
Editorial

Don't Lose This Opportunity!

With the fall of the Berlin Wall 25 years ago, the world went through a dramatic change. Old axioms of geopolitical conflict, and established institutions, crumbled, opening up a grand opportunity for mankind to forge a new direction for economic progress, based on collaboration among sovereign nation-states.

That opportunity was lost, and its loss led to disaster for humanity.

Today, mankind has reached another such branching point. What has collapsed is not a physical wall, but the institutional authority of the trans-Atlantic financial system which had declared “victory” in 1989-90. The bankruptcy of that system is now an open secret, and it is overdue to be replaced. Once again, the question looms: Will leaders emerge who will seize this opportunity to build a new system of global cooperation for economic progress? Will they do it in time to avoid war?

Two aspects of this opportunity lie immediately at hand.

First is the set of institutions and long-term economic arrangements emerging from the nations of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), along with their allies in South America, Africa, and Asia. The alliance among these nations is increasingly gaining strength, with a matrix of agreements on infrastructure projects, especially for rail and power. Indeed, the fact that the BRICS-related countries, such as China and Russia, are the *only* source of long-term, low-interest credit for such major projects has brought more and more nations into their orbit.

Exemplary is the pattern of nations joining the China-initiated Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which Washington and the established international financial institutions have

sought to sabotage. This process can be expected to accelerate at the meeting of the Asia-Pacific nations (APEC) in Beijing this coming week, where China has put both the AIIB and the New Silk Road initiative on the agenda. China is reportedly going to begin converting its holdings of U.S. Treasury securities into capital assets of the AIIB, a huge reserve for productive investments.

The AIIB is open to all nations who wish to join, China says—not just Asians. Americans and Europeans should jump at the chance.

Which brings us to the other major opportunity before us—the smashing defeat for Obama and his policies in the just-concluded November elections.

There were no policy alternatives presented in this election—the so-called Republican victory was a repudiation of Obama and the destruction of the United States under his Presidency. At present, the Republicans offer *no* positive perspective to get out of the current strategic and economic crises, and some of them could be just as dangerous as Obama.

Rather, Obama's defeat provides an opportunity to the Democrats, who have previously submitted to him, to reorganize their party in the interest of the country! Democrats have to move to get Obama out of power, and champion an agenda of real economic growth, an alliance with the BRICS, and cooperation with other sovereign nations against those now sowing terror and war throughout the planet.

Political partisanship must be dumped, now! Obama is a British puppet, pushing war and economic disaster. He has to go, and power must be wielded by a new leadership determined to save the country. Lyndon LaRouche has laid out the program. Now is the opportunity to make it a reality.