Interview: Daniel Buchmann

LaRouche Youth Take On ‘Rohatyn’ of Berlin

Daniel Buchmann, 24, is campaigning for mayor of Berlin, heading a slate of 20 candidates of the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BuSo), the LaRouche party in Germany, in the Sept. 17 elections. Abdul-Aliy Muhammad of the LaRouche Youth Movement interviewed him on May 1.

EIR: Daniel, why are you actually running in the election on Sept. 17?
Buchmann: Because nobody in the other parties is qualified to be mayor of Berlin. These old farts in these old parties have spent the last decades proving they can’t do the job!

EIR: What is your campaign set to do for Berlin?
Buchmann: We just put out our first pamphlet, and the main slogan is the question of the reindustrialization of Berlin and 1 million new productive workplaces for Berlin; that means high-tech industries, including infrastructure and other modern technologies that can’t be produced in other parts of the world efficiently.

EIR: In the BuSo campaign, there are a lot of young people on the slate, and you’re probably one of the youngest. Do you think that the question of the youth in this election is very important? What does that have to do with the shift of politics in Germany?
Buchmann: As Mr. LaRouche said, “If you don’t have a youth candidate, you don’t have a serious campaign,” because what you see in politics in general is a big, big generational conflict, where the “68er” generation failed to organize society. They somehow managed to organize their careers, but they failed to organize society, and the main problem we have in Berlin is deindustrialization. Berlin is bankrupt because we lost our industries, and through that our taxpayers, so we’ve got to bring back our industries. Sarrazin has no proposal to solve the problem, but his program would make it worse, cutting the budgets for everything—for children, kindergartens, schools, universities, infrastructure—everything. They are shutting down the city.

EIR: He doesn’t believe in the sovereignty of Germany over its banking system, because he went to the EU—
Buchmann: Yes, what he wants to do is privatize the savings and loan banks of Berlin, but he can’t because these banks are a part of the General Welfare principle; and the government said no, these banks are for the people. Sarrazin went to the European Commission to complain. He is hated by the people.