

Turkey on War Path, The West is Napping

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“History never repeats itself but it rhymes”
Mark Twain

Ankara is bubbling with war fever. President-for-life Erdogan, and his cabinet surrogates, miss no opportunity to remind the world Turkey is a superpower (of sorts) and never will accept being “disrespected” by other states. In fact, the Islamist neo-Ottoman strongman [informed the world](#) recently that “We [Turks] ... are not foreigners, definitely not the other in Europe, instead, we are the host in Europe today as it has been throughout the history.”

Listening to Erdogan and watching his burgeoning warmongering against Greece and the Republic of Cyprus any serious student of history, with deeper memory and recall of dictators, can immediately recognize the strong resemblance of Erdogan’s disposition, tone, tenor, and language to that of Adolf Hitler.

As Hitler prepared to conquer the world (at least in his mind) he took special care to let the world know what was coming. Anyone who had dared read his personal world view in *Mein Kampf*, his book on how Germany was destined to rule the world, had already been briefed on what was coming next (very few bothered). His speeches and pronouncements before the outbreak of WWII were a cunning mixture of boasting about Germany’s growing power, warning any “enemies” of the Fatherland to beware, and swearing he would never breach the peace – unless Germany’s “vital interest” are harmed. One of his very first actions as chancellor though was to abrogate the Treaty of

Versailles, order the restoration of a German army of 600,000, and announce a headlong plan for rearmament.

Adjusted for time and place, Erdogan is doing the almost exact same. His declaration of the Aegean as [Turkey's "Blue Motherland"](#) (and pushing aside the Treaty of Lausanne) and his naval sabre rattling reminds us of Hitler constant badgering of the then great European Powers, Britain and France, re. Germany's "right" to intervene to protect its "rights" and German minorities in Central Europe—which directly led to the shameful Munich Agreement of September 1938. Erdogan misses no opportunity to boast about Turkey's military power and how Turkish arms are ready to punish anyone who underestimates Turkey's determination; he has also [declared](#) himself the imperialistic protector of Sunni Islam.

Hitler, correctly reading the cowering British and French of the 1930s, occupied the Rhineland (1936), absorbed Austria by merely walking his troops across the border on a snowy day, occupied the Sudetenland, the German populated part of Czechoslovakia (1938) and snatched the rest of the latter country in 1939. All along, there was not even a sound from the "great powers" of Europe.

Erdogan, just like Hitler, has revealed himself a similar expert juggler, judge of character, and extortionist vis-a-vis the again divided and apathetic West counting on the European and American indecisive and hesitant attitudes. His invasion of Syria and his efforts to exterminate the Kurds; his agitated activity to produce illegal maps of "exclusive" Turkish zones at sea; his open threat to unleash hundreds of thousands of "refugees," i.e. illegal immigrants, upon Greece; his constant threats against Israel; his persistent assistance of Islamic terrorists in Syria appear to ruffle no feathers in Brussels and other European capitals; and his [open support](#) of the Islamists attempting to overthrow the legitimate parliament of Libya goes unopposed by international sanctions.

So far, the parallel Erdogan-Hitler blueprint unfolds with significant similarities. And this is where the ominous part begins: The timelines of the German dictator and Turkey's "civil" Islamist strongman have reached the approximate point of Hitler deciding to invade Poland (September 1, 1939). Would Erdogan follow in Hitler's footsteps by attacking Greece and Cyprus claiming Turkey's "inalienable rights" and "vital interests" are being threatened?

Any such Turkish action will have catastrophic results. Turkey, bolstered by its unopposed invasion of Cyprus in 1974, should be fairly secure in the thought that today's reactions won't be substantially different. With the European Union "acting" only via "stern statements" by talking heads on the rule of law and having no common security

and foreign policy; and with the White House under the unique control of a “tweeting” president, who often expresses his “friendship” toward the Islamist strongman, the future looks pregnant with disastrous alternatives.

Greece and Cyprus should prepare for the worst.