

Alex Krainer: MASSIVE Shifts Hit Middle East & Europe

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#Nima

Hi, everybody. Today is Thursday, June 25th, 2026, and our dear friend, our brother, Alex Krainer, is here with us. Welcome back, Alex.

#Guest

Thank you for having me, Nima. Always good to join you.

#Nima

Alex, it's too hot there.

#Guest

It's very hot. I think I'm starting to believe in global warming.

#Nima

Yeah, then just imagine what's going on in the Strait of Hormuz right now.

#Guest

It must be quite toasty.

#Nima

Yeah. We had, Alex, the second round of negotiations between Iran and the United States. The two sides came and talked to each other. One of the main issues was the case of Lebanon between Israel and Lebanon. And what was so interesting, at the same time as having this summit or these negotiations in Switzerland, you see something parallel happening in Cairo — foreign ministers of Turkey, Egypt, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia coming together to talk about what's going on between

Iran and the United States and the whole region. And we had Lavrov yesterday saying that Eurasia, we are not part of the West.

We are part of Eurasia. And Eurasia has to find itself as a center for global affairs. And that's why when we are talking about ourselves, it's not talking about the West, it's talking about the whole Eurasia. I assume that what is happening in the Strait of Hormuz in West Asia is part of Eurasia and is important for the concept of Eurasia, for the security and whatever that would be for Iran, Russia, and China. But when it comes to the Strait of Hormuz, when it comes to the negotiations between Iran and the United States, what is your understanding of the current situation between the two?

#Guest

So my impression, Nima, is that the United States is doing their usual. They're taking advantage of these negotiations to give themselves time to be in a better position for a future renewed assault on Iran, because this is basically the consistent policy that we've had for decades now. And I very much doubt that they will ever give up on this. I think that they've only learned that they cannot prevail militarily. And they particularly cannot even dream about assaulting Iran in the summer, because as we've learned, you can't change the regime from the air. You need the ground components, you need ground troops. And so they're furiously trying to organize, you know, their jihadist unionists, the Kurds. And, you know, in the fall, the situation might be favorable for perhaps a ground invasion of Iran.

In the meantime, they're doing still more of the usual where, you know, the terms that they agreed to, they're now trying to maneuver around. For example, you know, they're supposed to immediately release \$12 billion of Iranian frozen funds, which is the money that belongs to the Iranians. And rather than just giving them the money, they're like, oh yeah, well, you know, you can spend it in the United States on things that we tell you you can spend on — you can buy our genetically modified soybeans or our wonderful corn or whatever. And then they're talking about, well, this is going to be great because it's going to make American farmers rich. Of course, it's not going to make American farmers rich.

It's going to make Big Ag rich — the large agricultural corporations that the American state subsidizes and favors. And so we're getting more of the same. I think that the Iranians have been very wise to include Lebanon in their peace negotiations, because if Israel breaches the ceasefire, then that gives Iran the pretext to renew hostilities. And I think that Iran, at this moment, it doesn't suit them to freeze the status quo, because the status quo is still dangerous for Iran and jeopardizes the government's stability going forward. So I think that Iran probably wants to completely evict Western colonial powers from the region. I think they want to give the coup de grâce to Israel.

And there has been subtle messaging from Iranian officials towards the axis of resistance and towards the Palestinian people, saying that now is the time to reclaim your lands, meaning we go all the way. And you can see that the other side is quite nervous about this because now they are very

keen on trying to defeat and disarm Hezbollah. They want to isolate Ansarallah in Yemen. They want to spark a kind of civil war in Iraq to make sure that they can defeat the militias that are part of the axis of resistance. And so I think that this conflict is gathering. And I think that when the 60-day period of these negotiations expires, we're going to get a renewal of hostilities. And I think that a renewal of hostilities probably favors Iran much more than it favors Israel and the United States.

#Nima

You mentioned the case of Lebanon and Gaza. Recently, you see, I see on my channel, and I see other friends as well, they see the same thing happening — it seems that Israelis are so active. And here is what was reported by our friend Elijah Magnier. He's so familiar with the region and he knows what's going on there. I talked with him two or three times so far, and here is what he posted. He said the Israeli social media intelligence service primarily prefers Unit Hasbara. It reminds me of Unit Hasbara, also known as an open-source intelligence or OSINT unit, a subordinate unit under the elite Unit 8200 in Israel. It has been active on social media asking, "Why is Iran not defending Lebanon? Why is Iran not defending Gaza?" Accounts appearing to be from Indonesia, India, and Latin America are all operating from Israel.

Many locals in Lebanon, Gaza, and the Middle East — M.E., he means — fall into this narrative and naively repeat the same question. Not all work for the 8200 unit. You know, it seems, you know, they're basically active. I see them every time I come to L.A. I see them coming to the comment section and asking this question. Maybe some of them, some of those people who are active, are falling into the trap that these Israelis are making. The question is, when they ask, why is Iran not defending Gaza? Why is Iran not defending Lebanon? What else can they do? And the axis of resistance — it's not just about Iran. All of them are together. Do you see any sort of sign? Do you see any sort of crack in the axis of resistance? I'm talking about Yemen going to Iraq, Iran, and Lebanon. I see everything solidifying on their part, not weakening.

#Guest

Yes, I agree with you, Nima. Everything is solidifying on that side. But everything is disintegrating on the Israeli-U.S. side because now we have bitter recriminations between the Zionists and the Donald Trump administration because, well, you know, there was this JNS summit. I'm not sure where it was, whether it was in the U.K. or in the United States, where you had the Festival of Zionist Thought. Well, they're absolutely hysterical. They're rabid. They're saying the United States must immediately stop negotiations and fight. They have to go with bombardments. They have to take control of the Strait of Hormuz. They have to go with ground troops.

And people, you know, voices from Israel are saying that if you're not fighting for us, then you're our enemy as well. On the other hand, you know, the Trump administration also has a military hierarchy to mind. And I think that in the military hierarchy, there's a lot of dissent. There are a lot of commanders and soldiers who are not thrilled to be sent to fight a war for Israel and to die there in

the current miserable conditions. They've lost use of power, many of their air bases. I don't know to what extent they have been damaged, but at least some of them have been rendered completely unusable. And meanwhile, Iran is also preparing.

And so I think that, oh yeah, and also we have to mention that Israel's government is in trouble, and that some people in the United States, possibly Trump included, think that it's time to effect a regime change in Israel. So there's internal political infighting going on in Israel. The IDF is suffering terribly in Lebanon, and they are deeply exhausted. There's a lot of resistance to the continuation of the war. There are a lot of soldiers going AWOL, absent without leave, many are not reporting for duty, and they're taking heavy casualties. So I think that from the Iranian side, when they commit to something, like a 60-day ceasefire, they tend to honor their commitments, unlike the U.S. and Israel.

And unless the talks completely break down, I think they will probably stick with this commitment. But at the same time, they're almost certainly preparing for the next phase of the war. As they said, you know, we're negotiating with our finger on the trigger. And when the talks complete, when the negotiations are over, and I... I have to assume that they will not reach a successful peace agreement, hostilities will resume. And then Iran will continue attacking Israel, most probably. In the meantime, I expect that they are providing certain kinds of support covertly in whatever way they can without overtly engaging in hostilities against Israel.

#Nima

We had two mediators in the talks in Switzerland, Alex. One of them was Pakistan, the other Qatar. Two countries, important ones. And what happened was, the Pakistani intelligence agency, when Simonyar, the field marshal of Pakistan, was there in Switzerland, their assessment—the intelligence of Pakistan—their assessment was that Israel wanted to assassinate him while he was in Switzerland. So from their side, we don't know if that's right or not, but the assessment, the understanding on the part of the intelligence in Pakistan, was that Israel, Mossad, was preparing to assassinate him. So they sent a message to Mossad, to the Israeli government: if something happens, there's going to be something big happening to your country.

And then the other strange thing that has happened during the talks was a huge explosion in Qatar. One of the oil facilities was hit — it was some huge bombardment of some facilities there. Then the Qatari government came out and said it was a technical issue inside the whole facility, just a technical issue. The assessment, again, on the part of Iranian intelligence, is that it was Israel, and Israel did something in Qatar — huge. You look at the explosion, it's nothing like a technical issue, that explosion. So all of this, the assessment on the part of the Pakistanis and Qataris, the explosion in Qatar, brings some sort of understanding that Israel is trying to do everything to destroy the talks, whatever it is, the negotiations, whatever is happening between the two sides.

But the main goal is that at the same time, they're trying to do everything in the United States and outside of the United States to make new obstacles. And do you see, as time goes by, the whole

region somehow moving against Israel? Because everybody right now is somehow reaching some sort of understanding that Israel is not in favor of any sort. Because these GCC countries, before this war happened, they thought that Iran is the enemy, Israel is not that much of an enemy. How do you feel about that? How do you see that happening in the region?

#Guest

Well, we already see initiatives to constitute a West Asian NATO between Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan. I think maybe I missed Qatar as well. They want to create a new security architecture in the region under the leadership of Pakistan. And I think the reason is because they see that Israel is absolutely rabid. They will not accept any kind of peace settlement. Israel can practically not exist anywhere. Arab nations have already, on various occasions, proposed a very, very generous peace agreement to Israel, practically satisfying all of their security requirements and recognition.

Not a Palestinian state, but maybe an understanding that at some point in the future there will be a Palestinian state, and we will guarantee your security and all these things. Israel rejected it all. And now, after waging war on six fronts, there are louder and louder drumbeats for war against Turkey. And so everybody in the region sees that Israel is really an incurable threat to their security, that with Israel their permanent war in the region is practically guaranteed. And they also see that the United States is not an honest broker, and the United States is neither willing nor able to provide them protection as they believed they had, because when the war got going, Americans withdrew critical air defense systems from Arab nations to defend Israel.

And so I think that the awareness of this situation has now set in, and all the nations now want to, you know, as a matter of their survival—it's practically an existential matter to them—create a new security architecture, and they don't want Israel there anymore. And they don't count on the United States as either a provider of defense or as an honest broker in anything at all. And I think that in this, they have full support from China and Russia, who also, for existential reasons, want a new security architecture in the region.

And I think that this is why the Israelis are as hysterical and panicked as they are. They are now ready to wage war on everybody. They're making threats against the United States. They're saying, well, you will see that Israel has not yet used all of their weapons, they have much more powerful weapons, and if you don't defend us, then you're the enemy, and you will learn your lesson the hard way. They're threatening a false flag attack in the United States because they're saying, oh, well, I guess they didn't learn their lesson on 9/11, so maybe they need to relearn that lesson, which is basically a veiled threat to stage another false flag attack in the United States. But I think that the horse has bolted out of the barn. I think that now everybody hates Israel.

They know that if something happens, if a false flag attack does happen, I don't think that people are going to think that it was a bunch of Arabs with box cutters or, you know, whatever they try to

blame, whoever they try to blame it on, which would be Iran. I think that they will consider Israel as suspect number one. So it's, you know, they have completely painted themselves into a corner. And other than dragging the United States back into war with no holds barred—a total war, ground, air, all the ammunitions—Palantir is talking about reinstating the draft so that all the American young men and women go and fight and die for Israel. Without that, they are lost. They are just basically circling the drain. And I don't see how Israel survives this.

#Nima

Their problem with Turkey, before the fall of Bashar Assad in Syria, the situation between Israel and Turkey was not that critical. And since the fall of Bashar Assad, you see some sort of confrontation between Israel and Turkey. Just getting back, look at all of the statements of the Israeli officials. Look at how drastically those statements have been changing, you know, since the fall of Bashar Assad. It means that the problem right now is the occupation of Syria. And they see Turkey as a, you know, as a party in Syria against the Israeli agenda in Syria. That's why the whole—because many people are correctly arguing Turkey is talking big but doing nothing practically in terms of sending the Azerbaijani oil to Israel.

But when it comes to Syria, it's so serious for Turkey. Turkey is not going to back down on Syria, in my opinion. And Israel knows that. That's why they're saying the next target is going to be Turkey, and we're going to go fight in Turkey. And we had Jonathan Pollard saying that the next fight, the next round, is gonna be against Turkey. And this is not—this is the recipe for disaster for the United States, in my opinion. They have two sort of sections right now, 224 and 662. They want to merge the US military with the Israeli one and US intelligence with the Israeli one.

And Israel is not part of Five Eyes, but they're basically closer to the United States without having these two sections. Without having these two sections, they're closer, for example, to the United States than New Zealand or Australia, which are part of Five Eyes. But they want more. They want to officialize it in the United States. I don't know if you saw what happened in New York. Three candidates that AIPAC was helping, funding, and supporting were defeated by a landslide in the primary. And who was it? We had the establishment of the Democratic Party against the new movement in the Democratic Party, which is the guy, the new mayor of New York, Mamdani.

And they were against AIPAC, not only the establishment of the Democratic Party, against AIPAC. And they won by a landslide. This is the reality of what's going on in the United States, not only on the part of Democrats, you see, but on the part of Republicans. So they have to solidify something in the United States when it comes to the military, to intelligence, because they are fearing right now. This wasn't the case before. Right now they see the sea change that is happening within society in the United States. That is hugely problematic for Israelis. I think they perceive that.

#Guest

Yes, correct. But, you know, I wouldn't perceive all these candidates like Mamdani as some kind of a freedom movement, some movement that's going to deliver us from all these forever wars. It seems to me that there's a civil war in the United States between two... how do you call it? I would say two cabals, two conspiracies. And one is definitely the Zionist conspiracy. But the other one is not really America First. It's not really MAGA. It's more like a Trotskyite communist conspiracy. These are the people like Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, you know, all those people like Susan Rice and James Comey and Mark Carney in Canada.

But both of them, both of these cabals, their ultimate goal, their loyalty, is to the City of London, because both the Trotskyite movement and the Zionist movement emanated from London, from the British Empire. And I believe that they still have largely controlled these groups. You know, for example, I think it was very indicative when this whole Albanian affair erupted a few weeks ago, and it turned out that Jared Kushner and Princess Ivanka's narrative about how they identified Sazan Island as a place where they wanted to build their dream life was that they were on a friend's boat. They stopped over for a swim when they were vacationing on a friend's boat. And who was the friend? Well, the friend was Nathan Rothschild. Okay, so a direct link to the City of London.

I don't know if Trump is aware of this. I fail to see how he couldn't be aware of it. And then also Mark Carney, Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, the late John McCain — the people that I would categorize in this Trotskyite conspiracy — they're also back and forth between Washington and London. And so it basically leads to the same epicenter of all these forever wars. The fact that one side wins a primary election, I think, should not be a comfort to anyone. It's just, you know, because the Trotskyite conspiracy is rabidly obsessed with Ukraine and Russia. The Zionist conspiracy is rabidly obsessed with Israel and Iran, with the Middle East. But it's still that, you know, clash between two systems of governance. And both of these conspiracies basically represent one and the same system of governance.

It's just that they have different foreign policy priorities. And I think that both these systems are so deeply entrenched in the American establishment that I don't know how this can be purged for, like, a genuine MAGA movement and a genuine return to American Republican traditions. But I assume at this stage that it might take a civil war or a revolution of, you know, a group of Pentagon generals simply taking over. But, you know, this could start to happen when prices at the gas pumps go over \$10 a gallon and people can't afford to buy food for their children. At that point, you know, things could erupt into much, much uglier manifestations. But until then, we're just being torn between two sock puppets that both serve the same master.

#Nima

Yeah, I think some of it, you can find in one of the recent pieces by Fareed Zakaria on CNN. He basically was arguing that the war in the Middle East, in West Asia, was lost. Let's get back to Ukraine, that's fine. The same people, by the way, the same people that you've just mentioned — Obama and these people who are so much closer to that sort of mindset they're talking about. So if

you're not able to continue the war in the Middle East because of the reality of what's going on, we can continue the war in Ukraine. And Ukraine is just changing everything. They have changed everything. They're winning everything.

#Guest

Oh, they're practically at the gates of Moscow by now.

#Nima

Yeah, I think that's true because the mindset is the continuation of the war. This war machine should go on and on and on, not bring everything down. This is the problem, I think, for those people who voted for Donald Trump. Because Donald Trump basically deceived them, because they thought that there would be no war with the Trump administration. People like Tucker Carlson — he said that he's not going to vote for the Republican Party anymore. He's not going to vote for anybody. For more than, he said, 34 years he voted for Republicans. But he's not going to vote for Democrats, not Republicans, none of them. So this is the new sentiment in the United States. It's not only in the Republican Party.

I would say in the Democrats, there are people who don't want any of this — none of these sorts of wars. We have Matt Ho, our friend of this podcast, who doesn't want it. These people are anti-war. They don't want war. They don't see any sort of good thing happening to the United States in the long run, not in the short run, because they see how China is somehow... just imagine what China is doing. China is not part of any sort of conflict, any war. There's so much focus on their economy, on production. What do they need? This huge machine, this huge engine needs energy. And they have it. They have it from Russia. They have it from the Middle East. The United States wanted to dominate the Strait of Hormuz.

Just imagine if the United States, together with Israel, could do something to the Strait of Hormuz. That could have been a huge loss for China. And right now, that's not happening. And China understands that. These are important issues for China. Energy — energy is the future. Energy is production. And China knows that. But the United States has failed to understand that the future is not about war. Because when you are a superpower, you are a superpower. Basically, look at the military power of the United States going against Iran. Iran is, you know, the defense budget of Saudi Arabia is ten times the defense budget of Iran. The country is that little when it comes to their defense budget. What? You cannot defeat them. This is the new reality.

#Guest

Yes, you're right, Nima. But the reason why Saudi Arabia's defense budget is ten times Iran's defense budget is because they are buying weapons from the United States. And this is, again, one of those effects. Okay, so you have a lot of money, it's sitting in American banks, and we're going to

tell you how you may spend it. And so they say, well, you know, we're going to provide you protection, but, you know, you need to buy all these weapons from us. And they're the best weapons in the world — the most powerful, high-tech, whiz-bang, wonder weapons that ever existed in the history of the universe. But they're a little bit expensive. And so, you know, when they don't allow you to use your money the way you would prefer, they think like, okay, well, we need security, we need protection.

I guess that's what we're going to be doing. And then, you know, like it's the thing of buying bolts and bearings for \$1,000 apiece and stuff like that. And obviously it doesn't serve much purpose. It's like those bodybuilders, you know, that take proteins and they build up their muscles, but it's all basically foam. And they look very strong, but they're not very strong. And at the same time, Iran has been developing their indigenous military technology on a shoestring budget. They have been educating tens, hundreds of thousands of engineers, and all these people work for the defense of their nation, for an existential objective.

They don't need multimillion-dollar bonuses. They don't need massive salaries. The state doesn't need to sell the most expensive weapon systems, like Ferrari and Lamborghini weapons, to the Iranian military. They work for their own defense. So they have tried to do the best with what they have. Same with Russia. And so the difference is enormous. And I think that we've seen it in Ukraine — Ukraine, which has gotten practically an unlimited supply of all the most amazing Western technologies, and they're still losing the war. And, you know, all this narrative about Ukraine suddenly turning things around and winning the war — well, that's just fantasies.

#Nima

Yeah. The other day I was watching Professor Ted Postol. He said the interception rate of the Patriot system is less than 5%, something like that. And the United States is still producing them and selling them to other countries. Less than 5%. Less than 5%. Less than 5%. He said close to zero. It was the assessment on the part of the Israelis. You know, the thing is, it's so expensive. They're producing the PAC-3 version of the Patriot system. The THAAD system was so incapable of defending, and that's why Iran destroyed many of these THAAD systems, four of them at least, in the war. They're basically producing huge, super expensive weapons. They're not that capable of defending, but... when it comes to buying those weapons, Saudi Arabia, as you've mentioned, these beautiful weapons, they're huge.

But what is the outcome of that for Saudi Arabia? This is the problem that I think — the continuation of the wars. Do you see the moment that the United States comes to some sort of understanding that the war, or the military-industrial complex, is not anymore the solution for the future of the United States? Or you don't see that happening anytime soon? Because basically, the main engine, the main motive behind all of these wars — if we assume that the United States is basically providing all these weapons to Ukraine, Israel, all of these areas — it's the military-industrial complex. As our friend Ray McGovern keeps saying, the military-industrial complex. And is that going to change in

the United States, the reality of the new wars? Or are they going to find some sort of way to continue this same mindset of the endless wars?

#Guest

Nima, I wouldn't be optimistic because the system is very, very deeply entrenched. The whole operation is basically a mass-scale looting of the American taxpayer. We've seen many of these examples — you know, toilet bowls that cost \$30,000 and a little bag of bushings for aircraft that cost \$80,000. These are just little metal pieces that, you know, you can hold in your hand. It's not high-tech or anything. Cost \$80,000. I laughed when you said 5% effective because I didn't realize it was that low. I thought it was higher than that. I thought it was 50% or something like that. But what made me laugh is it kind of reminds me of the, you know, COVID pandemic, because it was 100% effective, and then it was 95% effective, and then it was 80% effective, and so forth, until it turned out that they're probably not very effective at all.

And so the whole system is designed to produce very, very expensive solutions to problems and then to try to destroy competition. You know, even like their AI. A few months ago, I think before Trump became president, Marc Andreessen had an interview with Joe Rogan, and they were talking about AI. And Marc Andreessen, who is part of this high-tech establishment, the big tech in Silicon Valley, the founder of the most powerful venture capital company in the United States, he wanted to start up his own AI company. And he was told, no, don't do this. AI is going to be dominated by two or three key players that we control.

And so they ended up plowing, I don't know the amount of money, but we're talking literally hundreds of billions of dollars, maybe more than a trillion, into this AI. And at the same time, in China, the whole system is open source, open to competition. So you have dozens and dozens of AI startups. And one of them, like the one—I mean, I'm not, you know, extensively knowledgeable about this industry—but I know that one of them was DeepSeek, which developed their solution for \$10 million. They spent \$10 million to develop their solution. And now the result is that 80%, fully 80%, of Silicon Valley startups in the United States have opted for Chinese AI platforms.

And so, it's the same wherever, whatever stone you turn, you find the same morass of rot, of corruption, of basically using every technology, every industry as a source of plunder for the top-level establishment people. And the result is that they're losing in industry, they're losing in high technology. And this is a verifiable fact. They're losing in military industries, in defense. And the farther this goes, the worse it gets. But the people who run the system have no interest in relinquishing control of the system to a bunch of anonymous startups, a bunch of ordinary engineers and technologists. So they will try to use force to eliminate competition.

They will, they will try to destroy China, uh, sanction them. Well, they're already trying. They're trying to ban access to chips, ban access to whatever they think is going to slow down China's progress, but it's failing by now. And I think that, you know, if we take the trajectory of late-stage

empires as a historical precedent, we see that they can't arrest the collapse of the empire because these vested interests are not willing to let go. And so they hold on, they clutch the system ever more tightly, but the system kind of disintegrates on their watch. And the Roman Empire never reversed its decline for this exact reason. It basically went from its zenith almost in a straight line into the Dark Ages.

#Nima

I remember, Alex, before the war happened in the Middle East, you said that if they go into the Middle East, that would be the graveyard of the U.S. empire. And something deep is happening in West Asia, and that's why they're talking about a new security architecture. They're talking about having to be independent from the outside, basically the United States. And there are two ways of dealing with the issue of the Middle East. Basically, one of them is accepting the new reality and trying to be part of it, trying to be less damaging to what's going on in that region. Just look at China, what China is doing.

What China was doing in Ukraine — they're basically outside, they're supporting the side that they prefer, but they don't want to manipulate the region. They let the region reshape itself by the players of the region, not from outside. They're not trying to manipulate the force or reshape the region. The United States has to understand that those days of reshaping and dominating the region, those days are over. There are two ways: are they going to back down, are they going to be more aggressive, are they going to double down? What is your understanding of the United States at this current stage?

#Guest

My guess would be that they will double down, that they will not give up. They might switch tack. They might change strategies. They might try to, again, infiltrate Iran with, you know, separatist groups, terrorist organizations. They might flood it again with MI6, CIA, Mossad assets. They might try to flood Iran with narcotics — you know, the opium war strategy, which is a tried and tested approach to destroy a country from within. But they will not give up. But you know, the farther the resistance is coalescing and it's becoming more compact, more cohesive, while this Zionist cabal, they are in a state of panic.

And I think that we're basically experiencing their dying agony. And I think that in the dying agony, the animal is extremely dangerous. And I think that they will, rather than backing down and going back home, being a neutral country, minding their own business, building their infrastructure, developing their economy, continue to try to reassert their hegemony wherever they can. Right now, the soft target is South America. So they are continuously penetrating South America, looking to take control of all the countries there, and with some success. But, you know, South America is not part of the Eurasian landmass, which is the prize for the empire.

#Nima

I would assume that they're basically going to focus on Brazil, because Brazil is the big fish in Latin America, and they have to do something about it. I don't know what would be the move on the part of the Trump administration. They have two years, two and a half. And basically, what is happening in the United States, I think the domestic policy is so important for many of us. We know that, as Putin once said, it's all dependent on what's going on in the United States. What's coming out is dependent on what's going on inside. And we know inside, basically, the Trump administration is getting closer to the midterm elections. And right after that, in December this year, we're going to have the midterm elections. And going into next year, it's going to be the presidential election, 2025, which is one of the main concerns on the part of the vice president of the United States, J.D. Vance.

He's so much coming out, the way that he's talking. He's going to all of these podcasts, not only in the United States, outside of British podcasts, American podcasts, describing how beautifully the Trump administration has managed the war so far. And the guy wants to be the next president of the United States. But part of that, in my opinion, with the MOU—if you look at the clauses of the document, it's a huge trap for those people who want to continue the war, in my opinion. Because the first clause says, without Israel leaving Lebanon totally, there would be no war agreement between the two sides. So here come the two agendas: the fight in the United States, the Trump administration, and the future of J.D. Vance and those people who want to be the next, and the Israeli agenda. Which one do you think is more powerful right now?

#Guest

I think the Israeli agenda is more powerful because it's not just Israel and the United States, it's also European nations and the UK. We don't talk a lot about the British role in all this, but the British play an extremely important role, although they have perfected the ways of concealing their role. So they are almost kind of invisible, but every so often we have leaks of information and reports that show that they play a very active role in all this. In the United States, you have, as I mentioned, two policy cabals: one which is obsessed with Ukraine and Russia—let's call them Trotskyites—the other one, which is a Zionist conspiracy, which has dramatically lost support among the people.

And then you also have maybe the genuine MAGA crowd, you know, people who really want to make the United States great again, not by being a hegemon, but by returning the United States to their Republican traditions, to being an independent, sovereign country uninvolved with foreign entanglements and wars and alliances and so forth. And so internal political forces in the United States are pulling in three different directions. So I think that's weaker. But Israel is fighting a fight for their existence. The Zionist project, meaning Israel plus its Western backers in the UK, the United States, Europe, India, they are desperate to protect Israel and to prevent its collapse. So I think that they are more determined and they are more powerful in that sense, to the point where they're prepared to stage major false flag attacks in the West to galvanize support for Israel. But I think that they're all losing. They're all losing.

#Guest

It's like a losing trajectory that I don't even see how they could possibly reverse. And I think that the only way they could reverse it is if they manage to somehow completely take control of the narrative, institute some kind of very heavy-handed censorship regime, like basically go into totalitarianism. And then, you know, the totalitarian state throwing their full support behind Israel and committing all the resources of Western Europe, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Australia, India, everybody on that side behind Israel. I think it's going to be very difficult to make that happen.

#Nima

Alex, during the war between Iran and the United States, I thought, I basically thought that Europeans were helping the United States and Israel in any constant intelligence and defensive part of the war. But yesterday we learned officially from the Secretary General of NATO, Mark Rutte. He said that something like between 4,000 to 5,000 military flights were conducted from various European bases to support the operation against Iran. This is huge, you know, the statement, not only because we were speculating on that, but these are, you know, the guy is the head of NATO, you know, the Secretary General of NATO. And when he says that, it seems that it's so close to reality. And he says 500 of those flights were from Italy. Italy was, because he said that, no, we are not part of this. We're not doing anything.

And then they came out after the interview Mark Rutte had on Fox, and he said, Italy said, no, these numbers are not correct. But this is the complicity of Europe in what was happening in the Middle East. You know, they were part of the operations. That's why they knew how deep the problem is for the United States. That's why they didn't, you know, remember those days when Donald Trump was begging Europeans to come and open up the Strait of Hormuz for us. And you see, you see that, you know, it's just amazing what has happened. And for those people who were delusional in Iran, in my opinion, because we have this sort of, you know, liberals who think that let's get closer to the West, let's do this and that, Europeans are somehow different, they didn't go offensive. What do you make of what has happened?

#Guest

No, basically European nations are vassals of the United States. And if the United States tells them to stand on their heads, they're all going to stand on their heads. I'll give you an example from 2013. Remember there was a hunt for Edward Snowden. And when they were hunting Edward Snowden, at some point they had a tip that Snowden was flying on President Evo Morales, the Bolivian president's private jet, from Russia returning to Bolivia. And normally, you know, he has

diplomatic immunity. He's the president of a country. Open Skies treaties, you know, the flight cannot be intercepted. They cannot prevent him by law. You know, this is international law. They cannot prevent him from flying back to his country.

When the United States said, close the airspace to them, to Evo Morales, because we want to search his aircraft, Italy, Austria, France, Belgium, I think Spain, a whole bunch of European countries that his flight was going through immediately complied with the American request. They closed the airspace to Evo Morales' flight, and they forced him to land in Vienna, where they held Evo Morales for 14 hours while they searched his aircraft. Complete and total breach of international law, of Open Skies treaties. But because the United States said, you're going to be doing this, they complied without question. There was no, oh, well, this is against international law. No, it isn't if we tell you. It's not international law. It's the rules.

We are the rules-based order. And if we tell you that the rule is you go to war against Iran, you go to war against Iran. And, you know, maybe it's not possible to send troops to Iran, you know, large-scale mobilization, because public opinion wouldn't support it. But whatever can be done covertly is done covertly. So we're going to use your facilities, we're going to use your weapons, we're going to use your airports, your aircraft, your pilots, you know, everything that they might be able to conceal from the people, right? It's all going to be done. Nobody's going to be asking any questions. Nobody's going to be resisting. Except thankfully, you know, we live in an age when they get found out very quickly. And that's very important, actually.

#Nima

Thank you so much, Alex, for being with us today. I know that it's too hot there.

#Guest

It's really hot. It's really oppressive. I wish you could send some fresh air from Brazil.

#Nima

Yeah, here it is... You know, the seasons are different. Yeah, yeah.

#Guest

You're on the wrong side of the globe.

#Nima

Yeah. We are the Global South. That's right.

#Guest

That's right.

#Nima

Thank you so much, Alex. Thank you, Nima.

#Guest

Until next time, very warm greetings from Monaco to everyone out there.