

## Macedonia is next

In a recent meeting in Skopje, Macedonia, the Greek Defense Minister and his Macedonian counterpart signed an agreement for unspecified "joint military measures aimed at promoting regional stability," should the Kosova crisis escalate further. Not only the small bordering republic of Macedonia, but many other Balkan countries are rushing into military deals or protocols of understanding because of the commonly held fear of what is being brewed in Kosova. There is no doubt that Milosevic's (and his puppet-masters') strategy is to escalate the crisis.

Over the last couple of weeks, Serbian regular and irregular forces have been engaged in military operations in Kosova along the borders with Albania, including one all-night battle against 200 armed individuals who supposedly crossed the border into Kosova from Albania. Military helicopters, planes, and heavy artillery have been seen in use. Towns and villages have been bombarded, provoking a swelling exodus of terrorized ethnic Albanians. Milosevic's troops, according to Albanian police sources, have *already* crossed the border with Albania on more than one occasion.

The military operations of the regular forces are being coordinated with the war deployment of the irregular forces. Every genocidal step taken by Milosevic has been justified on the basis of countering the activities of the Kosova Liberation Army. The connection between the controllers of the KLA and Serb intelligence has been detailed by *EIR*. Recently, media close to Kosovar leader Rugova have begun to more openly denounce the KLA's activities. In Albania, the government of Prime Minister Fatos Nano is rapidly taking steps to break up this gang-counter-gang operation. In a letter addressed to Contact Group representative Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini, Nano stressed that "the presence of NATO in Albania is greatly needed as a factor of pressure and security."

Nano came close to denouncing the connection between the Serbian army and the KLA, and the danger this represents for Albania—whose army has less than 11,000 men; with an economy in chaos, prostrated by the collapse of the financial pyramid scheme last year; without control over significant parts of the country; and faced with an aggressive organized-crime network, in large part connected to the Milosevic gangs. "The Serbian police and army are undertaking an intensive military operation in the border area with Albania, at a time when the Albanian population is becoming convinced that its only possibility is to organize self-defense," Nano wrote in the letter to Dini. In other words, the government could lose control of large chunks of the population, who are falling prey to the KLA strategy. In fact, the KLA leadership has just launched a slogan for a "Greater Albania," which would include Macedonia and other countries where there are ethnic Albanians. The fragility of the Albanian state makes that country extremely palatable for those British forces that launched the idea of a Greater Albania in the first place.

## High protest vote in German state election

by Angelika Beyreuther-Raimondi

On April 26, elections took place in the former East German state of Saxon-Anhalt. Since this was the last major election before the federal elections on Sept. 27, its results have been awaited with great interest in the entire country. Of all 16 German states, Saxon-Anhalt has the worst unemployment situation, with an official figure of 24.1%, and it has the lowest economic growth of all states, despite the fact that the largest per-capita amount of federal money transferred from west to east—billions of deutschemarks—has gone to Saxon-Anhalt.

The election was a stunning defeat for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), which lost 12% of its previous vote, going from 34.4% to 22%. Three other parties will be in the new state parliament. The Social Demo-

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cratic Party (SPD) is the strongest, with 36% (a 2% gain), and will form the new government, which, under pressure from Bonn, most likely will be a Grand Coalition with the CDU. The PDS party, the former ruling party in communist East Germany, again got 20% (just a little less than the CDU). The PDS still has by far the largest membership and most extensive party structure of all the parties in the five new states. Nearly 13% (about 192,000 people) voted for the right-wing extremist party Deutsche Volksunion (DVU, German People's Union). The Greens, the former coalition partner of the SPD, got only 3%, falling below the 5% threshold required to get into the parliament. The Free Democratic Party (FDP) also did not reach 5% and will not be represented.

Seventy-two percent of the citizens went to cast their votes, nearly 20% more than in the last elections in 1994. More than 30% of these voters cast their ballot for an extremist party. Many abstainers went to vote this time, which indicates the character of this vote, as a protest against government policy in Bonn. One out of every three unemployed voted for the DVU, including 103,000 young, first-time voters. Thirty percent of those under 30 years of age, cast their vote for the DVU.

### **What is the DVU?**

The chairman of the DVU, founded in 1987, is Dr. Gerhard Frey. He is close to such incendiary figures as Vladimir Zhirinovskiy in Russia and Jean-Marie Le Pen in France. Zhirinovskiy spoke at the DVU's annual party congress in 1993. Thereafter, Germany denied Zhirinovskiy an entry visa into the country. Frey's German connections are also astounding. Among his advisers and friends, he counts the former Interior Minister of Bavaria, Alfred Seidl, and the constitutional lawyer and former Bavarian Minister of Culture, Theodor Maunz, one of the leading commentators on the German Constitution. Maunz is said to have been a friend and legal adviser of Frey for years, and was also the thesis adviser of Germany's current President, Roman Herzog, who became Maunz's assistant in 1958. Frey also considered as his acquaintance, the first chief of the German Intelligence Service, Reinhard Gehlen. Following Gehlen's death, he published the friendly correspondence which had transpired between the two.

Who Frey's "advisers" are today, he will not say. In any case, as a publisher and owner of substantial real estate holdings in various places, he has considerable financial means. It has recently come to light that in 1995, Frey received a contribution for the DVU of about DM 270,000 (\$154,000) from Count Jacques de Mathan, a member of the French aristocracy.

Nationwide, the Office for the Protection of the Constitution (domestic security service) estimates that the DVU's membership is 15,000; Frey has two national newspapers, with an estimated circulation of about 100,000. It is believed that Frey invested DM 3 million in the campaign, which is more than the CDU and SPD combined. The party, because

of its showing, will be reimbursed with state money; in this case, the DVU will get DM 760,000, and every month, the DVU caucus in the parliament will, like every other caucus, get an additional DM 120,000.

The party has very little infrastructure in the state of Saxon-Anhalt, or in most German states; according to the state constitutional office, the DVU has no more than 100 members in all of Saxon-Anhalt. The DVU will, for the first time, have 16 representatives in the Magdeburg state parliament. In the Hamburg state elections, in 1997, the party failed to get into the parliament by a tiny margin: They gained 4.98% at that time. So far, the DVU is also represented in the parliaments of the city-states of Bremen and Hamburg.

DVU slogans were simple and demagogic: "Don't let them turn you into a pig!" "Make your vote a protest vote!" "German money for German jobs." "Kick out foreign bandits!" "Cut politicians' salaries!" Twenty-thousand election posters were put up by the DVU, mass mailings were done, with more than 1 million copies, and planes flew over the cities with election slogans attached. Only three public DVU events took place, with 300-500 people attending. The election campaign was overshadowed by many violent incidents between the right-wing extremist campaign workers of the DVU and the left-wing extremist "autonomists," whose infrastructure is partly controlled by the PDS. Even shoot-outs were reported in this campaign.

### **An economic disaster**

A study recently published at the University of Trier ("Justice as an Internal German Problem") says that most eastern Germans believe that the situation in eastern Germany became far worse since the fall of the communist regime in 1989, and most expect it to become even worse in the future. The unemployment in the five new states (former East Germany) is double, on the average, that in western Germany. In Saxon-Anhalt, only 2% of the population believes that the economic situation is good, while more than 60% think it is bad.

Clearly, one of the reasons why the DVU was able to attract so many voters, was its demagogic appeal to the unemployed—without any real alternatives or solutions to offer. The only political party in Germany which *has* presented a serious alternative to the crisis, is the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BüSo), led by Helga Zepp-LaRouche. The BüSo is campaigning for a Eurasian Land-Bridge reconstruction program which will create millions of new, productive jobs.

The Saxon-Anhalt elections have presented the Bonn government with the bill it is now going to have to pay, for the deindustrialization policy which it has implemented, in utter disregard for the social consequences. If no new jobs are created, through such a Eurasian Land-Bridge program, then the radicalization process seen in Saxon-Anhalt will spread, well beyond the phenomenon of the protest vote.