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Apocalypse Now¹ – the European Union's Geopolitical Path

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Summary

The following study seeks to answer the question of what motivates and where the European Union's policy towards Ukraine might lead from an economic and geographic point of view. Will the Hungarian government's foreign policy be on the right track in 2024, when it is virtually the only one that consistently "stands out" from the EU member states and does not support their policy towards Ukraine? Even if this means incurring the disapproval of the EU's leaders and governing bodies in the form of economic and political pressure.³ What motivates the war?



https://revistabecult.com.ar/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Apocalypse-Now-768x432.jpg

The Road Leading to the End of the World

"When you see the light flash of a nuclear explosion, you should immediately lie down on the ground with the sole of your shoe facing the direction of the flash." Did you know? This way – if you are far away enough from the centre of the explosion thanks to the thick soles of your shoes –, you are exposed to the thermonuclear heat wave following the explosion in the smallest area of your body. The critical distance and temperature depend on the power of the nuclear warhead. You must then immediately find a preferably hermetically sealed place, specifically

¹ Apocalypse Now (1979) – Francis Ford Coppola's spectacular American film drama set during the Vietnam War, based on Joseph Conrad's short novel *Heart of Darkness* (1899), which uses the atrocities of Belgian colonialism in the Congo to reveal the bottomless darkness of the human soul, from which atrocities are born.

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³ The writing represents the author's own position

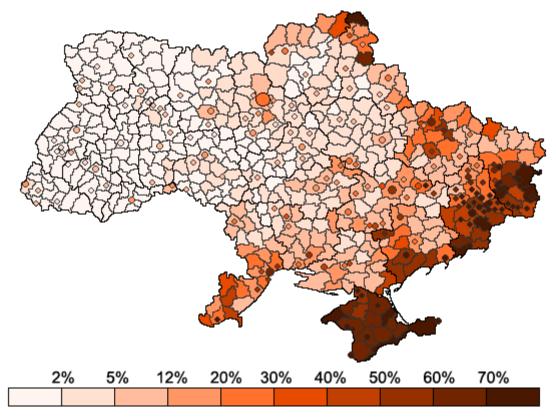
an air-raid shelter, a bunker, equipped with the basic tools for survival for days, food, water, hygiene. From there you should not go outside for days, especially if the wind is blowing from the direction of the blast and if it is not raining. In addition, you should take iodine tablets in case dust contaminated with radioactive iodine, caesium and strontium reaches you and you need to inhale it, or if you later accidentally ingest food contaminated with it, so that the radioactive isotopes of iodine that enter your body cannot accumulate in the thyroid gland, radiating from the inside to destroy cells and release from their inclusions carcinogenic, cancer-causing chemicals "locked up" by your immune system. But where can you find a bunker? Iodine tablets? The answers were known to every schoolchild sixty or seventy years ago. Air-raid civil defence exercises were held for the population. In the 1950s, every primary school child knew what to do in the event of a nuclear attack; where to go, how to survive. They knew exactly how far the heat wave of thousands of degrees would reach after an explosion, what the radiation hazard was, what the "nuclear winter" after a nuclear war was when the sun would not shine for a year, there would be no agriculture, no food and all living things, including all of humanity, would be exposed to radiation sickness and mass mutation.

In the 1950s and 60s, the memory of world wars in Europe was still too close and the nuclear threat of the Cold War seemed all too real. Today, in the 2020s, the generation that has consciously experienced war is essentially extinct; those who were in their 20s in 1945 and are still alive are now around 100. Even those who have heard about the horrors of war from their parents or grandparents are now over 70. Today, not only schoolchildren, but also adults have never seen an air-raid shelter, and have no idea what to do in the event of even a "simple" carpet bombing with conventional warheads, let alone a nuclear attack. What would happen if air traffic, rail traffic or urban public transport were to be temporarily disrupted? If the shelves in grocery stores and supermarkets were empty? If the taps stopped running, the electricity went off, the internet was cut off? Because that is what war can bring. A country that is hit by total war - or a nuclear strike - is not going to get foreign diplomats on planes - because there is no airport to use. There you can't travel by train or car to almost anywhere – because the railway junctions are destroyed and there is no fuel. You cannot post mobile phone pictures on the internet from there - because there is no electricity and no internet access. There is also no public administration, no public safety; and human vile passions run wild; mob rule and chaos reign.

The politicians, journalists and experts who talk about war obviously did not live through the siege of Budapest between 25 December 1944 and 13 February 1945. They were obviously not present when Dresden was bombed on 13 February 1945. But probably not even their parents, who could have told them about their war "experiences". Many parts of Europe are eagerly preparing for war: in June 2024, Euro News TV broadcast young Polish girls in camouflage military uniforms, their faces painted black, machine guns in hand, hiding and shooting in a forest as if they were playing a war of numbers with real weapons. They are preparing, consciously and with conviction, that "the Russians will attack Poland." Most well-informed, educated EU citizens know that once Ukraine is invaded, the Russians will want to take over the entire European Union, country by country. So they must be stopped at gunpoint and driven out of the Ukrainian territories they have occupied so far. Most of the EU's youth, brought up on the Internet, see war as some romantic, Internet war game.

The Russian military intervention in Eastern Ukraine in February 2022, against international law, can be explained, deplored and justified from a geopolitical point of view. For example, the confrontation between pro-Russian and pro-Euro-Atlantic policies in Kyiv in 2014. The change of government in Ukraine after the so-called "Maidan Square Revolution" destabilised the country. To counterbalance the new Ukrainian government's policy of rapprochement with

the European Union and NATO, Russia invaded the geostrategically important Crimea and armed the Russian nationalist majority in the eastern parts of Ukraine, especially in the regions of Luhansk, Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia. At the same time, Ukrainian nationalism has intensified with the support of the new Ukrainian government and legislature. Eight years of continuous ethnic clashes - watched helplessly by the UN - the unenforced Minsk agreements (2014 and 2015), the silenced Odessa massacre (5 May 2014) and the Ukrainian language law provoked Russian military intervention in Eastern Ukraine, in violation of international law. It was initially called a "special military operation" by the Russian leadership because they felt entitled to a so-called "special" intervention, invoking Article 51 of the UN Charter and Resolution 260 (III)⁴ - if "the protection of the Russian nationality living on Ukrainian territory (against genocide) so requires". Unfortunately, for some inexplicable reason, the independent Euro-Atlantic media does not inform the EU electorate informed by independent news portals about the eightyear-long history of the military intervention and the war that the Russians themselves have recognised by 2024. It is worth noting that the Hungarian minority in Transcarpathia, which accounts for less than 0.4% of Ukraine's population, has also experienced the anti-Hungarian nationalist marches, school closures and language laws that followed the 2014 turnaround in Ukraine's internal politics.



Percentage of native speakers of Russian in Ukraine in 2001 Source : https://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrajna?variant=zh-cn#/media/F%C3%A1jl:Russianlang2001ua.PNG

⁴ In the case of Article 51 of the UN Charter, "Member States have the right to defend themselves in the event of armed attack or to intervene in collective self-defence". According to the UN Resolution 260 (III), in the event of proven genocide and crimes against humanity based on nationality, "there is a possibility of military intervention by other countries", as in the case of the Albanians in Kosovo, the so-called Libyan crisis, or the civil war in Syria and Iraq. According to international lawyers, the Russian claim that 6,500 armed rebels and 3,400 ethnic Russians were killed in Eastern Ukraine between 2014 and 2021 was not documented (sources: https://civile.lek.info/2022/02/28/volt-e-nepirtas-donbaszban/ and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legality_of_the_Russian_invasion_of_Ukraine)



From left to right: the headquarters of the Transcarpathian Hungarian Cultural Association was set on fire (26 February 2018). The Hungarian Turul Monument is removed from the "Fortress of Hungarian Freedom", Ilona Zrínyi's castle in Mukachevo (14 October 2022).
The Hungarian Conquest Monument on Vereckei Pass has been repeatedly desecrated since 2012; its inscriptions: "This is Ukraine" and "Death to Hungarians". Why?

Image sources: <u>https://karpataljalap.net/2018/02/27/felgyujtottak-kmksz-szekhazat-ungvaron</u> <u>https://atlatszo.hu/vilagterkep/2022/10/20/</u> <u>https://karpataljalap.net/2012/08/17/vereckei-emlekmu-legujabb-felirata-halal-magyarokra</u>

Beyond the immediate geopolitical reasons, however, the question must be asked: whose interests are served the Russian military intervention in Eastern Ukraine, the Russian war there – launched primarily against the military and energy infrastructure – and its consequences, and who is the *sole* beneficiary of this armed confrontation, which threatens to lead to world war, even nuclear war? Who will benefit if the NATO countries of the European Union send armies to reoccupy the breakaway regions of Ukraine and even Crimea?

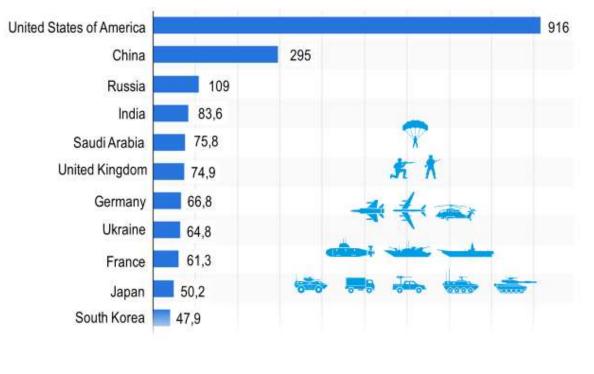
Cui prodest?

Cui prodest? – let us ask the question used by the old Roman politicians: whose interest? In whose interest can it be that this war in Eastern Ukraine, which in 2024 will have been going on for two years, should continue and even turn the whole of Central Europe into a theatre of war? Which country has an interest in this? Which country's economic development is served by this? Certainly not the Central and Eastern European countries threatened with Apocalypse, from the Baltic to the Balkans.

Is it the interest of Russia? Since the sanctions and the start of the war, Russian economic growth has halved. Thousands of young men have died and are dying in the fighting. This loss is incomparably greater, even if it means Russia gaining mineral-rich territory in Eastern Ukraine, than if the geopolitical and international economic trend of pre-2014 had continued: close economic cooperations with the European Union and China. The China-initiated New Silk Road project was – or would have been – an integral part of Russia and Ukraine, in the spirit of prosperous, *win-win*, peaceful economic development between China and the European Union.

It is also not in the European Union's interest to pay huge sums of money to support Ukraine militarily and to keep the state functioning at a minimum level. Not even if "in exchange" for decades of access to the resources of what it hopes will be a victorious Ukraine. Instead, the EU

has lost its competitiveness in the world economy. After a -5.6% drop in the world GDP in 2020, the EU's massive 6% GDP growth in 2021 was reduced to 0.8% in 2023. It is therefore not benefiting from the conflict in Ukraine, and has only experienced such a decline in 2009 and 2020. With the EU's advanced technology, Russia's infinite resources and China's huge production capacity, the Chinese-initiated New Silk Road project announced in 2013 could have made Eurasia the world's leading economic power as a supercontinent, with the EU, China, Russia and Ukraine leading the way, ahead of the US. And this brings us to the answer: the war in Ukraine, which thwarted the New Silk Road initiative and ended the economic hegemony of the Eurasian supercontinent, was not in the interests of the EU, Russia or China – among the great powers.

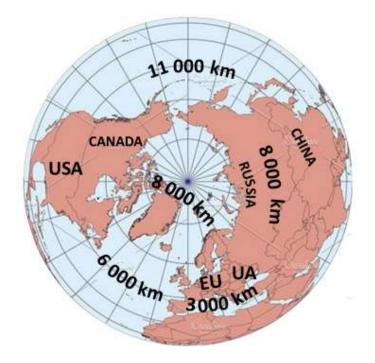


Military expenditure by country in 2023 (in billion US dollars)

https://www.statista.com/statistics/262742/countries-with-the-highest-military-spending/

Source:

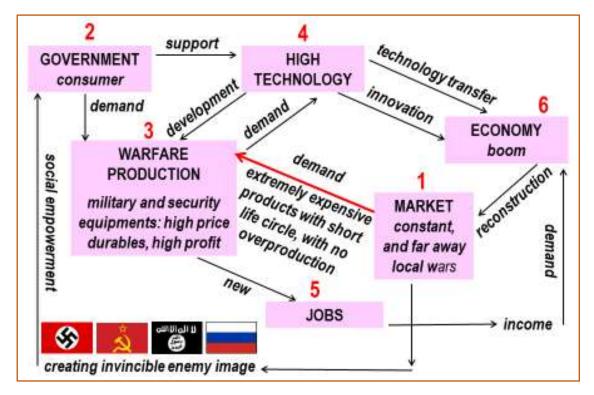
The question arises: why would a conflict in Ukraine that could escalate into a world war be in the interests of the United States of America? If we look at the immediate geopolitical arguments, North America – neither in terms of the quality of its environment nor the physical integrity of its population – is not concerned by a conflict centred on Central Europe, provided if it is fought with conventional weapons. The insular nature of the North American continent, lying roughly 9,000 km to the west of an Eastern and Central European conflict zone – even beyond the vast ocean – protects the USA. Even the air pollution from conventional weapons explosions does not penetrate the whole of Western Europe and the Atlantic, because at this latitude the westerly winds dominate the Earth, meaning that the toxic gases released during war also spread eastwards in the opposite direction.



The location of the US "island" from the North Pole of a war zone between the EU and Russia, fought primarily in Ukraine (UA); it is roughly 8,000 km to the north, 9,000 km to the west and 19,000 km to the east, in the latitude of the prevailing westerly winds blowing east Source: own editing

If the conflict reaches China, the United States of America is protected by the immense 11,000 km width of the Pacific Ocean, plus the 8,000 km land distance from Russia, a war zone in central Europe. The Japanese attack on America in 1941 also only reached the Hawaiian Islands and the Midway Islands, as the names of the islands suggest: halfway. With conventional weapons, compared with the previous two world wars, in the event of a "modern" war, it is possible that the United States of America might be more easily reached from an Eastern and Central European theatre of operations via the Arctic, but even then the distance is around 8,000 km. not to mention the 3,000 km that would have to be covered by strike aircraft transports via Canadian airspace. America is therefore physically safe, except perhaps in almost uninhabited Alaska. The situation is different, of course, if nuclear war breaks out in Eastern Europe and the eastern half of Central Europe. The radiant dust generated here will sooner or later spread to the entire atmosphere of the Earth, paving the way for a deadly cancer pandemic, from which there is no escape, since the radiant dust cloud from nuclear explosions will cover the entire Earth, creating a radiant semi-darkness, a so-called "atomic winter", lasting for years, with the complete transformation, or at most the extinction, of the present living world. In the most developed parts of the USA, a troglodyte (cave dweller) lifestyle, i.e. a lifestyle forced underground, can mean survival for a population of a few hundred thousand, for a few years. ... But that is the stuff of science-fiction disaster movies.

Another geopolitical reason why a protracted military conflict, or even a conventional war between Russia and the European Union, would be economically advantageous for the US is that it would be a huge boost for the US economy. Remember, World Wars I and II made the US a global superpower.



A system of economic stimulus for the military industry to avoid economic crisis, ensure competitiveness and continued growth – in a developed country not directly affected by war



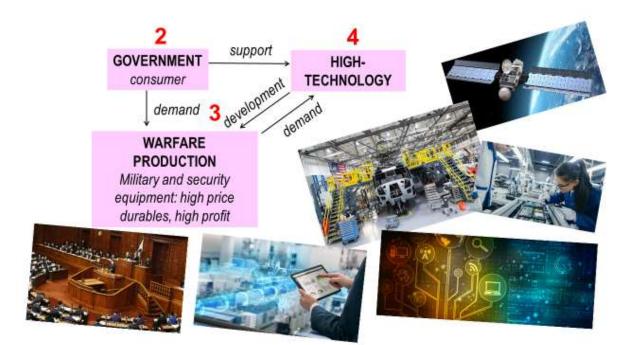
The market demand and government empowerment aligning hostility



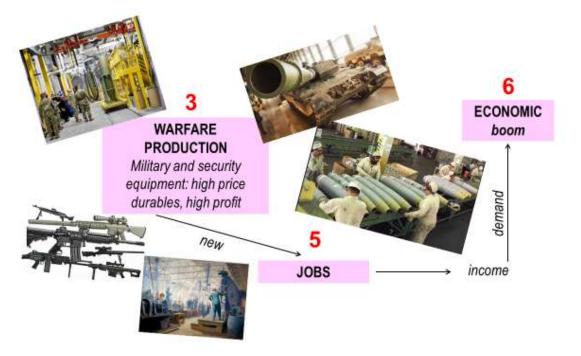
Government orders



Market demand



Military industry and high technology



Military industry and economic development



Jobs, reconstruction and economic development



High technology and economic development

Only the illegal drug trade is more profitable than the production of weapons and security systems. Military equipment is very expensive, but it also has a very short life cycle, as it is annihilated or destroyed in combat. Their production does not lead to a crisis of overproduction and there is a continuous demand for them⁵. However, they require continuous development, as the arms race continues, as the "enemy on guard" launches new weapons, which require new technology to neutralise and destroy them. There is a constant need for scientific development. Let us not forget that the bulk of the utilitarian objects of our 21st century "smart" world is the result of the economic transfer of military industrial development⁶. The customer for the production of military technology is the state. In order for the democratic government that is in control of this state to place continuous orders with arms manufacturers, it needs political authority. It needs to convince the electorate that it is necessary to produce weapons, to intervene in wars – distant wars – because somewhere out there a formidable enemy is at work who will attack the peaceful, democratic society of the electorate. "The Russians will attack Poland, and Germany." The image of an invincible enemy is an essential part of the economic structure in which:

- the arms industry, which provides more and more jobs, is thriving;
- the income is increased and thus domestic demand and the economy as well;
- the number of orders for scientific research increases;
- high technology achieves new scientific results, which are relatively quickly "flushed out" of the military industry and into the economy in the form of new products and services.

For the government to convince the public of the need to arm and go to war, the formidable enemy must be real! After all, no society wants war, no society wants to send its sons to war, to the front, to die, just because a formidable enemy exists somewhere. The formidable enemy must be embodied in order for the government to have the social and political mandate from its electorate to go to war. For example, a vast fleet of the formidable, invincible enemy "miraculously" crossed half the Pacific Ocean unnoticed and on December 7, 1941, attacked and destroyed the unsuspecting American fleet stationed there, killing 2,403 men. After that, there was no pro-peace American voter who would not approve of going to war against Japan.

For example, on 11 September 2001, the formidable enemy – this time mainly Afghan terrorists – hijacked four huge US airliners without being detected and, in the country with the most advanced air power in the world, in a "miraculously" unnoticed way, managed to destroy the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York with a 17-minute time difference, killing 2,977 people. After 20 minutes, two unarmed (!) fighter jets took off – in the country with the most advanced air power in the world – and search in opposite directions for the third and fourth hijacked airliners. After such an attack, the American electorate would naturally authorise the government to invade Afghanistan, for example.

⁵ The major "arms consumers" of the Cold War period 1946-1993: Korean War, Vietnam War, Cambodian Genocide, Afghan-Soviet War, Angolan War, Congo War, Iraq-Iran War, Eritrean War, South Sudan War, 5 Arab Israeli Wars, 2 South Lebanon Wars and the Gulf War in Iraq.

⁶ For example, nuclear energy, micro- and infrared technologies, robotics, semiconductors, printed circuits, mobile, internet, virtual and augmented reality all owe their existence to developments in the military industry.

For example, on 7 October 2023, a fearsome terrorist enemy invaded Israel through the world's most heavily guarded border and carried out a massacre, executing 1,189 people and children in a bestial manner. They did this at their leisure, for seven hours (!), "miraculously" unnoticed, in a small area of the country where the army could have been on the ground within 10 minutes. The result – quite justifiably – is a retaliatory war against Iran-armed and supported Gaza, and possibly Lebanon later, which could lead to war with Iran. Which, not incidentally, could also lead to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, which supplies the EU's energy needs after the successful shut-off of Russian oil and gas. In which case, the EU will rely solely on the US for its energy supply. On 24 February 2022, the equally formidable Russians will, without any reason, invade a democratic, sovereign Ukraine that fully respects nationality rights and abides by the international geopolitical agreements on its NATO membership, killing or wounding some half a million people by 2024. The Hamas terrorists and the Russian armed forces, especially if their aim is to take over the whole of the European Union, are not empty threats, but real killers; not mere images of enemies, but, like the Afghan terrorists of 2001, cited above, or the Japanese navy at Pearl Harbor in 1941, very real enemies. Arming and waging war against them is therefore self-evident and must meet with the conviction and political mandate of the electorate.

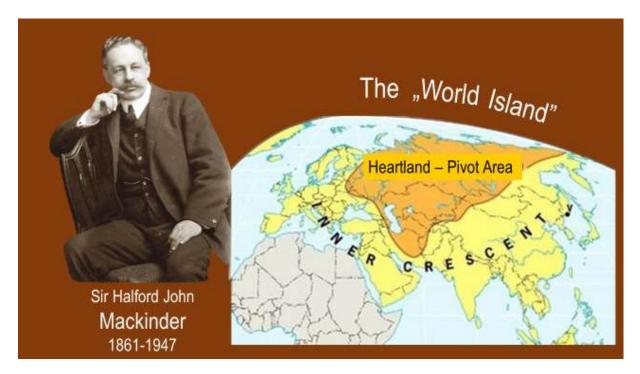
These last two examples do not apply to the United States of America, but to Israel and the European Union, however, the main supplier of military material, the US economy, benefits from armament and war. Although the production of weapons itself, if the product is used, strengthens Western European arms producers and Western European economies, too. The "positive" economic effects of a war economy are only felt in a country if there is no destruction on its territory, i.e. the use of weapons is remote. In this sense, a conflict between Western Europe and Eastern Europe would affect, i.e. destroy, the territory between them, primarily Central Europe.



A summary chart on who has an interest in preventing the emergence of a Eurasian economic "supercontinent" through the New Silk Road initiative announced in 2013 by China? This chart, edited in 2020 (!), also predicts the exact location (Ukraine) where a conflict is likely to erupt!

The "World Island"

Geopolitical thinking in the early 20th century had already coined the term "World Island" – but not in the sense of North America. According to the geopolitical view known as Mackinder's theory: whoever controls Eastern Europe controls the *Heartland*; whoever controls the *Heartland* controls the *Pivot Area*; whoever controls the *Pivot Area controls the world* (Mackinder, 1919).



The "World Island" according to Mackinder's Theory (1906), covering Eastern Europe, Includes Central Asia and Siberia

Source: own editing; source of base map: https://www.sinistrainrete.info/geopolitica/8877-federico-pieraccini-geopolitica-ordine-mondiale-e-globalizzazione.html

Zbigniew Brzezinski, in his book The Great Chess Game (1999), points out that world geopolitics is motivated by the struggle for military and economic control of the "World Island". The key to the "World Island", which is called *the* Heartland – from the European point of view – is Eastern Europe itself. Let us not forget that Eastern Europe, with its approximately 2,500 km of continuous land stretching from the Carpathians to the Urals and 3,500 km from the Samoyed Tundra to the Southern Caucasus foothills, is itself a larger area than Western, Northern, Southern and Central Europe, which are divided into peninsulas, inland seas and islands. Russia occupies the largest part of it, with the Eastern European Plain, the largest geographical area in Europe. Eastern Europe also includes Ukraine, the second largest country in the region, Belarus, Moldova and, in the Caucasus, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.



The "Pivot Area" (the World Island) and its key the "Heartland" according to Brzezinski.

Source: own editing, source of base map: https://www.anforg.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/geographic-area.jpg



Attempts in history from east and west for the permanent occupation of Eastern Europe, the "Heartland".

Source: own editing, source of base map: https://www.anforg.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/geographic-area.jpg Throughout history, there have been several attempts by a leader of outstanding ability or, in Hitler's case a means, to temporarily take control of the "Heartland" i.e. Eastern Europe – the key to the "World Island". The Huns (around 450), the Mongol Golden Horde (in the 1220s and 40s), the French *Grande Armée* (1812) and the German *Wehrmacht* (1942) were the most powerful armies of their time - as NATO is today...

Throughout the history of the world, the Russians have owned and, despite the constant wars, still own a decisive part of Eastern Europe, and even the whole of Siberia, the "World Island". Brzezinski summarised the essence of the geostrategy proposed against the Soviet Union and, from 1993 onwards, against Russia, from the point of view of the United States of America:

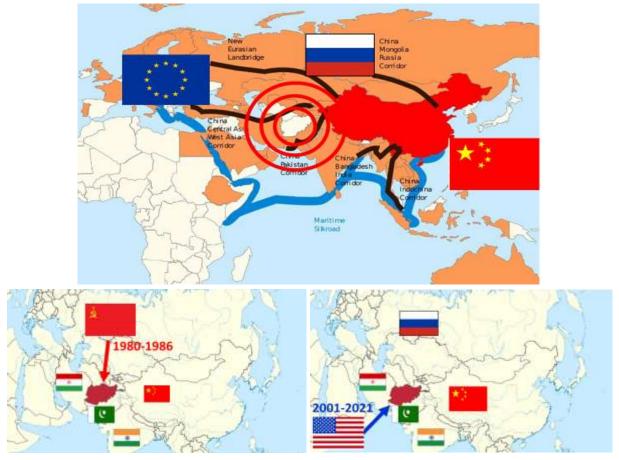
- "Block the Heartland's access to the oceans".
- "*Keep the Heartland divided*" to avoid it once again coming under the control of a single country, as it did under the Soviet Union between 1920 and 1993.
- "Balance *out the Heartland*" geographically, economically, militarily.

There are three suitable geographical locations to "counterbalance" Eastern Europe:

- (1) Afghanistan, the poorest country in the world, is where the base for the "World Island" to the Indian Ocean could be established, and in Soviet times the Soviet leadership, realising this, marched into Afghanistan in 1980 without any particular pretext, where Afghan resistance fought the Soviet invaders for six years – with American weapons and trainers. In 2001, Al-Qaeda, which launched an attack on America, also happened to have bases in Afghanistan, so the US kept the area under military control for 20 years. Its surrender was not geostrategically justified.
- (2) Another neuralgic area for "balancing" the Heartland is the Caucasus, where the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1993 opened the way for an uninterrupted series of local wars that continue to this day and threaten to turn into a serious regional war at any moment. Here, in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Russian military presence, economic interests and the prosperous desire for Euro-Atlantic rapprochement on the part of Georgian and Armenian society, all pose the threat of war. Russia's "ceding" of the Armenian enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh to Azerbaijan in 2024 can be explained by the need to preserve the good-will of the Islamic Azeris to secure a land link with Iran, also an Islamic ally of Russia. In return, the Armenians sided with America over Russia, but even so, it was more important for Russia to secure the Azeri "gateway" to Iran.
- (3) The "serious" regional war emerged at the third possible point, when Ukraine, with US encouragement, tried to opt for Euro-Atlantic rapprochement and NATO and EU membership in 2014, in the hope of a better life and higher living standards.

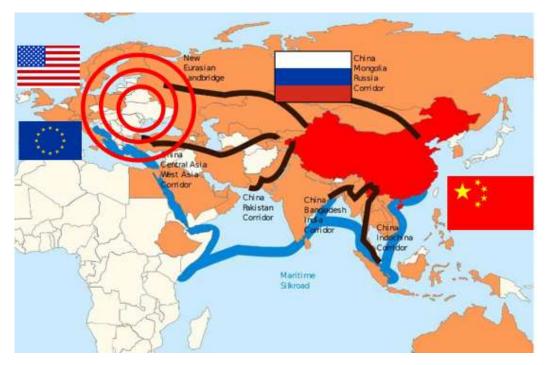


Main US military bases on the "World Island", and around Russia and China, which have access to it Source : https://www.guora.com/With-an-estimated-750-military-bases-in-at-least-80-countries



Above: Afghanistan's key role geostrategically as the centre of the trade corridor connecting Asia (China) and Europe (the European Union), and as a region of outward – blocking – "World Island" towards the oceans. It is a "coincidence" that the Soviets invaded Afghanistan on 24 December 1979. It is also a "coincidence" that on 11 September 2001, it was terrorists of Afghan origin who attacked the United States of America for the US invasion of Afghanistan.

Source: own editing; base map: https://forsal.pl/artykuly/1391251,nowy-jedwabny-szlak.html



Ukraine's key geostrategic role as the western end of the trade corridor linking Asia (China) and Europe (the European Union), and as a region of outward – blocking – "World Island" towards the oceans. It is a "coincidence" that on 24 February 2022 Russia attacked Ukraine against its own perceived interests.

Source: own editing: source of base map: https://forsal.pl/artykuly/1391251,nowy-jedwabny-szlak-mial-byc-wielki-projekt-a-jest-wielki-chaos.html

Why do we need war - geographically - in Europe?



The fragmentation by coastline, hydrography and topography of the seven continents, in proportion to their territories, is the largest in Europe, the smallest one of them.

Source : https://zspace.com/edu/lessons/continental-drift

George Friedmann (2015), the Hungarian-born, world-renowned geopolitician, predicts that "*Africa is the place not to go*" because wars are likely to continue in the coming decades, as they have since the liberation from colonial rule. This is of course very good for US and European arms exporters. The reason for the wars in Africa is that the colonial British, Belgians and French have drawn state borders without any regard for tribal and national territories. Consequently, African countries are geopolitically unstable (Tózsa 2016). It takes decades or centuries of bloody wars to create borders that are considered stable, as in Europe, for example, where, with the exception of the South Slavic war (1991-95) that followed the break-up of the former Yugoslavia and the local wars (1993-2024) that followed the regime change in the Caucasus, most countries have not been at war for 79 years (!), by 2024.

Mankind wants permanence, but where this permanence is a given – below the Equator, in tropical forests and in the Arctic – human societies accustomed to a constant, unchanging environment do not evolve. If modern travellers of the 19th and 20th centuries had not reached the desolate snowfields of Greenland and Alaska, or the deep jungles of the Amazon, Congo and New Guinea, the indigenous peoples would still be living there today with Stone Age technology.



Where the geographical environment is stable, there is no summer and winter, dry and wet seasons, there is no social development. Image source: http://www.johntyman.com/torembi/t002.jpg and https://www.guora.com/What-is-an-igloo

Development has occurred where it is cold in winter, hot in summer, rainy at one time of year and drought at another. In such places people had to invent agriculture and animal husbandry, irrigation, iron tools and weapons, steel, steam engines and so on. When people were already living in societies governed by administrations, the first great empires developed on land suitable for agriculture (China, India), along the great rivers (Mesopotamia, Egypt), in subtropical and Mediterranean regions. In this vast, homogeneous area, an environment favourable to agriculture produced abundant crops, more than could be consumed. The surplus was gathered and accumulated by the rulers of the empires – they became god-kings.



In the vast homogeneous geographical regions of Africa, Asia and the Americas, god-kings' empires have emerged

Image source: https://www.livescience.com/22621-pyramids-giza-sphinx.html https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/ancient-history/anc-new-kingdom-reading/ https://kulturtapas.hu/utazas/mesebeli-utazas-maja-piramisok-nyomaban/ There was, however, a small continent, mainly in the continental climate belt, where iron tools also appeared, agriculture, where it was cold in winter and you had to wear clothes, crafts appeared. On this small continent there were also rulers who wanted to be god-kings, like the Chinese emperors or the Pharaohs, but they did not have the power because their "empire" was small. Why couldn't truly powerful empires have developed on this small continent – the one in the European Mediterranean region, with the exception of the Roman Empire – where the Emperor Caligula even wanted to make his horse⁷ a consul?

The answer lies in Europe's fragmentation. The vast, homogeneous Egyptian, Chinese and Babylonian empires were almost as large as the whole of Europe. The coastline of Europe is divided by countless islands, peninsulas, inland seas and bays. The small continent is divided by high mountains (the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Carpathians) and many low mountains and rivers. This has led to isolation and the emergence of relatively many small nationalities, peoples and ethnic groups. Here, too, production and crafts specialisation progressed, but the surplus product was not collected by the administration of the god-kings, because there were no god-kings. So the surplus product found a buyer on the market, trade began, and as a result, for the first time in the world, commodity production, civilisation, the market economy and capitalism developed.

This meant that when the "great geographical discoveries" were made, Pizarro or Cortés could defeat hundreds of thousands of Inca or Aztec armies in the New World with a few hundred soldiers equipped with modern weapons. Thus, the smallest continent, Europe, won the right to "discover", i.e. colonise and plunder all the other continents – with the exception of the frozen Antarctic.⁸ However, not all peoples in Europe were granted the privilege of colonisation, only the states that emerged in the gateway regions (first the Viking Scandinavians, then Spain and Portugal) and the states of the gateway regions that were embarking on the path of civilisation and the market economy, such as the Netherlands and England, and a little later France.



Countries with "gateways" and ports to the Atlantic and the world's oceans began to plunder distant continents in the great geographical discoveries

Image source: https://www.legendsofamerica.com/ah-christophercolumbus/ https://issuu.com/humanitiesandsocialsciences/docs/the_spanish_conquest_of_the_americas_-_overview_ma

The following comic-book-like history of Europe's expansive power centres sheds light on the ultimate – geographical – cause of the world wars that started in Europe:

⁷ Incitatus (= quick, or fast) approx. 35-41

⁸ The exploitation of mineral resources in the Antarctic land is still to come due to the ice cover; and since there are fortunately no indigenous people living there, the victims will be "only" the penguins ⁽²⁾.



The eastern expansion of Alexander the Great's Macedonian-Greek empire took in all of Asia Minor, Egypt, the Middle East and Persia, all the way to India.



The Scandinavian Viking expansion raided the whole coast of Europe, reaching the Americas to the west and establishing the first Russian states (Kyiv, Novgorod) along the great rivers to the east.

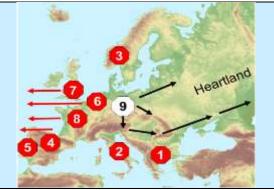


The Roman Empire stretched from the Scottish border to North Africa and Egypt, along the Rhine and Danube rivers east to Syria, throughout the Mediterranean Region.



The expansion of the Spanish and Portuguese power centres sailed far out of Europe; it mainly raided and colonised North and South America and the Southeast Asian archipelago.



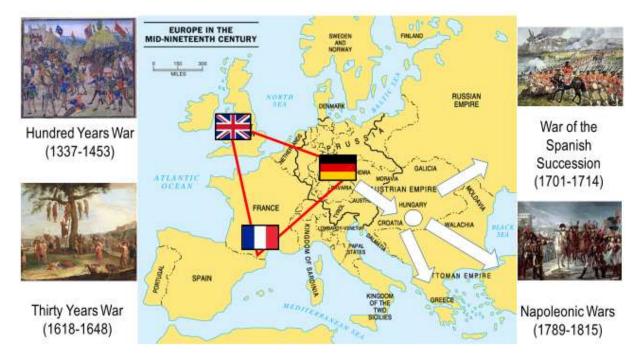


The rapidly civilising Netherlands colonised the islands of East Asia and the Caribbean; England colonised North America, India, Egypt, Central and South Africa and Australia, creating the largest empire the world has ever known; France conquered parts of Canada and North Africa.

The expansion of the European power centres (1. Macedonian, 2. Roman, 3. Viking, 4. Spanish, 5. Portuguese, 6. Dutch, 7. English, 8. French) left the Germans (9) out of the expansion of the German unity for centuries; therefore they expanded eastwards towards the "Heartland", which is a geographical casus belli (reason for war).

Source: own editing; base map: https://stock.adobe.com/images/Europe-terrain-map

By the time German unity was established in 1871 thanks to Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, and the centuries-old fragmentation of the former German-Roman Empire was over, the world was already divided between the two great powers, the British and the French in particular, which had played an active role in preventing German hegemony in Europe. Germany, when it wanted to colonise, could only "get its hands" on a few islands in the Arctic Ocean or desert regions in Africa.

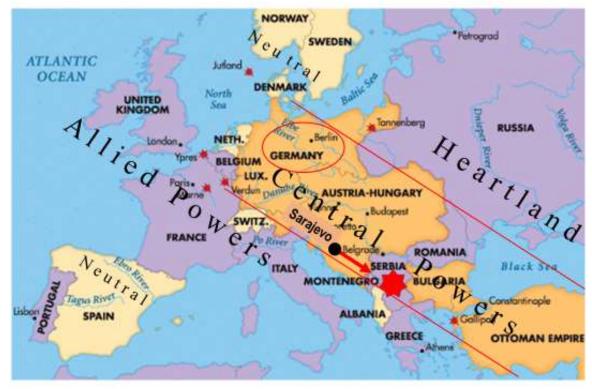


The major armed conflicts of the Anglo-French-German geopolitical power centres to maintain and preserve the balance.

Source: own editing; base map: Europe in the mid-nineteenth century

It is therefore obvious that German geopolitics turned its attention eastwards, towards the Eurasian mainland. The Austro-Hungarian Empire, the largest Central European power centre established in 1867, was a springboard for this, giving them easy access to both the Balkans and the Russian-dominated Eastern European Plain. The arrival of the Germans in Russia was not without precedent; even Tsar Peter I, who made the Russian state a great power, imported German technology and expertise in the development of Russia's first and largest centres of heavy industry, in the Donetsk Basin and along the Volga River, where significant German national regions were established. Although Mackinder's theory did not see the light of day until 1919 with the designations of "World Island" and "Heartland", the British and French geopolitical powerhouses felt that German technology and knowledge, coupled with the endless resources of Eastern Europe, Central and North Asia, threatened their position of world domination. At this point, war with an Anglo-French coalition against the Germans and the Austro-Hungarian Empire became inevitable. It was still necessary - since both England and France were democratic countries – for the war to be started by the Germans or the Austrians as aggressors ... It did not matter where the war broke out – by "accident".

On 28 June 1914, the heir to the Habsburg throne was shot dead in Sarajevo, the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in Bosnia, by a student named Gavrilo Princip, who happened to be of Serbian origin.



This map explains why World War I had to start against Serbia. The geopolitical military alliance that bisected the European continent in a north-west and, south-east direction would have had a free hand in the east with the fall of Serbia and Romania in the "Heartland" and expansion towards the "World Island".

Source: own editing; source of base map: http://tortenelemcikkek.hu/node/107

Serbia was the "weak link" that connected the Western Allied powers, the Entente, with Russia. The German, Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian and Turkish alliance was on a geopolitical crash course when it attacked Serbia as the opening act of the world war. After two or three years, the war seemed to be turning in the favour of the central powers, especially after the Germans "sent home" Lenin from Swiss exile, who had sparked a Bolshevik revolution to get Russia out of the war. At this point, in 1917, the United States of America also intervened in the war on the side of the Entente, expanding it into a world war.

In the USA, the electorate did not want war, and American politics followed the so-called Monroe principle that "America belongs to the Americans". The origin of this is that on December 2, 1823, President James Monroe wrote a message to Congress stating that America would not intervene in the war between the European colonial powers. Accordingly, after 1914, the US supplied arms to both the Entente and the Central Powers. However, when the tide of war turned to the Germans with the Russian withdrawal, the US government had to consider the consequences of a German victory. The huge British and French colonial empires could make the Entente "good (liquid) debtors", while the Germans had no "debts" in colonies to measure. Therefore, an excuse was needed for the US to enter the war against the Germans. "Coincidentally", a German telegram to Mexico was intercepted at the same time, stating that if the US went to war with the British, Germany would support Mexico in its efforts to regain Texas from the US, which had been lost to the US in the 1846-48 war. The second half of the telegram was published, which caused a huge outcry in the US, namely that the Germans would return Texas to Mexico in the event of a European victory. The US government was therefore given a social mandate to enter the war "at a distance" with arms. The most important consequences of the Entente victory with American help:

- the US emerged as a world economic power;
- the colonial empire of the British, the masters of the world until then, has declined like the French;
- Communist Soviet Russia was created; but the most important goal of the great European war World War I was fulfilled;
- the Germans were cut off from the possibility of expansion and world power in Eastern Europe by the British and French with the help of the American.⁹

As we know from the history books, the unjust peace that ended World War I implied the inevitability of World War II. Italian and German fascism and the rise of the Japanese Empire in East Asia, in the wake of the Great Depression set much of Europe and East Asia aflame. Once again, of course, the US electorate did not want to send young Americans to war. The aforementioned Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour convinced the American public of the inevitability of going to war.

It may have been a coincidence that the huge Japanese fleet that arrived unnoticed in the Hawaiian Islands¹⁰ struck on 7 December 1941, just as the German siege of Moscow was still in progress. The Germans, who had occupied all of Western, Southern and Central Europe, were already in the middle of the Eastern European Plain, under Moscow, 1,000 km deep in the Soviet Union, on 2 October 1941. If, in the winter of 1941 and the spring of 1942, the Germans had been able to push 1,600 km further east, all the way to the Ural Mountains, they could have had the Heartland! The way was clear to the incredible resources of the "World Island" which, if in the hands of the strong-technology Germans, rather than the low-tech Soviet Russians, would make them masters of the world. In Europe, only England stood against Nazi Germany. So the US had to go to war *anyway*, and the government had to have the social mandate to do so. Naturally, the Japanese got as far as Pearl Harbour "unnoticed"...

To recap the main consequences of World War II:

- both England and France gradually lost their colonial empires;
- the US became the world's leading economic power, emerging from the war stronger;
- the camp of the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union, which also emerged victorious and a great power, appeared, and the world became bipolar, thus the Cold War policy of sanctions between the two world systems appeared;
- the world was once again saved from German domination of the "World Island";
- Germany's eastern provinces were occupied by the Russians for 41 years until German reunification in 1990¹¹.

⁹ Unfortunately, the biggest price for this was paid not by Germany or Austria, but by Hungary! For the means of isolating the Germans to the east was to abolish the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy once and for all as a geographical springboard and bridgehead for the Germans to the east. This was to be done by carving up the Kingdom of Hungary, the strongest link in the Monarchy, which occupied the central geographical position, on the basis of nationality, so that a minority of nationalities, preferably greater than 10%, would remain in the successor states along all the borders. This could ensure geopolitical instability in East-Central Europe for more than a hundred years, preventing the emergence of a new German "springboard" to the east, a great power with a German economic orientation – as has already been proven in 2021.

¹⁰ 31 battleships and 6 aircraft carriers.

¹¹ The Hungarians deserve a lot of credit for this, because during the so-called Pan-European Picnic on 19 August 1989, hundreds of East German tourists crossed the border into Hungary, and on 11 September thousands of them left for Austria. They set in motion the process that led to the dismantling of the Berlin Wall on 9 November and German reunification on 3 October 1990.

• In the European Union, Germany, which was growing economically stronger, successfully managed the catching-up of the eastern provinces liberated from Russian occupation and by the 2000s had clearly become the economic engine and main force of the Union.

It raises the question of whether this will bring an end to the European world wars, whether it will finally settle the Anglo-French-German rivalry in Europe¹², and the US-Soviet conflict in the world, the "good versus evil" struggle, as President Ronald Reagan put it. The break-up of the Soviet Union in 1990-91 seemed to open the way for peaceful economic development in Europe. This was overshadowed by the South Slavic war (1991-2000), ethnic strife and mass killings among the successor states of Yugoslavia, and the continuing armed conflicts among the successor states of the Soviet Union in the Caucasus, but the whole European continent did not go up in flames; from 1945 to the present day (2024), it has been in flames for almost eight decades.

The Inevitability of World War III

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the US became the sole superpower. After only a decade, a new formidable enemy: radical Islam, entered the scene: the opening of 11 September 2001, which set in motion a conjuncture of security, entry and control systems – and the invasion of Afghanistan in a key position to the Russian-dominated "World Island".

Meanwhile, the European Union, with Germany focused on economic development, has grown stronger. The "response" of the ever-strengthening European Union to the USA occupying the southern key of the "World Island", Afghanistan, was very strong: in 2002¹³ the euro was introduced. The "Arab Spring", which exported democracy from the online world to the Arab world, triggered a social process of civil war in the Middle East and North Africa, which the Euro-Atlantic public considered dictatorial. Governments based on military force have been overthrown, notably in two key places: Libya and Syria. This has opened the floodgates for immigration from Africa and the Middle East to Europe. This could be seen as a 'declaration of war' or threat of war by the US against the EU and its economic engine, a re-invigorated Germany.

The EU's "counter-response" to Germany's growing strength was to take a constructive stance on China's "One Road One Belt" initiative, announced and launched in 2013, which also saw huge economic growth in the 2010s, and is a 21st century reincarnation of the medieval Silk Road linking Europe and China. A strengthening Union with a strengthening Germany, a strengthening China, with the Russians in between as the pledge of world power, dominating the "World Island", was such a potent threat to the US that it made the launch of World War III inevitable, or if we put it to 2001, the time of the invasion of Afghanistan, the next gear of war.

¹² Let us not forget that the predecessor of the European Union, the Common Market and the European Monetary Union, were not created with the "lofty" goal of creating economic prosperity in Europe, as it is written in documents and history books, but to allow the French, Italians and Benelux countries to directly control the heavy industry of Germany, which was – till today – under US military occupation, in order to prevent (re)armament.
¹³ Although the euro was introduced as the currency of settlement on 1 January 1999, euro coins and banknotes were issued on 1 January 2002.



The European Union's "response": to the invasion of Afghanistan, the southern key to the "World Island": the introduction of the euro as a challenger to the US dollar, which dominates world trade¹⁴

(Source: see Matolcsy, 2020)



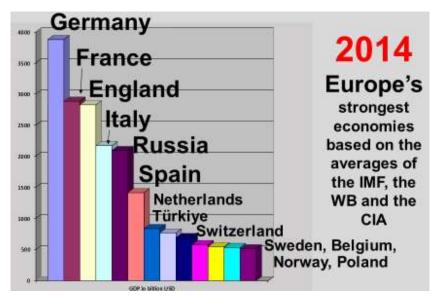
The EU's "response" to the US-initiated Arab Spring: the EU-China cooperation programme for Eastern Europe (the "Heartland"), Russia and Inner Asia (the "World Island")

Source: Own editing

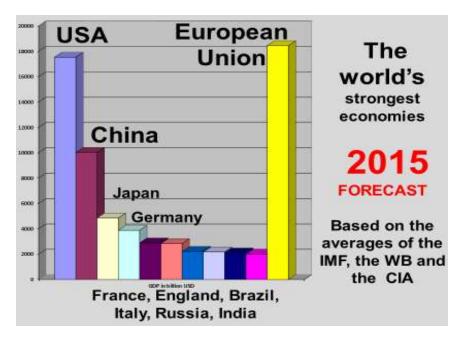
With the New Silk Road threatening US world power and the emergence of the Euro, something unthinkable happened in 2014: the average of the economic forecasts of the *International Monetary Found* (IMF), the World *Bank* (WB) and the *Central Intelligence Agency* (CIA) showed

¹⁴ The year of introduction of euro coins and banknotes.

that the EU's GDP was expected to reach \$18,437 billion compared to the US GDP of \$17,528 billion!



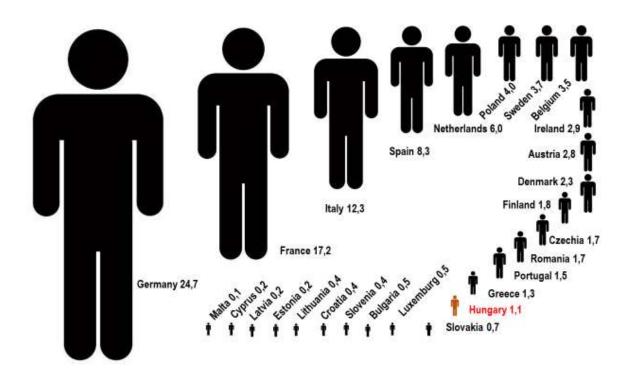
The German economy in 2014; clearly the economic engine of the European Union (GDP in billion USD)



World economic forecast in 2014 for 2015: the EU "strikes back"

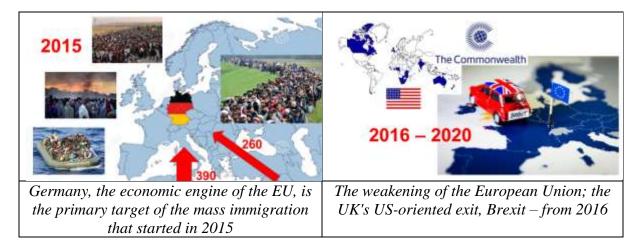
Source: own editing

The US response, which permeated the diplomacy of the entire world, was not delayed; coincidentally, it was the following year, 2015, that mass migration began to enter the European Union, including the most powerful country, Germany, through the previously opened "floodgates" in Libya and Syria, as a "biological weapon" for the new opening of World War III. In order to further weaken the EU, the withdrawal of the UK from the EU was launched, also coincidentally in 2016. The UK is by far the most suitable economic partner and base for the US in Europe, given its historical, linguistic and cultural roots and the *Commonwealth*'s links.



The European Union's "strong man" – Germany (24.7) and the other Member States' share of the total EU GDP in 2021 (%)

Source: EUROSTAT https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/



Source: own editing, internet; sources for base maps: <u>https://stock.adobe.com/images/Germany-on-europe-map</u> https://www.shutterstock.com/hu/image-photo/red-vintage-car-union-iack-flag

The expected number of people fleeing mass migration, local wars in Africa and Asia, and seeking asylum in the EU, mainly in Germany, was estimated at 650 million in 2015. By comparison, the EU population was 448 million in 2015. Of the 650 million people, 260 million may leave for the EU in search of a better life from the Middle East and South Asia, and 390 million from Africa. These are the people who, according to UN data, earned less than \$2 a day in 2014, have nothing to lose but their lives and are eager to leave for the EU's welfare societies, where they can receive 1,000 euros a month in cash and the services and benefits (housing, food, health, education, training) that ensure their livelihoods even without work. It is clear that the populations of the Western European EU countries concerned do not necessarily find ways of integrating with those from other cultures, and there are one or two EU countries whose governments even resist migration. Therefore, from the American point of view, World War III

is not limited to a "biological weapon" like the transformation of the population of the European Union, and especially of Germany, into a faceless consumer mass mixed with African and Asian populations and cultures. It is in the interests of the United States of America's global domination that the European Union should not be an economic competitor, let alone a partner of the Russians who dominate the "World Island" and of China, America's main economic competitor! It is in the interests of the USA that the EU should become culturally, economically and energetically dependent on it. The EU should be a base for the US on the western edge of the Euro-Asian continent where the US can gain a foothold. This land base is needed close to Moscow so that the US can use the EU base to prevent Sino-Russian cooperation, preferably by launching an all-out war against the Russians in Ukraine and, if necessary, in Central Europe, by defeating or at least dismembering Russia in the name of democracy, and then using the resources of the *Heartland* and the "World Island" against its only remaining rival, China.

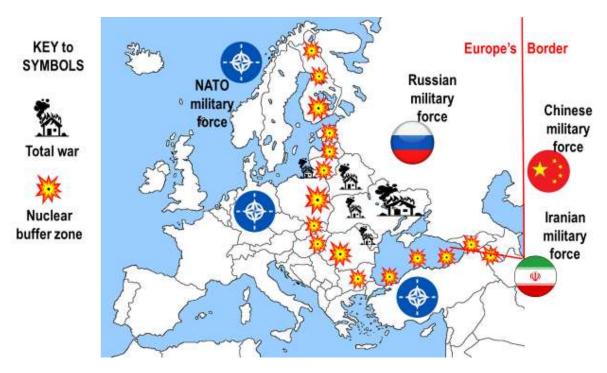
To make this plan work, the Russians happened to attack Ukraine in 2022 and they, as aggressors, empowered the Euro-Atlantic public to support Ukraine "to the end" – whatever that means – and taking up armed struggle against the world's strongest nuclear power. The US master plan to make the EU dependent on the USA is working very well: by introducing an anti-Russian sanctions policy. EU countries – especially Germany – have been cut off from Russian energy and resources. To make this permanent, the Nord Stream gas pipeline in the North Sea "accidentally" exploded in 2023. The EU political leadership has also succeeded in subordinating the interests of the member states to the global geopolitical interests of the US in all respects; alongside the Russians, China is now becoming an enemy, too.

Since China is not – for the time being – committing aggression against Taiwan, its involvement in the world war is on hold. But steps are being taken to involve Iran, the military power of the Middle East, notorious for its anti-Americanism. As Middle East peace between the Jewish state and the Palestinians seemed to be materialising under a Republican US administration, in 2024 Hamas gunmen from Gaza invaded Israel and went on the rampage, committing atrocities against civilians. Israel therefore invaded Gaza – with the right to retaliate – causing enormous destruction among the civilian population there. This is fuel for the fire among Arab countries sympathetic to the Palestinians. The fighting in the Middle East in 2024 is likely to involve the Israeli destruction of the Lebanese Hezbollah terrorist organisation, which is stronger than Hamas, and it could very easily involve Iranian intervention. In that case, oil exports from the Persian Gulf will cease and the EU's energy needs will be met only by the US – increasing the EU's dependence on the US for everything.

In the EU elections of 9 June 2024, despite the growing voices and votes for an end to the Ukrainian-Russian war, the EU political leadership serving the United States of America has successfully maintained its uncompromising anti-Russian policy, the only outcome of which, if consistent, is a NATO-Russian armed confrontation on Ukrainian territory. If this involves the bombing of Russian territory, the retaliation will not only affect Kyiv, but also the EU countries where NATO military infrastructure directly involved in the conflict is operating.

If the war in Ukraine escalates and significant NATO forces – mainly American – arrive in Ukraine, the use of Russian tactical nuclear weapons will become inevitable, affecting countries in the eastern part of Central Europe. In this way, the Russians will create a radiation-contaminated "no-man's land", a buffer zone between their country and Western Europe, which will become unfit for normal life. In such a world war – for which the populations of none of the countries are prepared or ready – Ukraine, the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, Belarus and Moldova would be utterly destroyed. Among the NATO countries, Finland, Estonia, Latvia,

Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, the entire Black Sea coast of Turkey, and Georgia and Armenia – if the latter two countries choose the Euro-Atlantic alliance rather than the Russians – would face major destruction and chaos.



The worst-case scenario, when world war breaks out in the eastern border region of Central Europe and the western border region of Eastern Europe

Source: own editing

As a result of the view dominating the Euro-Atlantic media through the geopolitical lens of the US via independent news portals, public opinion in EU countries, the so-called "*mainstream*", reflecting the view of the EU leadership, now (July 2024) fully accepts the narrative that Russia is an aggressor. And the aggressor must be fought to the bitter end, or "as long as necessary"; with money, arms and, if the Ukrainians run out of soldiers, with armies. Among EU leaders, the two extreme positions are precisely those of Hungary and the Polish government, reconstituted in December 2023. The Hungarian government is pushing for a path of peace talks. By doing so, and by rejecting migration, it is incurring the disapproval of the "*mainstream*" media and the economic retaliation of the EU's political leadership.

And the Polish political leadership is the most extreme in its support for Ukraine, and even in its attack on Russia. Apart from the fact that the dark history of Polish-Russian relations does not require further incitement of anti-Russian sentiment in Polish society, support for Ukraine could have enormous geopolitical benefits for the Poles. The darkest period of Polish history was marked by Russian oppression, while the most glorious period was when the Polish state extended from the North Sea, through the territory of present-day Ukraine, to the Black Sea. In the Polish social consciousness, the restoration of this golden age might be like a glimmer of hope for the Hungarians that the pre-Trianon Greater Hungary might be restored. The realistic possibility of this is the accelerated accession of the Ukrainians to the European Union, which would be technically feasible through a quasi-Polish protectorate or some kind of confederation of Ukraine with Poland. In this way, our Polish friends would be NATO's base in Central and Eastern Europe and could become a real European superpower, both in terms of territory and population.

Hungary's geopolitical ambition to "stay out" of a possible NATO-Russia war – which would serve US geopolitical interests and rely on the EU's economic and territorial base - is questionable. The country's fortunate geographic location in the middle of the Carpathian Basin should in principle protect Hungarians from the direct fallout of a nuclear war on Ukrainian territory, even in the event of easterly winds (Tózsa, 2023). However, the danger of the tactic of opting out is illustrated by the fate of Bulgaria in World War II. The Bulgarians also wanted to stay out of the fighting of World War II. After the German blitzkrieg in the Balkans, Bulgaria accepted the return of the Bulgarian national territories annexed to Romania, Yugoslavia and Greece after World War I, but was the only German ally not to participate in the military operations to besiege Stalingrad in 1941-42 and refused to surrender Bulgarian Jews. Nevertheless, when the Romanians switched to the Allied side in 1944, the Russians declared war on Bulgaria and invaded the non-resisting country within days. The Bulgarian soldiers, like those of the Romanian army, which had shortly before them crossed over from the German to the Soviet side, were driven by the Russians as a kind of "bullet trap"¹⁵, just as the Huns or Mongols had done in the past to the soldiers of the conquered peoples, or rather of those who had allied themselves with them. Using this analogy, it is easy to imagine that if some NATO forces wanted to march through Hungary towards Ukraine, or even to withdraw from Ukraine, the Hungarian leadership, as a NATO member, could not refuse. And the route and infrastructure of the retreat – especially if the Russians are chasing the retreating troops – automatically becomes a military target.

Riders of the Apocalypse¹⁶

"And behold, a white horse; he who sat on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he went forth victorious to conquer again." This rider probably represents the super-powered evil one, the Antichrist himself, who has been given the power to defeat all who oppose him. It is left to the imagination, if any, of the Dear Reader who has read this writing so far to identify this horseman with the government of which country, or the world power behind the government of which country. Russia, China or perhaps the European Union?

"And there came another horse, a red horse, and to him that sat on it was given to take peace from the earth, and even to slay men one from another; and to him was given a great sword." This rider clearly represents the war that did not end with World War II. Even during the Cold War, there were always wars to ensure the more or less even development of the so-called developed world, namely the Euro-Atlantic world.

¹⁵ The author's father recalls that in 1944, when the Soviet-Russian Red Army crossed the Tisza River, hundreds of bodies of Romanian (!) soldiers, who had been massacred by the Germans, were floating down the river. Or, for example, in the Battle of Torda in Transylvania, their battalion fragment faced and fought not Russians but Romanians, but unfortunately in vain, because the Romanians had Russian armoured and mortar support, and they had only tracer ammunition left for their simple rifles. In the fighting in southern Transdanubia, the Bulgarian soldiers crossed the Drava River under similar conditions towards Nagykanizsa in Hungary. ¹⁶ Revelation 6:2 (the Antichrist), 6:4 (war), 6:6 (famine) and 6:8 (death).

"And behold, I saw a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand". The third horse of the Apocalypse represents the famine of total war and the collapse of supply systems¹⁷. This is what the population of our developed, Euro-Atlantic world can no longer imagine.

"And I saw, and behold a pale horse, and his name that sat on him was Death, and power was given unto them over a quarter of the Earth to kill with the sword, and with famine, and with pestilence."



Viktor Vasnetsov: The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse 1887. Russian (Glinka) National Music Museum, Moscow

The following is a series of applications developed by a US researcher, Alex Wellerstein (2012), highlighting two possible nuclear strike targets – the two most important military airfields – in Hungary. The third possible target would be the Danube bridge connecting the Southern Link railway. These could be hit by a nuclear strike – rather than the damage caused by drone attacks, which "traditionally" damage airports and bridges but can be repaired in a few weeks – if the aim were to paralyse rail transport for years in Hungary, a key staging country for the Ukrainian front and NATO's Western European link, and a key link to Western Europe. The impact on Budapest of a nuclear strike on the Southern Link – the Apocalypse of Pest and South Buda – is described by Tózsa (2023).

¹⁷ The ancestors of the author's father lived in a small village in Northern Hungary – Teresztenye – with a population of 15-20 nowadays, and 2-300 during the Second World War. According to the late elders, in 1944-45, when the front was marching through Hungary, they did not see a single German or Russian soldier, nor did they hear even a distant cannonade. To such an extent were the small villages self-sufficient that they produced all their own food and very many utensils, linen and shoes. Think of the vegetable gardens, the vineyards, the chicken coops, the pigsties, the harvests, the threshing, the bread baking, the preserves, the jam making, the soap making, the complete self-sufficiency. If it had not been for newspapers, radio and military draft, they would hardly have known there was a war on. Today, this traditional form of self-sufficiency does not exist anywhere in Hungary, not even in villages! Because of the high nitrate content of groundwater, even in villages with dug wells, it would be impossible to provide even healthy drinking water, since boiling such water would not help. Even if only internet access were to disappear, food trade and supply would be completely paralysed. So famine with total war is not just a nightmare of the past.

Zone	Radius	Features
	(km)	
Fireball (Fireball)	0,9	Everything burns up instantly (heatwave of 3000 degrees Cel-
		sius)
Heavy blast (Heavy blast)	2,0	Air pressure 20 times higher than normal, buildings collapse,
		death rate 100 %
Radiation (Radiation)	2,4	500 rem ¹⁸ ionised radiation that causes death within one month
Medium explosion	4,2	Many buildings collapse completely due to the five times higher
(Moderate blast)		than normal air pressure wave, many dead, injured, fires, third
		degree burns
Heatwave	9,7	Third degree burns in outdoor occupants
(Thermal radiation)		

10.9

Circular effects of the Topol SS warhead explosion on Earth in the 5 zones of death

Source: Wellerstein, 2012

Following the explosion, a plume of radioactive fallout dust is formed along the prevailing wind direction (as shown in the map series). For the warhead under study, it could be 358 km long – on flat land, with winds of 15 m/sec. Naturally longer in higher wind speeds, or in the case of a more powerful nuclear warhead.

Double the normal air pressure when glass windows break

After the Topol SS nuclear warhead explodes on the ground, in the wind direction intensity range of the resulting settling zone 4

Zone (rad ²⁰ /hour)	Tail length (km)	Features
1000	51	half an hour: radiation sickness (fever, vomiting blood; survival 50 %)
100	153	half day: radiation sickness (nausea, headache, dizziness, weakness)
10	255	a few days without shelter: radiation sickness
1	358	radiation sickness can develop in the absence of a shelter

Source: Wellerstein, 2012

The following series of maps shows the effects of one of the most common nuclear explosions used by the Russian armed forces, at an average wind strength, on the two airfields. The red lines show the filtering, attenuating effect of the topography for the radiation plumes calculated for the flat terrain. Also, it mitigates the harmful effects of the plume if it rains after the explosion, because the radiative dust is *washed out* of the atmosphere. This possible mitigating effect is not shown in the series of maps below.

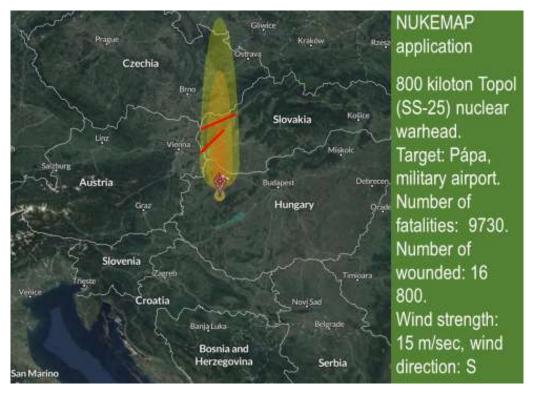
¹⁹ In this case, it is recommended to take shelter immediately after the "flash of light", or at least to lie down in the direction of the flash, so that the heat wave following the flash of light is as small as possible and hits the body surface – the soles of the shoes – which is best protected by clothing.

²⁰ rad: *Radiation Absorbed Dose*, where 1 rad = 1 rem.

Flash of light and lightweight

explosion¹⁹ (*Light blast*)

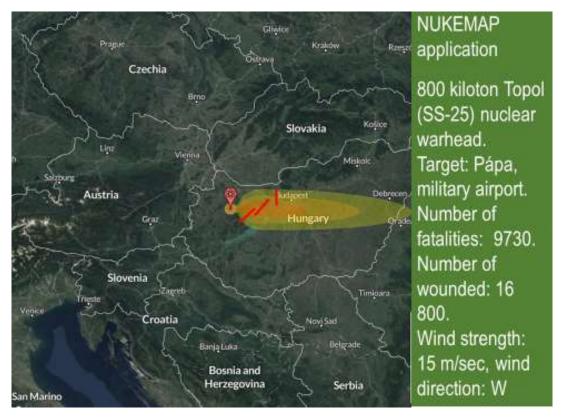
¹⁸ rem: *Roentgen Equivalent Man* = X-ray human coefficient, where 0.62 is the normal (background) dose.



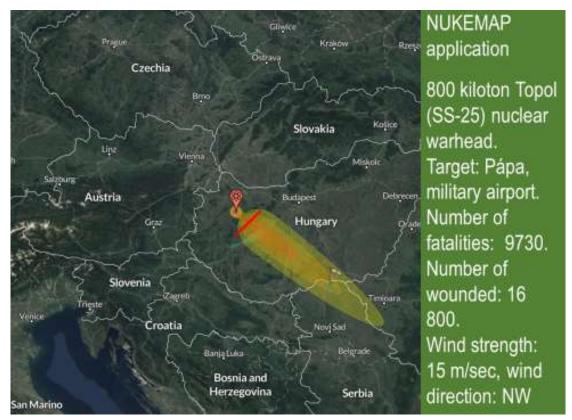
The extent of the contaminated plume, which is expected to reach the Polish city of Wroclaw, is stopped by the Little Carpathians and the White Carpathians in the north-eastern direction in Slovakia. Győr, Dunaszerdahely, Nagyszombat are at high risk; Bratislava and Nyitra are at a more moderate risk



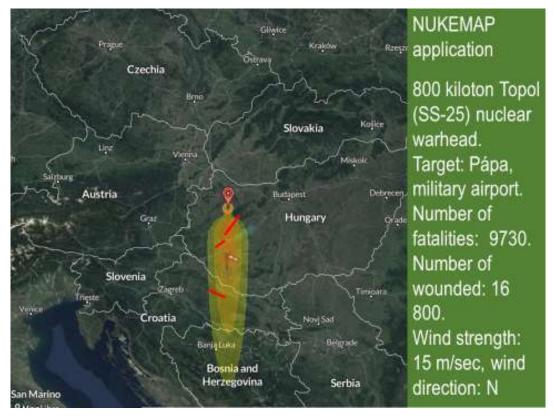
In the north-eastern direction, the contaminated plume, which in principle could also reach Zakopane in Poland, is partly filtered by the Gerecse and Börzsöny mountains in Hungary, and the Selmec and Jávoros in Slovakia stop it. Tatabánya, Tata and Oroszlány are in high danger; Győr is in less danger



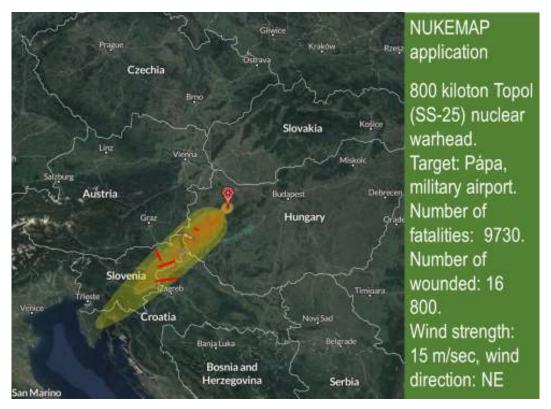
The contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Oradea in Romania and threaten Budapest and Szolnok, is stopped by the Bakony and especially the Vértes and Buda Hills in the east. Oroszlány and Tatabánya are at risk



The contaminated plume, which is supposed to reach Timisora in Romania, Siófok, Szekszárd, Dunaújváros and Lake Balaton, is stopped by the Bakony Mts. in the SE direction.



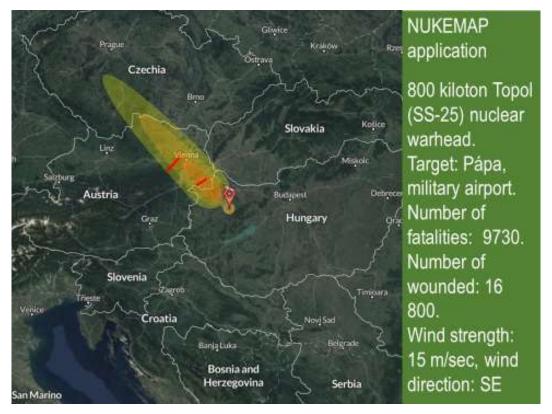
The contaminated plume, which is supposed to reach Bosnia, threatening Keszthely and Kaposvár the Bakony and the Keszthelyi Mountains in the S direction, and the Slavonian Papuk stops. Papa is in great danger; Ajka is in less danger.



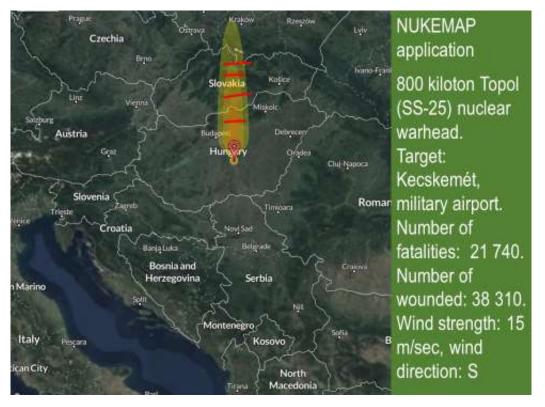
The contaminated band that is supposed to reach Rijeka is slightly filtered by the Zala hills; Pápa, Zalaegerszeg are in danger; towards SW it is stopped by Macelj, Kalnik, Zagreb mountains in Slovenia and Croatia.



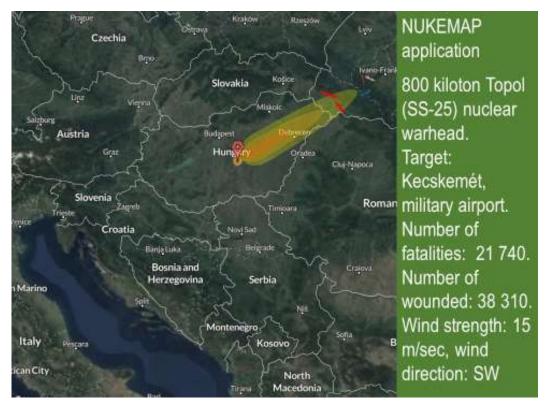
The extent of the contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Kufstein in Austria, is stopped by the Fischbach Alps to the west; Szombathely and Kőszeg are strongly threatened, Graz and Sopron less so.



The extent of the contaminated plume, which is expected to reach the Czech Vltava River, is blocked to the NW by the Lajta Mountain and the Vienna Forest in Austria; Sopron and Vienna are at risk.



The extent of the contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Kraków, is blocked to the north by the Cserhát, the Mátra, the Gömör-Szepesi Mountain range, the Low and High Tatras. Nagykőrös, Cegléd, Jászberény, Hatvan and Gyöngyös are at severe risk.



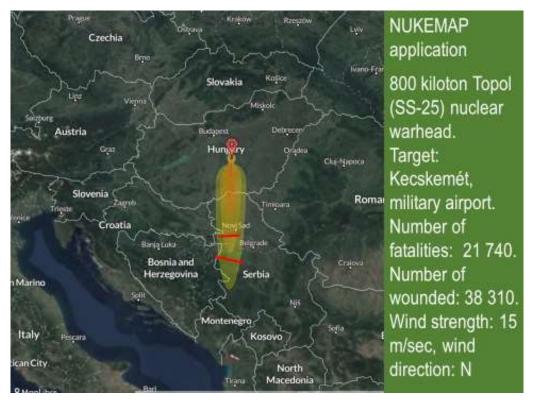
In Transcarpathia, the north-eastward spreading contaminated plume is stopped by the Sinyak and Borlo rivers: Nagykőrös, Szolnok, Nyíregyháza are at high risk; Debrecen and Munkács are at lower risk.



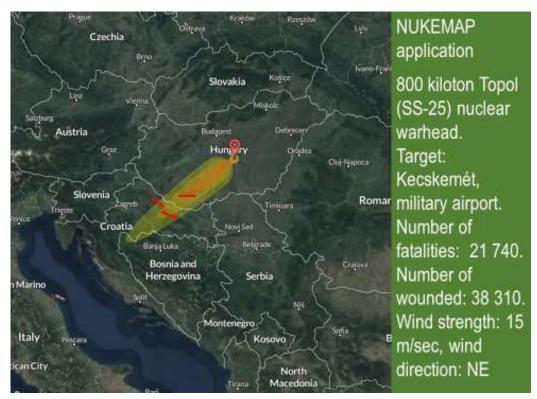
The extent of the contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Cluj-Napoca, is stopped by the Copper Mountains and the King's Forest in the E direction. Nagykőrös, Mezőtúr, and Orodea are in great danger.



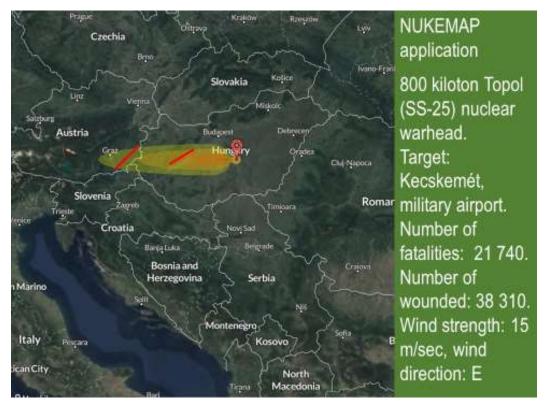
The contaminated plume, which is expected to reach the River Zsil in Romania, is stopped by the Krasov-Szörényi Ore Mountains. Kecskemét, Kiskunfélegyháza, Csongrád, Szentes, Hódmezővásárhely, Makó are at large; Szeged, Orosháza, Arad and Timisoara are at less risk.



The contaminated plume, which is supposed to reach the Serbian Sandzak, is stopped by the Fruska Gora and the Sandzak Mountains. Kecskemét, Kiskunfélegyháza, Zenta and Novi Sad are at large; Szeged and Subotica are at a less risk.



The contaminated plume, which is expected to reach the Croatian Zrínyi Mountains, is moderated by the Mecsek Mts. in Hungarian territory and stopped by the Bilo and Papuk Mountains in Slavonia. Kecskemét, Kiskőrös, Kalocsa, Paks and Szekszárd are strongly affected; Pécs and Kaposvár are at low risk.



The contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Graz, is weakened by the Bakony Mts. and stopped by the Alpokalja mountainous region. Dunaújváros, Székesfehérvár, Siófok, Balatonfüred, Várpalota are at large; Keszthely, Zalaegerszeg are at less risk.



The contaminated plume, which is expected to reach Brno, is shielded by the Buda Hills, the Gerecse and Pilis Mts. in Hungary and stopped by the Little Carpathians in Slovakia. Budapest (mainly Pest) and Érd are at very high risk.

Of course, one must hope that the apocalyptic disasters listed above remain only theoretical possibilities; all the more so because in 2024, with the mandate of a two-thirds majority of Hungarian voters, the Hungarian government is still the only one – considering the most suffering Ukraine as well – that has been pushing for a ceasefire, peace talks and political agreement since 2022. With the prestige of the 2024 EU Presidency, the Hungarian government is doing its utmost to be a mediator!

Unfortunately, the Euro-Atlantic "*mainstream*" media, the independent news portals, the EU political leadership, despite the growing "pro-peace" will of the electorate, already reflected in the European Parliament elections in June 2024, is still doing everything to maintain the US superpower, sacrificing itself – Europe, and especially East-Central Europe – for this purpose. Defeating the aggressor, the formidable enemy²¹, is more important than anything else, and so the European Union marches "willingly" towards its doom – towards the Apocalypse.

In the US presidential elections expected at the end of 2024, a pragmatic Republican turnaround remains the only hope of avoiding a new European Apocalypse – if the US, putting its own geopolitical interests aside, is willing to push back World War III in Europe. Now.

New Thirty Years War

The fabrics of history produce repeating patterns. We are now living, for example, in the age of the new Renaissance, the age of discovery. György Matolcsy (2022a) illustrates this with a number of examples from our time. As the saying goes, *those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*²² Preventing German hegemony in Europe is not new²³. Thanks to the masterly political "ploys" of French geopolitical interest, the so-called Thirty Years War (1618-1648) between German Lutherans and German Catholics in Central Europe, involving Czechs, Danes, Swedes, Poles and Transylvanians, claimed an estimated 4.5 to 8 million German victims. The parallels between 1618 and 2001 can be drawn, when the stakes were no longer just European but world domination, and the aim was to weaken the German-dominated European Union rather than the German-Roman Empire, serving Franco-Spanish interests in 1618 and American interests in 2001.

²¹ The aggressors, the formidable enemies in World Wars I and II were openly the Germans, whom the American public, in order not to offend the masses of Americans with German roots, shamelessly called "barbarians" – a particular misfortune for the Hungarians that they used the word "Hun" (meaning Hungarian). In the Cold War era after World War II, the Soviets were the evil enemy. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, it was the Arab terrorists, and from 2022 onwards it was the Russians again.

²² A saying by George Santayana.

²³ The nomadic Hungarians, for example, always attacked Western Europe in the 10th century at the invitation of a German prince, or count. In general, they always helped the weaker German side against the stronger, and this also helped to prevent the emergence of a strong German unity; it is no coincidence that when the most talented Hungarian strategist, General Bulcsú, was captured by the Germans at the Battle of Augsburg in 955, he was immediately executed, and the possibility of a ransom was not even considered.



A visual image of the parallels of the new Thirty Years' War weakening the European Germans²⁴

Source: Matolcsy, 2022b

America's famous national security adviser, the Polish-born Zbigniew Brzezinski, in his book *The Grand Chessboard*, (1999) sets out in stark terms what the US foreign and geopolitical leadership must do to maintain world domination.



The alignment of the figures of the great geopolitical chessboard in the early 21st century in the "West" (Euro-Atlantic – light figures) and "Eastern" (Eurasian – dark figures) geopolitical interests

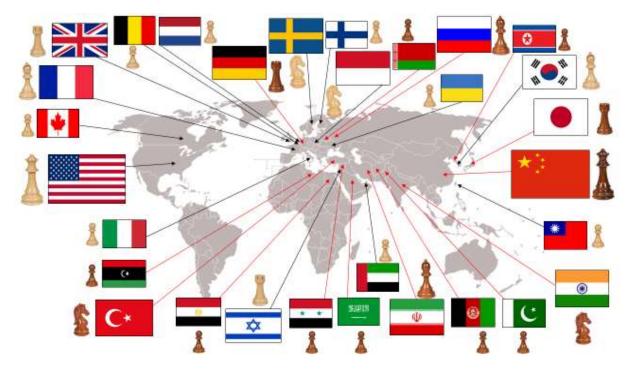
Source: own ed. after Brzezinski (1999)

²⁴ Although the Apocalypse threatens East-Central Europe, the third part of the world wars against the Germans (the new Thirty Years' War) has not yet ended with the Germans being forced into a losing position together with the EU. Like in World War II in the case of Japan, allied with the Germans, now it is China that is quasi-economically allied with the Germans through the New Silk Road and mediated by the Russians, will be the factor that will bring the final phase of the Third World War to the Pacific battlefield.

Following Brzezinski's line of thought, the dark set-up on the chessboard (in 2023) representing the geopolitical interests of the "East" (not necessarily reflected in their official foreign policy engagement) is as follows. The rooks from left to right are Japan (rook), Turkey (knight), Iran (bishop), China (king and queen), Russia (bishop), India (knight) and Germany (rook). The dark pawns from left to right are Egypt, Syria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, North Korea, Belarus and Libya.

A clear position representing the geopolitical interests of the "West" is as follows. The main pieces are, from left to right, Israel (rook), Sweden (knight), France (bishop), USA (king and queen), South Korea (bishop), Poland (knight) and England (rook). The light pawns are, from left to right, United Arab Emirates, Finland, Belgium, Canada, Taiwan, Ukraine, Italy and the Netherlands.

The state of the great geopolitical chess game in 2023-24 looks like the three pawns of the dark have been taken: Libya, Syria (paving the way for African and Asian migration), and Afghanistan, a key gateway to the "World Island", which has been under Islamic extremist rule after 20 years of US occupation. Germany, a valued piece of the dark, has also been knocked out (its economic leadership has been shattered), even though in the "*mainstream*" media the German rook was on the light side. In contrast, the light has so far lost only one pawn: another key gateway to the "World Island", which is Ukraine. Officially on the light side, but in their real geopolitical interest, the two main pieces on the dark (eastern) side, the Japanese rook and the Turkish knight, are in a forced move (due to the expectations of the anti-Russian coalition). The main pieces on the light side in a forced move are the Israeli rook (Palestinian and Iranian threats) and the Swedish and Polish knights (abandoning neutrality and anti-Russian respectively). Pawns on the light side threatened or forced to move: Taiwan (Chinese pressure), Italy (migratory pressure), the Netherlands (internal political tensions) and Finland (abandoning neutrality).



Location of the pieces of the great geopolitical chessboard in geographical space



The state of the great geopolitical chess game in 2023-24

Source: own editing

It can be concluded that in Brzezinski's great geopolitical chess game, the light is in a better position in 2023-24, although several pieces are not playing in the right geopolitical interests; notably Germany and Japan. At the same time, Russia – as was already evident in 2019 (Czene, 2019) – seemed to be taking an active role in the chess game like an unpredictable "dark knight", and as it turned out later, in 2022, it is aiming to capture the Ukrainian pawn as a bishop...

The competitive position of the two leaders of the chessboard, the US and China, is not clear: in terms of economic growth, public debt, population, unemployment, military numbers and exports, China's superiority is convincing. However, in areas more attractive to the population – such as living standards, social media, global brands, internet postings, the film industry and especially market capitalisation – there is US superiority (Csizmadia, 2022).

The knights of the Apocalypse and the chess pieces of the world's great chessboard will move along the geopolitical interests of the two great power centres in the current new 30-year (world) war in the first third of the 21^{st} century.

East of Eden²⁵

The big question will remain until 2024-25, whether the new Thirty Years War will end with Germany being brought to its knees for the third time? The final chord of the war is now a struggle for world domination between the US, on the one hand, and the "successor" to the Asian Japanese empire, the Eurasian economic empire of China, on the other. The question is whether this conflict will degenerate into a third world war with a European – Ukrainian – centre of gravity, or whether it will reach a state of equilibrium in which the European Union, as the Eurasian "base" of the United States of America, will be a sufficient "counterweight" to China, whose Eurasian "base" could be Russia. In other words, Western Europe – including

²⁵ The title of John Steinbeck's world-successful novel *East of Eden* (1952) refers to the expulsion of the fratricide Cain from the Garden of Eden - the barren wasteland east of the high "standard of living" Garden of Eden ...

Germany – will be an American "base" without a individual image and with a mixed population; Eastern Europe – including Russia – will be a Chinese "base". Here again the big question is whether there is the same capacity for state leadership between "West" and "East" as the current Hungarian political leadership, so that Central Europe, caught in the crossfire, with Germany still strong in principle and economically, can avoid being crushed in the crossfire? Is there, can there be, life east of the American Eden?



The competition between the two global superpowers; China and the US, which is emerging as a challenger in the 21st century. The buffer zone between Western Europe, which serves US interests, and Eastern Europe (Russia), which is forced to represent Chinese interests, Central Europe (the "cradle" of the first two world wars) could now be the key to the future of world peace – if there were a pro-peace force of the quality of the Hungarian political leadership in and east of the "Western" Eden.

> Source: own editing; source of the diagram: https://elordenmundial.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/heartland-china-eeuu.jpg Joan Baez and Bob Dylan: Blowing in the Wind

Yes, and how many times must the cannonballs fly, Before they're banned forever? Yes, and how many deaths will it take 'til he knows That too many people have died?

Bob Dylan: Blowing in the Wind (1962)

Afterword: is there Life east of Eden?

There is a medieval Hungarian saying from the glorious time of King Matthias – in Latin – Extra Hungariam non est vita, et si est vita, non est ita.²⁶ By analogy, is there life east of the European Union, which seems to subordinate its sovereignty, identity and economy to the Euro-

²⁶ Outside Hungary there is no life, but if there is, it is not like that.

Atlantic American interest²⁷? Can there be a high standard of living and economic strength east of the West? The question is a rhetorical one; from Tokyo to Hong Kong, through the major cities of Japan, South Korea and East China; from Singapore to Dubai, economic power is something to behold; Inner Asia, Siberia – the continental "World Island" – is resource-inexhaustible and untapped.

The message of this - intentionally educational - study is that the ultimate Euro-Atlantic-American driving force behind the geopolitical processes that led to the two world wars in the 20th century, with their European roots, was to keep the Germans away from the Atlantic gates of the continent and away from the "World Island". The same seems to be repeating itself in the first quarter of the 21st century, when the EU, once again dominated by the Germans during World War III and once again looking to the resources of the "World Island", had to/should be brought to its knees, now not by the British world imperial interest, but by the global American interest. This masterly geopolitics always manages to achieve this by making the initiating party, the aggressor, in the first two cases the "Hun" Austrian, and the fascist German and Japanese; in the third case the barbarian Russian and preferably the Chinese. In all three cases, the American side remains a freedom-loving, noble peace fighter, to defeat evil in the world wars. Unfortunately, there is only one politician in the European Union currently who is capable of preventing the Apocalypse of World War III in Central and Eastern Europe, and who, as the EU President in July 2024, was capable of a peace mission whose milestones speak for themselves in the language of geopolitics: Kyiv, the suffering subject of a war that broke out in the western strip of the "Heartland". Moscow, the initiator of the *de facto* war, the centre of the "Heartland". Susa, Azerbaijan, the site of the Organization of Turkic States summit - the political centre of the "Heartland". Washington D.C., the diplomatic centre of American world domination.

If the Apocalypse were to be avoided now, the price would be that the central part of the "World Island" would fall under Russian and Chinese influence. The "Heartland", the outpost of the "World Island", will remain under Russian rule. Ukraine will lose territory – and hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian men will have died in vain from a Euro-Atlantic point of view, while in the West the war economy will gain new momentum. A new Cold War era is emerging between the US and China. We will find out if there is life east of Eden.

But if the Apocalypse is not averted now, the price will be the complete destruction of the Central and Eastern European EU Member States from Finland to Bulgaria, as well as the non-EU countries of Eastern Europe. Russia will fall apart. A war between China and the US will break out in Central-Asia and in the Pacific region, which in the space of a few years will bring the current human race to the brink of extinction with a mass pandemic of radiation sickness and billions of mutations. It turns out that there is no life not only east of Eden, but not even in the Garden of Eden itself.

²⁷ When it comes to the "American interest", it is not necessarily the interest of the people of the United States of America or its government, but the interest of the so-called "*deep state*" representing global capital linked to the US.

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