

# Trump is DONE: Russia & China just OBLITERATED His Venezuela War & the CIA is FURIOUS

Donald Trump is pursuing an unthinkable war in Venezuela with help from the CIA but Russia & China have already called his bluff. Danny Haiphong reports on the moves being made by the two strongest powers of the multipolar world to break Trump's blockade of Venezuela and fortify Nicholas Maduro. SUPPORT THE SHOW: PATREON.COM/DANNYHAIPHONG Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhai...> Substack: [chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com](https://chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com) Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritofho> #russia #venezuela#trump #cia #trump #china

## #Danny

Russia and China essentially gave Trump a lump of coal—a Christmas surprise. They called an emergency meeting at the UN Security Council not only to discuss Venezuela, but to try to push through real action to stop what Donald Trump has essentially been doing: starving, blockading, and violating international law against Venezuela for several months now. And we know this war has actually been going on for many years. This meeting was very important because it underscores not just the rhetoric we hear from Russia and China, but what they've actually been doing to support Venezuela in this incredibly difficult time for the country, as the regime-change war heats up.

First, here's the coverage from the South China Morning Post: China and Russia clashed with the U. S. at a U.N. meeting over Venezuela's oil seizures and naval pressure. Venezuela turned to the U.N. as Trump's oil crackdown intensified, and Caracas advanced a law targeting those supporting naval blockades. China accused the United States at the U.N. of violating international law and destabilizing the Caribbean region, while Washington defended its seizure of Venezuelan oil tankers and vowed to intensify pressure on President Nicolás Maduro.

Speaking at an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council requested by Venezuela and backed by China and Russia, Beijing said U.S. actions carried out under the banner of narcotics enforcement amounted to unilateral coercion and a direct challenge to the principles of sovereignty and freedom of navigation. The meeting came as the Trump administration escalated a maritime campaign that has included the interception of Venezuelan oil tankers and a major U.S. military deployment near Venezuela. And I'm actually going to show you exactly what the representatives of Russia and China said. First, let's hear from Mr. Nebenzia, who is Russia's representative to the U.N. Security Council. Here are his remarks, absolutely eviscerating Donald Trump's blockade.

## **#Speaker 1**

...firmly condemned the seizure by U.S. troops of petroleum tankers and the effective imposition of a blockade on Venezuela. The actions by the U.S. run counter to all key norms of international law, including the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, Security Council resolutions, and the Charter of the United Nations itself.

## **#Danny**

So that was Mr. Nebenzia, the U.N. representative to the Security Council for Russia. And here is China's representative to the U.N. Security Council. I'm actually going to read it because there's some music playing in the background. Here we go. As an independent state, Venezuela has the right to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries and defend its legitimate rights and interests, which should be respected and supported by the international community. China opposes all acts of unilateralism and bullying and supports all countries in defending their sovereignty and national dignity.

We stand against anyone who violates the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter and infringes on others' stability and security through the threat or use of force in international relations, against external interference in Venezuela's internal affairs under any pretext, and against illicit unilateral sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction that have no basis in international law or authorization by the Security Council. We call on the U.S. to heed the just call of the international community to immediately halt all relevant actions and avoid further escalation of tensions. We urge the United States to uphold the safety of navigation for regional countries and the freedom and rights they enjoy under international law.

Well, we know that the United States is not going to heed that call. But it's really important to remember that this rhetoric—oftentimes people criticize Russia and China for not doing enough—but in fact, Russia and China right now are actively defying Donald Trump's campaign. This is the surprise. And they won't—you'll hear this—the Trump administration is essentially silent on this fact. They don't mention it at all. But it's really important that we highlight that this is actually happening. Here's Danny Haiphong, friend of the show. He reported on the 21st of December that the Russian tanker \*Hyperion\* arrived safely at Amuay, Venezuela, home to the Paraguana Refining Center, the world's second-largest refinery complex by capacity.

The \*Hyperion\* departed from a key Russian Arctic port, which is increasingly used for long-haul energy exports following Western sanctions. Now, a lot of these tankers from Russia and China are called "shadow fleets" because they don't carry the kind of insurance that's detectable or trackable by the collective West, especially the United States. We haven't really heard from China's side whether they're still trading. Oftentimes we'll hear propaganda that China isn't trading with Venezuela anymore, that they've turned their backs. But the data doesn't seem to support that. Right now, the blockade that Donald Trump is waging on Venezuela actually appears to be failing.

Sanctioned ships are still loading Venezuelan oil despite the U.S. blockade. This is from OilPrice.com, citing Bloomberg. At least half a dozen sanctioned tankers have loaded oil from Venezuela since December 11th, when the U.S. escalated pressure on Venezuelan oil exports. Loading oil from Venezuelan ports appears to have been happening in recent weeks at more or less a typical pace, despite the U.S. crackdown on vessels involved in illicit oil trading, according to the data. Earlier this month, the Trump administration intensified pressure on Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro by designating his regime as a foreign terrorist organization.

U.S. President Donald Trump has also ordered a naval blockade off the coast of Venezuela to intercept sanctioned vessels traveling to and from the South American country. That's the kind of long-arm jurisdiction China was talking about. But it's important to remember that about 4% of all China's oil imports come from Venezuela, and there's no indication that has stopped—not one bit. So these two countries are backing up their rhetoric with real action, continuing to break the blockade and refusing to let the United States maintain this long-arm jurisdiction. And this is really important because, if you remember, Venezuela has been under sanctions for how many years now?

They really escalated in 2014–15, but by 2017–18, under Trump, they exploded. And Jeffrey Sachs and Mark Weisbrot wrote a landmark report showing that 40,000 Venezuelans, in just a two-year period—I believe it was from 2017 to 2018—perished. They died from causes that were entirely preventable if sanctions had allowed certain products into the country, products that China and Russia can't necessarily provide because there's always some incompatibility or lack of capacity to supply certain kinds of materials. And this is why sanctions still cause a lot of harm.

But Venezuela is still standing because China and Russia continue to provide the support that they do. This backing at the UN Security Council—this meeting—was critically important. And it's very important because the United States is looking to go to war, to a certain degree. We're hearing now that the Trump administration is deploying quick-strike specialized military forces within range of Venezuela. The Defense Department said they deployed an aircraft designed to transport special operations forces, troops, and equipment as part of an ongoing military buildup in the Caribbean that could signal imminent strikes against Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela.

The White House and Pentagon are not commenting on these developments, but Trump on Monday touted a massive armada formed in the Caribbean and suggested the United States would begin to deploy land forces to the region as well, declaring, "Soon we will be starting the same program on land." The Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday that at least ten CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, which are used to transport special forces, arrived in the Caribbean theater from Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. The Journal also reported that C-17 cargo planes from Fort Stewart and Fort Campbell Army bases arrived in Puerto Rico on Monday. The deployment of these aircraft signals that elite U.S. units will be participating in the buildup of forces against Venezuela.

Maduro, when we look at it—I had Greg Stoker, former U.S. Army Ranger, on this show—and he said this exact thing was going to happen. He said that special forces were going to be involved, maybe there would be a limited strike campaign supporting special forces to carry out these on-the-ground terror exercises meant to destabilize, target, and decapitate Nicolás Maduro without having to wage a full-scale war. But it's taking a while, and the announcements are coming, and Venezuela is having time to get ready for this and has been taking necessary measures. The consequences could be dire. But one has to ask the question: why would Russia and China be so interested in Venezuela? Why is Venezuela so important to Russia and China?

Because this isn't talked about enough. But now, actually—and this is important—the Western mainstream media is talking about it. They're talking about it mainly because of the Trump administration's recent national security strategy, which was released earlier in December and said straight up that the Monroe Doctrine—a corollary, my English, a corollary to the Monroe Doctrine—was now being asserted and enforced. Meaning that Latin America, the so-called Western Hemisphere, was once again going to come under U.S. dominion in order to prevent who? Russia and China from having any influence in the region. So that's why we're seeing more and more reports, which we're going to go over here now.

Let's take a look at what DW had to say, okay? Let's look at what the Western mainstream media had to say. What interest do China and Russia have in Venezuela? Because U.S. President Donald Trump continues to ratchet up pressure on Venezuela, and there's a geopolitical element to this conflict. What interest do China and Russia have in the country? And this is what's so funny—this is how they frame it. Rather than looking at why Russia and China are partnering with Venezuela, what is it about their political or economic interests that would make that a natural partnership, maybe even a normal kind of relationship, it's framed as: what interests do they have in the country?

That means they're suggesting those interests might be nefarious, domineering, or about interference—when actually the opposite is true. That's just projection of what the U.S. is actually doing. But here's what DW had to say: experts differ in their assessment of Venezuela's role in drug trafficking, but they all agree oil exports are vitally important to the country. With its economy in tatters, Venezuela is sitting on the world's largest oil reserves, estimated at \$300 billion. But the intensification of the U.S. conflict with Venezuela can't be explained by oil alone—and we're going to get to that after this. There are numerous other interests at play, as well as the U.S. The other two great world powers, China and Russia, are pursuing their own aims in the country.

What this really means is that the Trump administration's corollary to the Monroe Doctrine is about keeping Russia and China out. But they're saying that those countries are pursuing their own aims in Venezuela rather than partnering with it. So what are China's aims? DW says Venezuelan oil makes up about 4% of China's oil imports, but that share has been increasing. Reuters quoted two market analysts who estimated that maximum daily import volumes hit new highs in December 2024. China is set to import more than 600,000 barrels a day from Venezuela—the majority of its daily

production. And again, I said there's no indication, everybody, no indication that that has slowed down one bit.

China has never actually followed U.S. sanctions, even though it's not always easy to violate them—depending on the situation, the materials, and the costs involved. There are certain factors that make it hard for China to always circumvent them perfectly. But China has been doing so with the DPRK; it has a pretty robust trade relationship with the DPRK, Venezuela, and Cuba. I could go on and on. And Russia is in the same boat. Russia, of course, is subject to the most sanctions in the world right now—not reduced by Donald Trump, remember that. For China, Venezuela is an important oil source, primarily because it reinforces China's energy independence amid the global tug-of-war over raw materials. Venezuela's Merey oil blend is particularly well positioned to do this, and the West has sanctioned it.

In turn, a lot of Chinese money flows to Venezuela, including in the form of credit. Caracas is estimated to be indebted to Beijing to the tune of \$60 to \$70 billion. Venezuela is also a market for Chinese technology. Its armaments are Chinese-made, and its telecommunications infrastructure is substantially based on Chinese components. So there you go. I mean, what did I say? Even the Western mainstream media will tell you that China is developing Venezuela's economy amid the sanctions. This is so important. This is why Venezuela can withstand this onslaught. It's why it's so important that we don't fall into what often happens—remember, everybody, it often happens—we fall into this idea that China and Russia have abandoned Venezuela.

The Western mainstream media will say this: that Venezuela's been abandoned. They've said the same about every country under attack, because they don't like what happens when the outcomes don't go their way. But the truth is—and I'll get to this later—the answer is a lot more complex than just "China and Russia aren't doing enough." Now, in September, Maduro presented a new Huawei cell phone at a press conference in Caracas. He announced that Chinese President Xi Jinping had personally gifted it to him as the best phone in the world, saying American intelligence services couldn't possibly hack it. Venezuela's so-called authoritarian nationalist socialism is compatible with China's state ideology.

By verbally condemning the U.S. seizure of oil tankers, as it recently did, Xi's government can present itself as an ally. This presumably also serves to keep the U.S. busy in its own backyard. So, do you see what's happening here? It's China opposing the tanker seizures—that's the problem. The tanker seizures are a problem. When, in fact, this publication, DW—this Western mainstream media outlet—won't even say that it's a violation of international law. I mean, this is the hypocrisy. And also, this just shows Europe—well, I believe DW is German, someone correct me on that—but this Western mainstream media publication is so weak, puny, and pathetic that they can't even admit it's a violation of international law. Why wouldn't China oppose that?

For more than a decade now, U.S. presidents have been more focused on the Indo-Pacific region, where China also happens to be a dominant power. It therefore plays into China's hands if the U.S.

is forced to devote more attention to the situation in Venezuela or Cuba. So they're saying that China is drawing the United States into Latin America because China's trading with Venezuela. I mean, this is the mental gymnastics used to make China look bad. But the truth is, they did admit that China is helping Venezuela technologically.

Telecommunications are so important when—uh—you're sanctioned. You don't have access not only to the Western-dominated, monopolized telecommunications industry, but that industry is actually used as a weapon against you. Because if you use Western telecommunications—for example, like WhatsApp—you might actually end up in a pager attack situation, like what happened in Lebanon. So Venezuela, at this point, with the war being waged against it—kinetically now, more intense than it was—can't really afford to use that technology anyway. So Huawei makes a lot of sense. What is Russia's interest in Venezuela? It's also advantageous, presumably, for Russia to increase its influence over allies in Latin America challenging U.S. supremacy.

Putin first received a visit from Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez in 2001, after which Russia became Venezuela's largest arms supplier. In 2008, Putin went to war with Georgia. The following year, Chávez supported Putin when Venezuela was one of the few countries, along with Nicaragua and Nauru, to recognize the independence of the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. So after Chávez's death, Maduro tried to maintain the country's close relationship with Russia. His power was seriously threatened—blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. The point is that already in his first term in office, after the whole Juan Guaidó scenario in 2019—they tried to install him, the Trump administration did—and it didn't work out.

Trump saw an opportunity to get rid of Maduro at that time, and then Russia sent two military aircraft carrying soldiers and equipment. According to Colombia's ICESI University—which is not friendly to Venezuela—in a way, Moscow saved Maduro. For the first time since the Cuban Missile Crisis, the U.S. was compelled to negotiate directly with Russia over the situation in Latin America. In the current crisis, though, he doesn't think Russia will support Maduro. So far, support from the Kremlin has come only in words. But as I said, that's not even true, because at this point, when there isn't a kinetic war happening—militarily, at least—Russia is doing what it should be doing: taking actions to circumvent the sanctions and make this blockade obsolete.

And it's not just that one instance. This has been happening all along, over the entire period of the blockade. A sanctioned tanker carrying Russian naphtha entered Venezuela—a tanker subject to U.S. sanctions and carrying about 300,000 barrels of Russian naphtha entered Venezuelan waters on December 19th. That was basically the very beginning, when the so-called tanker wars started. Reuters reported that another sanctioned vessel entered the Atlantic, underscoring the divergence and last-minute decisions by ship owners after President Trump ordered the blockade. Data from LSEG showed the Gambian-flagged, medium-range Hyperion docking on Venezuela's west coast, loaded with all that oil.

So this is what's going on. Russia and China are not following the blockade. And DW, the Western mainstream media, they're admitting that the United States not only has a deep interest in trying to push Russia and China out, but that Russia and China's support for Venezuela is meaningful—that it's making a difference, that it's helping to circumvent sanctions. And for a country that's under sanctions, we saw what happened to Syria, right? We saw what happened there.

Syria was really unable to circumvent sanctions for a lot of reasons—because of its geopolitical, uh, geographical location. It was very difficult for Syria to get around certain kinds of sanctions. Those Caesar sanctions were absolutely brutal. And of course, Syria made the only decision it could: to get closer to the Arab League and try to open up economic relations with them. They ended up betraying Syria, predictably, but that was the point of opening back up to the Arab League and trying to reintegrate into that network of vassal states to the U.S. and Israel. It ended up not paying the dividends, politically or economically, that it was supposedly meant to, and maybe actually sowed the seeds for regime change in Syria. But Venezuela is in a different position, because Venezuela is a coastal country.

Venezuela is a country that has a lot of oil, and you can get there by ship, which creates a much different economy—a much different situation for the U.S., even during this blockade, pumping its chest. Well, that's the decision to make: are you going to mess with Russia and China when they bring their ships to dock in Venezuela? I don't think so. And that's essentially what Trump has been called out on. Now, here's another publication I wanted to show you from CNBC. I wanted to show you this because I think it gets into the China factor even more—how U.S. oil tanker seizures targeting Venezuela are linked to rising geopolitical tensions with China. This came after the Panama-flagged tanker \*Centries\* was seized by the U.S., an action that may have required cooperation from Panama's government.

And I don't know if you all saw, but Panama's so-called foreign minister—who is just a puppet of the United States—was cheering on the blockade and cheering on the seizure of its own tanker. An absolute, utter betrayal, of course, of Panamanians, but really of the whole region. China, a major buyer of crude oil from the region, condemned the U.S. action. Any cooperation from Panama over tanker seizures comes amid an already complex relationship between the Central American nation, the U.S., and China as they battle over the Panama Canal. So, you know, after this was seized, it was just the latest instance of Trump vowing to block tankers from carrying Venezuelan oil—and stealing them, and stealing the oil.

But they say the move may have relied on legal authority that suggests more seizures are coming, potentially targeting more oil intended for the Chinese market. So there's the admission. The admission is that a lot of this is to prevent China from obtaining oil. And isn't that really what a lot of the wars the U.S. wages at this point—and in Israel, too—are really all about? It's about getting rid of those routes that China needs, the maritime routes. That Beltway—the road in the Belt and Road, the maritime belt in the Belt and Road Initiative—to sever those links, make it harder and more

difficult for China to import the oil it needs to invest in its massive manufacturing economy, with the hope of slowing it down.

According to a senior risk and compliance analyst at Kepler, the seizure of the Panama-flagged tanker may have been conducted under the 2002 Salas-Becker Agreement, which allows U.S. authorities to board Panamanian-flagged vessels with just two hours' notice. The most interesting part of the tanker seizure is the suggestion that the U.S. was likely relying on its prior boarding agreement with the maritime authority. It shows that, out of a total of 23 shadow tankers currently identified within Venezuela's exclusive economic zone, three of those vessels are operating under the Panama flag and are loaded with sanctioned crude.

If the Rangar, the Ragnar, Balsa, and Larco attempt to depart, it puts them at higher risk of confinement because they're operating under the Panama flag. We could see more seizures, as we saw with Centuries. So, you know, this is the situation. It's about China, right? That's the point here. The most interesting aspect of this is that by squeezing Venezuelan oil, you're not only putting tremendous pressure on Maduro, but you're also impacting China strategically, said a retired Coast Guard captain and principal federal strategy and security officer for the Chertoff Group—one of those think tanks that basically carries water for the U.S. war machine. The longer it goes on, the more it may create negotiating space in U.S.-China diplomacy, because Venezuelan oil is discounted to China.

It's a type of heavy crude that China can refine. Without Venezuelan oil, China will have to go to the market—to Russia and the Middle East—which would be more costly for them. So, I mean, this is the boneheaded strategy. Let's just call it what it is. This is the boneheaded strategy. How many times have we heard it? We hear it from the Trump administration itself when it comes to Ukraine, when it comes to everywhere—the Middle East, West Asia. They always say this: if we just squeeze, if we just put more pressure, if we just try to hammer China, Russia, Iran, more negotiating space will be opened up, when actually that's the exact opposite of what negotiations and diplomacy really are. You don't go into negotiations after you've bludgeoned the other side and say, "Hey."

What can we agree to? That's not how it works. And the world has changed—everything has changed. OK, this is what we need to take away from 2025: why the Trump administration is so ineffective, why this blockade isn't really even working, why there are still ships going in—likely Chinese. We see Russian troops. This is how everything has changed. The United States cannot confront these countries, bludgeon them, and then try to say, "Now you need to do what we say." We've seen this over and over again—from the trade war with China, to the conflict in Ukraine, to even Iran. Iran didn't, even after it was hit hard by Israel in that surprise attack, go into negotiations with the United States saying, "Oh, we're giving up."

It was the opposite. It was Israel and the United States that had to go to Iran and say, "Look, let's not bomb Tel Aviv anymore, because if that happens, we're kind of screwed, and it's going to cause a whole economic crisis—a worldwide political quagmire—for the United States, for Israel, and it would also hurt Iran if that happened too. So... let's just call it off for now." And that's what



happened. And we can see that with Russia too. How many times has Trump said, "Oh, I'll put more sanctions on Russia," and then come out saying, "I'm disappointed nothing happened"?

This is the world we live in now. The world can't be dictated by the United States like it was in the past, even in the recent history after the fall of the Soviet Union. So, first of all, this is not going to convince China that it should negotiate with the United States over Venezuela. Actually, what this is going to do—as you saw from China's representative at the United Nations—is make them want to trade with Venezuela even more, out of principle. That's what China does: when you tell them, "Don't do this," they'll do it more, because it benefits them.

The more you try to hit countries you don't like—countries where the United States wants regime change—the more China is going to see that as an opportunity to invest and develop, because the United States is essentially abandoning and ceding all the ground toward that end. That's what it's doing. And honestly, I say this all the time, but it has to be reinforced. One of the things that has changed dramatically in the world's political and economic lexicon, really over the course of my entire generation—my entire existence—is the fact that the U.S. can no longer offer anything of value. There's nothing the U.S. can offer, because its monopoly capitalist system is so dependent on finance.

It's so dependent on debt—on crushing debt, on siphoning, extracting, and destroying, and just absolutely leaving countries, and the vast majority of humanity, in a state of squalor. That's what it depends on. That's why war always brings stocks up: because it's going to create more misery. And what they hope for is that this misery will lead to a "stable" situation for them to plunder. Which gets me to the final comment I wanted to make in this segment—and that's the oil industry. Because we always hear, "OK, the oil industry, the oil industry—they want what they want. They want Venezuelan oil." But do they? Do they?

Right. This is why I think the United States—and the Trump administration in particular—is having trouble getting what it wants in this Venezuela escalation. I don't think there's agreement that this regime change operation can work, in many respects, because the Venezuelan people are just not going to allow it. So why are oil companies, according to NPR and Politico, not interested in returning to Venezuela? Why aren't they so giddy about it? They talked to someone named Scott Modell, the CEO of a consulting firm called Rapidan, who works with all of them—Exxon, Chevron, which is still in Venezuela, and Conoco.

And I want to go to—let me see—I had it right here. What will happen when regime change occurs, and how are the oil corporations thinking about this? This is why I say the U.S. has nothing to offer, because all the oil corporations are thinking about is how they can have a stable situation to take everything from people, rather than how they can offer something to the people that would prevent the very scenario I'm about to read to you. So Modell says, I think they're looking at this regime change, right? Because the question is, you've had conversations with the board members of Exxon and Conoco.

Do you have a sense of how the oil company heads have been reacting to the developments in Venezuela? I don't think they're eager to jump in. I know the president is eager to see Conoco back in, and Exxon back in, and for us to follow a regime change of sorts—literally, he says “regime change of sorts”—with an inflow of U.S. companies, back to the way things were. But the boards are going to be very reluctant until you have a stabilization of above-ground political risk in Venezuela. And that's going to take years. I don't think you're going to see them rushing back in.

So the Trump administration doesn't even have the full support of the oil industry on this. And some might say, “Danny, that's really hard to believe.” I don't know if I can get down with that. Well, no—how many times have we seen the Trump administration get to the cusp of all-out war before he's basically had to pull back, like with Iran and now with Venezuela? It just so happens that every time the U.S. wants to target a key node in the global energy system—the energy industry—even though these are sanctioned countries, they have a lot of oil, and Iran has a lot of gas. These companies have to hedge against that. If those countries fall into absolute chaos and instability, who knows what kind of consequences that's going to have on the market.

And we know that war has very contradictory impacts on the oil market in general. So... Trump is not in a good place. The U.S. empire is not in a good place in Venezuela. Russia and China have called its bluff. They're continuing to trade with Venezuela. They're openly supporting Venezuela. And the government of Nicolás Maduro has an all-weather friendship with China, and a deep military and economic partnership that's growing with Russia. That's what's keeping Venezuela stable. And it's the political direction we're seeing in other parts of Latin America. This didn't happen in Bolivia—we've seen an unfortunate regime change there. In Ecuador, over the years, we've seen instability, and now there's risk in Colombia.

There's risk, and we see what happened to Argentina, for example. I mean, on and on, we've seen the threat to countries all over Latin America to become essentially neoliberal outlets and statelets of the United States. But it's Maduro's steadfastness, and the Venezuelan government's steadfast resistance to empire, that's keeping that from happening. And in many ways, Venezuela is following the path of Cuba, which—nobody talks about Cuba—but Cuba's been around since 1959, when the revolution happened, and the government hasn't changed since. That's because they've put up steadfast resistance, not only to the blockade but to any attempts to overthrow that government. That's what you need.

You need political and military organization to prevent your country from falling into the chaos, instability, and destruction of the U.S. empire—and that's what they're doing. So it's really important to note that as a big part of why Russia and China's support makes such a difference. Because Russia and China—and this is what people have to understand—can't make countries or people self-determined for them. They can't enforce self-determination on other countries or peoples. People have to win that for themselves and then benefit. And this is the relationship of multipolarity: you benefit from the entire arrangement. That's how it works.

