



**Vatnik Soup** @P\_Kallioniemi

Feb 5, 2026 · 5 tweets · [P\\_Kallioniemi/status/2019389366456692895](#)

In this 5th Debunk of the Day, we'll discuss something that sounds great in theory, but was completely turned upside-down by the tankie kind of vatnik: anti-imperialism. More consistent anti-imperialists call this the "anti-imperialism of idiots".

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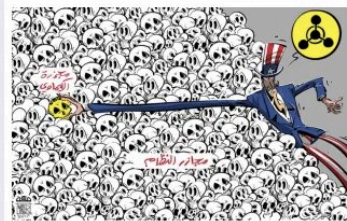
"Anti-imperialism" was popularized by Lenin, who saw imperialism as the ultimate stage of capitalism. Ironically, the largest empire is now... Putin's Russia, proud heir to both Lenin's Soviet Union and to the Tsarist Empire.



## The 'anti-imperialism' of idiots

April 14, 2018 by Leila Al Shami

Once more the western 'anti-war' movement has awoken to mobilise around Syria. This is the third time since 2011. The first was when Obama contemplated striking the Syrian regime's military capability (but didn't) following chemical attacks on the Ghouta in 2013, considered a 'red line'. The second time was when Donald Trump ordered a strike which hit an empty regime military base in response to chemical attacks on Khan Sheikhoun in 2017. And today, as the US, UK and France take limited military action (targeted strikes on regime military assets and chemical weapons facilities) following a chemical weapons attack in Douma which killed at least 34 people, including many children who were sheltering in basements from bombing.



Cartoon criticizing selective outrage which only applies to chemical attacks, by Yaser Ahmad

The first thing to note from the three major mobilisations of the western 'anti-war' left is that they have little to do with ending the war. More than half a million Syrians have been killed since 2011. The vast majority of civilian deaths have been through the use of conventional weapons and 94 per cent of these victims were killed by the Syrian-Russian-Iranian alliance. There is no outrage or concern feigned for this war, which followed the regime's brutal crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy demonstrators. There's no outrage when barrel bombs, chemical weapons and napalm are dropped on democratically self-organized communities or target hospitals and rescue workers. Civilians are expendable; the military capabilities of a genocidal, fascist regime are not. In fact the slogan 'Hands off Syria' really means 'Hands off Assad' and support is often given for Russia's military intervention. This was evident yesterday at a demonstration organized by Stop the War UK where a number of regime and Russian flags were shamefully on display.





Indeed, Russia is an empire that is still ruled by a de facto all-powerful Tsar, that still proudly flies its imperial flag, that still dreams of expanding its already huge territory through brutal conquest and colonization.

## Putin compares himself to Peter the Great in quest to take back Russian lands

President draws parallel with tsar who waged war on Sweden and says campaign in Ukraine stems from 'basic values'

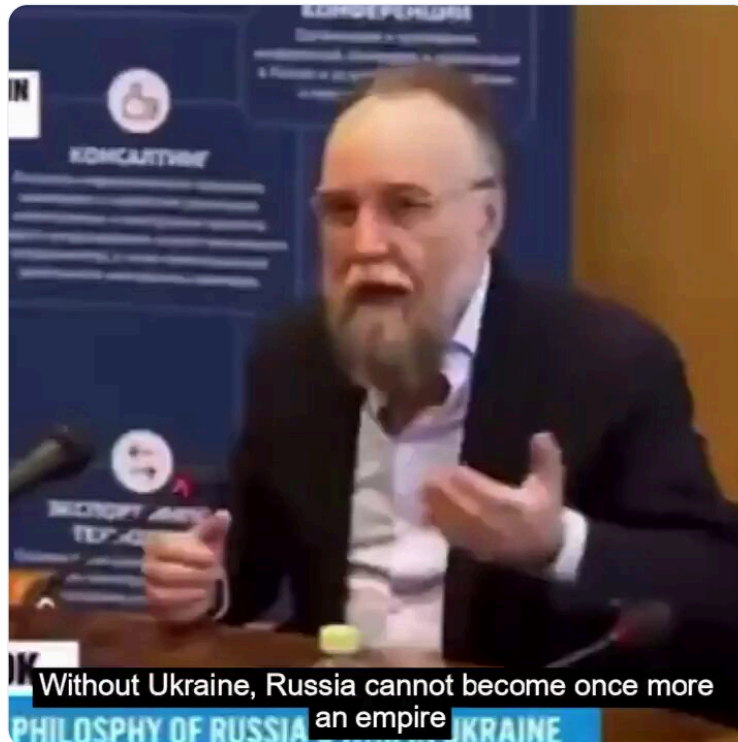
● [Russia-Ukraine war: latest updates](#)



■ Putin compares himself to Peter the Great in Russian territorial push - video

Vladimir Putin has compared himself to the 18th-century Russian tsar Peter the Great, drawing a parallel between what he portrayed as their twin historic quests to win back Russian lands.

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<https://twitter.com/i/web/status/2019389372190085586>



The way the term is mostly used now, “anti-imperialism” has nothing whatsoever to do with opposing imperialism. In fact, nowadays it means literally the opposite: support for crass imperialism, brutal colonialism, and genocidal wars of conquest. We can even wonder if...



**Orikron**    
@orikron

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Anti-Imperialism has nothing to do with opposing Empires. I support anti-imperialist Empires.

...those "anti-imperialists" would oppose a US invasion of Greenland or Canada? Or do they only protest wars if they threaten their favorite evil empire?

To really oppose imperialism, help Ukraine. And if you like this series, please support our work:

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