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Lavrov, Wang at UN

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## West Must Change Its Cold War ‘Genetic Code’

*Sept. 28—The foreign ministers of Russia and China rebuked the Obama Administration and NATO for their pro-war policies and violations of international law, during last week’s UN General Assembly sessions in New York City. Here are excerpts from their remarks.*

### **Lavrov Delivers ‘Blistering Attack’**

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov delivered what the Associated Press characterized it as a “blistering attack” on the U.S. and NATO, at the UN General Assembly Sept. 27, in which he accused them of being unable to change their Cold War “genetic code.” Lavrov said the crisis in Ukraine was the result of a coup d’état, backed by the U.S. and the EU for the purpose of pulling Kiev out of its “organic role as a binding link” between East and West, denying it the opportunity for “neutral and non-bloc status,” according to RIA Novosti.

“Washington has openly declared its right to use military force unilaterally and wherever it sees fit in order to protect its own interests. Military involvement has become normal, even though all military operations launched by the United States in recent years have been unfortunate.”

“Why not adopt a General Assembly declaration on the inadmissibility of interference in the internal affairs



UN/Rick Bajornas

*Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov addresses the UN General Assembly Sept. 27.*

of sovereign states and the nonrecognition of a coup as a means to change regime?” Lavrov said. “It is time to eliminate completely from international communication attempts of some states to illegally put pressure on other countries.”

Lavrov also attacked the stonewalling of the MH17 crash investigation. “Regardless of UN Security Council Resolution 2166, the thorough and independent investigation of the Malaysian aircraft crash in Ukraine is experiencing delays,” he said. “Attempts to distort the truth and conceal facts behind groundless accusations have been made at all stages of the Ukrainian crisis,” he added. “Nothing is done to find and punish those responsible for February bloodshed on Maidan, mass murder in Odessa, Mariupol, and other parts of Ukraine. The scale of the terrible humanitarian catastrophe, caused by the Ukrainian military in the southeast of Ukraine, is purposely downplayed. The recent days brought new horrifying details when mass graves were discovered near Donetsk.”

In an [interview with RT](#), Lavrov said: “I very much hope that the U.S. will finally see the light and realize that they can no longer act as the prosecutor, judge, and

executioner in every part of the world and that they need to cooperate to resolve issues.”

On Syria, he said that the proper way to fight ISIS “would have been to put the issue up at the UN Security Council and to cooperate with the Syrian government, which had long declared they were ready to cooperate with the international community in fighting terrorism. But the U.S. picked a different path. This is wrong, and doesn’t add legitimacy to the process. Furthermore, unintended consequences could provoke an escalation of the situation.”

Speaking at the UN Security Council meeting on “Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorists” Sept. 24, Lavrov said that “ISIL, the ANF [al-Nusrah Front], and other terrorist cells have long been growing in the Middle East. They have acquired additional opportunities for their criminal activity due to the weakening, including with foreign assistance, of state institutions and the support of various foreign sponsors. Having grown stronger, extremist groups are threatening the future of whole nations, as evidenced by the examples of Iraq, Libya, Syria. The next targets are Lebanon, Yemen, Mali, and the Central African Republic.”

In a clear reference to Obama Administration policy, Lavrov charged, “The intervention in Iraq, the bombing of Libya and foreign support for extremists in Syria have aggravated the issue of foreign militants fighting in the terrorist organizations in many countries of the Middle East, Africa, and the Afghan border regions.” He called for “convening a representative UN-sponsored forum of all countries in the region, the African Union, the Arab League, the permanent UN Security Council members and other concerned parties.” This conference would “look at the deep roots of regional problems.”

### **Wang: We Should Seek Political Solutions**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi sharply criticized the Obama Administration in his speech Sept. 27 to the UN General Assembly, as reported by the Sept. 28 *BRICS Post*.

“If a country places its domestic law above international law and interferes in other countries’ internal af-



*Wang Yi, Foreign Affairs Minister of China, speaking at the UN General Assembly Sept. 27.*

UN/Kim Haughton

fairs at will or even seeks regime change, the legitimacy of its actions cannot but be questioned by the international community.” He added, “We should seek political solutions” to conflicts, and “corrective actions should have the authorization of the Security Council. To beat swords into ploughshares may take time and effort, but history and reality have repeatedly demonstrated that to meet violence with violence will not lead to enduring peace, and the use of force will create more problems than solutions.”

Wang stated that “parties to a conflict should reject the zero-sum approach, address each other’s concerns, and endeavor to meet each other halfway.” He said that “the Syrian crisis had continued for nearly four years. It is negotiations, not fighting, that offer solutions.” With respect to Palestine, he said the issue is “a wound on the human conscience.” He called for Israel to lift its blockade on the Gaza Strip and stop building settlements on the West Bank.

Wang also addressed the Ebola crisis stating, “As a good brother and good partner of Africa sharing weal and woe with it, China will continue to stand firmly with the African people, and support and assist them to the best of its ability. We will also take an active part in the relevant international assistance efforts.”