

IMF severely criticized in Armenia

Anno Hellenbroich, director of EIR Nachrichtenagentur in Wiesbaden, Germany, was invited by Armenia's Union of Constitutional Rights (UCR) to visit the Armenian capital of Yerevan. The UCR's 11th party convention took place on Oct. 10. More than 200 party members, representatives of other political parties, and radio, television, and print media, were in attendance.

The convention drew considerable public attention because two party representatives, the chairman, Hrant Khachatrian, and his deputy, Haik Babookhanian, publisher and former chief editor of the largest opposition newspaper in Armenia, *Iravunk*, were elected to the Parliament on May 30 as part of the "Iravunk ev Miabautiun" (Justice and Unity) coalition, which won a total of seven seats.

Khachatrian and Babookhanian have participated in numerous international conferences of the Schiller Institute, and have been interviewed by *EIR* frequently in the past. (See *EIR*, June 18, 1999; Jan. 9, 1998; March 22, 1996; Aug. 4, 1995; June 25, 1993.)

The convention speeches by Khachatrian and Baboo-

khanian, both reelected to their party posts by large majorities, underscored the mood of mobilization within the party. Khachatrian called on the party to assert "inalienable rights with power," which means, to protest the catastrophic economic situation, with all of its immense social problems. The party is actively asserting itself in public life.

In 1996, there was massive manipulation of the Presidential elections, and a number of members of the government have been involved in corruption. Khachatrian's party and its newspaper, *Iravunk*, have won great respect among the population for their incorruptibility, their firm position on constitutional and human rights, and their defense of Armenia's sovereignty, especially in respect to the contested issue of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian enclave within Azerbaijan.

'What tasks lie ahead?'

In his speech, "The Present Global Crisis—What Tasks Lie Ahead?" Hellenbroich described the disastrous consequences of the conditionalities of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He quoted from a greeting by Lyndon LaRouche

Armenian political figures back LaRouche

October 21, 1999

Dear voters of the U.S.A.,

Among the candidates in the U.S. Presidential elections in 2000, American economist, philosopher, known public and political figure Lyndon LaRouche is expanding his political movement. Respected citizens of the U.S.A.: Obviously, you are aware of his activity better than we are, but, taking into consideration the significance of the Presidential elections of the U.S.A., not only for the internal life of the U.S.A., but for its implications worldwide, including the political processes in the Caucasus and Armenia, it is our responsibility to make you acquainted with our point of view, based on the experience of our last decade of observations.

We have no doubt, that all the scientific prognoses of

LaRouche—concerning the deepening of the world financial crisis, the reorganization of geopolitical blocs, the rising and deepening of political and military contradictions—are coming true. From our own experience, we can insist that most of the contradictions could be restricted, if LaRouche's proposed economic and political recipes were put into effect.

The theory advanced by LaRouche explains not only the sources of the worldwide crisis, but also proposes solutions, and ways to recover from it. It is obvious, that the ideas and proposals of Lyndon LaRouche are not under the control of the international oligarchy and financial organizations such as the International Monetary Fund.

We call on you to join your efforts to Mr. LaRouche's campaign, to step into the 21st century, as citizens of a peaceful and developing world.

In the name of the Union of Constitutional Rights of Armenia,

Hrant Khachatrian and Haik Babookhanian

Deputies of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia