

Editorial

Defend the nation-state!

Contrary to those nihilists and imperialists, who argue that the nation-state is a form of evil oppression, the development of that governmental institution represented a major advance for mankind. As Plato discussed in his immortal dialogue on *The Republic*, and as later, Plato-inspired philosophers such as Nicolaus of Cusa and Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz further elaborated, the nation-state provides the unique means for protecting and advancing the condition of a population's General Welfare.

It is precisely because the nation-state represents the best means of protecting the rights and welfare of the individual, that it is today under attack by those seeking to establish a new global feudal empire. The international cartels want to eliminate any national protections of local industry and agriculture, which means leaving the very sustenance of life to the mercies of these global traders. The globalizers want to wipe out all national regulations which would guarantee survival of the "uncompetitive." The continent in which the globalizers, through the International Monetary Fund especially, have had the most success in recent decades is Africa—and there you see the inevitable result of the elimination of national institutions.

In these waning days of the 20th century, the battle between the new global empire and the nation-state is raging with unprecedented violence. But the violence is not being initiated by national institutions. Rather, the new feudalists, led by the British monarchy, who fear nothing more than the reassertion of sovereignty by nation-states committed to forming a new international community of principle, have unleashed a furious campaign of destruction.

This is the significance of the campaign against Indonesia, for example. That campaign began in earnest with the speculative financial assault of 1997, and has been relentless ever since. The more concessions which the leadership in Indonesia has made to the IMF and the misnamed "human rights" arm of the globalizers, the more these predators have been encouraged to escalate their campaign. Indonesia's

plunge into the financial abyss was a predictable prelude to the growth of separatism, and the disintegration of the state—although foreign intelligence intervention clearly helped it along.

The same globalizers are responsible for the assault on the nation of Colombia, which was exposed earlier this month through the visit of the former Commander of the Colombian Armed Forces, Gen. Harold Bedoya (ret.), to the United States. The destruction of national protections, including military institutions, against the drug traffickers, has predictably resulted in the immiseration and virtual breakup of that country. Those who benefit are the international drug cartels, which are barely distinguishable from the international banking establishment which depends upon their cash flow.

The antidote to the mayhem which these two exemplary assaults represent, is outlined with great clarity in the keynote address which *EIR* founder and American statesman Lyndon LaRouche gave to the Labor Day conference of the Schiller Institute on Sept. 4. LaRouche's speech, which appears in full in our *Feature*, defines the principles of the nation-state which must be reasserted at this time, in order to prevent the collapse of civilization as a whole into the New Dark Age. In the perspective LaRouche lays out, it is clear how nations such as Indonesia and Colombia, as well as the United States, have to wage the necessary warfare to defend their populations.

Now is the time for all patriots of all nations to take the necessary measures to defend their populations. What's required is a reassertion of sovereignty over their economies, defiance of the IMF and World Bank, and clear measures, going even beyond those of Malaysia's Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, to protect the future of their nations. In some cases, like that of Indonesia, this might require the threat of a debt cancellation. The nation-states of the world are at war with a deadly global feudal power. There is little time to lose in mobilizing the intellectual and political resources required to win.