

How low can the Congress go?

“Having President Poroshenko address Congress is another signal of our steadfast commitment to the aspirations of his people. It will be an honor and a privilege to welcome him to the United States Capitol.” - *House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio*

Congressional job approval stays near Historical Low.
13% percent of Americans approve, 83% disapprove
- *new Gallup poll*

House Speaker John Boehner remains Congress' most unpopular leader – *Rasmussen Report*

Poroshenko's track record in Eastern Ukraine before the declared ceasefire: at least 3,171 civilians killed (including at least 28 children); 8,061 wounded (including at least 58 children); internally displaced 259,741; 338,275 people have fled eastern Ukraine to seek refuge in neighboring countries, most of them sought refuge in Russia – *UN report*



Devastation of South-Eastern Ukraine under Poroshenko

“Poroshenko is a disgraced oligarch”
- *Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst*

“Poroshenko was tainted by credible corruption allegations”
– *Former Deputy Chief of the U.S. Mission in Kiev Sheila Gwaltney*

“I am in a position not to give bribes to the bureaucrats now.
But in the beginning unfortunately it happened”
- *Poroshenko speaking to BBC reporter Rob Young*

According to Forbes Poroshenko's fortune is \$1.3 billion.
Why then U.S. taxpayers should give him the money?



President Obama, listen to what wise men and women have to say:

Only the use of diplomacy can help Mr. Poroshenko take advantage of new openings to define his country's relations with its neighbors, restore Ukrainian sovereignty and effect a permanent end to the bloodshed. Sanctions and further efforts to escalate political and military pressure, and reliance on unilateral action without accompanying diplomacy, would all but assure continued suffering for the people of Ukraine.

JACK F. MATLOCK Jr., THOMAS R. PICKERING and JAMES F. COLLINS
- **New York Times**

Jack F. Matlock Jr. was the United States ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1987 to 1991. Thomas R. Pickering was the United States ambassador to Russia from 1993 to 1996, and James F. Collins from 1997 to 2001

The United States has not in my way of thinking been recognizing the positive things that Russia has done since the end of the cold war. So many of my own colleagues and friends who as I were cold warriors all of those years when communism dominated the Soviet Union are still stuck in the cold war mentality. Instead, we should be reaching out to each other and trying to overcome some of these problems that have been a long time in the making. Russia wasn't treated fairly at an equal level after they discarded communism which they should have been and which they were promised by the United States. America and Russia will be safer and more prosperous if we work together rather than trying to square off and draw the line in the sand. Let's reach out with our open arms and shake hands and try to find some common ground and get over this problem were in right now.

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher – (R-CA)

The U.S. and E.U. have encouraged the most radical elements in the Kiev government in their campaign to subjugate the east with military force — to seek a military solution to what is essentially a political problem in a deeply divided and economically fragile Ukraine.

Katrina vanden Heuvel - Washington Post

Sanctions are a Potemkin policy, deployed in the absence of any effective alternative. They have probably done some economic damage, but their sole political effect has been to rally the Russian people behind their president, and reinforce Putin's conviction that this is a struggle he cannot afford to lose, whatever the cost. Even the Russian opposition doesn't support them.

Tony Brenton - British Ambassador to Russia from 2004-2008, The Daily Telegraph

It is the time to bring back the Committee on East-West Accord with branches in US, EU and Russia to find a way out of a current crisis

During the two recent sessions of the U.S. – Russia Forum, one in Washington (June 16 – 17, 2014 in the Hart Senate Office Building) and another in Moscow (September 8 – 9, 2014 at the President Hotel Arbat) with participation of over 500 American and Russian foreign policy experts, business leaders, academics, and students, the discussion concentrated on what mechanisms of public diplomacy can be utilized to overcome the current crisis in Russia – West relations that some observers are calling a new Cold War but some see the probability of even more dangerous scenario.

Besides absolutely senseless tit-for-tat trade sanctions, a full-blown information war is splitting the world into two camps. In the United States and Europe, the mass media demonize President Putin and vilify the Kremlin leadership. Russia denounces the violation by the West of security agreements reached at the end of the first Cold War as well as western orchestration of a coup-d'état in Ukraine. Moscow also accuses the West of ignoring the significant influence of neo-Nazi elements in Ukrainian politics and for trying to impose on the rest of the world its hegemony under the smoke screen of promotion of freedom and democracy.

These are the indisputable and troubling facts which exist outside the frame of who, Russia or the West, bears greater responsibility for the current sad state of affairs including tragic civil war in Eastern Ukraine.

Accordingly it is time to re-establish the Committee on East West Accord (this time with the offices in Washington, Brussels and Moscow), the premiere rallying point of pro-détente civil society during the original Cold War which was active from 1974 to 1992, when it closed down, in the mistaken belief that with the fall of the Soviet Union a new golden age of East-West cooperation and prosperity had arrived. The present descent into open confrontation and the redirection of NATO to meet new perceived threats from Russia show that civil society folded its tents too early.

The key activity of the new Committee will be to provide a platform for comprehensive public deliberations on how to find the way out of the present crisis. Public debates between authoritative advocates of widely divergent views on the way forward in relations with Russia will be taken to university campuses and other venues open to people from all walks of life. Instead of name calling and character assassination we need a free exchange of ideas will ensure wise and effective foreign policy.

Whereas the weakness of the original Committee came from its concentration of lobbying on Capitol Hill and inattention to the people, the new Committee will seek close alliances with the many elements of civil society that are heavily invested in normal relations with Russia from decades of work in the field. Going beyond industrial companies and business generally, these include the organizers of privately funded people-to-people, educational and cultural exchange programs, internships, public debates to prevent open hostility and posturing.

In the longer term, the Committee on East West Accord will move on to the more optimistic role of repairing and building out East-West strategic cooperation. It will address the shortcomings in the security architecture of Europe that led us into the present stand-off. In parallel, the possibilities for common work in combatting terrorism, climate change and other critical challenges facing us all will be detailed. Achieving these goals can have enormous positive impact for our respective countries and for the whole world community.

All those interested in supporting this effort and for additional information please visit US-Russia.org, RussiaTimes.org or send e-mail to EastWestAccord@gmail.com

The Tragedy of Novorossiya - Eastern Ukraine

This what you get for desire to have American style federalization in Ukraine

