

Trafficking in Lies, Demagoguery, and War Mongering, Timothy Snyder is a Vicious Anti-Communist Ideologue... And Shameless Apologist for the US Empire: A Challenge to Debate from Raymond Lotta

The attached polemic and call to debate, which can also be read at revcom.us, begins this way:

“Timothy Snyder is a high-profile, anti-communist historian who equates communism with Nazi-ism/ fascism, and Stalin with Hitler. His work *Bloodlands* focuses on *the period 1933-45 in the region* from central Poland to western Russia, through Ukraine, Belarus and the Baltic states.

It is a modern-day, Cold War-style diatribe against communism from the perch of Western imperialism.

The historical “lessons” he draws in this and other works and lectures also serve Timothy Snyder’s current side-vocation--**as one of the U.S. ruling class’s go-to intellectual cheerleaders for America’s proxy war with imperialist rival Russia over Ukraine.** He argues that this war must be conventionally escalated to achieve total victory over Russia...never mind that this could lead to nuclear incineration.”

There are high stakes here. Humanity faces unprecedented horror and peril, including capitalism-imperialism’s destruction of the environment. This is a world, at a time, that cries out for revolution.

Timothy Snyder offers up distorted history and lies whose effect (if not express purpose) is to frighten people away from communist revolution. He prettifies the reality of the US as a brutal empire of exploitation, oppression, and plunder. He is wrong and causing great harm.

There are two main sections of this polemic, two main themes for the debate that I am proposing:

1) Lies About Stalin and the Soviet Union, And the Big Lie That Communism and Nazi-ism are ‘Twin Totalitarianisms’: a) the truth of the famine of 1932-33; b) the truth of the Molotov-Ribbentrop [non-aggression] Pact of 1939; c) fascist-capitalism and communism are radically different, one intensifying the horrors of capitalism, the other overthrowing capitalism-imperialism and setting out to abolish all exploitation and oppression.

2) The Nature of the War in Ukraine—Not a Battle Between “Tyranny and Democracy” But a Proxy War Between Russia and the U.S.

In the spirit of principled and open debate over crucial issues, I call on Professor Snyder to take up this call to debate.

I encourage students and faculty to read and share this polemic and help make this debate happen.

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