

Fig.139 Screenshot of a page of a Swedish newspaper where I read of casualties in Ukraine years before the war erupted there. In thinking of power shifts I became much aware of historical events. The reading of Leo Tolstoy was important for me to understand the constant struggle between east and west as a struggle caused not by people but by emperors.

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Becoming aware of all the rapid transformations occurring globally, I have begun to embrace a Tolstoyan view of history. As I have conceived it, the latter is made not of heroes and villains, but by forces and counter-forces. I then began to perceive pacifism as just a power vacuum that does not completely resolve the world injustices. In fact this work not only represents a unique record of hard-to-find casualties in the midst of much gossip but also it represents a shift of power. The west has become increasingly hindered by its colonial history and self-victimizing policies, the east has seen a new Renaissance. Along with this Tolstoyan view of history I became rather convinced that if power can be diffused also the violence that can escalate from it can be much more manageable and less destructive. If society would learn to coexist with the environment and organize itself based on the real value of each individual genocides and ecocides would some less. In this sense I can never be of any influence to any young person. I can talk about the war as I have learned it from my grandparents or writers like Robert Graves, Erich Maria Remarque, Vasily Grossman and my grandfather's cousin Mario Rigoni Stern but only after young people have read their books we can the necessary empathy for a discussion.