishment Followed by Promise of Support to Catholics

The Virgin Mary — Argentina — Pope Francis vs Global Liberalism

Nigeria Part of Growing Line Opposed to Liberalism and Liberal US Policies

South Africa Withdraws from International Court

Philippine President Duterte Tilts Toward China and Russia

President Duterte Joins Growing List Upset with the International Criminal Court

Malaysia Follows Philippines Tilts Away from US Toward Russia and China

Has the US State Department Declared War on the Catholic Church?

Syrian Army Routes Terrorists Liberates Aleppo Can they Defeat Liberal Propaganda

Syria and Russia Clearly Gaining Upper Hand against Terrorists while Globalists Look On

The above global events indicate that <u>Pope Benedict</u> <u>XVI's</u> homiletic statement during his apostolic visit to Fatima is apropos for the times:

"...We would be mistaken" to consider the prophetic mission of the apparitions at Fatima complete. It continues to be relevant in that it continually invites men and women of good faith "to save the city of man," he told the 500,000 people gathered for the feast of Our Lady of Fatima."

As such, Pope Benedict prayed for the *future* "Triumph of the Immaculate Heart" promised at Fatima, with the special plea that it be "hastened", during the years leading up to 2017 when, from the months of May through October, the Church will celebrate the centenary of the Our Lady's extraordinary appearance there.

"May the seven years which separate us from the centenary of the apparitions (2010-2017) hasten the fulfillment of the prophecy of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity."

Given the rapidity with which world events are unfolding, one after another, indicating the demise of global liberalism and the reversion of nations to their national and Christian

patrimonies, it appears that the pope's prayer along with the prayers of all the faithful are being answered. Fatima is not a thing of the past. Fatima is happening now.

ARTICLE TO BE CONTINUED:

- 1. Russia, Turkey and Iran Brokering Peace, US Excluded
- 2. Israeli Expansion Opposed in UN