

Recent comments by an official spokesperson of the US State Department following a telephone conversation between Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have drawn attention in Moscow.

In a peremptory manner typical of the United States, Russia was alleged to be failing to meet its obligations in southwestern Syria. The reality is exactly the opposite. It was Washington that for many months did nothing to separate the "moderate" opposition from ISIS and Jabhat al-Nusra terrorists in the southwestern de-escalation zone. As a result of successful actions by the Syrian armed forces with our support, law and order are being restored in southwestern Syria and proper conditions are being created for the people to return to peaceful life.

In this context, the recent news involving the White Helmets organisation speaks volumes. Reportedly, Westerners carried out an emergency evacuation of a large group of these pseudo-humanitarians to Jordan via Israeli territory. It is well known that it was the White Helmets who were implicated in the most odious provocations during the Syrian conflict. They acted exclusively in areas controlled by Islamic radicals and concocted outright fakes, which were then used as a pretext to level accusations at the Syrian authorities. Their preferred technique, as actual witnesses to the chemical weapons provocations in Eastern Ghouta later stated before OPCW representatives in The Hague on April 26, 2018, was to stage and shoot propaganda videos that were later widely shared by the Western media and online. It is symbolic that the White Helmets chose to flee Syria with foreign intervention, thus revealing who they really are and demonstrating their hypocrisy to the entire world. As the saying goes, a guilty conscience gives itself away, and these operators clearly showed whose orders they were following and who was funding them.