

## Fight for Belarus

In the early 1920, US Congress created a system of immigration quotas based on countries of origin, weighed toward northwestern Europe. It was argued that: “The races from Southern and Eastern Europe had no experience of government other than “paternal autocracy”. Almost a hundred years later US Congress with appropriation of funds and economic sanctions is enforcing democracy on Belarus, disappointed that Belarusians for the third time elected a paternalistic autocrat Mr. Lukaszenko as a president. The pressure to oust Mr. Lukashenko is very high but the best that Americans can offer in his place is a democratic anarchy evident in the neighboring countries such as Ukraine and Poland.

Belarus is not the first country that is being pressured by Americans to adopt “western style” democracy. Prime example of the democratic reform gone wrong is the country of South Africa, where crime is 6 times higher than before and over 30% of the people suffers unemployment. Compare that to the unemployment rate of 1.6% in autocratic Belarus. Americans know damn well that the countries that are most successful with economic recovery and growth have autocratic leaders such as Lee Kuan Yew in Singapore. 30 years ago Singapore was a dirty swamp full of mosquitoes. Today Singapore standard of living almost equals that of Canada, which is heading the list as a country most suitable for human development. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings of Ghana and Gen. Augusto Jose Ramon Pinochet of Chile can claim similar successes. We must not forget autocratic Gen. Hugo Rafael Chavez of Venezuela that is also in line for some praise.

Belarus is a country of only 10 million people with territory that is a size of a state of Kansas. Belarus does not have any significant oil or gas or any strategic mineral resources. One wonders why is the US Empire so uptight about Belarus when they have much larger fish to fry in other parts of the world? Could it be, because this is the last country from the post Soviet block that resists the “color revolution”? Or could it be that they are doing it to avoid embarrassment that “democratic” reforms in the neighboring states are a hoax?

I think that Americans have grossly underestimated the culture and determination of self-defense of Belarusian people. Over centuries one empire or another dominated this country. Now that finally they are independent and free, why should they trust a far away Empire called USA?

Belarus suffered greatly and its economy was totally destroyed by Germans during the WWII. For this reason Belarusians are always thankful for the Russian Red Army who helped them to end German occupation. The Belarusians are a highly educated homogenous society with a natural self-defense in terms of distinct culture, religion and language with Cyrillic (Russian) alphabet. Germans during WWII cleansed the Jews out and the (10%) minority of Poles is not willing to cooperate with Americans to overthrow the government. All attempts to finance another “color” revolution have failed. Leaders of various opposition parties are always bickering over details of the future reforms and have nothing good to offer as alternative to government policies of Mr. Lukashenko. Furthermore, much like NAFTA, Belarus has formed a Customs Union with Russia where border exchange of goods is free. As Belarus has aligned its future with Russia, and unlike neighboring Poland it does not have a policy of appeasement of the West.

It is really ironic that the only problem is a free trade with the West. USA and Canada have applied trade restrictions on trade with Belarus, under the pretext of abuses of human rights. Probably the real reason was to punish Belarusians for refusal to overthrow its government. But the United Nations has just removed Belarus from the list of the countries where the rights record is under special scrutiny. Thus United States and Canada no longer have the moral right to block Belarus from the free trade. As it was clearly demonstrated in Iraq, the blockade of trade will punish people but not the government. It is synonymous to the act of war. This blockade of trade is an atrocious human abuse, as it comes in time when Russia is trying to bring Belarus to the world prices for oil and gas. A double wham from West and from the East is hard to take...

It is obvious that enforced democratization of a country that is not ready for such a reform can create disaster on a scale of Iraq. But democratic anarchy is a good business for the global corporations. The only defense against the global aggression is thus a national government headed by an autocratic ruler, preferably elected by the people and supported by the military power. If his government is successful with above average economic growth, it will be praised at home and abroad. Majority of Belarusians feel they are blessed to have leader like Mr. Lukashenko. But majority of Americans must have felt the same about Mr. W. Bush Jr. to elect him as a president. Tragically these days the US government in the most autocratic fashion forcefully imposes democracy on other countries. The word “democracy” has become

a mantra chant for the Washington bureaucrats, who have figured out that democratic countries are weak and not capable of any significant aggression.

What Americans forget is that this part of the world has already experimented with democracy with some disastrous results. In 1791 Polish-Lithuanian Republic declared first democratic Constitution in Europe. At the time this Republic also included entire territory of Belarus, Estonia and large parts of Russia and Ukraine. Proclamation of democracy weakened this great Republic so much that it was an easy prey for Prussia and Russia, both ruled by autocrats. Thus experiment with democracy ended with repartition of Poland in 1793. Subsequent attempts to restore democracy in Poland also failed. For example after departure of Marshall Josef Pilsudski, democratic Poland was not a match for autocratic German war machine in 1939.

For all the push to implement democracy everywhere in the world it must be understood that in a scope of the human history it is a short lived and unproven proposition. For in terms of endurance, over the eons of time the history of paternal autocracy can claim much bigger success. For it benefits the nations in terms of faster economic development and defense against foreign aggression. This is why paternalistic China has faster economic growth than democratic Russia. Today many Chinese proud of the economic accomplishments of their country say that Mao Tse Tung had to be strong leader as their country needed a strong father. For the only political system that will endure is that which serves the people best, not the one that is imposed by a foreign power, revolution or by the idealistic intellectuals.

In my humble opinion in a fight for democracy in Belarus, the US Empire is going to lose. For it is promoting a mischievous lie that democracy is a cure for all ills. According to the history of the Romans, when their Empire reached its zenith and was going downhill, it was because of the rot within its own belly. If they tried to stop the downhill run they would kick and choke on own vomits. This is what today makes America so dangerous to the rest of the world. For the US Global Empire no longer is democratic but a heavily armed and overextended paternalistic autocracy desperately trying to rule the world to maintain high standard of living. We can only hope that America can look in the mirror and admit that it has an ugly face. That will solve this tragic crisis of identity that America seems to endure trying to decide to be a democracy or a police state. For the salvation of the world should be based on truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Even if

that means leaving Belarusians alone to so that they can have the president they like.

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