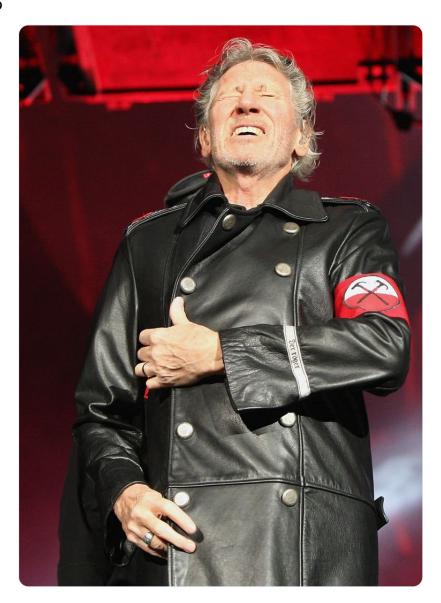


In today's <u>#vatniksoup</u>, I'll introduce a British musician and activist, Roger Waters (<u>@rogerwaters</u>). He's best-known for his involvement in Pink Floyd, and for his love for the totalitarian regimes and their lies around the world.



It actually pains me to brew this soup, as Waters' music, especially the album titled Animals, has been among my favorites for a very long time.

But one should never meet their heroes, they say, so here goes.



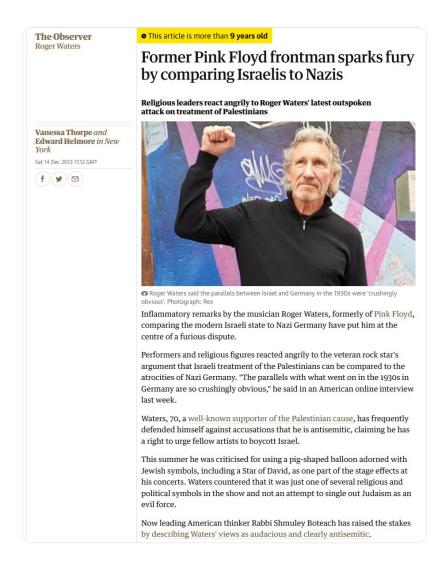
As with many pro-Kremlin propagandists, Waters has been heavily involved in support of Palestine in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He's supported an international campaign, BDS, that boycotts Israel. He visited the Israeli West Bank barrier for the first time in 2006.







He's compared the Israeli treatment of Palestinians to Nazi Germany, by saying that "The parallels with what went on in the 1930s in Germany are so crushingly obvious." Water himself has said that he's anti-Zionist instead of antisemitist. Some of his gigs have been...



...cancelled due to his staunch "anti-Zionist" takes. He also made the weirdest connection between Israeli Defense Force and the death of George Floyd, saying that the US police learned the technique that killed Floyd from the Israeli Army.

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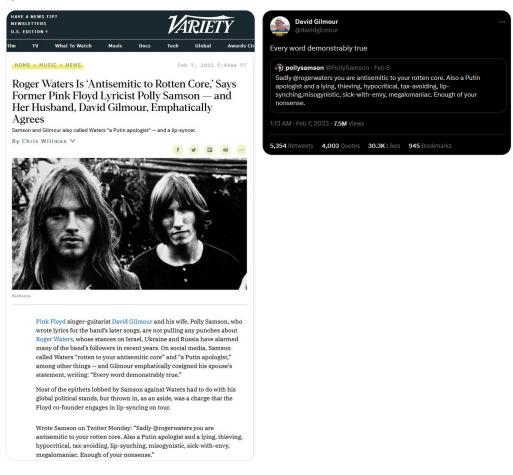


Recently, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. called Waters a "global hero", only to delete his tweet later, stating that he had "only recently learned about some of his other views, which I do not share." He then added that he supports Israel's right to exist within secure borders.



Former Pink Floyd Lyricist Polly Samson tweeted that Waters is "antisemitic" to his "rotten core", also calling him Putin apologist and misogynist. David Gilmour, Roger's former band mate and Samson's husband, fully agreed with this assessment.

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Waters has also denied Bashar al-Assad's involvement in the chemical attacks around Syria. He's called the Syrian humanitarian aid NGO, White Helmets, who save civilians from disaster areas a "fake organisation" that produces propaganda for "jihadists and terrorists".



When it comes to Russia, Roger has been lately digging himself deeper and deeper into the pro-Kremlin trenches. One week before Russia launched their full-scale invasion in Ukraine, Waters was interviewed by RT. In this interview, he claimed that any rumours...

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...about Russia attacking were "bullshit" and anti-Russian propaganda.

After Russia launched their attack, Waters blamed Joe Biden for "fueling the fire in the Ukraine... that is a huge crime," neatly putting 'the' in front of Ukraine to emphasize its assumed role as ...



.."the borderlands" - a contested region and a part of the "buffer zone". Based on Roger, Russia had only attacked because it was provoked to do so by the NATO - the classic delusional view of uncontrollable "NATO expansion", which according to him "they promised they...

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There is no evidence that there has been genocide in Ukraine. At the same time, Putin has repeatedly emphasised that he wants to bring Ukraine back into his empire. Putin told former German Chancellor Angela Merkel that the saddest day in his life was in 1989, when the Soviet Union collapsed.

Isn't the word origin of "Ukraine" the Russian word for "Borderland"? It was part of Russia and the Soviet Union for a long time. It's a difficult history. During the Second World War, I believe there was a large part of the population of western Ukraine that decided to collaborate with the Nazis. They killed Jews, Roma, communists, and anyone else the Third Reich wanted dead. To this day there is the conflict between Western Ukraine (With or without Nazis Alina) and Eastern The Donbas) and Southern (Crimea) Ukraine and there are many Russian speaking Ukrainians because it was part of Russia for hundreds of years. How can you solve such a problem? It can't be done by either the Kiev government or the Russians winning. Putin has always stressed that he has no interest in taking over western Ukraine – or invading Poland or any other country across the border. What he is saying is: he wants to protect the Russian-speaking populations in those parts of Ukraine where the Russian speaking populations feel under threat from the far right influenced post Maidan Coup Governments in Kiev. A coup that is widely accepted as having been orchestrated by the US.

We have spoken to many Ukrainians who can prove otherwise. The US may have helped support the 2014 protests. But overall, reputable sources and eyewitness accounts suggest that the protests arose from within – through the will of the Ukrainian people.

I wonder which Ukrainians you have spoken to? I can imagine that some claim that. On the other side of the coin a huge majority of Ukrainians in the Crimea and the Donbass have voted in referenda to rejoin The Russian Federation.

...wouldn't do when Gorbachev negotiated the withdrawal of the USSR from the whole of Eastern Europe." He's called the war in Ukraine "probably the most provoked invasion ever" and that won't look at Russia from the "current Russo-phobic perspective." After the First...

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15 Nov, 2022 16:55 / Updated 6 months ago















Roger Waters ANDREAS SOLARO / AFP

They let it happen because it's good for business, according to Roger Waters

British rock star Roger Waters has hit out against the US for profiting off of the ongoing military conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which he says Washington allowed to happen because it was beneficial to American interests. Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska appeared on BBC in Sep 2022, Waters published an open letter where he called for the stop of military aid to Ukraine, since the Western countries were "prolonging the war with their support."

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ESPAÑOL DEUTSCH FRANÇAIS CATALÀ EAAHNIKA ITALIANO

## An Open letter to Mrs Olena Zelenska from **Roger Waters**

05.09.22 - Independent Media Institute

This post is also available in: Greek





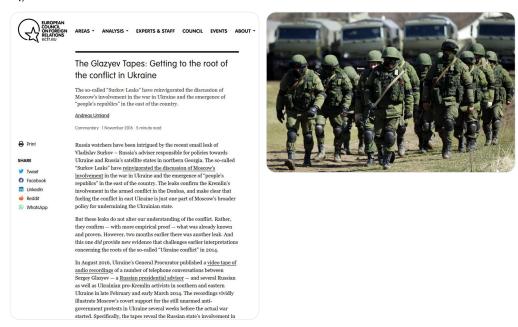
### Dear Mrs Zelenska,

My heart bleeds for you and all the Ukrainian and Russian families, devastated by the terrible war in Ukraine. I'm in Kansas City, USA. Iread an article on BBC.com apparently taken from an interview you have already recorded for a program called Sunday with Laura Kuenssburg which broadcasted on the BBC on September 4th.

 $BBC.com\ quotes\ you\ as\ saying\ that\ if\ support\ for\ Ukraine\ is\ strong\ the\ crisis\ will\ be\ shorter.\ Hmmm?\ I$ guess that might depend on what you mean by "support for Ukraine?" If by "support for Ukraine," you mean the West continuing to supply arms to the Kiev government's armies, I fear you may be tragically mistaken. Throwing fuel, in the form of armaments, into a firefight, has never worked to shorten a war in the past, and it won't work now, particularly because, in this case, most of the fuel is (a) being thrown into the fire from Washington DC, which is at a relatively safe distance from the conflagration, and (b) because the "fuel throwers" have already declared an interest in the war going on for as long as possible.

People like you and me actually want peace in Ukraine, don't want the outcome to be that you have to fight to the last Ukrainian life - and possibly even, if the worst comes to the worst, to the last human life. He's also stated that Ukraine broke the Minsk agreements, but yet again forgets to mention that the treaties were broken by both parties, and Russia was funding and arming the separatist movement in Ukraine, as well as sending their own troops to instigate unrest in there.

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In 2022, in an interview by RT, he reminded the US of the "one China" policy, suggesting that Taiwan is actually part of China. He also called the ongoing Uyghur genocide in Xinjian, China, "absolute nonsense", telling the interviewer to "go away and read about it."

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He's also given an interview to Chinese state-controlled CTGN, calling all US media "propaganda".

In Sep 2022, he wrote an open letter to Putin, calling for peace in Ukraine. In the letter, he called Putin a "gangster", but basically stated that Russia has the right to...

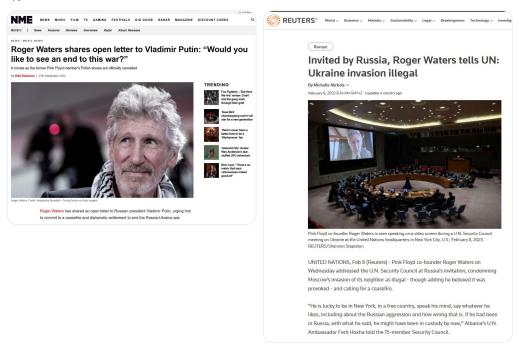
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...take Crimea and the Donbas, but that Putin and his forces "want to overrun the whole of Europe, starting with Poland and the rest of the Baltic states", which would lead to a nuclear war.

In Feb 2023, he was asked to appear in front of the UN Security Council on...

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...behalf of Russia. In his speech, he condemned Russia's attack "in the strongest possible terms", but immediately "condemned the provocateurs [US and NATO] in the strongest possible terms". Few days before this, he was interviewed by Berliner Zeitung, in which he...



...doubled-down on his previous statements regarding Ukraine and Russia. He blamed the US for orchetrating a "coup d'état" in Ukraine in 2014, and even went as far as blamed Zelensky for being a warmonger. As a cherry on top, he promotes the ridiculous Sy Hersh story,...



...full of holes, on the US involvement in the Nord Stream sabotage. In the same interview, he also mentioned that the reason for Russia's "special military operation" in Ukraine was launched because of a) the genocide in Donbas, and b) to denazify Ukraine.

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The most important reason for arms deliveries is the following: It is to support Ukraine, to win the war and to stop Russia's aggression. You seem to see it differently.

Yes. Maybe I shouldn't be, but I am now more open to listen what Putin actually says. According to independent voices I listen to he governs carefully, making decisions on the grounds of a consensus in the Russian Federation government. There are also critical intellectuals in Russia, who have been arguing against American imperialism since the 1950s. And a central phrase has always been: Ukraine is a red line. It must remain a neutral buffer state. If it doesn't remain so, we don't know where it will lead. We still don't know, but it could end in a Third World War.

#### In February last year, it was Putin who decided to attack.

He launched what he still calls a "special military operation". He launched it on the basis of reasons that if I have understood them well are: 1. We want to stop the potential genocide of the Russian-speaking population of the Donbas. 2. We want to fight Nazism in Ukraine. There is a teenage Ukrainian girl, Alina, with whom I exchanged long letters: "I hear you. I understand your pain." She answered me, thanked me, but stressed, I'm sure you're wrong about one thing though, "I am 200% certain there are no Nazis in Ukraine." I replied again, "I'm sorry Alina, but you are wrong about that. How can you live in Ukraine and not know?"

He'd exchanged letters with a Ukrainian girl that had written to Waters that "I am 200% certain there are no Nazis in Ukraine," to which he replied "I'm sorry Alina, but you are wrong about that. How can you live in Ukraine and not know?"

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Then he basically explains the script of the propaganda piece "Ukraine on Fire", with "evil genocidal Banderites" and the US staging a coup in Ukraine. Then he talks about how "huge majority" of Ukrainians in the Donbas and Crimea voted to join Russia. Of course he also...

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..mentions that the sanctions are hurting the West, that people in the UK have to choose between "eat or heat", and finally he called everyone who disagrees with him "brainwashed" and "idiots". He also gave The Telegraph an interview during that same month, in which he...

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# When concerts in Poland were cancelled because of your statements on the war in Ukraine, did you just feel misunderstood?

Yes. This is a big step backwards. It is an expression of Russophobia. People in Poland are obviously just as susceptible to Western propaganda. I would want to say to them: You are brothers and sisters, get your leaders to stop the war so that we can stop for a moment and think: "What is this war about?". It is about making the rich in the Western countries even richer and the poor everywhere even poorer. The opposite of Robin Hood. Jeff Bezos has a fortune of around 200 billion dollars, while thousands of people in Washington D.C. alone live in cardboard boxes on the street.

Ukrainians are standing up to defend their country. Most people in Germany see it that way, which is why your statements cause consternation, even anger. Your perspectives on Israel meet with similar criticism here. That is also why there is now a discussion about whether your concerts in Germany should be cancelled. How do you react to that?

Oh, you know, it's Israeli Lobby activists like Malca Goldstein-Wolf who demand that. That's idiotic. They already tried to cancel my concert in Cologne in 2017 and even got the local radio stations to join in.

### Isn't it a bit easy to label these people as idiots?

Of course, they are not all idiots. But they probably read the Bible and probably believe that anyone who speaks out against Israeli fascism in the Holy Land is an anti-Semite. That's really not a smart position to take, because to do so you have to deny that people lived in Palestine before the Israelis settled there. You have to follow the legend that says, "A land without a people for a people without a land." What nonsense. The history here is quite clear. To this day, the indigenous, Jewish population is a minority. The Jewish Israelis all immigrated from Eastern Europe or the United States.

..said that calling Putin "may have been unfair" and that he "changed his mind" on the matter after watching a podcast called "The Duran". He said that after watching the show, he's had more respect for Putin: "It may be that he's leading his country to the benefit of all of.. 24/26



...the people of Russia."

Roger is a big fan of fake news blog <u>@TheGrayzoneNews</u>. He probably gets most of his information from this site, as his views are very much in line with the "journalists" like <u>@aaronjmate</u> and <u>@MaxBlumenthal</u>. He was also their guest in Oct 2022.

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Recently Waters wore an uniform similar to the ones that the SS war in Nazi Germany. This "antifascist" show has been part of his repertoire since 1982, but it's still absurd when it's done by someone who seems to love totalitarian regimes in Russia, Syria and in China.



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One could even ask @rogerwaters why he plays 38 gigs in the US - the country he hates so much - and zero in Russia, China or Syria.

Also, it's incredible how Roger doesn't see the irony in this image.



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