



# Hillary Clinton threatens Russia with war



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The roles for the presidential election campaign in the USA seem clearly allocated in the German media, for this is how they are presented: On the one side the dangerous, and possibly not of sound mind multi-billionaire, Donald Trump, and on the other side, the sober-minded and experienced stateswoman Hillary Clinton. If you take a closer look though, at the foreign policy's focus of a possible president Clinton, the question arises if Clinton would not turn out to be the more dangerous one. She displays a tremendously aggressive position: Clinton is threatening Russia with open warfare. The presidential candidate stated in a campaign speech in Cincinnati:

“So, we’ve got to step up our game. Make sure we are well defended and able to take the fight to those who go after us.” In view of possible cyber attacks through Russia, she adds: “As President, I will make it clear that the United States will treat cyber attacks just like any other attack. We will be ready with serious political, economic, and military responses.” It remains uncertain if Clintons’ statements are only strong remarks of a campaign or not. Because for some time now it has been a matter of discussion on how to deal with computer attacks. The USA classifies cyber attacks as a military invasion the same as with conventional armed forces. In plain terms this would mean: A potential cyber attack would be the equivalent of an invasion of hostile tanks and soldiers and subsequently automatically invoke the NATO case of alliance. A potential Russian cyber attack would draw the NATO members into an open war against Russia.

The dangerous part of Clinton’s statements is that cyber attacks can hardly be verified. The fact that the mere assertion of having been attacked by computer could trigger a war with a nuclear power state inserts a new dimension of explosiveness into the past years’ spiral of escalation. It would eventually be enough to hold only one press conference in the White House in order to explain, and justify, in front of the whole world that it’s time to “fire back” after an (alleged) Russian cyber attack.

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## Sources:

<http://time.com/4474619/read-hillary-clinton-american-legion-speech/>  
<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/clinton-us-should-use-military-response-fight-cyberattacks-russia-china-1579187>  
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