Putin & Iran on Brink of World War with NATO, Europe IMPLODES | Clare Daly & Mick Wallace

Former Members of European Parliament Clare Daly and Mick Wallace discuss NATO's march to nuclear world war with Russia and Iran, and how Washington is pushing Europe into total collapse. Subscribe to their podcast: https://www.youtube.com/@I4CTroublewithDalyandWallace Subscribe for more in-depth geopolitical analysis! Leave your thoughts in the comments below! Support the Channel: Patreon: https://www.patreon.com/dannyhaiphong SUBSCRIBE ON RUMBLE: Rumble: https://rumble.com/c/DannyHaiphong Follow Me on Social Media: Twitter: https://twitter.com /DannyHaiphong Telegram: https://t.me/DannyHaiphong Support the channel in other ways: https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong Substack: chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com Cashapp: $Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: https://paypal.me/spiritofho #russia #iran #europe

#Danny

Welcome back to the show, everyone. As you can see, I'm joined for the first time by both Clare Daly and Mick Wallace, former members of the European Parliament. They also host I Foresee Trouble with Daly and Wallace on YouTube. Thank you both so much for joining me on this Thanksgiving Day. Europe is at the center of all the major conflicts around the world. First, I wanted to ask you both what you make of Europe's role right now in the war on Iran and the war in Ukraine. Iran has warned that it's watching European bases and that if the war restarts and those bases are used, it will use its missiles to defend itself. And we have NATO, it seems, rushing toward war with Russia, holding an emergency meeting to discuss events that could spark a bigger war with Russia. Some people are concerned about false flags. So what do you make of Europe's role right now?

#Clare Daly

Yeah, I mean, it's a disaster, quite frankly. I think they've consistently played a role, right from the beginning, in making sure the war in Ukraine continues. That seems to be their only logic now: ordinary working-class Ukrainians can die for supposed European values without anybody asking their permission. But they're so bankrupt that the prospect of any peace in Ukraine has, as you say, sent them scrambling. They seem to have completely bent the knee to NATO. From our point of view, it's only right that the Iranians would say, "If you're involved in attacking us, you've made yourself a legitimate target." And there's no question that the European Union, from the very first day after October 7th, green-lighted the genocide and enabled it every step of the way. In the same

way, they've enabled the appalling, unprovoked attacks on Iran, and in that sense, they're just as complicit in some ways as the Americans and the Israelis.

#Mick Wallace

I mean, it's pretty common knowledge that since 24 February 2022, the Europeans have done everything in their power to keep the war going. They've done everything to make sure that peace didn't break out. They didn't want any diplomacy or negotiations to take place. They just wanted the war to continue in the hope that it would do severe damage to Russia. Now, you wonder: Why are they so obsessed with trying to damage Russia? It's not that easy. They're a big country. Well, that's what they've done, and they're looking very stupid now. And if the war stops now, it'll be a huge problem for an awful lot of these politicians, not just in the European Parliament, but across many of the member states and, of course, in the European Commission as well.

These people have put all their eggs in one basket, and if the war were to stop now, people would see that. It looks kind of stupid now because, for example, they said from the word go that under no circumstances would Russia get any territory. They said, "Under no circumstances will we stop until Ukraine wins." We kind of knew from the word go that Ukraine wasn't going to win the war. It's hard to win any war these days, but Ukraine certainly wasn't going to beat one of the largest nuclear powers on the planet. But the Europeans continued with that folly, and if the war stops now, they're going to look incredibly bad. It's going to expose them for the idiots they've been all this time. With regard to Iran, I mean, the Europeans tried to boast, "Well, we're not really getting involved in this one."

But when the Americans and Israelis attacked on the 28th of February this year, the Europeans refused to condemn it. They didn't even condemn the killing of 168 schoolkids at a school in Minab that day, or the killing of over 20 kids in Lamerd on the same day, not too far from Minab. I went to both places in June, and I mean, it's pretty shocking that not one EU member state could find the wherewithal to condemn it. And this idea that they weren't really involved? Then we had Mark Rutte from NATO coming out and boasting—boasting—that over 5,000 flights took off from European bases to attack Iran. I mean, come on. They sound so bad. But at this stage, given how they're behaving, it's all a bit shocking, yeah.

#Danny

Right, yeah. Well, perhaps you could comment on this. One thing that's very concerning right now is that we're getting reports that a Swedish fighter jet under NATO command was cleared to shoot down what NATO claims were Russian cruise missiles that flew over Poland. There were supposedly three on November 20th, and then a drone supposedly slipped through on November 24th. How do you react to these remarks and reports from NATO? Russia is now saying that NATO has already

given it reason to consider using nuclear weapons, but that it's holding back because it's essentially trying to manage the situation. What do you make of how risky things have become and the chances of a conflict between Russia and not just Ukraine, but NATO and the EU more broadly?

#Clare Daly

Well, I think it's actually getting scary when we see some of the antics that are underway at the moment. I mean, you're totally right. Europe gave Russia reason to respond well before now. They' ve been directly involved in enabling Ukraine. They've been blurring the lines. They've been enabling attacks on Russian cities, and Russia would have been within its rights to respond before now, but it hasn't. It certainly seems to us that there are countries inside the European Union that won't rest until there's a broader confrontation with Russia that directly involves Europe, which is lunacy. And now there's even been a lot of speculation about false flag events.

I mean, in the last week alone, we had Khodorkovsky, the anti-Putin Russian oligarch, in the Irish media. He's been going around lecturing people, saying, "The only way to deal with Russia is to confront them. You've got to arm yourselves. You've got to take them on." And I'm thinking, "But Europe isn't really ready for that." We also had Anne Applebaum saying that European countries are privately looking at escalating attacks on Russia. But she even said that the population isn't ready yet. And as Khodorkovsky said, there may need to be an event involving major casualties before people would be ready. I mean, that is, in essence, greenlighting a false flag operation to lay the groundwork for Europe to get directly involved. They've already been directly involved, but this is really playing with fire. It's batshit crazy lunacy.

#Mick Wallace

We were in the European Parliament at the time, and it was obvious from December through January and right up to February 24. We were saying at the time, "No, listen, even though Russia is building up its forces near the Ukrainian border, we genuinely don't think Russia will invade." But the provocation went on and on and on. I mean, you know, we're not even talking about all the years since the collapse of the Soviet Union. But even in December 2021, Russia contacted NATO and said, "Look, we don't want to invade Ukraine, but this is a security crisis for us. It's an existential crisis, and we want you to withdraw to your 1997 positions."

The head of NATO at the time came into our committee and boasted—boasted and laughed—about provoking Russia into invading. He thought it was funny, and he said Russia fell for it. I mean, it was madness. After the invasion on the 24th, we condemned it. Even though we knew that Russia had been provoked, we condemned the invasion because it was a breach of the UN Charter. The UN Charter is the bible of international law. It's not perfect, but it's the best we've got, and we have to try to respect it, even though the Americans and the Europeans haven't respected it for a long time now. But at the time, the politicians in the European Parliament were delighted that Russia had invaded Ukraine. They were delighted.

And they were pointing the finger at us, saying, "See? We told you you were wrong. You said they wouldn't invade." And they were delighted that it happened. They wanted Russia to invade Ukraine. And right now, it looks like they'd like Russia to invade Estonia, because Estonia is acting like an absolutely ridiculous spoiled child and doesn't know its arse from its elbow. It's like they want to be invaded. But of course, the politicians who are saying, "Come on, come on," and provoking the Russians again now aren't the ones doing the fighting. The people in the suits, they'll be fine.

The chances of the people in suits dying in these wars are slim. Wars are fought by working-class kids in the interests of an elite who profit from war. And we now have these politicians in Europe who have staked everything on this war, and they'd like it to escalate. And I mean, that kind of beggars belief for people in Europe who think rationally. What in God's name is wrong with them? But sadly, they serve the interests of a very small elite who want war—people who profit from it in a whole lot of different ways. And they do not serve the interests of the vast majority of people in Europe who would prefer peace to war.

#Danny

Maybe you could talk about some of your experiences in the European Parliament that demonstrate this. You know, when it comes to these wars, a lot of this seems to suggest that when the U.S. says, "Jump," Europe says, "How high?" I mean, look at what's happening in the Middle East, in West Asia, and, of course, the escalating tensions with Russia and, in some respects, with China. There's also a lot of new suspicion and animosity toward China among Europe's political class and elites. Could you share any experiences that illustrate this and give us some context for why Europe seems to be trying to put itself at the forefront of what started as a U.S. war in Ukraine? In West Asia, the U.S. is largely in the lead. Of course, people debate the roles of the U.S. and Israel, but Europe plays a very supportive role there. I'm wondering what you saw in the European Parliament and how this all came about.

#Clare Daly

Yeah, I suppose, you know, NATO as we know it was really formed not to keep peace in Europe or anything like that, but to keep Europe divided from Russia. And the gang of unbelievably incompetent so-called leaders we have at the helm now, both in the countries of Europe and in the European Union as a sort of unified body, have been the worst ever, really. The caliber is brutal. I mean, we have the high representative on record before the EU agencies calling for the breakup of Russia. I mean, imagine. It's like the memory of war has sort of receded, and they've forgotten what it was like. They treat it like some sort of game. And the truth is, it's corporate capture. For many years now, they've been, I suppose, subservient to the interests of big business, certainly, but now it's the interests of the military-industrial complex. And that's where they are.

I mean, they've certainly followed the U.S. in its wars. I'm not really sure. There's always been a sort of debate in Europe between those who wanted an EU army that could stand on its own and take us back to our old colonial days, and those who wanted Europe to be a sort of junior partner to the U.S. I think that, either way, Europe's militarization is now firmly under NATO's thumb. And I think in that sense, they've kind of rolled over for the U.S. agenda. They've effectively bankrupted their own economies in response to the war with Russia by imposing sanctions that hurt us more, cutting off our cheap energy and so on. And now they have no industrial strategy at all except militarization, which is very dangerous. Even though I don't think any of them really wants a war, the more weapons you have and the more you militarize, the more likely war becomes.

#Mick Wallace

Yeah, I mean, Europe has been subservient to the U.S. empire for as long as we can remember. It's just that it seems to have gotten a little worse over the last 10 or 15 years. There was some independent thinking, especially from the likes of the French. Even Merkel had a little bit more courage than the gobshites who are around at the moment. But in terms of how that was reflected in the European Parliament, we've seen the European Union give Israel its unconditional support and refuse to condemn what Israel was doing in Palestine after October 7th, just as it's refused to condemn what Israel has been doing since 1948. But it became more obvious when we were actually watching a genocide on our phones, and we had these politicians who didn't have the courage to say that this really shouldn't be happening and that this is not good.

Instead, they were giving their full support to Israel. Today, every single one of the 27 EU member states is still doing business with Israel. And just remember that they broke off trade links with Russia within a week of the invasion. And don't try to compare what's going on in Ukraine with what' s going on in Palestine. But we broke off links with Russia in a week. And all that time, we were also hearing unbelievable rhetoric about China. We were being attacked for being popular in China, when we were just telling the truth and saying what we saw. That made us popular in China, but it made us unpopular with the media in Ireland and across Europe.

The number one paper in Ireland, The Irish Times, wrote a two-page spread complaining about our association with China. I mean, you couldn't make it up. And then the Biden administration started saying, "Oh, we must decouple from China. We must decouple from China." Then we had von der Leyen saying, "Oh, we must decouple from China." Then we had all the others saying, "Oh, we must decouple from China." The Irish leader, our Taoiseach, said, "Oh, you know, we like to trade with China, but we must de-risk." De-risk. When he said that, we were selling three times as many products to China as we were buying from them.

And he wanted us to de-risk from China. The Chinese hardly knew what they were talking about. And as for Iran, it's been sanctioned since 1979 by the Americans, and for much of that time by the Europeans as well. They couldn't stop talking about Iran. In one year alone, when we were in

Parliament, there were six different resolutions on Iran. Six different resolutions condemning Iran for its treatment of women. Now, all the European liberal politicians, oh, they really cared about women in Iran. And it was terrible that some of them had to wear veils. It was shocking. But when they killed over 20,000 Muslim women in Gaza, in Palestine, it wasn't worth talking about. That was okay.

#Clare Daly

But they were worried about women having to wear a veil in Iran. And there hasn't been a single motion in the European Parliament since Trump and Israel's war on Iran started either. Not one. I mean, I think one of the most glaring things when we were in Parliament was the Russophobia, which is absolutely off the Richter scale now. I often tell the story of sitting in a Security and Defence Committee meeting with this big Polish fella beside me, spitting fire about the Russians: "You can't deal with the Russians," and all this, and "We all have a common interest in fighting Russia." And I said, "Well, I don't. I'm from Ireland, and sure, we're neutral and we're miles away." And he goes, "The absolute cheek of you, looking after yourself because you're so far away."

"You don't know what it's like to have a big bully of a neighbour on your doorstep." And I just fell off the chair and said, "Sorry, you obviously don't know your geography. It's precisely because we had a big bully on our doorstep occupying our country that we're not advocating rearming the IRA." I mean, what we and others said at the time was that we had to sit down and make peace. And, you know, six counties in our country are still occupied, but a peace agreement was signed. Now, how come it's heresy and it's Kremlin propaganda to argue for something similar for Ukraine? It's nonsense. But they do it because they have to. Because if there isn't a big bogeyman coming to get you and eat your children and all this, who in their right mind, in a Europe on its knees with a massive cost-of-living crisis and a massive housing crisis…

Mick made a point recently, which I think is a really strong one: Russia hasn't killed a European in decades, but there were 50,000 early deaths because of climate change in the last 12 months. And they're taking all the money out of the budgets for housing and the environment and spending it on militarisation. So it's this constant thing: the Russians, the Russians, the Russians. Well, look, even if the Russians were coming, how can spending more money on militarisation stop that? The only way is to sit down and talk to your neighbours, just as you would at home, and say, "Listen, we don't like you playing music or your kids throwing balls into our garden, but we're not going to live like this. We have to have rules and live together. We're neighbours." But of course, NATO isn't about that. It' s about the arms industry.

#Mick Wallace

We actually had politicians in Ireland on television in the last couple of weeks saying, "It's all very well to talk about the housing crisis and the problems we have, but Russia is at our door, and we have to militarise. We have to spend more money on our defence." As I said, Kaja Kallas was saying, "Oh, Russia is the biggest threat facing Europe today." And I made the point that not one single EU

citizen was killed by Russia in the last five months, whereas there were 50,000 additional deaths due to heatwaves caused by climate change. So which is the biggest threat to Europe today? Is it climate change, or is it Russia? You don't have to be a rocket scientist to work it out.

#Danny

Yeah, well, here in the United States, we just had a detonation at a munitions site in Iowa, and, you know, that's a direct byproduct of this very militarization. And what's so interesting is that Europe is going down this path, neglecting its own problems in pursuit of endless war. The United States is the empire. It has a trillion-dollar military budget, or at least that's what it says it spends, although a lot of it doesn't actually go to the military. But it has the means to cause destruction, and we've seen that in so many ways. What's so striking about Europe is that so many people say it doesn't really have that capacity. It needs the United States to engage in any kind of conflict or escalation, especially with Russia. That would be disastrous, and many people see Russia as far more militarily capable than Europe itself.

So I guess this is a huge challenge. I think what's glaring here is that Europe is so aggressive in its rhetoric and, of course, in what it tries to do to countries that are largely seen as U.S. adversaries and that Europe now sees as its own. But as you said, Europe and Russia have a long history, and Europe also has very close ties to the U.S. So what are your thoughts on that glaring contradiction? Europe isn't addressing its own problems, but it doesn't really have the capacity to be the aggressive attack dog its leaders are trying to turn it into.

#Clare Daly

I don't even think they thought it through that clearly, if you like. I mean, Europe has been on a trajectory. This idea that it came together after World War II to bring peace and all that nonsense—it was never about that. It was a neoliberal organization set up to push European capitalism. And very quickly, through the Lisbon and Nice treaties and others along the way, it was moving toward a sort of military union. They could never quite get that together, and they all had different ideas about it. But really, for the past 10 years or more, the military-industrial complex has had a strong grip. They were the ones brought together at a conference to ask, "How do we make Europe safe?"

And most of the participants at that conference were from the military-industrial complex. They said, "The way you make Europe safe is by spending a potload of money." And that's the road we've been on. Ever since Russia invaded Ukraine, the checkbooks have been absolutely wide open for that. So that's money that isn't being spent on anything else. And they say if you're a government in Europe now and you want to get money from Europe, you've got to spend it on militarization and that kind of thing. It's literally that bad. And of course, we know there are no jobs there. What was the question you asked me? I'm straying from it. Can you remember what the question was?

#Mick Wallace

You were saying that Europe probably couldn't fight a serious war on its own and would need the Americans. The truth is that we don't want to fight any serious wars. If they talk about who might attack us, all they're ever able to come up with is Russia and China. They're even talking about Russia or China coming in off the west coast of Ireland, right? Now, listen, you wouldn't read that in the comics, right? I mean, Russia has no interest in attacking Europe. The Europeans say, "Oh, they did this, they did that." But if you read their history, the Russians didn't attack Europe before Napoleon attacked them. They didn't attack Europe in the First World War before they were attacked. They didn't attack Europe in the Second World War before they were attacked, right?

And as for China, China hasn't dropped a bomb on any country anywhere for over 45 years, right? That's not really what China is about. And their increase in defence spending over the last few years is specifically for defence. It's not for attack. They couldn't be bothered spending money and risking lives attacking Europe. I mean, you could say they've attacked Europe economically because they'll practically own the place soon, right? But they wouldn't bother attacking Europe militarily. So from our perspective, we don't need this arrangement with the Americans for our defence. We want nothing to do with the U.S. empire. We want our countries to be run in the interests of their citizens, not in the interests of the military-industrial complex.

We're not looking to prepare for war. If you prepare for war, it's more likely to happen. If you prepare for peace, it's more likely to happen. We had the top buyers from the military-industrial complex at the committee, encouraging us as MEPs to pressure our governments back home to spend more money on defence. They were saying, "You need more military hardware. Put in your orders." And I said to your man, "How do you sleep at night? Your job is to promote war. If you promote the purchase of weapons, they'll need to be used or you won't make enough money."

I said, "If I sold raincoats and it never rained, I wouldn't make any money. You're advocating that the member states spend loads more money on military hardware. That's most likely going to lead to conflicts so that the stuff can be used. People aren't going to keep buying this stuff and not using it. It's the same as the guy in the raincoat story, right? So you're literally making a living by promoting death, because you're promoting war." But I mean, obviously, he didn't deal with the question.

#Clare Daly

I don't think they believe there's going to be a war. I don't think they're really planning for one, even though their antics are creating the conditions for a war to break out unexpectedly, with horrible consequences. Things could go really badly. But I mean, I think Mick's points are important. There's a huge disconnect. For me, it's corporate capture. They're just the bagmen and bagwomen of the military-industrial complex, completely disconnected from reality. That's how wide the gulf is. European politics has become much more Americanised. The politicians in Europe used to be more accountable to the electorate. You know, ordinary people could get elected and all that kind of thing. Whereas in America, politics was always dominated by corporations. I think the European Union has

put that layer in between, if you like. It's taken national leaders into a corporate centre where they're surrounded by corporate influence, and they've forgotten about the ordinary people at home.

The ordinary people at home are fed up. They're on their knees economically. Europe is in tatters. It's wrecked. The infrastructure is floundering, it's collapsing, and our populations are getting smaller. We've got a pensions crisis, a housing crisis, a cost-of-living crisis and an energy crisis. There's no way out, and the leadership has no solution. Then people see a genocide on their phones. They look at what's going on and they're just sickened. They don't know what to do. Meanwhile, all the mainstream media can talk about is how the Russians are coming. But interestingly, a survey came out yesterday that said, I think, that a majority of Europeans in practically every country now believe we should start buying Russian gas again as soon as the war is over. A lot of them say we should do it even before then. So when you consider the amount of Russophobia, that's incredibly significant. And I think one of the things that caused that shift was the EU's hypocrisy being exposed by the way it's enabled the genocide. And now they're suppressing democratic rights in Europe, crushing the pro-Palestine movement, cracking down on dissent and differing opinions on Russia, sanctioning people and all that kind of thing. They're doing it because they're afraid of people organising. People are fed up and sick of them, really.

#Mick Wallace

Yeah, I mean, the disconnect between the political class and the citizens has probably never been as stark and obvious. In the first year of the war in Ukraine, the two of us twice put forward amendments to the Ukraine resolution. Our amendments called on the EU to do everything it could to start dialogue and pursue diplomacy, with a view to ending the war and bringing about peace. And at the time, a poll showed that 80% of European citizens were in favour of peace rather than continuing to punish Russia.

Eighty percent of European citizens wanted peace, but only 5% of the 705 MEPs voted for our amendment. Those who voted with us wanted peace rather than a continuation of the war. So 80% of the people wanted the war to stop, but only 5% of MEPs voted with us. There's a huge disconnect, and the truth is that the politicians don't represent their citizens. There are a whole lot of reasons for that we don't have time to get into. But sadly, the media have been bought and sold. They're owned by the corporate world and have a vested interest in keeping the elite in power and looking after them. And they support these guys. You have a political class that serves this small elite, not its citizens. They lie to their citizens, and they have the media to back them up. It's really stark, and it's becoming a bit more obvious now.

#Danny

Wow. Yeah, I think that was an incredible summary of the situation. You know, when I visited Germany in 2023, I heard from people about the incredibly intense repression, especially around Palestine. And there's a lot that people don't see. I mean, we saw a little bit of it in France with the

protests and uprisings earlier this season. Maybe you could speak to this a little, because it isn't often talked about. You know, in the United States, we have this massive military albatross, and not many people connect that to what's happening here at home.

We have huge problems when it comes to censorship, political incarceration, and things like that. But there's this kind of internal war that connects directly to geopolitics and what's happening on the world stage. How do you see that playing out in Europe right now? You know, you hear European leaders, from von der Leyen to Merz, talk about how they're beacons of democracy, how they're part of the free world, all of that. But despite all that talk, it seems like things are getting more complex and more intensely repressive as the risk of a bigger war—world war, even nuclear war—keeps rising. What are your thoughts on this?

#Clare Daly

Yeah, and that is getting considerably worse. I mean, we noticed it when we were in the European Parliament, but now it's absolutely off the Richter scale. The so-called battle of democracy against authoritarianism resulted in the Europeans becoming incredibly authoritarian. And initially, it was more about sneering at and smearing those with a different view. There was this idea that there's one narrative, and you're either with us or you're against us. And if you're against us, well, we don't really engage with you. You get cancelled. So that was the softer form of repression we saw early on, and now it's morphing into something much more serious. Just look at the sanctions Europe is imposing on its own citizens for supposedly collaborating with Russia. It's absolutely terrifying.

I mean, we had an Irish journalist sanctioned last week, probably at the behest of the Irish government, to be frank, because all member states have to agree to it. And it hasn't even gotten this bad in America. What happens is, without any warning, you get notified that you've been sanctioned, or you might just hear it in the news. You're not shown any evidence against you. You've no right to defend yourself. Your bank accounts are frozen. Your assets are frozen. You can't earn money. You can't leave the country. And if you try to appeal, there is a process, but it'll probably take a year or two, and you've no money to pay a lawyer or anything like that. So what happens to all those fundamental legal rights—the right to hear the evidence, the right to a trial, the right to appeal, all of those things? And what about the right to an opinion?

Because what these people are being sanctioned for, really, is having a different opinion. And this is what they call hybrid sanctions. It's literally terrifying. And as I said, I don't think the States has anything as bad as that. And then on top of that, there's the crackdown on protests. I mean, we were at one of the protests in Italy last week or the week before, and people were literally just ambling down the street. They weren't even looking at the police. And then suddenly the tear gas started coming when the streets were nearly clear. And then you have the repression of activists who are being put in prison. We were in Madrid at the weekend, and Fergie Chambers had just been released after four months in prison in Spain under a U.S. warrant. So, yeah, it's terrifying. People are literally being sanctioned, cancelled, and repressed.

#Mick Wallace

But there's been a serious misuse and abuse of the term "democracy." We boast, "Oh, we're democratic because we have elections every four or five years and can put whoever we like in power." But I mean, if over 90 percent of the politicians in the European Parliament are on the right, whereas people across Europe are probably split half and half or whatever, then first of all, how does democracy allow that? Well, the truth is that the system in Europe suits them well because they manage it well. They manage it with money. And capitalism is totally at the root of how the whole thing operates. And they work in the interests of capitalism. They work in the interests of an elite, not of the majority of the people. And when we were in the European Parliament, we heard so much chatter about, "Oh, democracy," as opposed to authoritarian regimes like China and Russia and Iran and God knows who else.

But in actual fact, I suppose it became a bit more obvious with Josep Borrell, who was the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs when we were there. Kallas is there now, right? But I'm not talking about her. Anyway, about three years ago now, Borrell said Europe was a garden and the rest was a jungle. And this is the mentality that allowed them to support a genocide in Gaza, because these people in Europe, along with their American friends, think we're civilized and the others are barbarians. Now, China had a civilized society 5,000 years ago, and by comparison, it's not that long since we were swinging from the trees in Europe, right?

But I mean, we're the civilized ones. The Europeans are the civilized ones. Well, I'd remind the civilized Europeans that they've just supported a genocide in Gaza. Tens of thousands of children have been killed by the Israeli regime. The civilized Europeans supported that. The civilized Europeans have supported the illegal Israeli–US attacks on Iran. Silent about 168 kids being killed in Minab. Silent about the invasion of Venezuela. Silent about the blockade of Cuba. Silent about the destruction of Syria. And silent about a Western-backed Saudi–UAE genocide in Yemen that killed over 400,000 civilians from 2010 to 2022. We didn't have a word to say about it, and our media didn' t have a word to say about it. If we're the democracy and they're the authoritarian ones, maybe we should try their stuff.

#Danny

Those are great points. You know, the history of Thanksgiving in the U.S. is very much whitewashed. And we know—or at least I hope many people watching this know—that the imperial behavior we see from the United States around the world today began with massive war, slaughter, and genocide. But there's also Europe, and you're both Irish. I mean, I guess Ireland has a particular relationship with the European project, especially given its history with the British Empire.

But maybe you can talk about how Europe's history might help us understand its behavior today. Sometimes I feel like people are a little surprised that Europe can be so rabidly anti-Russian, so pro-

genocide, as you said, Mick, and so steeped in dehumanizing rhetoric and policies when it comes to how it treats people abroad whom it sees as uncivilized. Maybe you can talk a little bit about that history, how it informs the way Europe is behaving now, and whether Europe is now paying the price for it.

#Clare Daly

I suppose the easiest way to explain it is that Europe showed its hand when it enabled the genocide. A lot of people actually believed Europe's rhetoric. As you say, maybe some Americans did, but loads of Europeans did as well. They believed Europe stood for something higher. They'd say, "We don't have interests. We only have values." But once Europe enabled the genocide, it became very clear to everybody that European values were the same as they'd always been: colonialism, really, and a return to the idea that might makes right.

And you have this peculiar situation in Europe because it's made up of countries that were former colonial powers, and then you have the former states in Eastern Europe as well. Ireland really stands out in that mix, which makes it utterly tragic that we hold the presidency of the European Union right now, at a time when our government has been consistently trying to undermine our neutrality. We're a country that's very much rooted in the Global North. We have an incredibly close relationship with the U.S. because of the famine we endured and the millions who emigrated to the U.S. I mean, probably about a third of Americans say they have Irish ancestry. But we're on very good terms, if you like, with the U.S. We're well established in the Global North.

And yet we have that affinity that comes from our experience of occupation and the struggle against colonialism, which still isn't finished, to be honest, but that's a different day's work. We always punched above our weight in the UN because we straddled those two worlds. If we'd used that position, we could have been a voice for peace in Russia, Palestine, and so on. But instead, we're subsuming our interests under a globalised and militarised EU. To be honest, it's a real shame it's gone in that direction. We could have played such an important role. But I think Europeans have now seen the EU for what it always was, and it's the bankruptcy of capitalism that's made it more obviously aggressive now, you know?

#Mick Wallace

I mean, take Brussels, for example. When you walk around the city, the number of impressive buildings is amazing. But people shouldn't forget that our wealth in Europe was built on the backs of people in poor countries in the Global South—in Africa, South America, and, at different points in history, Asia. I mean, the English killed tens of millions in India to get what they wanted. The Europeans plundered the world for years. And the people who went to North America to colonize it and carried out a genocide were Europeans as well.

And America was built, as we know, on a genocide carried out by Europeans. And that same colonial mindset, sadly, hasn't really gone away. It takes that colonial mindset to support the genocide in Gaza, and it's part of their unconditional support for the Zionist settler-colonial project. Zionism was invented by Europeans. It's a project, and we're still supporting it because it's our project. It's a settler-colonial project, and we're standing with it. And we're okay with Israel ethnically cleansing all of Palestine until it has it all, if they can get away with it, because we're not going to condemn them for doing it.

And here's a really good example of how little things have changed. Just a small story, right? When I was on the Security and Defence Committee in the European Parliament, there was a mission to Mozambique. There were seven groups in Parliament, right? And only seven of us went, one from each group. I went from the Left group, the so-called Left group. Anyway, we went down there to visit the EU military training missions. And I said, "What in God's name?" Mozambique, for those who aren't familiar with African geography, is beside South Africa, right? You can't go much farther south, right?

And I said, "What are we doing with a military mission down there?" Anyway, I went down, and we had loads of meetings. We went to the two training centers, where they were training young Mozambican chaps, teenagers. We were training them to fight. Why were we training them to fight? Well, it so happened that about two years before that, there was a gas find in the north of Mozambique, in a place called Cabo Delgado. It was one of the biggest gas finds in recent years. Now, of course, all the environmental advice says we shouldn't open up any more big gas fields if we want the planet to survive. But money has a different perspective.

So anyway, it turned out the Mozambican government invited TotalEnergies from France and Eni from Italy to see if they were interested in extracting the gas. A deal was done. TotalEnergies came back and said, "Yeah, yeah, we'll do it. There's gas offshore and there's gas onshore. It costs a bit more to extract the gas offshore, so we'll start onshore." But there was a problem. The Mozambican government said, "Yes, but there are 2,000 farmers on that land. You'll have to move them yourselves because we can't move them. It would cause awful trouble."

And so TotalEnergies hired mercenaries to drive the 2,000 farmers off the land. Now, it just so happens that Cabo Delgado, in the far north of Mozambique, is one of the country's few Muslim provinces. The farmers were being driven off the land by these mercenaries. They didn't like it very much, so they got guns. Then some Muslim fighters from neighboring countries came in to help them. And before you knew it, there was a war. Then Mozambique got involved, helping the mercenaries hired by TotalEnergies fight the Muslim fighters who were working with the farmers.

So in other words, what we were doing down there was training young chaps to fight alongside TotalEnergies to clear the farmers' land so that TotalEnergies could make billions at the expense of the local population. This was back in 2023, and TotalEnergies said it would be 2042 before the

Mozambican people saw any dividend. They said they would reinvest 10% of the profits for the benefit of the Mozambican people, but the money wouldn't be paid out until 2042. Now, get your head around that. The EU is spending its citizens' money training young Black teenagers in Mozambique to fight for TotalEnergies, clear the land, and get rid of these farmers. My God.

#Clare Daly

But we don't have interests, only values.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah. No, nothing to see here. Well, this was a great conversation. Since you're both former members of the European Parliament, I'm wondering: Do you guys have any desire to go back into European politics? I'm sure a lot of people in the audience would love to hear more voices like yours in the middle of that mess. What are your thoughts on that, if any? If you don't want to say, you don' t have to.

#Clare Daly

We are involved in politics, and for us, politics is organising ordinary people to stand up to the establishment. It's ordinary people who change things, most of the time in spite of people in elected office rather than because of them. We do feel the loss of the platform we had. We were able to use it to become a strong voice of opposition for people the world over, and we know people miss that. So, yeah, you know, we may throw our hats in the ring to return to that space. We do think it's needed. But I'd say real politics is about people organising from the bottom up. And we're fully involved in that all the time, alongside doing our own podcast, "I4C Trouble with Daly and Wallace." Yeah.

#Mick Wallace

Yeah, no, it's a good opportunity for us to mention that we've been doing a podcast every week for over six years now. It's called "I4C Trouble with Daly and Wallace," and we cover all the events of the week every weekend. But listen, we never really left politics. As Clare said, it was a great platform in the European Parliament, despite the fact that the place is a cesspit. It's very problematic. It's not democratic, nor anything like it. But then there's very little democracy in Europe anyway. It would have been a big surprise if we'd lived in Brussels. But yeah, look, we wouldn't rule out standing again.

We almost got back in in 2024. The two of us were so close to getting back in, despite all the awful things the mainstream media wrote about us every day for a few years leading up to the election. They went to great lengths to make sure we didn't get in, and we still almost got in. We can see the world is in a troubled place, and we're not afraid to speak the truth. We're not afraid of the media.

We’re not afraid of any of them. And we’re prepared to tell it as it is. The majority of people would actually rather hear people speak the truth than hear them tell lies all the time, which is what our media and political class tend to do.

#Danny

I’ll say. Well said, both of you. I want to make sure everyone knows that the link to “I4C Trouble with Daly and Wallace” will be in the video description below. Follow their podcast, subscribe to their YouTube channel, and support their videos however you can. I hope to have you both on again sometime soon. Everyone, hit the like button. That helps boost the show in YouTube’s algorithm so more people can hear their voices and hopefully check out their work, too. Well, thanks so much for joining me again. We’ll head out together. Everyone, hit that like button, and I’ll see you the day after Thanksgiving. All right, take care. Bye-bye.

#Clare Daly

Thanks so much, Danny.