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The hour of trial for Europe has come (the vision from Russia). Sergei Nelozhin, independent analyst

Abstract. The short article is devoted to the burning issue of exclusive danger hanging over Europe. A way out of the situation is achievable only in the case of unprecedented efforts on the part of the EU leadership and the national governments in the Continent, supplemented by the most active participation of the European public. Then the path to required overall social progress will be feasible.

Key words: Europe, military confrontation, modernizing weapons, inclusive world economic order, sustainable development

Undoubtedly, Europe is fully affected by the rapid changes taking place in the world in the 21st century. Over the past decades, the positions of leading Western countries on the world stage have seriously weakened. On the contrary, the positions of the largest non-Western countries – China, India, Russia, Indonesia, Brazil, which together possess enormous political, military and economic potential – have strengthened by an order of magnitude. The obvious hegemony of the USA and the Western world as a whole has definitely become a thing of history.

Until very recently, right up to disgust Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Western countries relied on the power of NATO and its main actor, the United States. However, the balance of military power on the world stage has fundamentally changed. According to the authoritative sources of information, China and Russia have now surpassed the United States in a number of vanguard weapons, notably the most explosive offensive weapon - nuclear hypersonic missiles.

Another significant attribute of today concludes in the ultra-aggressive, militaristic strategy of Russia, aimed at the complete victory and capitulation of the enemy. It is based largely, let me note, on the advantages of the military mobilization economy inherited from the totalitarian system of the Stalin epoch.

Everyone can admit: against the backdrop of ongoing global changes in addition to the government crises in France and Germany, pessimism regarding the European future is growing. The threat of aggression against a virtually unarmed continental Europe, which would result in a loss of its internal potential and international positions, has acquired real contours. The serene existence of many Europeans comes to an end.

Let me emphasize: the strong blow to European security has been dealt as a result of the return of Trump and C^0 into the White House thanks to unbridled political populism and unprecedented financial support from the established community of billionaires. There is no secret that Trump was and remains a long-standing partner of

the KGB/Neo-KGB. In the mid-eighties he turned out to be the godfather of the Russian (more precisely, Moscow-Odessa) mafia, which initially settled in New York (Unger, 2021). It has long been proven that the majority of the "generous" tenants in the Trump Tower in the eighties were businessmen operating under the auspices of the KGB, together with criminal authorities from Russia (Rachman, 2023). Indeed, the successful promotion of this exclusive mafia in the United States became the initial step towards the future creation of the global financial empire by the radically reformed KGB, which can now be appropriately called the Neo-KGB, after the transition to a market economy in post-Soviet Russia (The Economist, 2007). Later, in the nineties and zeros, an incredible expansion of the previously created capital of this radically reformed special service organization had occurred through Russian-controlled agencies all over the world. It is enough to mention the banks in Cyprus and the special companies in offshore zones (e.g. in the Seychelles Islands).

It is difficult to understate the enormous stake that the Kremlin/Neo-KGB had placed on Trump's return to the Power. Unfortunately, this bet has been fully justified. No wonder that local Russian publications do not hide their mocking, pig-like delight over the expected foreign policy course of the new American administration.

Against the backdrop of the inevitable deactivation of NATO due to the expected approval of the alliance by the new Trump administration and the Kremlin, the EU's obvious unpreparedness for a military confrontation is more than obvious. The need to create European mobile armed forces and to provide them with adequate financial support has not any alternative. Indeed, mobile British armed forces and the few remaining NATO units are clearly insufficient to protect the Continent.

Hypersonic weapons are being introduced in European countries at an unacceptably slow pace. There is also no doubt about the expediency of distributing laser weapons, which can be used specifically against the aggressor's offensive forces. In addition to this, there is an urgent demand to introduce counter-offensive cyber systems using artificial intelligence. The technological and human potential of European countries is quite sufficient to solve the designated tasks of modernizing weapons (Edler, 2024; Mejino-Lopez & Wolff, 2025).

The time has set in for sacrifices related to the reduction of social expenses from the budgets in all Western European countries. The European public must finally recognize the full depth of the danger concerning future deep regress and become a complete ally of the EU leadership and the national governments on the issue of defense capability.

In the absence of a proper defensive shield within the required short time, continental Europe will factually lose its independence. The disgusting penetration of Neo-KGB agents into all structures of power and key areas of business on the Continent would be expected. As a consequence, following the example of Russia, society probably will undergo an "Asianization" in the worst sense of this jargon expression.

In other words, European countries will suffer the fate of being absorbed by really criminal forces, barbaric in their mentality. The centuries-old European cultural and humanitarian values may be irretrievably lost.

Surely, the implementation of the plan to rearm Europe presupposes the fastest overcoming of political instability, primarily in Germany and France, and the effective coordination of decisions in the defense policy. It is equally necessary to achieve positive results in the economic dimension while maintaining a focus on achieving updated sustainable development goals/ targets (Maurice, 2024; Lafortune & Grayson, 2025).

It would be an unforgivable mistake to yield to the dictates of the declared aggressive protectionist policy of the United States, as Trump's thunderous propaganda message to the Davos Forum attests (World Economic Forum, 2025). In response to this pressure, it is necessary to adopt adequate defensive and counter-offensive decisions.

Also, turning to the updated neoconservative course named after Trump in a domestic economic policy looks unpromising. There is no doubt that stimulating entrepreneurial activity through tax cuts and deregulation of economic activity in line with this course makes it possible to temporarily increase market output. However, in the current market economy of the third decade of the 21st century, the effect of financial stimulation of growth of entrepreneurial activity seems obviously limited. And it can be confidently predicted that further deepening of digitalization and decarbonization will be associated with a strong reduction in non-high-tech and non-science-intensive sectors with a concomitant narrowing of the space of obviously free market initiatives. In such a situation, excessive market competition within the boundaries of ordinary business sectors will inevitably lead to a drop in the incomes of its participants, which will entail an increase in economic and social imbalances.

There has long been a need to intensify government activities aimed at overcoming the current economic stagnation in most European countries and a radical increase in the use of their own production potential, especially in the manufacturing industries. The result of such a metamorphosis would be the long-awaited improvement in the competitiveness of the EU economy, which clearly implies getting rid of the overvalued exchange rate of the euro against the currencies of almost all countries. The same applies to significantly reducing the abundance zones of unskilled migrant labor. Indeed, Europe needs effective foreign investment instead of the influx of unskilled migrant workers.

I would like to emphasize the following: the expansion of exports and investments in successfully developing conglomerates of non-Western countries will enormously increase economic growth and the level of social well-being on the Continent. The potential for mutually beneficial cooperation between European manufacturers and manufacturers in a large number of countries with self-sufficient, albeit emerging, market economies is truly enormous. These countries have achieved impressive success in the field of economic growth and increasing household incomes, as well as digitalization, decarbonization and approaching the imperatives of sustainable development (Casanova, et al., 2025; OECD, 2024).

According to the justified opinion, the bankruptcy of the aggressive neoconservative course of the United States probably occurs in a short time (Posen, 2024; Financial Times, 2024). Along with this, after the end of the war in Ukraine, a very significant deactivation of the militaristic course of Russia seems quite possible due to the urgent intra-system transformational changes (Nelozhin, 2023); it will entail a relative normalization of the geopolitical situation. In the event of the occurrence of the indicated metamorphoses, the way will be opened for the implementation of a new uprising public policy in the EU accompanied by a political revenge of progressive forces in Europe as well as in the whole Western world. Of course, it cannot be denied that such a desired outcome is achievable only if the necessary condition of consensus (to one degree or another as a compromise) of these forces with respect to the main priorities of long-term overall societal development has been met.

The timely fulfillment of military self-sufficiency in Europe presents the most important prerequisite for its transformation into a full-fledged world center of power, definitely independent from the USA and Great Britain. Also, one of the centers of world power could become an alliance of India, Brazil and the Southeast Asian countries, open to join for many countries of the former Third World. These fundamental shifts will actually lead to the irreversible formation of a polycentric geopolitical order in the event of a predicted cardinal weakening of military-political confrontation by the end of the current decade.

The designated global metamorphosis in the political space will in turn pave the way for the gradual establishment of an inclusive and fair world economic order. As a result, a mutually beneficial compromise will be reached between advanced, emerging and developing national economies, taking into account political fundamentals. Such an outcome presupposes the preservation of the global economic space with a smart measured reproduction of trade and other interstate barriers (Rodrik & Walt, 2022, 2024).

Amid the future formation of a flexible universal planetary order, the achievement of the favorable political and economic position of Europe will make it possible to induce the long-awaited overall social progress on the basis of powerful internal technological and human capabilities. In a sum, in most European countries, required in quantitative and qualitative terms economic growth will become carry out, accompanied by the parallel fulfillment of ordinarily updated sustainable development goals/targets.

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