

## Editorial

# Just in time: the Club of Life

Between Sept. 17 and 19 two European governments fell, marking the culminating phase of a long-ripening plan by the British and European oligarchy to sweep away every institution committed to industrial progress on the European continent. First came the collapse of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's 13-year-old ruling coalition in West Germany, the victim of a combination of the anti-nuclear "Green" fascists and their "neo-conservative" friends around the candidacy of Franz-Josef Strauss, with the aid of the Liberals.

Two days later, the Swedish national elections brought back to power former Socialist Prime Minister Olof Palme, the man whose intimate friendships span the gamut from Iran's Khomeinists to the "peace" crowd in Moscow to such unreconstructed Nazis as Per Engdahl, and whose program calls for the tearing down of Sweden's nuclear industry, one of the most advanced in the world.

Fortunately that third week in September also saw the announcement of the founding conference of the Club of Life, an international association born of the efforts of Helga Zepp-LaRouche, which will take place in Rome, Italy on Oct. 20 and 21.

If the events in Sweden and West Germany mark the end of the fight for industrial progress at the *national* level, the upcoming conference in Rome marks the creation of the key *international* institution that can carry forward that battle and win it. If the defeat of Schmidt and the lackluster conservative coalition in Sweden damns the political method of "pragmatism," as an experiment in impotence that has no need to be repeated, the launching of the Club of Life will outline the philosophical outlook and programmatic perspective that are required to halt the deepening depression and chart the course toward economic growth.

The Club of Life is counterposed to that particular concentration of institutional evil known as the Club of Rome, which is now preparing to celebrate its tenth anniversary. For behind the combination of old Nazis and environmentalists which mobilized on Britain's orders to topple first President Giscard of France in

1981 and his ally Chancellor Schmidt in 1982, and which has conspired to bring the pro-fascist Socialist International to rule in Sweden and probably soon in Spain, is the spread of Malthusian ideology—the idea of limits to growth—by the Club of Rome.

In her call for a Club of Life in January 1982, Helga Zepp-LaRouche addressed men and women of good will from among political figures, religious leaders, scientists, engineers, trade unionists, minority groups, industrialists and educators from the developing sector countries as well as Europe and North America. Mrs. LaRouche, who has been leading in the fight for technology transfer from the industrialized sector to the underdeveloped countries for eight years, warned that world war could result from the international economic collapse.

"Never before has the human species found itself in as fundamental a crisis as today. We are confronted with the possibility of the annihilation of all life through a global atomic war. We are situated in the midst of a world economic crisis, which in its full range of effects, could cost billions of human lives above all in the developing sector. In broad sections of the world human society is threatening to slip back into the dark age. The most worrisome aspect, however, is that in the so-called developed countries, in particular, cultural pessimism is beginning to take hold, which has begun to diminish if not to outright deny the value and worthiness of human life.

"In contrast to this is the enormous will for development in many countries of the so-called Third World, an enormous desire for development and progress whose realization is being prevented through unjust economic and monetary arrangements, and through the effects of an unbridled liberal philosophy."

Among the founding members of the Club of Life are representatives of the United States, Mexico, Colombia, France, Sweden, West Germany, Italy, Vatican City, India, Africa, and the Middle East. We applaud the founding of the Club of Life, and *EIR* pledges to aid in any way possible in assuring its success.