

## **Economic Warfare -- Choose Your Side**

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The big mistake people make when they understand the regular, and numerous, world problems is that they see them more as political issues and grossly misunderstand that there is an economic basis to all these crises. We live in an economy and politics is where we talk about it. And then when the crisis pauses, and all the dead are buried those who made sacrifices to defend Ukrainaziland from the evil Russians will learn the war was driven by the fundamental needs of capitalism: on one side the endless need for the system to seek out and control people and resources for the investment of capital, and on the other to force out competitors.

Russia is part of Europe and makes many things that they need, primarily oil and gas, and food stuff like wheat and corn, both of which are cheaper for Europe to buy from Russia then import from elsewhere. The new gas pipeline that was ready to go online will remain unused indefinitely. Gas from the operating line must now be paid in rubles due to the US forcing Russia out of the SWIFT money exchange system. Except for Hungary which is paying in rubles, other nations have refused. Not to worry says the US, we have plenty of both. Of course, they will cost much more because higher production expense and distance. And for the natural gas; because it must be shipped in a liquefied state, European buyers must build expensive specialized ports to handle the dangerous material.

But not everything is going the US way. Now that the West has halted trade with Russia other nations (like the BRICS group) see a great opportunity in the new avenues of trade. Indian and China can replace missing US consumer goods. Most of Africa sides with Russia, and with South America having experienced as an historical oppressor, they are rapidly opening up to China as a non coercive partner. In fact, seizing foreign reserves held by the Fed rubs the entire world in the wrong way, including the Saudis and Mideast Emirates. It's an insult to ones intelligence when the US brags about how much damage it's doing to the Russian economy as if seizing \$45 billion of Russia's money is inconsequential.

The US and the West have been entirely wrong about expecting an immediate Russian collapse. The country is in difficult times but

surviving and making do, as if they haven't been forced to do that several times in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Meanwhile the US is whistling past the graveyard to keep out of mind the steady degradation of its economy, its political life (probably never in its history as the country had two consecutive shitbums as president), nor the fast paced rotting away of civil life

American were polled by the Democracy Institute for a survey to be published in the Daily Express (UK). More than half polled would rather see Biden losing power in the US than Putin in Russia. Specifically it was 52% for "Biden loses power in the US" over 43% who chose "Putin loses power in Russia." It's easy to understand why. They thought getting anyone worse than Trump was impossible but at least he isn't certifiably demented as is Biden. Like his: "'Let's get this straight: How would it be if the United States were viewed by the rest of the world as interfering with the elections directly of other countries, and everybody knew it?" As if the whole damn world doesn't know about it. And then his idiotic regime change regarding Putin as if Putin weren't an angel when compared to any of the recent US leaders. In his speech in Poland he mentioned the recently deceased Madelyn Albright whose great historical accomplishment for America was overseeing the starvation death of a million and half Iraqis – 500,000 of them children.

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Biden introduced a budget for 2023 totaling \$5.83 trillion. \$813 billion allocated for the military and \$769 billion for non-military spending. An 11% increase in funding for federal law enforcement (\$17 billion). It uses trick accounting methods to claim (baseline budgeting) to claim a trillion dollar cut in the deficit in 10 years. In fact there will likely be a \$15 trillion increase over the next decade.

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Finally the publishers of Wall Street on Parade seem to have discovered how markets do so well even though there is nothing happening in the economy to justify it. The NY Fed as a full featured personal trading floor for its market manipulation, and in recent years it opened commodity futures trading operation in Chicago. Sure enough they have been able to match positive market outcomes to Fed trading. How can the economy be sick with such skilled doctors on call?

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