

Trumpet Weekly

NOVEMBER 27, 2015

Protesters celebrate after the resignation of Missouri University president Timothy M. Wolfe on the Missouri University Campus November 9 in Columbia, Missouri.



Microaggressions and Other Fictions

Joel Hilliker | November 27

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



LAST WEEK AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY IN TENNESSEE, A STUDENT group called Hidden Dorez staged a protest. A couple hundred students demonstrated, complaining about racism on campus and making demands about what the school needed to do to eliminate it.

The day after the protest, a black bag was found on the front steps of the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center on the campus. There was poop in the bag.

The protesters were outraged at what they branded as obvious racism.

The campus police sprang into action,

and by that night, they had located the offender. A security camera revealed that it was a blind female student: Her seeing eye dog pooped; she cleaned it up and, being blind, was unable to locate a trashcan. So she did what she had been instructed to do: She left it outside the door of the nearest building so the next person coming along could put it in the trash.

Students were “appalled,” “sitting in grief” and “hurting” over a “vile” hate crime they invented. They were rushing to the barricades of racial justice over a fiction.

How many other improperly disposed-of bags of feces are being trumped up into cause for war? This is a colorful metaphor for a problem besieging America’s higher education: the hypersensitivity that startles and then raises Cain over the slightest



JOEL HILLIKER

BRIAN DAVIDSON/GETTY IMAGES

perceived offense.

Vanderbilt's racist dog doo takes its place among an increasing number of such head-shaking, quasi-comical incidents. It represents a misguided quest for justice that is creating problems far worse than those it purports to solve.

Earlier this month at Yale University, an incident caused students to feel unsafe, under attack, unable to bear living in the college anymore. What caused such distress and anguish? It was an e-mail from a school official suggesting that administrators' over-concern about Halloween costumes like feathered headdresses, turbans, "war paint" and blackface wasn't giving students enough personal freedom. Outraged students demanded that this official and her husband, who tried to defend the importance of freedom of speech, be fired.

"These are young people who live in safe, heated buildings with two Steinway grand pianos, an indoor basketball court, a courtyard with hammocks and picnic tables, a computer lab, a dance studio, a gym, a movie theater, a film-editing lab, billiard tables, an art gallery, and four music practice rooms," wrote Conor Friedersdorf at the *Atlantic*. "But they can't bear this setting that millions of people would risk their lives to inhabit—because one woman wrote an e-mail that hurt their feelings?" ("[The New Intolerance of Student Activism](#)").

This is what the best and brightest in America's highest universities are being taught to think. They are being *trained* how to be offended—*trained* to detect aggression where there is none.

The buzzword for these concocted crimes is *microaggressions*—"small actions or word choices that seem on their face to have no malicious intent but that are thought of as a kind of violence nonetheless." That is how Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt defined *microaggressions* in their September 2015 *Atlantic* article, "[The Coddling of the American Mind](#)." They describe, for example, campus guidelines branding it a microaggression to ask an Asian American "Where were you born?"—"because this implies that he or she is not a real American." Others include: "America is the land of opportunity" and "I believe the most qualified person should get the job." The horror.

This isn't just funny and ridiculous. It is a serious problem—because we are seeing America's future. It is the nation's educational system that produces tomorrow's leaders.

These young people are radical. They cherish extremely divisive and dangerous ideas of what justice looks like, what society owes them, and how they should be able to shut down anyone who disagrees with them. They are gaining more and more power, abetted by authorities who came out of the same educational system.

Meanwhile, these students are themselves immune from standards of civility and decency. Screaming, bullying, fighting—these are legitimate tools in the supposedly noble war on intolerance. This misguided movement offers no actual solutions. Its aim is simply to protest, accuse, malign, get people fired, and cause a ruckus.

In fact, their mission to expose hidden bigotry is fomenting *blatant racism, overt hatred and actual conflict*.

Evidence of a backlash among whites in the U.S. against these incidents is emerging. The *Washington Post* reported November 20 on a "Illini White Students Union" Facebook page: "Created Wednesday after a protest sympathetic to Black Lives Matter, the page declared itself 'for white students of University of Illinois to be able to form a community and discuss our own issues as well as be able to organize against the terrorism we have been facing from Black Lives Matter activists on campus,' as [the Daily Illini](#) reported." The "about" section of the page said it was about "White Pride and a safe place for White students." Another part of the site encouraged people to send it pictures of black protestors on campus "so we know who anti-whites are."

Following up on the Post story, the *College Fix* found [more than 30 "White Student Union" pages on Facebook](#) created within just the prior week, at prominent universities including Stanford, Penn State, UCLA, UC Berkeley, the University of Missouri and NYU. Several of these pages say, "We affirm the dignity and ancestry of our proud people who have gifted the world with countless works of beauty, science and wisdom, and are committed to promoting a dialogue and political resistance that will secure a future for our posterity and spirit."

Is this all that surprising? These students are simply creating Facebook pages that are essentially using the same language that "black student union" groups do about their own race. Nevertheless, they have stirred student anger and roused administrators to demand these Web pages be removed. What will happen next?

Obviously, there is racism in America. There are racist people who will do racist things. But the idea that creating a climate of intolerance—of accusations and demands, of forced change based on a skewed view of justice—is going to root out supposedly systemic racism is DANGEROUSLY WRONG. It is leading in precisely the opposite direction.

This is deeply concerning, because—as we have often mentioned at the *Trumpet*—biblical prophecies warn how race problems in the U.S. are going to explode. Surely there are some—of several races—who *are* racist and are being provoked into violence. This situation is going to blow up in *all* our faces.

 Follow Joel Hilliker

MIDDLE EAST

TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

WILL THE ISLAMIC STATE THREAT UNIFY EUROPE? AND THE OPPOSITE OF GRIEVANCE—GRATITUDE! | NOVEMBER 27

THIS IS WHAT A WORLD WITHOUT AMERICA LOOKS LIKE | NOVEMBER 25

How Paris Attacks Have Strengthened Iran's Position Over Syria

Guardian | November 18

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



THE ATTACKS IN PARIS MAY HAVE POSTPONED HASSAN ROUHANI'S highly-anticipated visit to the Élysée Palace, which was scheduled for this week, but the Iranian president will soon travel to France with a better bargaining position over Syria.

Iran, an ally of Bashar Assad's regime since the conflict started in 2011, has been arguing that the West should prioritize the fight against Islamic State (ISIS) and step aside from the position that the Syrian leader, considered by them to be a part of the problem, must leave.

Critics say Tehran is trying to shield Assad behind a bigger evil and is doing whatever it can to protect its strategic ally, while many others believe that the invasion of Iraq and the oustings of Saddam Hussein and, more recently, Muammar Qadhafi in Libya are signs that power vacuums in such a volatile region have proved to be a major challenge.

Ali Alfoneh, senior fellow at the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, said: "President François Hollande, who cannot count on Washington deploying ground forces in Syria, is now reaching out to Iran and Russia to form an alliance in the fight against Daesh [ISIS]."

"This in turn legitimizes Iran's military engagement in Syria, which Washington considers as one of the root causes of emergence of Daesh in that country. In that sense, the terrorist attacks

in Paris came as manna from heaven for Tehran." ...

"To this end, Tehran keeps alive Daesh as a useful enemy, which not only makes Bashar Assad appear as the lesser evil, but also legitimizes Iran's military intervention in Syria and provides President Rouhani with access to European capitals as a key player in the conflict." ...

Iran was previously rejected by the West as a major stakeholder in Syria, but following the nuclear accord, that perception seems to have changed, with Tehran now sitting at high-level Syria talks in Vienna for the first time. ...

Dina Esfandiary, a MacArthur fellow at King's College London, said: "I think Iran might think that the Paris attacks give it an upper hand over Syria because naturally it gives a little bit more credibility to the rhetoric that combating ISIS is more important than combating Assad." ...

"So expect the Iranian nuclear negotiations to go nowhere, and expect Iran to increase its control over Iraq and its government. Expect more chaos as Iran leverages its influence through radical Islamic terrorists. And expect the 'king of the south' to emerge substantially empowered, awash with more oil, power and weapons than ever."

"The World's Newest Most Radical 'State,'" Trumpet, September 2014

Amid Terror Wave, UN Adopts Six Resolutions—All Anti-Israel

Arutz Sheva | November 25

IN A MOVE DUBBED "SURREAL" BY A LEADING UN WATCHDOG, AND as a campaign of daily Palestinian terrorist attacks continues to target Israelis, the United Nations General Assembly on Tuesday adopted six resolutions—all of which, bar none, condemned Israel.

Not a single mention was made of the Palestinian attacks, which have left 22 Israelis dead and hundreds wounded, nor did any other countries—even serial human-rights violators such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, Russia and others—receive any of the General Assembly's attention. More disturbingly still, five of the UNGA resolutions were sponsored by the Palestinian Authority, while the sixth was sponsored by none other than Bashar Assad's regime in Syria.

"Surreal barely captures the scene: The world is under assault by terrorists killing in the name of Islam and martyrhood—as Palestinians did this week while stabbing Israeli Jews—and the UN's response is to reflexively condemn Israel in six separate resolutions, all of which are one-sided," said Hillel Neuer, executive

director of UN Watch, in response to the votes.

One resolution condemned the Jewish state for retaining the Golan Heights, demanding Israel hand it over to the Syrian regime. ...

Another vote—which passed 153 to 7—claimed that Israel has "no right" to "impose" its sovereignty over "the Holy City of Jerusalem."

"It's astonishing," said Neuer. "At a time when the Syrian regime is massacring its own people, how can the UN call for more people to be subject to Assad's rule? The timing is morally galling and logically absurd." ...

Neuer accused the General Assembly of being hijacked by an "automatic majority" of fiercely anti-Israel dictatorships.

"The farce at the General Assembly underscores a simple fact: The UN's automatic majority has no interest in truly helping Palestinians, nor in protecting anyone's human rights; the goal of these ritual, one-sided condemnations remains the scapegoating of Israel," he stated. ...

Report: Russian Ground Troops Arrive in Syria in Unprecedented Military Action

Jerusalem Post | November 23

IN AN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, RUSSIA HAS SENT GROUND TROOPS into the Syrian battlefield in support of Bashar Assad as the dictator struggles to maintain his power in the continuous four-year-long civil war, according to a report by Kuwaiti daily *al-Rai*.

The report, which has not been substantiated by other sources, claims Russian military forces have been providing cover for T-90 tanks along with military air support which have attacked multiple strategic targets held by rebel forces in Idlib and Latakia. ...

The Kuwaiti report adds that Russian forces have already taken over multiple strategic positions and have forced numerous rebel battalions to retreat. The report did not disclose whether there were Russian Army casualties. ...

RELATED: "HOW THE SYRIAN CRISIS WILL END"

Putin Arrives in Iran as Russia Eases Nuclear Export Ban to Islamic Republic

Reuters | November 23

ON THE SAME DAY THAT RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN made his first visit to Iran in eight years, Iran's ambassador to Russia said Monday that Moscow had started supplying Tehran with the advanced S-300 antimissile rocket system.

Russia and Iran signed a contract for Moscow to provide Tehran with S-300 surface-to-air missile systems on November 9. ...

Both Israel and the U.S. have vehemently opposed the sale for years, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has spoken about the matter with Putin. Jerusalem's response to the Iranian claim that the transfer of the missiles had begun was decidedly

understated. ...

Putin, meanwhile, issued a decree on Monday easing an export ban on nuclear equipment and technology to Iran. The Kremlin decree issued the day Putin arrived in Iran said that Russian firms were now authorized to export hardware to them, as well as to provide financial and technical advice to help Iran with three specific tasks. The tasks were listed as helping Iran modify two cascades at its Fordow uranium enrichment plant, supporting Iranian efforts to export enriched uranium in exchange for raw uranium supplies, and helping Iran modernize its Arak heavy water reactor. ...



Grand Mufti of Australia Comments on Paris Attacks

Callum Wood | November 24

FOLLOWING THE BLOODBATH IN PARIS, AUSTRALIA'S IBRAHIM ABU Mohammed took to the radio to share his thoughts on the attack. As Australia's grand mufti, Mohammed had the opportunity to condemn the terrorist attacks in Paris and douse the smoldering immigration crisis in Australia.

Unfortunately, no such response was forthcoming. Instead, the grand mufti heaped coals on the fire. Mohammed expressed condolences to the families and friends of the victims killed in the suicide bombings and shootings, but then his speech took a turn for the worse.

Instead of unconditionally condemning the attacks, he said that, in a way, these attacks were justified.

He stated, "It is therefore imperative that all causative factors such as racism, Islamophobia, curtailing freedoms through securitization, duplicitous foreign policies, and military intervention

must be comprehensively addressed." Notice: "causative factors."

So the grand mufti thinks that the French share part of the blame for the attacks. As for his mentioning of Islamophobia and racism, France has the largest Muslim population in Western Europe. In 2014, it was estimated to be around 6.13 million. That is nearly 10 percent of the French population. Islam is the second-most widely practiced religion in the country after Roman Catholicism.

More troubling is the idea that the grand mufti is probably not ignorant of this fact. He is likely not talking to French Muslims, but to Australia's Muslim community.

Australia has approximately 480,000 practicing Muslims. While the Islamic presence is steadily growing and minarets are beginning to protrude from the city skylines, there is still a deep distrust of the religion. White Australians in particular often receive the branding as racists who suffer from Islamophobia.

Iranian Militia Volunteers Stage Capture of Replica al-Aqsa Mosque

Middle East Eye | November 20

IRANIAN VOLUNTEER MILITIA FORCES HAVE STAGED TWO DAYS OF military drills near the shrine city of Qom, culminating with a march to a replica of Jerusalem's holy al-Aqsa Mosque on Friday.

Iran's Basij forces, who are estimated to number in the tens of

thousands and whose full name translates as the Organization for Mobilization of the Oppressed, staged the drills under the title "Towards the Holy City."

As part of the drills, which according to Iran's Fars News Agency involved 120 Basij battalions, fighters marched toward a

plastic replica of al-Aqsa, the Jerusalem mosque that is considered the [third]-most holy site in Islam.

During the drills, fighter jets bombed targets in the desert, watched by squadrons of gun-wielding volunteers dressed in fatigues and wearing headbands that read “At Your Service

Kerry in Ramallah: U.S. Committed to Palestinian Statehood **Agence France-Presse | November 24**

SECRETARY OF STATE KERRY EXPRESSED SYMPATHY TUESDAY FOR the Palestinians’ “very dire” situation, but also spoke of his concern “about the violence,” while stressing the ongoing U.S. commitment to a Palestinian state.

“I am here at the request of President Obama to see what we can do to try to help contribute to calm and to restore people’s confidence in the ability of a two-state solution to still be viable, to be achieved at some point,” Kerry said in brief remarks after meeting Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah.

“We are committed to that two states with two peoples living side by side,” he said. “The United States will continue to work as

Ruhollah”—a reference to [late supreme leader] Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini

A Basij commander told Fars the drills had been organized “to exercise preparedness to fight against possible threats in the region.” ...

hard as possible to achieve that end.”

Kerry met earlier Tuesday with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who told him that Israel would only implement trust-building measures with the Palestinians when the violence against Israelis abates entirely, according to a senior Israeli official. ...

Netanyahu told Kerry that the core problem driving the terror attacks is “religious incitement” by the Palestinian Authority spread via social media, especially surrounding the Temple Mount, according to the official. “The PA participates in the incitement,” Netanyahu is said to have told Kerry.

The Kinetic Religion of Islam **Arutz Sheva | November 25**

MOST PEOPLE ARE UNAWARE THAT THE DRIVING MOTTO OF ISIS (Islamic State) is “baqiya wa tatamaddad,” which stands for “remaining and expanding.”

Both these elements must be understood to really understand not only ISIS but Islam generally.

The “remaining” component is the establishment of a presence and strengthening this base. This includes centering a population, constructing a mosque, educational facilities and official institutes. This requires effort, financing and resources to turn it into a solid launch pad from which to expand to other locations, which must be controlled and fortified before spreading out to the next stage of the expansion. This can be done militarily or peacefully, depending on the political environment into which Islam intends to expand.

This then is the kinetic energy, indeed the driving force of Islam in all its forms. It is far from being limited to ISIS.

The point that Western policymakers fail to grasp is that ISIS is only a symptom of a wider malady, just as al Qaeda before it. If it were an isolated cell it would be relatively simple in military terms to apply sufficient force to eliminate it. The misunderstanding comes when ISIS, al Qaeda or other Muslim terror

groups retaliate against Western targets (as opposed to their ongoing battles against non-Western targets) it is too often construed as a rebuttal against what we have done to them. It is not. It is an angry response to our interference of their intended expansion into our territory.

It has to be remembered that what we see, in all forms of Muslim-based violence (even in cases where it is not perpetrated officially in the name of Islam), is exactly a modern-day, Muslim-inspired crusade. It is their version of the Christian/Catholic Crusades that not only set out to conquer the Holy Land, slaughtering nonbelievers along the way. It also drove out and slaughtered the Jews of Spain, Portugal, Britain and other European countries. It conquered and converted much of Africa, Central and South America, and spread into Asia.

What was done on the name of Christ is now being done in the name of Mohammed or Allah.

In today’s world, we can see the jihadi agenda in both the Sunni and Shia factions of Islam. ...

RELATED: “TRUMPET HOUR: PARIS ATTACKS, ISLAM A RELIGION OF PEACE? BATTLE OF TOURS AND MORE”

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MICROAGGRESSIONS AND OTHER FICTIONS, TERRORIST REFUGEES, OVERMEDICATION AND MORE | NOVEMBER 25

Germany to Send Up to 650 Soldiers to Mali

Deutsche Welle, November 25

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



DEFENSE MINISTER URSULA VON DER LEYEN HAS ANNOUNCED that the soldiers will support the French-led peacekeeping mission within Mali. ...

The German defense minister's announcement comes less than two weeks after the terrorist attacks in Paris killed 130 and less than one week after gunmen stormed a hotel in Mali's capital, Bamako, killing at least 19.

The attacks in Paris have brought France to the forefront of the hunt to root out terrorist threats around the world. It already has thousands of troops in its former colony, Mali, but the recent

attack in Bamako has intensified fears that the African country is still unable to prevent terrorist groups from operating within its borders, particularly in its unstable north.

Von der Leyen said that the decision aimed to help relieve military pressure on France, as it is overstrained in its fight against the "Islamic State."

She added that Germany is planning to increase the number of soldiers training Kurdish Peshmerga forces combating the Islamic State in Iraq to 150 from 100.

Opinion: Germany Steps Up Military Role Against 'I.S.'

Nina Werkhäuser, Deutsche Welle, November 26

THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN FRANCE HAVE CHANGED EVERYTHING. They have struck at the heart of Europe, and now Europe is striking back with all its might. The battle against the terrorist group "Islamic State" can only be won with military action, said Angela Merkel on Wednesday in the German parliament, the Bundestag.

This comment caused people to sit up and listen attentively. So far, Germany has shied away from direct military combat against [the Islamic State] and instead, backed Kurdish Peshmerga forces in northern Iraq. ...

The new orientation came after French President Hollande's urgent request that Germany do more. The chancellor did not hesitate long, so in that sense, she has shown true solidarity toward hard-hit friends in France. Has the German government not always emphasized that it does not want to remain on the sidelines in times of great crises? This statement does not apply

strictly to the military—but does, of course, include the military.

Now, the Bundeswehr will do its part to help fight the terrorist group. This is understandable because Germany's credibility is at stake—but it also comes as a surprise.

The German government has quickly put together a set of military support measures for the anti-[Islamic State] alliance: Tornados for reconnaissance, a navy frigate to protect French aircraft carriers, and air-to-air refueling. ... Sending ground troops to Syria and launching air strikes on [the Islamic State] have been ruled out.

This planned mission is thus an offer that France will gratefully accept Germany is showing solidarity with its allies, but also entering a dangerous dilemma: [The Islamic State] will not be defeated without military action. And as military pressure mounts on [the Islamic State], the threat of terrorist acts of revenge grows—even in Germany.

The Fear of the Other Europe

Reva Bhalla, Stratfor | November 24

REFUGEES ARE A NATURAL BYPRODUCT OF REVOLUTION. STRIPPED of status and security in the throes of political change, the masses will tend to sacrifice a life of familiar faces, customs and places and flock to foreign lands in search of simple things: a place to live, earn and provide for their kin in peace. But in that search for the path of least physical and political resistance, migrants cannot avoid disturbing the peace along the way. Their names, clothes, accents, languages and religions—everything that gives them a sense of place and belonging at home—make them "the other" in the eyes of their new hosts and thus undeserving of the rights and privileges of those with whom they are expected to

assimilate. For the many who end up in Europe, assimilation will instead occur in the ghettos, where migrants already pushed to the fringes of society cling to rose-tinted memories of the life they left behind, widening a chasm in which radical ideas can fester for generations.

These are the conditions that threaten to radicalize and mobilize migrant offspring in France, Belgium and elsewhere. These were also the conditions endured by waves of displaced Goths who flooded the Roman Empire to flee their Hun invaders and of the millions of Eastern Europeans whose identity cards could scarcely keep up with the borders changing beneath their feet in

the fervor and confusion of the world wars

If refugees are a product of revolution, then the product of mass refugee flows is often a blend of economic stress and ethnic nationalism, the foundation of many transformative geopolitical events in our time. It would therefore be prudent to think through the deeper consequences of the large numbers of migrants fleeing lawlessness in the Middle East for a European Union that was sliding into an existential crisis before the most recent wave of migrants even showed up.

Over the past century, Europe has swung dramatically between two poles. After taking a destructive leap into ethnic nationalism, years of industrial-scale killings exhausted Europe to the point that states developed the extraordinary will to sacrifice their national sovereignty for the sake of avoiding conflict and pursuing prosperity in a union of European states. Europe's storied past, in a sense, would be overcome only by pushing nationalism under the rug and focusing on making money instead. That worked only until the promise of prosperity was crushed in the financial crisis of the early 21st century. ...

The Paris attacks did not send Europe into an entirely new direction; they catalyzed the long-running and arguably inevitable trend

of European fragmentation. The debate over borders—lines that distinguish one's own from the other—is a logical flashpoint. ...

As the Schengen pillar of the European Union comes crashing down, logically we should give the foundation of the European Union—France and Germany—a closer inspection. ... The Dutch have recently put forth an idea to create a mini-Schengen of culturally like-minded states with the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and Austria, a grouping that harkens back to the Holy Roman Empire of the late 18th century. The fact that European elite are comfortable openly discussing a break-up into smaller blocs of culturally and historically harmonious entities and the ejection of more awkward elements such as Greece should not be taken lightly. ...

The global hegemon, by definition, will find itself at the center of this oddly familiar set of challenges afflicting Eurasia. The United States already shoulders most of the burden in extending a security buffer against Russia in Central and Eastern Europe and in trying to put a lid on conflicts in the Middle East. But an even bigger challenge may not have fully registered on Washington's radar: the darker side of a Europe willing to re-embrace nationalism in response to a fear of the other.

François Hollande Hasn't Seized the Moment. Marine Le Pen Might **Jason Walsh, Spectator | November 21**

THE TERROR ATTACKS ON FRIDAY HAVE GIVEN PRESIDENT François Hollande an opportunity to be statesmanlike, and he has tried his best. ... Unfortunately, like most things the president does, the speech fell flat. ... Unless he can achieve a fast and meaningful victory over ISIS, it seems unlikely that Hollande can capitalize on the sense of solidarity felt throughout France. ...

The French are more enthusiastic about Hollande's prime minister, Manuel Valls, who has sounded and looked tougher than his boss in recent days. The only hope the socialists have, according to some analysts, is if Hollande makes way for Valls to run as the left's presidential candidate in 2017.

Unlike Hollande, Marine Le Pen looks well placed to exploit this tragedy. ... The Front National leader's no-nonsense rhetoric about combating the Islamist threat is likely to go down well with an angry French public. She has demanded an immediate halt to the intake of immigrants from Syria and says that the Schengen agreement, which allows free passage across European borders,

is "madness." She was already expected to do well in the regional elections at the beginning of December. Now she is expected to do even better.

Right-thinking Parisians are appalled at the thought of Le Pen's ascension. One woman I spoke to warned about the dangers of a conservative Catholic revival in response to the terror attacks, led by the Front National. But the party is not Catholic. It is more socially liberal in its outlook—many gay men and women support the party, for instance, in part because they think it is their best protection against Islamists who despise their way of life

Nicolas Sarkozy, president of his new Les Républicains Party, has been trying to combat the Front National challenge by outflanking Le Pen on the right. He has campaigned against halal meat and now talks about tougher policing in *les banlieues* [suburbs]. ...

A Marine Le Pen presidency might remain unthinkable for most French citizens, but there is no question that the bloodshed in Paris plays into her hands.

TW IN BRIEF

Swiss region to fine women for wearing burqas and niqabs: Switzerland announced Tuesday that women in parts of the nation will be fined up to \$9,800 if they wear a burqa or niqab. The parliament approved the law on November 24, with two thirds of voters backing the move. The new law will apply to the region of Ticino. Tourists and the 2 percent of Ticino's population that identify as Muslim will be subject to the fine.

One thousand and two-hundred Europeans who flew out to join Islamic extremists have now returned home: More than 1,200 Europeans who left Europe to fight alongside Islamic

extremists in Syria and Iraq have now returned home. Reports on Monday said that while some of these extremists have been jailed in Europe, many have been "absorbed into the underbelly of some of the Continent's biggest cities." The list of those who have returned includes five of the Islamists who committed the attacks on Paris last Friday. The Belgian man who masterminded those attacks boasted about his ability to return home after traveling to Syria. He bragged that when he went through an ID check conducted by European police, his passport raised no red flags. In response to the report, French President François Hollande said, "Syria has become the biggest factory of terrorists that the world has ever seen."

Russia and the Great Forgetting

Anne Applebaum, Commentary | November 10

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



IF YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR HISTORY, YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT Vladimir Putin is up to. ...

[T]he living memory of the USSR is now truly fading and the nature of the USSR—its peculiar awfulness, its criminality, its stupidity—is becoming harder and harder to explain. The sense of being surrounded by lies; the underlying anxiety that someone might be listening or reporting on you; the constant, screaming, inescapable propaganda; the sullenness of the crowds on the Metro; the memories of mass terror just below the surface; the useful idiots and the cynical sycophants who supported the whole thing, both in Russia and abroad; all of that is now absolutely impossible to convey. ...

My concern is the revival, with amazing speed, of a belligerent Russian state, one led by men who were taught and trained by the Soviet state and are thus prepared to use a familiar blend of terror, deception and military force to stay in power. ...

This became patently clear in March 2014 just after the Ukrainian revolution On Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, "little green men," as they later came to be called, suddenly appeared. Equipped with guns, wearing unmarked uniforms, and driving unmarked military vehicles, they began methodically taking over local government buildings and television stations. ...

The Western reaction was one of confusion, amazement, consternation. ... I knew exactly who they were: Russian Special Forces. I knew it because they looked, spoke and acted exactly like the Soviet Special Forces—then known as the NKVD—who

had entered Poland in 1939, the Baltic states in 1940, then all of Eastern Europe in 1945. ...

During the whole of its existence, the USSR never invaded another country; no, it merely came to the aid of oppressed minorities or fraternal parties. But it never left without imposing—or, in Afghanistan, trying and failing to impose—its own totalitarian system. When the NKVD, later known as the KGB, crossed any border, it always arrested potential dissidents, took over the media, shut down civic organizations, nationalized companies, and created the fear and poverty

... Since the Crimean invasion, the Russians have advanced into eastern Ukraine using similar tactics. Adding a twist to the narrative, they have now entered the Syrian conflict too, in order to come to the aid of the fraternal Assad regime. Not only the United States but all of what used to be called "the West" has been flummoxed by these moves, even thrown into strategic disarray. And no wonder. In the quarter-century since the fall of Communism, we've forgotten what a cynical, unprincipled, authoritarian Russian regime looks like

... Russia is run by men who are deeply attached to the Soviet system, the collapse of which was the most shattering and disorienting experience of their lives. Most Western countries, by contrast, are run by men and women who thought that the collapse of the USSR meant that they could finally move on and think about something else. ...

China Says Won't Cease Building on South China Sea Isles

Reuters | November 22

CHINA SAID ON SUNDAY IT WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD MILITARY and civilian facilities on its artificial islands in the disputed South China Sea and the United States was testing it by sending warships through the area.

"Building and maintaining necessary military facilities, this is what is required for China's national defense and for the protection of those islands and reefs," Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur.

China planned to "expand and upgrade" the civilian facilities on the islands "to better serve commercial ships, fishermen, to help distressed vessels, and provide more public services," Liu said, adding that China rejects the notion that it is militarizing the South China Sea. He said China has mostly built civilian facilities. ...

China, which claims almost the entire energy-rich South China Sea, has been transforming reefs into artificial islands in the Spratly archipelago and building airfields and other facilities on some of them. That has prompted concerns in Washington and across the region that Beijing is trying to militarize its claims in the South China Sea.

Earlier this month, U.S. B-52 bombers flew near some of the islands, signaling Washington's determination to challenge Beijing's claim. At the end of October, the USS Lassen, a guided-missile destroyer, sailed around one of them. ...

Obama on Saturday called on countries to stop building artificial islands and militarizing their claims and said the United States would continue to assert its freedom of navigation rights in the sea. ...

China to Open First Military Base in Africa, Signs Deal With Djibouti, U.S. General Says

International Business Times | November 24

CHINA HAS SIGNED A 10-YEAR DEAL WITH THE AFRICAN NATION Djibouti to build a military base there—China's first military base on the continent, said U.S. Army Gen. David Rodriguez, who is a commander with U.S. Africa Command. China has long had an economic foothold in Africa, but the base would be an expansion of its military prowess beyond the Asia-Pacific region. ...

It would also allow China to improve its ability to gather intelligence in the region and beyond, such as parts of the Middle East, the Arabian Peninsula and Central Africa.

Not only would China save money by building its own military base in Djibouti, it would also increase its global stature, J. Peter Pham, director of the Africa Center at the Atlantic Council, told

the Hill.

To some, the Chinese expansion also poses a threat to U.S. interests and capabilities. ... Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs, said, "We don't want to lose out on those opportunities to Chinese companies or the Chinese government."

China is Africa's largest bilateral trading partner, with trade volume double that of U.S.-Africa trade in 2013. In 2000, bilateral trade between Africa and China was around \$10 billion; by 2014 it had exploded to more than \$200 billion. China has tapped into Africa's vast mineral and oil resources while simultaneously shipping Chinese-made goods to Africa. ...

Turkey Downs Russian Warplane Near Syria Border, Putin Warns of 'Serious Consequences'

Reuters | November 24

TURKEY SHOT DOWN A RUSSIAN WARPLANE NEAR THE SYRIAN border on Tuesday, saying the jet had violated its airspace, in one of the most serious publicly acknowledged clashes between a NATO member country and Russia for half a century.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said the plane had been attacked when it was 1 kilometer (0.62 miles) inside Syria and

warned of "serious consequences" for what he termed a stab in the back administered by "the accomplices of terrorists."

"We will never tolerate such crimes like the one committed today," Putin said, as Russian and Turkish shares fell on fears of an escalation between the former Cold War enemies. ...

Russia Prepares Reprisals Against Ukraine Over Crimea Blackout

Reuters | November 22

RUSSIA SAID ON TUESDAY IT WOULD CUT OFF GAS SUPPLIES TO Ukraine and threatened to halt coal deliveries, ratcheting up a dispute over a power blackout in Crimea at a time when a cease-fire between Kiev and separatist rebels is fraying.

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak accused the Ukrainian authorities of deliberately refusing to help rebuild

power lines to Russia-annexed Crimea, which were blown up by unknown saboteurs over the weekend.

The peninsula of 2 million people is relying on emergency generators to meet its basic power needs, with pro-Ukrainian activists, including nationalist battalions and ethnic Tatars, preventing repairs. ...

Russia, China Discussing Integration of Navigation Systems: Magazine

Focus Taiwan | November 22

RUSSIA AND CHINA ARE DISCUSSING THE POSSIBLE INTEGRATION of their satellite navigation systems to rival the Global Positioning System developed by the United States, according to *Kanwa Defense Review*.

The magazine cited executives of the Russian company behind the country's navigation system, GLONASS, who said Russia and China have been in communication since May on the possibility of integrating GLONASS and China's BeiDou system, in a report in its latest edition.

If the integration becomes a reality, the two systems over 50 satellites would be able to provide better coverage and precision than GPS, the magazine said. ...

If a tie-up in the military arena is achieved, it would be of great

value because it would be a key element in joint information warfare, the magazine said.

"Russia and China have entered into a new era of unprecedented military cooperation. Part of this has been a new willingness on Moscow's part to share its cutting-edge military technology with the Chinese. ... Experts say that while victory on the battlefield results from numerous factors, perhaps the most important is a technological advantage. ... If current trends persist, the next generation of U.S. troops might find themselves on the battlefield, not only in smaller numbers, but also with their technological edge blunted."

Cold War II? Not Yet, But the Temperature Is Falling Council on Foreign Relations | November 23

THE GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES FACING THE UNITED STATES IN 2015 are more diffuse and diverse in comparison to the singular existential threat posed by the Soviet Union in 1950. ... [R]ecent Russian and Chinese statements and actions signal that they pose an existential threat to the international system that was created to repair the destruction of World War II and prevent World War III.

The *Economist* recently wrote that "Mr. Putin wants to discredit America's stewardship over the international order" and "China is asserting that in its region, for the island disputes as in other things, it now sets the rules." While there are no indications that Russia and China are formally acting in concert, there

seems to [be] a convenient intersection in their efforts to unravel the current international system. ...

"In the next few years, there will be a staggering turn in world events! A giant Asian superpower, with a modernized Russia and China at the helm, will dramatically affect the course of history. Indeed, this emerging power bloc—a conglomerate of peoples which comprise one fourth of the world's population—will be deeply involved in the tumultuous tide of events that will lead to the conclusion of mankind's 6,000 years of self-rule!"

Russia and China in Prophecy

ANGLO-AMERICA



Judah's Wound

Gerald Flurry, *The Key of David* | November 27

THE prophet Hosea talks about Judah's wound. What is this fatal wound?



Should You Take the Recommended Meds? Jeremiah Jacques | November 26

IN 2014, AMERICANS WERE WRITTEN A TOTAL OF 4.33 BILLION PRESCRIPTIONS. For a population of only 319 million, that number is staggering. It pulls the average number of prescriptions per person up to 13.5.

These expensive drugs often provide users with relief from some symptoms. But they also present a host of health risks.

About 16 percent of all hospital admissions are related to adverse reactions to prescription drugs. And pharmaceuticals—used as prescribed—are the fourth-leading cause of death for Americans. That is 10 times higher than the number of people killed by illegal drugs.

In light of these risks, there are some questions patients should ask their doctors before following all recommendations to take pharmaceuticals.

First, a patient should ask the doctor about a statistic called the NNT, or the "Number-Needed-to-Treat." The NNT describes the number of people who need to take a certain drug in order for *one of them* to be helped by it.

Consider the example of statin—a class of drugs routinely prescribed to lower cholesterol levels. The NNT for the most widely prescribed statin is a jaw-dropping 250. For every 250 people taking it, statin prevents only *one person* from having adverse effects.

Before agreeing to a new prescription, a patient should also ask about the side effects and *the percentage of people who suffer from them*.

To stick with the example of statin, the side effects are serious. They include joint pain, muscle pain and gastrointestinal distress. These are known to affect about 5 percent of people taking the drug.

If you add the side-effect percentage to the NNT, you see that for every 250 people taking the most widely prescribed statin, just one person is helped, while more than a dozen suffer awful side effects. This means each individual patient is 12.5 times more likely to be harmed than aided by the drug.

The third question is whether your doctor is being paid by the company making these drugs. In 2012, pharmaceutical companies spent \$3.5 billion on direct-to-consumer marketing. That same year, they spent \$24 billion marketing directly to health-care professionals.

The National Physicians Alliance said that 83 percent of doctors report having accepted food and/or gifts from drug companies as part of this direct-to-doctors marketing. One study showed that America has about 100,000 drug representatives for every doctor, and the average marketing spent on each doctor is more than \$12,000.

A final question you should ask may be directed less at your doctor than at yourself.

It is: What long-term changes could I make in my diet and exercise patterns that could improve my health without pharmaceuticals? Unlike popping pills, these kinds of changes are

difficult and ongoing. But they can make massive, side effect-free improvements in our lives. To understand more, read our articles, “[Help Yourself to Radiant Health](#)” and “[Belly On, Belly Off](#).”

 Follow Jeremiah Jacques

Ohio State Law School Under Microscope for Reaction to Pro-Life Column

Washington Times | November 24

ALL MADISON GESIOTTO WANTED TO DO WHEN SHE MET WITH the dean of her law school was report a threat prompted by a newspaper column she wrote pointing out the high abortion rate in the black community.

She assumed the meeting would last 10 minutes. Instead, she said, she was there for about an hour as three deans at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law critiqued her on what they saw as problems with her October 23 column in the *Washington Times*, “The Number One Killer of Black Americans.”

“This is my freedom of speech, but they kept going on and on

about how, ‘This is a flawed article, it’s not a good legal piece, it’s not a good journalistic piece, either,’” Ms. Gesiotto recalled. “They asked me to explain to them why I would put that [line] in, what that means, and how I should have followed that up by saying other things to support these black women.” ...

Ms. Gesiotto knew that many of her peers at the law school would disagree with the column. She expected to take some flak. What she didn’t expect, she said, was having administrators show less interest in her safety than in tearing apart a column entirely unrelated to her coursework.

White Student Union Facebook Pages Spread Nationwide

USA Today | November 25

AN ANONYMOUS FACEBOOK PAGE CREATED EARLY IN THE WEEK AT the University of Illinois may have been among the first White Student Union pages to pop up, but it’s hardly been the last.

Appearing at Illinois after black students held a rally Wednesday, the page reportedly characterized the Black Lives Matter movement as an act of “terrorism” and called for the monitoring of African-American students who attended the protest, leaving many feeling unsafe at the Urbana-Champaign campus.

Now, as unconfirmed reports—including an anonymous

report from Medium—blame the postings on either a white supremacist group or 4Chan users, more than 30 white student union Facebook pages, claiming to represent real college organizations, have been posted. ...

The pages contain messages and comments like, “We unapologetically provide a safe space for white students to air their true feelings about the future of our nation ... at the same time, we do not wish to denigrate or harm any other group or ethnicity.”

Portland Police Officer Removed From Street After Twitter Message About Black Lives Matter

Oregon Live | November 24

A PORTLAND POLICE OFFICER WHO WROTE A TWITTER MESSAGE complaining that he’d be stuck late at work Friday night “to babysit these fools,” referring to a planned Black Lives Matter-Not

Black Friday march at Lloyd Center, has been taken off the street while an internal investigation proceeds. ...

Islamic State Radicalizes ‘Thousands’ in United States

Washington Free Beacon | November 25

THE ISLAMIC STATE HAS LIKELY RADICALIZED THOUSANDS OF people in the United States, according to a new report, raising concerns that supporters of the terrorist group could be plotting domestic attacks similar to the recent shootings and bombings in Paris.

The Threat Knowledge Group, an organization led by the

counterterrorism experts Sebastian and Katharine Gorka, has compiled a list of 82 individuals in the United States who were affiliated with the Islamic State (also known as ISIS or ISIL) and apprehended by law enforcement officials, including those who traveled or attempted to travel to Iraq and Syria, launched domestic attacks, or participated in recruiting or fundraising.

The Gorkas note in a new report that almost one third of these individuals had plotted attacks against Americans on U.S. soil in the last 18 months. ...

“Based on the evidence available, the number of ISIS supporters in the United States measures in the thousands, rather than hundreds,” the Gorkas said in their report.

Five People Were Shot Near Black Lives Matter Protest Site **Star Tribune | November 24**

FIVE PROTESTERS WERE SHOT LATE MONDAY NIGHT NEAR THE Black Lives Matter encampment at the Fourth Precinct police station in north Minneapolis, according to police.

Those who were shot sustained non-life-threatening injuries, said police spokesman John Elder in a statement.

Miski Noor, a media contact for Black Lives Matter, said “a group of white supremacists showed up at the protest, as they

“Whether ISIS will launch an attack on the scale of the Paris attack is unknown, but it is clear that the United States is a primary target for ISIS and that ISIS has the necessary supporters in place and the financial means to carry out such an attack,” they continued. “The challenges of screening incoming refugees may further exacerbate the problem.” ...

have done most nights.”

One of the three men wore a mask, said Dana Jaehnert, who had been at the protest site since early evening.

When about a dozen protesters attempted to herd the group away from the area, Noor said, they “opened fire on about six protesters,” hitting five of them. ...

Some Families in Public Housing Make Over \$100K **NBC Philadelphia | November 24**

NBC10’S MITCH BLACHER SPOKE WITH PHILADELPHIA HOUSING Authority officials about the growing number of high-income families living in public housing.

The Philadelphia Housing Authority has a 10-year waiting list with roughly 100,000 people on it, according to officials. But while low-income and homeless families wait, the NBC10 investigators

found some families were allowed to live in PHA properties while earning six figures.

Officials say 181 families living in PHA housing earn more than they’re allowed to. The Department of Housing and Urban Development refers to them as “over income.” ...

TW IN BRIEF

Steady flow of migrants entering U.S. via Latin America: A steady stream of migrants from around the world has been entering the United States through Latin America. Reports on Tuesday said citizens of Syria, Somalia, Eritrea and Pakistan are among those regularly making the lengthy detour through Latin America. They join the crowds of Central American migrants and do their best to blend in so they can enter the U.S. without disclosing their true country of origin. Ernesto Rodriguez, a migration expert at the Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology said that the trend has been accelerating “over the past decade.” To avoid being discovered, those

smuggling migrants through these back channels frequently change their routes.

Australia bans anti-vax parents from benefits: Australia passed a law on Monday banning parents who don’t vaccinate children from receiving childcare benefits. The federal government’s new “no-jab-no-pay” laws will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2016. They will block rebates, childcare benefits and the Family Tax Benefit from all parents who choose not to immunize their children. The laws are part of a growing movement in the Western world to push for universal immunizations.



The Last Crusade

Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | November 27

The groundwork is being laid for the next holy war.

Follow [Stephen Flurry](#)

