



4-1-2015

The Global Civil War: Will the West Survive?

Bertil Haggman
bertilhaggman@hotmail.com

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/ccr>

Recommended Citation

Haggman, Bertil (2015) "The Global Civil War: Will the West Survive?," *Comparative Civilizations Review*: Vol. 72 : No. 72 , Article 10.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/ccr/vol72/iss72/10>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Comparative Civilizations Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

The Global Civil War: Will the West Survive?

Bertil Häggman
bertilhaggman@hotmail.com

Introduction

A civil war characterized by revolution and counterrevolution has raged since 1789. That civil war began as the French Revolution, which celebrated its bicentennial in 1989. A year after the start of the war in Paris, the first resistance to it emerged in England. Eventually, over time, that resistance spread over the world and became what can be termed a Global Civil War, which still continues.

The world civil war started when the kingdom of France was abolished, and the Bastille, a prison filled with insurgents and criminals, was stormed on July 14, 1789. After some years of revolutionary rule in France, a republic was introduced. The revolutionary Jacobin terror started in 1793 and lasted until 1795 with thousands executed, including King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette. Royalists who had escaped and counterrevolutionaries in western France and in many other areas subsequently rose up in an insurgency. The terror regime, led by the so-called Welfare Executive headed by Robespierre, was characterized by a bloody repression against the counterrevolutionary insurgents. A totalitarian regime, led by General Napoleon Bonaparte, emerged in France and was consolidated into the Napoleonic Empire with a policy of European conquest.

Burke and Revolution

Edmund Burke's book, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, was published in 1790. Burke was a member of the British Parliament and warned early that the French Revolution could have disastrous effects on conditions in England. The talk of human rights and freedom celebrated in France was unmasked in Burke's book. Instead, according to Burke, the revolution would end in total oppression and terror, which was the case in 1793.

Burke believed that it was the duty of Britain to save Europe from the Jacobin threat. A war had to be carried on until the Jacobin advance was stopped and Napoleon defeated. A war that ended in military victory had to be conducted until 1815, long after the death of Edmund Burke.

This great Irishman, philosopher and British politician, discussed the global threat of Jacobinism in a number of letters; one of them was not published until posthumously in 1812; "Letters on a Regicide Peace, 1797."

The quotes below are from the brilliant Burke biography by Russell Kirk, *Edmund Burke – A Genius Reconsidered* (1967):

In international law war was justified...They may be wrong and violent: but also they may be 'the sole means of justice among nations'...Britain should wage war unrelentingly upon the Jacobins...they were bent on ruining the Christian commonwealth of Europe...Jacobinism was a general evil, not merely a local one; so what was being fought was a civil war, not a foreign war...Britain must strike at the heart of Jacobin power in France. Should Jacobinism be allowed to retain the core of the European commonwealth, in time Jacobinism would triumph everywhere...It did not rely on numbers, but upon tight organization and fanatic belief.

The late American Paleo-conservative Professor Russell Kirk in his brilliant biography of Edmund Burke (*Edmund Burke - A Genius Reconsidered*, 1967) described not only French despotism. Long after the genius died, two more insurgencies developed inspired in some respects by Jacobinism, namely Communism and Nazism, that subsequently threatened the European continent and the world. But over 200 years ago, the struggle was predicted by the prophetic, Irish-born MP:

By propaganda and terror, the masters of such a total state [will eventually conquer]...Only intervention by a free nation, employing all its resources and faith with a force and spirit equal to that of the radical oligarchy, can work emancipation... [from this scourge].

The Jacobin state had to be destroyed, wrote one of Conservatism's most important thinkers, otherwise it would destroy all of Europe. We can still hear the voice of Burke across the centuries impugning against these abstract ideologies: Socialism, Communism, Nazism, Maoism, Anarchism, and now Islamism. The French revolution initiated a long line of socialist theories, which reached their height with the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels wrote the *Communist Manifesto* in 1848 for the first communist party. Its main goal was violent revolution and the restructuring of society. The communists, they wrote, did not hide their views and intentions. They openly declared that their goal will be reached through violent revolution of all existing societies.

Marx described the Paris commune (the uprising in France's capital in 1871) as the first socialist state, which he claimed he had initiated personally. The commune lasted 72 days and cost more than 20,000 lives. The same year, Marx published the book *The Civil War in France* and claimed that the commune was a true dictatorship of the proletariat. In reality it was never even socialist. The role of the socialists in the leadership was very limited.

The Model of the French Terror Regime

The Russian revolutionaries used Robespierre and the Jacobins as their models. It was in connection with the Bolshevik revolution in Russia that the mass murders of the European civil war were initiated. This has been described in detail in *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression* (in English 1999; in the chapter, “A State Against Its People: Violence, Repression and Terror in the Soviet Union.”)

After Bolsheviks seized power, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) initiated class exterminations. The Russian bourgeoisie was to be eradicated, and the European civil war cost even more lives. Already in the summer of 1918, European newspapers reported the terrible crushing of an entire social class, and in 1921, the losses on the European civil war’s Russian front were reported to be 1.6 million.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn (*The Gulag Archipelago*, 1974) and Lev Kopelev (*To Be Preserved Forever*, 1977) have with great insight depicted this mass slaughter in the Soviet Union that occurred until the death of Stalin in 1953. Karl Radek, who was the CPSU party representative in Germany, wrote in 1919 that the revolution did not debate with its enemies. It just crushed them as counterrevolutionists (*The Development of Socialism from Science to Deed*, in German).

German Nazism and Italian Fascism used bourgeois fears that class extermination in Russia would be the model for Germany and Italy if the communists took power. In Germany, the Nazis copied the Russian communist technique of extermination of its supposed enemies, political and racial (Jews).

After some preparations in the 1930s, a new phase of the European civil war started: Germany and Italy attacked the rest of Europe. Gradually the so-called Steel Pact was enlarged into the Comintern Pact, including the Asian great power Japan. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the European civil war developed into a world civil war, which ended with allied victory over Germany, Japan, and Italy in 1945.

The Cold War

After 1945, the “hot war” developed into a “cold” world civil war (Stefan T. Possony, *A Century of Conflict – Communist Techniques of World Revolution 1848 – 1950*, Chicago 1953). Meanwhile, the Chinese communists took power on mainland China in 1949, and a new era of class extermination was initiated.

This phase of the world civil war is described in *The Black Book of Communism (China a Long March into Darkness)* and in Bertil Häggman’s book *The Communist Holocaust* (in Swedish, 1982). Mao’s number of victims exceeded those in the Soviet Union and has been estimated to be around 80 million lives.

The communist regime in Moscow collapsed in 1991 after the United States of America under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan had changed American foreign policy from containing the Soviet Union and communism to liberating the peoples enslaved by the Soviets in Eastern and Central Europe. A period of economic and political warfare was initiated in 1982-83 by the United States that led to the freedom of a number of oppressed peoples.

The Cold War was a world-encompassing revolutionary attack on the West. The communists in Moscow and all over the world waged a total war to destroy the social structure of the enemy. The goal was to eliminate the leading classes in the West and distribute their property (especially to communists). There was no other goal in this phase of the world civil war referred to popularly as the “Cold War.” Subversion was the method.

The use of military or non-military means was coincidental to circumstances and both legal and illegal methods were used in order to obtain power in the West.

The Continuing Global/World Civil War

When France celebrated the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution, the French historian François Furet presented communism beginning with the revolution in Paris (his book *The Passing of an Illusion: The Idea of Communism in the Twentieth Century*, in English 2000 and published in Swedish in 2010).

The author of this article claims that from 1789 to 1991, first a European civil war and then a world civil war has raged. It has continued after 1991 and especially from September 11, 2001, when radical Islam has waged war on the West in the spirit of the French Revolution.

A remaining threat is also the Chinese communist regime, now ruling over more than one billion people, and revolutionaries in the West and East still supporting continued struggle. This new phase of the world civil war remains a great threat to the West. Radical Islam wants, in cooperation with evil, rogue states like Iran and North Korea, to crush the West or to at least weaken it. The risk is that such evil regimes, now cooperating with Muslim terrorists, will transfer weapons of mass destruction to be used on Western powers. For instance, North Korea is believed to have 5,000 tons of biological and chemical weapons and cannot be trusted by the West.

The terrorists are prepared to attack the United States (“the main enemy”) and other countries in the West to achieve a maximum number of victims. Since September 11, 2001, a new phase of the world civil war has developed. The victims this century will not be counted in the thousands, as during the French Revolution. The new enemies of the West in the world civil war are planning millions of victims. The 21st century could become just as

bloody as the 20th century, when Communists and Nazis made mass extermination the main element of their ongoing global civil war.

Russian aggression in Ukraine, Islamo-fascist terror warfare, unrest on mainland China, and spreading pandemics in Africa may be the new campaigns in another bloody century in the permanent global civil war.

Essay and Comments on Sources

One possible definition for Global Civil War could be that the concept is used to describe simultaneous civil conflicts happening at many locations with little regard for national boundaries. Alternative applicable terms for it are: “world civil war,” “permanent civil war,” and “global insurgency.”

There is no comprehensive definition of a civil war. A simple definition is that “it is a violent conflict in which organized groups within a country fight against each other for political control or to change government policy” (*The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, 2008). But in a Global Civil War, national boundaries are relevant but not descriptive of the wider conflict.

The best discussion on civil war is Professor Reinhart Kosseleck's article “Revolution, Rebellion, Aufruhr, Buergerkrieg” in *Geschichtliche Grundbegriffe. Historisches Lexikon zur politisch-sozialen Sprache in Deutschland*, Vol. 5 (1984).

Seemingly global civil war is a contradiction in terms. Normally, a civil war must be within a society, because societies are associated with the nation.

Ordinarily, a civil war would not be global. A global war is normally seen as international. But after 2001 things have changed. Other significant discussions are found in:

Oswald Spengler (1880 – 1936)

This German civilizationist and historian used the term world civil war to explain the fall of the Roman Empire, based on the role of Germanic tribes both within and outside Roman territory.

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. (1917 – 2007)

This American historian associated world civil war with the promotion of numerous Marxist and Marxist-Leninist anti-colonialist groups that were often supported by the Soviet Union - a phenomenon the United States and the rest of the West opposed.

It is difficult to say if the radical Seattle leaders contacted Osama Bin Laden or whether it was the other way round. It does not matter, in any case. They appear to work in tandem. The Third World War is unlikely to be a conflict between the United States and Afghanistan

on the issue of terrorism. It appears it will develop into a much larger conflagration involving most countries.

Buckminster Fuller (1895 – 1983)

This American futurologist discussed the concept of world civil war in *Ideas & Integrities* (1963).

Bertil Häggman (1940 -)

This Swedish attorney and author discussed the world civil war in an article in the Swedish publication *Contra* (in Swedish). Mr. Bertil Häggman, LL.M., attorney, author, director, SwedenE-mail: bertilhaggman@hotmail.com