

EIR's Dennis Small takes LaRouche case, and policy, to Europe

Speaking at a Schiller Institute press conference in Rome on Nov. 21, *EIR*'s Ibero-American editor Dennis Small, a former political prisoner in the United States, announced to the Italian press and diplomatic representatives the presidential candidacy of Lyndon LaRouche. "LaRouche may be the first U.S. candidate qualifying for matching funds from jail," Small said, reminding the press that LaRouche has been a political prisoner of Bush for three years, together with six more of his associates, some of whom, including Small, are now free.

Explaining the political motivations behind the arrest, Small emphasized LaRouche's opposition to the austerity conditionalities policy of the International Monetary Fund, which is destroying Ibero-America, and to George Bush and Henry Kissinger's free-market economy dogma. "This policy of injustice," Small said, "explains the economic destruction in Latin America, as well as drug traffic. Either this policy shall be abandoned or the next victim on the chopping block will be Europe, eastern and western Europe, which is presently attacked by Jeffrey Sachs's shock therapy." "Enough is enough," he concluded.

A warning in Prague

Earlier in his European tour, Small and his wife Gretchen, who is a journalist with *EIR*'s Ibero-American bureau, visited France, Germany, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

At a packed press conference held in the Czechoslovak capital of Prague on Nov. 14, Small urged journalists and representatives of numerous government institutions and political parties to learn some crucial lessons in order to avoid the economic collapse of the eastern European countries which is associated with the IMF "shock therapy" policies.

Referring to the devastating effects of IMF economic policy in Ibero-American countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Peru, Small warned that the same policies are now aimed at the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: "I am not saying that you are a Third World country, but I am saying that the Bush administration wants to convert your nation into exactly that. If you wish to avoid that, you have to know what happened to Latin America in the '80s. Did you

know that some Latin American countries had been relatively developed in the '60s? Did you know that Argentina had the same GNP per capita as Japan? Japan developed and Argentina collapsed. Why? Because of the IMF."

Small presented an alternative development strategy for Ibero-America and eastern Europe, based on the "Operation Juárez" and "Productive Triangle" proposals developed by LaRouche. "The current international financial crisis and the LaRouche case are closely interrelated, because LaRouche symbolizes the alternative to the IMF, the Wall Street banks, and Henry Kissinger," he said. "To understand the nature of the political confrontation between LaRouche and the U.S. government, and to understand why the man who has got the solutions to this crisis is now in jail, you have to go back to 1982."

He detailed LaRouche's crucial role in the 1982 Ibero-American debt crisis, when LaRouche recommended a comprehensive debt reform, contrary to the murderous IMF conditionalities. He also briefed the audience on LaRouche's influence in shaping the anti-IMF decisions taken at that time by Mexican President José López Portillo. "In 1982, the forces of Bush and Kissinger in the first Reagan administration won out over LaRouche, and as a result he went to jail, with most of the Third World economies being destroyed."

Today, Small warned, the genocidal policies of Bush's new world order threaten to turn eastern European nations into new Mexicos, Perus, or Zaires.

These remarks were more than welcome to an audience which, in large part, represented a spectrum of politics which is opposed to the "Bushman" in the Czechoslovak government, Finance Minister and IMF toady Vaclav Klaus. An economist for a Prague-based institute for international relations charged that it is not the IMF, but the national governments that follow its letters of intent, which are to blame: "Mr. LaRouche calls for a change in attitude toward the Third World—can you detail his economic system? How can the capital that is required for development be generated?" he asked.

A leading member of the Movement of Democratic Citizens compared the recent devaluation of the Czech crown to the IMF's devastating conditionalities in Ibero-America. Journalists were eager to take down quotes (which Small provided) straight from the mouth of Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs, in which Sachs admits that his shock therapy included the conversion of Bolivia into a drug economy.

Small also answered numerous detailed questions about the atrocities in the LaRouche legal case. His briefing stunned people in whose minds is still fresh the memory of 40 years of a totalitarian police-state system, because most of them have begun to view LaRouche as an alternative to the Sachs-Klaus shock therapy. LaRouche's Productive Triangle proposal for the rapid development of eastern European infrastructure has been presented to the Czechoslovak political and industrial elites in a variety of seminars and conferences.