

Editorial

A crisis of the institutions

Nearly six years after the breakdown of the Soviet system, a crisis of confidence in the institutions of government is sweeping western Europe as well.

When the Berlin Wall fell in November 1989, a mood of optimism swept through the world. Not only was an end to the Cold War in sight, but there was the opportunity for a surge in economic growth in the West and the East alike, which would be fuelled by massive infrastructure investment in the former East bloc. Unfortunately, such was not to be the case.

Lyndon LaRouche's proposal for the integration of what he called the European "Productive Triangle," as a motor for global economic development, centered in the industrial areas of France and Germany, was blocked. Instead, the British Crown prevailed. "Shock therapy" epitomized the looting policies that were imposed.

Six years later, the situation in Russia is catastrophic, and it is little better in western Europe and the world in general. We are now faced in the immediate months ahead, with an economic, social, and political crisis which is reminiscent of that which brought down the Wall in Germany and drove Mikhail Gorbachov from power.

The mass strike process which has been unleashed in France and Belgium is a lawful response to this situation. Unless the policies put forward by LaRouche prevail, the crisis will deepen. Only a showdown with the British Empire and the oligarchy which it represents, can save the day.

In Belgium, the demonstration by more than 300,000 people against the corruption of Belgian judicial institutions must be seen, on the one hand, in the context of the growing dissatisfaction of the population against the increasingly brutal austerity being imposed on Europeans through the mediation of the International Monetary Fund. Equally significant, is the fact that the pedophile ring exposed in Belgium, is directly connected to George Bush and his friends.

When the Belgian government tried to suppress the revelations, a mass protest erupted. An equally explo-

sive environment is building in the United States, as a result of the revelations of the role of the George Bush-deployed networks in pushing crack-cocaine in U.S. inner-cities.

The deepening of the economic crisis throughout the world, is reflected in this social process. This is precisely what occurred in the last days of the Soviet Union. It is in periods such as this that people lose confidence in the institutions of government, and broad, uncontrolled popular revolts are unleashed.

Only by an uncompromising exposure of corruption within and outside governments, can trust in the ruling institutions be restored. It is not a matter only of prosecuting the relative small fry, but it is imperative that people on the level of George Bush and Margaret Thatcher, be indicted and convicted for their crimes. Which means also that Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, who were unjustly persecuted by these high-level criminal networks, be exonerated.

It is the global network which Bush and Thatcher have created at the behest of the British Crown, which has successfully imposed financial dictatorships, and administrative tyranny, on nations throughout the West—making "politics as usual" virtually useless. That individuals who are willing to subject whole populations to genocide, as in Africa, should also inflict sexual abuse on young children, is not surprising, but symptomatic of the moral corruption rife in our culture.

The kind of mass strike movement which we now see emerging in Europe, and the initial signs of the same ferment in the United States, are a first step in transforming the situation. But, without the leadership of the LaRouche movement, such popular outrage can also fuel fascism. Which way the situation will go, depends on the rapidity with which the LaRouche movement is able to grow; but one thing is clear: The status quo cannot persist.

In 1989, on the occasion of the fall of the Berlin Wall, LaRouche wrote in *EIR*: "Thus we must choose: Do we want an oligarchical society, or do we want a republican society?" The choice is still before us.