

Stern magazine exclusive: Henry Kissinger warns about a New Cold War between the USA and China: “...this under present circumstances might destroy civilized life”

Hamburg, Germany

The former US-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has warned in an interview with *stern* magazine to make Russia an ally of China – and by this to escalate the conflict between the United States of America and China.

Kissinger said: “You cannot see the history of Europe from the beginning of the 17th century without the appearance of Russia at every key moment. So, to treat it as an outcast forever is not compatible with my vision of Europe and it will make it a Chinese ally. If they conduct themselves like that, we have to resist it and prevent it. If this war ends – and I believe it will – if the Atlantic alliance is being able to say they achieved the traditional objectives and Russian not achieving theirs, NATO should feel strong enough to work out a new relationship with Russia as Europe has after the Napoleonic wars. It is not against the history of Europe.

Kissinger continued: “China actually is my even bigger concern. I think that China and the United States are two superpowers capable of destroying humanity and they are growing these capabilities every year and they are augmenting it with artificial intelligence which creates a form of warfare for which nobody has any experience whatsoever. So, they have a unique obligation to avoid that kind of war and to limit their competition to those things that can be sustained by humanity. Yes, we have some of the cold war rhetoric, but you will have noticed that last week the security adviser of the President talked to Chinese leaders in Luxemburg for four hours and that the conversation was described as constructive. We have two tasks. First, to be strategically strong and not subject to the dominance of another country. But secondly, to conduct that relationship in a manner, in which we do not get into a crisis like the Europeans before World War I when they were sleepwalking into a war and then didn’t know how to end it. So that condition under present circumstances might destroy civilized life.

Henry Kissinger argues against a coup against Putin: “It is likely that a peace agreement will have to be made with Putin” – but the West should not “tolerate” a Russian nuclear threat

Former US-Secretary Henry Kissinger advocated in an interview with *stern* magazine for continuing the dialogue with Russia and with its president Vladimir Putin. Kissinger said: “The war will end someday. After the war the relationship of Ukraine to Russia will have to be redefined. The relationship of Europe to Russia will also have to be redefined at the end of the war because Russia will continue to play an important factor in international relations. But if Russia were to dissolve as a result of the war, the chaos that would exist in Central Asia and in the Middle East would be another disturbing element.”

Answering the question if peace will only be possible after Putin has been removed, he said: “It’s likely that the agreement will have to be made with Putin. If Putin were to be overthrown, it would certainly ease the negotiations. But when all the other objectives are achieved and you continue the war for the purpose of overthrowing Putin, that would in my opinion not have public support no matter how unpopular Putin is at the moment.”

Kissinger said furthermore: “It is a very fragile situation when two nuclear powers are contesting over a non-nuclear power’s territory. With the respect of the use of the threat of nuclear weapons by Russia we cannot possibly yield to that. For two reasons. First, the irony of the historic evolution since World War 2 is that enormous sums were spent on nuclear weapons, they have been refined many times, and yet no country has been willing to use them because they didn’t know how to control the consequences. So, if Putin, if Russia crossed that line, that has to be rebuffed. It can’t be tolerated that a settlement is made under a nuclear threat because it would change the world.

Henry Kissinger defends himself against accusations of appeasement politics made by President Selenskyj: “I said nothing about Crimea”

The former US-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger reacted in an interview with stern magazine to the accusations levelled at him by the Ukrainian President Selenskyj. Selenskyj did accuse him of appeasement politics after Kissinger told an audience at the World Economic Forum in Davos, there should be a solution through negotiations for Ukraine.

Kissinger now told stern magazine shortly before the beginning of the NATO summit in Madrid: “Ukrainians have conducted themselves heroically and they are performing a great function in their defense of freedom for themselves. But other countries have their own historic and immediate considerations, and they cannot be precisely the Ukrainian considerations. That’s the essence of all politics.”

Kissinger continued: “I’m in favor of Ukrainian freedom and I believe as I said in Davos that the status quo ante before the war should be reestablished, and that Russia should not have any geographic or other benefits from its invasion. That is my basic position. How that is achieved is open for discussion. Ukraine should have a very important voice, but other leaders will inevitably consider their overall situation from their point of view. I hope these views will be reconciled and that would and that a basic objective can be reached.”

Concerning the direct criticism levelled at him by Selenskyj, he said: “Look at what he said since. He gave an interview to the FT in which he accepted a precise description of what I tried to say in Davos. The misunderstanding arose from the fact that I said that the dividing line from the ceasefire should be along the line of the status quo ante which some people interpreted as meaning that Ukraine should give up the claim to the relatively small amount of territory that Russia seized in 2014. But I didn’t say that. I meant that the diving line for the ceasefire should be along the status quo ante. Before the war started. The territory that represented Ukraine internationally. I said nothing about Crimea.”

Kissinger furthermore thinks a major aid programme for Ukraine necessary as well as a membership in the European Union: “Yes, I think Ukraine should be a member of the European Union. In 2014, I wrote an article in the Washington Post in which I warned against Ukraine become a member of NATO. And in which I said my vision of a positive future would be a Ukraine that is a bridge between Europe and Russia and not a frontline. Therefore, I thought Ukraine might play a role like Finland at the time. A very strong commitment to defense but also a readiness for dialogue. That is in that form no longer possible because for practical purposes Ukraine is now a member of NATO operationally and it’s going be very hard to walk this back. What I am attracted to is a concept of arms control along the Russo-European border in which there are mutual restrains but that will need a lot of intellectual and practical developing. “

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