
International Comments: Nazis Against Russia

While the U.S. news media have downplayed the murderous role of the neo-Nazis in the coup in Ukraine, not all in the West have been so blind and mute. A sampling:

Germany

Former German Chancellor **Gerhard Schröder** (SPD) criticized the Western pattern of anti-Putin propaganda, at an event organized by the weekly *Die Zeit* on March 9, saying that the EU has not “grasped in the slightest degree that [Ukraine] is a culturally divided country, one cannot treat such a country in such a way,” namely, pushing it to choose between the EU and Russia. Schröder had attacked EU before the regime change in Kiev, saying that the Europeans had disqualified themselves as unbiased mediators, since they had taken the side of the Maidan against the government.

The “Panorama” program of the first TV network on March 9 featured “Putsch in Kiev: What Role Are the Fascists Playing?” This reports that “extreme-right forces played an important role from the beginning on the Maidan,” exemplified by Svoboda, a neo-fascist party “received by the NPD [German neo-fascist party] in Saxony last year,” and “seen as Nazi allies [in the 1940s] in eastern and southern Ukraine.” Svoboda now controls the deputy prime minister, the chief public prosecutor, and the head of the national security council, Andrei Parubi, and the latter’s immediate deputy is “the neo-Nazi Dmytro Yarosh” who formed and heads the Right Sector. Citing Svoboda chief Oleh Tyahnybok’s statements about what he called “Russo-Jewish swine,” the piece ends by quoting German policy analyst Alexander Rahr: “The Right Sector was decisive for the coup in my view, because it is an organization

which was already ready to go to battle with the police and security forces. . . . It played a great part in the victory of the Maidan.”

A similar article was posted at RP Online, beginning: “In Ukraine, right groups have gained considerable political influence during the protests. Their representatives hold important posts in the new government in Kiev.” The author details how the Right Sector hacked Wikipedia to change its description of them to the blander “some major media describe them as extreme right or neo-fascist.”

On March 8, the ARD-TV network broadcast a program titled “With Nazi Symbols Against Putin: The Right Sector and the Maidan.”

Italy

European Parliament Member Pino Arlacchi, former director of the UN Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention, told Italian Radio 24 on Jan. 27 that the protest in Ukraine is in the hands of Nazis, and called on the EU to stop interfering in the country.

Asked whether he thinks that Europe is adequately supporting protesters “who demand Europe” in Ukraine, Arlacchi answered: “It does not seem at all that they are demanding ‘Europe’ at this time. The street is in the hands of pro-Nazi radicals and of Svoboda nationalists, who I do not think care much about Europe.”

Australia

Former Prime Minister **Malcolm Fraser** in the *Guardian* March 2 cited a column in the same publication by Seamus Milne, who had “described the elements then fighting the [Yanukovych] government as pro-fascist, pro-nazi, anti-Jew.”

Fraser wrote, “After the fall of the Soviet Union, many hoped the cold war ideology could be put behind, and that the powers could work for a more co-operative and a better world.” NATO, he suggested, was obsolete; it had “done its job.”

Fraser said that security for former republics of the Soviet Union and Soviet allies in Eastern Europe could have been achieved in many ways, but “NATO chose to provide that security by moving eastward to the borders of Russia.” He traced NATO’s eastward moves to George W. Bush’s insistence on deploying a BMD system on Russia’s borders. “America said this was aimed at Iran. Russia would not have believed that. The west was acting as though the cold war still persisted.” Fraser said that Georgia’s 2008 war, as well as the cur-

rent situation around Crimea, “grows directly from those early mistakes made by the west,” and from attempts to draw Ukraine into NATO.

United States

Paul Craig Roberts, a former Treasury official in the Reagan Administration, wrote on his website on March 5: “What has happened in Ukraine is that Washington plotted against and overthrew an elected legitimate government and then lost control to neo-nazis who are threatening the large Russian population in southern and eastern Ukraine, provinces that formerly were part of Russia. These threatened Russians have appealed for Russia’s help, and just like the Russians in South Ossetia, they will receive Russias help.

“The Obama regime and its presstitutes will continue to lie about everything.”