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Press TV

## 'Russia on the list after Syria's fall'

2/1/2012

**As the turmoil in Syria escalates, the Arab League delegates are pushing for a UN resolution to force Assad to step down and hand over power to his deputy.**

Press TV has conducted an interview with political analyst Nada Hashwi, from Beirut to further discuss the issue.

What follows is an approximate transcription of the interview.

**Press TV:** Well, Nada Hashwi in Beirut, let's have your opinion on this. When we look at the UN [United Nation] proposal, it includes the proposal for President Assad to step down. Now Russia has come and said that it is not agreeing with this and it has been saying that both the government and the opposition should be able to engage in dialogue and that both sides should come up and say what mistakes they made.

So why do you think there is this insistence in the UN for President Assad to resign?

**Hashwi:** Well, first of all thank you for having me on the show. Second, it is they are asking for Mr. Assad's change of the regime. They are asking him, first of all they were asking for him to change and to reform.

Basically what they really[want] from president Assad is to step down, not to change regime in any way -is- to change his stances and to change his standing besides all the resistance whether it is in Palestine or in Lebanon.

Now first of all like the gentleman in the Washington said, the UN position here is not for regime change in any way. It is to actually stand beside any country that actually faces any kind of terrorism and what Syria is facing right now is a case of a huge terrorist [terrorism] and what is happening in the rebels in Syria, they are killing people left and right and in any country in the world I think and the UN they basically, they clearly know that when a country faces terrorism in its own grounds they have to deal with it in any way possible and this is exactly what is happening in Syria. But because the conspiracy in what is happening in Syria right now. It is making them change all their stances and making them putting it towards President Assad.

**Press TV:** Well, Right, Nada Hashwi I would like to come to the World of the Arab League here now. Looking at what has been happening, we know that the Arab League made the decision- a crucial decision- to suspend its observer's mission in Syria. First of all; why do you think that decision was made and a lot has been also said about role of Qatar here. We heard the Syrian official in that report saying that, Qatar is in fact getting its instructions from outside. What is your view on this?

**Hashwi:** Well, first of all their decision of having Syria out [of the Arab League] is basically to not hear Syria's voice. The real voice of Syria. Because as we see on many television stations is the actual not the truth at all.

It is all made up. Like the gentleman said again we are seeing actually people with RPG's, we are seeing people that they are killing left and right. So basically when the Arab League decided to get Syria out of there it is just so, they do not hear the real truth about it.

And one more thing I'd like to add about the UN resolution - if ever is going to happen- I think in my opinion Russia will never let this happen. Not just because Russia is in love with Syria or anything like that. Because it is actually its last true partner in the Middle East and especially in Tartus and if they let this go, is basically they are going to be next on the list.

Russia is going to be next on the list. Because what is happening right now is the Western countries and especially with America leading the way as going to have every single country divided so they can have their own territories and they can lead the world.

And I think[that] the next president Mr. Putin is not going to go to let this happen and he said that already in an interview saying that this is not going to happen in any way possible. So I think what is going to happen [is that] Russia is going to stand all the way behind Syria so they can know exactly what to expect in the near future.

**Press TV:** The US spy chief has said recently that Assad's regime will inevitably collapse. It is just a matter of time, so basically he is suggesting that the West can do is [to] expedite the process of Assad's fall to protect the people or the peoples' lives in his words.

So basically first of all do you agree with that assessment that President Assad's regime is doomed?

**Hashwi:** Well, first of all who is he to say something like this?

That is one thing. It is for its own people [Syrian people] to decide whether President Assad should stay in the head of the regime or not, that is one thing. And then we have been hearing this -for- since the beginning of the Syria's situation and we still see that Mr. President Assad is still where he is and [is] trying to do any kind of reforms possible.

But let us face it. You know this is not an act of changing of any reforms or anything. They do not want any regime changes. They just want him out of the head of state, first of all. And for me - I am sorry I did not hear the gentleman in Washington because I had the line cut off- but I'd like to say one thing about how I think Mr. President Assad should deal with the violence in Syria. First of all I think he should deal with it like it is an act of terrorism. And we all know that any country that any kind of terrorism that happens in its country, they should deal with it with a metal first so to speak.

In other words he needs to use any way possible to get rid of those rebels, anyway possible to see peace among the whole country again. We can now listen to anybody from any foreign country what should happen in Syria. We have to listen to its own people; we see the majority of its people still want him as the president. We all know what is behind .....