

[Sample article with alt-news list with descriptions of sites and links.]

The Great Linking – A Paradigm Shift in Alt-News Optimization

The “situation”

Updated May 31, 2021 The last survivors of the free press fly under the banner of Alt-News. They are a battle-hardened bunch from their inception. Especially since 2017 they have come under the **withering fire** of the corporate controlled western hegemonic war machine and its effort to totally **scrub the internet** of all real investigative journalism thereby killing off the free press once and for all. Google, with its **near monopoly** on search engine results, has played an illegal leading role in that largely successful suppression effort. The American alt-right corporate controlled western hegemonic war machine is strongly supported by NATO and the EU headquartered in Brussels. There is however another fleet of organizations that is far larger and older than the alt-news organizations, and is also devoted to truth and most importantly, peace. These are the peace/anti-war, religious, interfaith, and humanist organizations. But these two large groups of organizations are not really interconnected within themselves, and they are not connected to each other.

At the current time the alt-right, corporate controlled western hegemonic war machine led by proven war proponent President Biden and his cabinet of proven “foreign interventionists” is gearing up to radically escalate two wars, specifically against **Syria**¹ and **Iran**², while ramping up economic strangulation of and pervasive smear campaigns against China and Russia. In regards to China President Trump’s “China virus” myth has

¹ **Syria** <https://www.mintpressnews.com/10-years-civil-war-syria-media-bias/276416>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/03/24/author-bellingcat-opcw-whistleblower>
<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/519071-syria-msm-bombing-hospitals>
<https://www.mintpressnews.com/establishment-cheers-bidens-attack-on-syria/275748>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/02/11/new-leaks-shatter-opcws-attacks-douma-whistleblowers>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/01/22/ian-henderson-opcw-whistleblower-un-no-chemical-attack-douma-syria>
<https://wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/#OPCW-DOUMA%20-%20Release%20Part%204>
<https://www.rt.com/news/517949-opcw-scandal-douma-coverup>
<https://theintercept.com/2019/10/26/syrian-rebels-turkey-kurds-accountability>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/10/20/chomsky-opcw-cover-up-of-probe-undermining-us-led-bombing-of-syria-is-shocking>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/12/20/ex-uk-ambassador-war-on-syria-continues-with-us-occupation-sanctions-propaganda>

² **Iran** <https://www.rt.com/op-ed/514410-biden-administration-iran-nuclear-deal>
<https://www.counterpunch.org/2021/02/05/u-s-should-pay-iran-reparations>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/03/20/pompeo-netanyahu-war-iran-trump/intercept>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/01/25/biden-administrations-coercive-iran-regional-crisis>
<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/01/15/centcom-chief-mckenzie-iran-crisis-power>
<https://www.blackagenda.com/biden-committing-diplomatic-suicide-over-iran-nuclear-agreement>

provoked extremely negative sentiments towards China in the US and Europe, even though epidemiological studies have proven COVID-19 was [present in Italy before it was identified in China](#). American politicians and the corporate owned “news” media however never let facts get in the way of a good lynching. In regards to the Russia-gate myth, two other foreign nations, specifically [Israel](#) and [India](#) have vastly more influence in the American government from lobbyists, their big money and other “influencers” than Russia (or China) ever had. Meanwhile the people of [Palestine](#)³ and [Kashmir](#)⁴ suffer and die without the scrutiny of mainstream media.

[Nuclear escalation](#)⁵, [incessant bombing of Syria and assassinations of Iranians, 25,000 people starving to death every day](#) (mainly due to [economic sanctions](#)), the [New Cold War](#)⁶ and the [shadow regulation](#) that suppresses alt-news and peace advocacy organizations - are significant issues of concern to all people of conscience.

³ **Palestine**

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2021/02/23/disgrace-israel-sending-covid-vaccines-overseas-occupied-palestinians-left-without>

<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2021/03/04/why-biden-dead-wrong-icc-and-occupied-palestine>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/democrats-dangerous-republicans-peace-palestine/275438>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/02/14/finkelstein-palestines-icc-victory-thwarted-by-israels-apartheid-reality>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/6/26/palestine-and-israel-mapping-an-annexation>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/08/11/netanyahu-top-cop-kamala-harris-israel-racism>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/9/22/palestine-quits-arab-league-role-in-protest-over-israel-deals>

⁴ **Kashmir** <https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/04/15/fighting-covid-19-and-repression-kashmir>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/how-hindu-nationalism-intensified-indias-brutal-repression-of-kashmir/238559/>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/shujaat-bukhari-kashmir/245013/>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/kashmir-palestine-both-occupied-both-victims-of-the-military-industrial-complex/220996>

<https://theintercept.com/2020/12/06/kashmir-social-media-police>

<https://theintercept.com/2019/05/26/india-kashmir-torture>

⁵ **Both American and British are increasing nuclear stockpiles** <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/mar/15/cap-on-trident-nuclear-warhead-stockpile-to-rise-by-more-than-40>

⁶ **New Cold War**

<https://covertactionmagazine.com/2021/04/08/cold-war-on-trial-truth-commission-details-horrible-crimes-akin-to-native-american-genocide-and-slavery/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/03/31/china-uyghur-gun-soldiers-empire>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vAfeYMONj9E>

<https://blackagenda.com/new-cold-war-built-humanitarian-interventionist-lies-and-dismissal-actual-war-crimes>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/08/18/us-government-funded-coda-story>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/shame-on-you-new-york-times-scientists-speak-out-media-disinformation-china/275382>

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202103/1218193.shtml>

<https://www.rt.com/news/518001-huawei-us-national-security-threat>

There is no plan to address the polarization between the wealthy and poor

Rogue journalist and social philosopher Caitlin Johnstone was correct in her article titled: There's only one news story, repeating over and over again, 2 Mar, 2021

There is only ever one news story on any given day, and it is always the same news story: wealthy and powerful people seek more wealth and power, and narratives are spun to advance these agendas.

That's it. That's all you're ever seeing when you read the news. There are sports scores and the occasional celebrity death mixed in for entertainment, but when it comes to major political and governmental events you're only ever seeing the effects of wealthy and powerful people working to obtain more wealth, and power and narratives being spun to promote these agendas.

Today, it's the Democratic Party killing the \$15 minimum wage, protests in Haiti, US electoral shenanigans in Ecuador, bombings and sanctions on Syria, China bad, Russia bad. Appearances which, taken individually, at first glance look like breaking news stories, but when examined closely and integrated into the big picture are actually the exact same dynamics that were playing out yesterday with slightly different shapes. Tomorrow those same dynamics will play out again in different appearances. The shapes are different, but it's always water droplets in the air.

<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/517008-caitlin-johnstone-one-news-story>

Likewise, she was certainly correct in the following observations:

The world's mental health epidemic is being caused by the madness of the system we're forced to live under, 11 Mar, 2021, by Caitlin Johnstone, an independent journalist based in Melbourne, Australia. <https://caitlinjohnstone.com>

<https://www.politico.eu/article/eu-seeks-anti-china-alliance-on-tech-with-joe-biden>
<https://www.rt.com/russia/517738-bbc-anti-moscow-information>
<https://consortiumnews.com/2019/03/18/sucking-liberals-into-a-new-cold-war/?print=pdf>
<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/518953-western-hemisphere-us-military>
<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/518932-us-sanctions-china-cold-war>

Are you psychologically unable to keep up with the harsh pace demanded of you by capitalism just to survive? Join the gang: we're all depressed because we're stuck in dead-end jobs that simply turn millionaires into billionaires.

How many of people's mental health diagnoses are really just them struggling to function in a capitalist system that is amoral, destructive, overwhelming, overbearing, unsatisfying, and bereft of meaning?

It's surely one of the most under-examined questions in the field of modern psychology. People in general and researchers in particular all too rarely think to take a step back from the data they are looking at and consider the large-scale framework within which that data is materializing, and to consider whether there's anything about that particular framework which is giving rise to the particular data sets they are seeing...

All positive changes in human behavior arise from an increasing awareness of the underlying dynamics which give rise to them, whether you're talking about the psychological dynamics underlying the addictive or compulsive behaviors of an individual or the power dynamics underlying the murderous and oppressive behaviors of a globe-spanning empire. If you are looking for meaning, you will find it in the spreading of that awareness.

We absolutely do have the ability to move away from this misery-generating competition-based model that is choking us all to death and replace it with one in which we collaborate with each other and with our ecosystem toward health, beauty, truth, and thriving. If there is meaning to be found in our world, it lies in that direction.

<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/517862-caitlin-johnstone-mental-health>

Likewise, Medea Benjamin and Nicolas J. S. Davies were correct in the following meta-analysis.

Ten Problems with Biden's Foreign Policy – and One Solution,
March 15, 2021

By and large though, Biden's foreign policy already seems stuck in the militarist quagmire of the past twenty years, a far cry from his

campaign promise to reinvigorate diplomacy as the primary tool of U.S. foreign policy.

In this respect, Biden is following in the footsteps of Obama and Trump, who both promised fresh approaches to foreign policy but for the most part delivered more endless war.

Instead, the Biden administration seems firmly entrenched behind the walls of hostility Trump built between America and our neighbors, from his renewed Cold War against China and Russia to his brutal sanctions against Cuba, Iran, Venezuela, Syria and dozens of countries around the world, and there is still no word on cuts to a military budget that has grown by 15% since FY2015 (inflation-adjusted).

Despite endless Democratic condemnations of Trump, Biden's foreign policy so far shows no substantive change from the policies of the past four years. Here are ten of the lowlights...

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2021/03/15/ten-problems-with-bidens-foreign-policy-and-one-solution>

In sum, the alt-press is pro-humanity and anti-war unlike the politicians that supposedly represent us and the Mainstream "news" media that rationalizes and drives the wars based on government "talking points" directly from the corporate-profit-driven Military Industrial-Media complex.

Example?

New Cold War is Built on Humanitarian Interventionist Lies and Dismissal of Actual War Crimes, Danny Haiphong, BAR Contributing Editor, Mar 17, 2021

New Cold War is Built on Humanitarian Interventionist Lies and Dismissal of Actual War Crimes

To manufacture consent for its own constant aggressions the US claims its competitors are guilty of even greater crimes – sheer inventions that never happened.

"Humanitarian interventionist lies represent the most dangerous form of misinformation currently fueling the U.S.'s New Cold War."

A revolutionary's first commitment is to the truth. But deciphering the truth has become a difficult task in the United States, not least

because the misinformation apparatus is both enormous and tied directly to the imperatives of imperialist state itself. Whatever separation that existed between the military industrial complex and the U.S. corporate media is a thing of the past.

U.S. imperialism has spent much of the last decade gradually escalating a New Cold War with China and the media has manufactured consent for each and every one of its aggressive policies. A new Gallup poll revealed that [80 percent of the U.S. public](#) possess a negative opinion of China. Only Iran and the DPRK, two of the most villainized nations of the U.S. propaganda machine, are viewed with more disdain among Americans.

The U.S. public is bombarded with anti-China media headlines from across the political spectrum. Humanitarian interventionist lies represent the most dangerous form of misinformation currently fueling the U.S.'s New Cold War. Most prominent is the fable that a "genocide" is being committed against Muslims in China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

"Whatever separation that existed between the military industrial complex and the U.S. corporate media is a thing of the past."

This month, [CNN published a report](#) from the Newsline Institute that claims to independently verify "genocide" in Xinjiang for the first time. The report offered no revelations beyond claims that have already been regurgitated for several years by dubious sources such as *Radio Free Asia* and [Adrian Zenz](#), a far-right Christian fundamentalist who believes it is his God-given mission to take down the Communist Party of China.

The Newsline Institute is itself a dubious source of information. The head of the Washington-based think tank, [Ahmed Alwani](#), is a former advisor to the U.S. African Command. It should be noted that the U.S. African Command was a [leading force](#) in the U.S.-NATO overthrow of Libya in 2011—an intervention which relied upon the same Muslim Brotherhood-backed proxies [linked to Alwani](#). Managing Editor [Robin Blackburn](#) is a former editor for Stratfor, a private intelligence firm known as the "[Shadow CIA](#)."

"The head of the Newsline Institute is a former advisor to the U.S. African Command."

Whether it is the tens of millions of dollars that the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) has poured into the [World Uyghur Congress](#) or the unknown sums flowing from [military contractors](#) to the coffers of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), it is clear that the sources peddling humanitarian interventionist narratives in the U.S. corporate media are far from trustworthy. This hasn't stopped the Joe Biden administration from endorsing the "genocide" narrative for the purposes of rebranding the New Cold War.

While some believed Biden would reduce tensions with China, the temperature of the New Cold War has risen in recent weeks following the latest militarist maneuvers of new administration. Earlier this month, 27.4 billion USD was requested by the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command for an "[anti-China missile network](#)" that would run along key islands on China's border such as Okinawa, Taiwan, and the Philippines. Biden joined the anti-China "Quad" alliance of Japan, India, and Australia on March 12th for the first international summit of his tenure as U.S. president. The alliance was given new life under the Trump administration after more than a decade of inactivity. That Biden would choose the "[Quad](#)" as his first [summit](#) sends a clear message that the U.S.-led [New Cold War on China](#) will continue under the pretext of strengthening alliances and addressing "humanitarian" concerns.

"The temperature of the New Cold War has risen following the latest militarist maneuvers of new administration."

Humanitarian interventionism renders the U.S. empire's maneuvers mundane to the passive observer. The truth, however, is that humanitarian interventionism masks the actual war crimes committed by the United States and its imperial lackies. Repeated claims of "genocide" in [China](#) or "chemical weapons" in Syria are held to a far higher level of import than the verifiable genocide being committed against the Palestinians by the U.S.'s [top ally in Israel](#) or the tens of thousands of Venezuelans [who have died](#) from the impact of U.S. sanctions. Not one minute in the U.S. press is spent on the millions of deaths produced from the quarter century-long invasion of the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#) by U.S.-sponsored regimes in Rwanda and Uganda or the tens of millions

dead or displaced in the aftermath of the U.S.-led invasions of Libya and Syria beginning in 2011...

Behind the illusion of strength rests a foundation of [systemic decay](#). Humanitarian interventionism not only rebrands war crimes as human rights operations but also erases the true motivations behind them. The U.S. has grown accustomed to pursuing humanitarian wars in moments when its interests are threatened. In 2014, Obama intensified U.S. support for violent [rightwing opposition figures](#) and [sanctions](#) against Venezuela once it became clear that the death of Hugo Chavez would not mark the end of the Bolivarian Revolution. The Syrian government has been accused multiple times of [using chemical weapons](#) on civilians since 2016 despite being in the most favorable position to defeat U.S. and other foreign-backed proxies since the war began over a decade ago.

Enter China. China has contained the COVID-19 pandemic and is the only major economy posting positive growth amid a global depression. Furthermore, the instability that once wracked China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has ceased to exist thanks to the efforts of the government in curbing terrorism and alleviating poverty. Stability and growth have allowed China to move forward on its plans to develop a massive publicly financed global trade network through the [Belt and Road Initiative](#) .

Calls for humanitarian interventionism have grown louder as the U.S.'s decline continues to run parallel to China's rise on the world stage. Whether the New Cold War turns into a hot war will not be determined by the U.S.'s restraint in the realm of politics. History has proven that the U.S. empire is built to destroy. Rather, the question of war and peace will be determined by how much grassroots opposition can be developed against the bogus humanitarian narratives driving the lust for U.S. interventionism in the 21st century.

<https://blackagendareport.com/new-cold-war-built-humanitarian-interventionist-lies-and-dismissal-actual-war-crimes>

American attempts at colonization of the entire planet are not helping the average working person in the USA. Just the opposite in fact.

President Trump's and Biden's "stimulus" checks are critically important, but where is the plan to [reinvigorate small businesses that were devastated by COVID-19](#)? The Small Business Administration is offering a loan program to small businesses, unlike the big corporations that [enjoyed windfall profits benefitting wealthy white Americans](#). [Saddling small businesses with debt](#) is not a viable long-term solution given that the COVID-19 epidemic is far from over.

Where is a plan for greater distribution of wealth in the US via inheritance tax, closing tax loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, or a 5-year tax abeyance for low- and middle-income people? Why is there no tax on foreign off-shore accounts(?) and aggressive pursuit into, and penalties for hidden off-shore accounts? There is no plan whatsoever to address the increasing polarization of wealth in the USA or worldwide.

US citizens can have dual nationalities and open offshore accounts using the other passport thereby avoiding American taxes. Likewise, it's ridiculously easy to set up [shell companies](#) in Panama, Cayman Islands, the Isle of Man, Nevis, Cook Islands, Scotland, and the United Kingdom.

The most important function that a shell company can offer for its shadow owner is providing anonymity while simultaneously guaranteeing control over the shell company and its resources. This suggests a dual structure of mediation. The main action in the legal realm is implemented by the formal organization, yet the visible but fake owner (or CEO) acts as a broker, following the informal orders of the real but secret owner. This is a type of mediation where a "representative broker" is delegated by another actor, whether a single individual or a group, to represent its interests and deal with the outside world (Gould & Fernandez, 1989; Jancsics, 2015).

https://psfa.sdsu.edu/spa/documents/Offshoring_at_Home__Domestic_Use_of_Shell_Companies_for_Corruption.pdf

Even I have been solicited to act as a third-party intermediary. I informed the person the IRS and Interpol were hunting such individuals and was informed they were only searching for terrorist money, not money from drugs, prostitution and weapons transfers. Still, I refused. My guess is at least half of American real assets are hidden, likewise for Chinese and Europeans. The wealth of humanity is hidden by the super-rich while the poor starve and the number of forcibly displaced people [now exceeds 80 million](#).

Until these organized crime syndicates are closed down and governments worldwide start to demand greater circulation of capital, the world will remain teetering on the edge of implosion. It is unrestrained capitalism propped up by corporate owned and controlled media, and either corrupt or at minimum recklessly indifferent politicians that causes civil conflict that has brought this world to the brink of WWII. **“Let them eat cake”** as was reported to have been said by Marie-Antoinette, the queen of France during the French Revolution, didn’t play really well with the starving masses. Starting wars to distract hungry mobs justifiably angry about racist murders and economic disenfranchisement isn’t a very bright idea.

The stimulus checks are like big white daddy Santa Clause handing out candy to starving children, or a doctor that only gives aspirin to treat broken bones.

Presidents Trump and Biden only address symptoms and not the causes of the illnesses plaguing the USA and its penultimate negative effects on the world like wars and economic sanctions. Neither has the courage or foresight to seriously address the relationship between those failings.

Certainly, people need those stimulus checks, but they need the fundamental flaws in the American unrestrained capitalist system fixed just as much or even more. Temporary “fixes” create the illusion of a solution, but ultimately don’t change anything.

The global cabal of wealthy and powerful have so perfected corruption they have become a parasitic disease well along the way to killing the host.

When President Biden “talks with” the leaders of foreign countries on the American Department of Defense’s target list, he doesn’t really talk with them, but instead issues imperial edicts engineered to evoke maximum provocation. Why? These provocations push the aggression cycle the corporations profit from at the expense of the poor. President Trump referring to President Putin as **“Killer Putin”** is one example of that. President Putin’s response? [Challenging President Biden to a public debate](#). Well played President Putin. Will Americans fall for that defamatory (“Russia-gate,” “Killer-Putin”) slogan like **“China virus?”** **Probably**, unless enough alt-news and peace organizations join The Great Linking and Americans start to have access to more accurate news on the internet.

At this time President Biden and his gang of sycophantic “yes-men” and women are “locked, cocked and ready to rock” into another series of wars based on the old American truism that “wars stimulate the economy and unify the people.”

He couldn’t be more wrong. The American people are sick and impoverished and handing out stimulus checks isn’t addressing the central issue of the growing and extreme wealth inequality. They are sick from the COVID-19, the failure of the federal government to have

health services in place before hand, the lack of leadership when it arrived, and the lockdowns and economic devastation it caused and continues to cause. They are sick of the hyper-accelerating national debt and the interest it incurs, and sick of the wastefulness of the American Department of Defense.

Starting and escalating more foreign wars isn't going to unify the people. It's only going to drive further wedges into the already highly polarized society that has not experienced such poverty and hopelessness since the Great Depression of 1929. The potential for another civil war and WWII has never been greater.

Alternative News (alt-news)

The Great Linking project was designed to address all of the above issues. It is designed to improve the internet site rankings of alt-news and peace-oriented organizations by interlinking. This article only covers the alt-news sites. Another article is available with peace organizations (including anti-war, religious, interfaith, and humanist organization) embedded within an article. These two articles if posted on alt-news and peace organizations' sites can be thought of as the simplest way to mutually improve site rankings, a test of Google's algorithm, and/or a revolutionary act to finally put an end to American foreign [military adventurism](#) and [deadly economic sanctions](#), while simultaneously affirming American First Amendment rights to freedom of the press and free speech.

Whereas mainstream news (MSM) tends to support alt-right international militarism, alt-news investigates and reports the abuse of power behind those efforts in exacting detail. Though many or most religious and secular peace advocacy organizations have 501(c)(3) or (4) status and relatively secure funding, the funding of most alt-news internet sites is marginal at best. In 2017 Google's site ranking algorithms changed dramatically and most [alt-news sites were hit very hard](#). [Google's new algorithms](#) have come under fire from some publications and political groups, and legislative oversight has been suggested, but no solutions have been forthcoming.

By participating in The Great Linking, linked alt-news sites described in this article may earn higher rankings on web browser algorithms than by for example posting simple link lists because this article has original text in addition to diverse "quality" sources.

Simply ignoring the problem of alt-news suppression by Google doesn't seem to be helping.

Google updates its algorithms quite often however most rules remain the same. *Links in* to a site from "quality," SEO optimized sites (that for example have owned a domain name for many years and are often updated) earn big points. *Links out* from a site generally don't hurt a site's ranking unless they lead to spam sites.

Empires have always had their critics. One of the measures of a “great civilization” is the extent to which they tolerate, listen to and learn from their critics.

Complicating this simple fact is that other competing nations and civilizations can use domestic critics in other countries to undermine their civilization. This emphasizes the critical need for fact-checking and the news consumers’ need to know the funding sources of their news providers. That however does not diminish the often very legitimate critical assessments by one nation or civilization of another.

Alt-news lives in the shadow of mainstream news. Especially in recent years alt-news publications critically examining the multi-faced application of Euro-American hegemonic power have suffered an oppressive series of efforts to silence them, including spurious law suits, internet shadow regulation and algorithmic tyranny designed to drive them out of business.

And yet, alt-news survives knowing they hold a critically important role in the world giving a voice to the oppressed for they are the last real representatives of the so-called “fourth-estate” fearlessly reporting on the ever-growing malfeasance of the three traditional branches of government that have usurped near total power over mainstream news.

Trust in journalists?

According to a [2019 Pew Research poll](#) there is a huge gap between Republicans and Democrats in regards to their trust in journalists. A [paltry 30% of Republican voters](#) reported a “great deal” or “fair amount” of confidence that journalists will act in the best interests of the public, whereas among Democrat voters a whopping 76% expressed a “great deal” or “fair amount” of confidence that journalists will act in the best interests of the public.

The mean average between them is a rather disappointing 53% of adults expressing confidence in the integrity of journalists. One might wonder why.

At this time journalism majors in western universities must make a decision fairly early on if they want to ride in the parade behind the golden chariots of the neo-Roman Emperors and enjoy the fine hotels, relatively high salaries and status of those who represent the monolith of Euro-American white supremacist corporate-led hegemony or, take the much harder road and tell the stories of the vast majority of humanity that struggles against the chains of poverty and oppression imposed by that fundamentally racist corporate-driven western hegemonic war machine. And most unfortunately both political parties have sworn allegiance to that war machine at the cost of millions of lives and trillions of dollars.

It is a truism that the Democrats are supposed to represent the working people, and the Republicans are supposed to represent the rich. In fact however both represent the rich

corporate owned weapons manufacturers and Mainstream Media (MSM) that supports it – while the working people slave to support that vast global killing machine and get poorer and poorer doing it. Republicans I can understand, that’s supposed to be their turf, what I can’t believe is how so-called liberals in the US have been so totally suckered by their so-called “liberal” press.

The bottom line is that voters in Europe and the USA must have a broad perspective on the most important events of our times in order to make well informed decisions when they vote. This means voters must have fair access to both mainstream news (MSM) sources and alternative news (alt-news). Right now, Google’s algorithm makes sure the voters in western democracies do not have fair and free access to alternative news.

The hegemonic powers have [launched a multi-faceted war against alt-news](#) itself in an effort to maintain their [oligarchy](#), a prerequisite for maintaining Euro-American global hegemony which in itself is a suicide move. It’s not 1950 and more and the world will no longer being one huge slave plantation of the white supremacists in the USA regardless as to whether they call themselves conservative Republicans or liberal Democrats because they are nothing more than two sides of the same coin.

Peace Journalism

According to Professor Susan Dente Ross, associate dean at Washington State University, former Fulbright Senior Scholar, journalist and newspaper owner:

Peace journalists are divided between an activist, advocacy role for media and a definition of peace journalism as quality, objective journalism that includes under-represented perspectives to provide deeper and broader information. The divide reflects long-standing imprecision and ideological objectives in the fields of conflict studies, peace studies, conflict resolution, and more. Thus, economic theorists contend that industry structure and profit-motives drive media to privilege the powerful, limiting the potential for change. The propaganda model of media suggests peace journalism initiatives are impotent because media are a mouthpiece for government. Some say the realities of the post-Cold War world undermine quality journalism, and local media are an inefficient and limited mechanism to disseminate dissident ideas. Critical scholars view peace journalism as flawed, ineffectual, or certain to be co-opted. However, media texts are subject to multiple interpretations; cracks in the monolith offer opportunities for reform. Peace journalism must transform deeply trained professional patterns, structural and financial pressures,

and psychological responses that encourage reactive, nationalistic reporting. Peace journalists must listen well, hear ‘the other’ better, and understand and incorporate that new understanding to transcend the bonds of identity and enmity. Effective peace journalism must be a journalism of symbolic rapprochement. It must recognize journalists as human beings subject to the same social, political, religious and nationalistic pressures as all people. *Restructuring and retraining to insulate independent media and journalists from economic and political pressures are critical. Increased pluralism in ownership, structures, and revenue streams is key.* Training must inoculate journalists against knee-jerk responses to fear and violence. Peace journalism must embrace awareness of the varied identities and realities of parties to a conflict, the subjective and contextual nature of root causes, and the trap of dualisms. (Italics added by this author.)

Conflict & Communication Online, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2006

www.cco.regener-online.de ISSN 1618-0747 Accessed via:

https://regener-online.de/journalcco/2006_2/pdf/ross_2006.pdf

Professor Ross’s point of “insulating independent media and journalists from economic and political pressures” is well-taken and the alt-news media did and to a large extent still does fill that role. However, most news industry observers 15 years ago probably did not predict a populist governance would one day use a **monopolistic**, corporate owned search engine like Google to quite so savagely suppress journalism opposed to endless wars, mass murder by economic sanctions and ever widening chasms in wealth. Anything that questions the corporate owned mainstream news perspective is now labeled “fake news” and a **threat to the security of the American states**. Thus, suppression of alt-news is viewed as a patriotic deed. *Fait accompli*? Maybe not completely yet.

Fait accompli?

Professor Ross and company might have been able to predict this series of events 15 years ago if they had greater familiarity with Plato’s Republic which **asserted democracies devolve into populism**. In the postmodern 21st Century the **democratic technocracy** has devolved into a Tyrannosaurus rex-like corporate profit-driven populist fascism wherein First Amendment rights don’t exist anymore. **Presidents can change any Attorney General** instantly if he doesn’t march lockstep behind his agenda. Law has always been the weak sister of power.

Trashing First Amendment free speech and press rights might seem out of character in the American system of governance, but the corporate-driven hegemonic war machine

has always known domestic and international laws simply don't apply to it. They control mainstream news; the vast majority of politicians and their influence is insidiously woven through the judicial system.

Though most Americans and Europeans are familiar with for example CNN, New York Times, and BBC, few have ever even heard of any of the large number of really excellent alt-news sources available for free on the Internet.

Many or most of the alt-news organizations are 501(c)(3) charitable organizations giving them some degree of independence from commercial interests.

Conspiratorially-minded individuals might assert that increased use of [Internet Shadow Regulation](#) and [Google's suppressive algorithms](#) during President Trump's administration has so suppressed the alt-news sites' rankings on major search engines, some are now starving and potentially willing to accept money from "tainted" sources like NED provided they can keep a "low-profile" on it. The best way to prevent that from happening is to lift the site rankings of the alt-news sites.

This kind of targets corruption of the free press is above and beyond the traditional *de facto* censorship practiced every day in the US.

"The *de facto* censorship which leaves so many Americans functionally illiterate about the history of US foreign affairs may be all the more effective because it is not so much official, heavy-handed or conspiratorial, as it is woven artlessly into the fabric of education and media. No conspiracy is needed. The editors of *Reader's digest* and *U.S. News and World Report* do not need to meet covertly with the representatives from NBC in an FBI safe-house to plan next month's stories and programs; for the simple truth is that these individuals would not have reached the positions they occupy if they themselves had not all been guided through the same tunnel of camouflaged history and emerged with the same selective memory and conventional wisdom."

William Blum, *Killing Hope, U.S. Military and CIA Interventions since World War II*, p. 15

Past masters of media imperialism, the [British are quite advanced](#) in such matters as well.

To some extent the heart of the alt-news domain can be thought of as having intersecting planes of interests, with commonalities including promotion of various concepts of freedom, protection of rights and in most cases professional fact-checked investigations

into the real motivations for and illegal methodologies used in Euro-American hegemonic wars.

Advocates of alt-news assert their stories are much more likely to put today's news stories into broader contexts. In most cases mainstream news tells the readers what happened, more or less, then quotes nearly exclusively government sources explaining their side of those events, and that's it.

"The main problem with the media today, as earlier, is what is left out of articles dealing with controversial issues. For example, the very common practice during the first Cold War of condemning the Soviet Union for taking over much of Eastern Europe after the Second World War. This takeover is certainly based on fact. But the condemnation is very much misapplied if no mention is made of the fact that Eastern Europe became communist because Hitler, with the approval of the West, used it as a highway to reach the Soviet Union to wipe out Bolshevism once and for all; the Russians in World Wars I and II lost about 40 million people because the West had twice used this highway to invade Russia. It should not be surprising that after World War II the Soviets were determined to close down the highway. It was not simply "communist expansion".

<https://williamblum.org/aer/read/155>

In contrast, most alt-news provide much broader contextual background with in-depth investigations and reactions from many different points of view.

Nowadays there's a lot of handwringing about the Afghan endless war which the US is losing. Another example of "what's left out of news reporting" is the fact that it was the Saudis, guided by the CIA that set up the first Taliban training camps in the Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan in the early 1990s. There were about a million Afghan refugees in Pakistan at that time.

I visited one of their madrassas in 1993 accompanied by the Pakistani military while working on assignment as a journalist. Their classrooms had dirt floors and no tables or chairs. They sat on the earth and read ancient looking small redacted ancient Quran from the Saudis held up off the dirt floor by very old and dilapidated X-shaped wooden stands called *Rehal*. Their lives were like the gladiator slaves of Rome, except they learned bomb-making and modern weapons in addition to military strategy.

The Taliban were only taught Salafist ideology and killing. They were raised in a medieval fashion to hate foreigners – the Russians at that time – and only taught how to kill them.

Nothing else. And now western politicians and armchair pundits expect them to act like sophisticated liberal gentleman and simply accept an American style of governance which in the American colonies always includes extreme poverty and degradation. That is simply not realistic.

Why? Several reasons. The crushing poverty, corruption and degradation don't help. Also, for more than a decade in the 80s and 90s the CIA was working with quite a number of Taliban tribes in an opium eradication/crop substitution program. Then, thanks again to American politics, they were betrayed when the US declared war on all of them. The Taliban never were a cohesive group until the American war machine unified them and now, they are winning the war again.

In other words, what's left out of mainstream news stories is usually the critically important clues needed to really understand the most important issues of our times. In conflict after conflict, one finds it was directly or indirectly a Euro-American overt or covert operation that created virtually every terrorist group out there. But mainstream news virtually never reports that.

The vast majority of mainstream news reports never mention the real causes of American forever wars, and instead support the military-industrial-media complex in [bombing and starving innocents](#), while [stealing other nations' natural resources](#) when and where they can.

Muslims are not the only targets of the hegemonic war machine but rather one of three primary target groups with the other two being all people of color and socialists.

In most cases a clear profit motive can be discerned. Because people of color, socialists and Muslims have been so dehumanized in Western media, killing us goes unquestioned by most Euro-American voters, is often applauded and accepted as "business as usual," - the rallying cry of newly elected President and war-monger-in-chief Joseph Biden.

Joe Biden championed the Iraq war. Will that come back to haunt him now? by Mark Weisbrot, Feb. 18 2020

"Biden did vastly more than just vote for the (Iraq) war. Yet his role in bringing about that war remains mostly unknown or misunderstood by the public. When the war was debated and then authorized by the US Congress in 2002, Democrats controlled the Senate and Biden was chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Biden himself had enormous influence as chair and

argued strongly in favor of the 2002 resolution granting President Bush the authority to invade Iraq.”

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/feb/17/joe-biden-role-iraq-war>

In my opinion a good news story should answer the “why” question however the real reasons are virtually always corporate profits. Only alt-news digs out and fact-checks the details.

Legendary writer Bill Blum titled his classic work: *Killing Hope, U.S. Military and CIA Interventions since World War II* that for a reason. Killing hope is exactly what the hegemonic war machine wants to do.

It is all too easy to give in to cynicism and believe nothing can change. Too many people in western democracies have just given up. If there is hope to make America and western civilization great again, it will be thanks to the investigative prowess, integrity, hard work and courage of the alt-news industry. It isn't a *fait accompli* quite yet, as long as the alt-news sources struggle on *and they start to get fair representation in search engine results*.

Credible alt-news sources

To broaden and diversify voters' sources of information regarding the major news of the day, links to some of the better-known and most respected alt-news sites are presented below along with brief descriptions. They are listed in alphabetical order.

Alliance for Global Justice – Liberation from Empire - Among other things this news source advocates for the people of Venezuela (and Cuba) who face enormous oppression due to prolonged deadly economic sanctions and multi-faceted efforts to overthrow their democratically elected government. Their “About” section states: “We envision societies which explore and implement alternatives to the unjust domination of governments, global financial institutions and multinational corporations which denigrate the world's peoples and devastate ecosystems. We envision the development of a unified domestic and international movement of transformational grassroots organizations that promote a socially, ecologically and economically just world. Their Mission: To achieve social change and economic justice by helping to build a stronger more unified grassroots movement. We recognize that the concentration of wealth and power is the root cause of oppression requiring us to work together across ideologies, issues and communities.” Supporting these kinds of causes will not win a 501(c-3) organization any NED finance, but might come in handy on Judgement Day, if one believes in that kind of thing. People on the ground in hegemonic target countries are always the best at reporting the news there, and that describes Alliance for Global Justice. <https://afgj.org>

Axis of Logic According to their site, “Axis of Logic is comprised of an all-volunteer group of writers and editors who are committed to publishing news and commentary that is often not presented in the major news outlets. We research news and opinion from around the world on a daily basis. We also announce action alerts, conferences and seminars.” <http://axisoflogic.com>

Black Agenda Report Black Agenda Report is the Top Shelf online newspaper for African America, Africa, US Politics, War and Empire, Media and Culture, the Environment, and Political Economy news and solidarity. It has a generally socialist perspective on the news and represents the “real people,” the proletariat. Articles are often critical of the “Black misleadership class,” that they assert badly misrepresents the common person. They are also critical of the political duopoly they assert rules the USA. Black Agenda report was founded in 2006 by Executive Editor Glen Ford, Managing Editor Bruce Dixon, Senior Columnist & Editor Margaret Kimberley and CBC Monitor Leutisha Stills. Though some might consider Black Agenda Report to be “radical” in fact it is very moderate in the face of the extreme conditions in which people of color must live all around the world. It’s one of the best of the best of the alt-news sources and one of my favorites. <https://www.blackagendareport.com>

B’Tselem – The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories strives to end Israel’s occupation, recognizing that this is the only way to achieve a future that ensures human rights, democracy, liberty and equality to all people, Palestinian and Israeli alike, living on the bit of land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Various political routes can bring about this future, and while it is not B’Tselem’s role to choose among them, one thing is certain: continued occupation is not an option. https://www.btselem.org/settler_violence

BuzzFeed News Started in 2012, BuzzFeed News is a global news organization providing original online reporting and video programming across the internet’s biggest platforms. Our mission is to report to you: We cover what you care about, break big stories that hold major institutions accountable for their actions, and expose injustices that change people’s lives — all while averaging over 50 million unique monthly readers.” They ask for Tips, a good sign they want to listen. <https://www.buzzfeednews.com>

Ceasefire Magazine - Ceasefire is an independent political and cultural publication founded in 2002, concerned with producing high-quality journalism, reviews and analysis. They cover a wide range of topics – from Arthouse to Žižek, aim to provide intelligent and thought-provoking discussion and analysis on politics, art and activism and are motivated by a belief in the free exchange of radical and ground-breaking ideas. <https://ceasefiremagazine.co.uk>

Center for Economic and Policy Research – According to their site: “The Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) was established in 1999 to promote democratic debate on the most important economic and social issues that affect people’s lives. In order for citizens to effectively exercise their voices in a democracy, they should be informed about the problems and choices that they face. CEPR is committed to presenting issues in an accurate and understandable manner, so that the public is better prepared to choose among the various policy options. Toward this end, CEPR conducts both professional research and public education. The professional research is oriented towards filling important gaps in the understanding of particular economic and social problems, or the impact of specific policies.” **Alt-News Review Ed. Note:** On one hand I’m not entirely comfortable with the repeated emphasis on democracy in this site, given that democracies are so easily corrupted, on the other hand reform is a step in the right direction. Socrates and Plato were no fools. With those caveats in mind, this site is useful as long as the reader is a critical thinker. <http://cepr.net>

Common Dreams is one of the best of the best alt-news sites on the web. It is “a non-profit independent news center created in 1997 as a new media model. According to Naomi Klein, in *The Shock Doctrine* “Common Dreams is a daily, glorious taste of what the dominant media could be if it was shaped by our common dreams of justice and peace.” They do an excellent job covering peace advocacy in the USA. Common Dreams publishes a diverse mix of breaking news, insightful views, videos and press releases covering issues that resonate with progressives in every corner of the globe. Sections include: World, War and Peace, Economy, Climate, Rights, Solutions, U.S. and Canada. This is one of the most trusted and oft quoted alt-news sources. <https://www.commondreams.org>

Consortium News - Independent Investigative Journalism since 1995. Late Founder and Editor Robert Parry was one of the reporters who helped expose the Iran-Contra scandal for The Associated Press in the mid-1980s. Their “About” section states: “Consortium News also looks at the underlying problems of modern democracy, particularly the insidious manipulation of citizens by government propaganda and the accomplice role played by mainstream media. Rather than encouraging diversity in analyses especially on topics of war and peace, today’s mainstream media takes a perverse pride in excluding responsible, alternative views. It’s as if The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN and the others have learned nothing from the disaster of the

Iraq War when they pushed the groupthink about WMD and betrayed their responsibilities to the American people and the people of the world. Despite all the death, destruction and destabilization caused by the Iraq invasion, there was almost no accountability in the U.S. press corps, with many of the worst offenders still holding down prominent jobs and still engaging in the same terrible journalism.” Those view are generally shared by all real alt-news media writers and editors. In sum, consortium news is a responsible news source. However, because they do not robotically follow corporate dictates on the news, they are not mainstream and survive only by the limited donations they receive and “frugality.” For that alone, they deserve respect.
<https://consortiumnews.com>

Counterpunch Their motto is: "Tells the Facts and Names the Names." Published since 1996 Counterpunch presents a mix of hard news, satire articles and occasional contemporary poetry. Counterpunch is one of the “top of the line” alt-news sources in the world and one of my favorites. On the flip side I was pretty surprised to see a “rip-job” on Grayzone (alt-news) published March 9, 2021 in Counterpunch written by Louis Proyect also totally lambasting China. It was an inflammatory hatchet job also throttling Global Research (alt-news). Certainly, some of his historical background was more or less correct, however he didn’t contextualize the story by illuminating the 99 years of foreign supported wars China experienced from the beginning of the anti-Qing rebellions in 1850 (wherein the corrupted Qing Dynasty rulers were supported by a variety of foreign powers) to 1949 at the end of the American sponsored Chinese “Civil War.” In that article the writer presented a large number of assumptions and comparisons I found spurious at best: For example: “Why bother looking at the deeper historical roots of a conflict when all you need to do is dredge up some evidence that the State Department has paid off some dissidents.” The phrase “paid off some dissidents” does not adequately describe the CIA importing thousands of its own battle-hardened terrorists into Xinjiang to racialize the locals, or their framing of innocents in Xinjiang to stir up anti-government sentiment. One of the hallmarks of freedom of the press is tolerance of differing points of view, and Counterpunch has always been one of my favorites. So, I’ll overlook this one story I found “disturbing” and keep Counterpunch as one of my favorite alt-news sources.
<https://www.counterpunch.org>

Covert Action Magazine - Covert Action was founded in 1978 and is the Top of the Line in its domain, which is not an easy field given that they explore the truly vast hidden worlds of American covert operations. To their credit they have a large staff of real professions who know their business and keep coming up with very well researched, insightful, timely relevant stories that deserve more public attention. They brilliantly highlight the absolute hypocrisy and corruption in government. In sum, it’s an amazing and solidly professional resource. <http://covertactionmagazine.com>

DEEP STATES - The DEEP STATES web site is dedicated to monitoring the world’s top secret intelligence agencies. According to its “About” page: “In the 21st century, these clandestine state organizations have amassed greater powers and bigger budgets in societies as diverse as the United States, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Turkey, Israel, and Saudi Arabia. In democratic and authoritarian countries alike, spies play an ever-larger role in both domestic politics and international affairs. The DEEP STATES site illuminates a new global reality: intelligence agencies have become a bulwark of governments everywhere. While their politics and ideologies vary widely, these agencies share common missions, techniques and traditions.”

Illuminating the invasive and repressive natures of the Deep States is a noble and worthy enterprise. However, Deep State internet site could be criticized for “painting with overly broad strokes” when it *implies* all superpowers are really the same in terms of oppression and interference in the affairs of other states. For example: “They engage in mass surveillance, repression and torture. They practice economic espionage, transfer dangerous technologies, and interfere in other countries’ elections. They can be dangerous.” For all practical purposes the same can be said for many moms and dads (mine for sure), with the caveat being the United States, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Turkey, Israel, and Saudi Arabia are *not* all the same. In regard to specific issues, some countries are very well known for interfering in the political affairs of other nations, others are not. With that issue aside, this site is an invaluable resource for those who want to learn how the world really works. <https://deepstateblog.org>

Defending Rights & Dissent According to their Mission Statement: “Defending Rights & Dissent strengthens our participatory democracy by protecting the right to political expression. We monitor and expose patterns and practices of government repression of dissent and work closely with grassroots activists to defend First Amendment rights. DRAD was formed by the merger of two organizations, the Bill of Rights Defense Committee, founded in 2003 by grassroots opponents of the Patriot Act, and Defending Dissent Foundation, formed in 1960 by activists targeted by the House Un-American Activities Committee. Our predecessor organization was the victim of decades of FBI surveillance and was targeted under COINTELPRO. In addition to being mentioned by the Church Committee, it was later discovered that the FBI had maintained a 132,000-page file on our founder, Frank Wilkinson.” This organization came to my attention with a report *Still Spying on Dissent - The Enduring Problem of FBI First Amendment Abuse*, A Special Report by Chip Gibbons 2019. Very well-done. The free press still survives because of organizations like this. I don’t believe these individuals, or this organization will sell out. <https://www.rightsanddissent.org>

Dissident Voice “...is an internet newsletter dedicated to challenging the distortions and lies of the corporate press and the privileged classes it serves. The goal of Dissident

Voice is to provide hard hitting, thought provoking and even entertaining news and commentaries on politics and culture that can serve as ammunition in struggles for peace and social justice. Dissident Voice was founded by Santa Rosa, CA based writer, musician and activist Sunil K. Sharma in 2001. They also network with other alt-news sources covering a wide range of international and domestic issues. This is an excellent news source advocating for the common people all over the world.” <https://dissidentvoice.org>

FAIR Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting, Inc. One way to measure the real fairness of alt-news is do a search in their site and look for Venezuela, Yemen, Syria, Iran, [Somalia](#), Russia and China. A quick read through those stories reveals FAIR decries the abuse of power world-wide, while illuminating other publications’ omissions, distortions and outright lies – a good indicator they really are fair. According to their site: “FAIR, the national media watch group, has been offering well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. We work to invigorate the First Amendment by advocating for greater diversity in the press and by scrutinizing media practices that marginalize public interest, minority, and dissenting viewpoints. As an anti-censorship organization, we expose neglected news stories and defend working journalists when they are muzzled. As a progressive group, FAIR believes that structural reform is ultimately needed to break up the dominant media conglomerates, establish independent public broadcasting and promote strong non-profit sources of information.” This is one of my most trusted alt-news sources. <https://fair.org>

Foreign Policy Journal Foreign Policy Journal has been around for many years and I have found their articles to be informative. “Foreign Policy Journal is an online publication dedicated to providing news, critical analysis, and commentary on US foreign policy and international affairs. Its purpose is to challenge the propaganda narratives presented by the mainstream media, which serve to manufacture consent for government policies. FPJ was founded in 2008 by award-winning journalist and author Jeremy R. Hammond.” Statement by editor Jeremy R. Hammond: “The government perpetually lies to the public about important issues. The mainstream media dutifully serve to manufacture consent for criminal policies. I free people's minds by exposing state propaganda intended to keep them in servitude to the politically and financially powerful.” Jeremy R. Hammond was at least one of the leading voices decrying the hegemonic practices of Israel and especially their [blatantly illegal](#) and relentless annexation of Palestine. <https://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com>

Fort Russ News Their site states: “Fort Russ News has a crack team of freedom fighters doing journalism reaching more than 100,000 readers a day – with a focus primarily on the trials and tribulations of modernity, and anti-imperialist struggles world-wide which signal the rise of a multipolar world. We cover the multipolar revolution in real time and are based firmly in the populist tradition of partisan journalism of the early 20th century.

We reject the false model of ‘objective journalism’, as debunked by Robert W. McChesney’s groundbreaking monograph ‘The Problem of the Media.’ FRN openly declares its editorial bias. ‘Objective journalism’ was a false construct developed by corporate media to justify large monopolies. Founded at the end of 2014 to counter corporate disinformation, we are 100% independent.” This alt-news site isn’t that well known, but they are “straight shooters” (honest), cover a wide range of topics and tell it like it is. “Moral compromise” does **not** appear to be in their vocabulary. It deserves far greater readership. I like and respect this site. It should be better known. *Please recall, many of the most honest alt-news sites are buried deepest by Google’s algorithm.*
<https://www.fort-russ.com>

Global Research.ca The Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG) worldwide sources of information are astonishing. Global Research does some of the best in-depth investigatory research of any newspaper in the world. According to their “About” page: “The Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG) is an independent research and media organization based in Montreal. The CRG is a registered non-profit organization in the province of Quebec, Canada. In addition to the Global Research websites, the Centre is involved in book publishing, support to humanitarian projects as well as educational outreach activities including the organization of public conferences and lectures. The Centre also acts as a think tank on crucial economic and geopolitical issues. The Global Research website at www.globalresearch.ca publishes news articles, commentary, background research and analysis on a broad range of issues, focusing on social, political, economic, cultural, strategic and environmental issues.” <http://www.globalresearch.ca>

Global Security.org Global Security.org focused on weapons systems, political systems and events in most countries of the world. It has large databases of useful information. It is not connected to military or intelligence services, according to its website. Unfortunately, it appears they stopped publishing in 2019. None-the-less, their files from 2000 – 2019 are still there and very useful. <https://www.globalsecurity.org>

Human Rights Watch (HRW) According to its site: “Human Rights Watch investigates and reports on abuses happening in all corners of the world. We are roughly 450 people of 70-plus nationalities who are country experts, lawyers, journalists, and others who work to protect the most at risk, from vulnerable minorities and civilians in wartime, to refugees and children in need. We direct our advocacy towards governments, armed groups and businesses, pushing them to change or enforce their laws, policies and practices. To ensure our independence, we refuse government funding and carefully review all donations to ensure that they are consistent with our policies, mission, and values.” Human Rights Watch is an excellent resource with great links to other information including the ICC. HRW is amazing, however has come under fire from some other alternative media by representing what appears to be the real oppressors instead

of the victims. For example, from the hallowed halls of academia and secure offices of the UN, it is easy to prosecute those on the receiving end of a violent American funded color revolution for the “crime” of fighting back. Still, it is a useful and informative site, as long as one critically evaluates the different sides of the issues they cover. I am of Irish and Scottish descent. Fighting colonialism is in my blood, and one my life-long pursuits and I have very little patience for those who accost those fighting for their own freedom from hegemonic, colonial powers. In spite, of all that, HRW often produces excellent reports representing the oppressed. <https://www.hrw.org>

Inequality.org According its site inequality.org has been tracking inequality-related news and views for nearly two decades. A project of the Institute for Policy Studies since 2011, our site aims to provide information and insights for readers ranging from educators and journalists to activists and policy makers. Our Inequality.org contributors come from the United States and around the world. Our focus throughout: What can we do to narrow the staggering economic inequality that so afflicts us in almost every aspect of our lives?” I like this site. They expose brutal truths no one else does. In my opinion it is far better to know, than not know some truths, however painful they may be. Forewarned is forearmed in my opinion. <https://inequality.org>

InformationClearingHouse If you want a one-stops-shop for alt-news reporting for your first think in the morning, this is it. InformationClearingHouse hosts many of the finest alt-news freelancers and sifts through the millions of stories around the world to present some of the most insightful analysis behind world events. On the flip side I recently couldn’t find an internal search box (usually found with a magnifying glass) on that site, and was a bit surprised to find almost nothing about NATO on that site. Maybe it was there, but I couldn’t find it. Alas, nothing is perfect. Still, this is an excellent resource. <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info>

International Consortium of Investigative Journalists This is a new addition to my list of alt-news sources. Strangely, I had never heard of or seen this group before researching how the super-rich hide money (March 20, 2021). It was <https://www.irishtimes.com/business/paradise-papers-a-two-hour-stop-in-the-isle-of-man-can-save-you-millions-in-tax-on-a-private-jet-1.3281663> that tipped me off to their existence. According to their site: *“ICIJ is a unique organization. A U.S.-based nonprofit, we are both a small, resourceful newsroom with our own reporting team, as well as a global network of reporters and media organizations who work together to investigate the most important stories in the world. Our network of trusted members encompasses 267 of the best investigative reporters from 100 countries and territories. We also partner with more than 100 media organizations, from the world’s most renowned outlets, including the BBC, the New York Times, the Guardian and the Asahi Shimbun, to small regional nonprofit investigative centers. Drawing on the expertise and reach of our*

network, we collaborate on groundbreaking investigations that expose the truth and hold the powerful accountable, while also adhering to the highest standards of fairness and accuracy.” Perhaps Google doesn’t like them? This is a potential liability in The Great Linking paradigm. The greater the information, the greater the probability there will be filters to suppress it. On the bright side, this only emphasizes the need for The Great Linking. The Washington Post asserts: “Democracy Dies in Darkness,” but doesn’t mention any and all truths die when truth is suppressed. One challenge with living within the realm of smoke and mirrors created by the demented minds of the American intelligence community is that one must doubt everything. The ICIJ has apparently won many prestigious awards and networks with several prestigious mainstream news organizations. Is it possible it is clean? My preliminary verdict is probably yes, simply because it is buried so deep on the internet it’s almost impossible to find.

<https://www.icij.org>

International Forum for Responsible Media This is a new addition to my list. On the surface it appears to be an excellent resource which includes a frequently updated table and database of media legal cases. I didn’t detect elements of bias. It looks very professional with a database that goes back to 2010. According to their website: “The International Forum for Responsible Media, (Inform for short) was set up to debate issues of media responsibility. We believe in an independent, strong, free and responsible mass media. The media has important privileges in the public interest to enable it to perform its role as a public watchdog. But with those privileges go responsibilities. The media’s right to freedom of expression must be properly balanced against the rights to privacy and reputation which are an essential part of human dignity.” This is an excellent compilation of relevant media related laws and cases. It’s located in the UK.
<https://inform.org>

International Middle East Media Center (IMEMC) - This may be the best up-to-the minute news on what’s going on in Palestine – and Palestine is and has been for 75 years the epicenter of the colonial wars This is a battle-front look into the struggle of the people against the corporate-driven war machine. The significance of this struggle and IMEMC’s role in illuminating it cannot be understated. *All people who believe in truth, justice and freedom should bookmark this site and read it every day.* <https://imemc.org>

Justice Initiative The Open Society Justice Initiative strives to ensure that the law, too often an instrument of power alone, is shaped and employed in the service of justice.
<https://www.justiceinitiative.org/>

LiberationNews.org publishes news and analysis from the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL). According to their website: “The Party for Socialism and Liberation is comprised of leaders and activists, workers and students, of all backgrounds. Organized

in branches across the country, the PSL brings together a new generation of revolutionaries alongside veterans of the people’s movements with decades of experience. The PSL is deeply involved in a wide range of struggles, from local battles over affordable housing and racist police brutality, to the fight for a higher minimum wage and union rights, to the global issues of imperialist war and environmental destruction. We are united in our belief that capitalism—the system in which all wealth and power is held by a tiny group of billionaires and their state—is the source of the main problems confronting humanity today. It must be replaced by socialism, a system where poor and working people have power and the wealth of society is used in a planned and sustainable way to meet people’s needs. Our mission is to link the everyday struggles of oppressed and exploited people to the fight for a new world.” Their lead story by Richard Becker, dated March 5, 2021 states: Top Pentagon commander requests astronomical sum of money to prepare for war with China <https://www.liberationnews.org/top-pentagon-commander-requests-astronomical-sum-of-money-to-prepare-for-war-with-china> This is exactly and precisely the critical kind of information the Euro-American voting public needs to learn about, but doesn’t because mainstream news media is controlled by the corporate rulers. That kind of information can be essential is preventing WWIII. Alt-news often brings the reader to the forefront of events before they occur. MSM did not report on this. That the commander of U.S. Military forces in the Pacific region apparently has some very serious “psychological issues” is timely and relevant news. The US already has three [Carrier Groups](#) in the South China Sea provoking trouble. How long before an accident, or false flag operation happens is unknown, however it is reasonable to assume the more money and resources are devoted to provoking problems around [China](#), the greater the risk for everyone. <https://www.liberationnews.org>

Middle East Monitor provides a focused and comprehensive coverage of Palestine, and its regional neighbour by gathering news through our extensive networks of partner organizations and correspondents on the ground. It is an essential point of reference for journalists, researchers, human rights organizations and NGOs. <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com>

MintPress News – Over the past few years I have seen a few (only a few) of the alt-news site editors making “compromises” with the hegemonic war machine, e.g. finding a sneaky way to promote international aggression. Not Mint Press. *Mint Press is at the top of my list of honest news sources.* According to their website: “MintPress News is an independent watchdog journalism organization that provides issue-based original reporting, in-depth investigations, and thoughtful analysis of the most pressing topics facing our nation. We focus our coverage on issues relating to the effects of special interest groups, big business and lobbying efforts and how they shape policies at home and abroad, including American foreign policy. Through the lens of social justice and human rights, we report on how these dynamics drive our foreign affairs and impact the world and examine the effects they have on our democracy and freedoms as defined by

the constitution. Journalism, as defined by the first amendment, plays the role of watchdog over the government. This is what inspires our style of reporting at MintPress News.” Their in-depth investigations are some of the best in world. This is one of the premier alt-news sources. <https://www.mintpressnews.com>

Palestine Legal - Palestine Legal protects the civil and constitutional rights of people in the U.S. who speak out for Palestinian freedom. There are a series of battles being fought across the US in an attempt to make boycotting Israel illegal as unbelievable as it may seem. This is an advocacy organization that also provides news and networks with other alt-news media. Though their market niche may appear narrow, this publication is filling a critical need in the US, courageously holding the line on the Empire’s rush to total world domination. <https://palestinelegal.org>

Project Censored According to their “About” section: “Project Censored educates students and the public about the importance of a truly free press for democratic self-government. We expose and oppose news censorship and we promote independent investigative journalism, media literacy, and critical thinking. Through our website, weekly radio program, annual book, and other programs, we provide this service to the United States, Canada, UK, and the world. Censorship undermines democracy. An informed public is crucial to democracy in at least two basic ways. First, without access to relevant news and opinion, people cannot fully participate in government. Second, without media literacy, people cannot evaluate for themselves the quality or significance of the news they receive. Project Censored’s work highlights the important links among a free press, media literacy, and democratic self-government.” Among other things, Project Censored has a long link-list of Independent News Links:

[https://www.projectcensored.org/independent-news-links /](https://www.projectcensored.org/independent-news-links/)
<https://www.projectcensored.org>

Reprieve Their site states: We are investigators, lawyers and campaigners fighting for justice. We defend marginalized people who are facing human rights abuses, often at the hands of powerful governments. We challenge human rights abuses in the courts of law – in the UK and around the world. They fight in court systems around the world to protect people on death row and that is a noble endeavor. <https://reprieve.org.uk>

Reveal News Their mission includes addressing: “...urgent global crises: the spread of COVID-19, a reckoning over racial injustice, devastating climate events, growing wealth gaps, global migration, the rise of fascism and the destabilization of democratic institutions. Powerful interests have contributed to every one of these crises and stand to benefit from all of them. ...original stories that hold people and institutions accountable for the problems they've caused or benefited from. Reveal is a registered trademark of The Center for Investigative Reporting and is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt

organization. Their list of funders can be found here: <https://revealnews.org/funders-and-finances> & <https://www.revealnews.org>

Rights and Dissent We work to make the promise of the Bill of Rights a reality for everyone in the US. Freedom to dissent is essential to a functioning democracy, and every person under U.S. jurisdiction or control is entitled to Bill of Rights protections. At all times and especially when federal, state, or local governments propose or enact laws or policies that threaten or deny those rights, the people organize, exercising those same rights in the service of protecting them. Most people understand that the country cannot be made safer by sacrificing some rights for all or part of its population. When the people know and exercise their rights, the liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights hold firm and remain self-sustaining. <https://www.rightsanddissent.org/>

Sludge is an independent, nonprofit news outlet that produces investigative journalism on lobbying and money in politics. We look beyond public records and disclosures to reveal the hidden networks and conflicts of interest that drive systemic corruption. <https://readsludge.com/>

Southern Poverty Law Center The SPLC was founded in 1971 to ensure that the promise of the civil rights movement became a reality for all and is definitely “one of a kind.” Probably most famous for investigating and identifying hate groups SPL has been a mainstay of the resistance against the scourge of prejudice for nearly 50 years. They do a lot more than that however. They have education programs, do advocacy for children, immigrants, LGBTQ rights, economic justice, criminal justice reform and voting rights and mobilization. Most recently (February 25, 2021) SPLC's Lecia Brooks testified before Congress telling a congressional committee that far-right extremists are exploiting internet technology to create a more dangerous movement. Their annual Year in Hate and Extremism report is very valuable to citizens, journalists and even the judiciary to understand the sometimes-complex webs of the haters. On the flip side this organization primarily looks at the US and doesn't really explore how for example American hate groups influence the world. Most alt-news have a niche as defined in their Mission Statement and pretty much sticks with it, which is certainly understandable. SPL is the best at what they do and an invaluable resource. <https://www.splcenter.org>

SouthFront “Analysis & Intelligence is a public analytical umbrella organization created and maintained by a team of experts and volunteers from the four corners of the Earth. SouthFront focuses on issues of international relations, armed conflicts and crises. The organization provides military operations analysis, military posture of major world powers, and other important data influencing the growth of tensions between countries and nations.” SouthFront is listed first on [Citizens' Café's](#) list of alternative news media. Its PayPal email is .ru, however like RT.com the writers come from everywhere. This publication has battlefront news primarily on American declared and “covert” wars all over the world - a truly invaluable source of information for those

who dare to know the bitter truths mainstream news will never report. Their reports for example from the American/Israeli war against Syria and [daily map updates](#) are excellent. <https://southfront.org>

Spy Culture This site highlights the "militarization of everything" and everyone via entertainment media overtly and covertly paid for and directed by the US Department of Defense. In order to be a good media consumer and healthy person it helps to be aware of who is programming us and why. This site heightens that awareness. The site's 'About' paragraph states: "SpyCulture.com is written and produced by Tom Secker. Tom is a British-based journalist, author, and podcaster. His specialties include the security services, Hollywood, propaganda, censorship and the history of terrorism. Tom's writing and research has appeared in The Mirror, The Express, Russia Today, Salon, Newsweek, The Atlantic, The Independent, Harpers, Insurge Intelligence, Shadowproof, Gli Occhi Della Guerra, TechDirt and elsewhere." This is an incredibly well-designed site with high quality content. That said, this site should emphasize the need for schools to have curriculum designed to heighten student's awareness of how the media programs people into accepting militarism as a way of life, and other curriculum designed to deprogram students from militarism and killing as the primary aspirational goals in life. The host-writer-designer of this site does see the [waste and suffering](#) from the whole war machine paradigm, but could do more to bring that out on his site. It would be nice if he could add a page on the human cost of war and in effect participate to some extent in that deprogramming process. It would also be interesting to see an article on that site about how viewers are classically conditioned to associate erotica with war as the sexualization of violence is one of the most powerful, subliminal, insidious and cruelly dangerous weapons of all. Generally speaking, however it's a very well-done site that is a service to the community. <https://www.spyculture.com>

Stephen Lendman.org Stephen Lendman and his research and writings are interesting. According to his site: "He was born in 1934 in Boston, MA. In 1956, he received a BA from Harvard University. Two years of US Army service followed, then an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1960. After working seven years as a marketing research analyst, he joined the Lendman Group family business in 1967. He remained there until retiring at year end 1999. Writing on major world and national issues began in summer 2005. In early 2007, radio hosting followed. Lendman now hosts the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network three times weekly. Distinguished guests are featured. Listen live or archived. Major world and national issues are discussed. Lendman is a 2008 Project Censored winner and 2011 Mexican Journalists Club international journalism award recipient." Stephen Lendman's alt-news site is sort of a "one-man-band," and though he doesn't cover all the issues he does tackle the big issues and comes up with interesting story leads others miss. <https://stephenlendman.org>

TeleSUR – Latin America and the World TeleSUR is a wide-spectrum newspaper and the premier voice of Latin American people and challenges the status-quo of the hegemonic war machine. “Since 2005 TeleSUR has been covering important news and information, reporting the truth internationally. TeleSUR aired for the first time from the Teresa Carreño Theater in Caracas, Venezuela. Its advisory board was made up of important figures such as Noble Peace Prize Winner, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, and journalist Ignacio Ramonet.” Simply put: this is one of my most trusted alt-news sources. <https://www.telesurenglish.net>

The American Prospect - The American Prospect is devoted to promoting informed discussion on public policy from a progressive perspective. In print and online, the Prospect brings a narrative, journalistic approach to complex issues, addressing the policy alternatives and the politics necessary to create good legislation. <https://prospect.org/>

The Cato Institute The Cato Institute’s main menu includes Constitution and Law, Economics, Politics and Society and International. Their calendar indicates they are very involved in public education and has events scheduled at least till the end of 2021. Under Constitutional law it states:

“Cato’s scholars are dedicated to addressing the many aspects of that problem and to restoring America’s promise of liberty under limited government.” The Cato Institute is a public policy research organization — a think tank — dedicated to the principles of individual liberty, limited government, free markets, and peace. Its scholars and analysts conduct independent, nonpartisan research on a wide range of policy issues. Founded in 1977, Cato owes its name to Cato’s Letters, a series of essays published in 18th- century England that presented a vision of society free from excessive government power. Those essays inspired the architects of the American Revolution. And the simple, timeless principles of that revolution — individual liberty, limited government, and free markets — turn out to be even more powerful in today’s world of global markets and unprecedented access to information than Jefferson or Madison could have imagined.” <https://www.cato.org>

The Grayzone According to their site: “The Grayzone is an independent news website dedicated to original investigative journalism and analysis on politics and empire. It was founded and is edited by award-winning journalist and author Max Blumenthal. This is one of the Best of Best, Cream of the Crop alt-news sources. According to Academy Award-winning filmmaker Oliver Stone, “With The Grayzone, Max Blumenthal, Anya Parampil, Ben Norton, and Aaron Maté have put together an honest, investigative news site... It’s exactly what its title implies – a thinking person’s arena, indicating that area of the mind in-between black & white.” Grayzone investigators go vastly deeper than any MSM to find the real truths behind the news. Their reports section as of this writing

includes: US Empire, Information Wars, China and the New Cold War, Russiagate Racket, Non-profit Industrial Complex, and Coronavirus Chaos. This is Top of the Line, in-depth investigatory news and one of the best of the best online alt-news resources in my opinion. Other alt-news providers frequently, and even MSM occasionally, quotes them. <https://thegrayzone.com>

The Guardian is a British daily newspaper. It was founded in 1821 as The Manchester Guardian and changed its name in 1959. The Guardian usually takes up the cause of the disposed and exposes the ugly side of the Empire. That said, occasionally it flops and gets things backward. Despite that everyone who works as an alt-news researcher/writer knows it is often a useful resource. It is one of very few “mainstream” news sources that also functions as alt-news. The Guardian is part of the Guardian Media Group, which is owned by the Scott Trust. That Trust gives it a unique editorial freedom not enjoyed by most news media. That said, they don’t always get everything right, but are – the vast majority of the time - excellent. <https://www.theguardian.com>

The Intercept According to their About section: “The Intercept is an award-winning news organization dedicated to holding the powerful accountable through fearless, adversarial journalism. Its in-depth investigations and unflinching analysis focus on politics, war, surveillance, corruption, the environment, technology, criminal justice, the media, and more. The Intercept gives its journalists the editorial freedom and legal support they need to expose corruption and injustice wherever they find it.”

Unlike most alt-news providers that have to scramble around for funding, The Intercept managed to secure funding via Ebay founder and philanthropist [Pierre Omidyar](#). Incidentally The Intercept is extremely critical of China, which I find very unfair, given that China has an extreme need for security due to the Euro-American hegemonic drive to balkanize it. China already experienced 99 years of *foreign driven wars* from the beginning of the Taiping Rebellion (with the corrupt Qing Dynasty using foreign forces and finance to oppress the already extremely impoverished people) to the end of the American financed Civil War in 1949. Isn’t it about time to give China a break? In most other issue areas however, The Intercept is pretty good. <https://theintercept.com>

The International Campaign mission is to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). According to its website “it is a coalition of non-governmental organizations in one hundred countries promoting adherence to and implementation of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The website was made possible thanks to the generous support of New Zealand and Swiss Loterie Romande. ICAN is a broad, inclusive campaign, focused on mobilizing civil society around the world to support the specific objective of prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons. The ICAN international structure consists of partner organizations, an international steering group and an

international staff team.” ICAN’s headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.”
<https://www.icanw.org>

The Palestine Chronicle covers up-to-the minute news events in Palestine. It has a broader range of topics than IMEMC, including political events in the US as they relate to the Palestinian “situation.” “The Palestine Chronicle is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to educate the general public by providing a forum that strives to highlight issues of relevance to human rights, national struggles, freedom and democracy in the form of daily news, commentary, features, book reviews, photos, art, and more. The Palestine Chronicle team consists of professional journalists and respected writers and authors who don’t speak on behalf of any political party or champion any specific political agenda. The Palestine Chronicle website was established in September 1999 and has grown in its importance and scope of coverage mostly because of the support it received from socially conscious and progressive scholars, writers, activists, readers and communities around the world.” <http://www.palestinechronicle.com>

Truthout has had big scoops over the years and is often quoted other news sources. It’s About section reports it to be: “...a nonprofit news organization dedicated to providing independent reporting and commentary on a diverse range of social justice issues. Since our founding in 2001, we have anchored our work in principles of accuracy, transparency, and independence from the influence of corporate and political forces. Truthout works to spark action by revealing systemic injustice and providing a platform for progressive and transformative ideas, through in-depth investigative reporting and critical analysis. With a powerful, independent voice, we will spur transformations in consciousness and inspire both policy change and direct action. For more on our editorial approach, please read “Remaking Media in the Pursuit of Justice” and “A Call to the Media: Let’s Go Beyond ‘Preserving Democracy.’” As of this review all their articles are about domestic American issues. <https://truthout.org>

Unlimited Hangout This alt-news resourced didn’t have an “about” section that I could find, but they do have fearless, powerful in-depth investigations. For example: [shadowy tech firm](#) by Whitney Webb, July 15, 2020. That’s a scoop that should have been and stayed headline news in a country with a “free press.” Browsing their site, one finds several investigatory masterpieces. Though this alt-news site isn’t that well known, they do great work. Their meta-analysis is on the mark. While MSM is busy 24/7 spinning doomsday scenarios with ridiculous non-sense about Russian and Chinese gaining control of the US government, alt news is exploring the many truths about who is really manipulating and controlling the US government, while being suppressed by the corporate controlled mainstream “news” media, including and especially Google. In sum, Unlimited Hangout is excellent. <https://unlimitedhangout.com>

Visiones Alternativas is your go-to source for unbiased, up to the minute news out of Cuba. <http://www.visionesalternativas.com>

Waging Nonviolence is an independent, non-profit media platform dedicated to providing original reporting and expert analysis of social movements around the world. We believe that when ordinary people organize they have incredible power and are the drivers of social change — not politicians, billionaires or corporations.

In short, people power is our beat, and we cover the ways it is shaping our world, grounded in both history and the latest research. Since our founding in 2009, we have published reporting from contributors in more than 90 countries — with a special focus on overlooked movements in the Global South, as well as issues that traditional media tend to ignore. In addition to producing our own original content, Waging Nonviolence has created space in our Community section for peace and justice organizations — as well as universities — to publish their own stories. We see this service, which is supported by annual membership dues, as a way to strengthen not only our coverage of movements, but also movement media more broadly. <https://wagingnonviolence.org>

Washington Report on Middle Eastern Affairs - Telling the truth since 1982... Published to help provide the American public with balanced and accurate information concerning U.S. relations with Middle Eastern states. <https://www.wrmea.org/>

WHISPeR Protects National Security Whistleblowers, Sources, and Hacktivists - representing truth-tellers like Edward Snowden, Thomas Drake, Bill Binney, John Kiriakou, and Daniel Hale, who told the public the truth about government maleficence and have been exiled, criminally investigated, or prosecuted under the Espionage Act. <https://whisper.exposefacts.org/>

Wikileaks is a multi-national media organization and associated library. It was founded by its publisher Julian Assange in 2006 and specializes in the analysis and publication of large datasets of censored or otherwise restricted official materials involving war, spying and corruption. It has so far published more than 10 million documents and associated analyses. “WikiLeaks is a giant library of the world's most persecuted documents. We give asylum to these documents, we analyze them, we promote them and we obtain more.” - Julian Assange, (Der Spiegel Interview). WikiLeaks has contractual relationships and secure communications paths to more than 100 major media organizations from around the world. This gives WikiLeaks sources negotiating power, impact and technical protections that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to achieve. Although no organization can hope to have a perfect record forever, thus far WikiLeaks has a perfect in document authentication and resistance to all censorship attempts. WikiLeaks, its publisher and its journalists have won a huge number of prestigious awards, including: The Economist New Media Award (2008), The Amnesty New Media Award (2009), TIME

Magazine Person of the Year, People's Choice (highest global vote) (2010), The Sam Adams Award for Integrity (2010), The National Union of Journalists Journalist of the Year (Hrafnsson) (2011), The Sydney Peace Foundation Gold Medal (2011), The Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism (2011), The Blanquerna Award for Best Communicator (2011), The Walkley Award for Most Outstanding Contribution to Journalism (2011), The Voltaire Award for Free Speech (2011), The International Piero Passetti Journalism Prize of the National Union of Italian Journalists (2011), The Jose Couso Press Freedom Award (2011), The Privacy International Hero of Privacy (2012), The Global Exchange Human Rights People's Choice Award (2013), The Yoko Ono Lennon Courage Award for the Arts (2013), The Brazilian Press Association Human Rights Award (2013), The Kazakhstan Union of Journalists Top Prize (2014), As well as nominations for the UN Mandela Prize (2015) and nominations in six consecutive years for the Nobel Peace Prize (2010-2015). WikiLeaks is entirely funded by its publisher, its publication sales and the general public. WikiLeaks has more than one hundred other staff across the Americas, Africa, Eurasia and the Asia Pacific. <https://wikileaks.org>

World Socialist Website The WSWS aims to meet the need, felt widely today, for an intelligent appraisal of the problems of contemporary society. It addresses itself to the masses of people who are dissatisfied with the present state of social life, as well as its cynical and reactionary treatment by the establishment media. Their website provides a source of political perspective to those troubled by the monstrous level of social inequality, which has produced an ever-widening chasm between the wealthy few and the mass of the world's people. As great events, from financial crises to eruptions of militarism and war, break up the present state of class relations, the WSWS will provide a political orientation for the growing ranks of working people thrown into struggle. We anticipate enormous battles in every country against unemployment, low wages, austerity policies and violations of democratic rights. The World Socialist Web Site insists, however, that the success of these struggles is inseparable from the growth in the influence of a socialist political movement guided by a Marxist world outlook. <https://www.wsws.org/en>

Workers World (World Workers' Party) The WWP describes itself as a party that has since its founding "supported the struggles of all oppressed peoples". It has recognized the right of nations to self-determination, including the nationally oppressed peoples inside the United States. It supports affirmative action as necessary in the fight for equality and it opposes all forms of racism and religious bigotry. The WWP and its affiliate Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF) were known for their consistent defense of the Black Panthers, the Weather Underground, the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and the Puerto Rican Independence movement. The WWP was also an early advocate of

gay rights and remains active in this area. The WWP has published Workers World since 1959. The newspaper has been a weekly since 1974. <https://www.workers.org>

The following are some “alt-media” sources that have foreign government sponsorship.

- Regardless as to what the inquisitor adjuncts to the New American Red Scare think, according to The United Nations 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) – Article 19 Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

For a link library relating to international treatise relating to freedom of expression and press, see: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomOpinion/Pages/Standards.aspx>

- <http://www.sana.sy/en/> (Syrian Arab news Agency)
- <https://en.irna.ir/> (Islamic Republic News Agency)
- <https://www.rt.com> (Russia Today)
- <https://southfront.org/> (Also from Russia and provides the most up to date information on Syria, Ukraine and other conflicts American mainstream news studiously ignores.)
- <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/index.html> (China)
- <https://www.globaltimes.cn> (China)
- <https://www.aljazeera.com> (Qatar)

They also have legitimate viewpoints and concerns. The conscious and/or unconscious demonization of all things foreign, and especially all things associated in any way with foreign governments should be resisted. The voices of all people and governments targeted by the global hegemonic empire deserve to be heard.

Other Alt-News Link Lists

<https://media-alliance.org/about-us/useful-links>

<https://www.projectcensored.org/independent-news-links>

http://www.altpress.org/mod/apc_directory/index.php?limit_start=0

This editor may not agree with all of the opinions published on the above list of alt-media news sites. They are presented as alternative viewpoints to perspectives presented in mainstream news. In order to make informed decisions, it is important voters have fair access to *all* points of view.

A few of the above sites are pro-democracy. A few others are pro-socialist. Most don't have those kinds of political affiliations. I don't care as long as they are pro-peace,

against racism, misogyny and economic sanctions, and support drastically reducing the ever-widening wealth gaps within and between nations. Honesty and integrity are *sine qua non* prerequisites for inclusion on any of my lists.

Thus, I politely and cordially invite all readers to post as many of the above links on your websites as possible. “Embed” them in a story if possible. If not, just the links themselves should help bring up the individual and collective rankings. Only the **truth can set you free**.

Without some honest news on Google’s front pages for a change, another Civil War in the USA and WWII can be expected, possibly sooner rather than later.

For a little history on and review of alternative news see:

<http://fuchs.uti.at/wp-content/uploads/altmedia.pdf>

http://depts.washington.edu/moves/altnews_intro.shtml

Conclusions

The alt-media’s research is virtually always far deeper – and better fact checked - than that found in MSM. In this respect the alt-news online publications on the list above may represent the last vestiges of the real Fourth Estate.

In 1841, Thomas Carlyle wrote, “Burke said there were Three Estates in Parliament; but, in the Reporters’ Gallery yonder, there sat a Fourth Estate more important far than they all” (On Heroes and Hero Worship). Four years earlier, Carlyle had used the phrase in his French Revolution: “A Fourth Estate, of Able Editors, springs up, increases and multiplies; irrepressible, incalculable.” Carlyle saw the press as instrumental to the birth and growth of democracy, spreading facts and opinions and sparking revolution against tyranny.

https://cs.stanford.edu/people/eroberts/cs181/projects/2010-11/Journalism/index7f0d.html?page_id=16

Some may consider the majority of the above alt-news sources to be “left-wing” or radical. That perception however may be relative to the environments in which they are held.

Corporate-controlled MSM will naturally object to alternative viewpoints and label them “radical.” However, from the point of view of the majority of people in the world, those in most of Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, in addition to the majority of minorities in Europe and the USA, the viewpoints expressed in the alt-news sources above appear reasonable, moderate and not radical at all. Alt news doesn’t have the money, or

power of MSM but does represent the vast majority of people on earth - who are poor, and suffer an abject lack of representation and advocacy resources.

The two icons of alt-news at this time are Julian Assange and Edward Joseph Snowden. Were a president to come along that really believed in truth, justice and freedom, Julian Assange would not only be released from jail, but given the highest honors the US government has to offer, and one incredibly huge financial settlement for the “miscarriage of justice” which has held him captive for so many years.

He however is not alone in suffering the wrath of horribly misguided American Empire. Many or most alt-news writers, editors and publishers are swimming upstream against a sea of tyranny and at times overt and covert illegal operations including spurious lawsuits designed to silence them. Internet suppression of alt-news is clearly a violation of First American rights and has hit a most of the best alt-news publications hard.

And yet the sirens’ call for truth and freedom beckon the worthy to continue in spite of all dangers and obstacles. It takes more than a little courage to stand in front of 500 years of colonial racism and a multi-trillion dollar killing machine and defiantly shout: STOP!

The Great Linking

To my knowledge the above alt-news sites are not yet inter-linking. I would like that in addition to interlinking between them and the major peace/anti-war, religious, interfaith and humanist sites on my other list.

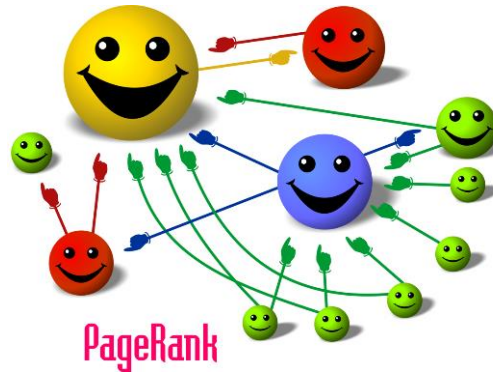
It’s time we who value peace with self-determination and dignity put aside our sectarian differences and work together. The various components of the military-industrial-media complex compete against each other but they are on one page in their concerted drive for more wars.

Unlike most feature stories with nice happy endings, this one has a simple request:

Please be so kind as to copy and paste the following docs and or link-lists on separate dedicated pages on your site:

- Peace Orgs Article w descr_links
- Alt-News Article w discr_links

If you decide to publish either or both of the above articles in whole or in part, please consider changing the titles of the articles and at least some of the content. Extra site-ranking points are added for original titles and articles. A preponderance of SEO experts report “links in” to your site from quality sites add mega-site-ranking points, and “out-links” don’t hurt a site as long as they are not to “spam” sites. Google’s site ranking algorithms are somewhat opaque but some general rules appear to remain consistent.



Downloaded from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PageRank#/media/File:PageRank-hi-res.png> CC BY-SA 2.5

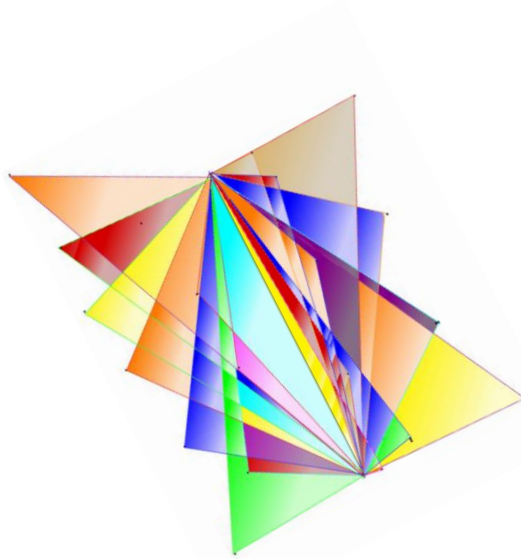
Given that Google is very much a representative and promoter of the hegemonic war machine:

At the event in Washington, Walker, the chief legal officer, said Google was pursuing higher security certifications so it could work more closely with the Defense Department on other projects. “I want to be clear,” he said. “We are a proud American company.”

<https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2019-google-military-contract-dilemma>

...it’s probably best if this “Great Linking” has no central nodes like the above page rank illustration. Any central node will be neutralized somehow. Thus, please feel free to add links to my link-list collection provided they don’t subtly or otherwise promote conflict and war, and delete links you might not feel entirely comfortable with. It’s also probably a good idea to not even use the phrase “Great Linking,” as the use of that name might make it too easy to suppress the growth of this concept. There are a thousand other phrases that can be used to describe the same thing.

Here is a better design:



<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/FreeDownload/Asymmetrical-Star-A-4th-grade-Geometry-Project-1227519>

Some alt-news organizations have much softer and rounded edges, some are sharper. Sorry, my graphic design skills are minimalist at best. But the general concept hopefully is clear.

The above figure is asymmetric, unpredictable and consequently it's a bit more difficult to neutralize via algorithm.

There is an axis I'd call resistance to white supremacist Euro-American hegemony, yet it's not a focused center because of divergent political and socio-economic priorities.

As for me, I'm at retirement age and only put this Great Linking plan together because I experienced the extreme violence of Empire from such a young age, so many times in so many countries including the USA, I unintentionally developed an empathic kind of mirror-mind. On one hand I can't shut the suffering of innocents out from my mind, on the other hand I'm an optimist and believe people can learn and change if they can get access to honest information. Also, this Great Linking design is so obviously critically important I'm astonished no one's done it before.

Furthermore, I very much like the idea of leaving a beautiful, peaceful, ecologically sound planet to future generations, as compared to a radioactive burned-out cinder.

Is my motivation here simple and clear enough?



<https://altnewsreview.substack.com>

<https://thegreatlinking.org>

<https://www.silkroadvirtualuniversity.org>

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