

[The Voice of Russia](#) - May 15, 2012

Member of the European Parliament Pino Arlacchi, who is attending an international conference in Moscow titled 'NATO: myths and reality. Lessons for Russia and the world', addressed the audience by saying that he does not understand why NATO exists although the Soviet Union has long collapsed.

“During the Cold War the West believed that being in confrontation with the USSR it was pursuing the values of democracy and freedom. But now it is clear that a Soviet threat was over exaggerated”, Arlacchi said.

He was backed by the president of the Switzerland-based Institute for Peace and Energy Research Daniel Ganser. “We were constantly told that the USSR was a source of evil, while NATO protected our democracy. But Serbia and Libya were bombed not by Russia, you know”, Ganser said.