

## The Great Putin's Wall



What is bound for two towns - Estonian Narva and Russian Taganrog? Is it their common soviet antecedents, or that they both are naval ports, the first one at the Baltic Sea and the other one at the Sea of Azov, or that most of their population is ethnic Russians? Before March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, YES.

However, after that date Narva and Taganrog may become the links of one chain, at that soon and literally.

We have to return two decades into the past in order to understand what kind of the chain is being talked about.

After disappearance of the Soviet Union and the fall of the "Iron Curtain" the Western world breathed a sigh of relief, so the citizens of the

newly formed independent States, - began to learn with curiosity and surprise of the opportunities that had opened around them.

Then incredible event, unparalleled in world history happened next. Third in the world after the U.S. and Russia, quantitatively by nuclear weapons country Ukraine voluntarily renounced nuclear status.

It is hard, almost impossible for an ordinary man to realize the whole grandiosity of this fact. At that time a country in the centre of Europe with the population of 52 million people and the level of industrial production not much inferior to that of Germany, signed the Budapest protocol and transferred all its nuclear weapons to Russia. Instead of the Intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) and strategic bombers with cruise nuclear missiles Ukraine obtained "paper guaranties" of security from USA and Russia.

Was it a choice of the Ukrainians or of the ruling clique? Was it the God's charity after the horror of Chernobyl catastrophe? Even twenty years later, there are no answers.

The time was passing and Ukraine, balancing between the West and Russia, built its own nationality how it could, and then came 2004. It was the year of revelation for Russia as well as for Europe and USA.

The Ukrainians, first time in the country's recent history, non-violently, without bloodshed, without breaking any showcases, were able to defend their civil rights and freedoms. That was the first, called later on "the Orange Revolution" of Ukrainian people against the will of the Kremlin.

Horror of Kremlin rulers was indescribable.

Forces and means involved by Putin to neutralize the effects of " the Orange Revolution" were enormous. Russian media were telling lies about Ukraine 24/7.

FSB, Interior Ministry and Russian Foreign Ministry made enormous efforts to prevent penetration of the "wind of freedom" into Russia.

However, in spite of all efforts, Bolotnaya Square had burst in Moscow and Kremlin regime realized – this is the **deadline**.

The very problem of conservation of authoritarian power in Russia arose simultaneously with the emergence of Russia as an independent state in 1991. By 1993 there had already been serious disagreements between the executive and legislative branches of the Russian Federation on key issues of state building.

The essence of contradictions consisted in the unwillingness of a group of people which was standing behind a former member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and at that time already the President of Russia, Yeltsin, to share the power. As the result, in October 1993, the whole world was watching alive the tanks of Russian Armed Forces shooting at the building of Russian Parliament in Moscow. The war in Chechnya started a year later. Then explosions of apartment houses in Moscow and Volgodonsk took place, to organization and implementation of which, according to some experts, Russian FSB was implicated.

Then followed the second Chechen war, but before which Putin had come to power.

It is common knowledge that the State deprived of inherent freedom of public relations, has no privilege to develop on the basis of beneficial initiatives, innovations and energy of civil society.

There has never been a civil society in Russia. Russian conscience has been balancing between chauvinism and Trotsky's internationalism for years.

After the fall of the "Iron Curtain" the Russians had obtained real opportunity to compare themselves with the West, as the saying goes, literally.

Anyway, further liberalization of the economy and social life has affected the consciousness of Russian citizens, thereby creating a real threat to the existing regime.

The idea of self-imposed isolation itself is not new. From time to time in human history appear examples of restrictions on external contacts imposed by individual states and even groups of countries. China, Japan and Korea in the XVII-XIX centuries and the Soviet Union in XX century, North Korea today, all had one goal - conservation, preservation of the existing order. What exactly pushed Vladimir Putin to the idea of erection of the Great Wall, we will hardly find out.

Perhaps it was the experience of Israel in an attempt to isolate itself from the Palestinian Authority or the U.S. experience of walling from Mexico. In any case, after 1st March, 2014 with the beginning of an armed invasion of the Russian army in Ukraine, the main goal of the Kremlin has become absolutely obvious.

That is erection of the Great Putin's Wall from the Barents Sea to the Azov Sea along the borders with Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Belarus and Ukraine. Neither Belarus or Ukraine nor especially Crimea are needed to Putin. He needs the self-isolation of Russia and preservation of his own power.

We must pay tribute to the persistence, guile and insidiousness with which the plan is carried out.

Invasion into Ukraine, violation of all fundamental international agreements, sharpening of the situation and bringing it to the brink of the third world war, have been and will be used by the Kremlin to separate Russian society from the Euro-Atlantic civilization, self-isolation of Russia and preservation of Putin's and His clique's authority. Up to the literal building of a concrete 2,000-mile fence from Narva to Taganrog.