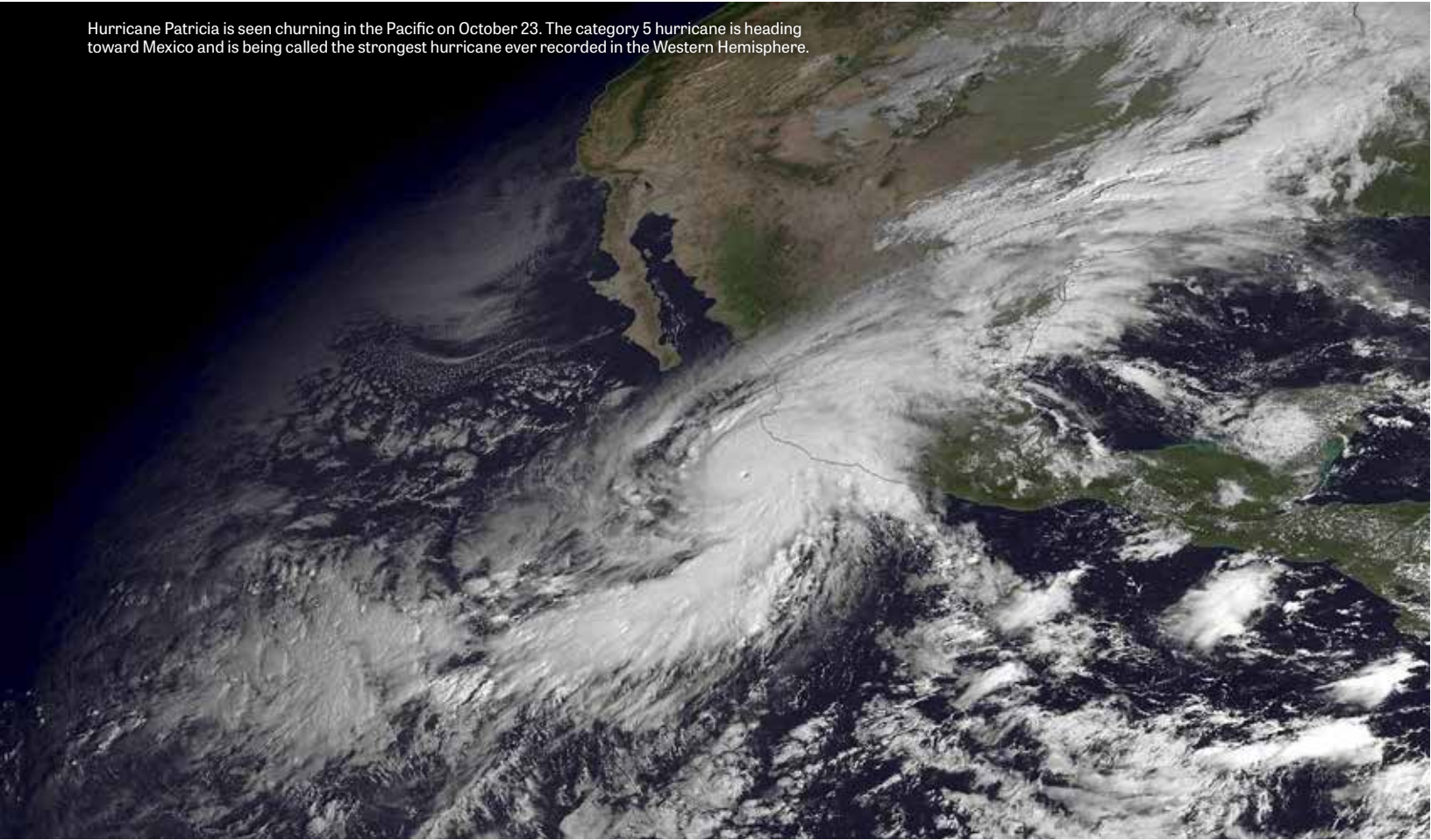


# Trumpet Weekly

OCTOBER 23, 2015

Hurricane Patricia is seen churning in the Pacific on October 23. The category 5 hurricane is heading toward Mexico and is being called the strongest hurricane ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere.



## Monster Hurricane Patricia About to Slam Mexico

Joel Hilliker | October 23

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



JOEL HILLIKER

**H**URRICANE PATRICIA IS SHORTLY expected to make landfall on the Pacific Coast of Mexico. This massive storm is boasting maximum sustained winds of 200 miles per hour, and gusts even more powerful than that.

Meteorologists predict it will be more powerful than Hurricane Andrew in 1992, or Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The United States National Hurricane

Center in Miami is warning of a “potentially catastrophic landfall” of what it believes will remain a Category 5 hurricane. It could cause massive death and destruction to a huge area in southwestern Mexico on the Pacific coast.

It is expected to dump 8 to 12 inches of rain—up to 20 inches in some places. That could produce life-threatening flash floods and mudslides.

“Patricia’s intensity is comparable to Typhoon Haiyan, which hit the Philippines in 2013, the World Meteorological Organization tweeted,” CNN reported. “More than 6,000 people died

in Haiyan, due largely to enormous storm surges that rushed through coastal areas. Haiyan had 195-mph sustained winds when it made landfall ....”

CNN meteorologist Chad Myers said, “This is the only hurricane that’s ever been this powerful.”

These once-in-a-generation events—or once-in-a-century, or even once-in-a-millennium events, as the flooding in South Carolina was described earlier this month—are happening with alarming frequency.

Our climate-controlled modern world keeps most of us sheltered from the effects of normal fluctuations in the weather far more than ever in the past. But then these massive events occur and remind us of the immense *power* of the natural world.

Climatic and weather disasters can exhibit awful catastrophic power that makes us feel so small. It reminds us of how helpless we can be in the face of these events.

Modern civilization has developed amazing technology to *predict* many of these events (although in this case, the storm whipped up extremely quickly, with little advance notice). However, when the disaster strikes, there is virtually nothing we can do to stop it.

In Mexico, people have braced for the storm by stacking sandbags and boarding up windows—but in the end, the best they can do is flee. No matter what they do, that storm is going to hit, and hit hard.

Why do events like this happen?

We live in a materialistic world, a world in which people seek materialistic explanations. In this case, people are attributing the storm to El Niño raising the water temperature a few degrees and tipping the event over the edge into something far more devastating than it would have been otherwise.

In truth, science cannot know for certain. Weather is extremely complicated, with an untold number of factors involved. There is a reason why the weathermen are so often wrong in their forecasts. To understand causes to the extent that they could actually do something about them, particularly to *prevent* such disasters, is several steps beyond their capacity.

The fact remains, though, that a purely materialistic view of such events fails to provide satisfying explanations. Climatic catastrophes tend to defy only materialistic reasons.

If you have not studied into what the Bible says on the subject, you should. Scripture has much to say about weather and about climatic disasters. There is a lot about the disasters we see in the world around us, explaining *why* they happen—and even revealing *our part* in their happening.

If you accept the biblical explanation, then you must acknowledge that there *ARE* *man-made causes* for these tragedies.

The Bible plainly reveals how God is in control of these powerfully destructive forces. He doesn’t necessarily *cause* catastrophes like hurricanes. There are biblical examples where He did, but there are also biblical examples where He didn’t.

However, even in those cases where God doesn’t *cause* it, He does allow it.

And that raises some difficult questions—questions that a lot of people don’t really want to face.

WHY would God allow a destructive hurricane to devastate the lives of thousands of people? What kind of God would let such things happen?

These are important questions that people don’t ask enough. Most people put them out of their minds—or if they do consider them, they do so only for a moment and then quickly move on.

But it is important for us to ask WHY would God allow this! We need to *pay attention* when terrifying disasters wreak such havoc on so many. Such events should rouse us from our bubble of self-concern and cause us to sit up and take notice. They should raise questions that challenge our assumptions about the world—and about God.

If you want to pursue answers to these difficult questions, read our booklet *Why ‘Natural’ Disasters?* It directly addresses these issues: What is wrong with the weather? Why does God allow suffering? It even puts recent disasters in their context: Are these signs of the end of the world? This booklet brings a lot of clarity to this crucial subject.

 Follow Joel Hilliker

## MIDDLE EAST

WHAT TO MAKE OF BENJAMIN NETANYAHU’S REMARKS ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST | OCTOBER 23

THE DEATH OF EUROPE, ISRAEL’S GERMAN ALLY, AND IRAN’S HIDDEN WAR WITH THE WEST | OCTOBER 22

BLACK OCTOBER IN JERUSALEM AND THE LEFT’S INABILITY TO MAKE MORAL JUDGMENTS | OCTOBER 21

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT GOD | OCTOBER 20

THE REFUGEE CRISIS, MERKEL’S DOWNFALL, AND THE POLITICAL HURRICANE HEADING FOR EUROPE | OCTOBER 19

# TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW



## Benjamin Netanyahu and the Grand Mufti: What Is the Real Controversy?

Stephen Flurry | October 23

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU TRIGGERED A firestorm of controversy on Tuesday when he told the World Zionist Congress that Hitler's "final solution" was actually someone else's idea—that of the grand mufti of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin al-Husseini.

Here's the context of those controversial remarks: "[T]his attack and other attacks on the Jewish community in 1920, 1921, 1929, were instigated by a call of the Mufti of Jerusalem Haj Amin al-Husseini, who was later sought for war crimes in the Nuremberg trials because he had a central role in fomenting the final solution.

"He flew to Berlin. Hitler didn't want to exterminate the Jews at the time, he wanted to expel the Jews. And Haj Amin al-Husseini went to Hitler and said, 'If you expel them, they'll all come here.' 'So what should I do with them?' he asked. He said, 'Burn them.' And he was sought in, during the Nuremberg trials for prosecution. He escaped it and later died of cancer after the war. ... But this is what Haj Amin al-Husseini said. He said, 'The Jews seek to destroy the Temple Mount.' My grandfather in 1920 seeks to destroy ... al-Aqsa Mosque.

"So this lie is about a hundred years old."

Netanyahu was primarily talking about the LIES the Palestinians have been spreading—that the Jews are trying to destroy al-Aqsa. But what got all the attention was his comment about Hitler wanting to expel the Jews and how it was the mufti who encouraged Hitler to burn them!

The outrage triggered by Netanyahu's remarks was not just limited to Palestinian leaders—many Western officials and Israelis were infuriated by what the prime minister said.

So what is it about the mufti?

The Nazis started working with the Jerusalem mufti in the 1930s, when he was fomenting Arab resentment toward the British. He was then forced to flee to Iraq. "Once there," we wrote in the *Trumpet*, "he attempted to arrange an Iraqi coup against the British government in 1941. The mufti then fled through Iran and found his way to Berlin, where he received a hero's welcome as the 'führer of the Arab world.' He met with Hitler on a number of occasions and worked to advance the Nazi goal of exterminating the Jews, personally recruiting Bosnian Muslims for the Nazi cause" ("[The Mufti and the Führer](#)," *Trumpet*, May 2007).

The mufti met with Hitler in November 1941. By that point, the killing of Jews had already begun on the eastern front. But the "final solution" wasn't made official until two months AFTER the mufti's visit with Hitler. So whether or not the conversation between Hitler and the grand mufti happened exactly the way Netanyahu says, one thing we know for certain is that the mufti was definitely an ENTHUSIASTIC supporter of the FINAL SOLUTION!

And the mufti was responsible for instigating genocide against the Jews in the 1920s and 1930s—and again in Iraq in 1941.

Netanyahu may have overstated his case about who came up with the idea—but the undeniable fact is that both Hitler and AND the grand mufti embraced the FINAL SOLUTION and worked to EXTERMINATE Jews in Europe and the Middle East.

Many people said that Netanyahu's remarks somehow let Hitler off the hook for the Holocaust. Even Angela Merkel's government in Germany responded to Netanyahu's speech by saying the

"responsibility for this crime against humanity is German and very much our own."

But was Netanyahu really trying to absolve Germany's involvement in the Holocaust? Or was he trying to show that Germany had ENTHUSIASTIC support and help coming from the GODFATHER of the Palestinian movement?

Here's how Netanyahu responded to the storm of criticism on Wednesday: "Hitler was responsible for the Final Solution to murder 6 million. ... At the same time, it is absurd to ignore the role played by the mufti, Haj Amin al-Husseini, a war criminal, in encouraging and goading Hitler, Ribbentrop, Himmler and others to exterminate European Jewry."

What should be the big story is that the Palestinian leader was a *war criminal* who exterminated Jews and offered Adolf Hitler enthusiastic support!

Netanyahu continued: "There are many testimonies to this, including the testimony of Eichmann's deputy [Dieter Wisliceny] at Nuremberg ... after the Second World War. He said: 'The mufti played a role in the decision of the German government to exterminate the European Jews, the importance of which must not be disregarded. He has repeatedly suggested to the various authorities with whom he has been in contact, above all before Hitler, Ribbentrop and Himmler, the extermination of European Jewry. He considered this as a comfortable solution for the Palestine problem.'

"Eichmann's deputy added: 'The mufti was one of the initiators of the diabolical extermination of European Jewry and was a partner and adviser to Eichman and Hitler in the carrying-out of this plan.'

"This attempt by certain researchers and certain people to give an apologetic to the central and important role Hajj Amin al-Husseini had is obvious. ...

"My goal was not to absolve Hitler from the responsibility that he bears, but rather to show that the father of the Palestinian nation at that time, without a state and without what they call 'the occupation,' without Palestinian territories and without settlements, already aspired to destroy the Jews through systematic incitement."

Netanyahu's point was that Palestinians were aiming to *kill Jews* even before there was a Jewish state! They were spreading the lie that Jews were trying to destroy al-Aqsa *even before* there was a Jewish state!

But that's not what's making big news. The big story is whether or not Benjamin Netanyahu overstated the grand mufti's involvement in the Holocaust.

"Unfortunately, Hajj Amin al-Husseini is still a revered figure in Palestinian society," Netanyahu said. "He appears in textbooks and is elevated as the father of the nation, and the incitement that began with him, incitement to kill Jews, continues. It's not the same format, but in another format, and it's the root of the problem. In order to stop the murder, we must stop the incitement."

Now is that the truth—or is it a lie?

On Jan. 4, 2013, Mahmoud Abbas said this about the godfather of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the mufti of Jerusalem. "We must remember the pioneers, the grand mufti of



Palestine, Hajj Mohammed Amin al-Husseini, as well as Ahmad al-Shukeiri, the founder of the PLO.” Abbas praised the mufti as one of the pioneers of the Palestinian movement!

On Oct. 6, 2013, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a speech at Bar Ilan University in response to Abbas’s high praise for the grand mufti. In it, he referred to the affidavit of Wisliceny from the Nuremberg trials.

In a Powerline piece titled “Netanyahu vs. the Mufti: Why the Controversy?”, acclaimed lawyer John Hinderaker wrote, “While Netanyahu overstated the case, the universal condemnation of his remarks not only reflects hostility toward the prime minister, but also, I suspect, a desire to distract attention from an important piece of history of which most people are unaware.”

 Follow [Stephen Flurry](#)

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## Bolstered Assad Makes Surprise Visit to Moscow

Associated Press | October 21

### WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



**P**RESIDENT BASHAR ASSAD HAS TRAVELED TO MOSCOW IN HIS first known trip abroad since war broke out in Syria in 2011, meeting his strongest ally, Russian leader Vladimir Putin. The two leaders stressed that military operations in Syria—in which Moscow is the latest and most powerful addition—must lead to a political process.

The surprise visit Tuesday reflects renewed confidence from the embattled Syrian president after Russia and Iran, another staunch ally, dramatically escalated their support recently as Moscow began carrying out airstrikes on Syrian insurgents and Tehran sent hundreds of ground forces. ...

Putin said he had invited Assad, thanking him for “coming to Moscow despite a tragic situation in your country.”

Assad flashed wide smiles as he shook hands with Putin and other officials. “We thank you for standing by Syria’s territorial integrity and its independence,” Assad told Putin. ...

“The Syrian people have been putting up a fight against international terrorism effectively on its own for several years, sustaining sizeable losses but it has achieved positive results

recently,” Putin said. ...

“Terrorism, which we see spreading today, could have been more widespread and more harmful if it weren’t for your decisions and steps, not only in our region,” Assad told Putin in remarks carried by Arab media. ...

Moscow also has sought to alleviate the concerns of Turkey, a major economic partner and the second-biggest importer of Russian natural gas, which has been critical of Russia’s intervention in Syria. Ankara also supports rebels fighting Assad. ...

“If only he could stay in Moscow longer, to give the people of Syria some relief; in fact he should stay there so the transition can begin,” Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu told reporters. ...

“By summoning Assad to Moscow, Putin seeks to convert an early military success into political capital, by launching a political transition on his terms,” [Dmitry Trenin of the Moscow Carnegie Center] said.

**RELATED:** [“HOW THE SYRIAN CRISIS WILL END”](#)

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## U.S. to Iraq: If Russia Helps You Fight ISIS, We Can’t

CBS News | October 21

**T**HE U.S. HAS TOLD IRAQ’S LEADERS THEY MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN ongoing American support in the battle against militants of the Islamic State ... and asking the Russians to intervene instead.

Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Tuesday that the Iraqis had promised they would not request any Russian airstrikes or support for the fight against ISIS. ...

“I said it would make it very difficult for us to be able to provide the kind of support you need if the Russians were here conducting operations as well,” Dunford said. “We can’t conduct operations if the Russians were operating in Iraq right now.” ...

The ultimatum to Iraq comes as the U.S. grapples with Russia’s dramatically increased role in the war in Syria, just to the west of Iraq. ...

Reuters reports that the U.S. ultimatum to Iraq puts [Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi] in a difficult position, as his own country’s ruling political alliance and some powerful Shiite groups have been pushing him to request Russian air support. ...

Meanwhile, Russia’s ambassador in London, who has a history of snarky jabs at U.S. policy on Twitter, took to the social media platform to suggest “terrorists must be rejoicing” at the news that Russia appeared unlikely to get a request for help from the Iraqis.

## Germany Urges Iran to Use Sway Over Assad to End Syria War

Reuters | October 17

GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER URGED Iran on Saturday to use its influence over Syrian President Bashar Assad to move towards a diplomatic end to Syria's civil war. ...

"My wish is that Iran uses its influence in the government and on Assad and his entourage so that we take the first steps towards a de-escalation in Syria," he said in Tehran on the first official visit to Iran by a German foreign minister in more than 10 years. ...

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said earlier this month military efforts were necessary in Syria even though they would not put an end to the civil war.

Germany is not taking part in any military action in Syria, but

in neighboring Iraq it is providing Kurdish Peshmerga forces with weapons and training.

**"Again, why does Berlin appear substantially more interested in the crisis in Syria than it was with Libya? Because overthrowing the pro-Iranian, anti-Western Assad regime meshes with Berlin's larger geopolitical and strategic ambitions for the Middle East! As Karsten D. Voigt ... explained, the tension between the West and Syria and its international allies is not about 'human rights versus dictatorship'—it's about 'GEOSTRATEGIC INTERESTS.'"**

"Will Germany Intervene in Syria?" theTrumpet.com, April 19, 2012

## U.S. Confirms Iran Tested Nuclear-Capable Ballistic Missile

Reuters | October 16

THE UNITED STATES HAS CONFIRMED THAT IRAN TESTED A MEDIUM-range missile capable of delivering a nuclear weapon, in "clear violation" of a United Nations Security Council ban on ballistic missile tests, a senior U.S. official said on Friday.

"The United States is deeply concerned about Iran's recent ballistic missile launch," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said in a statement.

"After reviewing the available information, we can confirm that Iran launched on October 10 a medium-range ballistic missile inherently capable of delivering a nuclear weapon," she said. "This

was a clear violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1929."

The United States is preparing a report on the incident for the Security Council's Iran Sanctions Committee and will raise the matter directly with Security Council members "in the coming days," Power said. ...

"The Security Council prohibition on Iran's ballistic missile activities, as well as the arms embargo, remain in place," Power said. "We will continue to press the Security Council for an appropriate response to Iran's disregard for its international obligations." ...

## U.A.E. 'No Longer Bound' Not to Enrich Uranium

Arutz Sheva | October 16

A LEADING MEMBER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES revealed that a senior United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) official told him his country will also seek to enrich uranium, after Iran was allowed to do so in the recent nuclear deal.

Representative Ed Royce, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said the U.A.E. Ambassador to the U.S. Yousef al-Otaiba told him over the phone that the U.A.E. is no longer bound by its previous nuclear agreement with the U.S., in a troubling sign of a regional nuclear arms race that Saudi Arabia has already indicated it will likely take part in.

"He told me, 'your worst enemy has achieved this right to enrich. It's a right to enrich now that your friends are going to want, too, and we won't be the only country,'" Royce told the Associated Press.

The U.S. made an agreement with the U.A.E. in 2009, promising to aid the Gulf state in producing nuclear energy in return for

the U.A.E. promising not to enrich uranium or reprocess spent fuel to extract plutonium, both of which are processes to build a nuclear weapon. ...

Sen. Robert Menendez said during a speech in August against the Iran deal: "[I]magine how a country like the United Arab Emirates—sitting just miles away from Iran across the Strait of Hormuz—feels after they sign a civilian nuclear agreement with the U.S. ... to not enrich or reprocess uranium?"

**"In looking at what has transpired since President Obama's 2009 Cairo speech, it is clear that the seismic shift in U.S. foreign policy it represented has helped set the Arab world ablaze. ... Now, thanks in no small part to Washington's rapprochement with Tehran, a Middle East nuclear arms race has begun."**

"Made in America: A Nuclear Middle East," Trumpet, August 2015

# TrumpetHour

HURRICANE PATRICIA, UK COURTS CHINA, ASSAD VISITS MOSCOW, RUSSIA IN THE ARCTIC, AND MORE | OCTOBER 23

CANADA'S NEW PRIME MINISTER, REFUGEE CRISIS CHANGING EUROPE, INDIA AND MORE | OCTOBER 21

## Defiant Portugal Shatters the Eurozone's Political Complacency

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, *Telegraph* | October 21

**T**HE DELAYED FUSE ON THE EUROZONE'S DEBT-DEFLATION POLICIES has finally detonated in a second country. Portugal has joined the revolt against austerity.

The rickety scaffolding of fiscal discipline and economic surveillance imposed on southern Europe by Germany is falling apart on its most vulnerable front. ...

The upset in Portugal has caught Europe's elites off guard. The eurozone is enjoying a cyclical rebound of sorts, driven by the happy trifecta of cheap energy, a cheap euro, and cheap credit. The ECB's quantitative easing has flushed the system with liquidity, though Europe still has one foot in deflation.

Europe's leaders thought the crisis was over and believed their own propaganda that Portugal has successfully clawed its way back to safety by adhering strictly to Troika terms. This was always wishful thinking.

William Buiter, Citigroup's chief economist, says Portugal has many of the same economic "pathologies" as Greece, with debt ratios already beyond the point of no return, and a fresh solvency crisis almost inevitable in the next downturn.

Portugal's combined public and private debt is 370 percent of GDP. This is the second-highest in the developed world after

Japan, but Japan is an international creditor while Portugal has net external liabilities of 215 percent of GDP. ...

It is this mix of high debt and chronically low growth that is so toxic, compounded by deflationary forces that poison with debt dynamics. ...

The anti-austerity revolt in Portugal is a foretaste of what may happen in a string of EMU [Economic Monetary Union] states when the global economic expansion rolls over, as it may well do within a couple of years on historical patterns.

The social and political damage caused by the eurozone's self-inflicted slump from 2008-2014 is still fermenting, a combustible atmosphere if the region is soon hit by fresh downturn.

The currency bloc is in worse shape on almost every metric than it was before the Lehman crisis. Debt levels are 35 percentage points of GDP higher. EMU-wide unemployment is stuck at 11 percent. The credibility of eurozone leadership is in tatters.

Powerful populist forces are waiting in the wings in Spain, Italy and France. The events in Portugal have shown that every election in southern Europe is a now an "event risk." Political chickens are coming home to roost, and economic time is running out.

## Finland and Sweden Inch Closer to NATO

Kevin Knodell, *War is Boring* | October 20

**F**OR MONTHS, SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES HAVE ACCUSED RUSSIAN military planes and ships of slipping into their waters without permission. It's made many Nordic governments wary of the Kremlin's intentions in the Baltic Sea and the Arctic Ocean.

Russia's assertive behavior is driving Sweden and Finland—two countries that have never been part of NATO—closer to the alliance. At present, Norway, Denmark and Iceland make up NATO's Nordic members. ...

Denmark has risen to particular prominence. Danish troops fought alongside British troops against the Taliban in Helmand province during some of Afghanistan war's fiercest battles.

Danish troops patrolled towns in southern Iraq under British command for several years, and Denmark was among the first

countries to join the anti-Islamic State coalition in August 2014.

During the Cold War, Sweden and Finland were both ostensibly neutral countries. Sweden built up its own domestic weapons industry with a particular emphasis on warplanes—culminating in the advanced, multi-role JAS 39 Gripen fighter. ...

Since the end of the Cold War, Sweden and Finland have sought closer ties with Western European countries, and both have joined the European Union. In the early 1990s, Sweden participated with Denmark and Norway in Balkans peacekeeping missions. All Scandinavian countries have contributed troops to the NATO mission in Afghanistan. ...

Nevertheless, tensions have hardly cooled, and some NATO members are frustrated with Sweden and Finland. Should the alliance come to the defense of non-NATO states? How far should

NATO members ... go to accommodate countries that aren't even part of the alliance? ...

Now with Russia actively involved in the Syrian civil war and

beefing up its Arctic military presence, Finland and Sweden are likely to become closer with NATO with each passing day, even if they're not willing to join.

## Is Angela Merkel's Exit Strategy Shaping German Refugee Policy? Guardian | October 20

**W**HAT IS DRIVING ANGELA MERKEL? THIS IS THE QUESTION ON the lips of not just her usual critics, but also members of her own party. For the first decade of her chancellorship, she took great care to tread carefully in domestic policies, always intent to avoid or assuage public opposition. Yet now, as if to mark her 10th anniversary in power, her strategy has radically changed.

Merkel's suspension of the Dublin II accord and her decision to do away with all effective vetting of asylum applications submitted by Syrians looks certain to lead to an unprecedented number of migrants arriving in the country; according to the latest estimates, 1.5 million refugees are likely to have arrived in Germany in 2015 alone.

This has led not only to public criticism from protesters on the far right, but also to dissent within her own party. At a recent party gathering in the eastern German state of Saxony, CDU [Christian Democratic Union] officials and local councilors openly questioned if their leader's refugee policy took Germany's genuine interests into consideration. When Merkel attended a plenary session of her parliamentary party this week, she was reminded by her chief whip that about a third of M.P.s may oppose her course because of the risk of sliding approval ratings.

Indeed, for the first time since the federal election in 2013, opinion surveys indicate popular support for Merkel's CDU dipping below 40 percent. One leading polling institute suggests that a majority of voters disagree with the government's handling of the refugee crisis. So what has led her to abandon her cautious course of old?

Theories abound on online forums and around the *stammtische* in your average German pub. Merkel has simply lost touch with ordinary voters over a decade in the job, say some. She was secretly angling for this year's Nobel Peace Prize by putting her country at the service of an international refugee operation,

say others. One commonly voiced view is that Merkel genuinely misjudged the situation this summer when she proclaimed with a view to the swelling refugees numbers heading for Germany: "*Wir schaffen das.*" ("We will cope.") She asserted in no uncertain terms that Germany would continue to be a welcoming host to refugees. Anything else, she said, would "not be my country." Now, the argument goes, she feels committed to her earlier pledge and does not see a way to go back on her words. ...

Another answer seems more likely. After a decade at the helm, Merkel may be looking for an exit strategy that earns her recognition among the international community of political leaders whose discourse she seems increasingly to prefer over the narrow-minded bickering among her local party officials and parliamentary members.

German chancellors have a limited shelf life. In private conversations with her inner circle, Merkel is known to speak freely about her wish to resign at a moment of her choosing, rather than wait for her party and voters to send her into retirement. Yet timing and circumstances are rarely forthcoming, which makes a leader's exit often seem haphazard, at times outright messy. ...

Merkel may well have picked different role models whose example she is intent to follow: chancellors who went down in heroic political battles for what they perceived to be worthy and honorable causes. ...

To Merkel, these may be appealing models to follow. She is confronted with a similar situation: the refugee crisis has handed her an opportunity to stamp once and for all a visible and lasting mark on German and international politics—while engendering a potentially lethal storm at the home front. In the end, going down with flying colors for a worthy cause she believes in may be just what Merkel is aiming for.

## ASIA

## Russia Nears Completion of Arctic Military Base Deutsche Welle | October 20

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



**R**USSIA IS CLOSE TO COMPLETING A PERMANENT MILITARY COMPOUND on the northern island of Alexandra Land, the country's officials say. The base can "comfortably" house 150 soldiers with enough supplies for 18 months. ...

Once finished, the base would allow "comfortable accommodation and fulfilling of military duties for a group of 150 people,"

the ministry said on its website. ...

The 14,000-square-meter (150,000-square-foot) base should be able to function autonomously for a year and a half. ...

Russia has boosted its military presence in the far north, based on its recently updated Naval Doctrine, recognizing the strategic importance of the Arctic and its natural resources.

Earlier this year, Moscow filed a claim at the UN covering a vast swath of the region including the North Pole. According to Russian estimates, the territory holds 4.9 billion tons of fossil fuel. Its navy has also held military exercises in the far north. ...

**“Russia’s attack on Georgia in August marks the beginning of a dangerous new era in history. This was the first military strike of a rising Asian superpower—and there will be more! ... Russia is determined to be an energy superpower in an age when the whole modern world is hungry for energy. If Russia sees its primary source of oil being threatened, it is going to fight! ... We saw an extraordinary military strike by one of the kings of the east! ... Watch Europe to see how it responds to these dramatic developments in Asia. ... As Russia gets stronger, as the world grows more dangerous, as economic problems escalate, the Germans will be crying out for strong leadership!”**

**“Russia’s Attack Signals Dangerous New Era,” Gerald Flurry, Trumpet, October 2008**

“Russia’s Attack Signals Dangerous New Era,” Gerald Flurry, Trumpet, October 2008

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## China Prepares to Abandon Unpopular One-Child Policy

**Australian Financial Review | October 21**

CHINA’S CONTROVERSIAL ONE-CHILD POLICY IS SET TO BE ABANDONED 35 years after it was introduced, as the government is under increasing pressure to address problems arising from a rapidly aging population and looming labor shortage.

A new two-child policy is expected to be unveiled as part of the Communist Party’s five-year plan setting out the economic and social goals for 2016 to 2020, which will be reviewed next week at a key meeting of policymakers. ...

The government is expected to shift its focus from fertility controls to encouraging population growth through pension reform, social welfare spending, and a new rule allowing all couples to

have two children.

“It has to happen,” says Gu Baochang, a professor of demography at Renmin University in Beijing. “It has been delayed for too long.”

The government did revise the one-child policy in late 2013, allowing couples to have two children if either parent was an only child. However, the impact was underwhelming, with only 1.6 million couples, out of the 11 million who were eligible, applying to have a second child by July this year. ...

He expects a new two-child policy to come into force from next year and says within five years all controls will likely be removed. ...

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## Loyalty Erodes Among N. Korean Elite

**Chosun Ilbo | October 22**

LOYALTY TO LEADER KIM JONG-UN IS ERODING AMONG THE NORTH Korean elites, the National Intelligence Service [of South Korea] said Tuesday evaluating Kim’s first four years in power.

NIS chief Lee Byung-ho told lawmakers that if loyalty or a sense of common destiny was set at 100 points during the reign of nation founder Kim Il-sung, it was perhaps 50-70 under his son Kim Jong-il but is now a mere 10.

The NIS claimed Kim junior has admitted how hard it is to run a country. ...

Asked about “nuclear backpacks” that were shown off by some soldiers during the anniversary parade, the NIS said the North “does not have the technology to miniaturize nuclear weapons yet.” But an NIS officer later backtracked, saying the remark referred only to the backpacks, but the North does probably have

the means to miniaturize nuclear warheads for missiles—the official position of the government here. ...

North Korea has some 380 informal open-air markets, the NIS said. A U.S. dollar officially trades for 106 won but 79 times that in the black market.

Some 58,000 North Korean workers are working in foreign countries.

About 3.7 million North Koreans are using mobile phones, but no South Korean-models because the regime has warned that they could be hacked, the agency said.

“On the surface, the North Koreans look as if they are loyal to Kim Jong-un. But they seem to be less loyal than before because of the influence of markets, mobile phones and workers working overseas,” an NIS official said.

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## Putin’s Rating at New High Thanks to Syria Airstrikes

**Reuters | October 22**

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN’S APPROVAL RATING HAS hit a record high of almost 90 percent, primarily as a result of his decision to launch airstrikes against Islamist militants in

Syria, Russia’s state pollster said on Thursday.

VTSIOM, the pollster, said Putin’s rating had reached 89.9 percent in October, up from a previous high of 89.1 percent in June.



In January 2012, it put his rating at 58.8 percent.

“Such a high level of approval for the work of the Russian president is linked, in the first instance, to events in Syria, to Russian

air strikes on terrorist positions there,” VTSIOM said in a statement. ...

## Four Fifths of Russia's Syria Strikes Don't Target Islamic State: Reuters Analysis

Reuters | October 21

**A**LMOST 80 PERCENT OF RUSSIA'S DECLARED TARGETS IN SYRIA have been in areas not held by Islamic State, a Reuters analysis of Russian Defense Ministry data shows, undermining Moscow's assertions that its aim is to defeat the group.

The majority of strikes, according to the analysis, have instead been in areas held by other groups opposed to Syrian President Bashar Assad, which include al Qaeda offshoots but also fighters backed by Washington and its allies. ...

The data supports assertions from Washington and its NATO

allies that Russia's intervention in Syria ... is designed to prop up Assad, who flew to Moscow on Tuesday to thank Putin for his support.

Moscow's other possible motives could be to maintain a strategic foothold in the Middle East and showcase itself as a global military power at a time when relations with the West have sunk to a post-Soviet low over the crisis in Ukraine. ...

Russia's Air Force has flown over 780 sorties against almost 800 targets in Syria since September 30. ...

## ANGLO-AMERICA



### The End-Time Elijah Has Come and Gone

Gerald Flurry,

The Key of David | October 25

**T**he end-time Elijah died in 1986. But God did not.



## What Trudeau's Election Teaches Us About Canada

Robert Morley | October 21

**O**N MONDAY, CANADIANS WENT TO THE POLLS TO ELECT THEIR next prime minister. It was the highest turnout in more than two decades. More than 68 percent of potential voters cast a ballot.

The result was emphatic. Charismatic Liberal leader Justin Trudeau—who promised Canada “sunny ways” and “change”—won a *stunning* victory.

It is a huge swing to the left. The Liberals won enough seats that they will not need a coalition to govern. They should be able to pretty much pass whatever legislation they want.

But what do the Liberals want? Consider the words of the man they voted for.

“More than a hundred years ago a great prime minister, Wilfrid Laurier, talked about sunny ways; he knew that politics can be a positive force, and that is the message Canadians sent today,” Mr. Trudeau told supporters following his victory. “Sunny ways, my friends, sunny ways ....”

“A positive, optimistic, hopeful vision of public life isn't a naive dream—it can be a powerful force for change,” Mr. Trudeau said. “Canadians from all across this great country sent a clear message tonight: It's time for change in this country, my friends, real change.”

It is a message that also played well south of the border in two elections; sunny days, hope, dreams and change.

The image Trudeau maintained was certainly not one of seasoned leader—a weakness the Conservative Party unsuccessfully tried to emphasize. Instead, Trudeau emphasized his flamboyant streak, something his father played successfully too. He famously took part in a televised celebrity boxing match, in which he convincingly defeated his opponent. He is open about his bartending, bad-boy past, and his illegal drug usage (he says he smoked marijuana during his youth and as a Member of Parliament).

Other aspects of Trudeau's background are also reminiscent of United States President Barack Obama's. Both came from broken families. Both came out of academia and graduated from prestigious universities. Both were teachers. Prior to entering politics, Trudeau became a successful activist. President Obama was a community organizer and activist. Trudeau focused on environmental issues, the same kinds President Obama has also embraced.

Justin Trudeau is Canada's President Obama in other ways too. Just as Hollywood supports President Obama, Trudeau's name carries a kind of rock-star status in Canada. The Drudge

Report had up as its big story Tuesday a shirtless Trudeau flexing his muscles and sporting body art. Media stories focus on how good looking the blue eyed, “bushy haired” Trudeau is. Where President Obama mixes it up with the likes of Jay Z and Beyoncé, Trudeau has made appearances on various television programs. He also took part in the televised What a Girl Wants Gala, in which he did a somewhat PG striptease to raise funds for medical research. As one news analyst wrote in July, “So I ask you: Do you see Justin Trudeau as a politician or a rock star? ... [B]ecause he’s campaigning as a rock star, and that will get him votes as a politician ... in the ultimate popularity contest?”

So where will Trudeau lead Canada? Probably in the same direction President Obama has led the United States. Here are three areas in which Trudeau has explained his vision for Canada.

### On Social Issues

1. Legalize Marijuana. Too many people have criminal histories because of arrests for marijuana usage, says Trudeau. He says the justice system is overwhelmed, so he will decriminalize the use of the drug. In the past he has also said he supports supervised injection sites for harder drugs.

2. Become more culturally accepting and take in more refugees. Although Canada already accepts more immigrants on a per capita basis than any nation in the world, Trudeau says that Canada can and should do more. He said that once elected he would accept 25,000 more Syrian migrants and find \$100 million to do it

over the next few months.

### On Geopolitics

1. For the past 10 years, Canada has been a staunch ally of Israel—perhaps Israel’s most friendly ally. Trudeau says he will carry on in this tradition, although he has voiced more support for the Palestinians than Stephen Harper

2. On Iraq, he has said Canada will end its bombing of Islamic State terrorists. Instead, he says, he will send more trainers to help Iraqis.


3. About Iran, he says he will seek to reengage. He will seek to reopen an embassy in Iran and invite Iran to do the same in Canada.

### On the Economy

1. Borrow money to stimulate the economy. Trudeau was the only leader who said that he would not balance the budget. He will run \$10 billion deficits until 2019 or 2020 when he will then balance the budget. He says he will use the borrowed money to create infrastructure jobs and invest in green energy.

2. Increase taxes on the wealthy. To help pay for his ambitions projects he says he will raise taxes on the rich and cut taxes for the middle class.

3. Adopt the United Nations mandate on climate change.

Canada looks set to follow in the footsteps of its southern neighbor. For more on what this means for Canada, read [America Under Attack](#).  Follow [Robert Morley](#)

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## George Osborne's Epic Kowtow to China

Fraser Nelson, *Spectator* | September 26

### WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



ANY BRITISH PRIME MINISTER WHO MEETS THE DALAI LAMA knows it will upset the Chinese government—but for decades, no British prime minister has much cared. John Major met him in 10 Downing Street, as did Tony Blair. These were small but important nods to Britain’s long-standing status as a friend of Tibet. Of course the Chinese Communist Party disliked seeing the exiled Buddhist leader welcomed in London—but that was their problem.

How things have changed. Now China is far richer and Britain is anxious, sometimes embarrassingly so, to have a slice of that new wealth. From the start of his premiership, David Cameron has been explicit about this. ... Britain had a new message for the rest of the world: We want your money.

During his five-day trip to China this week, George Osborne went further. At times he seemed to be auditioning for the role of the Chinese Communist Party’s new best friend. “Let’s stick together to make Britain China’s best partner in the West,” he declared at the Shanghai stock exchange—the scene of much mayhem in recent months. ...

“No economy in the world is as open to Chinese investment as the UK,” he declared. All told, the chancellor looked as if he was

attempting the world record for the longest kowtow in diplomatic history. The Chinese will seldom have seen anything like it. Its state media later praised him for his “pragmatic” decision “not to stress human rights” during his visit. He is their kind of capitalist: one whose chief interest is in cold hard cash. ...

Even now, the chancellor is seeking to atone for what he believes was one of Cameron’s worst diplomatic mistakes: meeting the Dalai Lama three years ago. ...

A deal was eventually struck whereby the prime minister would declare, in public, that he had “no plans” to see the Dalai Lama again. Diplomatic relations thawed eventually—but as we’ve seen this week, the apologies to Beijing have never stopped. Osborne has offered China a splurge of British government money (much of it, of course, borrowed from China). He’s promising a £500,000 (US\$770,000) grant for Chinese arts organizations, £300,000 (\$460,000) for the digital archiving and translation of Qing dynasty poetry, and £700,000 (\$1 million) to encourage the Chinese to visit the north of England.

But perhaps the chancellor’s most valuable gift was his decision to let his hosts design, build and operate a nuclear power station in Britain. This is quite a coup for China, which is not

renowned for its expertise in this area and has hitherto only been able to export to the likes of Romania and Pakistan. Now, thanks

to the chancellor's generosity, Beijing will be able to boast that its civil nukes are good enough for Britain. ...

## Four Ticking Global Time Bombs Few Even Hear

Charles Hugh Smith, [OfTwoMinds.com](http://OfTwoMinds.com) | October 18

### WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



**T**HE GEOPOLITICAL AND FINANCIAL RISKS FACING THE GLOBAL economy are well known. Hot wars and currency meltdowns garner headlines around the world.

But few even hear, much less discuss, four ticking global time bombs: ... Each is largely self-explanatory:

**1. The demographic time bomb:** As the global economy melts down, the realization that the pensions and healthcare promised to hundreds of millions of elderly cannot be funded out of tax revenues will upend the social contract in countries rich and poor. ... This Standard & Poor's study [Global Aging 2010: An Irreversible Truth] warns that "no other force is likely to shape the future of national economic health, public finances and policymaking as the irreversible rate at which the world's population is aging. ... The cost of caring for [the elderly] will profoundly affect growth prospects and dominate public finance policy debates worldwide."

**2. The public health time bomb:** One hundred million diabetics and 500 million pre-diabetics in China, 80 million diabetics and hundreds of millions more pre-diabetics in India, and another 100 million diabetics in the developed world will overwhelm a global health-care system that is already struggling to provide care for an aging population.

**3. The food/water/soil time bomb:** The world's success in feeding its exploding population of humans and their favored animals has generated a complacent confidence that we can always grow more food, even as the weather gets increasingly wonky and global supplies of fresh water are strained to the breaking. Loss of soil and the depletion of mineral fertilizers are also global issues.

It's not just the rising number of human mouths to feed—it's the rising appetite of humanity for grain/protein-fed animals and fish. ... The risk that multiple crop failures around the world could strain global grain supplies and trigger geopolitical crises as costs soar are under-appreciated outside agricultural policy circles.

**4. The oil-export time bomb:** As the populations of oil-exporting nations rise, they consume so much of their dwindling oil production that there's little left to export.

The technologies of fracking have given oil/gas production in the U.S. a mighty boost, and this may well continue increasing supply for a time.

But the larger global energy picture is dominated by the *Export Land Model*, which describes how oil-exporting nations, which typically have rapidly rising populations and undiversified economies dependent on oil exports, begin consuming more of their oil domestically while production stagnates.

The net result is there may be plenty of oil still being pumped, but very little is available for export.

That leaves oil-importing nations without enough energy to sustain their industrial economies. ...

Many people look to technology to solve these problems before the bombs go off. Perhaps miraculous advances ... will solve all these global crises. But a healthy skepticism is in order .... Technologies require vast quantities of capital and energy to spread throughout the global economy. Capital and energy are precisely what will be in short supply as demands on resources, tax revenues and social safety nets skyrocket.

## The Two Trillion-Dollar Towers of Student and Auto Debt

MyBudget360 | October 21

**A**S AMERICANS CONTINUE TO SEE THEIR INCOME LAG INFLATION, many are unable to purchase homes in a market driven by hot money and a crowding out effect brought on by investors. But people want to spend money, even money they don't have. So instead of buying homes, Americans have been on a car buying spree and also going into deep debt for college.

The end result is that we now have two trillion-dollar towers of debt. Student debt outstanding is at \$1.36 trillion, and auto debt is now over \$1.01 trillion.

A large part of the rise in auto debt has come in the form of subprime auto debt. A car is not an investment. And with your typical new car costing \$30,000 this is no tiny purchase given the median annual household income of \$50,000. So Americans are doing what they do best, and that is financing big-ticket purchases to grasp at the illusion of being middle class. ...

Go back in time to 2004. Every segment of non-mortgage debt was well below the \$1 trillion mark. In fact, the numbers were substantially low relative to where we are at today. For student debt, in 2004 there was "only" \$260 billion outstanding and auto debt stood at \$720 billion. At the time this seemed high, but over the next 10 years student debt grew by a stunning \$1 trillion.

Now, student debt outstanding is at \$1.36 trillion, and auto debt is at \$1.01 trillion ...

There are two important things to focus on here. The growth of auto debt did pause during the Great Recession. This was not the case for student debt, which seemed to accelerate as millions decided to ride out the great crisis by going to college. Unfortunately many are finding their college degrees are simply not yielding the expected income that they thought they would earn after getting their newly minted diplomas. ...

## Refugee Pushback Growing in Multiple States

World Net Daily | October 22

IT WAS STANDING-ROOM ONLY AT A COUNCIL MEETING IN SEMI-RURAL Pickens County, South Carolina, Monday night, as residents flooded the chambers, many of them interested in one topic—the potential of Syrian Muslim refugees being resettled in their county.

On Sunday in Twin Falls, Idaho, more than 100 people marched through town with signs and U.S. flags, protesting refugee resettlement in their town and demanding that a local community college shut down its resettlement office.

On October 6 in Redlands, California, a woman affiliated with a local tea-party group stood up at a city council meeting and voiced her concerns about possible Muslim refugees being injected into the community from Syria.

In St. Cloud, Minnesota, a group of concerned citizens became visibly upset at a town hall last Tuesday when Gov. Mark Dayton announced that anyone who is not comfortable with that state's growing diversity, including its expanding Somali refugee population, "should find another state" because Minnesota's economy "cannot expand based on white, B+, native-born citizens. We don't have enough."

Dayton said he was aware of the racial tensions in St. Cloud with regard to Somali refugees.

"If you are that intolerant, if you are that much of a racist or a bigot, then find another state," he said, as reported by the *Daily Globe*. "Find a state where the minority population is 1 percent or whatever. It's not that in Minnesota. It's not going to be again."

All of these developments have pro-immigrant groups worried about the growing "backlash" against America's fast-growing population of recent immigrants and refugees from Muslim lands in the Middle East and Africa.

From Syria alone, there will be 10,000 coming over the next year, and at least that many more in 2017. The Obama administration wants to bring nearly 200,000 refugees from all nations to the U.S. over the next 24 months. ...

People are holding protest rallies in Idaho and petition drives in North Dakota. They're approaching their city and county leaders with questions in California, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Minnesota. And in South Carolina, grassroots activists are educating their local leaders and asking them to block the arrival of refugees. It happened Monday night in Pickens County, where the county council voted unanimously to block funding for any federal refugee resettlements, citing costs and security concerns.

"Technically, they don't have any legal way to stop them, but the federal government is unlikely to send refugees where they

know they won't be welcomed," Corcoran told [World Net Daily]. "This is what people need to understand. At the national level, there is no legal recourse. People will talk about the 10th Amendment and states' rights, but it's never been tested."

But Corcoran said there is plenty that citizen activists can do at the grassroots level to cause problems for pushers of refugee resettlement. An informed citizenry is their "worst nightmare," she said.

This is an industry that, until recently, had operated below the radar in nearly 200 cities across 48 states. A network of church groups, nonprofits and foundations has worked quietly with the federal government and the United Nations to bring more than 3 million foreign refugees into the United States since 1990, about half of them from Muslim-dominated countries with heavy jihadist populations like Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and now Syria.

It is also a system that is inherently biased against the most persecuted group of refugees in the world—Christians, Corcoran said. ...

As for the "key actors" who are fueling the pushback against refugees, critics say law-abiding Americans concerned about the safety and security of their communities have every right to speak out and ask questions.

Dr. Mark Christian, a former child imam born into a prominent Muslim family in Egypt who later broke away from the Islamic faith and became a Christian, said the "key actors" driving the backlash against Muslim immigration are the Muslims themselves.

"They are using their Twitter accounts on a daily basis to communicate their agenda of hatred against Jews and Christians, and by their actions in Europe, in Israel and throughout the Middle East where they are killing non-Muslims," Christian said. "People are afraid when they see what Muslims are doing on a regular basis in their own countries—in Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Pakistan against the Christians and in Israel against the Jews. The main reason for their fear is they see what's happening in the Middle East, and they don't want that to be transferred to their state, their city, their neighborhood."

Christian called it "an atrocity" to "blame the messenger" instead of looking at the main message of violence that is going out from Muslims worldwide.

"Should we be hiding the truth? Should we be putting our heads in the sand?" Christian asked. "So go talk about global warming and the whales not having enough salt in the sea, and you will be invited to their next event, because John Kerry says climate change helped cause the Syrian civil war and the rise of ISIS." ...



### The Mystery of the Church

Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | October 23

What is the purpose of God's true Church today?

