

# Invasive perspectives

(September 2024)

On September 13, 2024, James Phillip Rubin, a diplomat and Special Envoy and Coordinator of the U.S. State Department's Global Engagement Center, addressed reporters immediately after a speech by Secretary of State Anthony Blinken.

He said:

*“One of the reasons – not the only reason – why so much of the world has not been as fully supportive of Ukraine as you would think they would be, given that Russia has invaded Ukraine and violated Rule Number 1 of the international system<sup>1</sup>, is because of the broad scope and reach of RT, where propaganda, disinformation and lies<sup>2</sup> is spread to millions if not billions around the world<sup>3</sup>”.*

When referring to *Rule Number 1*, Mr. Rubin may perhaps have had in mind something like the United Nations Charter, which emerged in 1945.

Find hereafter a list of a few select transnational military invasions since 1945, in reverse order.

*Would Mr. Rubin be so kind as to elucidate in which respect Invasion # 4 differs fundamentally from the other 84, and the reasons behind his department's unreadiness to express a commensurate outrage on most of those other occasions, except when the same invader is involved?*

#	Year	Invasion event	Invading party	Invaded party
1	2024	Ukrainian invasion of Kursk Oblast	Ukraine	Russia
2	2023	Invasion of the Gaza Strip	Israel	Gaza Strip
3	2022	Al-Shabaab invasion of Ethiopia	Al-Shabaab	Ethiopia

<sup>1</sup> The author of this commentary could not find any formal reference to the mentioned "*international system*", let alone a "*Rule Number 1*". He apologizes for his possible ineptitude.

<sup>2</sup> The words "*propaganda*", "*disinformation*" and "*lies*" appear to be dysphemism (antonym of euphemism) for "*dissenting opinion*". May remind one of the Vietnam War era "*Credibility Gap*".

<sup>3</sup> RT being thus apparently able to achieve for \$1 what CNN and others cannot for \$1,000.

4	2022	Invasion of Ukraine	Russia	Ukraine
5	2017	Invasion of the Gambia	Senegal	Gambia
6	2014	Israeli invasion of Gaza	Israel	Gaza Strip
7	2014	Invasion of Ukraine (Crimea)	Russia	Ukraine
8	2011	Invasion of Libya	NATO	Libya
9	2011	Invasion of Somalia	Kenya	Somalia
10	2009	Invasion of Gaza	Israel	Gaza Strip
11	2008	Invasion of Georgia	Russia	Georgia
12	2008	Invasion of Anjouan	Comoros	Anjouan
13	2006	Invasion of Somalia	Ethiopia	Islamic Courts Union
14	2004	Invasion of Gaza	Israel	Hamas
15	2003	Invasion of Iraq	United States et al.	Iraq
16	2001	Invasion of Afghanistan	United States et al.	Taliban
17	1999	Invasion of Kargil	Pakistan	India
18	1998	Invasion of Dem. Rep. of Congo	Uganda	Dem. Rep. of Congo
19	1998	Invasion of Ethiopia	Eritrea	Ethiopia
20	1994	Invasion of Haiti	United States	Haiti
21	1991	Invasion of Iraq	United States et al.	Iraq
22	1991	Invasion of Saudi Arabia	Iraq	Saudi Arabia
23	1990	Invasion of Kuwait	Iraq	Kuwait
24	1990	Invasion of Rwanda	Rwandan Pat. Front	Rwanda
25	1989	Invasion of Liberia	Nat. Pat. Front of Liberia	Liberia
26	1989	Invasion of Panama	United States	Panama
27	1988	Invasion of Spratly Islands	China	Vietnam
28	1984	Indian capture of Siachen	India	Pakistan
29	1983	Invasion of Grenada	United States	Grenada
30	1982	Invasion of Iraq	Iran	Iraq
31	1982	Invasion of Lebanon	Israel	Palestine PLO
32	1982	Invasion of Falklands	Argentina	United Kingdom
33	1980	Invasion of Iran	Iraq	Iran
34	1979	Invasion of Afghanistan	Soviet Union	Afghanistan
35	1979	Invasion of Thailand	Vietnam	Thailand
36	1979	Invasion of Vietnam	China	Vietnam
37	1979	Invasion of Uganda	Tanzania	Uganda
38	1978	Invasion of Cambodia	Vietnam	Cambodia
39	1978	Invasion of Tanzania	Uganda	Tanzania
40	1978	Invasion of Lebanon	Israel	Palestine PLO
41	1977	Invasion of Ethiopia	Somalia	Ethiopia

42	1976	Invasion of Lebanon	Syria	Lebanon
43	1975	Invasion of East Timor	Indonesia	East Timor
44	1975	Invasion of Spanish Sahara	Morocco	Spain
45	1975	Invasion of Koh Poulo Wai	Vietnam	Cambodia
46	1975	Invasion of Thổ Chu Islands	Cambodia	Vietnam
47	1975	Invasion of South Vietnam	North Vietnam	South Vietnam
48	1974	Invasion of Cyprus	Turkey	Cyprus
49	1974	Invasion of Paracel Islands	China	South Vietnam
50	1973	Invasion of Israel	Egypt	Israel
51	1972	Invasion of South Vietnam	North Vietnam	South Vietnam
52	1971	Invasion of Laos	South Vietnam	North Vietnam
53	1971	Invasion of Pakistan	India	Pakistan
54	1970	Invasion of Cambodia	United States	North Vietnam
55	1970	Invasion of Cambodia	North Vietnam	Khmer Republic
56	1969	Invasion of Honduras	El Salvador	Honduras
57	1968	Invasion of Czechoslovakia	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia
58	1968	Invasion of South Vietnam	North Vietnam	South Vietnam
59	1967	Invasion of Kingdom of Sikkim	China	India
60	1967	Invasions of Biafra	Nigeria	Biafra
61	1967	Invasions of Biafra	Biafra	Nigeria
62	1967	Invasion of Egypt	Israel	Egypt
63	1967	Invasion of Syria	Israel	Syria
64	1967	Invasion of Jordan	Israel	Jordan
65	1965	Counter-invasion of Pakistan	India	Pakistan
66	1965	Invasion of Jammu and Kashmir	Pakistan	India
67	1965	Invasion of Dominican Republic	United States	Dominican Republic
68	1962	Invasion of Aksai Chin and Arunachal	China	India
69	1961	Invasion of New Guinea	Indonesia	Netherlands
70	1961	Indian annexation of Goa	India	Portugal
71	1961	Invasion of Cuba	United States	Cuba
72	1958	Invasion of Laos	North Vietnam	Laos
73	1957	Invasion of Spanish Sahara	Morocco	Spain
74	1956	Invasion of Hungary	Soviet Union	Hungary
75	1956	Invasion of Egypt	France et al.	Egypt
76	1954	Annexation of Dadra and Nagar Haveli	India	Portugal
77	1950	Invasion of North Korea	United Nations	North Korea
78	1950	Invasion of South Korea	North Korea	South Korea
79	1950	Invasion of Tibet	China	Tibet

80	1948	Indian annexation of Hyderabad	India	Hyderabad State
81	1948	Arab League invasion of Israel	Arab League	Israel
82	1947	Invasion of Jammu and Kashmir	Pakistan	India
83	1946	Invasion of Vietnam	France	Vietnam
84	1945	Invasion of Vietnam	France	Vietnam
85	1945	Invasion of Indonesia	Netherlands	Indonesia