

# American Free Press

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## HANDS OFF UKRAINE

• West violates decades-old agreement not to go “eastward”

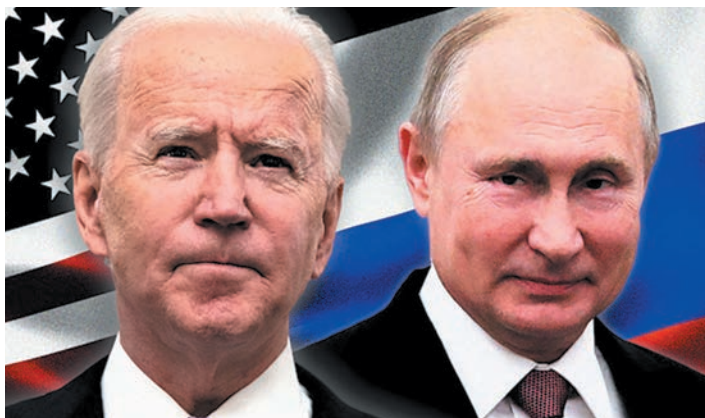
By the AFP Staff

President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin held a heated virtual submit on Dec. 7 to discuss rising tensions in Ukraine. According to multiple reports, Biden threatened Putin that, should Russia invade Ukraine, the U.S. was prepared to impose “strong economic and other measures.” The fact is, Russia is correct here: NATO is in violation of decades-old, “iron-clad” agreements made during the fall of the Berlin Wall that Western powers would not “expand one inch eastward.”

In a statement to reporters following the two-hour-long phone call, the White House said, “The president made clear that the U.S. and our allies would respond with strong economic and other measures in the event of military escalation.”

In a press conference, Putin countered, NATO was “making dangerous attempts to conquer Ukrainian territory” and “building up its military potential at our borders.”

Later he added, “We are, of course, concerned about the potential mem-



bership of Ukraine in NATO, because that would result in [NATO] military bases and troops being placed in the territory of Ukraine.”

The Western powers seem to forget that it wasn’t so long ago that the U.S. made promises to outgoing Soviet authorities that the U.S. would never encroach on Russia’s borders.

According to official transcripts of meetings held in Moscow on Feb. 9, 1990, President George. H.W. Bush’s secretary of state, James Baker, made “iron-clad guarantees” that NATO would not expand “one inch eastward” if Russia cooperated on German reunification. A signed agreement was never released, but, a week after those meetings, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev moved ahead with talks on reunifying East

and West Germany.

Since that time, the Western powers have been antagonizing nuclear-armed Russia in that country’s own front yard, going so far in 2014 to help stage a coup in Ukraine so a corrupt pro-West government could be installed.

The fake news media in the West has been fawning over Biden,

painting the exchange between the two leaders as Biden confronting Putin over Russian belligerence in Ukraine. While Biden has said publicly he will not send U.S. troops to Ukraine, not everyone in Washington agrees with that.

Speaking on Fox News, GOP Sen. Roger Wicker (Miss.), who sits on the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee, told Neil Cavuto, “I would not rule out military action.”

When pressed on the point, he further added, “Military action could mean that we stand off with our ships in the Black Sea and we rain destruction . . . on Russia military capability. It could mean that we participate, and I would not rule out American troops on the ground. Do you know we don’t rule out first-use nuclear action?”

That kind of talk is insane.

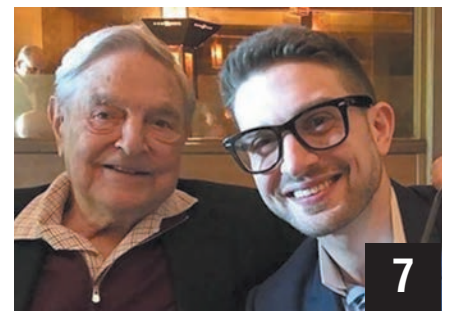
As the U.S. continues to struggle with serious domestic problems such a supply chain in collapse, sky-high gas prices, a foundering economy, and another round of Covid lockdowns and mandates, no one in D.C. has been able to relate to the American public why Ukraine is of such vital interest to the United States. ★

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