

## Fabricating Lies, Promoting Imperial Wars, Decimating Countries, Impoverishing Millions: Megaphone for Mass Murder

The Financial Times Narrative

Par Prof. James Petras

Mondialisation.ca, 29 août 2016

Thème: <u>Media Disinformation</u>, <u>US NATO</u>

<u>War Agenda</u>

The <u>Financial Times</u> editorial page carries a logo that proclaims: "Without fear and without favour". Indeed the editors have shown <u>no fear</u> when it comes to. . . fabricating lies, promoting imperial wars decimating countries and impoverishing millions, whether in Libya, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen and now Venezuela. The fearless "<u>Lies of Our Times</u>" have been at the forefront forging pretexts for inciting imperial armies to crush independent governments.

Despite its pretentious scribblers and prestigious claims, the <u>FT</u> is seen by the Anglo-American financial class as a belligerent <u>purveyor</u> of militarist policies designed for the most retrograde sectors of the ruling elite.



What is most striking about the <u>FT</u> fearless fabrications on behalf of imperial militarism is how often their political and economic prognostications have been incompetent and flat out wrong.

Professor James Petras (right)

For the past ten years, the <u>FT</u> editorial pages have described China in economic crisis and heading for a fall, while in reality, the Chinese economy has grown at between eight and six percent a year.

For over a decade and a half, the <u>FT</u> editors claimed Russia under President Vladimir Putin

presented an international existential threat to 'the West'. In fact, it was the 'Western' armies of NATO, which expanded military operations to the borders of Russia, the US, which financed a neo-fascist coup in Kiev and the US-EU which promoted an Islamist uprising in Syria designed to totally undermine Russia's influence and relations in the Middle East.

The <u>FT</u>'s economic gurus and its leading columnists prescribed the very catastrophic deregulatory formulas which precipitated the financial crash of 2008-09, after which they played the clownish role of "*Mickey the Dunce*" – blaming others for the failed policies.

The fearless <u>FT</u> scribes are currently leading a virulent propaganda campaign to promote the violent overthrow of the democratically elected Venezuelan government of President Nicolas Maduro.

This essay will identify the <u>FT's</u> latest pack of fearless lies and fabrications and then conclude by analyzing the political consequences for Venezuela and other independent regimes.

The Financial Times and Venezuela: From War in the Suites to Terror in the Streets

In covering the crisis in Venezuela, the <u>FT</u> has systematically ignored the ongoing campaign of assaults and assassinations against elected officials, security officers, military and police who have been murdered by the <u>FT</u>'s favored 'opposition'.

The <u>FT</u> did not cover the horrific murders of an elected Chavista congresswoman and her two young children, who were executed (shot in the head) in broad daylight by opposition-paid hitmen.

These ongoing opposition terror campaigns against the elected government and the general public are systematically ignored in the FTs 'reports' and on its editorial pages, which focus more on the shortages of consumer items.

The <u>FT</u> cover-up of rightwing terror extended to <u>inventing</u> a 'possible' army or National Guard plan to open fire on opposition demonstrators. In this case, the <u>FT</u> anticipated rightwing violence by laying the blame on the government in advance.

The <u>FT covers-up</u> the opposition business elite's campaign of hoarding essential goods to create artificial shortages and panic buying. They deny the ongoing price gouging and pin the blame for shortages and long consumer lines exclusively on 'regime mismanagement'.

The <u>FT</u> conveniently omits to mention that the decline in world oil prices has affected not only the economy of Venezuela but <u>all</u> countries dependent on commodity exports, including the <u>Financial Times</u> favorite neo-liberal regimes in Brazil and Argentina.

The <u>Financial Times</u> cites bogus 'opinion' polls, which wildly exaggerate the government's *declining popularity*: In the recent elections Maduro's supporters secured 40% of the popular vote while the <u>FT</u> claims his support to be 7%!

US client regimes (Mexico, Peru, and Colombia) are the largest producers of illegal drugs and US banks are the largest launderers for narco-money. Yet the <u>FT</u> reports on "Venezuela's role as a conduit for illegal drugs smuggled north to the US and east into Brazil, Africa and thence to Europe". Drug enforcement experts all agree that <u>Colombia</u>, home to seven US military bases and with a regime closely linked to paramilitary-

narco gangs, is the source of drugs smuggled through Venezuela. That Venezuela has become a victim of the violent Colombian narco-trade is never acknowledged by the elegant City of London pen-prostitutes.

The <u>FT</u> blames the re-emergence of 'malaria and other possible diseases' on the leftist Maduro government. In fact the recent 'malaria outbreak' (also cited by the <u>New York Times</u>propagandists) is based on a single illegal gold miner.

The <u>FT</u> ignores how the US- backed neo-liberal regimes in Argentina and Brazil, which rule by presidential decree, have slashed public health programs setting the stage for much greater public health crises.

The Financial Times: Big Lies for Mass Murder

The <u>Financial Times</u> is waging an all-out propaganda war with one goal: To incite the violent seizure of power in Venezuela by US political clients.

In line with the Obama-Clinton 'regime-change by any means' policies, the <u>FT</u> paints a deceptive picture of Venezuela facing 'multiple crises', representing a 'destabilizing' threat to the hemisphere, and on the brink of a global 'humanitarian crisis'.

Armed with these deadly clichés, the <u>FT</u> editorial pages<u>demand</u> "a <u>new</u> government soon and certainly <u>before</u> the 2018 elections".

Recently, the <u>FT</u> proposed a phony legal gimmick – a recall referendum. However, since the opposition cannot initiate the vote in time to oust the elected President Maduro, the <u>FT</u> calls for "events which precipitate changes sooner" – a violent coup!

<u>FT</u>'s scenarios aim to precipitate a violent rightwing "march", eventually provoking civil bloodshed in early September of this year.

The <u>FT</u> expects that "blood in Caracas will require an active Latin America response" (sic). In other words, the <u>FT</u>hopes that a US-backed military invasion from neighboring Colombia would help eliminate the Chavistas and install a rightist regime.

The <u>Financial Times</u>, which actively promoted the NATO-led destruction of the government in Libya, now calls for a US-led invasion of Venezuela. Never ones to re-assess their promotion of 'regime change', the FT now calls for a violent coup in Venezuela, which will exceed that of Libya in terms of the loss of thousands of Venezuelan lives and the brutal reversal of a decade of significant socio-economic progress.

"Without fear and without favor", the <u>FT</u> speaks for imperial wars everywhere.

## Conclusion

The US presidential elections take place just as the Obama-Clinton regime prepares to intervene in Venezuela. Using bogus 'humanitarian' reports of widespread hunger, disease, violence and instability, the Obama will still need Venezuelan thugs to provoke enough violent street violence to trigger an' invitation' for Washington's Latin American military partners to 'intervene' under the auspices of the UN or OAS.

If 'successful', a rapid overthrow of the elected government in Caracas could be presented

as a victory for Hilary Clinton's campaign, and an example of her policy of 'humanitarian-military interventions' around the world.

However, if Obama's allied invasion does <u>not</u> produce a quick and easy victory, if the Venezuelan people and armed forces mount a prolonged and courageous defense of their government and if US lives are lost in what could turn into a popular war of resistance, then Washington's intervention could ultimately discredit the Clinton campaign and her 'muscular' foreign policy. The American electorate might finally decide against four more years of losing wars and losing lives. No thanks to the 'fearless' <u>Financial Times</u>.

La source originale de cet article est Mondialisation.ca Copyright © Prof. James Petras, Mondialisation.ca, 2016

Articles Par: Prof. James

**Petras** 

**Avis de non-responsabilité**: Les opinions exprimées dans cet article n'engagent que le ou les auteurs. Le Centre de recherche sur la mondialisation se dégage de toute responsabilité concernant le contenu de cet article et ne sera pas tenu responsable pour des erreurs ou informations incorrectes ou inexactes.

Le Centre de recherche sur la mondialisation (CRM) accorde la permission de reproduire la version intégrale ou des extraits d'articles du site <u>Mondialisation.ca</u> sur des sites de médias alternatifs. La source de l'article, l'adresse url ainsi qu'un hyperlien vers l'article original du CRM doivent être indiqués. Une note de droit d'auteur (copyright) doit également être indiquée.

Pour publier des articles de <u>Mondialisation.ca</u> en format papier ou autre, y compris les sites Internet commerciaux, contactez: <u>media@globalresearch.ca</u>

Mondialisation.ca contient du matériel protégé par le droit d'auteur, dont le détenteur n'a pas toujours autorisé l'utilisation. Nous mettons ce matériel à la disposition de nos lecteurs en vertu du principe "d'utilisation équitable", dans le but d'améliorer la compréhension des enjeux politiques, économiques et sociaux. Tout le matériel mis en ligne sur ce site est à but non lucratif. Il est mis à la disposition de tous ceux qui s'y intéressent dans le but de faire de la recherche ainsi qu'à des fins éducatives. Si vous désirez utiliser du matériel protégé par le droit d'auteur pour des raisons autres que "l'utilisation équitable", vous devez demander la permission au détenteur du droit d'auteur.

Contact média: media@globalresearch.ca