

LaRouche Movement Expands in Italy

by Andrew Spannaus

The Movimento Solidarietà (Solidarity Movement), the political movement of American statesman Lyndon LaRouche in Italy, has launched a campaign to rapidly expand its organizing throughout the country. This offensive will build on the excellent response there to LaRouche's proposals for reorganizing the international monetary system as an alternative to the financial oligarchy's plans for permanent war and a new age of feudalism. The Movimento's periodical has changed its name from *Solidarietà* to *Solidarietà e Progresso* (Solidarity and Progress, which is also the name of the LaRouche-associated political party in France); a run of 40,000 copies of the bulletin—an exponential increase over its previous circulation—has just been printed, and is now being distributed throughout the country by the Movimento's members and supporters, joined by four members of the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) from Berlin.

The shift in the intensity of the Movimento's activity was formalized with a change in the leadership, ratified at a membership meeting in Milan on March 18. The Movimento's new officers are Liliana Gorini, chairwoman; Claudio Celani, vice chairman; and Andrew Spannaus, general secretary. The new leadership has decided to follow the lead of the LaRouche movement internationally in launching a mass-based organizing campaign, consisting of large-scale literature distribution and an emphasis on recruiting youth to the LYM by challenging them to take responsibility for the future of a world which has been left in shambles by the current political and cultural establishment. As LaRouche has emphasized on numerous occasions, the key to such leadership lies in reliving the conceptual breakthroughs of great minds such as Carl Friedrich Gauss and Johannes Kepler, and working to replicate the creative process demonstrated in the polyphonic works of Classical composers such as Bach and Mozart.

The lead headline of the first issue of *Solidarietà e Progresso* is "Bush and Gore; the two faces of the new fascism." Articles explain the manner in which the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy is using the hoax of man-caused global climate change to manipulate people who may otherwise consider themselves as "anti-establishment" into supporting precisely the anti-human, free-market policies of globalization, which have already destroyed the Third World, and threaten to eliminate any possibility for the world's leading nations to avoid a crash into a prolonged period of war and depression.

By opposing dirigistic policies in favor of technological and economic development—in the name of preserving equilibrium on the planet—they play right into the hands of the financial establishment, which intends to use the free market to block countries from making productive investments which would allow them to emerge from the control of international cartels and financial speculators.

Overcoming Years of Green Propaganda

In Italy, as in Germany, the population has been inundated with environmentalist propaganda in recent years, starting at a very young age. However, there is also widespread recognition of the bankrupt state of the international financial system, and a positive identification with the pro-growth policies which allowed the nation to rebuild after World War II. One of the clearest reflections of this potential has been the response to the LaRouche movement's campaigns among polit-

ical layers in Italy, who have repeatedly launched public initiatives in favor of a New Bretton Woods-style reorganization of the international monetary and financial system. In 2005, a motion, introduced by Hon. Mario Lettieri in the Chamber of Deputies, was approved, calling for “an international conference at the level of heads of State and Government, to establish a new and more just global monetary and financial system.”

On Feb. 13, 2007, LaRouche was invited to speak in the prestigious Sala del Cenacolo of the Italian Chamber of Deputies in Rome, invited by Hon. Andrea Ricci, a former economics professor who has written a book on the New Bretton Woods, in which he cites proposals made by LaRouche at a conference held at the Catholic University in Milan in 2001. Both Ricci and Gennaro Migliore, the group leader of the Rifondazione Comunista party in the Chamber, which is part of the center-left coalition led by Prime Minister Romano

Prodi, emphasized that they want to establish contact with those forces in the United States who are leading the fight against Bush and Cheney, and thus break up the false debate over who is pro-American or anti-American based on the war policies of the current administration. Migliore also responded positively to LaRouche's call for a new Treaty of Westphalia as the basis for cooperative relations among nation-states, as opposed to the imperial approach of globalization.

LaRouche also met at that time with members of the opposition coalition, including some who had participated in earlier debates in the Parliament on the New Bretton Woods, and a leading center-right figure who has been outspoken in favor of large-scale infrastructure projects, in opposition to the monetarist ideology of the Maastricht Stability Pact. The current Prodi government, although it has broken with the Bush Administration over the war in Iraq, is under heavy pressure not to reduce its deployment in Afghanistan, and especially, to accelerate the budget-cutting, pro-privatization policies which have only been implemented partially in Italy in recent years. The Movimento Solidarietà e Progresso's program for Italy, which calls for a massive increase in sovereign public credit for financing industry and infrastructure, lays out the clear alternative: Referring to former European Central Bank board member Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa, the current Economics Minister, the program leads off by citing a sign which Movimento activists wore during a recent day of action at the Parliament in Rome: “More Roosevelt, Less Padoa-Schioppa.”



The new bulletin Solidarity and Progress (shown here) of the Italian LaRouche political movement, has begun to build a mass movement in Italy, with the circulation of 40,000 copies of the first edition. The headline says, “Bush and Gore: the two faces of the new fascism.”