

The whimsical political system of the Russian Federation

Some questions but no answers by Dr. Manfred Pohl

When Ukraine, Finland and Sweden announce that they intend to join NATO, the Putin regime broadcasts threats that, viewed from afar, seem hilarious. Whose business is it to decide? Don't the countries have to decide for themselves? Is Russia the world gendarme? We already have one. Do we need another one?

If Western countries support Ukraine with weapons and money, Putin threatens nuclear weapons. Doesn't he know that you can't achieve goals or win a war with nuclear weapons, but only can destroy mankind and life altogether? Are his degenerative deficits in logical thinking really that pronounced?

If one reads the medical definition of paranoia, one realizes that every detail in it is applicable to Putin. But a completely different question then arises: Does nobody in his immediate vicinity really see how things are with him? Are they all delusional, or do they fear for their lives if they disagree?

Is the lie that the Ukrainians are "not a people, have no language and no culture, and are therefore not a state" just propaganda, or does he and his henchmen really believe it themselves? Isn't that a form of insanity that any student can easily recognize?

The similarities to German fascism should be viewed with reservations, as has been requested on various occasions. But doesn't the comparison with Leningrad in World War II come to mind when Putin demands that Mariupol be "sealed off so that no fly can come out"? How does the SS compare when you look at the FSB's atrocities in Bucha? Is it still comprehensible if the Putin regime tries to portray the mass graves in several regions as "Ukrainian stagings"? Don't the signs of wanting to exterminate the Ukrainian people stand up to comparison with Hitler's extermination of the Jews?

Is it not an acute mental disorder to cynically call the attack on Ukraine not a war but a "military special operation" and to name as the goal "denazification and demilitarization", although the Putin regime is more likely to be fascist and need a denazification? Lavrov even speaks of the "liberation of the Ukrainians from the yoke of the nationalists and Nazis". Hitler's maxim that "the world should heal through the German spirit" was representatively replaced by Putin's maxim that "where Russians live, there is Russia". Doesn't anyone see these parallels? Are Donbass and Crimea Russian because Russians live there or is that more dependent on other criteria?

Isn't the years of disinformation given to the Russian population through the suppression of press freedom and the manipulation of public opinion almost identical to the Nazi propaganda of the German Empire? Both Hitler and Putin had unwelcome critics imprisoned and even murdered (Navalny, Politkovskaya). Putin even has opponents of the regime spied on and destroyed abroad (Skripal). Shouldn't one name these facts? Is the comparison so absurd?

The world has recognized it. But a lot of Russians not. Just like the Germans were slow to understand the Hitler regime. Do we want to wait again until there are many millions of deaths again?

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