

Israel Just **ATTACKED** the Collective West | Eugene Doyle

The attack on the global Sumud Flotilla was a deliberate attack on the citizens of western countries, including the US, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The most shameful part of this is of course the implicit cooperation of those very governments—especially Greece but the EU more generally—silently nodding off on Israel committing piracy and acts of war in international waters. This marks the first time that Israel projects its military power deep into the waters off the coast of Europe and it sets a most dangerous precedent for all citizens of Europe: If Israel wills it, you are going to be beaten and abducted, wherever you are, and your governments are going to help us do so. I'm joined today by Eugene Doyle of Solidarity to discuss the Sumud Flotilla outrage—or the lack thereof in western media. Links: Solidarity: <https://www.solidarity.co.nz> Neutrality Studies substack: <https://pascallottaz.substack.com> (Opt in for Academic Section from your profile settings: <https://pascallottaz.substack.com/s/academic>) Merch: <https://neutralitystudies-shop.fourthwall.com> Donation: <https://neutralitystudies.com/donate> Timestamps: 00:00:00 Introduction 00:00:15 Sumud flotilla raid and abuse 00:06:06 Western backing and Greek role 00:09:13 Fate of the detained activists 00:12:53 Citizens abandoned by their states 00:20:44 Rainbow Warrior and lost sovereignty 00:31:05 Piracy double standards and silence 00:33:18 Public opinion and wider fallout 00:37:12 Crackdown on dissent and rule of law 00:45:33 Activists courage and closing

#Pascal

Welcome back, everybody, to Neutrology Studies. My name is Pascal Lottaz, and I am joined today again by my friend and colleague, Eugene Doyle, the host of solidarity.co.nz. Eugene, welcome back.

#Eugene Doyle

Hey, great to be back, Pascal.

#Pascal

Great having you. And we want to actually discuss this very sad topic of the Gaza genocide. And the thing that happened recently, that we've had the Samoud Flotilla trying to go and reach Gaza, but then they were kidnapped on the high seas right outside of Greece. And all of these, I think it was about 170 activists, were killed. But you will give me the details now. They were taken away and beaten and whatnot. And it's all of this done by Israel in international waters, far, far away from Israel or Gaza. And you wrote several articles about this.

And I just want to say this at the beginning. Everybody, Eugene has this wonderful page where you can find this article. You wrote several articles, the latest one coming out today: "Did the New Zealand Prime Minister Just Commit Treason by Ignoring the Terrorist Attack on His Own Citizens?" There were New Zealand citizens on there, and you are, of course, also a New Zealand citizen. Can you give us the rundown of what actually occurred, how this is now going down, and your perspective on it?

#Eugene Doyle

Sure. Well, okay, so the Global Samoud Flotilla is an international movement, and there's, gosh, at least 60 countries represented on it and over 60 vessels. And what they're trying to do—absolute heroes of our time—they're sailing to Gaza to open a humanitarian corridor to bring aid and support to the besieged Palestinian people who are undergoing this terrible genocide. So that was the mission. And they were heading towards Gaza. They knew that the Israelis at some point would intercept them, but they were really shocked when, 1,000 kilometers out in international waters—and I'd encourage people to look at things like the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, etc.—

It was an absolute act of piracy. He had this major assault on this peace flotilla. So he had about four warships, a prison ship, planes, drones, and all these Israeli stormtroopers who raided the ships on the night of the 29th of April. Over 20 of the ships were actually intercepted and boarded, and others got away. But what actually happened was quite extraordinary, where they stormed aboard, took the activists off the ships, put them on a prison ship. And then, shockingly, what they did was they sabotaged the ships of the peace flotilla that they got a hold of.

So they slashed sails, they cut fuel lines, they smashed up all the navigation equipment and the comms equipment, stole a whole bunch of stuff, as the Israelis always do. And then they took these activists who were on board the prison ship, which had four shipping containers that they used as a prison, but they had so many prisoners that they actually put about a third of them on the deck. And then over the next three days, dozens of them had the hell beaten out of them. And if you look at the images on my site, some of these beatings were, you know, really very, very savage. That guy there, Jay O'Connor, he's a New Zealander. And, you know, as you can see, he was kicked in the head.

He was savagely kicked in the ribs and the kidneys and all of this. This, you know, this was an absolute terrorist attack. And what I thought was interesting was that our Prime Minister, that bald chap on the right there, Christopher Luxon, actually did nothing about it. It was quite extraordinary. You know, like, you have the most serious state terrorist attack on New Zealand citizens since the 1985 French bombing of the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour, and our Prime Minister does

absolutely nothing. Our government, these New Zealand citizens, when they were dumped onto Crete after the Israelis had finished with them, the New Zealand government told them they had to fend for themselves.

All the government did was put out a press release saying the safety of New Zealanders is of paramount importance. But having spoken to the Samud activists themselves, the government did nothing. These people arrived, some of them had barely any clothes because they'd been ripped out of their beds at night. They didn't have money, they didn't have phones. And if it wasn't for the kindness of strangers, they would have been in an even worse state because our government abandoned them. And I just thought, that in itself is just such an incredible story because you think, how can this be?

#Pascal

It is. Eugene, I'm also so glad that you're covering this so closely because it shows how the genocide actually works. You know, we are led to believe that the genocide is the work of Israel and maybe, you know, Mr. Netanyahu, you know, two, three really bad and evil men, right? And if it wasn't for them, then we would have a paradise on earth. No, no. The genocide is a deliberate civilizational project of what we call the collective West or the political West. And it works by all of our governments being in cahoots with the people who pull the trigger. You give them the trigger, you give them the weapons, you give them everything, you give them the political support. And when somebody tries to do something about it, you collectively make sure it never happens.

And the Samud Flotilla is, of course, a citizen initiative, a non-violent citizen initiative. And we now see how all the way to New Zealand, the New Zealand government is giving its thumbs up to this being dismantled by silence on the one hand. And I just cannot imagine, I cannot imagine that a foreign service of a Western country would not by default intervene. They would try to give consular help because that's the whole point. Like the consulate, the New Zealand consulate and diplomatic, the embassy in Athens, where this happens, should, of course, be highly alarmed and try to immediately start doing something. If they don't, I can only imagine that the word was out not to do that because that was their job.

#Eugene Doyle

You're absolutely right, because the Samud flotilla, when they were intercepted, were just outside Greek territorial waters. So they were in international waters. They put out an SOS to the Greek Navy, who ignored them. So it was very clear that the Greeks, who have this terrible government, were coordinating with the Israelis. And in fact, when the Israelis transferred the Samud people to Greek ships to bring them to Crete, the Greek Navy treated them like criminals. You know, there were guns trained on them. They were put on buses and weren't allowed to get off the buses. There were people who needed to be urgently taken to hospital because of the terrible beatings that they had received. And it all happened incredibly slowly. And if it wasn't for the help of activists, Greek

activists on the island of Crete, it would have been far worse. So, yes, you're entirely right there, Pascal, that genocide is a collective effort of Western countries. And to my enormous shame, my country is one of them.

#Pascal

Hey, very brief intermission because I was recently banned from YouTube. And although I'm back, this can happen anytime again. So please consider subscribing not only here, but to my mailing list on Substack. That's pascallottaz.substack.com. The link's going to be in the description below. And now back to the video. How is this now developing, actually? I mean, the last two, I think, that were actually then kidnapped to Israel, right? They were brought illegally to Israel, where they were put on some form of show trial. And, you know, the majority of people were put on a march of shame in Greece, where Israel somehow managed to tell the Greek authorities to put shame on them and whatnot, and to mistreat them, as you just described. But then two of them, the two leaders, they were kidnapped to Israel itself. Where do we stand right now? Where are the individuals who took part in the Samud flotilla? How are they doing?

#Eugene Doyle

Right. Well, fortunately, the two who were kidnapped and taken to Israel have now been released. So that's one good piece of news. And I must say, in contrast to the woeful, shameful treatment our people received at the hands of the New Zealand government, at least the Turkish government put on an aircraft, had planes, food, clothing, medical assistance, counseling, support for these people who had been tortured and, you know, subjected to horrible things. I'll give you an example of what the Israelis did.

They did things like, for the people on the deck, when the nights were cold, they flooded the decks with salt water so that the people couldn't sleep at night. And they were inside these containers, shipping containers. They were letting off these flash bangs, and they were getting people to line up and putting them in stress positions. And then they'd grab someone and beat the hell out of them. You know, this is the Israeli army, this disgusting Israeli occupation force. And these, our leaders tell us, are our friends and allies.

#Pascal

Obviously not. And what we are seeing here is also how Western governments are now using the forces that had been unleashed already on migrants, right? How you then treat your own people — European citizens and New Zealand citizens and Australians. And not that it makes a difference. Everybody should, of course, be treated with dignity and equally, whether they are Europeans or not, whether they are North Africans or not, whether they're Palestinians or not. But you just see how now we are getting to the point where this empire of genocide is starting to use the weapons of genocide against its own people. And the methods are slowly being turned inward.

And this is clearly an escalation of what happened last time. Half a year ago, I want to say, or almost a year ago, when the last Zimut flotilla tried to reach Gaza, they intercepted them on the high sea, way, way closer to Gaza. And they did a similar—well, they didn't do anything as horrible as that. Actually, last time when they intercepted, they tried to broadcast everything on TV, saying like, oh, look, we are giving Greta Thunberg a sandwich. This is, you know, because we're the IDF, we are the good guys. We're giving people sandwiches. And they called it the selfie flotilla or whatnot. And this time they apparently changed the strategy to savagery, right? Short of executing people on the spot, but to savagery and beating. What's your take on that?

#Eugene Doyle

Yeah, well, look, you raised a point just before about, you know, people should be treated with respect regardless of their religion, skin color, whatever. And what the Sumud flotilla people, particularly the New Zealanders who I spoke to, really emphasized is that what they went through was really horrible, but it is nothing compared to what the Palestinian people have to go through, and particularly the thousands. And I've done a number of stories on the Israeli prison system, and there are wonderful organizations like B'Tselem in Israel who have covered this, you know, with reports like "Welcome to Hell," the network of Israeli torture camps throughout Israel.

You know, so the Sumud people were fully aware that what they went through is small compared to the suffering of the prisoners, and you may as well call them hostages, inside the Israeli prison system. Yes, and I think one of the things that really got me was the fact that, and I think it's useful to talk about our citizens, it helped people focus their minds that they've had it almost normalized, this mistreatment of the Palestinian people. And as you said, it's quite interesting when it starts coming, when our citizens start to be treated in that way.

And I think the Prime Minister of New Zealand and other leaders like Anthony Albanese of Australia have done something very dangerous by quietly ignoring the mistreatment of their own citizens, because it means that these heroic individuals on the Sumud flotilla, when they set out again, as they will, are going to stand up to fascism. They are going to continue their voyage. And the actions of the Australian Prime Minister, the New Zealand Prime Minister, and these other countries that stood silent while their citizens were abused put these people in further danger, perhaps greater danger, because the Israelis will have got the message that they can act with impunity.

#Pascal

Yeah, but again, it's like, I don't think anyone needs to send that message to Israel. I mean, they just do it. I cannot imagine that Israel does this without coordinating with the Greeks, without coordinating with, who else is there, with Cyprus. There must be information that these ships go there and then do this. And again, they offloaded these people to Greece, right? Yeah. There is information within the EU, and the EU has its common patrols, right, against immigrants from North

Africa. And they patrol the sea. This was done with the knowledge and coordination of these coast guards, of the EU kind of Schengen-zone coast guard. I don't know actually what the name of that institution is, but otherwise, you cannot just have like three or four military boats and a prison ship just float in there.

I mean, just for one second, if Iran tried to just have like four military boats go into the Mediterranean, I mean, what would happen? Of course, they know about this. Of course, NATO and the people who control this maritime space have to be informed about it. So... what we now know for sure, 100%, is that the assault on the Sumud flotilla is a checkbox, is an OK with the Europeans. They said, like, go for it. Take them out. It's really, really horrible because, again, it's like take out our own citizens. Either way, when they're back, we will make sure that they suffer a little bit longer because little kids need to learn, naughty little kids need to learn who's boss. Boss sits in Tel Aviv, right?

#Eugene Doyle

I think these leaders are doing something extremely dangerous because what they're doing is they're kind of suggesting there's two tiers of citizens. There's one level who are the docile, content, non-politically engaged citizens, or there's those who support the government over Israel and the attack on Iran and all these things. And then if you're a citizen who has a different view, who's a vociferous critic, you suddenly lose your rights of citizenship, because to be a citizen of a state, the duty of a leader of a state, first and foremost, is to protect the citizens. And they most certainly need, under international law and long convention, they must be protected from being molested by foreign states. That's the first duty. I thought of you today, Pascal, because I quoted—now I'm going to mangle his name—Emer de Vattel, **The Law of Nations**. Have you come across that?

#Pascal

Emer de Vattel, yeah, yeah, one of the most famous Swiss philosophers.

#Eugene Doyle

Yeah, **The Law of Nations**. Hey, now, I'll just give you a short quote from him because I came across it the other day and I thought it was highly appropriate. So, quote: whoever uses a citizen ill indirectly offends the state, which is bound to protect the citizen, and the sovereign should avenge his wrongs, punish the aggressor, and, if possible, oblige him to make full reparations, since otherwise the citizen would not obtain the great end of the civil association, which is safety. That's brilliant. That's 1758. It's a social contract idea.

#Pascal

I mean, by being a citizen of a state and by adhering to its laws and paying its taxes, you then get the right to be protected by the state from other people within your state, but also outside the state. So the social contract here was broken by our governments that did not defend our compatriots, because that's what they're there for. That's their job. And if they don't do that, well, you set yourself up actually for quite something in the future.

#Eugene Doyle

That is a very good point, because I think that's right. You know, you break a bond between the citizen and the state, and that's not a very good idea in the long term. It's not a very good long-term strategy, I would have said. You know, I mean, even people like Ronald Reagan, for God's sake, you know, it was very clear that the first duty of the leader is to protect the citizens. And how on earth people—well, I think Luxon's problem is he's a joker who sort of—he was the chief executive of an airline company, and he keeps on referring to himself as a chief executive or a CEO. I think the joker doesn't know much about politics, and he certainly doesn't know much about what you were just talking about, which is political philosophy and people like Thomas Hobbes and all of that. You're talking about your PM, the little bald chap who's like—not bald at all—who's quite a coward by not protecting his people, you mean? Yeah. And look, hey, I want to do a little comparison, which I put in the article.

I think it's really important. So if you compare that shameful display by the Prime Minister of New Zealand and also, might I say, our mainstream media, all the major outlets, they covered it sort of very briefly, very quickly. But, you know, like, New Zealand's a fairly quiet place. You know, the big story might be some pop singer broke her ankle or Mrs. McGillicuddy's cat got killed or something like that. So actually having warships surround your citizens and beating the hell out of them and taking hostages, it's really a big story. And yet they treated it as a minor story, which they quickly moved on from.

You know, so I think that tells you about who owns our media today, today in New Zealand and other countries. Now, let's do a comparison, because I think the most appropriate comparison for a New Zealander is the French terrorist attack—the state terrorist attack—on the Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace ship, the Rainbow Warrior, which was blown up in Auckland Harbour in 1985. And one of the members, Fernando Pereira, was killed. He was on board. Others, including a good friend of mine, were out for dinner that night, having just come down from Rongelap. They evacuated the victims of U.S. atomic testing off Rongelap.

And they were then going to head up into French Polynesia to protest the French nuclear testing up there, but the ship was blown up. Now, you compare it. When that event happened, the entire political class of New Zealand, the entire media, the entire population flew into a frenzy and stayed in a frenzy for months. We tracked collectively our police, our Secret Service, etc., under instruction of our Prime Minister David Lange. They pursued these terrorists, and they discovered—because

initially they didn't know who did it—and then they found out that it was state terrorism. It was the French government, it was the Direction Générale de la Sécurité Extérieure, the CIA of France, who were behind this, and eventually it took a long time to find this out.

It actually was signed off by none other than the President of France, François Mitterrand. But that took a long time to get to that one. But I mean, gosh, what a contrast. We ran the French to ground on that one. We forced high officials, including the Minister of Defence and the head of the DGSE—they were forced to step down. We captured two of these spies, Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur. They went to jail in New Zealand. And then, under the terms of an agreement sorted out between the New Zealand government and the French government, the French had to pay for a new ship for Greenpeace. The two spies got 10-year imprisonment sentences, and those officials had to step down.

So that was the action of a prime minister and government, and the whole society, media, everyone was right behind it. It was a cause célèbre. Now, you contrast that to Christopher Luxon, who sort of scratches his chrome dome and looks the other way and pretends there's nothing to see here, folks. And the New Zealand media today—the shameful, empty-headed New Zealand media that wants to tell us about cat stories and things like that—but won't actually seriously address the fact that New Zealanders have suffered the most significant terrorist attack since the Rainbow Warrior bombing. And my God, what has happened to my country?

#Pascal

So the comparison is very, very important because it tells us where the journey went for New Zealand, right? From actually having an independent foreign policy and having sovereignty, and actually understanding that when somebody attacks your activists, they attack yourself. They attack the state, and that's what needs to stop. And you need to actually ask for compensation and whatnot—not ask, but demand. And now, in 2026, we're at a completely different place, aren't we? We are at the point where Israel can just implement its foreign policy priorities on all and any citizens in the world, wherever they are on the high seas. The next thing that's going to start is going to be like Israelis attacking activists abroad. They are going to go and start going after these people on land, because by now they can do it offshore of any other nation.

Right. So why not? Why not just have Israeli agents go into the houses of people somewhere in Germany, New Zealand, in Australia, and just beat the hell out of them or kidnap them or kill them there? I mean, that's the natural next step of the progression. And apparently our governments are fine with that. They're okay with that. No, no, no. The Israelis, they're special. If their forces go somewhere, if they abduct somebody, it must be legal. The United States, if they abduct the president of another country, it must be fine, according to our media. It must be a drug dealer, right? So we are completely in a vacuum at the moment that, to my knowledge, is incomparable with any time in the last 200 years when it comes to how the Europeans thought of their sovereignty.

#Eugene Doyle

I think it's a tragedy because actually, over the last few years, I've spent quite a bit of time—I'm sure you have too, Pascal—reading parts of the United Nations Charter, which is a pretty fine document. It is a fine document. And the tragedy, you know, people often criticize the United Nations, but I think the prime problem with the United Nations is that countries like New Zealand, Australia, Canada, France, Britain, etc., have absolutely trampled over the United Nations Charter and have refused to uphold it. And now they're even refusing to uphold rights for their own citizens. And I think that's really tragic.

I wanted to say one other thing, just about the Rainbow Warrior period, that I think is quite important. You talked about independence just then. And one of the upshots of the Rainbow Warrior event was it was like a shot of adrenaline into the New Zealand psyche, that we suddenly realized that our friends, the French, were not our friends. And we also—by the way, this is an incredible fact, a lot of people still don't know this—the Australian government, our dearest neighbours, our close buddies across the Tasman, the Australians helped about four, I think it was four or five, of the terrorists, the French terrorists. They helped them to escape.

They had fled on a yacht to Norfolk Island. The New Zealanders had tracked them there, and the Aussies refused to grab them. So they were able to sail off. They were met by a French submarine in the middle of the Pacific. They boarded the submarine and sank their ship, you know, so they got away thanks to the Australians. And I must say that our other dear buddies, the Americans and the British, our closest allies after the Australians, they said not a word, not boo, about what was done to New Zealand, and they in no way criticized the French. So New Zealanders took that message on board at the time, and within two years we had signed the Nuclear Free Zone Act.

New Zealand still to this day has a wonderful piece of nuclear-free legislation that was from 1987, and then the cherry on the top was the Americans and the Australians booted us out of the military alliance, ANZUS, Australian New Zealand US Military Alliance. And we just said, well, I was going to say a word I shouldn't have said, but we were quite happy, many of us, to see the back end of that. And it really helped New Zealanders think about developing a more neutral position, a more independent position, a foreign policy that was based on humanitarian ideals and not militaristic alliances. And unfortunately, 41 years later, we find ourselves having drifted back into these very unhealthy arrangements. But I do know there is a movement, there is a real movement in New Zealand that is contesting all of this and is pushing to get us back into a defence policy setting that is independent, that is friends of all, enemies of none, and ensures we have a foreign policy that is more genuinely independent.

#Pascal

I would hope that actually a good number of the New Zealand and Australian and European citizenry finally get the point that this is not in their interest, that if somebody is able to do this to you on the

high seas—I mean, just imagine for a second if this had been Somali pirates who boarded them and then beat the hell out of people. If it was Somali pirates, this would be all over the news. Like, everybody would be up in arms, and we would probably be at war with Somalia by now if it was Somali pirates, right? Because the outrage would be tremendous. But the fact that it is white people, settler-colonial European people, who do this to others, then it's fine. A government that doesn't protect you from this and that doesn't talk about this—and none of the Europeans did. I don't know if the Spanish government did something. I think the Spanish...

#Eugene Doyle

The Spanish were magnificent.

#Pascal

Pedro is like, right now he's doing so much, actually, Mr. Sánchez, that it's great to see. But apart from them, nobody speaks about it. It's insane. And if your government doesn't protect you from this, then you don't really have a government, actually.

#Eugene Doyle

Yeah, I'd encourage people to look up Pedro Sánchez. Spain will always protect its citizens. He gave a fantastic speech about the Samud flotilla and said that Spain was not going to accept this. And it was such an incredible contrast to the sniveling cowardice of my own prime minister.

#Pascal

So, do you think it's going to be a wake-up call? I mean, of course, yes, the media is now trying to bury this and to say like, oh, it's a non-event, you know, some weird kind of hippies that were trying to breach Israeli law and support terrorism. Does that actually work now with the population in New Zealand?

#Eugene Doyle

I think it does to a degree, but there are some positive signs. Ipsos, who are a big international polling agency, did a global survey of attitudes towards the U.S.-Israeli attack on Iran. And New Zealand came out as one of the countries most opposed to any military interventions against Iran. And that was very pleasing. I think partly that might have been a calculation by New Zealanders because we live at the end—we're at the very bottom of the South Pacific. We're at the end of, figuratively speaking, the longest oil pipeline in the world. So we're terribly vulnerable to energy shocks, and I think the fact that more and more ordinary people, you know, who are normally

detached, who don't pay much attention to things like genocides and things that happen far away—you know, unfortunately, a great many people are like that. But the oil shock has one benefit, that it's slowly making geopolitics a kitchen table issue.

It's actually making ordinary people go, oh man, hey, my petrol's getting more expensive. And they're even talking about, maybe, are we going to have diesel to run our farm tractors and all of this? And so the energy shock and Trump's war on Iran, Netanyahu's war on Iran, is actually—and I've really noticed it—you know, I know quite a lot of just ordinary folks who aren't terribly interested in geopolitics who are suddenly asking me questions and asking my opinions about things. And, you know, I think if there's one good thing that's happened through all of that, it's that it's actually starting to get people to engage more with these great issues of our time. It shouldn't just be left to the likes of you, me, and the smart activists.

#Pascal

No, but that's the only thing that can actually change it, right? If there's a mass—I don't want to call it an awakening—but a mass awareness that this can't continue. I mean, this is not only horrible for the people who are being genocided, this is going to be more and more horrible for everybody involved. And when it actually starts at the dinner table, when people realize, oh, this... it might be me next, you know, this thing about speaking out for the other because it's not just for them, it's also for you to protect yourself down the line. And we are seeing this now, this escalation. And Israel, of course, has a long history of doing these kinds of things—high-sea piracy.

When was it? In 2006 or 2007, when they killed five or six activists on a Turkish ship that was trying to deliver aid. And they just did that and got away with it. And they even had the audacity to call out the Turkish government for not doing anything about it. And Turkey, at that time, at least had the guts to stand up for itself and make a big fuss about it. And it was a huge thing. But the Israelis, they just do that. They cement in stone that they are allowed to do anything, anywhere, anytime. And if anyone says this is not right, then they accuse them of being Nazis and anti-Semites.

#Eugene Doyle

But that's entirely right, Pascal. But the other thing that's slightly depressing about all of this is you have countries like Germany—my God, the terrible beatings I've seen the German police lay down on German citizens. You go to England, where they have now arrested, I think, something like 3,000 people—Palestine Action protesters who are holding cardboard signs—charging them under the Terrorism Act. They're arresting, you know, decent elderly British people, the absolute soul of dignity and good human nature, and they're arresting them under the Terrorism Act. So our own societies are at risk, really. You know, it's like Zionism has become a bit of a cancer inside a lot of Western societies. And until we actually wake up to this and actually realize that we are on the wrong side of history here, rather spectacularly.

Like, I know you've interviewed Chas Freeman, Ambassador Chas Freeman, and I was quite surprised the other day when I heard him say that, you know, the Israelis are really exhibiting all the characteristics of the German Nazis in the Second World War. Which is, you know, I know that just saying that would drive your average Israeli Zionist apoplectic. But unfortunately, if you don't want to be called a Nazi, don't behave like one. And, you know, I really am shocked at what's happened to Israeli society. And I know some Israelis, really decent, wonderful people who are involved in the same struggle as I am. And, you know, there are tremendous people doing wonderful work in Israel. But unfortunately, they're precious few these days. You're watching a society, really, that has descended into darkness. And for some very odd reason, our government seems to want to go along for the ride.

#Pascal

Well, I mean, look, they are now learning from the Zionists, from Israel, how to deal with opposition, right? You deal with them by killing them, imprisoning them, torturing them, raping them, abusing them, and in the end, genociding them, right? And that is a way of dealing with opposition. And actually, our governments are now kind of looking at that, apparently, and saying, well, you know, maybe that's the way to go, you know, instead of actually trying to do something about the human rights abuses that the activists call out. Well, let's abuse the human rights of the activists until they stop it. And if they don't stop, well, you know, Israel figured out how to let people rot to death in concentration camps. And it cannot be a Nazi method if it is Israel that did it, right? Because they suffered from the Nazis.

Therefore, they must be, they will be the eternal victims. So if we are on the side of the eternal victims, we ourselves are the victims. So we just defend ourselves from those grotesque activists who want human rights for everybody. So I am really thinking that this is where the journey is going for some of these folks in Europe, that they are thinking now not about Zionism in Israel as something that is a fascist dictatorship or is a fascist society, but as something to emulate. And we see how some of the rules and regulations are being adjusted in order to be able to crack down on this kind of dissent, especially in the UK. It's quite interesting that it's coming from there again, and in Germany, of course. So really, the way that these countries now let their activists be treated, mistreated, and abused by Israel should actually be the loudest of all alarm bells to anyone in these countries to say, like, we are not safe from our governments anymore.

#Eugene Doyle

Yes, I hope we move back towards the rule of law. You know, we have political leaders who are endlessly banging on about the rules-based international order, but I suspect they've read a lot less of these things than I have, because they constantly trample on them. And I think we'll all be better off if we really do return to rules-based systems where we really do respect, for example, the

territorial sovereignty of nations. You know, like the sovereign state of Iran—whether you like their government or don't like their government, it is a sovereign state, and its territorial integrity should be respected. And that's part of the United Nations Charter.

The non-interference in the internal affairs of nations is terribly important, but that's constantly being trampled on. And what you end up with is the extraordinary situation we're in, where the Iranians are giving us a bit of a lesson in the laws of international conduct. And I have to say, while this imperialist war against Iran is being waged by the United States of America and Israel—and thank God my own government, they wanted to, our leader apparently wanted to go all in with the Americans and Israelis but got stymied by his Minister of Foreign Affairs—but whilst that was going on, I think I thoroughly support the Iranians' right to resistance and hope it provides a salutary lesson to the Americans, the Israelis, but also, you know, as we were just talking about, all these Western countries that seem to have sadly lost their way.

#Pascal

No, I mean, the ones who are standing up at the moment for international law—which is not the same as the rules-based international order, but the proper international law, which is the rules that are supposed to govern all states and is above them and not a tool for them—that part is actually being held up right now by the Iranians, by the Chinese, by the Russians. Because they are still rational in the sense that they actually try to build security structures and try to build something that actually works for the entire globe. Whereas the Western idea is, of course, that of Israel—total domination and, if necessary, extermination in order to get your way. So that's why also, you know, today China came out with a proposal for a peace proposal, right, that the Iranians already said yes to. And there are four points, and all four points are basically—basically, if you boil them down—it's like, let's keep to international law.

And the Iranians said yes to that, because if you do that, then Iran gets the benefits under the NPT, including uranium enrichment and use for civilian purposes. You get, of course, the blockade lifted. You get the legal sanctions lifted—all of the sanctions that are not from the UN. That would already be a super huge deal. I mean, all of that would be gone if we kept to the actual rules of the United Nations. And that brings us back to the Charter. And that's what the other side at the moment wants to uphold. It is really only the entire political West, and at its helm, of course, the United States and Israel, that are trying to create a completely different set of rules, which is like, we tell you what to do, and if you oppose it, then we kill you. And they are just trying to create these examples here now.

#Eugene Doyle

Yes, and I have to say, one of the things too about international law—your compatriot, Mr. Vartel, who I quoted before—he used reference to the fact that you need to get reparations. If there's damage done, you need reparations. So the Iranians have every right to insist on hundreds of

billions of dollars of reparations for this crime of crimes, a war of aggression. And can I just say, Pascal, that I think, given that the Israelis and Americans are highly unlikely to pull out the checkbook and pay reparations, I think this business of the Iranians putting a small transit charge—1% or something like this—on traffic through the Strait of Hormuz is an excellent mechanism for the Iranians to actually get what they absolutely deserve, which is reparations for these crimes.

And hey, just one other thing I want to say, because I've been giving my government a good slapping and the West a good slapping and all of that. I want to sing the praise of these wonderful activists. You know, they're the best of us. They are just such great people. And I've had such an enriching experience. I've been talking to people in Turkey and in Greece and here in New Zealand who are part of this. And I'll just say a couple of their names because they're such wonderful people: Hahona Ormsby, Julian Blondell, Jay O'Connor.

Samuel Leeson, Musa Tahir, Sean Jansen, Rana Hamida, and I've got mates like Bianca Ransom and all sorts. I could go on and on. Such great people involved in such a great struggle. And they're people that give us real hope. They give us hope that things can be better. We can turn these things around. And people can, you know, because these guys, they're all such lovely people. They're all such good people. They're a model of how to behave as a human being, and their courage to stand up for humanity—I just think it's absolutely wonderful. So in a way, that's the most important thing I'd like to say.

#Pascal

Yeah, and I think that's actually a very good endpoint, just also as a ray of hope that there are people like those who try to actually do something and who have the guts to actually risk their lives for others. And, you know, the genocide is still going on as we speak. Israel is still killing tens, if not hundreds, of people every week in Gaza and Lebanon and the West Bank. I mean, the level of destruction and despair that is currently being sown over there is horrible, but there are people in the collective West who try to oppose this.

It's also opposing their own system, right? Because again, our countries are actively helping to implement the genocide. It wouldn't work without the international support of it. It's a collective endeavor. And so the movement against it also must be a collective endeavor. And it's great coverage, by the way, again, Eugene, for anyone who wants to go and see, like, they should subscribe to you on solidarity.nz, right? I mean, you can sign up there for your mail distribution, right?

#Eugene Doyle

Cool. Yeah, that'd be much appreciated. Now, yes, solidarity.co.nz and free Marwan Barghouti.

#Pascal

Free Marwan Barghout and free everybody who's suffering from this oppressive regime. Eugene Doyle, thank you so much for your time today.