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Causes and Context of the Conflict in Ukraine, March, 2021

Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)

No to Anglo-US/NATO Warmongering! No to Lies and Disinformation!

The lies and disinformation from the US, Britain, NATO and other "Western" powers, and promoted full-on by the mainstream media, over what Russia is or is not doing in Ukraine is at fever pitch, at an almost overwhelming level. They are silent on what Russia's strategic interests may be, they are silent on what the US and NATO have been doing to provoke Russia, and have been also full-on with their Russophobia. The question which is central, to which these lies and disinformation draw a veil, is who is it that has been and is threatening the peace in Europe? Russia has taken pre-emptive action to defend its interests against the continuous escalation of the expansion of US troops and bases and of US-led NATO forces on Russia's borders. Yet is it not the United States and its aggressive military alliance NATO, of which Britain is a hard-core member, which have expanded their field of operation into eastern Europe threatening the very borders of Russia and done all they can to provoke war?

As Russian President Putin said, "We've seen five waves of NATO expansion - its military infrastructure has reached Russia's borders." Who in Britain, the US and elsewhere in the countries of the NATO alliance is being allowed to discuss this? And right now we are hearing that RT and Sputnik are being banned in the EU, prominent figures are being hounded for not condemning Putin, and so on. Any talk of freedom of speech rings hollow indeed.

So much is this the case that there amounts to a taboo on discussing the aim, nature and purpose of NATO and Britain's membership of it. To question whether indeed it is a force for peace is to invite being labelled "extremist". Given the danger of all-out European war, it is urgent that the British people do not accept any limitations on their freedom of speech which they require to argue out what is what and what stand favours



their interests and the interests of the peoples of the world.

In a televised address to the nation on Thursday, February 24, Boris Johnson said that Vladimir Putin "has attacked a friendly country without any provocation and without any credible excuse". The Prime Minister spoke of "innumerable missiles and bombs" which have supposedly "been raining down on an entirely innocent population". He went on to say, "It is an attack on democracy and freedom in East Europe and around the world. This crisis is about the right of a free, sovereign independent European people to choose their own future."

Presenting the actions of the US, Britain and others in NATO as peaceful, unprovocative and supportive of a free, sovereign independent and friendly country and choosing their own future is a historical fraud of the first order. The so-called "orange revolution" instigated by the US, Britain and other collaborators in Ukraine to effect regime change in late 2004, the arming and training of Ukrainian special forces, many of them from neo-Nazi militias and called "freedom fighters", overseeing their integration into the regular armed forces of Ukraine and inciting terrorist actions and insurrections in eastern Ukraine's Donbass and Lugansk region are not the actions of forces whose motivation is the well-being of the peoples of Ukraine, Russia and Europe. No-one is supposed to raise what the intervention under the leadership of the US, as with other so-called "colour revolutions", did for

the sovereignty of Ukraine, nor the consequences of the February 2014 coup sponsored by NATO and the EU.

The peoples of Russia, Ukraine and Europe as a whole do not want war, but neither will they accept US, British or German troops who are aligned with neo-Nazi forces to occupy and dictate to them. The historical parallels the imperialists are propagating that Putin is the new Hitler who cannot be appeased, and that this is the greatest act of war since 1945, could not be more false and will not wash.

Russia has said that its military action is to demilitarise and de-Nazify Ukraine. In a television address to the nation on February 24, President Putin said: "The people's republics of Donbass approached Russia with a request for help. In connection therewith, I made the decision to hold a special military operation. Its goal is to protect the people that are subjected to abuse, genocide from the Kiev regime for eight years, and to this end we will seek to demilitarise and de-Nazify Ukraine and put to justice those that committed numerous bloody crimes against peaceful people, including Russian nationals." The Russian Defence Ministry stated: "The Russian Armed Forces are not delivering artillery or air strikes against Ukrainian cities and are striking military infrastructure with precision weapons."

It is somewhat rich that suffering a defeat after 20 years in Afghanistan, and continuing to impose crippling sanctions on the suffering Afghan people, US President Joe Biden is shedding crocodile tears over "blood-thirsty Russian acts". When have NATO and Anglo-US imperialism stopped military intervention for what they describe as "humanitarian" pretexts? What happened in Yugoslavia in 1999, what has happened in Libya, and elsewhere, from such military intervention, including the bombing of these countries? Now that US brinkmanship, with the whole British government on-side, has brought about Russian military action, the United States and its allies are farcically claiming, as US

Secretary of State Blinken did, "One country does not have the right to dictate the policies of another or to tell that country with whom it may associate; one country does not have the right to exert a sphere of influence. That notion should be relegated to the dustbin of history."

The demand to dismantle NATO and for all US troops and bases and NATO special forces, trainers, advisors and troops to go home is a historical necessity. For the US and NATO to say they favour diplomatic solutions and peace, when they put a gun to the head of entire countries, threaten their security and engage in terrorist actions, war and aggression to achieve regime change, will not convince anyone that they are a force for peace.

The aim of the British government, the cartel parties in opposition, the US, NATO and their media is to demonise Russia and isolate it. They do not want people to analyse concrete conditions and draw warranted conclusions. In this vein, stoking up Russophobia, disinformation is presented as fact, with reports such as: "Russia launched a wide-ranging attack on Ukraine on Thursday, hitting cities and bases with airstrikes or shelling. Ukraine's government said Russian tanks and troops rolled across the border and accused Moscow of unleashing a 'full-scale war'." This is painting the picture that their political and economic masters wish to purvey and impose on the people and their ability to think.

The Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) calls on all the peoples and nations of Britain to oppose warmongering, lies and disinformation and actually to seek truth from facts in the service of what favours the peoples of Ukraine, Russia, Europe, Britain and globally. Only with the stands and actions of the people themselves can peace and security be found. No to this US/NATO-provoked war in Europe! NATO must withdraw from Eastern Europe and be dismantled! Oppose the warmongering of the British government and the cartel parties in the Parliament!

No to Anglo-US/NATO Warmongering! Fight for an Anti-War Government!

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