

Ukraine Alone Makes Biden The Worst US President In A Long Time

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Caitlin Johnstone

[ROGUE JOURNALIST](#)

Fighting Nazis, protecting democracy and waging peace are not things the US empire actually does in real life. The US is the most tyrannical and murderous regime on earth, by a truly massive margin, and it will happily risk the life of everyone on earth if it means securing planetary rule..."

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Going Rogue With Caitlin Johnstone · Ukraine Alone Makes Biden The Worst US President In A Long Time

Antiwar libertarian hero Scott Horton has a viral [tweet](#) going around which reads simply, “Biden’s refusal to attempt to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine is the greatest scandal in American political history.”

Kind of smacks you in the face, doesn’t it? I’ve never seen anyone put it quite like that before, but if you think about it, how could it not be true?

It’s just a simple fact that the Biden administration is actually [hindering diplomatic efforts](#) to [negotiate an end to this war](#), and that it [has refused](#) to provide Ukraine with any kind of diplomatic negotiating power regarding the possible rollback of sanctions and other US measures to help secure peace. Washington’s top diplomats have consistently been

[conspicuously absent](#) from any kind of dialogue with their counterparts in Moscow.

Statements [from the administration](#) in fact indicate that they expect this war to [drag on for a long time](#), making it abundantly clear that a swift end to minimize the death and destruction is not just uninteresting but undesirable for the US empire. Ukrainian media [report](#) that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson told Zelensky on behalf of NATO powers that “even if Ukraine is ready to sign some agreements on guarantees with Putin, they are not.”

Biden's refusal to attempt to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine is the greatest scandal in American political history.

– Scott Horton (@scotthortonshow) [May 5, 2022](#)

And this isn't just another war. This is a proxy war being waged by one of the world's two top nuclear forces against the world's other top nuclear force. This is more serious than Iraq. It is more serious than Vietnam. It is more serious than any US war that has happened in the lifetime of anyone likely to be reading these words, because Russia has increasingly valid reasons to believe its very existence as a nation is being threatened. This is therefore a war that could very easily result in [the death of everyone on earth](#).

The US Secretary of “Defense” [has openly said](#) that America's goal is to “weaken” Russia in this war. Biden himself has made statements which [can only be interpreted](#) as calls for regime change in Moscow. US officials have been leaking to the press claims that US intelligence has directly facilitated the [killing of Russian generals](#) and the [sinking of a Russian war](#)

[ship](#).

The imperial political/media class are not even denying that this is a US proxy war anymore. In an alarmingly rapid pivot from the mass media's earlier position that calling this a proxy war is merely an "[accusation](#)" promoted solely [by Russia](#), we're now seeing the use of that term becoming more and more common in authorized news outlets. The New Yorker [came right out](#) and declared that the US is in "a full proxy war with Russia" the other day, and US congressman Seth Moulton recently [told Fox News](#) that the US is at war with Russia through a proxy.

"At the end of the day, we've got to realize we're at war, and we're not just at war to support the Ukrainians," Moulton said. "We're fundamentally at war, although it's somewhat through proxy, with Russia. And it's important that we win."

Wait what? We are officially in a proxy war with Russia? Did anyone sign up for this? pic.twitter.com/HriYAz047U

– Eli Stein (@Fight_Back_NYC) [May 2, 2022](#)

How fast did that happen? How fast were we paced from "It's Russian propaganda to call this a proxy war" to "Obviously this is a proxy war and we need to make sure we win"? Fast enough to make your head spin, that's for sure.

And it's not just a proxy war, it's a proxy war the US knowingly provoked. We know now that the US intelligence cartel had clear vision into Russia's plans to launch this invasion, which means they also knew how to prevent it. A few low-cost maneuvers like [promising not to add Ukraine to NATO](#) as well as promising Zelensky that the US would protect him and his government from the violent fascist factions who were [threatening to kill him](#) if he honored the Minsk agreements and

made peace with Russia as Ukrainians elected him to do. That's all it would have taken.

Many, many western experts [warned for many years](#) that the actions of the US and NATO would lead to the confrontation we're now being menaced with. There was every opportunity to turn away from this war, and instead the US-centralized empire hit the accelerator and drove right into it. Knowingly.

The whole thing was premeditated. All with the goal of weakening Russia and effecting regime change in Moscow in order to [secure US unipolar hegemony](#).

Most fascinating thing about the Ukraine war is the sheer number of top strategic thinkers who warned for years that it was coming if we continued down the same path.

No-one listened to them and here we are.

Small compilation ????? of these warnings, from Kissinger to Mearsheimer.

– Arnaud Bertrand (@RnaudBertrand) [March 1, 2022](#)

The Biden administration was the last in a [long line](#) of decision-makers to choose this world-threatening confrontation over peace. There was an opportunity to avert this horror, and that opportunity wasn't taken.

Allowing the world to come this close to nuclear war already makes Biden the worst US president since Bush. At least. History may well show his to be the single most depraved presidency of all time.

Preventing nuclear war is a US president's single most important job. It's so important you shouldn't even really have to talk about it, because it's so self-evidently the

number one priority. And this administration is just [rolling the dice on nuclear conflict](#) with increasing frequency every day.

Even if humanity survives this standoff (and the one with China that's [next in line](#)), Biden will still have been an unforgivably depraved president for allowing it to get this close. There's no excuse whatsoever for just casually rolling the dice on all terrestrial life like this.

Just seriously meditating on what nuclear war is and what it means should be enough to show anyone that any flirtation with the remotest possibility of inflicting it on our world is unforgivable. It's the worst crime anyone could possibly commit short of actual nuclear war.

Now all we can do is hope some small spark of sanity ignites deep within our species before we snuff ourselves out for good.

addendum

The US Could've Prevented This War Just By Protecting Kyiv From Nazis



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Going Rogue With Caitlin Johnstone · The US Could've Prevented This War Just By Protecting Kyiv From Nazis

As we hydroplane toward the [brink of nuclear armageddon](#) while Bono and the Edge [play U2 songs in Kyiv](#), it's probably worth taking a moment to highlight the fact that this entire war could have been avoided if the US had simply pledged military protection for Zelensky against the far right extremists who were threatening to lynch him if he enacted the peacemaking policies he was elected to enact.

To be clear, what we are indulging in here is entirely an act of fantasy. In imagining what would have happened if the US had pledged to protect the Ukrainian government from an undemocratic violent overthrow at the hands of fascists instead of waging a horrific proxy war, we are imagining a world in which the US government acts in the highest interest of all instead of working continuously to dominate the planet no matter how much madness and cruelty it needs to inflict upon humanity. A world in which the US hadn't been taking steps toward the orchestration of this proxy war [for many](#)

[years](#).

With that out of the way, it's just a simple fact that for a fraction of the military firepower the US is pouring into Ukraine right now, it could have prevented the entire war by simply protecting Ukrainian democracy from the undemocratic impulses of the worst people in that country.

When he was [asked](#) by The Nation's Katrina vanden Heuvel last month what he thinks is preventing Kyiv from signing a peace agreement with Russia, John Mearsheimer, whose analysis of this conflict [has been prophetic](#) for many years, replied as follows:

I think that when Zelensky ran for president he made it very clear that he wanted to work out an arrangement with Russia that ended the crisis in Ukraine, and he won. And what he then tried to do was move toward implementing the Minsk II agreement. If you were going to shut down the conflict in Ukraine, you had to implement Minsk II. And Minsk II meant giving the Russian-speaking and the ethnic Russian population in the easternmost part of Ukraine, the Donbas region, a significant amount of autonomy, and you had to make the Russian language an official language of Ukraine.

I think Zelensky found out very quickly that because of the Ukrainian right, it was impossible to implement Minsk II. Therefore even though the French and the Germans, and of course the Russians were very interested in making Minsk II work, because they wanted to shut down the crisis, they couldn't do it. In other words, the Ukrainian right was able to stymie Zelensky on that front.

When Mearsheimer says that the Ukrainian right was able to

stymie Zelensky, he doesn't mean by votes or by democratic processes, he means by threats and violence. In an article last month titled "[Siding with Ukraine's far-right, US sabotaged Zelensky's mandate for peace](#)," journalist Aaron Maté wrote the following:

In April 2019, Zelensky was elected with an overwhelming 73% of the vote on a promise to turn the tide. In his inaugural address the next month, Zelensky declared that he was "not afraid to lose my own popularity, my ratings," and was "prepared to give up my own position – as long as peace arrives."

But Ukraine's powerful far-right and neo-Nazi militias made clear to Zelensky that reaching peace in the Donbas would have a much higher cost.

"No, he would lose his life," Right Sector co-founder Dmytro Anatoliyovych Yarosh, then the commander of the Ukrainian Volunteer Army, responded one week after Zelensky's inaugural speech. "He will hang on some tree on Khreshchatyk – if he betrays Ukraine and those people who died in the Revolution and the War."

Unlocked: Siding with Ukraine's far-right, US sabotaged Zelensky's historic mandate for peace, by [@aaronjmate](#) <https://t.co/3rY0dIcob2>

– Aaron Maté (@aaronjmate) [April 15, 2022](#)

In a [2019 interview with Maté](#), the late great scholar Stephen Cohen made the following comments:

But ultimately you have a situation now which seems not to be

widely understood, that the new president of Ukraine, Zelensky, ran as a peace candidate. This is a bit of a stretch and maybe it doesn't mean a whole lot to your generation, but he ran a kind of George McGovern campaign. The difference was McGovern got wiped out and Zelensky won by, I think, 71, 72 percent. He won an enormous mandate to make peace. So, that means he has to negotiate with Vladimir Putin. And there are various formats, right? There's a so-called Minsk format which involves the German and the French; there's a bilateral directly with Putin. But his willingness—and this is what's important and not well reported here—his willingness to deal directly with Putin, which his predecessor, Poroshenko, was not or couldn't or whatever reason—actually required considerable boldness on Zelensky['s part], because there are opponents of this in Ukraine and they are armed. Some people say they're fascists but they're certainly ultra-nationalist, and they have said that they will remove and kill Zelensky if he continues along this line of negotiating with Putin.

...

Zelensky cannot go forward as I've explained. I mean, his life is being threatened literally by a quasi-fascist movement in Ukraine, he can't go forward with full peace negotiations with Russia, with Putin, unless America has his back. Maybe that won't be enough, but unless the White House encourages this diplomacy, Zelensky has no chance of negotiating an end to the war, so the stakes are enormously high.

Why Russia Went to War Now

by Ted Snider [#Ukraine](#) [#Russia](#) [#NATO](#) <https://t.co/mhSYkZiMbkpic.twitter.com/kXz9HRLJfb>

– Antiwar.com (@Antiwarcom) [May 2, 2022](#)

In an article titled "[Why Russia Went to War Now](#)," Antiwar's Ted Snyder explains that Putin likely made the decision to invade because Kyiv wasn't respecting Minsk II and because future NATO membership with Ukraine was being kept on the table while weapons poured into the country from the US.

"Zelensky wouldn't talk to the leaders of the Donbas, Minsk was dead and Russia feared an imminent operation against the ethnic Russian population of the Donbas," Snyder writes. "At the same time, Washington had become a leaky faucet on promises of flooding Ukraine with weapons and open doors to NATO: two red lines Putin had clearly drawn."

But, again, Zelensky couldn't enact Minsk because it had been made abundantly clear to him that he faced a horrific death by fascist lynch mob if he did. If the choice is between taking a chance on a US proxy war and getting Gaddafied in the public square, I think many leaders around the world would opt for the former.

So Zelensky [made peace with the Nazis](#), whose will for Ukraine aligned with Washington's.

Despite his branding in MSM as a Jewish leader against including Nazis in Ukrainian's government & military, Pres. Zelensky caved when they challenged him, has honored them, offered seats at the table & relies on them as a frontline force against Russia <https://t.co/tFNyPDSCNk>

– Alex Rubinstein (@RealAlexRubi) [March 4, 2022](#)

But what this means is that every major factor which led to Russia's decision to invade could have been nullified by the US government. A guarantee of no NATO membership for Ukraine could have been made. The weapons supplies could have been

stopped. And Zelensky and his government could have received protection from the US military against the armed fascists who would repeat their [violent acts](#) of [2014](#) upon them.

It would have been wins all around. We wouldn't be staring down the barrel of nuclear armageddon. Ukraine would have been spared the horrors of an insane proxy war. Western powers wouldn't be sending arms to literal Nazi factions. And the US would *actually* be protecting Ukrainian democracy, instead of just pretending to.

But, again, we are only indulging in fantasy here. Fighting Nazis, protecting democracy and waging peace are not things the US empire actually does in real life. The US is the most tyrannical and murderous regime on earth, by a [truly massive margin](#), and it will happily risk the life of everyone on earth if it means securing planetary rule.

But sometimes it's nice to imagine the kind of world we might be living in if we were not [ruled by psychopaths](#).

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This is a dispatch from our ongoing series by Caitlin
Johnstone



ABOUT THE AUTHOR **Caitlin Johnstone** is a brave journalist, political junkie, relentless feminist, champion of the 99 percent. And a powerful counter-propaganda tactician.

NOTE

^1000Careerist lackeys serving the elites control the American press.

Ever pushing for war and inequality, covering up the oligarchy's crimes...

They are in reality shameless disinformers.

No wonder the world is in such terrible disarray.



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