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Back to mass psychosis

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EU society is once again on the brink of a massive mass psychosis, this time directly under the banner of war and not because of a "war against a virus".

Belgian psychologist Mattias Desmet attracted worldwide attention during the Covid pandemic with his "mass formation theory". He provided a theoretical basis for how it was possible for society to slip into a mass psychosis, which obviously declared completely irrational things to be the ultima ratio and literally persecuted critics as in the days of witch-burning. Desmet now sees a slide back into the mass formation of collective psychosis.

The cause is war. The irrational moment is also obvious: at first glance, the assumption that Putin is on his way to the Atlantic has little to do with the assumption that lockdowns, masks and the fourth booster would finally "protect against coronavirus". On closer inspection, however, both assumptions lack a factual basis. Propaganda about Russia has not decreased but increased since

2022, and with the EU's new armament plans in combination with the foreseeable military defeat of Ukraine, it has reached a new level.

This is how psychology sees the threatening situation:

We are sliding back into mass psychosis [mass formation]. At the moment we are still talking about the slight preliminary stage of this ("massification" in Ellul's terms). But we are not far from full-blown mass formation, where belief or non-belief in the war narrative tears apart all social groups - including friend and family groups - and a radical intolerance emerges towards anyone who refuses to go along with a black and white hate story about the great enemy.

And this mass formation will unleash even more aggression than the previous one (because the previous mass formation has already exacerbated the loneliness, futility, fear and frustration that existed).

The Russians are human too. And if you really want to ignore the prehistory of this conflict, you can't possibly put all the blame on them. Look up Lord Palmerston's strategy that led to the Crimean War back in the 19th century. Then come back and tell me that NATO has not taken offensive actions against Russia, actions that shed a clearer light on what is happening now and debunk the myth of the eternally peaceful NATO.