



Détente with Russia instead of Cold War 2.0.

Declaration of Attac Germany on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the German invasion of the Soviet Union

22 June marks the 80th anniversary of Nazi Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union.

From the beginning, this war - unlike the war in the West - was planned as a racist war of extermination. In the strategic planning of the Wehrmacht, the extermination of 50-60% of the "*Slavic subhumans*" in the European part of the Soviet Union was intended, and a further 15%-25% were to be expelled behind the Urals. The rest were to be made into labour slaves of the "*Aryan master race*".

To psychologically prepare the German population for war, the ideologies of the "*Slavic subhumans*" and the "*Jewish-Bolshevik world conspiracy*" were propagated.

German barbarism cost the lives of 27 million people in the Soviet Union.

These atrocities must not be forgotten or relativised. Even if the singularity of the Holocaust is not in question, the war of extermination in the East, too, gives rise to a moral and political responsibility for us today.

Today, this means accepting the principle of common security, as practised in Willy Brandt's Ostpolitik, i.e. the principle that security can only be achieved together and with consideration for the security interests of the other side.

Today, this means an active policy of détente instead of NATO military deployment at the Russian borders, arms race and Cold War.

Today, that means political dialogue to solve conflicts instead of confrontation and to divide the world again into hostile camps.

Today, it means economic cooperation and good neighbourly relations instead of sanctions.

And it also means putting an end to build up enemy images, depicting Russia as empire of evil by politicians and many mainstream media. It means putting an end to the conceited thinking in terms of superiority, that today resurrects in the guise of "*European values*", for example when Brussels says "*our soft power is the best in the world*" (former EU foreign representative Mogherini) and German Foreign Minister Maas enthuses about "*European patriotism*".

Against the background of global problems such as the climate catastrophe, the dramatic transformations in the international system, the renewed danger of nuclear war due to the termination of arms control agreements and new military technologies, as well as the challenges posed by pandemics, growing poverty and increasing wealth, a new Cold War is pure madness.