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Geopolitics getting more fractious / EU: the threat to unity has never been greater / Share markets still wobbling / Oil: prices don't reflect supply and demand

Geopolitics getting more fractious

The linkage between Middle Eastern affairs and the strategies of India, China, Pakistan, Russia and the stans, is the effort to shrug off Anglo American global dominance. Here is a useful article on the subject...

<http://www.internationalman.com/articles/the-most-important-geopolitical-trend-of-the-next-decadeheres-how-to-profit>

Russia is now more heavily supporting President Assad in Syria but Russia is becoming a junior partner as China becomes more assertive militarily...

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-09-01/putin-s-china-turn-hits-potholes-as-trade-drops-markets-slide>

China is about to hold a display of military hardware to emphasise how THEY defeated Japan in WW2. So what was it like in China when the Japanese surrendered? Factories are shut so the sky will be blue...

<http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-34126445>

Not so funny for the US, is the recent appearance of Chinese warships patrolling the US coast and the intended display of the special purpose Chinese “aircraft carrier killer” hypersonic missile in Beijing. So what is China trying to prove – besides rubbing Japan’s nose in the mud. They certainly want to cast doubt of the power of the US carrier groups. After all THEY never beat the Japanese army, it was the A-bomb that did that... they simply want to re-write history in the image and likeness of the CCP and premier Xi Jinping...

<http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-china-blog-34126064>

How does China stack?

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-34125418>

So now Japan has recently increased its budget for defence of strategic islands too.

We are witnessing the biggest arms race since the 1930’s...and following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, we see the SCO as a huge military threat to the established world order.

EU: the threat to unity has never been greater

Built from diverse origins, perhaps the EU is trying to achieve too much...

<http://www.interest.co.nz/opinion/77414/oliver-hartwich-says-its-deeply-embedded-parochial-regionalism-eu-just-cant-operate>

Photos of dying children and the refugee crisis have called into question the freedom of movement between EU states as the barriers go up...

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/11840622/Refugee-crisis-plaint-of-migrant-children-stirs-Europes-conscience.html>

Spare a thought for the Greeks...

<http://thecrux.com/how-to-make-sure-the-government-cant-freeze-your-bank-account/>

When crash times come, this will be a warning to us all!

And the German influence is still dominant...so much for fraternal relations...from Seeking Alpha...

“[German Deputy Finance Minister Jens Spahn](#) is confident the International Monetary Fund and other creditors will agree on debt relief for Greece, allowing the IMF to join the country's bailout. Alexis Tsipras has the chance to be "a very strong leader for reforms" if he wins re-election this month, Spahn said in a Bloomberg Television interview, though an overhaul of the pension system is still needed and "won't be easy."

Share markets still wobbling

In China, the CCP has made it abundantly clear – they will flog anyone who does not pay a higher price for shares. That makes the stock exchange a plaything of the CCP and not a market at all. That fact has unsettled world markets that are “all over the place” now.

From BBC: FTSE +0.41%, Dow Jones +1.82%, Dasdaq +2.46, Nikkei -0.39%.

In the OECD it isn't just the stock GDP that is being manipulated

<http://www.caseyresearch.com/articles/when-governments-mess-with-the-price-of-money>

Oil: prices don't reflect supply and demand

Over the last ten years, the countries that have been reducing their use of oil are the Europeans...so as China increased from 4 million bbls per day to over 10.5 million bbls/day, the Europeans have reduced usage to compensate by 2.6 million bbls per day...

<http://crudeoilpeak.info/europe-oil-consumption-peaked-2005>

The reality of peak oil led the EU countries to increase taxes on petrol and diesel to stifle and reduce demand. Now, many Europeans have no desire to use petrol because it is too dear.

Asia looks like it will break the bank...

<http://crudeoilpeak.info/asias-oil-consumption-at-record-high-while-production-peaked-in-2010>

While China's oil use may stabilise for a while or even drop, the new kid on the block is India with GDP growth of more than 7% this year...

<http://oilprice.com/Energy/Crude-Oil/India-Becomes-3rd-Largest-Oil-Importer.html>

Oil at USD45/bbl is not sustainable for any producers, but when usage rises – so too will prices.

Remember that despite the burbling of idiots, oil **IS a finite resource**. When it's production starts to fall there will be a depression to beat the band, and no-one can mount a viable argument at this point as to why this will not lead to die-back of our species.

In the next few years, our master resource will turn against us. So there is no doubt the future of cars will be electric...but which configuration...PHEVs or BEVs?

<http://insideevs.com/teslas-pure-bev-approach-favored-over-german-luxury-plug-in-hybrids/>

Over the last several days, oil prices got down into the USD39/bbl area (WTI) but as of today are up around USD46/bbl. The surge in price has been caused by the Chinese dominating market buying...just that, we don't yet know why??? Probably picking the low price point, but who knows.