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Biden-EU Energy Policy Helped Putin Invade Ukraine

Never mind the rhetorical outrage and empty bluster from the Biden White House and the equally feckless “leaders” of Europe over Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The truth is that their militant jihad against fossil fuels and their fanatical devotion to the religion of “renewable energy” not only greenlighted Moscow’s assault on Kiev but guaranteed that the United States and EU (and energy consumers the world over) would foot the bill for Putin’s military venture. The dirty secret is that Europe’s suicidal decision to kill their own nuclear, coal, oil, and natural gas options in the name of saving the world from “climate change” has not only made them politically impotent by increasing their dependence on Russian gas, coal, and oil, but has also emboldened Putin by running up his energy revenues beyond anything he could have done by simply increasing production.



AP Images

Ditto for the actions of the Biden administration. As his first official act on his first day in the Oval Office, President Joe Biden declared war on U.S. fossil-fuel production and U.S. energy independence. As a payoff to his radical “green” allies, with the stroke of a pen he issued an executive order canceling the Keystone XL pipeline, a 1,200-mile-long project to bring 800,000 barrels of oil a day from Canada to the United States. “Leaving the Keystone XL pipeline permit in place would not be consistent with my Administration’s economic and climate imperatives,” he declared. (Ironically, in killing the Keystone XL, Biden stopped the world’s *first zero-emission energy pipeline*.)

But killing Keystone was only the opening salvo of Biden’s destructive attacks on U.S. energy production. He followed that up by rejoining the UN’s disastrous Paris climate accord, halting drilling leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), halting oil and gas leases and drilling permits on federal lands and waters (which account for nearly 25 percent of U.S. production), and placing a strict, new regulatory regime on energy production. On top of all that, Biden sent Vladimir Putin a bonus: Go ahead with Nord Stream 2, the huge (and hugely controversial) natural-gas pipeline owned by Russia’s state-backed energy giant Gazprom that provides a new mainline of energy addiction to Germany.

President Trump had expended considerable political capital and had successfully pressured European leaders to halt the dangerous scheme to put their nations’ necks inside the Gazprom energy noose.

At the 2018 NATO summit in Brussels, Trump spoke bluntly to then-German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the “former” communist who was taking Germany into Putin’s energy cartel. “Germany will have almost 70 percent of their country controlled by Russia with natural gas,” Trump said. “You tell me, is that



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appropriate? We're supposed to be guarding against Russia and Germany goes out and pays billions and billions of dollars a year to Russia?"

He likewise called out the rest of Europe's leaders in a breakfast meeting with NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, another "former" communist who, until Russia's invasion of Ukraine, had been disturbingly nonchalant over Nord Stream 2 and Russia's growing leverage over the EU's energy. President Trump warned Stoltenberg that Germany was becoming "captive to Russia," noting further, "It is very sad when Germany makes a massive oil and gas deal with Russia, where we're supposed to be guarding against Russia, and Germany goes and pays out billions and billions of dollars a year to Russia. We're protecting Germany, we're protecting France, we're protecting all of these countries."

Stoltenberg tried to paper over the disagreement by acknowledging there can be differences among allies, while offering the empty platitude, "We are stronger together." Trump was not to be so easily put off. "But how can you be *together* when you're getting energy from the group you want protection from?" he asked, referring to Germany as an example. Trump asked Stoltenberg to explain why Berlin was dependent on energy from Russia, and asserted that Germany was "totally controlled" by and "captive to Russia" as a result of the pipeline project. "We're supposed to protect you against Russia and yet you make this deal with Russia," Trump said, referring to Merkel's Germany. "Explain that. It can't be explained."

Stoltenberg countered that Nord Stream 2 construction is not NATO's business. "It's not for NATO to decide; this is a national decision," he insisted, adding that although NATO allies sometimes have "different views," NATO has always been able to "unite around our core task to protect and defend each other."

Naturally, President Trump was blasted by the Democrats and the media for "insulting" our European "allies" and disparaging NATO. Failed presidential candidate and former Secretary of State John Kerry later claimed Trump's comments were "counterproductive." "It was disgraceful, destructive, and flies in the face of the actual interests of the United States of America," Kerry said, while failing to explain (and not being *asked* to explain by the press) how Europe's growing dependence on Russia is in America's *or* Europe's interests. "He is steadily destroying our reputation in the world," said Kerry, who, as Biden's climate czar, bears much of the responsibility for the global energy policies that are pumping tens of billions of dollars into Putin's war machine.

As President Trump's Deputy National Security Advisor K.T. McFarland recently pointed out in a speech at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Orlando, Florida, "If oil is at \$40 a barrel, which it was when President Trump left office, the Russians are broke." "They can't afford to go to war," she said. "War is expensive." But with oil more than \$100 a barrel and rising, and Europeans needing natural gas to heat their homes and run their power plants, Putin is rolling in cash and can do whatever he wants.

For his part, President Trump went to work at home and reversed the anti-energy policies of the Obama-Biden administration (and those of prior Republican and Democratic administrations). By September 2019, the United States had become energy-independent again — something our nation hadn't seen since 1957. Many said it was impossible, that it would never happen. But it *did* happen, and we even *exported* energy. The abundant energy — from all sources — dramatically jump-started our economy and benefited everyone. According to [Statista.com](#), the average price for gasoline in the



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United States in April 2020 was \$1.95 a gallon. Now it is above \$3.50 a gallon.

In May of 2021, Biden Secretary of State Antony Blinken began lifting the Trump sanctions on Nord Stream 2, and before the end of July had removed them altogether. Stoltenberg, Merkel, and Biden — and the globalist interests they serve — had prevailed, and the pipeline forged full-steam ahead, a gigantic boon to the Putin regime that they all claim to despise.

Modern industrialized nations — and their militaries — run on fossil fuels, not fickle windmills, solar panels, and butterfly sneezes. A strong national defense is not possible without a strong economy, and a robust economy is not possible without a robust, diversified, domestic energy sector. The United States is blessed beyond all other nations in this respect, but all our energy resources are being intentionally put off limits, purposely making us dependent, impoverished, and militarily vulnerable. At the same time the Biden administration was killing our domestic Keystone XL pipeline, it was giving Putin's Nord Stream 2 pipeline the go-ahead. And while Biden was nixing domestic oil and gas exploration and production, he was begging OPEC to *increase* oil production. Moreover, while trying to kill America's coal industry, which, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, provides about 19 percent of our electricity generation, Biden signed onto the Paris accord, which allows Communist China to continue to build coal-fired plants like gangbusters. Across the board, the Biden energy plan is an *anti-energy* plan when it comes to America. Biden doesn't seem to have a problem with *foreign* companies and workers producing energy, he just doesn't want *American* companies and workers producing energy. And this has dangerous real-world consequences, as the current war in Ukraine is proving.

Globalist Warhawks

As with the catastrophic Biden debacle in Afghanistan, the deadly ramifications of Team Biden's domestic and foreign energy policies and the signals they send are proving disastrous in Ukraine. The war that might have been averted with sensible energy measures and resolute statecraft is now upon us. And the people most responsible for bringing it on are pushing to expand the conflict.

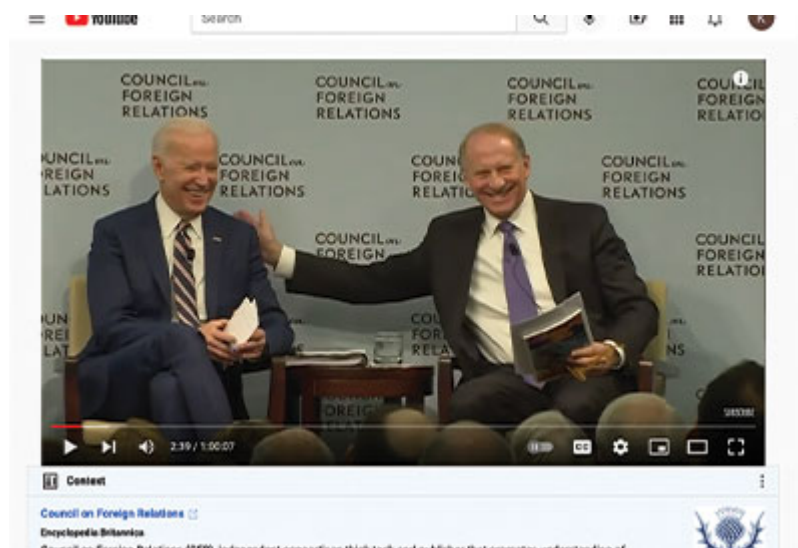
On February 25, NATO's Stoltenberg warned Moscow that even though Ukraine is not a member of NATO, the defense alliance may view any spillover effects of the invasion as cause for counteraction by NATO.

"For NATO Allies, we provide the absolute security guarantees under the Washington Treaty Article 5. An attack on one will be regarded as an attack on all," Stoltenberg said.



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Biden's boss: During his appearance at the Council on Foreign Relations in 2018, Joe Biden joked, "I work for [CFR President] Richard [Haass]." Having loaded up his cabinet and his administration with CFR members, it's no mystery who is really running the show.

According to Article 5, if any NATO ally becomes a victim of an armed attack, every member state of the alliance will combine and engage in actions to assist the victim against the aggressor — under the authority of the United Nations Security Council.

"Any such armed attack and all measures taken as a result thereof," says Article 5, "shall immediately be reported to the Security Council. Such measures shall be terminated when the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to restore and maintain international peace and security."

After having refused to consider the common-sense, passive-path energy plan proposed by President Trump that might have averted the current conflict, Stoltenberg is now pushing forward with a militaristic plan that could entrap the United States in an unwanted and unnecessary war. Ukraine's application for NATO membership has not been approved. Putin has adamantly opposed Ukraine joining NATO and has made it clear that Russia views Ukrainian membership in the alliance a cause for war. At the same time, the European Parliament has offered Ukraine membership in the European Union, another move that, if carried through, would further inflame the Ukraine-Russia situation and threaten to broaden the war. Is that really in anyone's interests?

Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, has been all over the Twittersphere and the Fake News industrial complex laying out the globalist line in support of Team Biden's plan to put the United States ever more deeply into the Ukraine quagmire. Of course, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, as a longtime CFR member, is but one of many Haass lieutenants who are running Team Biden. Readers may remember the infamous video of Joe Biden bragging about having used his vice-presidential post in the Obama administration to extort concessions from Ukraine by threatening to withhold U.S. funds. That appearance took place at the CFR on January 23, 2018 with Richard Haass sitting on stage right next to him.

The Biden-EU energy policies have been the carrot and the Biden-EU-NATO invitations for Ukraine to join NATO and the EU have been the stick in the globalist scheme to goad Putin into invading Ukraine. Add to that the daily picture of a mumbling, bumbling, stumbling commander in chief in the White House, the appalling U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, and Team Biden's forcing of woke politics on



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our military services while our military readiness ratings have gone down the toilet. Is it any wonder that Putin would eventually take advantage of all these green lights?

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