

BüSo Convention in Germany: There Is Life After the Euro!

by Rainer Apel and Elke Fimmen

Dec. 6—Attended by close to 150 party members and guests from Germany and numerous other countries of Europe, as well as from the United States, the Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo) held its convention in Mainz-Kastel, Germany, on Dec. 1, to prepare for the European Parliament elections in May 2014. The convention opened with a musical performance of two pieces from Verdi's opera *Nabucco* ("Va Pensiero," "Profezia-Finale Terzo") by the Schiller Institute's chorus.

BüSo national chairwoman Helga Zepp-LaRouche gave the keynote address [to be published in a forthcoming issue of *EIR*—ed.]. She said that between now and the elections for European Parliament, the international financial system faces a highly turbulent period, during which the system may come crashing down. The question is, what will come after that? There is a groundswell underway, as seen in the decision of Ukraine not to accept the European Union's dictation of conditions, but instead to look toward cooperation with Eurasia. That is where the future lies for Germany and the rest of Europe, whereas the euro system offers no future.

The other big threat is that of war and even world war, in spite of the present de-escalation of tensions over Syria and Iran. There are new tensions in the Pacific, she said, caused by the U.S. strategy of the "Asia Pivot," which China rightly views as an existential threat.

While these crises are developing, the political elites in Germany are not paying attention to them. But there are three tendencies that offer an alternative—each of the three featuring the LaRouche movement in a significant role: the thrust for Glass-Steagall and a new credit policy; Pope Francis's new Apostolic Exhortation; the New Silk Road policy proclaimed by China.

BüSo vice chairwoman Elke Fimmen reported on the party's activities in the past two years, notably the mayoral election campaign in Stuttgart by Stephan Ossenkopp in Spring 2012, the publication of the Southern

Europe reconstruction [program](#) in Summer 2012, the national election campaign in Summer 2013, and the crucial intervention in the ongoing debate on bank reform, into which the party inserted its widely known trademark, the call for a Glass-Steagall system instead of the corrupt bailout and bail-in approaches.

Germany's elites wanted to suppress any such debate, but the BüSo nevertheless exposed the Cyprus model of bail-in in many public forums. Before the Bundestag voted to support the government's law that opposed Glass-Steagall-style separation of commercial from investment banking, every Bundestag member received the BüSo dossier on it, so none who voted for this scandalous law can claim not to have known its content. Zepp-LaRouche also addressed the matter in her election campaign TV spot, which was watched by millions of voters.

Europarliament Campaign Launched

Delegates voted on a slate of 35 candidates from Germany for the May 2014 European Parliament elections. The top five candidates are: Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Elke Fimmen, Stephan Ossenkopp, Kasia Kruczkowski, and Dr. Wolfgang Lillge. The slate includes long-time BüSo members and also new activists from various regions of Germany and different professions.

As became clear throughout the convention, the BüSo is participating in these otherwise meaningless elections (the European Parliament has essentially no power), in order to join with its friends elsewhere in Europe to throw off the yoke of the EU empire, to restore the sovereignty of nations, and to rebuild the world by creating a fusion-power-driven platform for civilization. In this fight, the precious cultural heritage of Germany and the other European nations is the key weapon to defeat the "Babylonian" oligarchy.

From **France**, the speakers were Jacques Cheminade, chairman of the Solidarity and Progress party; and Eugene Perez, mayor of Chamouilly, a key orga-



EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

Gabriele Chiurli, Italy



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Spiros Marinis, Greece



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Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairwoman of the BüSo, gave the keynote to the party conference.



EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

Eugene Perez, France



EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

José Carlos Soto, Spain

nizer for the European mayors' initiative for Glass-Steagall.

From **Spain**, José Carlos Soto, a young member of the LaRouche movement, described the shocking situation in his country as a result of the austerity demands of the IMF, European Central Bank, and European Commission (the Troika), and called for an all-European effort to abolish the Troika and build the future.

From **Italy**, Gabriele Chiurli, regional councilman of Tuscany, and his advisor Alessandra Panduri, reported on their fight for Glass-Steagall in Italy.

From **Greece** came Spiro Marinis of the Drachma5 party, who described the economic disaster in his country, and the need to impose Glass-Steagall, and to leave the euro as quickly as possible.

Dr. Katherine Alexander-Theodotu of **Cyprus** sent her greetings along with a report on the situation in her country. She described the coming harsh cuts in living standards and the Troika-imposed privatization of industry and the social protection system, and ended by calling for a redoubled international effort for Glass-Steagall.

Tom Gillesberg from **Denmark** reported on the recent local election campaigns there by the Friends of the Schiller Institute, noting the breakthroughs in press coverage, which indicate that "things really can change."

Ulf Sandmark from **Sweden** spoke about the European Labor Party's (EAP, a Swedish party) program for the European Parliament campaign; the program focuses on Arctic development as an integral part of the Eurasian Land-Bridge and the Asia-Pacific orientation. The BüSo and EAP are the only national party organizations of the LaRouche movement in Europe able to run in this campaign, due to impossible demands for qualification in the other countries.

Harley Schlanger of the **United States**, the Western States spokesman for the Lyndon LaRouche Political Action Committee, spoke on the drive to oust President Obama from office soon, freeing the way for Glass-Steagall, and introducing the Asia-Pacific orientation. This is the legacy of President John F. Kennedy, which now can be revived.

Toni Kästner of the BüSo delivered the concluding speech on the challenge of the fusion economy and the huge potential of **Germany** to become part of this exciting future for mankind.

The conference ended with a performance by the Schiller Institute chorus of an arrangement of the "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, and finally, a four-voice setting of the German national anthem by Benjamin Lylloff, a fitting conclusion of this truly energizing event.