

## **NEUROLOGICAL HEALTH OF POLITICAL LEADERS**

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The brain function of world leaders is everyone's concern because weapons of mass destruction can cause global calamity. Strokes, mental illness, uncontrolled high blood pressure, dementia and even syphilis or AIDS in leaders of nations and/or religious groups can lead to tragedy which threatens not only one nation but the entire world. For example, brain disease in leaders at the end of World War I, was an underlying cause of World War II, leading to the deaths of 23.6 million people in the Soviet Union and millions more in other nations.

Physicians have been reluctant to speak about what they observe in those who govern, even though brain imaging and other technologies provide irrefutable evidence of impairment. One reason is the leader's staff may not retain power if change occurs – so pressure is put upon physicians to hide disability. If civilization is to survive, society must find ways to identify mental impairment and ensure means by which to identify and control leaders suffering with brain diseases so that brain diseases can no longer cause mass destruction.