

Unprecedented Migration Crisis Affecting Europe: Will Western or Russian Style De-radicalization save the European Way of Life? (Part 1)¹

János BESENYŐ,² Endre SZÉNÁSI³

There are five main chapters of the analysis. The first chapter outlines the unprecedented migration pressure on Europe including political, economic, demographic, social, etc. factors. The second chapter gives an account of both Western and Russian de-radicalization efforts, providing a broad understanding of what de-radicalization is. It starts from crisis zones in the Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan, followed by Western handling of the migration process itself prior to migrant settlement in Europe. The third chapter provides a list of fundamental questions unasked and unanswered by the European political elites. The fourth chapter will analyze some scenarios depending on European policy changes. The fifth chapter will provide recommendations for European policy makers to handle the migration crisis and minimize the damage already done to the European way of life, where de-radicalization and reintegration play a key role.

Keywords: migration crisis, culture, Europe, policy

“Hijra is a core part of jihad going back to the Prophet Muhammad that involves Islamic conquest through migration. The objective is to overwhelm non-Muslim territories with Muslim populations until they achieve domination through sheer numbers. No weapons necessary – until they gain enough control.” [1]

“Hijra is a comprehensive and direct political attempt to undermine the culture and values of the host country and replace them with Islam and shari’ah. It is an insidious migration seeking transformation of the culture, behaviors, customs, rules and laws of a host society to spread Islam and establish an Islamic state.” [2]

Root Causes of the Unprecedented Migration Pressure Affecting Europe

The contemporary migration crisis is not limited to Europe: it is truly a global phenomenon. The world population is approximately 7.3 billion, where – depending on our calculations – roughly only 1.2 billion people live in developed countries. [3] The majority of the world population lives in relatively poor conditions.

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2 Col. János Besenyő Ph.D., Head of a Research Section in the Hungarian Ministry of Defense; e-mail: besenyo.janos@gmail.com

3 Lt. Col. Endre Szénási, Senior desk officer in the Defense Policy Department of the Hungarian Ministry of Defense; email: szenasi.endre@gmail.com

Even though there are promising trends concerning the shrinking percentage of world poverty, [4] the worsening global economic outlook makes it more difficult to sustain improvement: “For the first time ever, the number of people living in extreme poverty is set to fall to below 10% of the global population in 2015, the World Bank said [...] The economic growth outlook is less impressive for emerging economies in the near future, which will create new challenges in the fight to end poverty and attend to the needs of the vulnerable, especially those living at the bottom 40 percent of their societies” [5] Avoiding misery and searching for a better life, mainly in economic terms, is the most common cause of mass migration.

Europe is affected by migration pressures mainly from the Middle East, North Africa, South and Central Asia. [6] (Annex 1–4) The rapid *population growth* in economically backward countries where hundreds of millions people have no real chances to break out of poverty, contributes significantly to the number of people that take the risks of migration. [7] Such conditions provide a *firm* and *inexhaustible* source of migration. Rapid population growth – that will definitely build up more social tensions and migration pressure – is expected in the vicinity of Europe. “More than half of the gains by 2050, will come from Africa, according to (a UN – the auth.) [...] report.” [8] “The continent will add 1.3 billion people over the next few decades, roughly equivalent to the current population of China. By 2050, 1 in 4 people on Earth will be African, and the report expects Africa to be the only region that will continue to grow after 2050.” [9] Unfortunately the indigenous European population will shrink during the same period.

The migration pressure on Europe is *de facto* unlimited. Several scholars dealing with security policy, history and demography have come to such conclusion. Ferenc Kaiser from the National Public Service University (Budapest) is an example of one. He is a historian and a geographer who teaches subjects relevant to security and defense policy. Kaiser made it clear in his lecture organized to educate all personnel involved in handling in the migration crisis at the Hungarian Ministry of Defense in Budapest in late 2015, that there are fundamental problems related to the migration crisis affecting Europe being unasked and therefore unanswered. In his lecture, he drew a sobering picture of the demographic background of the sources of the migration crisis affecting Europe, rhetorically asking questions about the limits of the amount of migrants Europe can take. Even though his questions were rhetorical and unanswered, the demographic facts that he presented were grave and convincing.

Péter Tálás, the head of the Strategic Defense Research Institute (Budapest), who supported more or less unlimited migration flow to Europe “as a needed labor force”, criticized Kaiser’s lecture in a mild way suggesting that “he smilingly injected poison”. The audience though, comprised of mostly professional army officers of the Hungarian Ministry of Defense, tended to agree with Kaiser’s approach. It is worth mentioning that ministry personnel responsible for security – no matter whether they are members of ministry of defense or ministry of interior – *tend to agree with curbing security challenges that includes mass migration*.

Others deny that there is any correlation between uncontrolled, mass migration and security, emphasizing the need to avoid “securitization” of the migration crisis. If there are neither economic, nor cultural or security concerns when tackling the migration crisis we end up supporting an unlimited migration flow to Europe, that leads to disastrous consequences.

The migration crisis that has been hitting Europe hard [10] since 2015, is unprecedented in contemporary history. Several factors lead to a dramatically increased number of migrants

entering Europe. Besides the already mentioned population growth and poverty, we can find amongst the root causes of the migration crisis:

- wars in Syria, Libya, Iraq, and Afghanistan;
- *instability* and various forms of *oppression* in several countries in Africa, the Middle East, South and Central Asia;
- *organized crime*, which makes a flourishing business of trafficking in human beings;
- *lack of solidarity* in the Muslim world to adopt refugees;
- *lack of unity of policies and actions* on the European side, powerful and “helpful” donors like George Soros [11] funding and encouraging migration. “...there’s Hungarian-born billionaire investor George Soros, whom Orbán criticized as being a dark hand behind the migrant influx. Soros replied that the prime minister’s ‘plan treats the protection of national borders as the objective and the refugees as an obstacle. Our plan treats the protection of refugees as the objective and national borders as the obstacle.’ Of course, critics would warn that Soros’ true objective has nothing to do with ‘protection’ of refugees.” [12]

One might argue that the main cause of migration is *overpopulation*. [3] This might be true, however, multiple other factors need to coexist to create conditions when a dramatic build-up of migration can occur. For example if overpopulation is combined with prosperity of the economy and rising living standards, migration might not even start. However, this is not the main trend in the regions that are a major source of migration to Europe.

Western and Russian De-Radicalization Efforts in Countries that are Main Sources of Migration to Europe. Western Failure to Handle the Migration Process, Prior to Migrant Settlement in Europe

Western Export of Democracy through Military Interventions to Countries that are Sources of Migration to Europe

Failed Western interventionist policies generate enormous frustration in countries that are a major source of migration to Europe. “Certainly we all feel for the displaced people, especially the children, but let us not forget that this is a man-made crisis and it is a government-made crisis. The reason so many are fleeing places like Syria, Libya, Afghanistan, and Iraq is that US and European interventionist foreign policy has left these countries destabilized with no hopes of economic recovery. This mass migration from the Middle East and beyond is a direct result of the neocon foreign policy of regime change, invasion, and pushing ‘democracy’ at the barrel of a gun.” [13]

As we will see, Western military interventions, human casualties, destruction, imposed governments, lost balances between religious fractions etc. provide countless arguments for those advocating radicalization. It also provides a fertile source of people on the recipient side who are vulnerable to extremist recruitment. Russia also resorted to military interventions both at home in Chechnya and in Syria. However since the Russian solution is the opposite of Western export of democracy – when installing a form of a locally embedded dictatorship – Russia appears to handle radicalization far more effectively than the West. That includes post war peace, when Russian style nation building takes place. This phase is the most convincing.

Several Western military interventions took place in the regions that are a major source of the migration pressure to Europe from Iraq, Libya, Syria and Afghanistan. Western export of democracy to topple dictatorships or governments harboring radical Islamist terrorist forces can be viewed as *de-radicalization* efforts in a broad, strategic sense. If we disagree with such a broad, strategic interpretation or level of de-radicalization or we simply omit it, some root causes of further conflicts arising including Islamist *radicalization* would be unaccounted for.

All Western military interventions and attempts of democracy export in the Middle East, North Africa and *Afghanistan* are very problematic at best. In Afghanistan, the Soviet military intervention ended disgracefully providing hints that Afghan society is difficult to conquer or to reform. 9/11 provided powerful arguments to somehow eradicate the terrorist safe havens in Afghanistan but not necessarily with invasion and military occupation of the country. Powerful intelligence and accurate airstrikes could have achieved much eradication, with fewer costs in terms of human lives on all sides. On the other hand, such eradication on its own is not necessarily effective since it also generates a resupply of terrorists based on revenge and sympathy of their families, tribes, fellow believers etc.

Having Western – mostly US “boots on the ground” – also raises questions since Western style “nation building” proves not to be effective in Afghanistan. Especially if warlords prevail, [14] bitter civil war rages endlessly, [15] drug production and trafficking remains high [16] and corruption is not really a “problem” but “the system itself”. We also need to note, that most of the costs on the Western side were needed to sustain the military intervention and occupation, and a fragment of the expenses were devoted for “nation building”: “...just because those U.S. troops in Afghanistan no longer have a combat mission doesn’t mean they’re a bargain: the CRS (Congressional Research Service – the auth.) report says the cost of keeping a single American soldier there this year is an eye-watering \$3.9 million.” [17] (Annex 7)

Such realities by themselves question Western policies to de-radicalize extremist forces in Afghanistan. It is understandable that the costs of military occupation are high and are more-less set given the realities of Afghanistan. It is also understandable that the West does not have a political will to devote far more resources for nation building in a poorly developed, war torn country. However, in this case the failure of de-radicalization, “democracy export” and “nation building” is embedded in Western policy.

It is relatively easy to enter Afghanistan with military force but it difficult to find a convincing exit strategy once some major threats are neutralized. We can talk about “expectation management” when communicating “achievements” to the public in the Western world, rather than “real achievements”: neutralization of threats thus convincing tendencies of de-radicalization. We also need to note that the local Afghan society is well aware of the success or failure of Western style de-radicalization efforts. Certainly better than the Western public that lives far away in an entirely different culture and social conditions, making them vulnerable to manipulation. Once Western military occupation lasts too long with too many casualties, too much money of the taxpayers is spent on “Peace Support Operations”, the Western public tends to become skeptical concerning the success of the de-radicalization effort, furthermore: towards the Western presence in Afghanistan, as a whole. Very similar logic of changes in public opinion applies to other countries as well, such as Iraq.

In *Iraq* waves of Western military interventions lead to the toppling and later the execution of Saddam Hussein. It lead to major costs in both human lives and civilian infrastructure. The military intervention directly leading to the toppling of Saddam Hussein was based on false

justifications: the Iraqi threat of weapons of mass destruction against the Western world and suggested connection with Al-Qaida. Weapons of mass destruction were found during years of systematic search [18] and proof emerged of the opposite of Al-Qaida links of the Saddam regime. The ultimate argument became the “export of democracy”. “The Bush team ignored advice that even if Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, it was a bad idea to invade Iraq, and they completely overlooked the fact that Iran and elements in Saudi Arabia were then, and continue to be, the greater threats in that region. The “reverse domino” theory that invading Iraq would transform the region was a fantasy sold to a nation in shock over 9/11.” [19]

Military occupation of Iraq led to instability, civil war, bloodshed, “no body counts” and ultimately to a disgraceful withdrawal of Western forces and more importantly, to *radicalization* in Iraq: to the rise of ISIS, which is the ultimate terrorist organization of our time. *The rise of ISIS is the biggest and most obvious policy failure of contemporary Western military interventions, nation building and export of democracy.*

Unfortunately neither the Western world, nor the Iraqi government fights ISIS effectively [20] At best, this can be interpreted as unwillingness to put civilian populations at risk and environmental concerns: “The White House says it did not start targeting ISIS oil infrastructure until recently due to environmental and collateral damage concerns. The real reason American forces were finally ordered to start destroying fuel trucks was the fact that Russia embarrassed them into doing so. Frankly, the whole White House narrative is incomprehensible. Therefore the American government is complicit in whatever consequences accrue from ISIS being able to grow, expand, and extend its reach across the world, threatening our way of life. The lack of American air pressure on the ISIS oil transportation and production network was the equivalent of a no-fly zone for the ISIS money machine.” [21]

There are several reasons why we can question the number and the effectiveness of the airstrikes of the US lead coalition [8] that are unable to destroy not only a limited amount of armed jihadists but even their main income source, the oil infrastructure that is not possible to hide at all. The main reason is that the US lead coalition exploits ISIS in a geopolitical game against opponents, such as the Assad regime or partners that need to become more dependent on US help, such as the Iraqi government. Other countries have other reasons not to hurt ISIS. For example, Turkey is deeply involved in smuggling ISIS oil [22] making big profit from it. Turkey – a NATO ally – is not only involved in smuggling oil from ISIS, but also weapons, explosives, and various goods etc. as well. (Annex 8–11)

Another reason why fighting ISIS is not effective enough is that the Western world “lack of appetite” to deploy adequate ground forces to gain and hold ground from ISIS. A reason why there is no political will to deploy ground troops is because that would definitely lead to a great number of unavoidable Western casualties as we have learned it in Iraq or Afghanistan. Such casualties would eventually undermine public support in the Western world to fight ISIS on the ground, or even fight them at all.

In *Syria* the West officially supports “moderate” opposition [23] against the Assad regime. This is a gravely mistaken policy at best. “The Europeans share a good deal of blame as well. France and the UK were enthusiastic supporters of the attack on Libya and they were early backers of the ‘Assad must go’ policy. Assad may not be a nice guy, but the forces that have been unleashed to overthrow him seem to be much worse and far more dangerous. No wonder people are so desperate to leave Syria.” [14]

We would rather call such Western policies unrealistic, misleading, bizarre and ultimately harmful. *First*: “moderate” opposition is not moderate at all in Western terms. They could be considered “moderate” in Middle Eastern or North African terms at best. *Second*: “moderate opposition” is reduced to a minority [24] (Annex 12) that is not convincing if we talk about a future governing force. *Third*: even if they could come to power, there would be instability and ultimately they could not stand the pressure of ISIS, leading to further gains of the terrorist organizations in Syria.

When considering Western solutions in an attempt to end the war in Syria it would be a mistake to assume, that US general David Petraeus is a madman. A four star general who was praised for his role when commanding US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, also a former head of the CIA cannot be a madman. His “solution” is a reflection of madness of US policy making rather than an individual, a talented leader. “... we see the disgraced General David Petraeus in the news [...] offering his solution to the problem in Syria: make an alliance with al-Qaeda against ISIS! Petraeus was head of the CIA when the US launched its covert regime-change policy in Syria, and he was in charge of the ‘surge’ in Iraq that contributed to the creation of al-Qaeda and ISIS in Iraq and Syria. The idea that the US can salvage its disastrous Syria policy by making an alliance with al-Qaeda is horrific. Does anyone think the refugee problem in Syria will not be worse if either al-Qaeda or ISIS takes over the country?” [14]

Russian intervention, vehemently criticized by the Western world, is truly a “game changer”, being on the side of the Assad regime, thereby on the side of Syrian Government Forces fighting ISIS and various forms of opposition, including truly terrorist organizations.

There are at least two very alarming tendencies in Syria from the de-radicalization point of view. Even though Europe lags behind Tunisia and Saudi Arabia as a source of foreign fighters in Syria, a significant amount of European fighters left their home countries for the purpose of fighting. They gain war experiences, most likely commit classic war crimes and associate with terrorist organizations when fighting the Assad regime. If they are not killed, once they come back many of them could easily become the most dangerous jihadist terrorists in Europe. We are talking about hundreds of people. [25] (Annex 6) If we add migration from war zones, such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan etc. then even if the migrant jihadist terrorist population matches precisely that in the war zones, we would end up with thousands of jihadist terrorists in Europe, when most of them are experienced in real war conditions. Their de-radicalization is of the utmost difficulty, if possible at all. These warriors will most probably sooner or later become leaders, as a minimum organizers of possible terrorist attacks in Europe.

Another very serious concern in Syria is the possibility of a Turkish–Russian war that would change Syria as a source of migration affecting Europe beyond recognition, severely increasing the flow of migrants. The Turkish downing of a Su–24M Russian bomber aircraft that allegedly violated Turkish airspace on 24th October, 2015 [26] provided a hint that the initialization of a NATO–Russia war could be in progress. [27] The Russians remained remarkably calm when they did not attempt to retaliate for the downing of the aircraft. The Russians decisively increased their air defense capabilities [28] and they accompanied their bombers with fighters that they had omitted since ISIS was not capable of lifting fighters at all and Turkish “backstabbing” was beyond Russian comprehension. [29]

Turkish incursions to Syria in Kurdish territories [30] [31] [32] and artillery fire at Syrian targets could provoke a Turkish–Russian war. Since Turkey is a member of NATO and Article 5 of the Washington Treaty could be applied when a member state of the Alliance is

at war, this is a very dangerous scenario. In this case Turkish incursion into Syrian territory comes first. Syrian Army loyalty to the Assad regime then engages the Turkish Army. Russia must make a decision whether to provide direct or indirect support to the Syrian Army. If direct Russian support is provided to the Syrian Army against the Turkish Armed Forces, entering a major war with Turkey could become inevitable. If Russian Armed Forces get into direct military confrontation with Turkey, then we are on a brink of a major war not only between Turkey and Russia, but also between NATO and Russia. Such a war between the Alliance and Russia is in nobody's interest because it would lead to enormous destruction and ultimately to an all-out nuclear war that would most likely be the end of humanity.

On the other hand if Russia fails to adequately support Syrian government forces against a Turkish intervention, the entire Russian military intervention in Syria could fail. It is unlikely that Russia would abandon her policy goals and let down the Syrian Army when government forces defend Syria. The question is whether the Turkish leadership is wise enough not to get into an all-out direct military confrontation with Russia in Syria.

We will later return to de-radicalization efforts in Syria when evaluating the Russian military intervention as a way for de-radicalization of terrorists.

In *Libya* the Western military intervention leading to the fall of Muammar Kaddafi was justified to the public by suggesting that the local population had to be protected against the dictator. With the absence of the dictatorship of Kaddafi there is no end of sectarian violence in sight. ISIS is gaining ground in Libya at a pace that new US military intervention is under consideration. [33]

If military intervention, including airstrikes and raids of ground troops would ultimately take place, no one can foresee the true risks and the benefits regarding de-radicalization. This is a truly vicious circle of violence – that is very difficult to break – when even the eradication of Islamist fighters with pinpoint accuracy could generate sympathy towards them and hate against the “infidel invaders”. Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria are good examples of long lasting violence where no end and therefore no successful de-radicalization is in sight.

The question arises why *any* Western effort to install a somewhat “pro-Western” democracy in Muslim countries in the Middle East, North Africa, South and Central Asia is very problematic at best, and such de-radicalization efforts have a great chance to fail.

In the Western world, we have Christian (secular) societies in cultural terms, no matter what percentage of the population is actually religious, and what subdivisions exist within Christianity. More importantly Western societies have lived in secular states since the success of bourgeois revolutions, where the state and the church were divided. Their division took place because the Church defended the old social system which could not and did not want to provide political and economic rights to the bourgeoisie that would match their ever growing economic power. The rise of modern nation states created cohesion which is an important pre-requisite of Western type bourgeois democracies. In Western countries the most broadly accepted view is that people identify themselves as citizens of particular countries. “In the ‘ideal nation-state’, the entire population of the territory pledges allegiance to the national culture. Thus, the population can be considered homogeneous on the state level, even if there is diversity at lower levels of social and political organization.” [34]

In Muslim societies, there is either no secular state at all, or a secular state might exist, but it must be reinforced by some sort of totalitarian rule, most likely by a form of dictatorship. Once the authoritarian rule (the dictatorship) falls, for any reasons, such as Western military interven-

tion etc., the country will most likely descend into chaos and bloodshed. It is a likely tendency because Muslim societies are fragmented along religious and tribal lines, rather than nation states that are attributes of Western societies. The fragmentation of Muslim dominated societies is based on variations of religious beliefs within Islam (such as Shiites and Sunnites etc.), not to mention fragmentation between different religions (such as Islam, Christianity, Buddhism etc.). Tribal bonds are also strong enough to become a firm basis of fragmentation in conflicts between groups faithful to more or less the same religion. When people identify themselves based on variations within Islam and their tribe, the “foundations” of instability within countries are there. This vulnerability or tendency for instability is *hidden* when a sort of an authoritarian rule is in place, since various forms of dictatorships create cohesion. However, instability becomes *obvious* when the authoritarian rule and thereby an essential pillar of cohesion fails. Iraq or Libya are good examples, the fall of Saddam Hussein or Muammar Kaddafi has resulted in continued violence with no end in sight. It could take several decades or more before instability, civil war and all forms of violence might somehow simmer down, and peace and prosperity could somehow be achieved.

At this point we come to a conclusion that most Western de-radicalization efforts attempting to create Western style democracies in Muslim societies through military interventions and other forms of democracy export are *bound to fail*. We also need to note that *contemporary dictatorships in the Muslim world* are unfortunately the *necessary lesser evil* in comparison to civil war, endless violence and instability. We can safely conclude that Western interventionism to Muslim societies brought far more harm than benefits from the de-radicalization point of view but also in a broader sense.

Western countries tend not to learn from their mistakes, repeating them again and again when it comes to military interventions. The reason of this is clearly not that the Western world has no bright analysts or politicians. It is because the West – especially the US – is engaged in geopolitical games with unstated and unacknowledged goals that substantially differ from, if not the opposite of, what they sell to the public.

Russian De-Radicalization Efforts in Syria – The Chechen Parallel

Russia follows different strategies that significantly differ from Western methods when de-radicalizing Muslim extremism. There are four quite visible main Russian methods of de-radicalization that can be observed in Chechnya and Syria:

- the destruction of extremists by a major war or mostly by Special Forces in peacetime;
- installation of a pro-Moscow dictatorship that can effectively deal with Muslim radicals;
- serious investments to provide the pro-Moscow dictatorship with a powerful army, and propping up local living standards and infrastructure;
- heavy involvement of Russian secret services with “shoot to kill” policies.

Destruction by war or physical extermination might sound cynical as a way of de-radicalization, but it factually exists, as a method. Chechnya and Syria are good examples of both. Interestingly Russian de-radicalization efforts in Chechnya and Syria are interconnected, since Russia is fighting radicalism in both places. We will examine Russian de-radicalization efforts in Syria and Chechnya in parallel, since it highlights that the basic Russian concept is mostly the same in both cases.

Both in Chechnya and Syria, Russia started de-radicalization with a classic war. While in Chechnya Russian ground troops were widely deployed to secure the gains of massive air-

strikes, in Syria Russia has the “luxury” to rely on the Syrian Army. In Chechnya Russian war efforts lead to a huge number of uncounted casualties and massive destruction of infrastructure, [35] in Syria the Russian made destruction is not so visible since the infrastructure of the country has already been destroyed by years of civil war. In Chechnya the lengthy military conflict was concluded by successful rebuilding efforts and installation of a pro-Moscow regime. Warlords alien to Moscow were systematically liquidated and a pro-Moscow warlord, Ramzan Kadyrov was elected as the Head of the Chechen Republic.⁴ Russian president Putin made sure to finance the most powerful “warlord” in Chechnya that is Kadyrov who has the strongest private army in Russia. [36]

We use the expression “warlord” because it fits the power structure of Chechen society and it is key for pacification and de-radicalization of Chechen extremists. We can find amongst the de-radicalization methods of Kadyrov a simple and credible one: his men are personally entrusted with successfully tracking down wanted radicals.

Kadyrov knows that no insurgency can sustain itself without some level of support from family members or relatives. As a de-radicalization effort, Kadyrov calls on family members to either dissuade radicals from joining the insurgency or to turn them in to the authorities. “This appeal revealed a relatively soft stance compared with Kadyrov’s earlier calls to have relatives deported or their houses destroyed for failing to turn in their loved ones.” [37]

In Syria, Russia is clearly restoring the power of the Assad regime, even if Moscow officially says that the future of Assad will be decided by the Syrian people. Russia defends her geopolitical interests in Syria and in the region, just like in Chechnya, which is oil-rich. Unrealistic dreams about Western style democracy are clearly not a goal of Moscow, and not even under consideration.

In Syria, Russia has all the conditions to restore the power of the Assad regime. Rebuilding of the country will follow. We can expect similar results of de-radicalization in Syria we witness in Chechnya, where radicalism is under control of a dictatorship. Such Russian efforts are most likely to bring peace and stability to Syria. Most radicals and terrorists will either be killed or expelled from the country. A permanent manhunt will be sustained to track down and eliminate radicals. Secret services will be heavily involved.

We might agree or disagree with the Russian concept of de-radicalization, but it works. Unlike the Western attempts to export democracy to the Middle East, North Africa, and Afghanistan. The already visible Russian success of de-radicalization in Chechnya and the expected success in Syria are good news for Europe regarding the threats of radicalism and terrorism, in connection with the most probable reduction of the migration flow. Though Russia by itself will not save Europe but she will most likely contribute to European security.

Once Russia stabilizes Syria under the rule of the Assad regime, possible extension of Russian de-radicalization efforts could follow in Iraq or in Libya. Whoever would govern those countries when accepting Russian help to eliminate insurgency, radicalism and terrorism, will accommodate Russian geopolitical interests. The Russian methods will most likely be similar to what we see in Syria: Russian air campaigns against the insurgents combined with local government forces advancing on the ground, harvesting the benefits of Russian airstrikes. If Russia succeeds in Iraq and Libya as well, that would make a huge difference concerning European security in a positive way.

4 Heads of Russian republics are not called “presidents” because that might “overshadow” president Putin’s “power and glory”.

Western Failure to Control the Flow of Migrants to Europe

There is a shocking lack of unity of policies and efforts in Europe when tackling the migration crisis. More than 1 million migrants entered Europe in 2015 alone: most of them illegally and in an uncontrolled way. Even though a “politically correct” approach would abstain from “securitizing” the migration crisis, suggesting that there is no connection between uncontrolled migration from the Muslim world, the rise of terrorism and organized crime. [38] To the contrary: with uncontrolled mass migration Europe imports all sorts of problems of the Muslim world [39] including terrorism, sectarian violence and organized crime, especially if integration and de-radicalization fail.

Once migration becomes a necessity because of wars, poverty, political prosecution etc. the best short-term solution would be to settle the migrants as close to their home countries as possible. Preferably this should be done in countries that have a very similar or same cultural environment to those that are the source of migration. Once peace, stability and prosperity is restored in the source countries of migration, the migrants – or at least the majority of migrants – should return to their home countries.

Hungary provides a positive example, how the migration crisis should be handled by Europe. In 2015, an unprecedented migration flow affected Hungary because of the geographical location of migration paths. (Annex 2–4) During peaks, more than 4 thousand migrants crossed Hungarian borders every day. Such uncontrolled and illegal migration, when masses of mostly economic migrants and the true refugees used the green border to enter Hungary, and the majority refused to cooperate with Hungarian authorities, prompting the Hungarian government to take action. A temporary barrier (fence) was built along the southern border of Hungary. The military became involved in handling the migration crisis by enforcing police efforts. The legal basis to allow the military to perform new duties was created. Such policies brought good results since the uncontrolled migration flow through Hungary ceased in late 2015, law and order were restored. Hungary significantly contributed to the defense of the Schengen system, and several European countries that previously criticized Hungarian policies when tackling the migration crisis later resorted to the same or similar methods.

An unnamed Hungarian MoD official called Hungarian efforts to tackle the migrant flow by building a temporary barrier (fence) “extremist”. We have to see clearly that the purpose of the fence along the southern border of Hungary is not to prevent migrants from coming but to prevent illegal, uncontrolled migration. Whoever migrates through Hungary must cooperate with the Hungarian authorities. For such reasons *European policies allowing uncontrolled, illegal migration are “extremist” and Hungarian policies to restore law and order when tackling the migration crisis are clearly not.*

Fundamental Questions that are unanswered by European Political Elites

In Europe which is mostly part of Western civilization some fundamental questions about migration are not on the agenda at all, thereby there is no real debate and no policy solution in sight. Europe is politically divided and that results in lack of unity of action when handling the migration crisis.

Why Migration Crisis Affecting Europe Literally “Erupted” in 2015, rather than Gradually Building up?

The problem is that the root causes of the migration crisis affecting Europe have already been there for years, often for decades. Civil war has been raging in Syria for more than five years. [40] The war in Afghanistan is more than a decade old. War or warlike conditions in Iraq have existed for more than a decade. ISIS emerged more than a year ago. [41] Demographic trends resulting in rapid population growth in Africa and the Middle East have also been visible for decades. The fall of Kaddafi, who kept migration affecting his country and Europe under control, took place years ago. The organized criminal underworld has also been “in place” for decades, ready to smuggle huge masses of population if payed for it. Poverty and social inequalities in Africa and the Middle East have existed for centuries.

One might say that the revolution of transportation is also a major factor of the migration crisis affecting Europe. However, it does not bring us closer to answering the question why the migration crisis in our region erupted in 2015. On one hand, trafficking in human beings mostly takes place with outdated forms of transportation, with boats crossing the Mediterranean. Secondly, the revolution of transportation did not occur in 2015, but rather over decades.

This list of root causes of mass migration affecting Europe is far from being complete. Such a list leaves the fundamental question – why the migration crisis affecting Europe literally “erupted” in 2015, rather than gradually building up – completely unanswered.

The answer is quite simple: even though the root causes of mass migration to Europe have existed for decades or more, the migration wave is a phenomenon being *organized* by powerful players. In other words, it is “orchestrated” to massively “erupt” in 2015. *Major players are orchestrating the migration crisis:*

- The United States of America is encouraging European leaders to adopt masses of Muslim migrants as refugees. The US financed NGO-s that directly support migration to Europe. Behind the “politically correct” masque of the US there is an unstated (or vehemently denied) policy to weaken Europe, as an economic rival.
- US policies to encourage mass migration to Europe would not work without the help of European liberal politicians, the bureaucracy of the EU, and European nation states, that are unable and unwilling to adequately analyze the migration crisis and sense the gravity of its consequences. These people betray European civilization as a whole when serving selfish interests, aligning with US interests to weaken Europe.
- Several countries in the Muslim world, including Saudi Arabia, Turkey and ISIS – the terrorist organization – also support mass migration to Europe. We are witnessing a radical attempt to spread Islam, gain influence and ultimately take over Europe.
- The criminal underworld, that earns a lot of money when trafficking in human beings, also contributes to the organization of migration to Europe.

Europe is in a weakened position already when facing the migration crisis. The indigenous European population is aging and shrinking, giving up values that proved to be fundamental for survival, similarly to Rome before it failed. We are witnessing the rise of individualism, selfishness, and the breakup of traditional values, basic building blocks, structures, and tendencies of European society: such as Christianity, marriage between men and women, family, sufficient birth rates etc.

Traditional values and building blocks of European society are ignored in favor of unnatural and deviant tendencies, such as career building first and only then a family afterwards etc. LGBTQ⁵ rights growing far above the individual level. A gender-free culture, including names, titles, jobs etc. is encouraged. Sexual freedom with no responsibilities is “trendy”, and no consideration is devoted to the future of the “free” individual, the family (the relatives, in broader terms), or even a nation or a society as a whole.

How many Migrants can be settled in Europe?

A fundamental question is not asked by leading European politicians and is clearly not on their agenda: how many migrants can Europe adopt. It is also important to clarify the time frame since *the pace* of the adoption of a large population with a significantly different culture could make a big difference. Can we adopt a million refugees per year as happened in 2015? Tens or hundreds of millions in a few decades? If the answer would be less than a million per year, maybe a few tens of millions in a century all together, we could debate whether the majority of migrants could be integrated into European societies successfully in years or decades.

If the answer is that there is *no limit* to how many migrants Europe can take, or that Europe can take hundreds of millions of migrants, maybe in a few decades, that would definitely *change European culture and the way of life beyond recognition*. In other words, if the *Muslim* migrant population sooner or later becomes the new majority in some European cities, later in Europe as a whole that would literally be equal to the *death sentence of European culture and way of life* as we know it.

In arriving at such conclusions, several fundamental issues of “political correctness” should be analyzed. Probably the first that would come to our mind is the equality of religions. It might appear to be in contradiction to our emphasis on *Muslim* migrants and not migrants in general.

First, we need to note, that the main source of the migrant flow to Europe now comes from North Africa, the Middle East and Afghanistan. It means that the majority of migrants are Muslims. Therefore we are dealing with facts, when we associate migration to Europe with Muslims, and that is clearly not religious discrimination.

Second, we can agree that nobody as an individual or a religious group should be subject to differentiation, especially oppression because of their faith. However, there is a big difference in cultural terms when we talk about *indigenous, minority or new majority cultures*.

Indigenous religion and culture in Europe is Western type Christianity coupled with secularism since the church and the state were separated by bourgeois revolutions. *Minority* religions in Europe are those that are not Christian. If Muslim culture becomes a *new majority culture* in Europe, especially if the transformation to a new majority culture would occur in a historically unprecedentedly short time in Europe as a result of Muslim mass migration it would definitely be a *cultural shock*.

The percentage of Muslim population was around 6 percent in Europe in 2015. [42] (Annex 5) “Europe’s Muslim population, boosted by large families and immigration, will nearly double, from less than 6% (43 million people) in 2010 to more than 10% (71 million people) in 2050, the forecast estimates.” [42]

5 Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (questioning their identity).

It might appear to be an exaggeration to seriously consider a Muslim majority culture in Europe in the foreseeable future. However, scientific methods when calculating the percentage of the Muslim population include a great, dynamic “unknown”: key issues of European policies when tackling the migration crisis. If European policies would allow entering an *unlimited* amount of migrants, with no upper limits, an ever growing number of people will surely come since the migration pressure is expected to grow. Europe could theoretically accommodate millions or tens of millions of Muslim migrants per year, most of them seeking to achieve better living standards. In combination with higher Muslim fertility rates [43] and the decline of indigenous European population, Muslims could indeed become a majority in Europe by 2050.

If Turkey is allowed to enter the EU, within decades it would result in another disastrous turn of events regarding European culture and way of life. Even if Turkey is still a secular state, 99 percent of her population are Muslims and the country is clearly turning back from secularism under the presidency of Erdogan.

Europe will also have to consider the worldwide trend, according to which “*Over the next four decades, Christians will remain the largest religious group, but Islam will grow faster than any major religion...*” [43] There are indeed far reaching consequences of such tendencies since we live in a globalized world.

Based on contemporary realities in Africa, the Middle East and Afghanistan *we cannot expect similar or the same political correctness from a newly established Muslim majority* in parts of Europe, especially if they become a majority *in Europe as a whole*. We need to remember that political correctness is an invention of the Western world that is not wildly accepted and practiced in Muslim dominated countries all around the World.

We also need to keep in mind that fundamental cultural changes as a result of massive migration in the 21st century could occur in a historically very short time, in a few decades if migration would go uncontrolled. Such a short time is clearly not enough to integrate a new Muslim majority: the opposite would occur. The new majority would “integrate” the indigenous Christian culture and there is no reason to expect that such an integration would be peaceful and based on democratic principles, since *there is no truly democratic Muslim country* (in Western terms) *in the world*. With Muslim mass migration we import all sorts of problems originally attributed to the countries providing the human source of migration.

Since we cannot expect similar or the same political correctness from a newly established Muslim majority in Europe, the integration of large Muslim populations becomes a one way street. If Europe might let them settle, they will surely transform Christian (secular) European culture to an average Muslim culture that could be a mixture of what we witness in the countries where the migrant populations come from.

(To be continued.)

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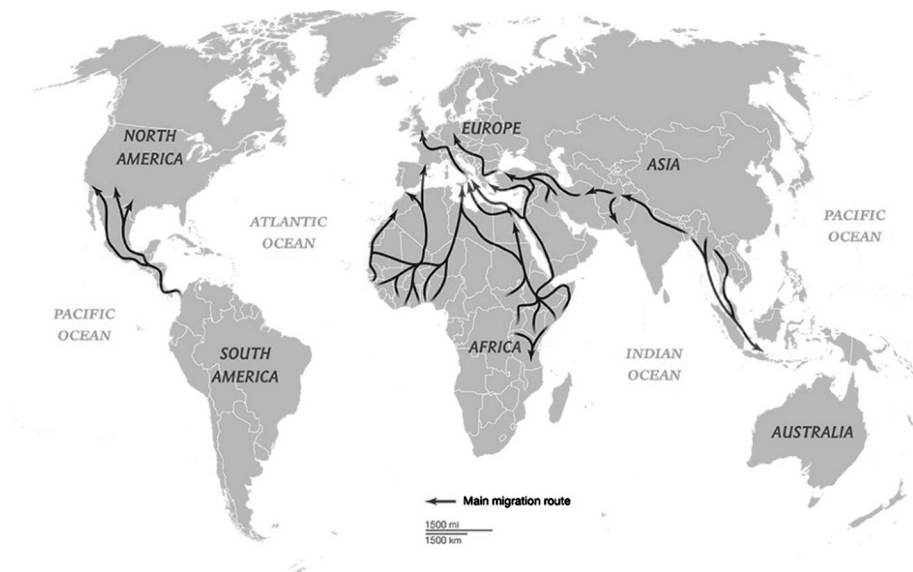
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Annexes



Annex 1. Indian passengers stand and hang onto a train as it departs from a station on the outskirts of New Delhi.

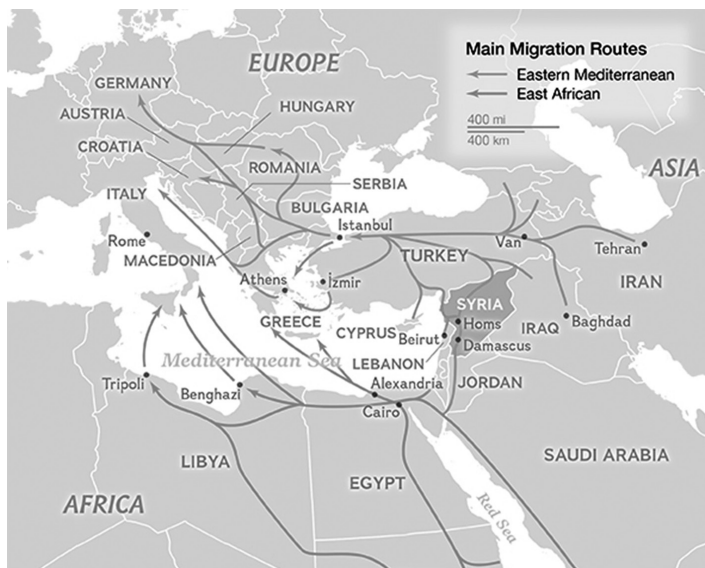
Source: www.cnn.com/2015/07/30/world-population-quarter-of-earth-will-be-african-in-2050.html
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Annex 2. Main global migration routes.

Sources: Missing migrants project, international organization for migration; UNHCR; I-map; regional mixed migration secretariat

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/09/150919-data-points-refugees-migrants-maps-human-migrations-syria-world/> (Downloaded: 04 02 2016)



Annex 3. Eastern Mediterranean and East African main migration routes to Europe.

Sources: Missing migrants project, international organization for migration; UNHCR; I-map; regional mixed migration secretariat

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/09/150919-data-points-refugees-migrants-maps-human-migrations-syria-world/> (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



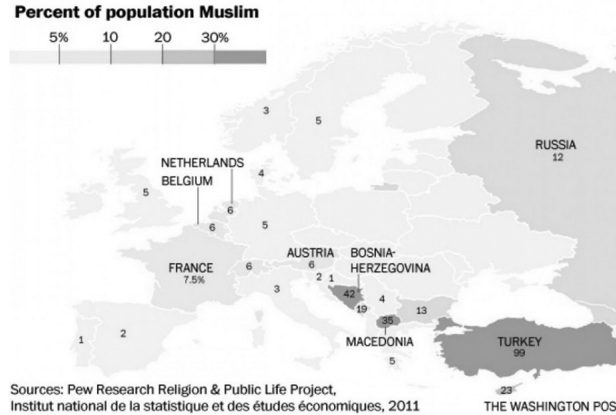
Annex 4. Main sea migration routes to Europe.

Sources: Missing migrants project, international organization for migration; UNHCR; I-map; regional mixed migration secretariat

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/09/150919-data-points-refugees-migrants-maps-human-migrations-syria-world/> (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)

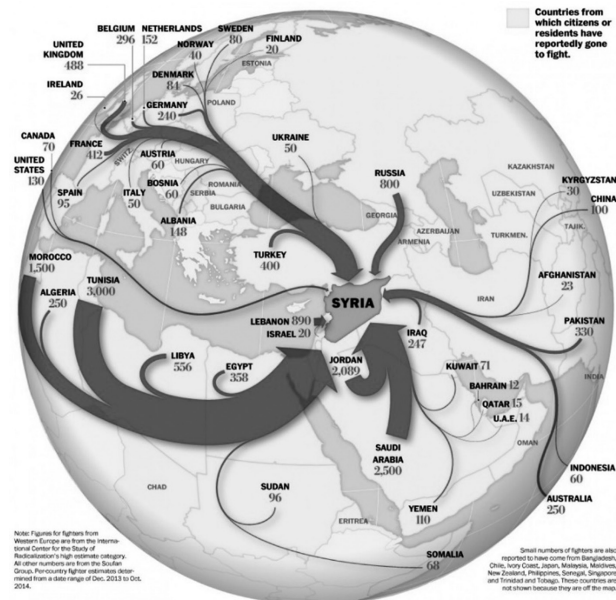
Growing Muslim population

About 7.5 percent of France's population was Muslim, according to a 2010 estimate, whereas the United Kingdom and Germany had about five percent. France's Muslim population was expected to be more than 10 percent by 2030, higher than anywhere else in Western Europe.



Annex 5. Growing Muslim population.

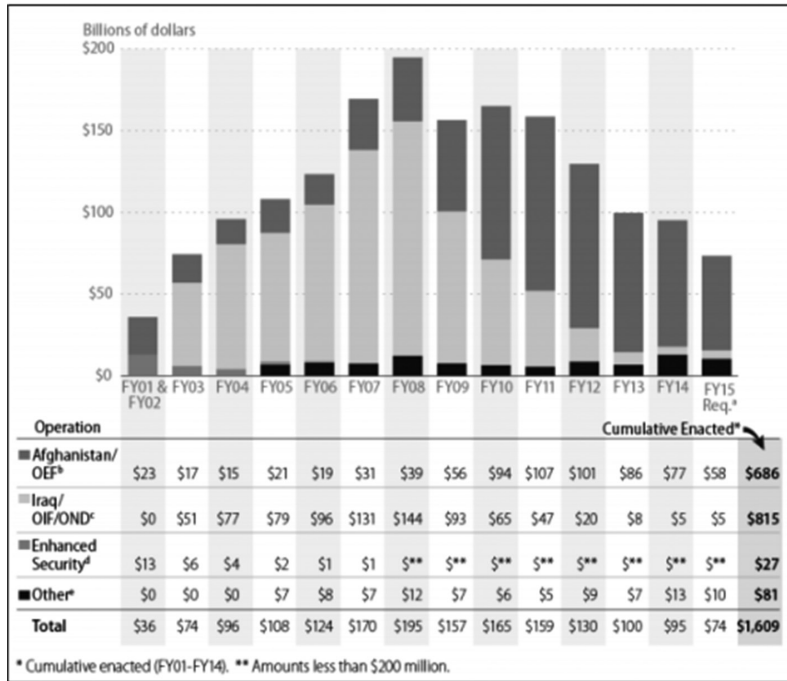
www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/01/09/map-frances-growing-muslim-population/
(Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 6. Countries from which citizens or residents have reportedly gone to fight in Syria.

Source: The Washington Post.

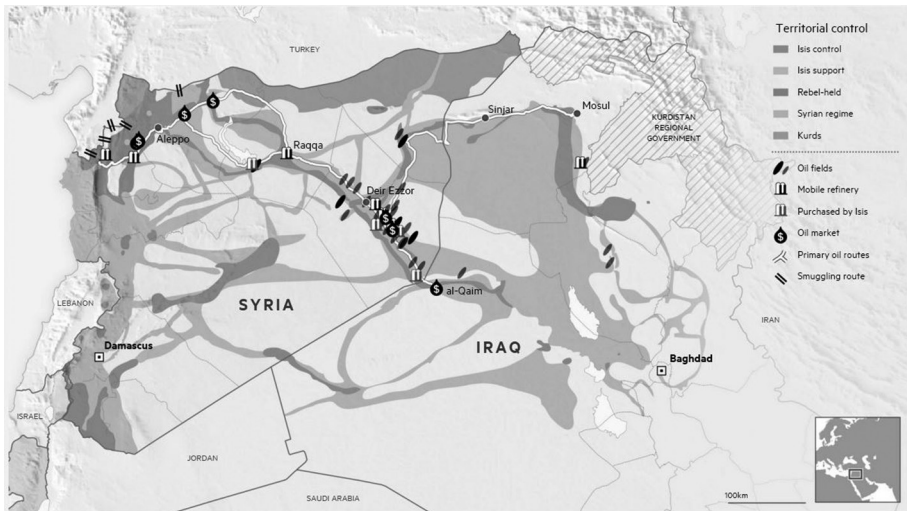
www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/01/09/map-frances-growing-muslim-population/
(Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 7. Estimated War Funding by Operation, FY2001-FY2015 Request.

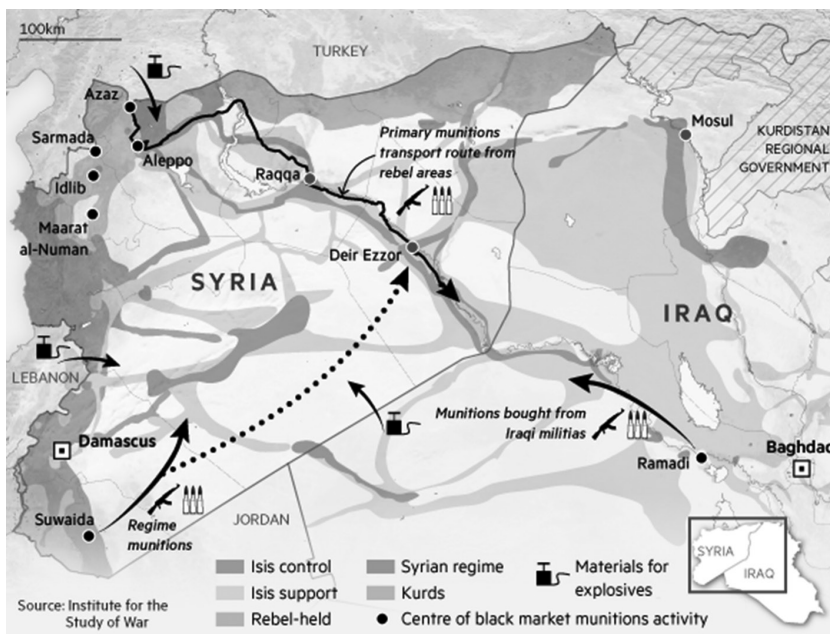
In Billions of Dollars of Budget Authority.

Source: Congressional Research Service via Federation of American Scientists. <https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL33110.pdf> (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



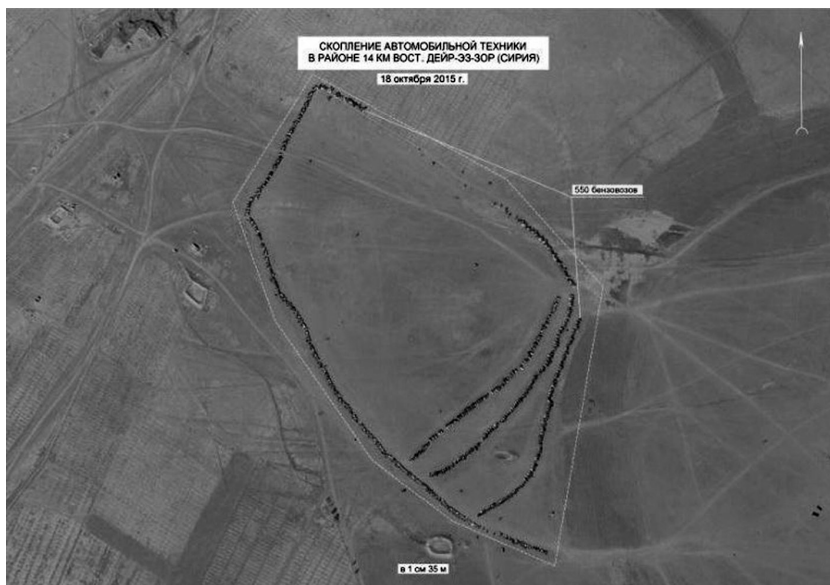
Annex 8. Inside ISIS Inc.: The Journey of a Barrel of Oil.

Source: The Financial Times. <http://ig.ft.com/sites/2015/isis-oil/> (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 9. ISIS: The munitions trail.

Source: *The Financial Times*. www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/2/baad34e4-973c-11e5-9228-87e603d47bdc.html#axzz3t9j7TuQn (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 10. Approximately 550 gasoline transporter vehicles massed in Syria on 18 October 2015.

Source: Russian General Staff, *Ria Novosti*. http://ria.ru/syria_mission/20151202/1334390432.html (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 11. More than 3000 fuel tankers amassed in Turkey according to a Russian satellite image of Sylopy (Turkey). They serve as an evidence of Turkish Oil smuggling in cooperation with ISIS.

Source: Satellite imagery of the Russian General Staff.

http://ria.ru/syria_mission/20151202/1334390432.html (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)



Annex 12. The so called “moderate rebels” in Syria.

Source: www.almasdarnews.com/article/27951/ (Downloaded: 04 03 2016)