

Candidates Join To End Maastricht and IMF

Jacques Cheminade, French candidate for President this year, and Helga Zepp-LaRouche, German Chancellor candidate heading a slate for the parliament, issued this joint call to action on Feb. 5, in French, German, and English.

The present financial system is collapsing before our eyes. The future of nation-states and of peoples is at stake.

Our aim, in issuing this statement, is to call upon France, Germany and the other European countries, to rise to the challenge.

Already now, the city of Berlin is bankrupt and, our two countries, relative to their actual production levels, are more indebted than Argentina itself.

Far from protecting us, the euro will rather constrain us and set us up for financial destruction. Indeed, the Amsterdam Stability Pact and the Maastricht agreements explicitly prohibit the issuance of public credit on the model of the Marshall Plan, which will be indispensable to pull our economies and those of our partners away from financial destruction.

Thus, our first demand is that the articles of these treaties, which impose on us a political and economic *hara kiri*, be immediately abrogated.

Free to act and to emit long-term and low-interest public credit, our governments will be able to carry out a policy of mutual development within our countries and beyond.

The dimension of the effort required to build such an economic recovery is that of Eurasia, of Europe participating in great infrastructure projects covering the vast regions from the Atlantic to the China Sea, because there, and only there, can one find the sufficient human and material resources. It is in this Eurasian Land-Bridge, accompanied by similar efforts towards Africa and the Middle East, that a decisive step will be taken towards a planetary Marshall Plan, modelled on the global New Deal that Franklin Delano Roosevelt had conceived—and which was unfortunately abandoned by his successors—and creating the conditions of mutual and peaceful development among sovereign nation-states.

The realization of these policies on an international scale is, of course, incompatible with the logic and the habits of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF and other institutions are serving to implement the destructive austerity of the markets and the banks, instead of upholding the common good of peoples. This is why, in order to carry out the Eurasian Land-Bridge project, European leaders, French and Germans in

particular, must issue a call for an international conference, to lay the foundations for a new world economic and monetary order.

The American economist and political leader, Lyndon LaRouche, has defined in his proposal for a new Bretton Woods, the foundations of this order: a return to fixed currency exchange rates, in place of the floating exchange rate system, which contributes to speculation; control of capital movements; bankruptcy reorganization of all financial speculative assets, to prevent capital flight; and, determination of infrastructure projects to be carried out.

Currency must become an instrument to realize great infrastructure projects and technological development in the service of all. Two solutions appear feasible: either the creation of a gold- or raw materials-referenced euro; or, the return to national currencies within a system of common reference, also connected to a gold or raw materials referent. The essential question is that through a system thus defined of money for development, there be created a logic defined by national banks associated to great public works, with a stable instrument of reference, a logic opposed to that of the present European Central Bank which is composed of former bankers and Treasury administration officials in the service of the financial markets.

In short, Europe must become adult once again, by giving itself a mission: each nation must place its best for the common benefit, and adopt the best from others, laying thus the ground for a true inter-European dialogue and beyond, of a dialogue between civilizations, instead of the present war of all against all.

The threat is immediate. Conscious of the crisis and determined to maintain its power, the Anglo-American oligarchy is willing to impose, out of the United States, a certain type of military control over society, measures which go against civil liberties, and create protectorates throughout the world. Malthusianism and brutal depopulation are the horizon of this inhuman policy.

Europe must represent the other option, with those who, in Russia, in India, in China, in Japan, in Korea and elsewhere, share with it a common interest in peace through development.

France and Germany must have the courage to fight those who, like Brzezinski, Kissinger, Samuel Huntington, Paul Wolfowitz and Richard Perle, are promoting a clash of civilizations at the expense of the lives of peoples and nations. They must reestablish the legitimacy of the nation-state, based on a policy for the common good and public service.

We demand the same courage of the present leaders of our countries. We commit ourselves to support with all our strength, those who will manifest such courage; but, at the same time, were they to continue to submit, or not to act, we are ready to take this responsibility upon ourselves.

We must act, here and now. There are moments in history where the only moral choice is to lead the fight.