

# International Intelligence

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## ***Danish court will hear anti-Maastricht case***

In an April 28 ruling, Denmark's high court ruled that a case brought by 10 Danish citizens, charging that the Maastricht Treaty for a single European currency in 1999 violates the Danish Constitution and sovereignty, is sound and must be examined in a formal court procedure.

The case will be heard on May 26, and for the several months' duration of the trial, the Danish government is enjoined from signing any agreements with the European Union that impinge upon Denmark's fundamental laws. Should the court rule in favor of the plaintiffs, then, either all agreements signed since Denmark joined the European Community (the EU's Maastricht predecessor) in 1973 have to be renegotiated entirely, or a national referendum has to be held on the EU and the Maastricht issue.

The court ruling will not only considerably inconvenience the government and its EU diplomats, but is also certain to influence the debate throughout the rest of the EU. The treaty criteria for joining the single currency, have caused such budgetary bloodletting, that it is unlikely that voters would pass a referendum in any of the European Union's 15 member-nations.

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## ***Euthanasia hydra reappears in Australia***

Almost no sooner had the ink dried on national legislation to overturn the Northern Territories' law legalizing "physician-assisted suicide," than the ugly hydra of euthanasia reared its heads again, this time, even earning praise from ostensible opponents. N.T.'s Deputy Leader of the Opposition Labor Party, John Bailey, announced that he would introduce a private member's bill to the state parliament on April 23, which would follow the Netherlands' model, by "regulating" so-called physician-assisted suicide. It won't be legal for physicians to kill patients, "but if you do it," said Bailey,

"you may be guilty of an offense, but that's all it will be. In other words, you make a nil penalty—no prosecution would follow if you stay within the regulatory guidelines." The Australian Democrats party has announced that it will push for a national referendum on voluntary euthanasia in the three states where they have representation.

Meanwhile, since the overturning of the N.T. euthanasia law, the Jack Kevorkian of Australia, Dr. Philip Nitschke, "helped" a terminally ill nursing sister, Esther Wild, "into a drug-induced coma," causing her death. Incredibly, this act of murder was applauded by MP Kevin Andrews, who drafted the federal anti-euthanasia law, because it was "within the law." Nitschke gloated that his action was "slow euthanasia," and was in the gray area of the law.

Andrews's office called Nitschke's act legal "palliation of pain with drugs that can hasten death."

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## ***Is Soros buying Balkan land to grow dope?***

Parliamentarian Irene Pivetti, former chairman of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, speaking in April during a foreign policy debate, accused global speculator and drug-legalization financier George Soros of buying land in Albania for drug plantations. Referring to an article published in a small Rome publication, *Famiglia Domani*, Pivetti stated: "The largest world financier, George Soros, who has already intervened in other Balkan countries, invested \$15 million to purchase land to grow drugs, 'in view of drug legalization in Italy.'" She continued, "They want to turn Albania, whose authorities and political system have been weakened, into a sort of European Colombia; for the production, marketing, spread of drugs into Italy and Europe, with the support of huge financial powers," adding that "illegal refugee smuggling, ruthlessly using women and children as a shield, is the way to spread the criminal network into Italy and Europe."

*Famiglia Domani's* editor told *EIR* their

information concerned Soros's land investments in the Balkans and not specifically Albania, and that Pivetti had misread the article. However, Pivetti confided to *EIR* that, within half an hour of her address, she received a phone call from a "journalist," on behalf of an "Albanian colleague" who wanted to know who her sources were. She believes that Soros's people had watched the televised debate from Albania. "If I had some doubts before on the substance of my allegations, now I no longer have them," she said.

Pivetti founded Federal Italy, after splitting with Umberto Bossi's separatist Northern League, and she is running for mayor of Milan. She sees the chaos in Albania as leading toward a second Balkan war, and she sees the threatened breakup of Italy within the context of that broader destabilization. In her Parliament speech, she called for a Marshall Plan to rebuild Albania, although she opposes the strategically crucial multinational force, which Italy is leading.

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## ***James Baker meddling in Western Sahara dispute***

George Bush's Secretary of State, James Baker III (the man who gave the green light to Serbia to invade Croatia in 1991), is currently touring the northwest African countries of Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania as an envoy of the UN, to "help" settle the knotty disputes over borders and separatist claims involving Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. The dispute centers around Morocco's 20-year-long territorial claim over the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony. Although the UN cease-fire agreement between the Moroccan government and the Polisario liberation movement continues to hold, a planned referendum has not been implemented. Baker's deployment is said to be aimed at getting the process back on track.

An Algerian source outlined for *EIR* some of the inflection points in the region that might explain the UN's sudden interest:

## Briefly

**THAILAND'S MILITARY** is aiding Cambodia in knocking out the last of the Khmer Rouge insurgency, according to the April 12 *Bangkok Post*, which reported a "flurry of Thai-Cambodian secret talks." The remaining Khmer Rouge area is run by Ta Mok, Pol Pot's last remaining loyalist, who was nicknamed "The Butcher" during the Khmer Rouge's rule.

**UGANDAN MP** Ken Lukvamuzi told newsmen recently that he has received anonymous death threats telling him he was a target for assassination, because he has been insisting that the government of British marcherlord Yoweri Museveni begin negotiations with the Lord's Resistance Army and other insurgencies in the north of Uganda, instead of trying to exterminate them. "I am a bone in the flesh of some people," Lukyamuzi said. "But I will continue speaking up, we are fed up with war."

**PRINCE ERNST AUGUST** of Hanover, Germany is seeking to have his family resume the British title as Duke of Cumberland. The title has remained vacant since after World War I, when the British Hanoverians changed their names to the House of Windsor. Similarly, Prince Eduard of Saxe-Coburg, a descendant of Queen Victoria's consort, Prince Albert, has applied to assume the title of Duke of Albany.

**BRITAIN'S PRINCE** Charles has been invited by the German Green Party to visit the ecologist farming cooperatives in Hesse. The heir to the British Empire prides himself on being a "bio-farmer."

**AUSTRALIAN CASINO** mogul Kerry Packer devoted four pages of a recent issue of his weekly *The Bulletin*, to a call for the legalization of illegal drugs, demanding in the headline: "Drugs: Why Fight a War We Can't Win?" Packer owns a major stake in Melbourne's Crown Casino, and has applied to buy the management company of, and a 10% stake in, the Sydney Harbour Casino in New South Wales.

Neighboring Algeria is in the throes of a civil war where the military-backed government has the full support of the World Bank and international oil companies. Furthermore, Algiers supports Polisario, and would never accept the Western Sahara becoming part of Morocco. Relations between Rabat and Algiers have always been tense, with the Algerian military traditionally favoring the overthrow of the Moroccan monarchy.

*EIR's* source added that Morocco's long-reigning King Hassan II is said to be very sick: A succession struggle could be in the offing between Crown Prince Mohamad and Prince Hisham, the king's nephew.

### **China 'Conflict' book filled with 'lies'**

*China Daily* of April 21 published a feature by Chinese strategist Mi Zhenyu on the book by Ross Munro and Richard Bernstein, *The Coming Conflict with China*, in which he denounces their attribution of several quotes to him: "I would like to advise people like Bernstein and Munro not to lift a rock which will only drop on their own feet," he wrote, characterizing the book as filled with "fabrications" and "lies." "What shocked me," wrote Mi, "is that the authors' headline quotation in the book's introduction quoted remarks attributed to me, that I never made," referring to the supposed quote that, "[As for the United States], for a relatively long time, it will be absolutely necessary that we quietly nurse our sense of vengeance. . . . We must conceal our abilities and bide our time." In the only book published in China in 1996 that includes his work, he stressed the concept of "active defense," aimed at "avoiding and stopping wars. . . . I didn't mention the United States anywhere in the article, nor did I say anything similar to what the U.S. book attributes to me."

It is apparent to Mi, that the quote is "sheer fabrication." "It is hard to understand why the two authors turned a deaf ear to the principles of 'increasing mutual trust, reducing trouble, developing cooperation and avoiding confrontation,' which President

Jiang Zemin has stated repeatedly to guide Sino-U.S. relations."

Further, contrary to Munro and Bernstein, Mi wrote, "China's per capita defense spending ranks among the lowest in the world. . . . If this was true, where and how [do] they think China got the money to invest in infrastructure construction, the development of education, science, health care, cultural service, and the improvement in people's living standards? And how could China have achieved its rapid economic growth?" Munro and Bernstein, Mi asserted, are among "a handful of people in the United States who are unwilling to see China becoming a unified and powerful country, and who do not want to see Sino-U.S. ties being improved."

### **Bishop Kuharic, Iranian leaders meet in Zagreb**

Archbishop Cardinal Franjo Kuharic of Zagreb, Croatia, met with Iran's Ayatollah Tashiri, chairman of the Council for Islamic Doctrine (considered second in authority in Iran after Ayatollah Khamenei), at the archbishop's residence on April 25, according to the Catholic press agency, IKA. Ayatollah Tashiri's words of greeting emphasized "how it is desirable to establish the best possible relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Croatia, not only on economic and political levels but on the spiritual and religious levels."

Those present at the meeting included: Islamic Community of Croatia and Slovenia President Sevko Omerbasic; Zagreb Auxiliary Bishop Juraj Jezerinac; Iranian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia Mohammad Javad Asayesh; and, secretary for the Council for Ecumenism and Dialogue of the Croatian Conference of Bishops, Dr. Anton Skvorcevik.

Ayatollah Tashiri is about to participate in a symposium prepared by Croatia's Islamic community on "Islam and Muslims in the West," which commemorates the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Zagreb mosque.