

TURKEY'S PERILOUS WAR DANCE

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Turkey is again overshooting the runway by throwing threats, abuse, and denunciations in all directions. Dealing with Erdogan has become an exercise in attempting to figure out the next outrage emerging from a person obsessed with power and prepared to follow the most extreme path in order to secure it. Is there a “rational” way of dealing with such a clear and present danger to peace and stability?

Erdogan and his stark insanities have become subjects of confused debate among Western commentators. Some ascribe to the notion Erdogan is anything but deranged but, rather, a cunning operator who knows well how to provoke friend and foe in order to gain. Others describe him as [“the world’s best Nazi”](#) with some good reason, it is true. Still others insist on “coolheaded” tactics to deal with yet another Turkish cycle of ugly tantrums, one of many this fictional “bastion” of Western defense has treated us to recently.

There is some truth in all of the above versions of who Erdogan is and what Turkey is trying to prove. In the end though the one common denominator here is that Turkey has become a liability for all attempts to pursue peace and stability in its immediate environs and, by extension, in the world.

Europe, NATO, and the United States appear incapable of agreeing on what to do with Turkey. The U.S. is sending its foreign secretary to meet Erdogan -- while Erdogan kicks around both Germany and the Netherlands over their refusal to allow him to campaign for the immigrant Turkish vote in their countries. Too many conflicting signals here. What’s the gameplay?

The honest answer is that nobody really knows what the gameplay is or, indeed, if a gameplay does exist. There’s much speculation all round and even more intelligence “situation assessments” which have the peculiar ability to confuse, rather than inform, their consumers. At

the end of the day, trying to control the Turkey menace will require changes in attitudes and policies very few in the West are prepared to contemplate, at least for now.

What exactly these changes entail?

Perhaps the most important need right now is for a thorough and aggressive history lesson. Turkey, as a stump of the Ottoman Empire, presents certain genetic anomalies that cannot be corrected. For example, both the Ottomans and Ataturk believed in putting to the sword anyone who was deemed inimical to the grand plans of, first, the empire and, later, “modern” Turkey. Ankara will never repent over the Armenian Genocide or that of the Pontic Greeks. These anomalies have now re-appeared as Erdogan focuses on the ethnic cleansing of the Kurds (who were, ironically, instrumental in Kemal’s massacres of the Christians) and introduces creeping neo-imperialistic sultanic demands thus injecting a dangerous form of blind brinkmanship in what Ankara thinks and does.

The [opulent palace](#) autocrat is obviously enamored with the idea of the imperial ways of the Sublime or High Porte; he promotes himself as infallible and all-knowing, just like the Ottoman sultan perceived himself, especially when it comes to the future of the Turks as the chosen people [to overtake Europe via the womb.](#)

And to take the interpretation that Erdogan is “the world’s best Nazi” one step further, there’s the obvious temptation to compare some of his views with those of the late Fuhrer of the 1000-year German Reich. While, for example, Turkey still appears in the books as a parliamentary “democracy,” Erdogan’s views of the opposition (not to mention the overriding need for a muscular, respected, all-embracing Turkish *Vaterland* as the beacon of Islamism) are very similar, if not identical, to Hitler’s approach to multiparty parliamentary politics as it was enunciated during the latter’s famous 1933 [Siemens plant speech.](#)

These anomalies, sprinkled with Erdogan’s own unique totalitarian Islamic spices, escape, either deliberately or due to ignorance, our various leaders. Diplomatic, corporate, and defense lobbies in Europe and the U.S. still invest in, and promote, Turkey despite its in-your-face slide toward dictatorship, government terror, and open sponsorship and support of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism. Trying to highlight Turkey as the menace it is continues to be a losing battle. As long as our infamous “elites” insist on ignoring the rapidly expanding and glaring Turkish threat to peace and security, no progress in dealing with the Turkish peril is possible. And those in Turkey [fearing](#) next month’s referendum can kill liberty and secularism are quite right to fear as they do.

In light of all this, how can NATO be so blind?

NATO isn’t known for its quick adjustment to a fluid and treacherous international environment. Following the collapse of the USSR, the Alliance went into a qualified tailspin on what to do next. Doctrine development since hasn’t been entirely successful. Choosing out-of-area intervention as the new “narrative” hasn’t been a good choice either involving the Alliance in

untenable, hazardous, and lifeblood-draining “freedom” projects. Add to all this the entrenched, almost religious, fixation with ideas that emerged in the 1950s, and are still considered eternal wisdom, and you get the quick answer to why Turkey isn’t causing the alarm klaxon to sound.

Under the circumstances [kicking Ankara out of NATO](#) would be a most welcome idea as a first step of pivoting away from babying Turkey’s emerging quasi Iranian regime--one of whose most prominent religious leaders is [openly advocating](#) the acquisition of nuclear weapons in order to oppose European “egotism” and “racism.” But this is too much of an upheaval for an organization that thrives on “tradition” and “tested acquired wisdom” whose utter failure seems not to register with the sages in Washington and the European capitals, not to mention NATO HQ.

NATO’s deliberate blindness re. Islamic Turkey is all the more disturbing when Erdogan’s open hatred of the Alliance can be barely concealed as this [statement](#) from one of his parliamentarians shows (such party statements aren’t allowed without the Padishah’s personal approval). [It is time for NATO to get serious about the Trojan horse which Turkey has become.](#)

How Secretary Tillerson’s upcoming visit to Ankara could influence the present Turkish mess?

President Trump has yet to deliver a concrete sign on how he plans to treat Turkey. Trying to read past the usual diplomatic niceties, still informed by the established Washington Turkey-is-key-ally attitude, has little hope of delivering any “actionable” interpretative material.

The resignation of Gen. Michael Flynn, Trump’s first national security adviser, however, [exposed the dangers](#) posed by residual Turkey collaborators inside Washington: Flynn was a “foreign agent” who had received \$530,000 to lobby for a Turkish company -- and had “forgotten” to mention the fact to Trump’s transition team. His unceremonious departure was a blow to Turkish machinations as a key American ally was lost in the most blatant manner.

Tillerson won’t have too much wiggling space during this visit, especially given the standard U.S. practice of avoiding any substantive talks when the interlocutor is involved in an electoral campaign and an imminent vote. The most likely outcome will be a polite “neutral” press communiqué following an expected meeting with Erdogan at his golden palace--who is undoubtedly vying for an invitation to visit the White House.

The Padishah will again put forth Turkish demands of cutting out the Kurds from Syria fighting and, especially, the assault to re-take Raqqa, Daesh’s “capital” in Syria, but the Pentagon has already [quashed](#) such Turkish hopes. Turkey’s maniacal war on the Kurds has [alienated](#) both Washington and Moscow and this is something that won’t be patched up any time soon. Furthermore, the U.S.-Russian rejection of Turkish demands for the Kurds to evacuate the town of Manbij, which they wrested from Daesh after hard fighting, adds to Turkish headaches and obsessions. American attempts to juggle these opposing targets though (helping the Kurds AND attempting to assuage Turkey) contain the potential of unpredictable and dangerous crises in the middle of a war that refuses to end.

What are Erdogan's specific targets in Syria and how these targets may collide with U.S. and Russian objectives, let alone those of Iran and Arab states like Saudi Arabia?

Erdogan's Syrian rollercoaster continues to create tensions which Turkey can ill afford. For example, Ankara's demand that Russian forces in the vicinity of Manbij do not "interfere" with Turkish military operations has been met with icy silence from Moscow and nonstop combat missions by the Soviet air force. Erdogan is also concerned with the spread of Russian military actions throughout Syria, a development which the Turkish-Russian "rapprochement" during 2016 has failed to prevent. Moscow is in Turkey's way concerning the post-Daesh future of Syria; Erdogan would prefer a pro-Turkish Islamic regime in Damascus with Assad sidelined an objective that collides head on with Russian postwar plans. To add insult to Turkish injury, Moscow is positively inclined toward some form of Kurdish autonomy, a pure anathema to the Turks--who already dream of a Turkish controlled zone on Syrian soil along the Turkey-Syria border. The U.S., meantime, has deployed Special Forces and U.S. Marines in Mosul and elsewhere, rubbing shoulders with uneasy and grumpy Turkish troops forced to watch American combat columns racing along and flying oversized American flags on their battle vehicles. Finally, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, both supporters of Islamic terrorists in Syria connected to their respective regimes, eye the expansion of Iranian influence in the Syrian war through Hizb'allah with great consternation. And we won't even touch Israel's complicated role in all of this and the Jewish state's unbending opposition to any Islamic influence in Syria.

Erdogan has declared war on Europe. What should the European Union do?

The European "union" has no credible ability to do what it takes to oppose a delirious Erdogan and his emerging full-fledged Islamic regime. Economic interests, Europe's lukewarm posture in battling Islamic terrorism, the ravages of "multiculturalism," and the generalized war by the liberal Left against the Christian nation state and its inviolable borders have combined to undermine even the mere thought of doing something--anything--decisive against Ankara. Furthermore, Europe's confusion, indecisiveness, and refusal to recognize the long term threat of illegal Moslem immigration sets the tombstone on any thought, however minimal, of hitting Turkey in ways that might impose some reason on its ascending Islamists. The European "mindset" is prisoner of the "rational" approach preached by "globalists" who never cease to extend advice [like this](#) on how to handle Turkey. That such approaches have failed, and will continue to fail, because they are poorly masqueraded attempts at appeasement does not enter European thinking.

And Greece? Where does Greece stand in all of this?

For all the protestations and, often, misplaced bravado of Greek politicians, it's a good guess there's hardly a thinking person in Greece who does not see the true condition of the country as

emasculated by the creditors and reduced to an non-independent country entity controlled by third grade accountants of foreign organizations.

Greece has been deprived of all her independent state powers beyond the puppet show staged by the European “union” and Berlin--and she’s not expected to recuperate any time soon. As a result, she is practically defenseless against Erdogan’s whims. Her prayers should focus on the sultanate somehow continuing to observe the 2015 illegal immigration pact with the European “union.” In the opposite case, we have already been informed on [what](#) is going to happen.