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US imperialism disguises itself as a peacemaker

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A detailed report is based on the conversation between Judge Andrew Napolitano and Pepe Escobar on November 20, 2025 in Moscow

Pepe Escobar, one of the keenest observers of the global balance of power, spoke with Judge Napolitano from Moscow on the night of November 20 to 21, 2025. The conversation covers the main trouble spots of our time – Ukraine, Gaza, Syria, Venezuela, Iran – and relentlessly exposes how US imperialism today disguises itself as a "peacemaker" when in reality it retains or expands control. All quotes are from this conversation.



1. Ukraine: Does Marco Rubio really want peace?

"If we look ideologically and look at the background, there is no question that they do not want peace. The neocons as a whole do not want peace, and certain sectors of the American ruling class do not want peace either. Europeans as a whole – I start with the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, almost all heads of state and government with very few exceptions such as Hungary – do not want peace."

Escobar makes it clear: The alleged "28-point peace plan" that is currently haunting the media is nothing but a tactical diversionary tactic.

"The 28-point plan is essentially a diversionist tactic."

Kirill Dmitriev (RDIF chief) is not an official negotiator. The Kremlin's real negotiators are Foreign Minister Lavrov and Putin's foreign policy adviser Ushakov. Everything else is a side channel that is deliberately used to buy time – while the Russian army is advancing inexorably.

"The Ukrainian front is collapsing. The general mood in Russia is that this could perhaps be resolved in the next few months."

At the same time, it is becoming increasingly clear that Kiev has neither people, nor money, nor functioning weapons.

"They no longer have manpower, they no longer have young men, they have no money to pay for soldiers and weapons, and even with wound weapons, the internal logic of the battlefield will not change."

2. The gigantic corruption scandal – and Europe's silence

Escobar speaks of a mountain of corruption, of which the recently disclosed 100 million euro affair in the Ukrainian energy sector is only the tip.

"What NABU is investigating with these 100 million is peanuts and only the tip of a gigantic corruption iceberg."

He recalls an anecdote circulating in Russia from the early phase:

"There was a conversation between the then Secretary of State Blinken and a senior Kiev official. The Kiev resident said: 'We need 30%.' Blinken replied, 'Can we leave it at 20%?' So somewhere between 20 and 30 percent commission."

If you extrapolate this to the at least 90 billion euros that the EU alone has transferred to Kiev, you inevitably end up in Brussels – with that "toxic Medusa" who likes to lie in German (Ursula von der Leyen).

"This explains the absolute silence in Europe about this scandal. They want the scandal to disappear."

3. Gaza: The "peace plan" that is pure neo-colonialism

On the UN Security Council vote on the Trump/Witkoff/Kushner/Blair plan for Gaza:

"Russian UN Ambassador Nebenzia said in his speech that the whole thing is completely absurd and that Russia is basically against it. But they abstained – because virtually the entire Sunni Arab world and the Palestinian Authority/Fatah voted for it. How should Russia and China vote against Palestinian factions??"

For Escobar, the plan itself is nothing but the continuation of Western control by other means.

"This 20-point Trump plan condemns Gaza to neocolonization and permanent occupation by a so-called international force."

4. Syria: Russia got what it wanted

"Have the Russians betrayed Syria? No, it's much more nuanced. They have secured their sphere of influence in the eastern Mediterranean. The division of Syria now includes the US, Israel, Turkey and Russia to the west with its bases. This means that nothing happens in Syria without a Russian yes or no."

5. Venezuela and Iran: The Red Line

Asked what Russia will do if the US attacks Venezuela:

"They have Venezuela's back – Russia, China and Iran are sending everything Venezuela needs under the table. Everyone in Venezuela knows this."

To Iran:

"Iran has told Russia: 'We can do everything on our own. We welcome your help, we welcome defence systems, we welcome everything you send us. But if we are attacked, we can do it ourselves."

Escobar quotes a senior IRGC commander from the previous day:

"If they give us the pretext, we can raze them to the ground this time, because now there are no more borders."

6. Israel's Nuclear Blackmail – Credible or Not?

Escobar comments on former CIA agent John Kiriakou's claim that Israel threatened Trump with the use of nuclear weapons against Iran in 2019/2020 if the US did not bomb itself:

"That would be absolute proof number one that they can literally control everything and do anything they want, when they want, and get away with it."

7. The mood in Russia

"When you're in Moscow, you're 1,200 kilometres away from the war. In the Far East, in Vladivostok, people are constantly talking about war. There are military families who are satisfied because they are well taken care of. There is a very hard nationalist-patriotic strand that criticises the slowness and approach of the SMO. And of course there is a small Atlanticist fifth column, especially between St. Petersburg and Moscow, which is completely against it."

But overall:

"The culture of debate here is something off the board – in a positive way. It is not an authoritarian system in which you are not allowed to discuss freely. On the Russian Internet, there are all currents that talk to each other or insult each other. There is a democratic spirit of discussion."

Result

US imperialism has refined its methods. He no longer openly acts as an occupier, but as a "peace mediator", as a "humanitarian helper", as an "international guarantor". But behind the 28-point plans, the Gaza "reconstruction" initiatives and the "negotiation offers" is the same goal as always: control, spheres of influence, resources — and the weakening of any country that opposes the unipolar order.

How Escobar sums it up:

"They disguise themselves as peacemakers – but it is and remains imperialism."