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## German Elections

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# Zepp-LaRouche calls for recovery program

"We have now reached the banks of the river which divides the past of the post-industrial utopia from the future of growth, prosperity, and the well-being of all humanity. Now it is high time to cross the river together!" Helga Zepp-LaRouche told 500 German industrialists in the keynote address to the Nordbau, the largest construction fair in northern Germany, in the city of Neumünster on Sept. 14. The bridge over the river lies in investment in infrastructure, facilitated by the issuance of government credits, she said. "This is the prescribed path to economic recovery."

Zepp-LaRouche's address, which kicked off the final leg of her campaign for federal chancellor in the Oct. 16 elections on the slate of the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party, was warmly received. The fact that she delivered the keynote raised eyebrows, and the hackles of political opponents, because it is usually given by a candidate of one of the major parties. The Schleswig-Holstein daily *Holsteinischer Courier* headlined its favorable front-page coverage, "Production instead of Speculation."

Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche assured her audience that the problems in the economy "are not the result of an unavoidable natural catastrophe; they are the consequence of misguided government policies." She located the "downward trend" in the adoption of "a new malthusian doctrine of 'post-industrial economic policy'" by the Harold Wilson government in Britain in 1964, which "began to spread in the United States and on the European continent. As a result of this policy, the British pound collapsed, the dollar followed in March 1968, and the Bretton Woods accords broke down altogether in August 1971. From 1971 on, total production of physical goods worldwide, measured per capita and per square kilometer, has collapsed."

The collapse hit the so-called developing sector; then, in the mid-1970s, came the oil-price increases; and finally, the collapse in the developing sector began to pull down the export-dependent economies of the industrialized nations, she said. "In 1979, when Paul Volcker became chairman of the Federal Reserve System, a further reduction occurred in the rate of investment in infrastructure and agro-industrial production. Ever-wilder financial speculation took over the world economy, so that today the biggest speculative bubble in the history of the financial markets has supplanted produc-

tion of real goods practically everywhere in the world."

"Governments no longer have any other choice than to change the policies which have led to the spiral of collapse in productive investment. The anti-technological malthusian policy of a post-industrial utopia has exposed itself as a catastrophic failure; no economy on earth could survive a continuation of this policy," she said.

### Positive new developments

Despite the assertion by her electoral opponent Chancellor Helmut Kohl, that there is no *Patentrezept* (cure-all) for the economy, Zepp-LaRouche said that the discussion which has begun about the necessity of great infrastructure projects among U.S. President Bill Clinton, Kohl, and European Commission President Jacques Delors, "are a heartening indicator that at least some people in responsible positions are seriously looking for ways to overcome the mistakes of the past period."

"An array of development concepts has been placed on the table," she said, including Delors's "White Paper" and the "Paris-Berlin-Vienna Productive Triangle" proposal put forward in 1989 by her husband, Lyndon LaRouche. Construction of the Transrapid magnetic levitation fast rail from Hamburg to Berlin, and "China's serious efforts to build rail corridors on the 'Silk Road' across Asia to Europe, are also part of the current re-thinking of economic policy."

Zepp-LaRouche invited her audience to examine a series of maps showing the differences in infrastructure—canals, waterways, railroads, production and distribution of energy, land improvements, density of hospitals, medical care, physicians—from the time of Charlemagne to the present, between western Europe and the remainder of Eurasia, with the physical output of agricultural and industrial goods per capita and per square kilometer. "These comparisons show clearly that the economic growth of the past took place because we invested at the outset in basic economic infrastructure. . . . I believe that most of the population . . . has not really received an explanation of why investment in large-scale infrastructure projects represents an absolute, indispensable prerequisite for solving every economic and social problem in the entire world," she said.

Zepp-LaRouche asked how probable such a change of policy direction would be: In brief, what are President Clinton's chances of success? And, will it be possible to overcome the strong resistance against financing great projects?

Despite Clinton's enemies in London and in the circles around former President Bush, "he has special constitutional powers and . . . great personal authority as the head of state of the world's leading superpower," she said. "As for the second question, the most significant resistance to growth-oriented policies comes from extremely powerful financial interests which control many influential institutions on this planet. . . . These circles base their political power on the giant speculative bubble which is now about to collapse."