

# POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

## What does the developing world think?

On March 2, the United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly — 141 to 5 — to condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine and demand all Russian troops withdraw.

The usual suspects voted against the resolution: Russia, of course; North Korea; Belarus (a puppet state of Russia); Syria (whose government is propped up by Russia); and Eritria (sometimes called the North Korea of Africa).



Commentary by  
Tom Hylton

However, 35 countries abstained, including four of the world's most populous: China, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Other notable abstentions came from Vietnam, Iran, Iraq, Cuba and about half the countries of Africa.

Just as pre-Pearl Harbor Americans overwhelmingly did not want to get involved in "European wars," despite Hitler's barbaric invasion of France, the low countries, Norway, Poland, Russia, the Balkins, and Greece, many third world nations today see the barbaric invasion of Ukraine as highly regrettable, but just another European war.

In centuries past, the western European powerhouses of Spain, Britain, France, Belgium and the Netherlands saw themselves as duty-bound to civilize the rest of the world (and grow rich in the process).

Spain and Portugal conquered Latin America; The Dutch took Indo-

nesia; Britain ruled India (including Pakistan) and much of the Mideast; the French took over Vietnam and much of North Africa; and the rest of Africa was mostly split up among the British, Dutch, and Belgians.

China was a free-for-all, with Britain ending up with the most influence.

The United States came late to the game, taking Cuba, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico from Spain in the 1898 Spanish American War. (We still own Puerto Rico).

The inhabitants of the colonized countries, which comprise most of the people on earth, have not shared the Europeans' traditional view of themselves as benevolent cultivators.

Rather, they see themselves as victims of Western exploitation.

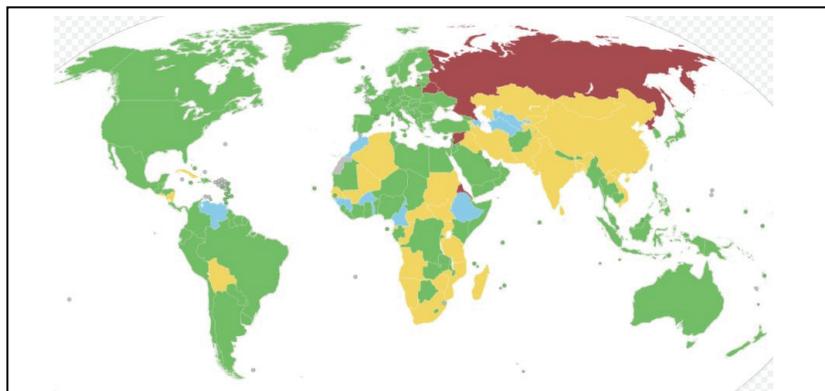
After World War II, nearly all these countries gained their independence, but were still subject to the manipulation of the great powers.

America thrust itself into a civil war in Vietnam. The Soviets invaded Afghanistan, and 11 years after they left, the Americans did. The U.S. also invaded Iraq on charges (later proved false) that Iraq was developing weapons of mass destruction.

From a global point of view, it is vitally important the Russo-Ukraine war doesn't escalate into an all-out nuclear war that could kill everybody.

And as much as we hate the brutal, authoritarian governments of China and Russia, we're still going to need their cooperation to tackle climate change.

That's an inescapable fact.



**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION CONDEMNING INVASION OF UKRAINE AND DEMANDING WITHDRAWAL OF RUSSIAN TROOPS 3/2/2022**

**GREEN—in favor**

**RED — against**

**YELLOW—Abstentions**

**BLUE—Absent**