

US Peace Council, Peace and FactFinding Delegation to Syria, 2016 July

Some further references (find this file at <http://uspeacecouncil.org>)

- USPC open letter 2015 October 10 to peace movement raising threat of direct confrontation between US and Russia, referring to Project for a New American Century and proposals for peace. <<http://uspeacecouncil.org/?p=2748>>

- US Peace Council statement 2013 March 24 demonstrating lies used to demonize Syrian government and justify violent overthrow, listing actions Syrian government took to respond to the nonviolent opposition, explaining the grand imperialist strategy described in the Project for the New American Century that before 9/11 required the US to overthrow 7 governments, most of which has now been accomplished. <<http://uspeacecouncil.org/?p=2266>>

- Statement from Veterans for Peace calling for an end to US war on Syria and reparations. VFP Vice President Gerry Condon co-lead the USPC delegation. <<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/our-work/position-statements/stop-war-syria-dont-be-fooled-war-propaganda/>>

• TV/YouTube

- Eva Bartlett TV interview. Bartlett just spent 9 weeks in Syria, including Aleppo, and challenges US government and other media distortions on what is happening in Syria and who the criminals are. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uizEIEOsjg>> Website is <<https://ingaza.wordpress.com>>

- Video interviews with the people of Aleppo after what they call "liberation" (French/English) <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8DJJDCGQ9g&app=desktop>>

- TV Press Conference with USPC Delegation to Syria at United Nations. <<http://webtv.un.org/watch/bashar-ja'afari-syria-and-us-peace-council-representatives-on-syria-press-conference/5077088426001>>

- Syrian TV interview with members of USPC Peace Delegation. Questions are in Arabic, answers in English with Arabic in background. <<http://www.globalresearch.ca/us-peace-council-delegation-visit-to-syria-our-governments-are-attempting-to-destroy-this-noble-country-vanessa-beeley/5540516>>

- Former UK ambassador to Syria tells skeptical interviewer that UK and US should back off. He does not accept that nonintervention means support for Syrian government. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEgh1Wi-YEk&feature=youtube_gdata_player>

- Youtube videos of Veterans for Peace workshop on Syria with Gerry Condon. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul4Uoen5MaU>>

<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aIdLZHB8Dns>>

- Dr. Tim Anderson, author of "The Dirty War On Syria," TV interview. A concise, compelling analysis of the history of the war often from government sources and the nefarious role of the mass media. See book link below. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF21hR0PgbQ>>

- Vanessa Beeley details the role of NGOs including the White Helments and various Foundations in furthering the violence in Syria on The Alternative View. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG6gb31VJHA>>

- Vanessa Beeley, journalist member of the Peace Delegation to Syria, is on the ground in Syria; discloses here CNN's journalists embedded with ISIS; visit of Delegation to Maaloula. Links to other Beeley articles. <<http://21stcenturywire.com/2016/08/04/syria-cnn-normalizes-suicide-bombers-and-embeds-reporters-with-isis-and-al-qaeda/>>

- On 2014.Oct.2 Vice President Joe Biden tells the Harvard Kennedy School that US allies Turkey, Saudi and the Emirates have been supplying ISIL, which grew out of Al Qaeda Iraq and moved into Syria. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25aDP7io30U>> He later apologizes for telling the truth. <<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/10/05/vp-biden-apologizes-for-telling-truth-about-turkey-saudi-and-isis.html>>

• Interview links

- Kevin Pina, Flashpoints, with Henry Lowendorf, USPC. Starts at 27 minutes. <<https://kpfa.org/player/?audio=240205>>

- Cheryl Curtiss interviews Henry Lowendorf on Syria delegation. <<http://www.radio4all.net/index.php/program/88013>>

- David Swanson interviews July delegate to Syria Judy Bello from United National Antiwar Coalition. <<http://davidswanson.org/node/5247>>

New Haven Register: <<http://www.nhregister.com/general-news/20160823/new-haven-peace-delegation-to-speak-saturday-about-their-trip-to-syria>>

- Muslim Press with Madelyn Hoffman: <http://www.newjerseyhills.com/mt_olive_chronicle/news/flanders-activist-sees-a-different-side-of-syria/article_9e9c42b4-98bb-596c-9f6d-8ab390334f45.html>

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- Mount Olive Chronicle with Madelyn Hoffman: <http://www.newjerseyhills.com/mt_olive_chronicle/news/flanders-activist-sees-a-different-side-of-syria/article_9e9c42b4-98bb-596c-9f6d-8ab390334f45.html>

• Background links

- Public interest lawyer Robert Roth provides an extensive primer on the history of the war on Syria. <<https://www.newcoldwar.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Robert-Roth-Syria-primer-January-3-2017.pdf?369d19>>

- University of Sydney lecturer Dr. Tim Anderson's book, The Dirty War on Syria, describes what is happening in Syria including historical background and the media's role. Print \$15.00 or PDF \$9.45 <<https://store.globalresearch.ca/store/new-the-dirty-war-on-syria-washington-regime-change-and-resistance-print-copy/>>.

• News links

- Article by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., outlining the efforts of the US government to overthrow one Syrian government after another since WWII. <<http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/02/rfk-jr-why-arabs-dont-trust-america-213601>>

- Robert Parry evaluates President Obama's policy of spending \$500 million to train "moderates" to fight against Syria. <<https://consortiumnews.com/2015/10/10/obamas-two-timing-foreign-policy/>>

- Seymour Hersh evaluates efforts by the Pentagon both to work with Syrian President Assad's government and to undermine it. He exposes the "ratline" of weaponry the CIA was sending from Libya after NATO had destroyed it to Syria. <<http://www.lrb.co.uk/v38/n01/seymour-m-hersh/military-to-military>>

- Robert Parry points that the kind of thinking that led to the war on Afghanistan and Iraq is being recreated to support the war on Syria and its escalation to a nuclear confrontation. <<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/10/05/new-group-think-for-war-with-syriarussia/>>

- Salon article shows Hillary Clinton and other officials knew the truth about Saudi, etc., funding terrorists. <<http://www.salon.com/2016/10/11/leaked-hillary-clinton-emails-show-u-s-allies-saudi-arabia-and-qatar-supported-isis/>>

- Report on UK delegation to Syria: <<http://21stcenturywire.com/2016/09/06/syria-uk-peace-delegation-meet-with-president-assad/>>

- A commentary on the use of children in war, or hiding them, to promote a political position. <<https://off-guardian.org/2016/08/25/a-tale-of-two-syrian-boys-only-one-of-whom-is-supposed-to-matter/>>

- Vanessa Beeley, independent journalist who joined our delegation to Syria, analyzes the White Helmets, a fully orchestrated Hollywood and Madison Avenue production. <<http://21stcenturywire.com/2016/10/02/the-white-helmets-campaign-for-war-not-peace-rla-and-nobel-peace-prize-nomination-should-be-retracted/>>

- Former Iraq weapons inspector and marine Scott Ritter dissects the White Helmets as part of the anti-Assad coalition, although he accepts the WH assertion that it actually saves lives. <http://www.truthdig.com/report/page2/white_helmets_inherent_contradiction_americas_syria_policy_20161005>

- Max Blumenthal exposes the worldwide PR war led by an outfit called Syria Campaign and funded by the US State Department, UK Foreign Ministry, Saudis, Qataris and private individuals like George Soros. <<http://www.alternet.org/world/inside-shadowy-pr-firm-thats-driving-western-opinion-towards-regime-change-syria>>

- Steven Chovanec summarizes the biased coverage on Aleppo. <<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/10/08/selective-outrage-over-aleppo-bombing/>>

- Patrick Cockburn compares the biased coverage of Mosul and Aleppo. <<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/iraq-syria-aleppo-mosul-patrick-cockburn-propaganda-we-consume-a7373951.html>>

- Eva Bartlett in 2015 excellently reviews the history of the conflict in Syria, exposing the massive propaganda efforts to mislead the public, containing ample and varied references. <<http://dissidentvoice.org/2015/10/deconstructing-the-nato-narrative-on-syria/>>

- 2016.12.16 Baran Hines in Canadian Global Research documents ten sets of misleading news accounts, some purporting to show the last testaments and videos of children and journalists claiming to be ready to be killed by the Syrian government in E. Aleppo, who seem to have survived just fine; and other doctored or faked news reports claiming that the Syrian government is massacring its own people and destroying its own infrastructure; meanwhile ignoring the celebrations of Syrians finally liberated from the al Nusra terrorists. <<http://www.globalresearch.ca/ten->

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massive-fake-news-stories-western-media-has-been-feeding-you-on-aleppo/5563766>

- Louis Allday critiques the means that those supporting more war on Syria use to shut down debate and intimidate doubters. <<http://mrzine.monthlyreview.org/2016/allday131216.html>>
- Rick Sterling examines who the propagandists are and the new \$160 million the US government is budgeting to prevent us from alternative views of the universe. <<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/08/23/propaganda-for-syrian-regime-change/>>
- Mennonite leader Berry Friesen discusses the “fall of Aleppo” and some history of the Syrian conflict. <<http://www.bible-and-empire.net/2016/12/the-fall-of-aleppo.html>>
- Philip Weiss provides audio of tape of John Kerry, speaking to US Syrians. Kerry reveals that the US watched and did nothing as ISIS took over Syria, hoping ISIS would overthrow the Syrian government and then the US would somehow “manage” the situation. <<http://mondoweiss.net/2017/01/watched-manage-leaked/>>
- In light of the new “1984-” style “Countering Foreign Propaganda and Disinformation Act,” that President Obama signed into law, Rick Sterling dissects the Syrian propaganda industry. <<http://truepublica.org.uk/global/the-information-war-on-syria-and-beyond/>>

• Syrian Elections

- The 2014 presidential elections are reported by AP and FoxNews as displaying considerable popular support for Assad. Even as quotes from analysts provide the CIA narrative, note in particular the interviews with Syrians. Also note that Syrians resist identifying themselves with a particular religious faith, an historic fact which counters imperialist efforts to divide Syrians. <<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/06/04/syrian-election-shows-depth-popular-support-for-assad-even-among-sunni-majority.html>>
- Human rights activist Ajamu Baraka analyzes the 2014 Syrian election in light of strong US opposition, pointing out that even displaced refugees in Lebanon flocked to the polls; and further that those who politically criticize President Assad voted for him as the only bulwark against the sectarian terrorists supported by foreign intervention. <<http://www.counterpunch.org/2014/06/04/the-syrian-elections/>>

- Interviews with International Observers by Eva Bartlett. “Paul Larudee: I’m sympathetic with the point of view that the election in Syria is not fully free and fair and open. But it’s probably more free and fair and open than the ones in the US and Canada. Clearly the Syrian president has a lot more support than the US president or the Canadian Prime Minister.” <<http://orientalreview.org/2014/06/03/international-observers-endorse-syrian-elections/>>
- Ken Stone reports on a delegation to Syria 2016 April that observed national elections. <<http://www.crescent-online.net/2016/04/election-day-in-syria-ken-stone-in-damascus-5333-articles.html>>
- The New York Times grudgingly acknowledges President Assad’s popularity in the 2014 election: “President Bashar al-Assad of Syria on Wednesday celebrated his overwhelming victory in a deeply disputed election, asserting his confidence and defiance in the Syrian conflict as supporters savored his success in thwarting the United States.” The Times balances this with quotes attacking the Obama administration for not doing enough by former US ambassador to Syria Robert Ford. See comments on Ford in Eva Bartlett’s interviews above. <https://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/05/world/middleeast/former-syria-ambassaor-ford-criticizes-us.html?_r=0>
- Russia Today made these comments on the election: “This was the first multi-candidate presidential election in Syria for almost 50 years. Despite the high turnout figures, residents of some areas in the country’s north and east were obstructed from voting by rebel forces. Russia and Iran both supported the election and Assad himself has said that it is part of his efforts to meet the opposition’s demands.” <<https://www.rt.com/news/163696-assad-win-president-syria/>>
- Washington Post actually had a reporter on the ground in Lebanon. “While it’s tempting to casually dismiss the upcoming Syrian election as a pointless exercise in legitimizing Bashar al-Assad’s rule, the scenes today in Lebanon are a clear reminder that a lot of people feel very strongly about it. Photographs taken near the Syrian Embassy in Yarze show huge crowds on the street, desperately trying to get to the embassy to vote ahead of the June 3 election. [The Post's Liz Sly was at the scene](#), and described it as “forceful affirmation” of Assad’s grip on power.” Check out the photos. <<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2014/05/28/this-is-what-the-syrian-election-looks-like-in-lebanon/>>