



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Jan 5, 2024 · 17 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1743254903491789302](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1743254903491789302)

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce a Finnish academic and political scientist, Heikki Patomäki. He's best-known for his euroskepticism, anti-NATO stance, and for his complete misunderstanding of Vladimir Putin and his regime.

1/16



Patomäki currently works at the Helsinki University as a Professor of Political Science, and he's also a supervisor of the Doctoral Programme in Political, Societal and Regional Change.

2/16

The screenshot shows the profile page for Heikki Patomäki on the University of Helsinki website. The header includes the university logo and name. The navigation menu contains: Home, Persons, Publications, Projects, Research Infrastructures, Research Units, Datasets, and a search bar. The profile section features a small photo of Patomäki, his name in bold, and his title: Professor, Political Science. Below this, it lists his role as Supervisor for doctoral programme, Doctoral Programme in Political, Societal and Regional Change, and provides his ORCID iD: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9255-6783>. To the right, there is a bar chart titled 'Research activity per year' showing activity from 1994 to 2023.

Previously, he was involved in politics as a member of a Finnish left-wing party Vasemmistoliitto, but resigned in May 2022 after Finland applied to join NATO.

3/16



University of Helsinki professor Heikki Patomäki. MAGAZINE PHOTO / ANTTI AIMO-KOIVISTO

Heikki Patomäki is resigning from the leftist union

MARKUS MÄKI PUBLISHED ON 24/05/2022 | 15:42 UPDATED 24/05/2022 | 17:53 [POLICY](#)

According to the professor of international politics, the decision was decided by the NATO issue.

Patomäki started his political career in the right-wing Youth of the National Coalition Party, but eventually shifted towards the environmentalist greens with strong emphasis on advocating peace.

(text translated from Finnish to English)

4/16

So you don't get instructions directly from the Kremlin?

- I have never had anything to do with the Kremlin or Russia. How many times have I seen such comments on social media that I was educated in the Soviet Union, or that I have always been a fighter. In the 70's and 80's, I was a member of the Youth of the National Coalition Party. I received my education in Finland and Britain, worked in universities in Britain and Australia.

In 2007 he published a book "Uusliberalismi Suomessa" ("Neoliberalism in Finland"), in which he compared neoliberalism to fascism. Incidentally, in his book Patomäki called former Finnish PM Paavo Lipponen, who was involved in the development of Nord Stream, a neoliberal.

5/16

HEIKKI PATOMÄKI

Uusliberalismi
Suomessa



Lyhyt historia
ja tulevaisuuden vaihtoehdot

3. painos. Kaksi ensimmäistä painosta WSOY

Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö
Helsinki

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front page HS at the core HS Vision News in Russian The latest Election Cor

DIAMOND OF THE DAY : These small changes affect well-being

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Culture

Professor compares the current ideology of the economy to fascism

Neoliberalism came to power in Finland 20 years ago, claims Heikki Patomäki

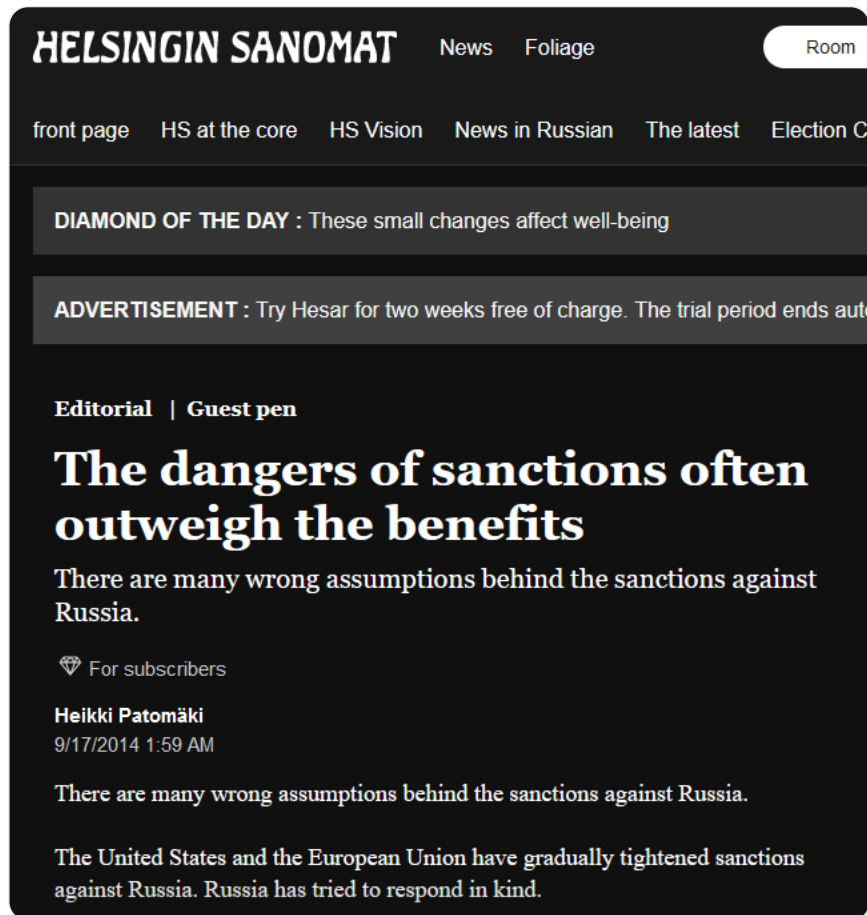
For subscribers

Jyrki Räikkä

2/10/2007 3:00

In Sep 2014, he wrote an op-ed on Finnish newspaper Helsingin Sanomat, in which he criticised the sanctions set against Russia after the annexation of Crimea. He also blamed NATO expansion and EU's collaboration offers to Ukraine for the conflict.

6/16



The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article on the Helsingin Sanomat website. The header includes the newspaper's name 'HELSINGIN SANOMAT' and navigation links for 'News', 'Foliage', and 'Room'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'front page', 'HS at the core', 'HS Vision', 'News in Russian', 'The latest', and 'Election C'. Two promotional banners are visible: 'DIAMOND OF THE DAY : These small changes affect well-being' and 'ADVERTISEMENT : Try Hesar for two weeks free of charge. The trial period ends auto'. The main article section is titled 'Editorial | Guest pen' and features the headline 'The dangers of sanctions often outweigh the benefits'. The sub-headline reads 'There are many wrong assumptions behind the sanctions against Russia.' The author is identified as 'Heikki Patomäki' with a date of '9/17/2014 1:59 AM'. A small diamond icon indicates the article is 'For subscribers'. The first paragraph of the article is 'There are many wrong assumptions behind the sanctions against Russia.' The second paragraph begins with 'The United States and the European Union have gradually tightened sanctions against Russia. Russia has tried to respond in kind.'

In 2015, he stated that Putin's Russia "completely lacks Hitler's racist ideology, which led to genocide." In retrospect, we can clearly see that Professor Patomäki was dead wrong on this.

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He also reminds that Putin completely lacks Hitler's racist ideology, which led to genocide. In addition, Hitler's aggressive desire for conquest targeted almost all of Europe.

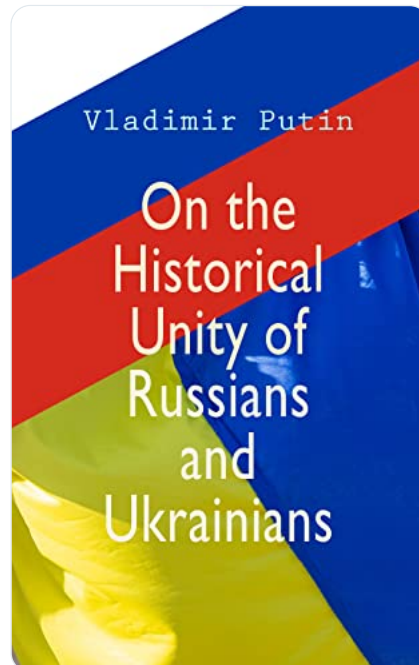
UNDER PUTIN , RUSSIA has turned into an increasingly authoritarian state that restricts the freedom of its citizens in many ways. "Despite the restrictions, there still prevails in principle a liberal democracy that respects human rights. It's still a long way from Hitler's Germany," says world politics professor Patomäki.

ANALYSIS

Russia's Ukraine Propaganda Has Turned Fully Genocidal

Egged on by the language of annihilation and extermination, Russian soldiers have become willing executioners.

By **Alexey Kovalev**, a Berlin-based investigative journalist.



World - Analysis

A Kremlin paper justifies erasing the Ukrainian identity, as Russia is accused of war crimes

Warning: This story contains images depicting dead bodies



Chris Brown · CBC News · Posted: Apr 05, 2022 4:00 AM EDT | Last Updated: April 5, 2022



An aerial view shows residential buildings that were damaged in Mariupol, Ukraine, on April 3. A Russian state media editorial suggests the Kremlin wants to wipe out the Ukrainian identity. (Pavel Klimov/Reuters)

In the same interview, he also stated that Russia under Putin is "still a liberal democracy that respects human rights". At this point, Putin had already murdered and imprisoned several journalists in Russia and assassinated many of its own citizens abroad.

8/16





To me it seems like Patomäki observes geopolitics through a Mearsheimerian lens of offensive realism, where empires have their "spheres of influence," and smaller, sovereign nations just have to obey their "masters":



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@P_Kallioniemi · Follow



In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce an American political scientist, John Mearsheimer. He's best-known for his theory of offensive realism, for his pandering to authoritarian regimes, and for ignoring sovereignty of independent countries.

1/22



12:52 PM · Dec 5, 2023



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In an interview on 5 Jan 2024, Patomäki stated that peace in Ukraine can only be achieved if they give up their goals of joining NATO. He also stated that the regions invaded by Russia should be controlled by the UN, and that their fate should be decided through...

10/16

He sees that it was precisely Ukraine's desire to join NATO that caused the war. Joining a military alliance always strengthens the military alliance, which, according to Patomäki, is comparable to arming and thus exacerbates the situation on both sides.

- If Russia says that Ukraine's NATO membership is a red line, and then they say that yes, Ukraine has the right to join, the whole world will go down in flames or clay. And then the Russians will go to war, as they have said they will, if this holds. Such action, pitting one hard will against another hard will, leads to conflict escalation and war.

..diplomacy & by holding a referendum. By his view, Ukraine's willingness to join NATO was the "red line" that started the war.He also repeated the myth over the West "sabotaging the peace talks",even though Russia controlled large area of Ukraine & had no desire for peace.

11/16

According to him, the best option would be that, instead of handing over to Russia, the disputed territories would be put under the control of the UN. Then, once the situation had stabilized, and the principle of legality was valid, a solution regarding the regions would be found through diplomatic negotiations and a referendum.

- First, you could take a step back and ask where that idea comes from. The background has been that after the failed negotiations in March 2022, the West, especially [then British Prime Minister] **Boris Johnson** and the United States, encouraged Ukraine to continue the war with the idea that Ukraine could win it.

At that time, neither Russia nor Ukraine gave an inch to their demands, for example regarding the region. This is reported by [Reuters](#) .

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Europe

Exclusive: As war began, Putin rejected a Ukraine peace deal recommended by aide

Reuters

September 14, 2022 10:00 AM GMT+3 · Updated a year ago



PARIS, Sept 14 (Reuters) - Vladimir Putin's chief envoy on Ukraine told the Russian leader as the war began that he had struck a provisional deal with Kyiv that would satisfy Russia's demand that Ukraine stay out of NATO, but Putin rejected it and pressed ahead with his military campaign, according to three people close to the Russian leadership.

Accord to Patomäki, Ukraine can't win even if they got full support from the West, even though Ukraine has been defending bravely against Russia's meat waves for almost 700 days now, and even re-captured several areas like Kharkiv and Kherson.

12/16

What if the West really started massively supporting Ukraine and sending, for example, the German Taurus missiles? Couldn't Ukraine get on top of the neck though?

- I've been hearing this story for almost two years now, that when this and this weapon system is given, everything will change. With some weapon system, some tactical matter has been handled in a way that would not be possible without that weapon system. But it doesn't change the big picture of the war.

According to Patomäki, there is also an illusion in the West that Russian weapon technology and the Russian armed forces are completely incapable. This is not the case, for example, there is enough demand and buyers for Russian weapon technology in the world.

Assessed Control of Terrain in Ukraine and Main Russian Maneuver Axes as of March 20, 2022, 3:00 PM ET



* Assessed Russian advances are areas where ISW assesses Russian forces have operated in or launched attacks against but do not control.

Assessed Control of Terrain in Ukraine and Main Russian Maneuver Axes as of January 2, 2024, 3:00 PM ET



He admits, that even if there is an agreement on truce, there are no guarantees for permanent peace. Many have speculated, that Russia would use this time to re-group and eventually attack Ukraine again.

As a reminder, there was a SECOND Chechen War, after all.

But wouldn't that also mean that Russia will win and could later start another war?

- Any country can basically attack any country at any time. We have no absolute guarantee that someone will not attack somewhere as long as there are armed forces in the world.

When trust is broken, it needs to be rebuilt.

- There is no guarantee that it will succeed. And when trust collapses again, the war may start again. It's all very true.

Atrocities in Chechnya

Since the beginning of the conflict, Russian forces have indiscriminately and disproportionately bombed and shelled civilian objects, causing heavy civilian casualties. The Russian forces have ignored their Geneva convention obligations to focus their attacks on combatants, and appear to take few safeguards to protect civilians: It is this carpet-bombing campaign which has been responsible for the vast majority of civilian deaths in the conflict in Chechnya. The Russian forces have used powerful surface-to surface rockets on numerous occasions, causing death tolls in the hundreds in the Central Market bombing in Grozny and in many smaller towns and villages. Lately, Russian commanders have threatened to use even more powerful explosives, including fuel air explosives which could have a disastrous casualty count if used against civilian targets. The bombing campaign has turned many parts of Chechnya to a wasteland: even the most experienced war reporters I have spoken to told me they have never seen anything in their careers like the destruction of the capital Grozny.

Russian forces have often refused to create safe corridors to allow civilians to leave areas of active fighting, trapping civilians behind front lines for months. The haggard men and women who came out of Grozny after a perilous journey told me of living for months in dark, cold cellars with no water, gas or electricity and limited food: their little children were often in shock, whimpering in the corners of their tents in Ingushetia and screaming in fright whenever Russian war planes flew over, reminding them of the terror in Grozny.

In the past month, the Russian authorities have begun arresting large numbers of civilian men throughout Chechnya. These men, numbering well over a thousand, and some women, have been taken to undisclosed detention facilities, and their relatives are desperately trying to locate them. I have spoken to men who have been able to pay their way out of these detention facilities, and they have given me consistent testimony about constant beatings, severe torture, and even cases of rape of both men and women. One of the men suffered from a back injury after being hit with a heavy metal hammer; a second man had several broken ribs and suffered from kidney problems from the severe beatings.

Finally, the Professor criticises the Finnish discussion culture revolving around the Russo-Ukrainian War. He claims that the "public debate in Finland is not in a very good place at the moment," suggesting that you're not allowed to "disagree with the mainstream opinion".

Accusations

Patomäki speaks in a worried tone about the current climate of discussion in Finland regarding the war in Ukraine.

- I just spoke with a French journalist and said that the political situation in Finland is such that if you say something different from the mainstream, you are wished well in Russia, threatened to kill or something else. This kind of message comes from all sides. This public debate in Finland is not in a very good place at the moment.

In my view, Mr. Patomäki just has difficulties to see Russia as it is: an authoritarian and genocidal empire trying to expand its borders slowly but surely:

15/16

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In this thread I'll be discussing  genocide in Ukraine. I'll focus on the child abductions & will be providing evidence that  has planned this for a long time and that their intent has been announced in the state-owned media at least since the beginning of April, 2022.

1/10



6:55 AM · Nov 7, 2022 

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And all this talk about the suppression of different opinions was published in the second biggest yellow press magazine Iltalehti.

Does the Professor think that this would be possible in Russia, that according to him, is a "liberal democracy that respects human rights"?

16/16

Dictators are thought to be delusional and make bad decisions because they are only told what they want to hear. When there is no free media and opposition, stupid decisions are made. According to Patomäki, the problem does not only concern dictatorships, but similar problems were seen, for example, in the Vietnam war fought by the USA.

- The same pattern is now repeated in the Finnish debate and its complete lack of alternatives. Even here, hardly anyone dares to say anything that deviates from the mainstream.

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A short clip from today's Hopak practice for the [#HopakChallenge](#).

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4:31 PM · Nov 21, 2023 

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