

# A 21<sup>st</sup> century Clausewitz

(September 2022)

The 21<sup>st</sup> century Clausewitz, General Mark Milley, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, in full colorful regalia:



*"In the conduct of war, you just don't know with a high degree of certainty what will happen next."*

In the words of the great Homer (Simpson), I would interject: *"Duh!"*

Is this a reflection of West Point's martial philosophy, or just of General Milley's?

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Meanwhile, President Biden was saying on CBS that the Ukrainian forces are *"defeating Russia"*.

Not being a novel Clausewitz myself, I looked at the map in the Financial Times and tried to understand the situation along the front.

All the colored areas are within Ukraine's borders, as recognized by the West.

I am not in a position to assess whether Russia is defeating the Ukraine and her Western allies, but on the other hand I would welcome an explanation as to how exactly the Ukraine is defeating Russia.

Are Ukrainian forces occupying sovereign Russian territory, or are Russian forces occupying sovereign Ukrainian territory?

*PS: I would take the map with a grain of salt, though, since I see no reported missile strike on the Energodar nuclear power plant.*

