



# Is the rising war danger in Europe really unintentional?



The preconditions for a war in Europe are increasing dramatically. However, to what extent is Gsteigers interpretation correct, that the rising danger of war in Europe is supposedly unintentional?

On Aug 17th 2015 in the Swiss radio SRF1 evening news "Echo der Zeit", international editor Fredy Gsteiger concluded the following: "Military maneuvers raise the war danger in Europe." Russia as well as NATO have increasingly carried out more military maneuvers during the last months. NATO secretary general Jens Stoltenberg is proud of the first maneuvers of the new quick task forces in Eastern Europe, I quote: "Soldiers from nine different nations cooperate as one man together and demonstrate that NATO is prepared for the new demands

Sergei Lawrow, Russia's foreign minister in turn, was speaking of the need, to train the army more intensely. Both sides stressed, that of course it was only about defensive precautions. Nevertheless, Fredy Gsteiger still sees an increasing danger and refers to Thomas Frear who analyzed the latest maneuvers for the "European Leadership Network" in London. Frear sees a dangerous and increasingly intense sequence of action and reaction, a spiral turning faster and faster. Absolutely understandably, on both sides, there is a growing feeling of insecurity; and due to this, according to Thomas Frear, the need to arm themselves militarily. NATO however, has a different view and reacted sharply to the study, according to Fredy Gsteiger. Their own maneuvers served only the stabilization of the security situation in Europe, NATO announced. Moreover that these were moderate and transparent. Although NATO refuses to admit it, these common characteristics dominate, Gsteiger commented. Both sides focus on quick mobilization, on troop movements over large distances, on sea and air superiority and also on combat against irregular troops. According to Frear, this may well serve defensive purposes, but all these elements are also necessary for quick offensive operations.

Gsteiger comes to the conclusion, I quote: "So the war danger in Europe rises, not because either of the sides want it this way, but because on both sides the conditions for confrontations are created. Once the conditions are there, an accident, an incident, a misunderstanding can trigger a war." So far that is the assessment of SRF's international editor Fredy Gsteiger.

The preconditions for a war in Europe are increasing dramatically. However, to what extent is Gsteigers interpretation correct, that the rising danger of war in Europe is supposedly unintentional? Let's remember the last air raids of NATO in Europe. These began against Belgrade on the 24th of March 1999 in the course of the Kosovo war. At times more than 1,000 NATO airplanes were involved. It was the first war which NATO waged going beyond common defense as well as without explicit UN mandate. Previously, the proclamation of a mutual defense case and consequently an entry into war was only possible if an ally was attacked. What was the reason for NATO's military intervention and was it deliberate or not? The NATO attack against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was justified by the claim of trying to avert a supposed "humanitarian disaster". The Yugoslavian security forces under the

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control of Slobodan Milošević, at that time President of Yugoslavia, were said to have been involved in numerous human rights injuries among the Albanian population, up to the reproach of ethnic cleansing.

According to official statements NATO air raids were also actions of "self-defense" and not intentionally planned. In contrast, several employees of OSCE - the "Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe" – have a different view. Norma Brown, a close colleague of OSCE boss William Walker said, I quote: "There was no humanitarian disaster in Kosovo before the NATO air raids began. And that only these would cause the disaster was known to everybody in NATO, OSCE and our observer group." According to OSCE, previous to the bombardment by NATO, only 39 dead were counted in the whole country of Kosovo on both sides. Among them, there was not a single civilian victim. But the NATO bomb attacks, according to the German "AG Peace Research", killed 2,500 innocent civilians and more than 10,000 were injured. Furthermore, according to OSCE, a political solution between the opposing parties was already emerging. Also the published alleged evidence of Milošević's guilt in supposed war crimes, are was apparently faked by western media. Editors of the German TV program "Monitor" represented this opinion in a documentary from 1999 as well as notable German journalists like Oliver Tolmein, Georg Fülberth, Jürgen Elsässer and others.

According to these and other dissenting voices, the NATO air raids in 1999 on Yugoslavia were unlawful, founded upon lies and brought about intentionally. Also the German Jochen Scholz confirmed this, at that time lieutenant-colonel of NATO. According to Scholz, NATO's military planning for aerial warfare against Yugoslavia was concluded already in 1998 and entering the war was fully intentional - and this in spite of the OSCE report, according to which, no humanitarian disaster was happening which could have justified a military operation.

The reason why the NATO air raids were intended from the outset, Scholz explained, was the fact that due to the geographically interesting position of Yugoslavia, especially EU and NATO eastward expansion was on the agenda. I cite Scholz: "And there is a foreign body present, this half-socialist Yugoslavia which opposes all conditions - imposed from the outside. For example Serbia has always refused to accept the credit conditions of the International Monetary Fund; it did not participate for social reasons. So the "foreign body" had to be removed." End Quote.

All these hints indicate that the Yugoslavia war was very certainly intended by NATO in 1999. If Fredy Gsteiger had investigated the NATO air raids in 1999 seriously and extensively, according to journalism's guidelines, most certainly a different result would have emerged in his conclusions.

As history shows, a war in Europe can very well be waged intentionally, namely by NATO, as has been proven. This is why, it is absolutely necessary to watch out for any kind of war propaganda and justification for entry into war. We need to expose even the smallest attempts. This is the only way to prevent another "intentional" war. Join us again next time on Kla.tv.

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