

# Goebbels Propaganda Brings Green Victory

WIESBADEN, April 2—The election victory of the Green party in the German state of Baden-Württemberg on March 27 was a coup by the media. In a way rivaled only by Nazi Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels, the media brainwashed the population with non-stop lies against nuclear power, mixing images of the devastation caused by the tsunami in Japan with false reports on the crippled Fukushima nuclear plants. Large sections of the population were reduced to a hysterical mob: On March 26, a quarter of a million people demonstrated against nuclear power in major cities, the largest such demonstration ever on this issue.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairwoman of the Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo), said in a leaflet released today that this shift “means nothing less than that Germany’s very identity as an industrial nation that can provide its citizens with good living standards and a responsible social benefit system, is in the greatest possible danger.”

This is exactly what the British-based financial oligarchy has been trying to achieve in Germany for two centuries.

## Baden-Württemberg

The coalition of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Free Democratic Party (FDP), which governs nationally as well as in this state, suffered an historic loss. While the CDU remains the largest party with 39% of the votes (a decrease of 5.2%), the FDP dropped from 10.7% to 5.2% costing the coalition its majority in the state legislature. The Greens doubled their votes from 12.4% to 24.9%, and will now form the state government, with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) as a junior partner, ending 58 years of Christian Democratic government in Germany’s southwest. For the first time ever, the prime minister (equivalent to a governor in the U.S.) of a German state will be a Green.

The rise to power of the Greens in Baden-Württem-

berg (BW)—which is Germany’s number one industrial state and still has highly productive small and medium-sized industrial companies—will mean a flight out of nuclear power towards wind and solar, making electricity unaffordable for many of those companies, as well as for private users.

For the national government of Chancellor Angela Merkel, the loss of the BW state government means that in the upper chamber of parliament, the Bundesrat, the federal government coalition now has only 25 votes, while the opposition parties have 30. This will create a situation of ungovernability.

Also, in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, the SPD lost its absolute majority and will now have to form a coalition with the Greens.

## Voices of Sanity

The anti-nuclear propaganda since the March 11 tsunami in Japan had already persuaded the Berlin government to immediately (“temporarily”) close all older nuclear reactors, and to aim at completely shutting down nuclear energy. Fully 26% of Germany’s electrical power now comes from nuclear! Indeed, a “phase-out” had already been adopted by previous governments, but Merkel had agreed to an extension of the permitted lifetime of Germany’s nuclear plants. However, after the Japan tsunami, a secret document from the Federal Environment Ministry served as the basis for the government’s decision to impose a moratorium on any such extension. It lists new safety precautions with which the power plants now have to be retrofitted. The hurdles are so high that they would mean a complete end to nuclear energy.

Some voices of sanity have criticized such insane decisions, however.

Former Chancellor Helmut Kohl came out of his years-long exile from politics to blast Merkel’s decision, in an interview with the mass daily *Bild* on March 25. “The use of nuclear energy has not become more dangerous [in Germany] through the accident in Japan, than it was before,” he said. “. . . If the country whose nuclear plants are among the safest in the world and whose engineers are admired and respected throughout the world takes a rushed decision to exit from nuclear energy, it would make the world even less safe.”

But the BüSo is the only party that is forcefully and consistently pro-nuclear, and that provides any solution in today’s global breakdown crisis.