

Whistle Blower REVEALS Truth About West's War Obsession | Kolja Spöri

This man has seen almost every country on earth. And during his travels he witnessed one recurring pattern: The violence and wars in this world followed a simple pattern—induced and guided from Europe and America. In this talk he reveals his observations. Drawing on encounters in the Philippines, Somalia, Colombia, Syria and Donbas, Kolja Spöri presents his interpretation of covert influence, strategic waterways and prolonged warfare. Pascal questions the evidence behind these claims and explores the relationship between local conflicts and outside powers. Their conversation concludes with European security, political incentives and fears of a wider war between European countries. Kolja's Links: Picture of the Book cover featured in Kolja's travelblog: <https://luxuryrogue.wordpress.com/> Book: Dr. Dangerzone (book): <https://www.amazon.com/dp/3903713023> Website: <http://www.spori.net> X: <https://x.com/SporiSport> LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/koljaspori/> Neutrality Studies Links: Neutrality Studies Substack: <https://pascallottaz.substack.com> Support Neutrality Studies: <https://neutralitystudies.com/donate> Neutrality Studies shop: <https://neutralitystudies.com/shop> Time Stamps 00:00 Introducing Kolja Spöri and Dr. Dangerzone 02:09 The Philippines and Spöri's claims about covert warfare 08:33 Somalia, piracy and strategic shipping routes 17:29 Colombia, the FARC and the Panama Canal 26:48 Questioning the evidence and discussing Syria 33:43 Donbas, Ukraine and the Minsk agreements 47:16 European escalation and the incentives for war 01:01:18 Dr. Dangerzone and where to follow Kolja

#Pascal

Welcome back, everybody, to Neutrality Studies, today for the first time with a colleague from Germany, Mr. Kolja Spöri, the author of quite a couple of books, and his most recent one, the first one in English, called Dr. Danger Zone: In Search of Truth in the Most Dangerous Places, because Kolja actually traveled the entire globe and has seen almost all places. Kolja, welcome to the channel.

#Kolja Spöri

Thank you very much, Pascal, for having me on your program today.

#Pascal

I'm very happy that you reached out because, well, you traveled a lot, but you also made quite a few observations about how things are running around the globe. Can you maybe give us first a little bit of your background, and then the main thesis of your book, and how you come to the conclusions that you're drawing there?

#Kolja Spöri

Yes, I'm an economist by studies, and I worked in mainstream areas for about 20 years. I was a Hugo Boss manager. I was working in Formula One for 15 years. I did an internship at the European Union. I was a consultant to the Rothschild Bank in Geneva. I even worked for a British spinoff of MI6 for a year, consulting ultra-high-net-worth individuals about travel security. I did an internship in Hollywood, and I always had the talent to open doors, to get anywhere and see reality on the ground. And the same I did in travel. I went to every country in the world. There's 193 United Nations member countries. There's a couple more, depending on the definition. I went to basically all the war zones or terror areas or piracy areas and came back with the conclusion that everything we see on television is the opposite of the truth. All the phenomena that I just described, especially wars, terror, and even large piracy, is made by the West.

#Pascal

Can you give a couple of examples of these places? What did you witness there that led you to this conclusion?

#Kolja Spöri

The most interesting observation for me was three years ago when I led the first small group of travelers after about 50 years to the south of the Philippines, to Mindanao, in an area called Bangsamoro, which actually means the people, the Bangsa of the Moors, like in Mauritania. So it's Muslims in the south of the Philippines who have been battling all kinds of central control and authority from Manila, be it Spanish or British or Japanese or Americans or the central government in general. And I was the first group with my yearly meeting of the most traveled people in the world that are organized.

And we go specifically to difficult places to have an incentive for all the big travelers to really come together. So here I found myself on Jolo Island, which has a very dangerous reputation, rightly so, because Abu Sayyaf terrorists had famously abducted all kinds of travelers and tourists and businesspeople, brought them there, and chopped their heads off in many cases. And what I found on that trip was that this phenomenon of terror in the Philippines was created artificially by the West in the same way it has been done later on in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, etc. How did I find out about this?

I looked up the history of Abu Sayyaf and the MILF, Moro Islamic Liberation Front, on Wikipedia, and it's written right there nowadays. It's sort of declassified. The Marcos regime, Ferdinand Marcos, that was put into power by the Americans in the 1960s, mid-1960s, created for the first time a Muslim battalion of young men recruited from those southern islands to train them to officially be part of the forces of the Philippines. However, after training, they fled. They went away with weapons. They turned rogue. That is the official story. And the operation was called Merdeka, which means

freedom, while they were trained. And once they went rogue, it was called Operation Jabida, which means to deceive.

Like, for example, in the Mossad motto, "war by deception." And here we have a controlled opposition created that fights, let's say, policemen, gendarmerie, even military, with terrorist methods, but is always financed and controlled by the secret service of the central government or the Western overlords who run this to serve the purposes of their own and of their local stooge or puppet politician. And in my research, this is the first phenomenon of Muslim terror, so-called Islamist terror, created by the West. And later on, we find it in Afghanistan with the Mujahideen against the Russians or the Soviets at the time. Then they become Taliban.

They become Al-Qaeda, later blamed for destroying the World Trade Center, where everybody knows nowadays it was not Islamist terrorists who landed in the skyscrapers in New York and in the Pentagon. And the same is obviously true for Syria, where everybody can see nowadays that a former head chopper from an ISIS organization, I guess Tahrir al-Sham, his name was al-Julani and maybe now al-Shara. And who knows what his real name is? He is an Islamist terrorist who never really attacks Western interests. He works for Western interests. And that's the playbook that I witnessed in all the war zones and terror areas, and even piracy at the Horn of Africa, which I went to visit in Bosaso. So, a number of stories that I'm telling in my book.

#Pascal

I mean, it's quite fascinating, right, that these opposition forces that then use terrorism, that they at some point always switch over in order to help the West when that becomes politically convenient. I mean, al-Shara is probably the best example, right? I mean, absolutely fantastic. He had a \$10 million bounty on his head by the Americans. And the moment he flips and switches, he's basically in a suit. And the script that went off there is mind-boggling, even to a lot of us, because it seems so blatant. But you've seen this play out in many different forms. And Mindanao is probably a good example that a lot of people don't know about, because this ethnic divide over there is quite old.

But I mean, as you said, it goes back to the dad of the current president, right? I mean, interestingly enough, the Filipinos voted in his son when he came back into the presidency. Hey, just a very quick note. The best way to support this channel is by signing up for my free Substack. You can also help with a paid subscription there, or you can get some of our new merch on neutralitystudies.com. Links below. See you there. The pirates in Somalia, can you explain that episode a little bit, and also how you know about it? Like, what are the sources of your knowledge apart from, you know, the written sources and maybe also what you have seen in discussions on the ground?

#Kolja Spöri

Yes. In Somalia, a country that I visited three times, and I want to mention I have visited the major war zones at least three times because sometimes people think that country collectors like myself,

they just hop in and out of places and don't even talk to local people. That's not the case. Although I have been to little Caribbean islands, maybe just at the airport, the interesting countries and the conflict countries I've traveled to thoroughly. So I found myself for the third time in Somalia. And I had already made acquaintance with the local people, Al-Shabaab rebels at a roadblock before, when I organized a help transport for the local population during the famous famine in about 2011. And I managed to flee.

I was driving a car around that roadblock by those al-Shabaab terrorists. But when I came then to Bosaso in Puntland, which is right at the Horn of Africa, it's the capital of piracy for, I guess, 20 years or so. I was shown around with a—we had actually Special Forces protection, both locally and two, may I say, Blackwater guys, which is not the people I like to work with in general. But it was a huge company that had bought Blackwater. They're called Constellis. And we had a German CEO of the company and a British colleague help us around in this area just to be safe, because it is dangerous. And so here's what I learned about the piracy at the Horn of Africa.

It is a strategy of tension that controls piracy, the trade routes, that controls the resources, and that controls the populations and population movements. And it goes back to books from maybe the most famous author, the British Jewish author Frank Kitson, who wrote the book *Gangs and Counter-Gangs* and describes this kind of warfare. And here's how the Somali pirates were created: the British were actually financing and training a local coast guard in the Horn of Africa. I think that was in the 1990s, end of the 1990s. And then, what happens? Those locals who were trained turned rogue. They went missing, and nobody knew where they went, but the equipment was gone. And here they show up again on the open waters and are a problem for the shipping route, most important shipping route in the world as it is.

And I had previously spent a week in Djibouti, in the Sheraton Hotel, where all the soldiers, including German soldiers of Operation Atalanta, were staying to fight the piracy. And, I mean, those soldiers, they don't really have a clue about the real forces behind it. But I was pointed at it by a friend of mine. What happened there, and it is a classic way of creating a Hegelian dialectic, where you create a problem, and the solution is you have control over, in this case, the local area. You create the tension that allows you to keep military there and to allow some ships to pass, others don't. There was always the rumor that Lloyd's-insured ships do not get attacked. This is the reason why. So here I found myself in another geopolitical choke point with a Western-made, not terror phenomenon, but let's say a strategy of tension, as it's called professionally.

#Pascal

Yeah, and let's just point out the geography of this place, right? I mean, we are talking about the area right around the Strait of Bab al-Mandab and the Horn of Africa over here. And, you know, it's fascinating, right, how all of these tension points always happen in geopolitically very important places. And also that Djibouti, of course, is this last piece that was carved out of—not Eritrea, sorry—of Ethiopia, that then is so strategically connected and right opposite to Yemen. So, I mean, your

allegation is that this is Western-sponsored, this is Western-made in order then to justify all of the military presence. And correct me if I'm wrong, but Djibouti has a lot of military installations from all kinds of countries from around the world, funnily enough, also from China. Maybe you can speak to that a little bit. And did you see these fortifications, like these huge, massive military installations?

#Kolja Spöri

In Djibouti, I did not see the Chinese yet because I was there in the early 2010s. I think the Chinese came in a bit later, but it's a famous place for the French Foreign Legion. However, I'm a private person. I'm a private citizen, maybe a citizen journalist, a citizen diplomat. I'm not keen to be close to the combat forces, and they wouldn't let me in. And I nevertheless have my contacts. And in Djibouti, I didn't have any better contact than the German and, I think, Japanese soldiers that were based in the Sheraton Hotel. But I was not in the garrison, so to speak. Since you asked, I think I've never been in a military garrison anywhere.

#Pascal

I mean, soldiers stationed in the Sheraton, is that—was that a normal sight, like the troops going in and out of one of these Western hotels? And just like, you know, the history of that is, of course, that wherever the West goes, the Americans and the Europeans, they usually build hotels first in order to house their people in the usual standard while they live in places that are ravaged by what they're doing over there. Can you speak to that a bit?

#Kolja Spöri

Yes. There's plenty of hotels I've stayed in where military was stationed in that fashion. I recall in Bamako, in the Radisson Hotel, there were also, among others, I guess, the German forces, which were officially called police forces, to fight this phenomenon of, I think, the Azawad uprising, which is the Tuareg in the north of Mali against the central government. And so one meets those people at the pool, but it doesn't mean that one has particularly good conversations with them, let's say, the basic soldiers. I remember I was in Termez in Uzbekistan, right on the Afghan border, where the air bridge was organized, again for German soldiers. And these discussions are not very fruitful. It's more interesting to have access sometimes to Secret Service people or seasoned locals, high-level politicians. This is the talent that I've always had. I've met a number of famous warlords myself and usually get good access in the upper business level of countries. And that's where I get my information from.

#Pascal

And, you know, it just seems that these stories, they seem just like right out of the playbook of somewhere in the 19th century, right? The colonial enterprise in order to work with local groups and then prop up one against the other, pit them against each other, and then benefit from the chaos

that ensues. And, I mean, your experience tells you that this has never changed. I mean, that's still the name of the game.

#Kolja Spöri

For sure. It was nevertheless a surprise for me how stringent it is in all those places. It is the playbook. There's no adaptation in other places. I can talk about maybe my most interesting journey with the whole leadership of the FARC rebels, former rebels, now politicians, in Colombia, where I was under the umbrella of the United Nations, with the blessing of the president of Colombia, and protected by police special forces and two battalions, 18 and 19, of the Colombian army, to travel to the mountains where the FARC founder Manuel Marulanda had his hut in the mountains and founded the FARC. And that was extremely emotional, especially for our FARC people accompanying us. There was Timoshenko, the number one at the moment.

There was the foreign minister, Rodrigo Granda. There was the communications minister, who remains a friend of mine until today, and the famous Dutch rebel, Tanja Nijmeijer, who I'm also still in contact with. I'm certainly the opposite of a communist, and I would not have fought on their side. But if you meet people in those circumstances, they are sometimes larger than life, very charismatic. They have seen a lot of things. They have a lot of stories to tell. That was supremely interesting for me in my life, to sit around the campfire in the mountains with literally the whole leadership of the FARC. And that I describe in my book as one of my most important of the 25 journeys I described.

#Pascal

And how did that work? Or how did that work out? What was your learning outcome there about the FARC, how they operated? I suppose in that case you would argue that they were part and parcel of the infiltration operation of Colombia by the West.

#Kolja Spöri

So here's what I did not know beforehand. Some of your viewers might have known it, especially if they're from South America. The Panama Canal is the geostrategic choke point we're talking about here. Even if we talk about FARC, the United States had created a spin-off country from Colombia and called it Panama, about 1906. I'm not sure about the numbers, just from the top of my head. So about 120 years ago, it was embedded in some kind of local revolution. The Kuna Indians even had a swastika put into their flag, and it looks very much also like a British hand in that operation to me. Anyhow, at the end of it, Panama becomes a separate country, including the Panama Canal, which had been built by the French but was taken over not so completely legally by the Americans, who still control it up to today.

And the Panama border with Colombia was allowed to grow into the jungle again because previously there were at least footpaths or possibilities to conduct transport in this province of Panama, as it was before. Now it's the infamous Darién Gap, which is impossible to pass, certainly by cars. Or apparently there was even some kind of train before, at least some basic transport mode. Now even walking is difficult. The only people that walk there are refugees that George Soros and HIAS and similar organizations are really sending through this very difficult part of the jungle to create a story that refugees from all over the world want to get to the United States and will walk through the jungle just to get to the Holy Land. Okay, that's a side issue.

Now, in Colombia, in order to defend this Panama strategic choke point from the south, a strategy of tension was created. It is not a grassroots movement. It might have been at the start, like so often, but then it became astroturf. It was taken over. The start of the rebellion was that in this area of Marquetalia in Colombia, the locals were not supported by the central government to have basic roads to transport their crop, their coffee, their tea, whatever. And the rebellion was crushed and then started a major war, and two sides were financed. One, the leftist, the FARC, for many years by the Soviets. Then they sustained themselves with also illicit weapons gains like drugs. However, the right-wing forces are doing the same thing, of course.

And the training for these entities, especially the right-wing paramilitaries, was always done in Panama at the School of the Americas, which is nowadays the Meliá Hotel in Colón. I think the warfare training is now done in Fort Bragg, where local power leaders or puppets of the West are trained in this kind of subversive warfare, including torture and whatever is unfortunately happening in those places. And so Colombia was, for many decades, the victim of a triangulated conflict: West-East financing, training, supporting. But the end result is that the division between South America and Central America, or Panama, stays secure, saying nobody could challenge the strategic choke point of the Panama Canal.

#Pascal

Okay, so keep the region in an imbalance in order to control your little fiefdom by yourself and make sure that these very artificial borders remain in place where they are, where they then keep the Panama Canal firmly in the hands of the United States. And you know what surprises me to this day is that the Panama Canal is actually a neutral waterway by treaty with the United States. But I don't think anyone in their right mind would think that the United States would not immediately keep out any strategic rival, especially some ships from China and so on. And so, is the FARC then a leftover, in your view? I mean, as many viewed it, a leftover of the Cold War, you know, kind of a group that was strong enough to kind of continue its struggle by itself even after the Soviet Union and the support from it had disappeared, right? Or was the FARC, again, supported by outside forces still even after the end of the Cold War?

#Kolja Spöri

Well, after the Cold War, I, as I just said, think it was mainly self-financing through illicit means, including, in addition to the drug trade, the abduction of high-value locals and foreigners for the purpose of getting ransom paid. So, of course, these people that I've met, those former terrorists, see it more romantically. I don't want to judge them. It depends very much. If you're born there in the countryside and your family suffers, as a young man, you might easily become a left-wing fighter. And if you're born in the city to wealthy parents, you might end up on the right-wing paramilitary side. It's difficult to judge that.

Another story is that Tanja Nijmeijer, this famous Dutch rebel who went there, fell in love, went to join the FARC, fought 20 years in the jungle, was the lover of the most famous or infamous FARC leader, Mono Jojoy, who got killed in a major airstrike where Tanja Nijmeijer was on his side. So, I mean, she's really a cat with nine lives and survived all that. A very charismatic woman. I just don't agree with her outlook on economics and geopolitics. But so, this is stories that life writes. And I always thought to meet people like her, to understand the local conflict, but also humanity in general, that was the number one trip in my life in terms of politics.

#Pascal

And then, I mean, if we just then discuss these ways, you know, a lot of people would naturally assume that what you're saying here is either a conspiracy theory or is, like, highly exaggerated, you know, dynamics, because these groups actually have their own reasons to fight. And if they manage to get their hands on weapons, then, well, that's it. And maybe somewhere, I mean, U.S. and European weapons manufacturers sell them something like this even illegally, and that's it. But you're saying, like, no, that's just not the case. It's just they constantly influence, from the highest levels within Europe, the Western camp. And you mentioned the Brits as much as you did the Americans. What are the indications that we have today that this is still a policy of the West, like, versus just an outcome of, you know, how the economic system works and then, in the end, you know, weapons land in the hands of rebels or terrorists?

#Kolja Spöri

First of all, the term conspiracy theorist is a weaponized term created by the CIA to fence off criticism of the investigation around the JFK murder. That's a tool that they created, which still works in some circles. I think that there is a certain conspiratorial element in how geopolitics work, but I'm not a conspiracy theorist. It is more than that. It's a swarm intelligence working together, which is a definition that is broader and keeps those Western forces

#Pascal

cooperating among each other, you mean.

#Kolja Spöri

Yes, in the way termites would work and cooperate to chop off a dying tree, or sometimes in beehives or in similar social structures, you find this kind of cooperation, which also is applicable to the human species, and that leads to many of these phenomena and effects we see out there. And it's—there have been a couple of examples I've just mentioned here. There are some that are also interesting, which I would really like to mention, like Gaddafi at the time, how he worked. I was in Libya at the Battle of Benghazi when he was sort of deposed of. And there are some elements that I learned later which are steeper than what you've just heard before.

But I think nowadays, with what we are seeing with Syria, how ISIS was employed by Israel, financed through Qatar and others, operationally handled mostly by the Turks, I think anybody with the smallest sense of education nowadays would agree on this and not call it a conspiracy theory. I learned about it in 2018, just to show you my approach there. I was in Aleppo for the first time, quite late by my standards. And I met a number of locals there. The most interesting one was the Syrian-Armenian owner, lady of the Baron Hotel. It's the most famous hotel in the Middle East, possibly.

The Republic of Syria was declared there in 1918. And the husband always told his wife that I met, "When we close the Baron Hotel, then Syria has fallen." So he never closed it. They were always under attack by all kinds of crazy rebels out there, and whatever their names were, always changing. But people like her or others that I met were aware of the former head of ISIS, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, not being Muslim, not being a Syrian. He was a Jewish agent, so he was running ISIS. And now one could speculate who is al-Julani. But with al-Baghdadi, it's not speculation because even Edward Snowden at the time said it publicly, for those who want to hear, that the real name is Eliyot Shimon.

And this is one example of many I've told, how the West leads foreign terror groups. And here's another proof of this in Syria. When Assad's forces for the first time recaptured a big part of Aleppo, they found a bunker, a big bunker, which housed about 80 foreign officers coordinating all those terror groups or war factions from that bunker. And at the top of the list, there was an Israeli, there was an American, I think even a German. There were many Turks, many Qataris, many Saudis. And this became public at a speech of the Syrian ambassador to the United Nations in New York, when he read out the list, and one can find this on YouTube, and blaming the West for this very special and illegal warfare against this country at the time.

And so we are talking about United Nations-level discussions, not conspiracy theories by a guy on the internet. And for those who watched that conflict closely, we remember how from Aleppo the green buses were driving out, maybe a dozen buses with green curtains closed. So inside, we couldn't see that there were those foreign officers. So that's a clear case of a conspiracy against Syria at the time, using illegal warfare and non-standard warfare. And by the way, we find the same in the Donbass. And I was three times in the Donbass. I was three times there since the start of the

war in 2014. And every time I was there, I had mortar artillery attacks from the west to the east. So another example where I witnessed the reality on the ground in a different way than we see it on our mainstream television.

#Pascal

And Benoit Paré on my channel also, he several times, you know, recounted the story of how he was serving in the OSCE and how he was serving on both sides of the Donbass, actually, on both sides of the front, right? And how, even in the OSCE, the only thing that they were allowed to do, even in the Donbass, was to record what exploded when and where, but not put one and one together and say, like, who shot what. And we've, of course, got for the longest time the narratives that since 2014, the Russians were shelling the rest of the country, right, and that this was a Russian operation.

We know since two years ago, because the New York Times actually gave us two reports about this, that the CIA has been involved in that area at least since 2014, because they were proud of that. They're proud of the fact that the CIA was right there at the front lines and helping the Ukrainian forces to coordinate amongst themselves, you know, in that difficult terrain. Can you tell us a little bit, like, what you observed there and how things were working in the Donbass between '14 and '22?

#Kolja Spöri

Yes, Pascal. First of all, neutrality studies. I was neutral in regards to the conflict in Ukraine before 2014. I had friends on both sides, Ukrainians and Russians. For example, for business, I've met the Klitschko brothers a number of times, and I've traveled with the younger Vladimir Klitschko for two weeks on business. So he is an important player on the Western side.

#Pascal

Yeah, currently mayor of Kyiv, right? Vladimir or his brother?

#Kolja Spöri

The brother, Vitaly, is the mayor. Yeah. And the younger brother, Wladimir, is not in an official function, but he's a big part of the propaganda machine for the West, for the Kyiv regime, yeah.

#Pascal

And for people who are not familiar with this, Vladimir and, I mean, the two Klitschko brothers are famous in Germany because they're both boxers. They were very famous. And already before they became politicians, they were famous in Germany. And they speak fluent German and so on, right? They were, I mean, I think they were born in Germany, actually, no?

#Kolja Spöri

One was born in Semipalatinsk, and the other in Frunze, which is now Bishkek. The parents were in the Soviet army, and I'm sure the father of the two brothers is now turning in his grave when he sees how they are fighting against Russia. So why is this German element there? Germany is the most important television market in Europe, and they were heavyweight boxing world champions, rightfully so. Very charismatic, very good-looking, tall guys, especially for Ukrainian standards, very good-looking guys. And they are, you know, superheroes in several markets, but not worldwide. And they were propped up by the German government very early on.

I had two inroads to them. One was through Hugo Boss, my former workplace, where I was head of sponsorship, and they were sponsored by Hugo Boss after my time. And then through a political contact where I was relatively close with the Schröder government at the time. The Klitschkos were already protected through, you know, I could see who they associated with, like my friend, our common friend, high-level politicians, the German foundations where a lot of money is channeled through, like the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, which is not Schröder's foundation. But so official Germany was prepping up the Klitschkos.

And later on, they started to serve their purpose in this conflict, which is now still ongoing. So I wanted to say I have good contact on both sides. And on the Russian side, for example, I'm very close with the Chechens. I know the leadership family, including Ramzan Kadyrov, very well, which came about through a time in the luxury goods business, which is always an easy and interesting way to get acquainted with people at that level. But I love Russia in general for traveling. I love Chechnya, the very unique population. I think not everybody has to agree on this. No problem. They are very special. And in 2014, there was the putsch in Kiev.

I think nobody can argue about that. I have a bit of personal, special knowledge through a German friend who worked for a United States law firm in Kiev, which I'm mentioning in the book, that was training—it was a cover, a front organization—that was training some of the hooligans in Ukraine to become right-wing Nazi battalions like Azov, Pravi Sektor, Svoboda, and so on, mainly financed by the Jewish billionaire Kolomoisky. And so my friend told me about this company that he worked for, which was a front organization. So I'm mentioning this, that I had contacts, even inside contacts, on both sides.

When I was in the Donbas in 2015, I was there in order to visit a new entity, a new country, sort of, because there had been the People's Republics of Donetsk and Lugansk just created after the Minsk Peace Agreement. For me, as a country collector who didn't have a clue about the local politics, it was interesting to go there and to sort of tick off this new country as one of the first in the world. So I made my way into Donetsk from Russia because it's not possible until today from the Kiev side, from the Western Ukrainian side. They are even forbidding my way of entry. So I was illegally entering Ukraine from their view, Kiev's view, which is punishable. And it was, however, easy to cross the border.

There was a real passport control. There were already new number plates and new uniforms, and everything was a new country, the People's Republic of Donetsk. I go to the hotel. At the time, it was the Ramada Hotel, the place to be. There were, in fact, Russian mercenary officers, not official officers, but like the West always does it, mercenaries helping their Russian compatriots in the east of Ukraine to defend against what they see as the aggression from Kiev, which is true, which I'll explain in a minute. So I'm expecting a calm place. I'm sitting on the terrace, smoking a cigar in Donetsk, in the hotel, and I hear thunder. I look out and I see no clouds. I ask the waiter, "I don't get it. Where's the thunderstorm coming from?"

No cloud in the sky. He says, "No, it's not thunder. It's artillery. They're shooting at us." I said, "Come on, it's not possible. You just had the Minsk Two peace agreement. That's why I'm here. I think it's a... it's a resolved conflict." "No, no, they are shelling us every day, the civilian areas of Donetsk." So I drove around and could see a lot of the destruction. By the way, there was destruction throughout this eastern part of Ukraine because I had traveled a lot on the roads, and I could see shelling in the asphalt on the streets or houses on the roadside. In fact, Kiev, the West, had attacked the East with all kinds of forces, including air force, all the way to the Russian border in some areas.

And then, with the help of Russian mercenaries, this was fought back to this kind of frozen conflict line that we still see today, which goes through Donetsk, a city still nowadays. And that was eye-opening for me. And so I went to Donetsk twice again in 2018 and 2021. Every time, I witnessed shelling, mortar from the west on the east, onto civilian areas. The official number of deaths of the Ukrainians there is 14 or 15,000, which is a lot. Completely illegal. And so I saw this with my own eyes. And this is how this conflict became a bit of my person and my heart, because I can see that what we are taught in the West is the complete opposite of the truth.

#Pascal

The official narrative is still that everything would have been fine had it not been for the Russian forces over there, and that Minsk 1 and 2 actually were working until Russia broke the peace agreement. And you're saying, like, no, from the observation of your own eyes, I mean, the West never kept, Ukraine never kept, and I mean, by implication, NATO never kept to these agreements of actually having a proper ceasefire. I mean, it must have been a ceasefire very similar to the ceasefire in Gaza at the moment, where still on a daily basis, like, 10 or more people keep dying. I mean, was it that kind of implementation?

#Kolja Spöri

Well, there's a lot of similarity of the people who are running the Ukraine war and the Gaza war. So maybe that's why there's no ceasefire ever kept. The person who might be the most credible [on] how we got screwed is our glorious Chancellor Angela Merkel, the beloved leader in Germany, is on

record for saying not so long ago, maybe a year ago, that Minsk II was just a method of gaining time for the West to basically dig in fortifications to make sure that Russia has a much harder time to liberate those ethnic Russian areas. And that's exactly what happened.

It's still dug in in some places, fortifications like the Azov steel factory, which was very hard to liberate. Only the Chechens could do it, actually. They are tough enough for that. But there is still more along this frozen conflict line, and the West has reneged on so many agreements, not only Minsk II, which is basically guaranteed by Germany and by France. Here, a little side story why, I mean, your viewers, I guess, know potentially how this Minsk II agreement came together so quickly, because they met in Minsk. Merkel and Hollande had to fly to Minsk. Normally they don't do that; it's not their favorite place to meet. And Putin also came in. Merkel and Hollande were under pressure because there was a cauldron building in the Battle of Debaltsevo in eastern Ukraine.

The Russian-led forces had surrounded many Western Ukrainian forces, including, I think, 60, 70 Western, mainly French and German military consultants, which was, in fact, German officers, high-level staff. And the Russians wanted to avoid a loss of face for the Western side, so they allowed for a negotiation to get those foreign observers out. Observers is the wrong word. Those foreign officers out. And that's how this agreement came together and was not kept by the West, as Merkel said. And by the way, previously, our president, even more beloved Steinmeier, he had guaranteed with other Western leaders the safety and the government of Yanukovych, which was democratically elected.

And when then the putsch was orchestrated, for sure by people around Victoria Nuland and the West, he didn't have a word to say: "Look, I'm sorry, I'm offended. I gave my word, my signature as the president of sovereign Germany. You can't do this with Yanukovych." No, it was always just a betrayal. And by the way, you mentioned OSCE forces in the conflict area observing the conflict. I have met one OSCE observer who, after his stint there, later turned up in a drone company that is actively engaging in the war on the Ukrainian side. How can an OSCE observer who, for sure, at the time already was spying for the West, then become a part of the drone attacks against Russia? This is all so murky, and it cannot be stressed enough how, um, how dirty the warfare of the West is, especially in Ukraine and in Syria, which we mentioned before.

#Pascal

I mean, this is part and parcel why the Russians don't trust the West anymore, right? Because, like, all and any organizations are also used against the Russians. All and any agreements are then used in order, well, either to buy time or to freeze a conflict, which then buys you the time, and then just strike another day. So is it any surprise to you that right now the Russians do not agree to freezing the conflict anew and basically give that to the West in order to then move into negotiations?

Although I must say, one of the things that surprises me is that right now they're not even trying anymore in the West to kind of camouflage all of this. I mean, correct me if I'm wrong, but it seems

to me that 2026 is a moment of much more openness about all of the dirty things that have been going on than, let's say, 10, 15 years ago, when the West was still trying its utmost to camouflage all of this under humanitarianism and human rights and so on. I mean, right now they're not even trying anymore. Or how do you perceive the political rhetoric of our day and age?

#Kolja Spöri

I believe the reason why they are not even hiding it anymore is that now warfare is raised to the next level. Ukraine was just a start to create a big meat grinder, once again between Russians and Germans mostly, or let's say Central Europeans and Russians, like we've seen twice in the last 120 years. And I feel personally awkward and pitiful and sorry that Germans are once again marching against the East after the experience we had in those years. And by the way, the Napoleonic War against Russia was similar. There were more French dying, but there were 30,000 Hessian troops and 20,000 Bavarian troops. Almost none of them came back. So we have a long history of this warfare to divide the European continent in Europe through the heartland and make sure that Russia and Germany do not cooperate, because that would challenge the current status quo of the powers that be, let's say, the Anglo-American-Jewish domination of the world.

And this is just another example of Halford Mackinder's heartland theory now being rolled out. So I'm not surprised that this is ratcheted up again and again, especially through provocative figures, through real lords of war like Jacob Rees-Mogg at the time, who just has to divert from the fact that he's doing this for Rothschild to look like a typical British snob. And before that, it was Boris Johnson, who basically sabotaged the peace deal that was already made in Istanbul. And even before that, the reason why the Russians withdrew from Kiev, where they could have finished the war in a week, is because they were lured away from, you know, finishing it by guarantees in writing, as I am informed, that a peace agreement was going to be made.

We're talking March '22, and now we are four and a half years later. And as a personal story, because your viewers will know a lot of things we're talking about and have their own ideas about it, but things that I've witnessed and are not described beyond my book, for example, as I'm so close with many Chechens, and I had five or six businessmen of my age — I'm 57 now — lying on the outskirts of Kiev in the first week of the real war, in a tent camp. And we were communicating on WhatsApp. At the time, it was still possible. It was winter, and they were ready. The Chechens were ready to go into Kiev and come back with the head of the snake. And the Chechens would have done that, but they were asked not to by Moscow, by the Kremlin, and they are very disappointed.

My buddies will not go in that war again. They were volunteers there. They are so-called Kadyrovtsy. They did it out of loyalty for their leader and to show loyalty to Moscow, but not a second time, because they could see then already that this war is not led, you know, in order to be ended quickly. And now it's stretching on and on. And those wars are made to take a long time, because that's when the money is made with all the kickbacks that Western politicians can earn, and especially the local warlords like Zelensky and his gang can earn. This is why the war has to last. And in this

particular case, now it's going to the next level. There's no doubt about that for me. It's kind of a third world war, at least for the Europeans.

#Pascal

I mean, this is my great fear, right? That we now see—we are now at the verge of the Europeanization of the Ukraine war, and you turn the rest of Europe into a mega-Ukraine in order to beat Russia. Is that where you're seeing it going?

#Kolja Spöri

100%, and I'm disgusted by those people, especially the stooges, the puppets that we have in my home country. It's unbelievable. I mean, the natural interest of Germany would be to cooperate with Russia. If there was a conflict with this bloody shithole Ukraine, which has the most corrupt and also deceitful people in Europe—maybe not totally in Europe, but very much at the top—I mean, we would just shake hands with the Russians somewhere at the Don, and that would be a German interest to follow.

But to lead the Germans against the Russians in a war that we will lose once again, for sure with a big loss of life once again—that is, I don't find words—after history has taught us how it happens and why it shouldn't happen again. Our puppet regime in Berlin and, of course, in Brussels is going for it again. Okay, maybe von der Leyen, who is full of cash already from her deals with the so-called vaccine, and, you know, our current leader there, who is a BlackRock guy for decades—for many, many years. And the previous guy in Berlin was a Warburg guy. And even Schröder, the Rothschild guy. I mean, I also worked for Rothschild a year as a consultant, but I wanted to learn how the system works and not sell my soul to the devil, as all these people do.

#Pascal

How does it work, though? I mean, how is it possible that so many people who are without doubt not dumb? I mean, whatever we want to say about Merz and about the—what was his name right before Merz? I mean, they must have intelligence, right? Otherwise, you wouldn't make it to those positions. And all the other political elites, that they get themselves into positions where then finally they are implementing the geostrategic benefits of foreign powers. Is it because these elite networks just work like that? Because the Macrons and the Merzes and the Scholzes and so on just see more in it for them if they cooperate with Wall Street and the other interests? Or what is it, in your estimation, that makes that happen, this vassalization of the European continent, which we are seeing at the moment?

#Kolja Spöri

Well, for the individual, it might be the rational strategy to follow if one wants to get very rich and relatively powerful. I mean, at the end of the day, those people only have ceremonial power. They have very little to say otherwise in the grand scheme of things. Same with Trump, for example. I mean, or, you know, whoever calls themselves the Minister of War or Minister of Defense, how would they even know how to lead a war? They have no education in many cases, and they're just thrown into a job there. They have no idea about history and about war on the ground. And so they just do what is rational for them to keep in power and to make money.

Some people with an honest heart would not do it because they have a sense of belonging to a people who have responsibility for their tribe, for their families. But I must say that with Germans, for example, it's relatively easy to divide them. I mean, you're Swiss, I'm Swabian, and if you take an Austrian and then a Dutch or a Flemish, who are also, at the end of the day, Germanic peoples, we are not really friends among ourselves, right? There's always animosities that can easily be used by the outsiders to weaken us. Whereas those who control the whole game have the strongest cohesion possible in their in-group. And that's why they always succeed over us.

You know, I don't have to name all of them, but we know who we're talking about. Even if you just take the Brits as one example of them, they play this game once again against the continent. And you can be sure as hell that when the shit hits the fan, the big fan, the Brits will sit on the fence again and say, "This is the EU who has to fight that war. It's not NATO. It's not the Brits. It's the EU. It's the Germans and the French who have to get their butts kicked against the Russians once again." And it's the Brits who are making those conflicts. Not the Brits as the Englishman who walks in the pub in the evening and tries to make a living. I mean, the average Englishman is even more beaten down than the average German. But their country is at the helm of those very, very negative developments.

#Pascal

Yes, it is. And I mean, the greatest trick is always the one power that instigates all of this then extricates itself and says, "I'm neutral." And we see how skillfully the United States is playing this, even to the point where the Russians are willing to go along with the charade of the United States being allowed to play the neutral broker between the two sides. It's quite fascinating to me that this works. And we've seen how the Brits did that in the past. Yeah, I mean, anything to add to that? And I mean, we are nearing the one-hour mark, so we have to wind it down. But please share anything that you think we didn't touch upon so far.

#Kolja Spöri

Maybe also to answer your previous question completely, how the Russians are dealing with this at the moment. I mean, obviously, Vladimir Putin, who is portrayed by the West as this lone gunman who is attacking Ukraine because he's a weird person—that, it's not true, because Putin was doing

the best job for his country and for the Russians for about 20 years, 22 years exactly. I could follow it. I was in Russia the first time for Hugo Boss at the Tennis Davis Cup finals in Moscow in 1995 already. So I knew Russia before Putin. It was hell. It was mafia. It was dangerous. It was dark and run-down. And then Putin came, and the change was fantastic. And he went to the world stage. He did the Olympics. He did the Soccer World Cup. He brought Formula One.

He wanted to become part of NATO. He offered anything possible for friendship with the West, with the Germans. And he was betrayed. Now, the problem is, after '22, he started to make bad decisions, and I don't think he made those decisions because he also is not as much in control as I would love him to be. He might be more in control than Trump, but he has people behind him, and we see those people now articulate themselves in war agitation. People like Solovyov—and my Russian names are killing me nowadays. There's two major warmongers in the Russian audience who basically want to ratchet up the hate against Germans in particular. So you always have those professionals of war—and war is the harvest of the few. And it's going to happen again.

#Pascal

It's very sad, and one of the sick dynamics of war that we usually don't observe is how the doves among the two sides start cooperating. The hawks cooperate too, and they try to play each other the ball in order to get to the point where the system collapses and everything blows up in a huge war, because that's the way they would love it to go. Good. Kolja, this was fantastic. It was a very interesting talk with you. Again, I would like to tell everybody that they can get your book, "Dr. Danger Zone," in which you describe all of these things, and very well done with the Hollywood cover over here. It's a real photo.

#Kolja Spöri

It's a photo in the north of Mexico. Only the helicopter is added, but the rest is real.

#Pascal

Seriously, you took a picture like this?

#Kolja Spöri

Yes, on my website, people can find it. It's in northern Mexico. It's local police who look very dangerous in the north of Mexico. You can still see the writing on the car. It's a police car, actually.

#Pascal

Okay, fascinating. I mean, in the age of AI, you would never guess, but we'll take your word for that. People can get this book on Amazon. They can also find your other books that are in German over there. Is there any other place where people should go to follow you?

#Kolja Spöri

I'm not very active on social media. I have a Twitter account, and people can connect with me there, but I don't get direct messages. This would be possible over LinkedIn or by the email that you can find on my website via Twitter. And I'm very happy to get in touch with like-minded people and talk about my experiences.

#Pascal

Everybody, please, you've seen the book. And if you want to be in touch, go to the homepage of Kolja Spöri. Kolja, thank you so much for your time today.

#Kolja Spöri

Thank you, Oskar.