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NATO Threatens To Cross Moscow's Red Line
Avoiding the Catastrophe in Afghanistan
Pandemic: International Cooperation Indispensable

**That They May Not
Have Suffered in Vain**



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That They May Not Have Suffered in Vain

*Cover
This Week*

*A COVID-19
patient in
Chernivtsi,
Ukraine.*



CC/Mstyslav Chernov

THAT THEY MAY NOT HAVE SUFFERED IN VAIN

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EDITORIAL

March 14, 2020

Pandemic Forces Rethinking: International Cooperation Indispensable!

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Dec. 3—Because of its extraordinary prescience, and its clarity of actions proposed, we republish this editorial written by Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche 21 months ago, when the COVID-19 pandemic was first spreading and challenging the world's nations to take actions in concert against it, and other pandemics. The leading nations have yet to take those actions. This editorial is taken from the March 20, 2020 issue of EIR.

March 14, 2020—We are now experiencing the worst international health crisis of the past hundred years. This crisis is so extremely dangerous, because the coronavirus pandemic now coincides with the systemic global financial crisis that was already near explosion before the medical crisis broke out. The pandemic was merely the trigger. A solution exists—but only if western societies are prepared to replace all the axioms of the neoliberal model with an economic policy, which is not guided by monetarist considerations, i.e., to speculators' profits, but guided instead by the absolute value of human life, the principles of science, and solidarity with the entire family of mankind.

Even President Macron of France has recently mentioned what can no longer be overlooked: The liberal democratic political system is ill-suited to react adequately to existential threats. The sooner Europe and the U.S.A. grasp the fact that we must take exactly the same public health measures that China took in January in the city of Wuhan and Hubei Province, the more

human lives will be saved. Rather than making use of the time gained for the world by the Chinese government's decisive actions—correctly characterized by the WHO (World Health Organization) as absolutely exemplary—the western governments have wasted priceless weeks. As a result, Europe has now become the epicenter of the pandemic and the situation in the United States is quite unclear due to the lack of testing up to this point.

But the necessary reorganization can't be limited to the area of human health. We need a completely new paradigm in politics and economics if we are to prevent a collapse of civilization like that of the 14th Century. Many scientists in a number of nations are assuming that about 70% of the population will be infected within the next one to two years, at least until a vaccine can be developed and produced. Prof. Christian Drosten of the Berlin Charité Hospital cites a new study that says we can no longer count on a slower spread of the virus in the Spring and Summer. At the same time, it has to be assumed that the pandemic will spread further throughout the Southern Hemisphere during its Winter, and then come back to the Northern Hemisphere in the Autumn, strengthened and possibly in a mutated form.

This means that we not only have to correct the consequences of the takedown of our national public health systems in the recent decades, and equip our health systems, in the shortest possible time, to treat the expected number of patients. We also have to create the conditions for a global healthcare system in the short term.

Not Unexpected

The current crisis is in no way unexpected. In 1974, Lyndon LaRouche initiated what he called a “biological holocaust taskforce,” tasked to investigate the impact—above all, on the developing nations—of the austerity policy and conditionalities of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. LaRouche and his colleagues presented the results of these studies in a series of reports that warned that the decline in living standards on several continents, which these institutions would be unleashing over the coming years, would lead to the resurgence of old plagues and the occurrence of new diseases and pandemics.

When one considers the conditions in many nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and even in the poorer regions of Europe and the United States today, it becomes very clear that only a global change of policy can remedy this. About two billion people currently have no clean drinking water and most so-called developing countries have nothing close to a modern healthcare system. Famine exists at the present time in several southern African countries. A locust plague, against which the international community did not act in a timely way, threatens to lay waste dozens of nations in Africa, Asia and Latin America. As a result of the so-called “wars of humanitarian intervention” and the underdevelopment already referred to, millions of refugees have fled toward Europe and America to escape danger to life and limb.

Therefore, if we want to prevent the coronavirus pandemic from spreading in waves and migrating from the Northern to the Southern Hemisphere and back—thus potentially creating the breeding grounds for additional similar and worse viruses—we must initiate radical changes.

Systemwide Changes Required

Hospitals with isolation wards must be built throughout the world, following the example of the city of Wuhan and Hubei Province, which built a total of 14 temporary hospitals, including the necessary intensive care beds. World Health Organization standards must be observed in doing so. China, for example, built facilities with 16,000 new hospital beds in just one month.

International scientific research centers must be established for research on the COVID-19 virus and other viral and bacterial pathogens. Vaccines must

be developed and tested. The results of research in biophysics, nuclear biology and space medicine must be made available immediately to all nations. The point of reference for this is the conception of a Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE) developed by Lyndon LaRouche, in which the protection of human life from pandemics is one focal point.

These worldwide measures require investments that cannot be made under the conditions of the present, collapsing financial system. The current actions of the central banks in injecting liquidity into this financial system by the trillions of dollars, and even the allocation of budget funds by governments, is leading to a hyperinflationary monetary explosion, and is unsustainable.

If we are to fight the coronavirus pandemic successfully, and build and equip the necessary hospitals, we need the total package of actions proposed by Lyndon LaRouche a number of years ago:

1. A system of bank separation must be introduced immediately on a worldwide scale, based exactly on the model of the Glass-Steagall Act signed by President Franklin Roosevelt on June 16, 1933. Commercial banks must be put under Federal protection under this system and completely separated by a firewall from speculative investment banking firms and units, which will no longer have any access to the assets of the commercial banks, nor have the privilege of being saved by taxpayers’ money. The toxic paper of these banks, including their outstanding financial derivatives contracts, must be written off. Legitimate receivables that are connected with the real economy or with pensions and other assets of working people should be classified as valid in the new system as well. Some types of claims for payment must be provisionally frozen and reviewed for validity by Federal institutions.

2. A national bank must be founded in each country, in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton or on the model of the German *Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau* (Reconstruction Finance Corporation) after World War II. Their purpose is to supply Federal credit for productive investments that will provide the physical economy with the necessary funds. The issuance of these credits must be guided by the principles of high energy-flux density and an optimal increase of the productivity of productive capacities and the powers of labor, through an emphasis on scientific and technological progress.

3. Among the participating countries, a system of fixed [currency] parities must be established, and cooperation treaties must be established among sovereign states for the purpose of well-defined infrastructure and development projects. These treaties together represent in fact a New Bretton Woods system as was intended by Roosevelt, with the explicit intention of providing credit for the industrial development of the developing sector.

4. An urgent increase in the productivity of the world economy—to accommodate a world population of presently almost eight billion people—must be facilitated through an international program for the realization of thermonuclear fusion power and other advanced technologies, in such fields as optical biophysics and life sciences, in order to find solutions for challenges such as the coronavirus. This increase in productivity must also be enabled through international cooperation in space technology and travel, which can establish the necessary next higher economic platform for the world economy, as this concept has been developed by the economist Lyndon LaRouche.

The only institutions which can carry out such a worldwide program are the leading governments of

the planet, which must be representative of the entire world's population in their composition. Therefore, it is in no way sufficient that the governments of the G7 should agree among themselves; these solutions can be implemented only with the involvement of Russia, China and India.

That also means that geopolitics must finally be overcome and replaced by the idea of the common future and goals of mankind. If we do not want to fall into a new dark age, we have to replace neo-Malthusian ideas, the anti-scientific “Green New Deal,” monetarism and Eurocentrism, with the ideas of physical economy guided exclusively by the scientifically provable principles of the laws of the universe.

And finally, perhaps the most important change we must make in our thinking: We need a new humanist Renaissance, a renaissance of classical culture. For the world has been brought to this point not least by the unbounded hedonism which went along with liberal and neoliberal democracy. The moment has arrived when the ideology of “anything goes” must be put aside. We will overcome this crisis only if we are inner-directed in accord with the love of humanity. But it is for that, after all, that we are human beings!

I. A True Pandemic Response

Schiller Institute Conference on Pandemic Only Multi-Nation Action For World Health System Will Succeed

by Marcia Merry Baker and Michael Billington

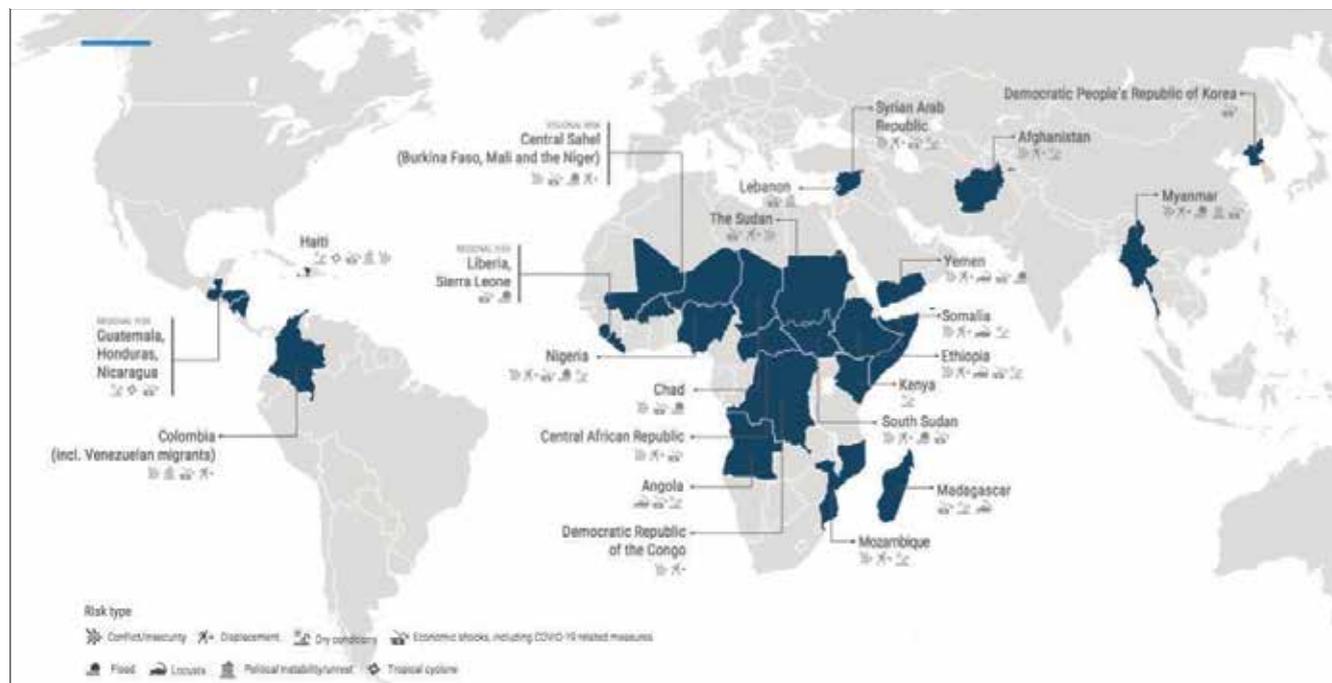
Dec. 5—The Schiller Institute held an online international [conference](#) Dec. 4 to address the extreme health emergency now gripping the world. Before the world's conscience is an out-of-control pandemic in many locations, while near-term starvation is the future for millions in Afghanistan, Haiti, Yemen, Syria, and other countries. The conference, “Omicron: The Urgent Need for a World Health System,” was convened on short notice, at the time the South African experts first announced the identification of a new variant of the SARS-CoV2. On Nov. 28, The World Health Orga-

nized (WHO) named it Omicron, designating it a “variant of concern.”

This latest mutant microbe comes fully two years after clinicians first registered the presence of the novel coronavirus, and twenty-two months after the WHO declared it a pandemic, on March 11, 2020. Such successive new variants were predictable, unless an all-out campaign against the virus was conducted. Yet to date, no multi-nation collaboration is underway, to provide emergency action wherever needed, and to build up modern public health and medical systems

Acute Food Insecurity Hotspots

August to November 2021 Outlook



Source: FAO and WFP, July 2021. Map conforms to United Nations World Map, October 2020.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO and WFP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abtei area is not yet determined.

everywhere in every nation. The conference featured situation reports and identified actions required.

Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche and former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders led off the presentations at the conference. Physicians and activists from the U.S., Canada, and Italy, joined in with presentations and a panel discussion, fielding questions from different continents. Former U.S. Surgeon General and civil rights leader, Dr. David Satcher, sent a support message. Other medics and leaders are now conferring behind the scenes.

In June 2020, Zepp-LaRouche and Dr. Elders together co-founded the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites, for peoples and nations to work for the common good across the usual boundaries that divide them, and to spur action against the SARs CoV-2 virus and other threats. Elders, whose specialty is pediatrics, was a Vice Admiral in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

Public Health Measures

The Schiller Institute's Dennis Speed, serving as the host, opened the conference with a focus on public health, presenting selected quotes from a 2001 [statement](#) by Lyndon LaRouche.

The LaRouche statement, "National Program Against Germ Warfare," was released to the media during the anthrax terrorism after the 9/11 attack, in which he located national biological defense as a matter of public sanitation, including access for all to clean water, adequate energy, and transportation, in addition to the required number of hospitals and medical professionals, emphasizing especially those facilities and staff which "serve those sections of the population which are relatively indigent, and are therefore the most likely radiators of infectious diseases." He said that it is "public sanitation which remains the first line of defense of the population against normal epidemic disease, and also biological warfare attacks."

LaRouche called for a "crash program" in the U.S. to "restore those medical and infrastructural defenses that were taken down, piece by piece, during the approximately quarter-century since the enactment of the original HMO legislation," referring to the beginning of the "privatization" of healthcare in the early 1970s. "If we do not do that," he continued, "whatever might happen to you and your family as a result of a biological warfare attack should be considered now as virtually a 'done deal.'"

No one hearing those words from twenty years ago can fail to have a sense of dread, that LaRouche's warning, having been ignored by the institutions of power over these past two decades, has now wrought a horrible result for humanity.

In the U.S., where more than 250 hospitals have been taken down over the past three years as "unprofitable" by the Wall Street insurance companies which now dominate the U.S. healthcare system, nearly 800,000 people have died of COVID-19.

By comparison, China, with three times the population, has *constructed* over 1,000 hospitals over the same time period, has applied full public health measures immediately upon any outbreak, and as a result, has had fewer than 5,000 people die of the virus and complications. This is one death in China for every 160 in the United States. Moreover, a disproportionate number of those deaths in the U.S. were amongst the poor, especially minorities, due to their average lower standard of nutrition and health care.

Zepp-LaRouche reiterated the call of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites for the world to unite in cooperation to build a modern health system in every country. She reviewed in some detail the fourth and fifth wave of COVID-19 in Europe right now, where triage is now being practiced in the understaffed and overcrowded hospitals in Germany and others of the richest countries on Earth. The construction effort must get underway, and she proposed that this start in Afghanistan, along with immediate provision of emergency aid. There, more than 24 million people are facing death this winter by freezing, starvation, COVID-19, and a near total lack of medical facilities. All the while, the United States maintains sanctions, and withholds Afghan assets, charging the new government with committing abuses of human rights—a charge which is itself both hypocritical and results of which are genocidal!

Zepp-LaRouche explained why she named the Afghanistan initiative "Operation Ibn Sina," in honor of the 11th-Century philosopher, poet, and medical genius who was a native son of the greater Afghanistan region. Above all, she said, the center of this global effort must be the image of man as unique and sacred in the universe.

Dr. Elders called for everyone to step up and join the mobilization. She read from the [open letter](#) she issued Nov. 23, directed to virologists and other medical experts worldwide, to launch an educational

campaign to inform citizens everywhere of the basic truths of the pandemic. She noted that the failure of governments to do so has caused vast confusion, and vulnerability to frightening conspiracy theories and fear of vaccines.

International Activation

Alessia Ruggeri, speaking from Sicily, Italy, delivered a strong statement of endorsement for Operation Ibn Sina. Ms. Ruggeri has already held a press conference to call for action on this perspective. She is a trade union leader, and the spokesperson of the *Comitato della Repubblica*, and Chairperson of *UPI Italia*, an association of small- and medium-sized enterprises. She stressed that people are starving in Afghanistan, while the former President Ashraf Ghani, “ran away with a suitcase full of money.” She reported recent Taliban announcements, quoting from them that, “We will not allow anyone to use our country to export opium, or to organize terrorist attacks. But, to do so, we would need international support to promote an alternative to poppy cultivation.”

Marcia Merry Baker, *EIR* Editorial Board member, also called for collaboration among major powers, in particular for a concerted effort to increase world food production, an essential for health. She called for both emergency aid, and in the longer-term, the build-up of agricultural productivity in every nation. For the soon-to-be 8 billion people on the planet, there should be being produced over 4 billion tons of grain, but total harvests are not even near 3 billion tons.

Even before the pandemic, the production of grain per capita—a metric of sufficiency—was declining worldwide, and 800 million people were what were called “food insecure,” that is, having a limited or uncertain access to adequate food—in plain talk, hungry. That has only worsened, to where 43 million people are now on the edge of starvation, and others in acute need. The whole continent of Africa has been insanely made import-dependent for 40% of its grain



Ibn Sina (c. 980-1037)

consumption, and now the grain is too expensive, or not there at all.

To complete the picture, Baker stated, look at the suppression of the ability of farmers and ranchers to operate. She described how farmers have had to resort to street protests, just for the right to produce food. The food cartel system, serving networks of the City of London and Wall Street, has reached the point of suffocating production, and contributing to hyperinflationary breakdown.

In India, farmers have demonstrated for a year, and have finally succeeded in gaining repeal of new cartel-serving agriculture laws. German farmers continue blocking streets with their tractors—for

the third year in a row—to call attention to how so-called green, habitat-protection laws are ruining food production. Cattlemen in the U.S. are fighting the same thing. Baker called for the nations to coordinate to do what is necessary to support and maintain independent food producers, and end hunger for anyone, anywhere.

Ruggeri expressed agreement with Baker, saying that “the key is an alliance of productive forces—farmers, workers, and labor.” She said, “Productive forces are the very important factor at the local level, to create the shift to a new paradigm,” noting that there is much talk of ecological transition, and digital transition, but all this ignores the needs and interests of labor and farmers. She called for international unity for industrial and agricultural production.

Dr. Walter Faggett, who has been very active with the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites, spoke of needed action in Africa, as well as reporting on his ongoing work in Washington D.C. with youth volunteers for public health measures, including vaccination. A former Chief Medical Officer of the District of Columbia Department of Health, Dr. Faggett is on the medical faculty of Howard University and is active in the National Medical Association.

He reported on the recruiting of young people, training and setting them to work in Washington



All photos: Schiller Institute

Conference discussants, from left to right. Top row: Dennis Speed (moderator), Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Dr. Joycelyn Elders. Middle row: Dr. Randall W. Maxey, Marcia Merry Baker, Jason Ross. Bottom row: Dr. Richard Denton, Dr. Walter Faggett, Alessia Ruggeri.

D.C.’s Wards 7 and 8, where the task is to bring the truth about the virus and the benefit of vaccines to the Black population, where there is a legacy of distrust. He reported that since March 2021, when the project started, the vaccination rate in Ward 8 has increased from 4% to 40%, which he noted, is still too low, and in disparity with other wards in the District. But the rate of new cases and COVID-19 deaths in the DC region is now one of the lowest in the country. Expressing his wish to see this DC model of youth activation take off in California and other locations, he indicated how this might happen: “We have a curriculum now at Howard University, with which we’ll be collaborating with Drew [Medical Center] in Los Angeles.”

Dr. Faggett said that he wants to see teams in Africa, once conditions permit, and meantime he has been very active in a special aid project for Mozambique—involving donated medicine, food and water purification chemicals—as a representative initiative of what must be large-scale action. He has worked on this with Dr. Khadijah Lang, Chair of the Council on International Affairs of the National Medical Association and President of its California state branch, known as the Golden State Medical Association. Dr. Faggett pointed

out the dangerous infectious conditions being allowed to worsen in West Africa, where he has had personal experience fighting Ebola. Besides COVID-19, there have been recent outbreaks there of Ebola, and the Marburg virus.

Make Structural Change, End Poverty

Dr. Randall W. Maxey, a former President of the National Medical Association, gave a report on the areas in the United States where there are far higher numbers of serious COVID-19 cases and deaths, associated with higher rates of diabetes, chronic kidney disease and obesity, which in turn, correspond to locations having large Black and Latino populations and poverty. He showed a map in which this was dramatically clear in the southern tier of states across the country. He also strongly denounced the blatant way the rich countries have hoarded vaccines, and limited them from the nations of Africa, where he has had extensive experience. He spoke out strongly against “structural racism,” and the Western culture and “economic model” behind this that must be defeated.

Dr. Maxey, who founded the Black Health Trust,

also reported on innovations in the field of advanced testing and treatment technologies. He described how large numbers of people can be tested and treated for many diseases, including by the use of telemedicine, data warehousing, and related new approaches. Providing illustrations, he presented exciting updates on the science and methods for using directed light to identify and kill selected pathogens, and called for this to be greatly expanded.

Jason Ross, science adviser to the Schiller Institute, pointed to the fact underlying all the presentations—the vast and increasing poverty in the world, dramatic in the United States—is the primary cause of the health crisis and the threatening famine. China has demonstrated that poverty can be eliminated through infrastructure development, while the Belt and Road Initiative is the model for bringing such development to all nations. In particular, the green financiers, who claim that human beings are the problem and constitute a threat to the planet, must be crushed, if we are to bring modern health systems into being. This means there must be clean water, electricity, and connectivity

for every nation.

Dr. Richard Denton, the North American Co-President of the International Physicians Against Nuclear War, reported from Canada on the work his organization has done against polio, in conjunction with Rotary Clubs. Part of the mission has been to overcome fear of the anti-polio vaccines in nations of Africa and Central Asia, where the number of polio deaths has been brought down to only two this year, one each in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But the danger is for polio to come back. He made a point of describing his experience, working with the Taliban in Afghanistan, in creating conditions for Afghans to be vaccinated.

In closing, Helga Zepp-LaRouche spoke of mixed feelings—both worried and hopeful:

“I’m worried because we have been talking about this now for many decades—a condition where you could have the emergence of old diseases and new diseases, which could create the situation of a dark age. That danger is clearly there, because you cannot just look at the health aspect: We have hyperinflation in the trans-Atlantic world, in energy prices, in food prices; we have a threat to agriculture. A lot of farmers are extremely concerned that they may not be able to keep producing, because of bad rules and regulations, bad conditions for farming. This is a very wide field to discuss, but food supply is not secure! We a world famine of biblical dimensions; I don’t think we have it yet, but I think we have an incredibly complex danger to the present civilization. I touched upon the war danger earlier, without being able to elaborate.... I don’t think the human species is safe at all. So that’s my worrying part.

“My more optimistic part is that I have seen a lot of goodness, especially among doctors; also, right from the beginning of the pandemic, there was a much larger exchange of information, medical information among doctors from many countries. So, I think on that level there has been actual progress in the human behavior of people. So, I feel this tension.

“The only way to resolve the tension is to do more, to find more people to join our effort. I want to thank all of you, because this has been a very productive process, which had many phases, but I think we are now really in earnest about expanding it, way beyond the United States, and this will be a very important part.”

FIRST ISSUE OF

Leonore



The Schiller Institute is proud to announce our new digital quarterly magazine of art, science and statecraft, *Leonore*. We want *Leonore* to not just be a nice “art” magazine, but a political tool for every person to use to recruit the world. What would a world look like if every young person could fully exercise their creativity? In which humanity had reached a peaceful cultural maturity? Most importantly, how do you accomplish that?

Our unique and vital voice is needed now. Subscribe to *Leonore* [here](#) today to find out how. And preview the Summer 2021 issue. Begin your subscription to this wonderful cultural publication by becoming a sustaining member of the Schiller Institute.

Science & Technology Briefs

Toward a Vaccine Efficacious Against All COVID-19 Variants

A major step has been reported toward developing a COVID-19 vaccine for any present or future variants of the coronavirus. *RT* [reported](#) Dec. 1 on a study published Nov. 30 by Chinese scientists, showing that monoclonal antibody 35B5 was able to neutralize all variants, both in test-tube experiments and with “humanized” mice.

The [study](#) says that “35B5 neutralizes SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19] by targeting a unique epitope [part of the antigen molecule to which the antibody attaches itself] that avoids the prevailing mutation sites.” *RT* explains: “In other words, 35B5 targets a unique part of the virus that does not change during the mutation process. By targeting part of the virus which is not impacted by the mutations identified in circulating VOCs, antibody 35B5 demonstrated capacity for ‘pan-neutralizing efficacy’ across multiple strains. These findings, the scientists argue, could be ‘exploited for the rational design of a universal SARS-CoV-2 vaccine.’ The part of the antigen targeted by antibody 35B5 is also present in the Omicron variant, the researchers note.”

An Oral COVID-19 Pill by Christmas?

Azvudine, a reverse transcriptase inhibitor already approved for use against HIV, is now undergoing Phase III clinical trials in China, Russia, and Brazil as an oral anti-COVID drug. A reverse transcriptase inhibitor prevents the replication of the virus in the body. A research team at Henan Normal Uni-

versity in China is hoping for approval to release it to the domestic market as early as this month. The *Global Times* Nov. 24 [described](#) this and two other anti-COVID projects, and reported that “China has deployed three technical routes in developing COVID-specific drugs: blocking virus entry into cells, inhibiting virus replication, and adjusting the human immune system.”

New Study Challenges Climate Models

Recent research in a region of the North Atlantic reveals it has experienced a warming trend since 1900, decades before the so-called “anthropogenic global warming,” underscoring the flaw of current climate models. However, caution must be exercised in drawing conclusions from such research.

As [reported](#) by *SciTechDaily* on Nov. 25, “an international group of researchers reconstructed the recent history of ocean warming at the gateway to the Arctic Ocean in the Fram Strait between Greenland and the Svalbard archipelago north of Norway.

“Using the chemical signatures found in marine microorganisms, the scientists found that the Arctic Ocean began warming rapidly at the beginning of the last century as warmer and saltier waters flowed in from the Atlantic—a phenomenon called Atlantification—and that this change likely preceded the warming documented by modern instrumental measurements. Since 1900, the ocean temperature has risen by approximately 2° C, while sea ice has retreated and salinity has increased.

“The results, [reported](#) in the journal *Science Advances*, provide the first historical perspective on Atlantification of

the Arctic Ocean and reveal a connection with the North Atlantic that is much stronger than previously thought.”

Water circulation in the Arctic is extremely complicated, because although the Fram Strait is a major artery from the Atlantic (it’s about 450 km/280 miles wide) there is also water circulating from the Pacific on the other side of the Arctic. In addition, the ice caps and related sea-ice have a modulating effect on wind and other factors. And, the circulation is not only within the Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic oceans themselves, but it also occurs in three dimensions, and is affected by the other ocean currents, which are themselves dynamic and unpredictable in many ways.

An example of how such large currents affect local weather can be seen in the effects of La Niña. NOAA monitors such events to help predict weather patterns in the U.S.

“Consistent with typical La Niña conditions during winter months, we anticipate below-normal temperatures along portions of the northern tier of the U.S. while much of the South experiences above-normal temperatures,” says Jon Gottschalck, Chief, Operational Prediction Branch, NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center.

This research is a reminder that global climate change—unlike a temporary change in the weather—can only be identified on a timescale of more than a century, and cannot be inferred from local events alone. A famous actor once claimed (when filming on location) that the seasonal Chinook Winds of western North America were an “indication of global warming.” For further reading, see the Nature Education [article](#), “Arctic Ocean Circulation,” and NASA’s Sci-

entific Visualization Studio [production](#) from Feb. 15, 2012, “Gulf Stream Sea Surface Currents and Temperatures.”

Micro-Robots To Deliver Killer Drugs Directly to Cancer Cells

A proof-of-concept [study](#) conducted by Chinese scientists and researchers, [reported](#) in *Science Daily* on Nov. 17, opens the way for a major breakthrough in the treatment of cancer. Although there have been significant advances in chemotherapy in the treatment of cancer, its side effects can be serious and can sometimes persist for years or be permanent. Delivering drugs directly to the cancer cells, however, could reduce or eliminate such side effects.

Jiawen Li, Li Zhang, Dong Wu, and their colleagues created extremely tiny, shape-shifting robots which are about 100 μm in size (1,000 μm equals 1 mm), which are guided by magnets to specific sites to deliver treatments. Because tumors exist in acidic microenvironments, the team made their micro-robots change shape in response to lowered pH (a measure of acidity).

“So, the researchers ‘4D’ printed microrobots [3D-printed devices that change shape in response to certain stimuli], in the shape of a crab, butterfly or fish using a pH-responsive hydrogel. By adjusting the printing density at certain areas of the shape, such as the edges of the crab’s claws or the butterfly’s wings, the team encoded pH-responsive shape morphing. Then, they made the microrobots magnetic by placing them in a suspension of iron oxide nanoparticles.

“The researchers demonstrated various capabilities of the microrobots in several tests. For example, a fish-shaped microrobot had an adjustable “mouth” that opened and closed. The team showed that they could steer the fish through simulated blood vessels to

reach cancer cells at a specific region of a petri dish. When they lowered the pH of the surrounding solution, the fish opened its mouth to release a chemotherapy drug, which killed nearby cells. Although this study is a promising proof of concept, the microrobots need to be made even smaller to navigate actual blood vessels, and a suitable imaging method needs to be identified to track their movements in the body, the researchers say.”

Mars’ Smallness Complicates Habitability

Scientists at Washington University in St. Louis have formed a hypothesis about the absence of liquid water on the surface of Mars. The team’s [findings](#), published Sept. 28 in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, suggest that Mars, about half the size of Earth, doesn’t have enough mass, and therefore enough gravitation, to retain large amounts of water.

Images taken by rovers on the Martian surface show flood channels and valleys, geological formations consistent with large amounts of water. But no liquid water remains on the planet’s surface, and researchers have struggled to understand why.

“Mars’ fate was decided from the beginning,” said Kun Wang, senior author of the study. “There is likely a threshold on the size requirements of rocky planets to retain enough water to enable habitability and plate tectonics, with mass exceeding that of Mars.”

This hypothesis may help astronomers understand more about the habitability of exoplanets—planets outside our solar system—and the relationship between a planet’s size and whether it can sustain life.

“This study emphasizes that there is a very limited size range for planets to have just enough, but not too much water to develop a habitable surface environment,” said co-author Klaus

Mezger, a geochemist at the University of Bern.

A Website Dedicated to Fusion Energy

The U.S. Fusion Outreach Team, a grassroots organization in the fusion community focused on reducing barriers to outreach efforts, has launched a new centralized [website](#), to engage the workforce, media, educators, and the public in the journey toward a world powered by fusion energy. The website features the latest fusion news and informative articles, events, and resources that will help anyone, anywhere, understand the promise of fusion energy.

Launch of International Webb Space Telescope Delayed Due to Incident

An incident on Nov. 9, during normal pre-flight processing at the Ariane 5 launch site in Kourou, French Guiana, has delayed by four days the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope, originally scheduled for Dec. 18.

As technicians were preparing to attach Webb to the launch vehicle adapter, which integrates the observatory with the upper stage of the rocket, a sudden, unplanned release of a clamp band that secures Webb to the adapter caused a vibration throughout the observatory. This clamp band is designed to be released from the telescope after launch, when the upper stage of the rocket separates from the telescope unit.

An anomaly review board concluded that Webb was not damaged, and the launch is now re-scheduled for Dec. 22.

Developed jointly by NASA, the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency, the Webb Space Telescope will succeed the Hubble Space Telescope as NASA’s flagship astrophysics mission.

Schiller Institute International Conference

November 13-14, 2021

All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!

PROGRAM

Saturday, November 13, 10 a.m. EST

Panel 1

Can a Strategic Crisis Between the Major Powers Be Avoided?

Moderator Dennis Speed (U.S.), Schiller Institute

Opening Music

Johannes Brahms: "Von ewiger Liebe," Op. 43, No. 1
Lisa Bryce, Soprano; Dura Jun, piano

"Creativity as Such"

Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr. (1922-2019), co-founder of the Schiller Institute

Keynote Address: "A Terrible End or a New Paradigm?"

Helga Zepp-LaRouche (Germany), founder of the international Schiller Institutes

"Major Country Relations and Global Development"

Ms. Chen Xiohan (China), Deputy Secretary General, Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD)

"The Situation in Afghanistan After Foreign Troops' Withdrawal"

Ambassador Anna Evstigneeva (Russia), Deputy Permanent Representative, the Russian Federation Mission to the UN

"Is There a Pathway for an Improved Relationship Between the U.S. and Russia?"

Dr. Andrey Kortunov (Russia), Director General, Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC)

Dialogue with Panelists and two Discussants: Earl Rasmussen (U.S.), Executive Vice President, The Eurasia Center; and Dr. Nikolay Megits, Professor of International Business, Hamline University

"U.S.-China Relations: Potential for War Avoidance and Cooperation"

Col. Richard H. Black (USA, ret.), former chief, Criminal Law Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, the Pentagon

"The Survival of Our World Depends on Whether the U.S. and China Can Get Along"

Dr. George Koo (U.S.), Chairman, Burlingame Foundation; retired international business consultant

“Brotherhood Is the Best Wealth”

Kirk Wiebe (U.S.), Senior Analyst (ret.), U.S. National Security Agency (NSA); member, Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS)

Greetings to the Conference

Gen. Edwin De La Fuente Jería, former Commander-in-Chief, Armed Forces of Bolivia

Dialogue with Panelists and one Discussant: Madison Tang (U.S.), CODEPINK

Panel 2

The Science of Physical Economy

Moderator Claudio Celani (Italy), *Executive Intelligence Review*

Opening Music

Felix Mendelssohn: *Elijah*, No. 14, “Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel”

Kevin Thompson, Bass; Dura Jun, piano

Keynote Address: “Stopping Today’s Hyperinflationary Policies”

Paul Gallagher (U.S.), Co-Editor, *Executive Intelligence Review*

“Avoiding the Coming Catastrophe in Afghanistan”

Dr. Pino Arlacchi (Italy), Sociology Professor, Sassari University; former Executive Director, UN Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention; former European Parliament Rapporteur on Afghanistan

“Socioeconomic Conditions in Afghanistan and the Role of Global Community”

Mrs. Amna Malik (Pakistan), President, Center of Pakistan and International Relations (COPAIR)

“How To Avoid a Collapsing Economy and Humanitarian Crisis in Afghanistan”

Dr. Shah Mehrabi (Afghanistan), Member, Board of Governors, Central Bank of Afghanistan (DAB) and Chairman of Audit Committee

Dialogue with Panelists and three Discussants: Helga Zepp-LaRouche (Germany), founder of the international Schiller Institutes; Prof. Zaher Wahab (Afghanistan), former Advisor, Afghanistan Minister of Higher Education; Iliad Alexander Terra (U.S.), founder and President, Council on Global Relations

“A Strategy for Destroying Dope, Inc. in the 21st Century”

Dennis Small (U.S.), Ibero-American Director, *Executive Intelligence Review*

“Make the Schiller Institute Plan to Develop Haiti Known Everywhere”

Billy Anders Estimé (Haiti), Co-Founder, Café Diplo Haiti

“Haiti and Afghanistan: Needed Lessons for Nation Building, Not Chaos”

Eric Walcott (U.S.), Director, Strategic Partnerships, Institute of Caribbean Studies, Washington, DC

Greeting to the Conference

Jhonny Estor (Haiti), founder, Renaissance Haiti

“The Urgent Need for a World Health System—Not To Care Is Unforgivable”

Dr. Joycelyn Elders (U.S.), former United States Surgeon General

“Infrastructure and Education: Key to Developing Haiti and the Dominican Republic”

Domingo Reyes (Dominican Republic), former professor of Economics

“The Potential of U.S. Reserve Army Units To Aid in Economic Reconstruction in the U.S. and Around the World”

Major General (ret.) Carroll D. Childers (U.S.), former Commanding General of the only light division in the National Guard Reserve Components for VA, MD, MA, CT and NJ

“Community Healthcare Workers in D.C.—Now a Model for the World”

Dr. Walter Faggett (U.S.), former Chief Medical Officer, Washington, DC Department of Health; Co-Chair D.C. Ward 8 Health Council

“Healthcare Is a Basic Human Right, Not a Privilege”

Dr. Ernest L. Johnson, Jr. (U.S.), President Emeritus, Louisiana State NAACP; civil rights attorney; Professor of Law, Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

Greeting to Conference

Carlos Gallardo Neyra (Peru), President, Christian Democratic Party

“Under the Guise of ‘Nature Conservation,’ the Spectre of Starvation Stalks Germany”

Alf Schmidt (Germany), independent farmer; leader of farmers’ demonstrations in Berlin

“Live Report and Greetings from The Kansas Cattlemen’s Association Annual Conference”

Robert Baker (U.S.), Agriculture Advisor, Schiller Institute; Riley Robbins, President, KCA; John Ney, Vice President, KCA

Dialogue with Panelists Walter Faggett, Joycelyn Elders, Carroll Childers, Jhonny

Estor, and Eric Walcott; and one Discussant: Richard Freeman, (U.S.), *Executive Intelligence Review*; co-author, *Schiller Institute Plan to Develop Haiti*

Sunday, November 14, 10 a.m. EST

Panel 3

There Are No Limits to Growth in the Universe

Opening Music

Ludwig van Beethoven: “Abendlied unter’m gestirnten Himmel,” WoO 150
John Sigerson, Tenor; Dura Jun, piano

Moderator Opening Remarks

Megan Dobrodt, President, the Schiller Institute (U.S.)

Keynote Address: “The LaRouche Movement’s Role in Defeating Malthusianism”

Jason Ross (U.S.), Science Advisor, the Schiller Institute

“A Message to the Young People at COP26”

Dr. Augustinus Berkhout (Netherlands), Emeritus Professor of Geophysics, Delft University of Technology; Member, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

“Earthquake Forecasting at the Frontiers of Science”

Prof. Sergey Pulinets (Russia), Space Research Institute, Moscow; Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS)

“On Sustainability”

Prof. Carl-Otto Weiss, PhD (Germany), Advisor, European Institute for Climate and Energy; former President, National Metrology Institute of Germany, Braunschweig,

Germany

“A COP26 Post-Mortem: End Eco-Colonialism Through Climate Truth”

Dr. Kelvin Kemm (South Africa), former Chairman, South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (NECSA); current Director and CEO, Stratek Business Strategy Consultants, based in Pretoria

“Stop the Weaponization of Science—Fooling the Public Through ‘Better Science’ ”

State Senator Mike Thompson (U.S.-Kansas), Kansas State Senate; Chairman, Senate Utilities Committee

“Nobel Winners’ Climate Models Are Wrong”

Prof. Franco Battaglia (Italy), Professor of Physical Chemistry, University of Modena; Member, Initiating Committee of the Petition on Anthropogenic Global Warming of June 2019 (Italy)

Dialogue with Panelists Jason Ross, Franco Battaglia, Augustinus Berkhout, Kelvin Kemm, and Sergey Pulinets; and one Discussant: Adrian Badescu (Romania), a former Advisor to the Prime Minister on Infrastructure

Panel 4

The Beauty of True Human Culture

Opening Music

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

Linda Childs, Alto; Dura Jun, piano

Moderator’s Opening Remarks

Diane Sare (U.S.), founder of the Schiller Institute NYC Chorus

Musical Contribution

Ludwig van Beethoven: “Agnus Dei” from *Missa Solemnis*, Opus 123

Schiller Institute NYC Chorus

Keynote Address: “Squid Game and Other Things To Come”

Jacques Cheminade (France), Président, Solidarité et Progrès

“Education: Race Against Time”

Prof. Zaher Wahab (Afghanistan), Professor Emeritus of Education; former Advisor, Afghanistan Minister of Higher Education

“The Chinese Commitment to Education as Observed by an American Teacher”

Denise Rainey (U.S.), retired educator and principal, Rochester, NY

“On the Aesthetic Education in China”

Xu Wang (China), Executive Dean, Boao Culture and Creativity Institute

“On Education”

Prof. Ole Döring, PhD (Germany), Sinologist and Philosopher

“How the World Health Platform Will Save the Future of the West”

Diane Sare (U.S.), Founder, Schiller Institute NYC Chorus

Dialogue with Panelists Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Zaher Wahab, Jacques Cheminade, Ole Döring, and Denise Rainey

II. Schiller Institute November 13-14 Conference

Afghanistan: Operation Ibn Sina

Prof. Pino Arlacchi

Avoiding the Coming Catastrophe in Afghanistan

This is the edited transcript of Prof. Pino Arlacchi's presentation to Panel 2, "The Science of Physical Economy" of the Schiller Institute's November 13-14 conference, "All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!" Prof. Arlacchi is a Sociology Professor at the University of Sassari, a former Executive Director of the UN Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, and a former European Parliament Rapporteur on Afghanistan.



Schiller Institute

Pino Arlacchi

their money. The central bank of Afghanistan's money is frozen. At least \$4 billion is frozen by the Americans. And that's a substantial amount of money. Don't forget, the GDP of Afghanistan is just \$20 billion! So, the Americans are freezing a substantial part of Afghanistan's own money, their own money. And I hear some don't understand why they continue to do so. They don't want to give the money to the Taliban? But humanitarian aid can be delivered straight to the population. There are

I believe that UN agencies are telling the truth about Afghanistan today. The situation is tragic, because winter is very tough. You know the country; I know the country very well. And the Taliban are just there [as the government] since a few months. There are just a very, very small number of initiatives, in terms of humanitarian aid from neighboring countries, which are the only ones that I am aware of. The European Union (EU) committed to continue to invest around \$1 billion a year, in nonmilitary aid to Afghanistan, as the EU had been doing for a long a time. But I have not seen any intention, any plan to spend this in this emergency situation.

I don't know what the U.S.A. is doing because the Americans are completely silent. They are showing a lack of responsibility, regarding a country they occupied; they took care of for 20 years. Their behavior is really astonishing. They behave like they'd never been there. Outside of Afghanistan, on this issue, there is only this small flow of humanitarian aid from neighboring countries.

There are also other forms of relief that could be put in place: First of all, giving back to Afghanistan

many ways to not involve the government in that. And then, this makes, really, this action, almost a crime—this inaction, almost a crime.

The Outrageous Cynical Calculation

Question: *Do you think the sanctions imposed on Afghanistan will force the Taliban to rely on opium sales as a source of money?*

No. I'm a bit skeptical. Whatever they do on the issue of drugs is too late. It means that they have to wait at least until April, to get something to sell in the market. And if they decide not to, it's also too late to stop the sowing, the cultivation, planting the opium seeds, it's too late. I mean, they have to wait anyway, until they have a crop, and they can sell it. In the meantime, we have had a humanitarian disaster in the country.

I don't believe this is a real danger, for the moment. The real danger, as I see it, is the total indifference, and the cynical calculation, to starve the population in order to change regime. And this is the *worse* hypothesis, the worst. I'm afraid that it can concretize. To have a collective punishment of a people, is one of the most horrible international crimes, according

to international law. You cannot punish a population because they have a government you don't like. Even in extreme situations in the past, for instance North Korea. The international community was able to organize, when it became a big problem: Fifteen years ago, there was a lack of food all over the country, and the international community intervened, even if the government, the North Korean government, was a complete outcast.

I'm really badly surprised by what is happening now. If there is not a humanitarian intervention in Afghanistan. It establishes a very bad precedent. It will be the first time in which a big, humanitarian crisis is *not met* by the international community.

Interventions To Help

Question: *Do you think anything good can come out of these international conferences among the neighboring countries?*

It is at least something that is moving on. Maybe it's positive, because Afghanistan should be treated as a regional issue. Neighboring countries, the countries of the region should take care, first of all, of Afghanistan, now.

Europeans and Americans should also intervene and be an active part of the reconstruction of the country, But this should occur just because they ran the country for 20 years. So, it's their responsibility.

Question: *What kind of urgent actions should the West take in regard to Afghanistan?*

Urgent financial intervention: Funding, by UN agencies that are already on the spot. Funding, quickly, NGOs and Afghan entities that distribute food and medicine, shelter for the people who need that. And unfreezing immediately the money that belongs to the Afghan people, frozen by the Americans.

Building and Reconstruction

Question: *What actions should be taken in the long-term?*

The West should help the reconstruction of the country: The country was already in very bad shape in October 2001, when the Americans invaded the

country. So, you have a country that has to be rebuilt from scratch. It has been destroyed by more than 30 years of civil war, and by foreign invasion. There has been some development, urban development. For instance, Kabul has changed. Now, it's a much bigger city than it was 20 or 30 years ago. But most of the rural Afghanistan is as it was, at least 10 years ago. There are more schools, of course. There was some progress, but this progress was absolutely natural. It was in all the region that grew in the last 20 years. Afghanistan just grew at a rate a bit more slowly than the rest of the region.

So, a big reconstruction plan for Afghanistan, taking care of the resources for the country, is entirely relevant. Afghanistan is one of the poorest countries in the world, but this is because of the tragedy of the civil war. Potentially, it is a country that could be a middle-income country, in a relatively short time. In not more than ten, fifteen years, Afghanistan could be completely different. And it has natural resources. It has a lot of émigrés, people who can come back, bringing a lot of resources. And also, it's a country with big potential, particularly in agriculture and small industry.

The Wages of Geopolitics

Question: *Do you think that the geopolitical hostility against Russia and China is helping or hindering the reconstruction of Afghanistan?*

I had hoped they would not do this operation in the past or do it again. They will wind up pushing Afghanistan into the hands of China and Russia, because they would then be the only two great powers acting to take care of the country. And then they would blame Afghanistan because it had moved to the so-called "other side." So, they basically create the threat, and then they go to fight the threat. And maybe ask for the Europeans to help them in fighting a threat, that they themselves created!

Since they did it in the last 30 years, all over—the Americans—first they create the threat. They ask for help, and then they offer protection from the same threat. I hope they will not repeat this with Afghanistan.

Mrs. Amna Malik

Socio-Economic Conditions in Afghanistan and the Role of the Global Community

This is the edited transcript of Amna Malik's presentation to Panel 2, "The Science of Physical Economy" of the Schiller Institute's November 13-14 conference, "All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!" Mrs. Malik is the President of the Center of Pakistan and International Relations (COPAIR).

As-Salaam Alaikum [Peace be unto you].

We all know that with the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO troops on August 15, 2021, a new, interim Taliban-led government is now in power in Afghanistan. The flows of international aid and development assistance, which the country largely depended on for its advancement prior to August 15, 2021, have been almost entirely disrupted. The international donor agencies like the World Bank, the IMF, the Asian Development Bank, and the EU decided to freeze budgeted project funding payments to Afghanistan, Afghanistan-owned assets abroad, as well as official development assistance plans. Therefore, after the U.S. withdrawal, there is a new need for a new phase of reconstruction and state-rebuilding in Afghanistan which has to be passed on to other regional players, such as Pakistan, China, and Russia.

If we talk about the governance under the Taliban, which is highly totalitarian, there are no available positions for other ethnic groups, like women and minorities. This has highlighted Taliban neglect of the civil and political rights of the population and demonstrated their refusal to compromise.

In a country where 75% of the population live in rural areas, state-centered development funding has failed to reach those key populations in dire need of services. Rural communities have often been neglected in social-political development programs, further undermining the legitimacy of the central government. This has resulted in minimal improvement in areas where poverty and



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Mrs. Amna Malik

radicalization have negatively impacted the social economic status of the people's lives and maintained ripe conditions for insurgencies. The world needs to awaken on this call.

Afghanistan's economic condition, if we talk about it—this is among the poorest of nations, deprived of basic health, education, and standard of living. At present, the Afghan economy does not produce enough revenue to provide even basic needs, such

as food and power for its citizens. The country is in desperate need for foreign assistance in order to spur its renewal and growth.

Human insecurities in Afghanistan, if we talk about it, the total collapse of the public system installed in Afghanistan, the country now faces a humanitarian, identity, and human rights crisis. Protected conflict and continued instability, combined with the recent political upheaval and humanitarian and economic crisis, have caused fear and frustration among the large segment of the population.

Additionally, the break of connectivity with the domestic and international markets, along with the cessation of foreign aid, and investment into the country, have damaged productive activities. More than 120,000 people have been evacuated from Afghanistan, including qualified professionals in social, economic, and political sectors. Quite [an] unfortunate situation.

Recommendations to the International Community

So here, as the President of COPAIR, I have certain recommendations for the international community:

- First of all, to address this human insecurity in Afghanistan, the international community should develop a policy of engagement, with human-security-led goals, acknowledging the context and culture

in Afghanistan. Policies and approaches related to assistance should be people-focused, not state-focused. Humanitarian assistance needs to address food and health insecurity, and utilize international organization and humanitarian avenues, with outreach to rural areas. These programs should provide basic services relating to health, food, shelter, for internally displaced populations, and those in dire need of assistance.

- Programs should also include a discourse component to provide a safe opportunity for individuals from different sectors to engage in critical reflection and dialogue on social-economic conditions.

- For a very coordinated humanitarian and development assistance, I believe, the approach should be that the international community should convene a donors' platform to galvanize the world to help advance civil society; and humanitarian organizations [should] develop a consistent plan, with pragmatic benchmarks and long-term, continued support, to address this humanitarian security crisis; and involve the state quarters in the decision-making, like women and minorities.

- Furthermore, development projects should be channeled and implemented through civil-society organizations, and provide realistic and achievable benchmarks. The development model should be designed based on the social and economic realities of each province and ethnic community. Programs should require the local community that receives aid, to contribute in time, and in kind, to the development projects they need in their communities.

- Furthermore, measures to immediately counteract the food and health crisis by organizing aid in the amount needed and by channels acceptable to all the sides.

- Secure the resumption of the financial flows,

by providing refinancing and cash to banks in the economy, which is largely cash-based, and in which only 15% of the population have access to traditional banking services.

- Partner with foreign academic institutions and government to provide tertiary education and health facilities in Afghanistan.

How Pakistan plays its role in peace building. Troika-plus: [On Nov. 11—ed.], Islamabad hosted a meeting [of the extended Troika—ed.] comprising Pakistan, China, Russia, and United States to discuss the latest situation in Afghanistan. Pakistan has always supported, as a government, peace and regional cooperation, and economic stability in Afghanistan.

There are certain practical policy recommendations for the government of Pakistan:

Development and rehabilitation of all of Afghanistan through:

- (a) regional cooperation for economic relief;
 - (b) a humanitarian assistance packet;
 - (c) enhancing the role of regional organizations;
 - (d) protection and security for investors;
 - (e) focus on long-term economic growth;
 - (f) support for inclusive development;
 - (g) support for development assistance projects;
- and finally,
- (h) connectivity through transportation infrastructure.

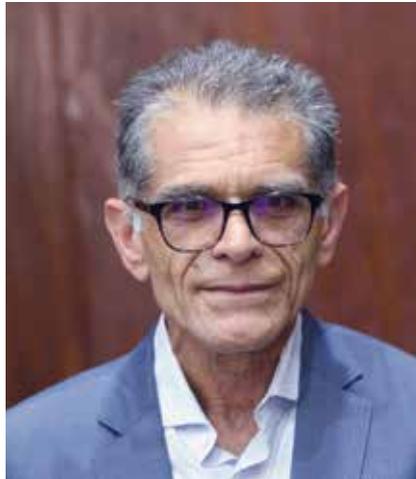
At the end, I would like to say that peace in Afghanistan is peace in South Asia and peace in the world. Regional and global powers should form a unified and collective approach to deal with the Afghanistan issue. We, as an organization, are joining hands with the Schiller Institute for the initiative for humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Shah Mohammad Mehrabi

How To Avoid a Collapsing Economy and A Humanitarian Crisis in Afghanistan

This is the edited transcript of Dr. Shah Mohammad Mehrabi's presentation to Panel 2, "The Science of Physical Economy" of the Schiller Institute's November 13-14 conference, "All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!" Dr. Mehrabi is a Member of the Board of Governors of the Da Afghanistan Bank (the Central Bank of Afghanistan), and Chairman of its Audit Committee. Subheads have been added.



Dr. Shah Mohammad Mehrabi

Good evening to our colleagues in Europe, and good afternoon to our listeners and participants in the United States. I'm very pleased to be here in this important role convening as an international community, pleading in trying to rescue Afghanistan from further collapse in its economy, which is now in a state of free-fall.

The Context

To set up the context of what I would like to talk about, I would like to briefly raise three issues.

First, what existed prior to August 15 in regard to the economy? I'm an economist, so most of my focus will be with regard to the economy. Now, I think a lot of people need to realize that economic conditions that existed prior to August 15 were deteriorating gradually, and substantially.

Of the factors responsible for bringing about this downturn, one was drought. A majority of the provinces were affected. I think it was 25 out of 34. That created quite a rough problem, because in Afghanistan, we don't really have irrigated systems, so we rely heavily on rainfall and snow. The impact of this drought was already felt by both rain-fed farming as well as the livestock. So, the agriculture sector had already contracted, and the limited irrigated farming that we have, had also experienced a substantially low growth rate.

Also, we had only a limited investment in irrigation rehabilitation. That also clearly was in a state of decline in food and agriculture production; what food processing production there was, also technically came to a full stop.

The severe drought and lack of confidence, and also lack of investment because of conflict, resulted in a negative growth for the economy. Depending on how you look at it, the projection, is anywhere between a negative 10% to 12%. Some

have projected that indeed it could go up to 30%—a negative growth of 30% could materialize if something is not done to the economy.

So, you are looking at this contraction, and the impact of that on the population: immense poverty, starvation, and famine. Afghanistan's economy relied heavily on donors' assistance. The government, during the 20 years that the United States was in Afghanistan, could not generate enough revenue to be able to pay its operating costs. Between 40 and 60% of the operating expense money came from the United States; and the rest of this came from customs and the revenue of income taxes and so on. So, you had a situation that the economy was not self-sufficient to begin with.

U.S. Exodus Deepens Crisis

Now, then you had this crisis of the massive exodus of the United States. As a result of that, the international community embarked on freezing Afghanistan's assets. Also, the IMF blocked Afghanistan's access to \$460 million in CRs (credit reserves). The World Bank stopped funding the projects and improvements in the health and education sectors, and the salaries for those people actually were stopped.

I had argued on August 16 or 17 in my writings

as well as in my interviews with Reuters, BBC, CNN, and Bloomberg, that unless the Central Bank of Afghanistan was allowed to access its own dollar reserves—this is not the taxpayers’ money of the United States, this is Afghanistan’s earned money, that belongs to the people of Afghanistan—I argued at that time that those should be released by the

We have to allow limited, monitored release of reserves to pay for essential imports, and to allow the central bank to engage in what I call an “auction process” to be able to control currency depreciation and to stabilize prices.

Federal Reserve Bank of New York. I argued that otherwise, based on the data that we had at our disposal, I projected that we would see a spiral of price increases, which we have. I said that there would be food shortages, which we have. I also said that the Afghan currency (the afghani) would depreciate, which it has; and that bank closures would come into being.

To some extent, we have been somewhat lucky, as there were some reserves left in our central bank. When the new regime came into power, as the Chairman of the Audit Committee of the Bank, I got my comptroller general to lock the vault and give an accounting of all the domestic currency as well as foreign reserves that we had, along with the gold. So, we had a good

After all, inflation affects the poor people, it affects the children, it affects the women who need to feed their children, it affects everyone. So, why put a strangle-hold on the economy overall? Why not allow this dollar auction to prop up the value of the afghani? It could help with the needs of ordinary Afghans.

accounting of what existed, and then sealed the bank until the new regime came. Then we opened it, and we actually have a good accounting of everything that was in the vault prior to closure.

In that context, we had some cushion. However, that cushion is not going to last long to bring price stability. What happens here, is that the Central Bank of Afghanistan has limited monetary tools to be able to control prices. The instrument that has been used in the 20 years that I’ve been there—a very effective instrument—was to be able to auction off dollars in

order to accumulate afghanis to therefore reduce the impact on currency depreciation and bring stability in prices. That has given Afghanistan a very good record with regard to bringing down inflation to single-digit figures.

As a matter of fact, if one were to compare prices of goods in Afghanistan to Pakistan, Iran, and other neighboring countries, Afghanistan had a good record in achieving price stability. That has not continued, as I projected it would not continue.

We have to allow limited, monitored release of reserves to pay for essential imports, and to allow the central bank to engage in what I call an “auction process” to be able to control currency depreciation and to stabilize prices.

The afghani has depreciated; prices have gone up—food, fuel, shelter—the media constantly talk about that. It continues. The lack of dollars in the market has caused importers not to be able to pay for the basic necessities. That is why the regime restricted the amount of goods that could be imported because of lack of hard currency to pay for those particular imports.

Another safeguard is not allowing people to have as much access to their savings, because having too much access to savings would dwindle the limited amount of reserves that are there.

What Needs To Be Done

What needs to be done at this stage, is that we should—as I’ve also argued—allow this reserve to be released on a limited basis. As I have said here, and argued very effectively, I think, and has been carried out by most of the media as well, in the exact point that I said it has to be, is that we have to allow limited, monitored release of reserves to pay for essential imports, and to allow the central bank to engage in what I call an “auction process” to be able to control currency depreciation and to stabilize prices.

After all, inflation affects the poor people, it affects the children, it affects the women who need to feed their children, it affects everyone. So, why put a strangle-hold on the economy overall? Why not allow this dollar auction to prop up the value of the afghani? It could help with the needs of ordinary Afghans.

I suggested \$150 million—less than half of what we used to auction. You could monitor that. We have an international auditing firm, and on top of that, the auction is an electronic auction. It is very transparent; it is very easy to monitor. To top it off, you can get an international auditing firm [that] can give assurances and verify that indeed the money is used for that particular purpose.

The needs of the ordinary Afghans facing food insecurity would have to be the main target and focus point here. I've argued that political recognition should be delayed. Allow this process to go, get engaged with the Taliban as the United States is engaging with the Taliban on many other fronts. As a matter of fact, Qatar will now be representing the U.S. interests in Doha, and they are also engaged in the process of trying to get people out. The United States is trying to coordinate efforts to attack ISIS. If you can engage on all these other activities, why can't you engage in a process to make it easier to bring about economic security for the populace? I think this is an important point that I have talked about.

Afghanistan has a central bank that is independent. At least since the new regime has come into being, they have also brought in money that they collected from corrupt regime rulers of the past. As a matter of fact, they have brought about \$50 million into the central bank. If there was some motive that they had, at least it hasn't been shown yet. Also, they have collected about \$5.2 million from another source. Maybe that's not substantial, but nevertheless, it shows that indeed a building of trust could come into being by engaging with this particular entity. I think that's an important point.

The focus here [in the United States—ed.] is mostly only on humanitarian aid. I've argued that humanitarian aid is a noble cause; I think we need to pursue that. It is not a permanent solution. It is a short gap measure. The United States has invested 20 years with a lot of the taxpayers' money. Institutions were built. Why cripple these particular institutions? Channel these things to the structures that are in existence right now. Those structures have got talented people who have learned how to manage and run the institutions, and how to go ahead in the central bank to be able to contract monetary policy. I think it's a way that you can go ahead and establish that. This is important.

I have argued also for donor support in health and education programs. They were channeled through Afghan state structures, in particular, through what is called the World Bank Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF). Through that mechanism, a health and nutrition program was funded by ARTF through the World Bank. It was implemented through the Ministry of Health. That is a much better structure than dashing out money to individuals where it doesn't become permanent. So, building an institution was done to a great extent, so the Ministry of Public Health was able to cover 60% of the health funding, and so on. Those kinds of structures are there; let's go ahead and use them. Why not go ahead and use those for those particular situations?

Summary of Recommendations

I will now summarize some of the recommendations that I have had. One important point: The international community will have to get engaged in trying to release the reserves. The total is \$9.5 billion of which the United States has got \$7.1 billion; the rest is in Europe. I have also talked about the release of these funds from the German Commerzbank and Deutsche Bank. A reporter has contacted them, but they have not responded. I have given the exact amount of how many millions that the central bank [of Afghanistan—ed.] has in Deutsche Bank, and also in Commerzbank in Germany, as well as in London. All of that is clear, I don't want to cite those things again.

The international community has invested significantly in these [Afghan] institutions. I think they should continue to try, not to destroy those institutions but to build them. The release of the reserves to these areas will have to be done.

Engagement will have to take place. The cooperation of the regional group is very important and was brought up. As a matter of fact, the current regime decided that since they did not have adequate funds to pay for electricity from the North, from Uzbekistan, and so on, they signed an agreement with Iran to buy electricity.

Besides cooperation from the United States and Europe, regional cooperation is very critical to get the economy moving again. Europe and the United States have a vested interest in this, because otherwise, there will be massive refugees. It will affect the neighboring countries. It will affect Europe. They are all going to

go there, and Europe will bear a huge cost. Afghans go first to Turkey and then to Europe, and go to Iran and Pakistan as well. There will be a massive exodus of people. There are 35 million people that could lose their lives, and so on.

So, the important point, again, to finalize, there is a great urgency for action that is needed, *not only* to avert a humanitarian crisis, but action to be able to—

as I have argued—to bring stability for the economy overall, by reviewing the sanction regimes that have been devised, and come up with a conditional approach of the kind of the release of the reserves as I have suggested, so that those reserves can be given back to the Afghan people.

I will stop here and be happy to entertain any questions.

Iliad Alexander Terra

The Great Game Must Finally Come to an End

This is the edited transcript of Iliad Alexander Terra's presentation to Panel 2, "The Science of Physical Economy" of the Schiller Institute's November 13-14 conference, "All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!" Mr. Terra, an American, is the Founder and President of the Council on Global Relations.



Schiller Institute

Iliad Alexander Terra

The Council on Global Relations has been involved in Afghanistan for over two decades in the capacity of supporting the Afghan people. From our perspective, what is needed is a new narrative, a narrative that states that the winning formula is peace, and that this is what we need to engage in on the road from war to peace. This is fundamental, and the time for this is now. There is, from our perspective, no excuse and no justification not to enter in this space.

The current crisis that the Afghan people are facing is quite bleak. Not only has their economy collapsed, not only are they facing multiple threats from regional influences, but they also have failed infrastructure and an institutional lack of experience. And the list goes on. We've all heard stories about Afghan families selling their children so that they pay for food. This

is not acceptable; this is not normal in modern societies and the modern world community. We need to ask the question: Why is this happening?

To understand why we are at this point in the crossroads, we need to have a deeper memory, and look at the Afghan crisis in its historic context. Not just these past twenty years, not the past two months; not just these past forty years in which there have been constant wars and struggles in the country. But going back centuries, Afghanistan has been

the subject of the so-called Great Game, torn to shreds, divided, with repeated attempts to conquer Afghanistan by various stakeholders.

Why has this formula been in play, and in force? Obviously, Afghanistan's geopolitical location, its natural resources, and even its human capital of highly intelligent, capable, and—currently—tech-savvy population of youth. Why is it that this region has been decimated? Why is this country, and these people struggling in this way?

An honest and transparent investigation and exploration needs to be done on this and shared as a way to educate and inform policy, and inform solutions.

Panel 2: First Discussion Session

This is an edited transcription of the first discussion session following the first part of Panel 2, “The Science of Physical Economy,” of the Schiller Institute’s Nov. 13-14 Conference, “All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!” Participating in the discussion were Claudio Celani, co-director of the EIR Strategic Alert Weekly Newsletter; Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the international Schiller Institutes; Paul Gallagher, Co-Editor of EIR; Dr. Shah Mohammad Mehrabi, Member of the Board of Governors of the Da Afghanistan Bank (the Central Bank of Afghanistan) and Chairman of its Audit Committee; and Iliad Alexander Terra, Founder and President of the Council on Global Relations.

Claudio Celani (moderator): To begin our discussion, I would like to first ask you, Helga, if you have some remarks on the presentations we have had so far, and if you want to say something.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: I want to first of all thank all the speakers, and I agree with Pino Arlacchi that obviously in one sense the development of Afghanistan should be in the hands of its regional countries and neighbors. And Mrs. Amna Malik said it and also Dr. Shah Mehrabi. The competence is clearly with the regional people who understand the culture, unlike the people who conducted the war who often had no idea who they were fighting. So, in one sense it’s true; it should be primarily a question of the regional countries.

But I also think that there’s a moral obligation by those countries who conducted the war and left Afghanistan in this horrendous situation after 20 years, that they absolutely have to contribute in whatever form is appropriate and required. I would like very much if you would tell us what plan for action you want the world to engage in. What should the Schiller Institute do? We should discuss this very concretely, because it’s an emergency situation.

Iliad Terra: Let me respond to Helga’s question. From my perspective, I think excellent points were brought by all the speakers. I also was likewise very touched with Pino’s comments; especially his passion toward calling it a crime against humanity for some of the decisions that are being made. I do believe at the

center of this conversation are the Afghan people, and that concerning the current crisis, the oncoming brutal winter that they’re facing, is the responsibility of the international community and the Afghan diaspora, the Afghan people, to come together on this matter. My organization has boots on the ground in Afghanistan. We have a significant presence there, and we are looking forward to collaborating with the Schiller Institute and other colleagues. From our perspective, engagement is a path forward.

I would like to add one comment to Dr. Mehrabi’s comment in terms of the *contributing* causes to the economic collapse. That was well thought out in terms of the drought and its impact on agriculture, etc. But there was another contributing element that impacted, and that was corruption, pervasive corruption, that was both domestic and international. We’ve heard all the stories.

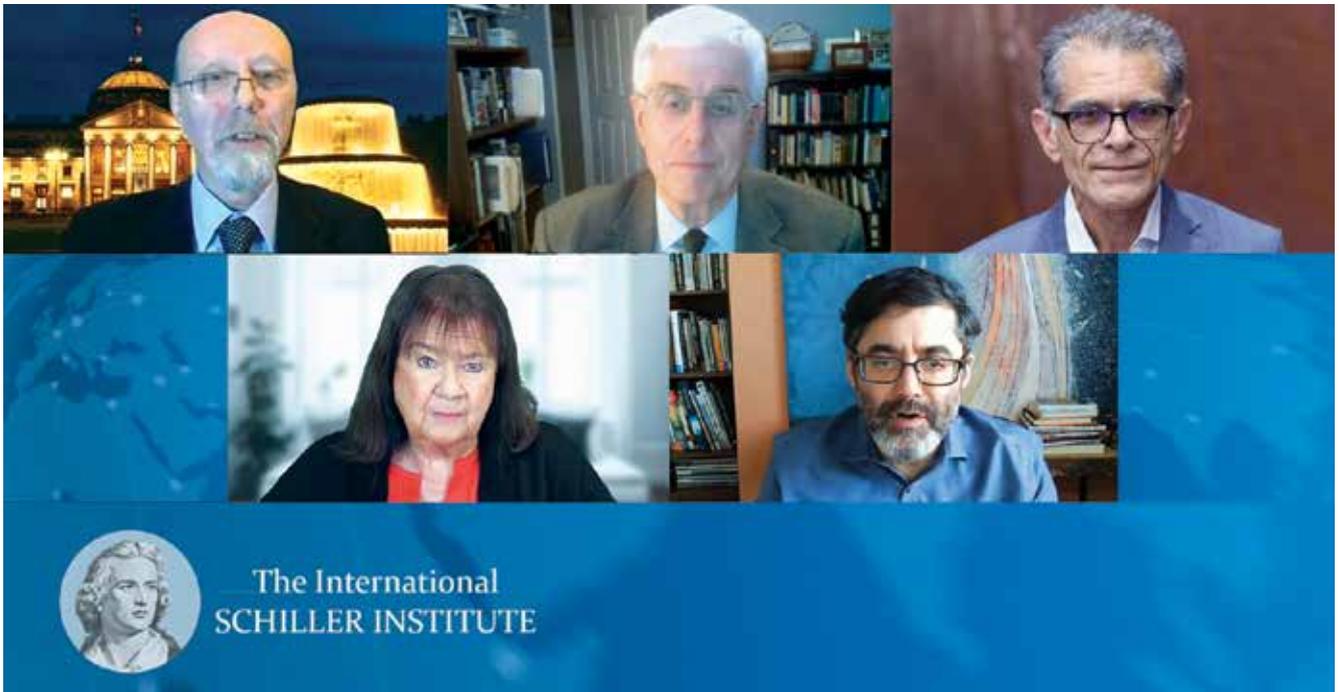
It’s positive, this remark, in terms of what’s happening in the central bank right now, the transparency. We need more of that. Both the Afghan community, Afghan leaders, the diaspora members, and the international community must collaborate, and absolutely release, unfreeze the Afghan people’s assets, help build on the progress that has been achieved, and eliminate the negatives of the past 20 years. So, a very good panel here.

Celani: Dr. Mehrabi, do you want to answer Mr. Terra? I also have a question for you which came through Zoom from a viewer: “Why doesn’t the UN demand that the World Bank release the funds that are illegally being withheld from Afghanistan since it has the relevant means to do so?”

Dr. Shah Mehrabi: I’m not in favor of having another institution, even the UN, replace the current structure. There’s a central bank, and it can be trusted, and under the current regime, let’s see if it can perform its functions.

There are two things that I’m opposed to. One, is the suggestion that a commercial bank be allowed to engage in auctioning and transferring of funds. I totally oppose creating a new structure within the existing structure.

Second, I think the United Nations is not equipped. They have done a fairly good job overall,



Participants in the first discussion session of Panel 2, “The Science of Physical Economy” of the Schiller Institute’s Nov. 13-14 conference, “All Moral Resources of Humanity Have To Be Called Up: Mankind Must Be the Immortal Species!” Left to right, top row: Claudio Celani (moderator), Paul Gallagher, Dr. Shah Mohammad Mehrabi. Bottom row: Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Iliad Alexander Terra.

I assume, in terms of trying to get the international community to take some important steps, and I think that is commendable: \$2 billion in donor pledges in September. They can handle the humanitarian crisis. The United Nations can help Afghans in the area of bringing some relief.

I would argue that constructive engagement in the area of coming up with a mechanism to address the sanctions is a way forward to some understanding. And then, allow the regime to have a breathing room to engagement, to be able to come up with some of what has been argued as leverage, if you want to use that as leverage. I don’t know if the United States had leverage when they were there for 20 years. There was corruption.

The point my colleague raised was a very valid one. There were conferences—elaborate conferences in London, Germany, Geneva, Japan—that I attended. I was a senior economic advisor to two Ministers of Finance. Donors would dash out money, and they would ask for transparency, and the corrupt—that is, the United States as well as the Europeans—did not go ahead and enforce the benchmarks that should have been attained, without siphoning a major part of the money that was allocated for purposes of bringing transparency to the building of institutional structures. That did not happen. Whether the United

States would still have leverage on the Taliban, is an open question.

The important thing here is not to neglect impacts on the ordinary Afghans. So, sanctions are a very important part of this particular equation. What Helga was mentioning, as to what needs to be done is one area that needs to be focussed on at the international level, as well as at the U.S. level. Whatever it takes to put pressure on that. The Europeans I think are starting an office or mission in Kabul which I think is a positive move. The United States has decided not to open any offices in Kabul, but they have opened one in Doha. I had a talk with the embassy people there as well.

Again, this cross-building mechanism will have to be done through the institutions releasing the reserves, and I think the Europeans should start. Somebody will have to put pressure on the banks that have Afghan reserves, to release those particular funds on an *incremental and monitored* basis. That is in Germany, specifically, but also in Europe [generally].

Then, as I also said, humanitarian assistance will have to be done through the structures that existed before, which are still there—the ARTF. Give the funding and test them. Let’s try to test and see what results could be attained. So far, the data shows that the amount of expenditure that has been collected, even

with the border closure, has been fairly good. Exports are increasing; it's not bringing adequate funds that will get the economy to be able to survive for a very long period of time, but some measures have been taken that seem to be positive steps.

Celani: I want to inform you that we [the Schiller Institute] are already putting pressure on European banks, starting with Commerzbank. We called them up. We want also to make a day of action. But if you have a list of all those banks, please send them to us, and we will take care.

I have now a question from Bobby for Paul Gallagher: "I'm watching more and more people seeking protection from inflation by investing in the speculation of crypto-currencies. They all believe it's 'outside' of the central banking system. To me, it is the central banking criminals conditioning us for a transition to a new digital currency. Is this correct? Is this a plan to replace the dollar with a digital currency? If that's true, why would I not invest myself?"

And a related question: "What is the connection between hyperinflationary economic policies and the disruption of the development of Afghanistan? Could Afghanistan issue a currency that is bonded to its natural resources?"

Paul Gallagher: On the first question, I completely agree. I wrote about this maybe two or three years ago in *EIR* that all of these digital currencies were trial balloons—let's put it that way—for what could become central bank controlled digital currencies. All of the major central banks are preparing those. That was a major part of what Mark Carney talked about at that 2019 bankers' meeting that I described. He said that the central banks needed to have their own global synthetic central bank currency in order to inflate the dollar. So, yes, I completely agree with regard to what was said about Bitcoin, for example.

On the second question, if I could just pose something, and see what Mr. Mehrabi thinks of it.

Assume the Afghan Central Bank were to, by the release of its assets, recover the ability to stabilize its currency by selling dollars, as he described. On Nov. 15, a virtual, but an unusual meeting between the Presidents of the United States and China will occur. Since this is what we are fighting for, let us propose that those two Presidents agree that an institution in China—say the China Development Bank—and an institution in the United States—say the International

Development Finance Corporation—should each jointly issue a credit for the long-term project of building the railroad and associated electric power lines and so forth from Tashkent to Kabul, and over into Peshawar, [connecting to] the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a major economic development infrastructure plan for the country.

Let us say that they agree that they will prevail on the World Bank, which has been asked to fund this project, to do it. \$5 billion is, I think, what has been talked about. Could not those credits go directly to the Da Afghanistan Central Bank? Could not the Da Afghanistan Bank add to that \$5 billion from domestic sources by its own ability to borrow domestically, and therefore manage the credit of that project?

If we were to see something like that happening, and if any American engineering firms, for example, were to get involved in such projects that were being funded in this way, then they in turn would have to go to their major banks and ask for loans. And that would put a pressure on those banks, which are not lending money now, to do so.

So, I think that the Da Afghanistan Central Bank could very easily be in the central role in the flow of credit to exactly such development projects as have been discussed, as I just referenced. I'd like to know what Dr. Mehrabi would think of that.

Dr. Mehrabi: There are two ways of addressing this issue. One is in the short run, and then the long run. Mostly, the point that you're raising with regard to the projects and so on, is not going to be a short-term solution, but a solution that actually can be examined, and I think it could bring fruitful results in the long run.

The immediate issue is, rather than having a structure and working on implementation of a new structure, we cannot wait that long. Obviously there are a lot of good things that could come from the long-run solution, besides the humanitarian aid from China's huge Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), that could provide Afghanistan with long-term economic viability as well.

Afghanistan was not allowed before, but the BRI that Beijing pledged to work on, was \$60 billion or so for an infrastructure pipe in Pakistan. That could be instrumental in the long run, besides what I said with the ARTF, for channeling those projects into Afghanistan.

But it all goes back to the severe sanctions that the United States has imposed. No country is going to act to release any development funds, nor will other banks

go out and engage in transactions with the Central Bank of Afghanistan, unless those sanctions are addressed.

Remittances from the United States constitute about 4% of GDP. When Western Union decided that because of United States pressure, no remittance [transfers] would be allowed, it really brought even more hardship to a lot of people in Afghanistan, because this was another means of livelihood. The United States decided to allow these remittance transactions to take place.

Going back, it has to be addressed first and foremost, that releasing the reserves and what can be done in the humanitarian area is not the total solution. All the sanctions will have to be examined by the United Nations, as well as by the Treasury Department of the United States, in trying to come up not only with a short-term, but definitely a long-term solution.

Celani: Thank you, Dr. Mehrabi. The next question comes from José [Vega] in New York City:

“The world has seen the giant 20-year mistake that the United States has committed in Afghanistan, and sees what it is doing to Haiti now. Is the international community afraid to react and condemn the United States for what it has done? Why does the international

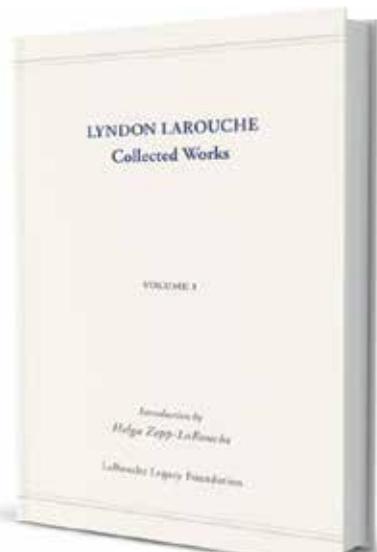
community allow the United States, and of course the British, to continue bullying other countries? I ask this to understand what role young people and others who are very active in protesting internationally might play in calling attention to the situation before it’s too late.

Zepp-LaRouche: With many years of experience with cowardice, you find a lot of people who say privately what you are saying is absolutely truthful. But then, they don’t have the courage to speak out. If young people would start to take up *these* issues, instead of issues cooked up for them by the international financial oligarchy, we could change the situation very rapidly. If we do not investigate what went wrong in Afghanistan, then there is the danger of a repetition of the same kind of behavior in any other situation.

This idea of going back several centuries, to the Great Game, the role of the British Empire: Many people think the British Empire no longer exists, but that is absolutely not true. Radical Islam would not ever have emerged without Zbigniew Brzezinski. What happened in the various mutations of radical Islam which are now in large part the opposition to the Taliban: It is not sufficiently emphasized that the people who now say we have to oppose the Taliban,

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are actually proposing to cooperate with the kind of terrorist organizations which are the real threat.

There needs to be a lot of discussion, but if young people would start to earnestly take up on it, that would make the difference.

Celani: We have three questions, more or less on the same topic:

The first comes from Martin Glaser in Baltimore, and sounds a bit provocative. But he explains that the purpose of the question is to get support for the demand to release the frozen funds: “How did the Afghanistan National Bank accumulate the \$9 billion in reserves? Was it from internal taxes, or other sources of revenue of the former Afghanistan government? Was it from investments by the Central Bank?”

The second question is from Dr. Gérald Ezéchiél Sebgo, a radiologist from Burkina Faso: “What steps have been taken to ensure that monetary reserves are released by Europe and the international community?”

Then, a question from Matthias Mabillot in France: “Is it possible to have more details on the resources and economic perspectives for Afghanistan?”

Dr. Mehrabi: On where the reserves came from: there are other sources that were listed, from where the reserves were accumulated. The Central Bank invests heavily in countries that have a high rate of return, and safety and security. Afghanistan has been lucky in attaining a high rate of return on its investments, allowing it to be able to generate enough interest. Another part comes from export earnings [customs duties] and from [tax] revenue. So, those are all the points, those are the sources of the revenue.

On the second question, on what steps were taken to release: I think I mentioned that I on my own, started this in the proposal that I cited, if you were listening—the monitored, controlled release of \$150 million monthly. I started that, and a month and a half or so later, in their Doha meeting, the Taliban formally requested the release from the United States Government. At first, the Treasury Department did not respond, because at that time they argued that they were examining that. I have met with many Congressmen, as well as Senators, and their staff formally over the past month and a half, trying to get them to sign—we have already circulated a petition, and I think I sent the petition to Gerald Belsky.

So, we started that petition, one; and then also second, I have written a letter to President Biden

that I would like Congress people to sign or co-issue, to address this particular issue as well in regard to release the funds. So, those are the steps we have taken overall.

The third question was about the prospects of Afghanistan in the future: The economy is not going to have much of a future, as I said, with a GDP decline that started at about 9% for the first month, and went down about 13%. It is projected to go down 30%. That is a collapse of the economy.

Unless these issues that we mentioned—access to foreign exchange earnings, which is now not permitted, allowing the \$450 million in IMF aid money that has not been released, and releasing the money held by the U.S. Treasury on accounts and pension lists blocked by the sanctions—all of that will have to be reversed.

On global terrorism: This is part and parcel of what could make the difference with regard to what happens to the economy overall.

I see that all these limitations are very instrumental in making a difference in what could happen to the economy. In one form or another, our efforts should explore all the possibilities.

How much can donors operate, even if the United States does not recognize the Taliban? There should be dealings anyhow. If the U.S. doesn't recognize the Taliban, how can each donor, if the donor wants to go ahead—European donors and others—how can they operate within the existing sanctions? These sanctions are crippling. The IMF will not act; the World Bank will not act; they do not have a legal obligation to comply with the United States sanctions. The World Bank does not; neither does the IMF. Why don't they do it? It's a question that needs to be discussed. NGOs obviously do not have the luxury as well.

Celani: I think we all agree with you that these measures are insane. I would like to close this discussion period by asking all of you for short, summary remarks.

Zepp-LaRouche: I just want to again make my proposal of the Ibn Sina operation, because while it is important to fight the negative, for the release of the funds, etc., I still think that you need a positive image of what the operation to save Afghanistan in this particular dangerous moment is all about. The idea of putting up one of the greatest sons of the region—it's debated if he was born here or there—would be a rallying point for many people. Given the pandemic and the health crisis, I still think the need is to put the building modern hospitals up

front. If people are dead, you can't do anything with them anymore. So, I still would reiterate this proposal to put the building of a modern health system absolutely in front and give it the name Operation Ibn Sina.

Gallagher: What Helga said, seems to me, brings into very sharp relief the discussion of the physical economy and the whole panel. We've been discussing Afghanistan and the physical economic condition that it is in. Given what we know, just imagine how absurd it is for the Secretary of State of the United States very clearly placing a *political condition* on the end of sanctions and the release of these Afghan reserves. [Antony] Blinken has said this point-blank: "We won't do it until the Taliban do what we want them to do." So, it is an absolute outrage. Who could possibly imagine that in this situation, that in addition it would be said—also, any investment that is made there, any attempt to improve the economy there, must be Green; it must be in accordance with the taxonomy for the Green New Deal of the European Commission, or such things—?

And yet, because Afghanistan desperately needs hospitals—Helga said yesterday, only 100 hospitals are really operating for 38 million people—this is an absolutely impossible ratio and situation. It desperately needs more hospitals, at least to be reopened, and people hired, in addition to also [new] builds. It desperately needs new water sources by the time people are planting in a few months. It desperately needs more power and the ability to finance that power. So, how could you possibly take those development needs and say, "Well you can't approach them until you build some wind turbines." They're not doing that now.

Just change your view to another developing country which is also in an economic crisis, nowhere near as bad as that in Afghanistan, but South Africa. South Africa is in a very *extreme* need of infrastructure investments, most particularly in power. And yet, South Africa is being compelled to obey conditionalities imposed by the private banks, by the private sector, by the money managers at the Glasgow summit. In order to get any aid, the President [of South Africa] must commit *in writing* to a rapid shutdown of coal power production in the country. This is just as outrageous. My point was simply that this is what the international Green Deal aspect of this hyperinflationary policy really consists of. And

in all of the developing nations across the world, it will be disastrous.

But here we have an example in which action must be taken, and the approach of Operation Ibn Sina that Helga outlined more fully this morning really defines exactly what that urgent action should be.

Celani: For those of you have doubts on wind turbines and taxonomies, I invite you to [watch](#) our Panel 3, "There Are No Limits to Growth." [A full reporting of that is available in *EIR* Vol. 48 No.48, December 3, 2021, pages 21-54].

Dr. Mehrabi, do we go with Ibn Sina?

Dr. Mehrabi: Yes, I think it's a very good idea. I'm excited about that. Ibn Sina Hospital is right in the heart of Kabul. As a matter of fact, when I was in high school, my mother died as I was driving her there to deliver. So, I'm a very strong advocate of building hospitals.

The package definitely will have to focus on hospitals, which are a very integral part. Local livelihood, a basic income, small infrastructure—all of those will have to be coupled. Definitely, if people are not healthy, and obviously if they don't have nutrition and access to buying the basic necessities of life, they will further create a situation where we have to have more hospitals. To avoid that, obviously we have to have a *complete package* that will focus on all services that people need. Definitely, the embarkation of this Ibn Sina Hospital is a welcome move in that direction.

Celani: Mr. Terra, if you have some remarks on what the other speakers have said, what Helga has said, or say more, please.

Terra: Certainly. All great points. I do agree with Dr. Mehrabi in terms of petitioning to unfreeze the \$9.5 billion of the Afghanistan Central Bank, and we're here in Washington, so we'll support that petition very proactively. Likewise, in terms of the hospital that Helga mentioned, the Ibn Sina Hospital. It's a specific, concrete project. And with the advent of technology, telemedicine, something that we are working with, this could be a tremendous resource and leapfrog our capability for the Afghan people. But I do agree that it needs to be part of a broader package of building capacity and infrastructure in Afghanistan.

I really do appreciate what you, Helga, brought up just a minute ago in terms of the courage to really define a new narrative. The question was brought up earlier: why is the international community not stepping up? At the core of this problem, at the core of the solution, is the human condition. A new narrative, a paradigm shift, must happen, and right now. All the old modalities are no longer functioning. As individuals, as the international community, we need to address this and deeply examine, deeply listen to the root causalities, and invent a new paradigm that is on the path to peace. So, I think that courage at the heart of it to really turn the page, is warranted among the youth, amongst the leading members of societies. As a world body, we need to really examine this.

Zepp-LaRouche: I would just really appeal to all our viewers and listeners that, in a certain sense, you have to mobilize *agapē*. I think why people are not reacting, is because they have become infected with a depraved indifference. You can portray a picture where you say 95% of the people in Afghanistan are in danger to die over the winter—that’s what [UN World Food Program’s Executive Director David] Beasley has said. If you are human, this should evoke a tremendous pas-

sion to help and to make it better.

So, I would really appeal to you to forget that Afghanistan is a culture you may not know much about. I got really fascinated about the history of Afghanistan. It’s very difficult, because, for example, not so much is known about Bactria, but it was an ancient civilization at the time of the ancient Greek civilization; there are many Greek inputs. Not enough archaeological work has been done. In any case, there is a lot to discover.

People have to develop passion for other cultures and other countries. That does not mean you accept their values, nor should you try to proselytize and impose your values on them. The world is so rich, in terms of many expressions of creativity of the human genius. That should motivate us. And a new narrative, if you want to call it that way, should be built on the best traditions of what every nation and every culture has contributed. That’s why I put so much emphasis on Ibn Sina, but that should be that which links us to a more beautiful future for all of mankind. I want you to mobilize *agapē* to do exactly that.

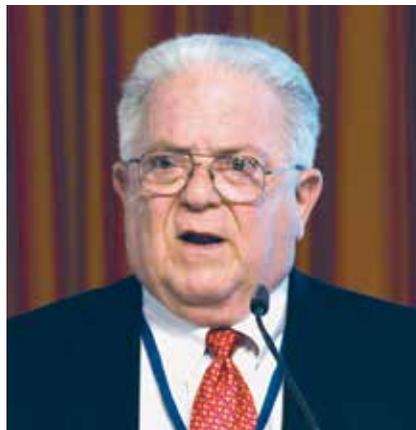
Celani: Thank you, Helga. And thank you to all the speakers. Now, we go to the next section of our panel.

Comment from Former U.S. Diplomat On ‘Project Ibn Sina’

by Ambassador Chas Freeman

Asked about Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s “Project Ibn Sina” proposal for international cooperation to address the humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan, former Ambassador Chas Freeman responded in a November 30 interview with EIR. The hour-long video and transcript of the Nov. 30 interview with Ambassador Freeman are available [here](#).

I think there’s a very strong case to be made that the effort that the



EIRNS/Julienne Lemaitre
Ambassador Chas Freeman

Russians made, and then we made, to modernize Afghanistan, to promote the rights of women, to improve education and health care, can only be effectively carried out on a multilateral basis. It cannot be carried out as Moscow and Washington attempted to do with an occupation force engaged in pacification over resistance.

So I think the idea of a multilateral approach to Afghan development is an excellent one, and probably the vehicle for

this—given what, I’m sorry to say, is a degree of petulance and vindictiveness in Washington that is, in my view, unconscionable, by which we are withholding the Afghan national reserves from the de facto government in Kabul, and thereby pushing Afghanistan into a state of famine and anarchy, which I think is intended to punish the Taliban, but which will probably provide fertile ground for the growth of Daesh—the ISIS, Islamic State elements—who regard the Taliban as milquetoast.

I think the most likely vehicle, unfortunately, does not involve the United States, but it’s probably the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which

includes most of the countries who would be needed for such an approach. We are creating a terrible humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan as we speak. Europeans may be more willing than Americans seem to be, to step forward to cooperate with others in the region to address this. So far, the Biden Administration has shown a degree of cold-hearted disdain for the suffering of Afghans, that I find really reprehensible.

Now you ask, does this have implications for Taiwan? I don’t think so. I think Afghanistan has to be approached in its own right, and the Taiwan issue is one that involves factors that are quite different from those in Afghanistan.

Leading Italian Trade Unionist Backs LaRouche’s ‘Operation Ibn Sina’

Dec. 2—Alessia Ruggeri, a renowned trade unionist in Sicily and chair of UPI Italia, an association of small and medium-sized enterprises, has publicly endorsed Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s proposed “Operation Ibn Sina” for Afghanistan. Ms. Ruggeri issued a press release titled “Helga Zepp-LaRouche launches Operation Ibn Sina to save the Afghan people,” published Nov. 23 in the *Il Corriere di Sicilia* daily, read all over Sicily; it spread from there to other Southern Italian media.

The release announced:

The Committee for the Republic, through its spokeswoman Alessia Ruggeri, endorsed the Ibn Sina initiative of the Schiller Institute. “I believe that the world is experiencing a quite sad political, economic and social moment, with the complicity of mainstream media. We have to regain the lucidity and ability to intervene in support of a right cause. The Afghan people are paying the price of international geopolitical strategies



Schiller Institute

Alessia Ruggeri

which deny their inalienable rights guaranteed by the UN Charter.

“I therefore accept with great honor the invitation of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites to be a part of it and give a significant European contribution.”

Also, the lawyer Roberto Zappia [of Milan—ed.] endorses the appeal in support of the Afghan people, first exploited for the affirmation of the territorial and political hegemony of the world powers and subsequently abandoned to the voracity of the finance and to its cynical ruthless logic.

The Committee for the Republic release quoted Helga Zepp-LaRouche on Operation Ibn Sina from the Schiller Institute conference on Nov. 13 (the Panel above), as well as Dr. Joycelyn Elders on the recent activities of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites, particularly in Africa. See Dr. Elders’ [call](#), “Open Letter to Virologists and Medical Experts.”

III. International

NATO Threatens To Cross Moscow's Red Lines

by Carl Osgood

Dec. 3—Over recent weeks, the situation in and around Ukraine has become extremely serious, fueled by Western accusations that Russia is preparing to invade and Russian concerns that NATO is getting ever closer to Moscow, threatening Russian national security. NATO first promised Ukraine (and Georgia) eventual NATO membership at its 2008 summit in Bucharest and has reaffirmed that promise numerous times since, including at the just-concluded foreign ministers meeting in Riga, Latvia. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has even spoken of moving NATO nuclear weapons from Germany to Eastern Europe. Russian President Vladimir Putin has clearly stated that Ukrainian membership in NATO is a “red line” for Moscow while his Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov stated that Ukrainian membership in the alliance is a security matter for Russia. Putin even directed Lavrov to seek guarantees from NATO regarding Russian security, including a binding agreement that Ukraine would never become a member of the alliance.

President Joe Biden raised the strategic temperature by telling reporters that he doesn't care about Moscow's red lines. “We're aware of Russia's actions for a long time and my expectation is we're going to have a long discussion with Putin,” Biden told reporters as he departed for a weekend trip to Camp

David on Dec. 3—“I don't accept anybody's red lines.” Earlier in the day, Biden promised to make things difficult for Putin should he decide to invade. “And what I am doing is putting together, what I believe to be, will be the most comprehensive and meaningful



NATO

Jens Stoltenberg, NATO Secretary General.



MID.ru

Sergey Lavrov, Russian Foreign Minister.



White House/Adam Schultz

Joe Biden, U.S. President.



Kremlin Pool Photo/Mikhail Metzler

Vladimir Putin, Russian President.

set of initiatives to make it very, very difficult for Mr. Putin to go ahead and do what people are worried he may do,” he said in response to a reporter’s question. “But that’s in play right now.”

Russia Will Have To Pay a ‘High Price’

The North Atlantic alliance, in fact, is totally consumed with the specter of a Russian invasion of Ukraine. In response to this specter, NATO, led by Stoltenberg and the United States, is threatening the severest of consequences for Russia should it go ahead with such an invasion, just short of a response under Article 5 of the NATO treaty. Ukraine is still not a member of the alliance and so is not covered by its security guarantee that an attack on one is an attack on all. Nonetheless, the measures promised by NATO during its foreign ministers meeting on Nov. 30–Dec. 1, and the alliance’s increasingly aggressive behavior, risk crossing Russia’s red lines, as clearly laid out by Putin over the past two weeks, and heightening the danger of a nuclear war.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Dec. 1 during a television interview before leaving Latvia for the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) ministerial meeting to begin in Stockholm the following day, promised that he would take NATO’s “concerns” to Lavrov, with whom he was to meet in Stockholm. “We’ve had many consultations with allies and partners in recent weeks, all focused on the concerns we have about the situation in and around Ukraine, and particularly what we’re seeing in terms of very irregular movements and mobilization of Russian forces on the Ukrainian border, the deep concern that that is provoking among all the Allies. And we’ve already had the opportunity to share those concerns directly with Moscow,” he said, according to the State Department transcript. He warned that “if Russia were to engage in further aggression against Ukraine, there would be serious consequences.”

There is a diplomatic path that’s available, he declared. “The Russians say that they believe the Minsk agreement should be implemented,” he said. “The Ukrainians say the same thing. Well, I think if that were to happen, that at least would resolve the problem in the Donbas in eastern Ukraine. It doesn’t resolve Crimea, but it does resolve the problem in eastern Ukraine.”

NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg, during a separate interview with Reuters the same day was

equally threatening. The alliance has “made it very clear that, first of all, this is a Russian military build-up, which is unexplained and unjustified. Therefore, we call on Russia to be transparent, to reduce tensions and to de-escalate,” he said. “If they do the opposite and actually decide to, once again, use force against Ukraine then we have made it clear and ministers made that clear during the NATO foreign ministerial meeting in Latvia today, that Russia will then have to pay a high price. There will be serious consequences for Russia and that’s a clear message from NATO.”

NATO the Provocateur

But it is NATO that is the provocateur. Stoltenberg issued a particularly serious provocation Nov. 23, when he was asked about the implications of the possibility that a German Green-Social Democrat-Free Democrat governing coalition, then still being formed, could decide to take Germany out of the NATO nuclear sharing arrangement. “Germany can, of course, decide whether there will be nuclear weapons in your country,” he said, “but the alternative is that we easily end up with nuclear weapons in other countries in Europe, also to the east of Germany.”

On Nov. 30, Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, during a TV interview, responded to Stoltenberg’s statement: “I would offer Putin to return nuclear weapons to Belarus.”

Lavrov in remarks to Russia’s Federation Council on Dec. 1 said:

I would describe this statement as a serious warning prompted by the reckless policy that is being pursued by the West. ... Jens Stoltenberg said that if Germany was unwilling to keep nuclear weapons, they would move them to the east, i.e., to former socialist countries. What else needs to be explained to our Western colleagues to stop this sort of folly? I would say Alexander Lukashenko reacted to these irresponsible statements, designed to not only build up confrontation but to try and provoke a military conflict. I don’t know what they are hoping to achieve, but this is an outrageous position. If they are entertaining an idea like this—to deploy nuclear weapons in Poland, Romania, or some other place close to the Russian Federation in violation of all things imaginable, including the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Russia-NATO

Founding Act,—then hardball counterexamples must be used to show the futility of this sort of undertaking.

In the event, the German coalition announced that indeed, it would keep Germany in NATO's nuclear sharing arrangement, to include the continued storage of twenty B61 nuclear bombs at an airbase in central Germany. Nonetheless, the shock of Stoltenberg's statement remains.

The roots of the current crisis go back to 1991 when NATO, unlike the Warsaw Pact, refused to disband, instead expanding eastwards all the way up to Russia's borders despite promises made in the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall that it wouldn't. NATO arms are now about 1,000 km closer to Moscow than during the Cold War, a geographical fact that, along with the psychological importance of it in Russia, is never acknowledged by NATO's partisans. The expansion of the alliance was set into motion during the Clinton Administration and began with the addition of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic in 1999, and then proceeded through Baltic countries and southward into the Balkans in 2004. In 2008, Ukraine and Georgia were both promised NATO membership at the alliance's summit in Bucharest.

The British, Again

Also paved over in the NATO narrative is the U.S./EU-backed coup in Kiev in 2014, which not only overthrew a democratically-elected government, but installed a regime that depends heavily on neo-Nazi groups to maintain its authority. In response to this reality, the people of Crimea announced their loyalty to Moscow, and revolts broke out in the largely Russian-speaking Donbas region. In 2018, Volodymyr Zelensky was elected President of Ukraine on



CC/Olaf Kosinsky

Olaf Scholz, incoming Chancellor of the "traffic light" coalition government in Germany.

the promise that he would seek peace in the Donbas, but has instead been totally absorbed by the same neo-Nazi apparatus that ran the 2014 coup. Since the time of the Kiev coup, NATO has greatly increased its military deployments in the Baltic countries and in Poland, and has expanded its exercises from the Barents Sea in the Arctic through the Baltic Sea and down to the Black Sea.

But behind the NATO narrative of a Russia threatening to invade Ukraine is a set of talking points provided by the British Empire's premier think tank, the

Royal Institute for International Affairs, also known as Chatham House. On Nov. 24, the RIIA issued a [report](#) entitled "Ukraine-Russia relations: Explaining the two countries' intertwined histories, the armed conflicts in Crimea and the Donbas region, and disputes over gas supplies." The report, authored by Orysia Lutsevych, the Head and Research Fellow of the Ukraine Forum of RIIA's Russia and Eurasia Program, claims that "The origins of the current conflict lie in Russia's long-standing aspiration to control its periphery."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has three objectives in Ukraine, Lutsevych claims: bringing Ukraine back into its "sphere of influence"; Putin wants to solidify his rule at home by preventing "the

emergence of an alternative, democratic system of government on the Russian border"; and third, "Putin uses Ukraine to feed a wider narrative of Russia as being a fortress under siege by the West and needing a strong commander-in-chief to protect its 'civilization'."

Putin Draws Russia's 'Red Lines'

Russian President Putin, meanwhile, has issued a number of statements over the past two weeks warning America and NATO that Russia does indeed



UN/Loey Felipe

Volodymyr Zelensky, President of Ukraine.



U.S. Navy/Trey Fowler

U.S. Marines practice war in NATO Exercise Sea Breeze 2021 in Oleshky Sands, Ukraine, on Russia's border, July 2, 2021.

have red lines, and the alliance is getting very close to crossing them. “Indeed, we constantly express our concerns about these matters and talk about red lines, but of course, we understand that our partners are peculiar in the sense that they have a very—how to put it mildly—superficial approach to our warnings about red lines,” he said during a Nov. 18 address to the Russian Foreign Ministry Board, referring to NATO’s eastwards expansion, about which Russian concerns “have been totally ignored.”

There have been several waves of expansion, and let’s look at where the military infrastructure of the NATO bloc is now—anti-missile defense systems have been deployed right next to our borders in Romania and Poland. These can easily be put to offensive use with the Mk-41 launchers there; replacing the software takes only minutes. Nevertheless, our recent warnings have had a certain effect: tensions have arisen there, anyway.

Putin first of all said in this regard that it’s vital to ensure that the tensions with NATO do not escalate into a conflict which Russia does not need. Then, turning to Lavrov, he said “It is imperative to push for serious long-term guarantees that ensure Russia’s security in this area, because Russia cannot constantly be thinking about what could happen there tomorrow.” As difficult as reaching an agreement in this area might be, Putin said, “we need to work on this, and I want you to keep that in mind.”

Later, Putin returned to the subject of NATO which, he noted,

has adopted a markedly confrontational stance and is stubbornly and demonstratively bringing its military infrastructure closer to our borders, as I mentioned earlier. Moreover, NATO was the one that broke our dialogue mechanisms. Of course, we will provide a proper response to NATO’s military activity along Russia’s borders, but, most impor-



U.S. Navy/Andrew Eder

The USS Mount Whitney (right), command ship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. It also serves as the Afloat Command Platform of NATO Naval Striking and Support Forces. Here it maneuvers with a Bulgarian frigate in the Black Sea, Nov. 4, 2021.

tantly, Brussels must understand that alleviating military-political tensions is not only in Russia's interest, but also in the interest of Europe and the world in general.

On Nov. 30, in response to a question put to him at the "Russia Calling!" Investment Forum, Putin said that the point is not whether or not there's to be an invasion of Ukraine. "The point at issue is to develop relations aimed at fairer and more stable development based on respect for the security interests of all the participants in international affairs," he said. "If we work towards this sincerely, nobody will feel any threats." Another point that Putin made was that Russia has legitimate security interests as well. "The Russian Federation also has certain apprehensions regarding the large-scale military exercises held near its border, including unscheduled ones, like the recent Black Sea drills during which strategic bombers, which are known to carry precision and possibly even nuclear weapons, made flights within 20 kilometers of our border," he said. "All this is posing a threat to us."

Our relationship was almost idyllic, especially in the mid-1990s, when we nearly became allies [he continued]. However, despite all our warnings, conversations, and requests, the [NATO's] infrastructure ultimately approached our border. The situation went as far as the deployment of BMD [Ballistic Missile Defense—ed.] systems in Poland and Romania, and the launchers that have been stationed there, the Mk 41, can be used to launch Tomahawk missiles and other strike systems. This is creating a threat to us—this is an obvious fact.

Putin concluded this point:

What has happened in response to all our appeals and requests not to do this? You can see it now. As a result, we had to—I want to stress this—we had to reciprocate by launching the creation of hypersonic weapons. This was our response. But we were not the first to start all this—it all began when our partners withdrew from the ABM Treaty and later from the INF [Intermediate Nuclear Forces—ed.] treaty.

The issue of the development of NATO's infrastructure ever closer to Russia's borders "concerns the possible deployment in the territory of Ukraine of strike systems with the flight time of 7-10 minutes to Moscow, or five minutes in the case of hypersonic systems. Just imagine that," Putin said. "The flight time to Moscow is five minutes [for these systems]."

So, what should we do? We would need to create similar systems to be used against those who are threatening us.... But we can do this already now, because we have held successful tests, and early next year we will put a new sea-launched hypersonic missile with a maximum speed of Mach 9 on combat duty. [Here he referred to the Tsirkon ship-launched hypersonic missile.] The flight time to those who issue orders, will also be five minutes.

The creation of such threats for us is the red line.



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Now Is the Winter of Our Discontent: What To Expect from the New German Government

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Dec. 2—The rude awakening from the illusory world of non-issues, into which German voters were carefully lulled by the politicians and the media during the recent federal election campaign, will not be long in coming. Foreign policy played just as little a role in the election campaign and talk shows as did the world famine, NATO's defeat of the century in Afghanistan, the global implications of the pandemic, or hyperinflation. The

clothing, and called for arms to be delivered to the Ukrainian armed forces.

In the meantime, the U.S. administration's open course of confrontation against Russia through an escalating series of provocations in Ukraine and the Black Sea by NATO, and U.S. military operations against China through undisguised support for Taiwan's potential independence from China, has entered an



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CC/Michael Brandtner

Bundestag Members and co-leaders of the Alliance 90/The Greens, Annalena Baerbock (left) and Robert Habeck. She espouses a suicidal “tough course against Russia and China,” while he, who is expected to become Minister of Economics, Energy and Climate, has promised to put Germany on a suicidal “path of 1.5 degrees.”

new government, however, will be faced with all these out-of-control crises—crises that will not concern themselves with “narratives” or the coalition agreement.

Now, in the midst of a highly dangerous strategic confrontation between NATO and Russia, and between the USA and China over Taiwan, we have a foreign minister beyond the wildest expectations of Washington and London—let's see whether Germany will survive. Green Party leader Annalena Baerbock had already pled “for a tough course against Russia and China” in April, a position which future Minister of Economics Robert Habeck unmistakably supported when he visited Ukraine in May, wearing NATO camouflage

extremely dangerous phase. Even apparently contrary signals from President Joe Biden in his summit talks with Presidents Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping do not change anything significantly, because despite positive indications, opposing actions by the State Department or the Pentagon immediately follow, which raise the question of who is actually making policy.

In view of the astonishing lack of discussion over public statements by Admiral [Charles] Richard, the commander of the U.S. Strategic Command, in which he instructed the Pentagon to classify the use of nuclear weapons as “likely,” the relevant statements in the coalition agreement (that Germany will continue

to participate in “nuclear sharing”) are practically an obligation to participate in the use of nuclear weapons in an emergency. Anyone can work out what this would mean for Germany’s existence.

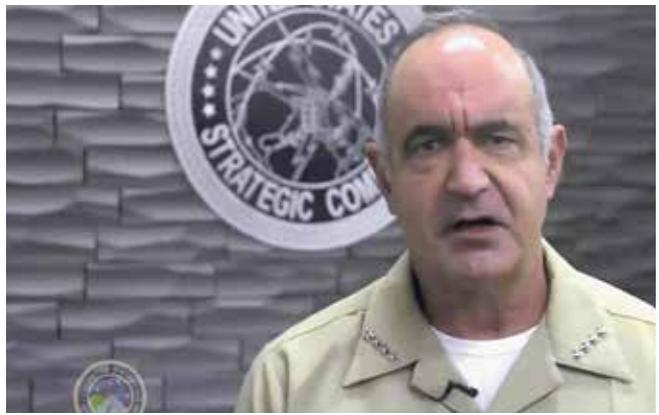
Regarding the financing of the new government’s plans, even neoliberal economists such as Michael Hüther from the German Economic Institute (*Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft, IW*) or Marcel Fratzscher from the German Institute for Economic Research (*Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, DIW Berlin*) have considerable doubts. However, these only relate to the coalition compromise which, with the rejection of tax increases, the debt brake, and massive new investments, has turned into a grab-bag full of surprises.



NATO

production, and thus on the speculative profit of the “higher earners.” And now—what an irony of fate—the two parties, namely, the Greens and the FDP, whose members are among the highest earners in Germany, are faced with the long-term consequences and with it with the failure of this economic model, just at the moment when they finally made it into government responsibility.

The policy agreed upon by the international financial oligarchy of the City of London, Wall Street and Frankfurt, namely “shifting the trillions”—the decarbonizing of the economy, either under the terms Green New Deal (U.S.A.) or Green Deal (EU)—is the futile attempt to help a thoroughly bankrupt financial system into a further boom with enormous



DoD

Navy Admiral Charles A. Richard, commander of the U.S. Strategic Command (right), has instructed the Pentagon to re-classify the use of nuclear weapons from “not likely,” to “likely,” pressuring Germany to suicidally “share” in their basing and use. Meanwhile, NATO pursues increasingly aggressive provocations. At left, a Guided Missile Frigate in a NATO Black Sea exercise, July 16, 2021.

‘Traffic Light Coalition’

The actual context, however, in which the concept of the “traffic light coalition” [so called because of the traditional colors of the SPD, FDP, and Green parties, respectively red, yellow, and green—ed.] must be seen, is the clear tendency towards hyperinflation, which in the meantime affects not only a large part of raw materials and energy, but also food. According to the FAO [the UN’s Food and Agricultural Organization—ed.] food price index, as early as October, food had reached a price increase of 31% on an annual basis. Even the U.S. Federal Reserve has now given up its absurd characterization that it is a matter of “transitory hyperinflation.”

In reality, hyperinflation is the expression of the systemic collapse of the neoliberal system, which for decades relied on monetary gains instead of physical

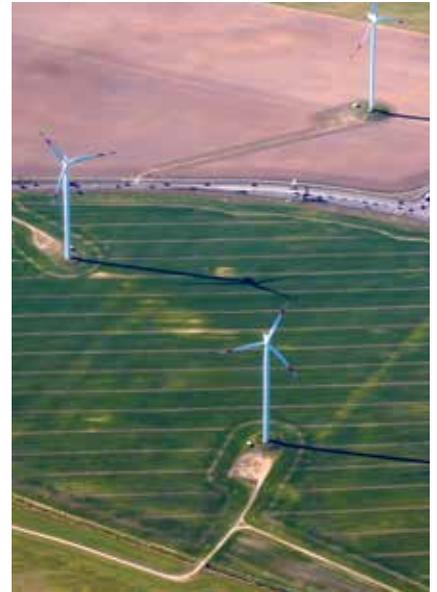
financial injections—this time through the enormous investments of approx. \$60 trillion into green technologies during the next few years.

With the simultaneous abandonment of nuclear energy, as in Germany, the exit from fossil fuels and the associated exit from energy-dense forms of production will lead to the destruction of Germany as an industrial nation. At the same time, since speculation is prioritized instead of relying on energy security, the price explosion in the energy sector will spread very quickly to the entire economy. Instead of accepting Putin’s offer for long-term supply contracts and increased deliveries and thus curbing the greed of speculators in the spot markets, it is better to keep your fingers in the honey pot, even if that means sawing off the branch you are sitting on. In view of the hyperinflation, wanting to cover part of the old-age pension with the



CC/Parabel GmbH

Solar “parks” and wind “farms” increasingly dominate the landscape of a rapidly greening (deindustrializing and depopulating) Germany. At left, the Krughütte Solar Park. At right, a wind farm in Panketal.



CC/Rehman Abubakr

so-called “defined contribution pension” can only be seen as negligent gamble on securing the life of old people with low incomes.

the traffic lights on this topic as about serious plans to save the health system in Germany, which is about to collapse.

Foreign Policy

So the new government will not oppose the EU’s efforts to squander trillions; its foreign policy will be “in sync” with the Biden Administration; it will strongly coordinate its China and Russia policy with the United States; and it will pursue, as Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook, Director of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) thinks, a “feminist” foreign policy, which means, among other things, to also take into account the “fate of endangered groups in countries of operations” when the Bundeswehr [Germany’s unified armed forces—ed.] is deployed abroad. This obviously means the continuation of the “humanitarian” wars of intervention, although this policy, which criminally disregards the UN Charter and the principle of sovereignty, has just crashed in Afghanistan.

If this “traffic light coalition” really wanted to take care of the fate of endangered groups there, after Germany and NATO left a totally destroyed country in Afghanistan after 20 years of war, then they would take care of the 93% of the population there who are acutely starving, at risk of freezing, and lack any medical care. But so far there has been just as little to hear from

‘Green Culture’

Now Claudia Roth will become Minister of State for Culture in the new government. In the coalition agreement it says: “We are setting up a central contact point called ‘Green Culture’ that offers skills, knowledge, data acquisition, advice and resources for ecological transformation. We are creating a competence center



CC/Olaf Kosinsky

Claudia Roth, Member of the Bundestag, expected to become Minister of Culture in the new government.

for digital culture that advises, networks and qualifies cultural actors.” “Green Culture” will thus subordinate the entire cultural sector to the eco-dictatorship, i.e., determine what is promoted and recognized as art at all.

So, it is of course fitting that the traffic light coalition has already agreed on the legalization of cannabis, despite the chilling experience with drug legalization in Holland and the fact that legalization in the U.S.A. has so dramatically increased the drug market, that death by overdose is now one of the ten most common causes of death, with over 100,000 deaths per year.

Unfortunately, it is to be feared that this “green culture” is exactly the opposite of what Germany would need most in these difficult times, namely a return to our great classical culture, from which alone the strength for a cultural renaissance can come. This “traffic light” government also sheds light on a fundamental flaw in the parliamentary electoral system. Because it doesn’t matter whether someone has chosen the FDP for liberal reasons, the Greens for ecological reasons or the SPD for social reasons; all the supposedly so-different positions are now mixed in a single cocktail that not everyone will like.

So, what is left for citizens who have either not chosen the traffic light or have not clearly considered the implications of the policies it advocates?

The most important thing will be that the citizens develop into real citizens, something that was already lacking in Germany in Heinrich Heine’s time—1797-1856—that is, people who are so professionally qualified in the most important fields of politics that they could step into the office of Federal Chancellor or Minister, because they put the common good first. (So different than now with the Greens, where Cem Özdemir quickly becomes Minister of Agriculture because all the other posts were already taken.)

During the next few months, which will bring a spiral of economic collapse, hyperinflation, pandemic consequences, and strategic crises, it will be important to build an international anti-Malthusian partnership that works together to find solutions so that humanity can survive it all. The serious construction of a modern health system in every single country on earth, without which the pandemic cannot be overcome, must be the first step.

Therefore, become a member of the Schiller Institute now!

—zepp-larouche@eir.de

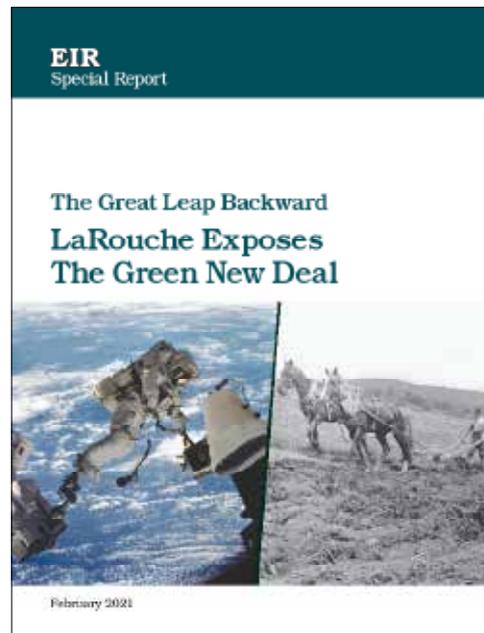
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The Great Leap Backward: LaRouche Exposes the Green New Deal

Executive Intelligence Review has released this Special Report to warn of the extreme danger to mankind represented by the Green New Deal, also called “The Great Reset” by the leaders of the Davos World Economic Forum.

Already being implemented, this plan is taking over the direction of national economies from sovereign governments, using the power of central banks and the too-big-to-fail private financial institutions, cutting off credit to fossil fuel power generation and to industrial and agricultural enterprises claimed to emit too much carbon. Meanwhile it is creating a new huge bubble in the “sustainable fuel” sector, hoping to prop up the increasingly bankrupt financial system.

Stopping it by returning to a Hamiltonian American System credit policy, requires an understanding which is the purpose of this report.



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Africa Briefs

Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Met in Dakar

The highly anticipated Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), a hybrid virtual and in-person event, took place in Dakar, Senegal, Nov. 29-30. Fifty-three of Africa's 54 countries were represented, of which Eritrea and Guinea-Bissau are the latest additions. FOCAC, while older than China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), supports the implementation of the BRI.

In his keynote speech, China President Xi Jinping, speaking live via video link, noted that this was the 65th year of Chinese engagement on the continent, as well as the 50th anniversary of the restoration of China's seat at the United Nations, for which the President acknowledged the support of African countries. "China will never forget the profound friendship of African countries," Xi said, adding that, "China will work together with African friends to promote and carry forward the spirit of China-Africa friendship and cooperation from generation to generation."

President Xi announced proposals to guide relations in the next three years, with primary emphasis on defeating COVID-19, towards which goal China will be producing one billion vaccine doses, 60% of which will be donated. The second focus is on deepening practical cooperation and shared efforts for poverty elimination. China proposes that "green lanes" be created to increase African food production, with an eye toward increasing Africa's export capabilities. Finally, China proposes that bilateral exchange

programs be increased, especially for students and instructors.

EIR will feature a review of the conference in next week's issue.

Blinken To Africa: Deal With U.S. Private Firms, Not China

U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken made a whirlwind tour of three African nations Nov. 14-17, from Kenya to Nigeria to Senegal, a trip timed to bring him to Dakar on Nov. 17, one week before the most anticipated development event for Africa: the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) conference in Dakar.

While fooling no one as to what country he was targeting, Blinken said in Nigeria that infrastructure deals with "other nations" can be "opaque, coercive, and burden countries with unmanageable debt, are environmentally destructive and don't always benefit the people who actually live there. We will do things differently."

In June, Senegal had shocked western governments by announcing the move of its entire administrative data technology base to a network designed and built by the Chinese company Huawei. The system is designed so that all data will be stored *within the country*.

Ahead of FOCAC 2021: Intra-African Trade Fair Nets \$36 Billion in Deals

The Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF)—sponsored by Afreximbank in collaboration with the African Union and the African Continental Free Trade

Area—was held in Durban, South Africa over seven days, Nov 15-21. Delivering closing remarks Nov. 21, managing director of the Intra-African Trade Initiative at Afreximbank, Kanayo Awani, said the event exceeded all expectations. The IATF had 11,828 attendees, with another 27,000 attending virtually, Awani said, and a total of 1,161 exhibitors, against a target of 1,100.

"Fifty-nine countries participated in the exhibition stands," Awani said, "46 were countries from Africa and 13 were outside the continent... the trade fair had resulted in \$36 billion worth of trade deals," she said.

Former president of Nigeria and chairperson of the IATF Advisory Council, Olusegun Obasanjo, said what had been achieved at the fair was impressive because it had a lot of challenges. "To say that my heart is full of joy would be an understatement... It is impressive that we had such a display of African ingenuity and our readiness to collaborate and work together. It is impressive that so many deals were closed over the past seven days," he said.

Life Expectancy Falls in South Africa, In Other Countries It Dropped More

The just published Rapid Mortality Surveillance Report for 2019-2020 of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) [reveals](#) that South Africans lost "only" 0.6 years of life expectancy in 2020, with an even bigger loss expected in 2021. The report says the drop is mild compared to other countries with significant COVID rates.

In South Africa, females lost a full

year in 2020, dropping to 67.2 years, while males lost 0.2 years, dropping to 62.2 years. The figures would have been worse without a surprising drop in *child mortality*, where deaths in the first five years of life went down almost 25% in 2020. Until the onset of COVID and the related lockdowns, life expectancy in South Africa had been slowly rising for ten years.

Pointing to the need for a global health approach to defeat the pandemic, Dr. Glenda Gray, SAMRC President and CEO said, “For the country to get back on track with efforts to improve health and extend life expectancy, there needs to be a concerted effort to ensure that our health programmes and services are restored to pre-pandemic levels and COVID-19 vaccination of vulnerable people, such as people aged 60 and older, needs to be prioritized.”

China Counters Claim That It Will Use Debt To Confiscate National Assets

A scurrilous article, circulating in Uganda media Nov. 25, attempted to portray China as determined to seize assets of delinquent debtors. It purported to document attempts by unnamed Ugandan officials to change “unfavorable provisions” in loan agreements concerning Entebbe International Airport. Appearing just days before the FOCAC conference, the article, “Uganda to Surrender Entebbe International Airport over Chinese Loan,” constructed an implicit risk to all Belt and Road countries.

The article drew immediate denunciations from Chinese Ambassador to Uganda Zhang Lizhong and the Ugandan Civil Aviation Authority spokesman, Vianney Luggya. Zhang said in a tweet: “The claim that ‘China is to confiscate the Entebbe Airport’ is a fiction. It is eye-catching but simply false and

toxic. China should receive more flow-ers instead of unfounded accusations, thanks to the mutual benefit cooperation between China and Uganda.” Luggya tweeted: “I wish to make it categorically clear that the allegation that Entebbe Airport has been given away for cash is false. @GovUganda can’t give away such a national asset. We have said it before and repeat that it has not happened. There isn’t an ounce of truth in it.”

Nigeria Caves In to IMF, Drops Fuel Subsidies, Sparking Popular Revolt

Caught between the pincers of the Green Reset and the pandemic collapse, Nigeria announced Nov. 23 that it would eliminate the national fuel subsidy in February and replace it with a monthly transportation grant of 5,000 naira (about \$12, enough for 16 liters) for lower-income families and individuals. This exact procedure had been spelled out on November 20 by the IMF, which said in a statement: “The complete removal of regressive fuel and electricity subsidies is a near-term priority,” adding that, “well-targeted social assistance will be needed to cushion any negative impacts on the poor, particularly in light of still elevated inflation.”

The change has not been well received. The Nigeria Labour Congress President, Ayuba Wabba, called the plan “comical” and said that Nigerians “refuse to take the bait.” Pointing directly to the IMF, Wabba said, “What we are hearing is the conversation of the Federal government with neo-liberal international monetary institutions.” Wabba also pointed to the “hyperinflationary effect” of doubling the cost of fuel, and said the dislocation of employment would only worsen the “insecurity crisis” (a reference to the jihadist terror threat) by putting people out of work.

The National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) has gone further, threatening a national strike should the subsidy be removed. “Nigerians are really suffering,” said NANS president, Sunday Asefon. “We are in dire socio-economic straits,” further deploring the cave-in to “neo-liberal and imperial economists.” As a result, he said, the NANS, “shall ensure that the entire country is shut down and paralyzed should the Federal Government proceed with its insensitive plan of deregulation ... We have had enough.”

Kenya To Enter Space Era by Establishing Domestic Launch Pad

Kenya has announced the selection of northern Marsabit County as its optimal location for a future spaceport—a launch pad and support center. Kenya straddles the equator, and an equatorial location is an advantage for space launches.

Speaking Nov. 22, Kenya Space Agency Director General Col. Hillary Kipkosgey said, “The development of highly innovative industries such as this provides current and future employment opportunities in many sectors, and the potential for growth in supporting industries. Development of such a spaceport would also foster research, innovation and growth of knowledge within this country, rippling out to Kenya taking the lead globally as a significant player in the space sector.”

Strategically located on Kenya’s northern development corridor—referred to as LAPSET, or Lamu Port, South Sudan and Ethiopia Transport Corridor—the announcement will give impetus to efforts to develop the entire region. The Lamu Port opened its first of a planned 32 berths in May of this year, but so far, has only highway transportation to support it.

China Briefs

China-Laos Modern Rail System Begins Operations

The China-Laos modern rail system, connecting the southern Chinese city of Kunming with the Laotian capital, Vientiane, began operations as the first train made its maiden voyage Dec. 4. China's President Xi Jinping met online with Thongloun Sisoulith, General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and Lao President, to witness the ceremony. The 1035 km railway (645 miles) is the central piece of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Laos, converting Laos from a *landlocked* country to a *land-linked* hub.

With a maximum operating speed of 160 km per hour (100 mph), trains running on the route will take passengers from Kunming to Vientiane in about 10 hours, including customs clearance time, stopping at 21 towns along the way. It will eventually connect Kunming with Singapore through Laos, Thailand, and Malaysia, in what will be known as the Pan-Asian Railway. It is just part of an even larger plan, the Trans-Asian Railway, which will connect China with the ASEAN countries and provide quicker transport from the inland areas to the Southeast Asian ports.

The construction itself is a masterpiece of engineering, traversing some of the most difficult terrain in the world, with large mountains, rivers, and deep valleys, for which 167 tunnels (amounting to 590 km) and 301 bridges are required.

U.S., China Defense Ministers Plan To Meet, Possibly in Early January

According to a Dec. 2 [report](#) in the *South China Morning Post*, the Chinese Defense Ministry and the Pentagon are in discussions about a potential meeting between U.S. Secretary of Defense Gen. Lloyd Austin and Xu Qiliang, Vice-Chairman of the Central Military Commission, and Chinese Defense Minister Wei Fenghe, according to "people familiar with the matter."

"It is one of the consensuses reached during the Xi-Biden summit," one of them said. "The two leaders have ordered the militaries to discuss the arrangements." The format and details of the dialogue are yet to be completed, but a source said that a telephone call or virtual conference in early January was being considered. Sources said arms control was likely to be among the main topics of the proposed military talks.

The sources also told the *Post* that U.S.-Chinese military communications have improved recently. "The PLA's opposition to U.S. warships' Taiwan Strait transits has been toned down," they said. "They found the warships just sailed through international waters on a route that saved about a third of their journey from the South China Sea to their base in Japan."

The proposed meeting could not be more timely. The Biden Administration has increasingly threatened to treat Taiwan as an independent country, breaking every agreement reached between Washington and Beijing in the 1970s when the U.S. recognized Bei-

jing as the sole legitimate government of China, with Taiwan as part of China under the One China, Two Systems policy. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, however, has promoted Taiwan's "robust" role in the institutions of the UN, while U.S. politicians now regularly visit Taipei and U.S. military forces are acknowledged to be on the island, training Taiwan military forces. The Chinese government has stated clearly that the Taiwan question is a primary "core interest," and that any official recognition of Taiwan as an independent state would cross a "red line," requiring the use of force to preserve Chinese sovereignty.

Wang Yi In Surprise Visit to Ethiopia: 'We Will Not Interfere'

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited Ethiopia Dec. 1, following his attendance at the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in Dakar, Senegal. It was the highest-level visit of a Chinese official to Ethiopia since the civil war began a year ago in the Tigray region. Wang Yi, speaking at a press conference ahead of his meeting with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Demeke Mekonnen, said: "China will not interfere in the internal affairs of any country. We don't interfere in the internal affairs of Ethiopia as well. China stands against any attempt to interfere in Ethiopia's internal affairs, because Ethiopians have the wisdom to solve their problems and stabilize the situation themselves." He said the visit "demonstrates China's confidence in Ethiopia."

Despite the civil war between the

Ethiopian government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali and the forces of the Tigray National Regional State, whose leaders were a significant part of the previous government in Addis Ababa, both sides have had excellent relations with China, which has a number of projects in the country as part of the Belt and Road Initiative.

Former Japanese PM Abe: Japan ‘Won’t Stand By’ in War over Taiwan

Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who still heads the largest faction in the ruling LDP party, spoke virtually on Dec. 1 at a forum sponsored by Taiwan’s Institute for National Policy Research, a government-funded defense think tank set up by Taiwan’s independence-minded President, Tsai Ing-wen in 2018.

According to Asahi Shimbun, Abe said Japan and the United States could not stand by if China attacked Taiwan, asserting that the Senkaku islands (called Diaoyu Islands by China) and other Japanese islands are only about 100 km from Taiwan. He said moves against Taiwan would be a “grave danger” to Japan. “A Taiwan emergency is a Japanese emergency, and therefore an emergency for the Japan-U.S. alliance. People in Beijing, President Xi in particular, should never have a misunderstanding in recognizing this,” Abe said.

The Chinese reaction to Abe’s comments was swift and categorical, with Foreign Minister spokesman Wang Wenbin replying at a briefing Dec. 1:

“No one should underestimate the strong resolve, determination and capability of the Chinese people in safeguarding national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Whoever dares return to militarism and challenges the bottom

line of the Chinese people will have his head bloodied. Japan’s colonial rule over Taiwan lasted half a century, and it committed numerous crimes; it shoulders grave historical responsibility to the Chinese people.”

Japan seized Taiwan as a colony after defeating China in the 1895 Sino-Japanese War, and ruled Taiwan by force until 1945.

Japanese sources told *EIR* that the newly elected Prime Minister of Japan, Fumio Kishida, will not take sides in the current U.S.-China tensions, but that he is allowing political leaders of the different factions to voice their opinions. China is Japan’s largest export destination, replacing the U.S. in 2008. China accounted for 22.9% of Japan’s total exports in 2020, exceeding 20% for the first time.

Foreign Ministers of Russia, India, China Meet on Afghanistan, COVID

In their virtual meeting Nov. 26, the foreign ministers of Russia, China, and India (RIC) took a significant step in consolidating the important relationship comprising the three major countries of Eurasia.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi stressed five major principles that he believed should lay the basis for their relationship and serve as their vision with respect to the rest of the world: multilateralism; respecting the legitimate rights and interests of all countries in independently choosing their own development path; strengthening global anti-epidemic cooperation; promoting economic recovery after the pandemic; and dealing with “hot issues” through dialogue and consultation.

Both Russia’s Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and India’s Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaisankar expressed the belief that strengthening unity and cooperation

among the three countries is the proper meaning of building a multipolar world and has also played a positive role in promoting world peace and stability.

Russia and India supported China taking the presidency next year on the 20th anniversary of the trilateral relationship, and said they would support using that anniversary as an opportunity to enhance the role and the influence of Russia-China-India cooperation in the world. The joint communiqué issued by the parties criticized the unilateral sanctions and the “long-arm jurisdiction” practiced by the United States as being contrary to international law.

Foreign Minister Lavrov also observed that U.S. President Joe Biden’s “free and open Indo-Pacific” concept is not “an equal partnership” and disrupts the regional balance.

The primary subjects of the meeting were the situation in Afghanistan and the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. The joint communiqué urged the need for humanitarian assistance to that devastated country, while calling on the Taliban not to allow terrorist groups to operate within its borders. The three were also united in recognizing the need for international cooperation among all nations to deal effectively with the COVID pandemic and encouraged a waiver on vaccine property rights in order to get the vaccine to the world population in the shortest possible time.

The meeting was held despite ongoing diplomatic tensions between India and China since a military confrontation on their common border last year. Russia strongly encouraged both India and China to not skip the annual meeting, in part due to the urgency of cooperation in the Afghanistan crisis. Russian President Putin will be visiting India Dec. 6 for the yearly summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

IV. United States

The Ugly Fraud of the State Department ‘Summit for Democracy’

by Diane Sare

“Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye.”

Matthew 7:5

Nov. 30—On Dec. 9-10, 2021, U.S. President Joe Biden will host a virtual “Summit for Democracy” with the noble-sounding goal of “providing a platform for leaders to announce both individual and collective commitments,

Rikers Island jail complex, or the fact that suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S.A., or that in 2017, one out of ten New York City public school students was homeless, should be a clue that all is not well within the nation which is hosting this summit.

The State of New York has just passed legislation making it nearly impossible for any non-establishment candidate to appear on the ballot in statewide elections by requiring tens of thousands of signatures to be



Sare for Senate



CC/Mobilus In Mobili

Diane Sare, Independent Candidate for U.S. Senate in 2022, is campaigning to unseat the incumbent, Senate Majority Leader; Democrat Chuck Schumer, who is pushing national drug legalization, to legitimize massive income streams of the Wall Street crowd he represents.

reforms, and initiatives to defend democracy and human rights at home and abroad.” As an independent American candidate for the United States Senate from the State of New York, and as a long-time associate of the politically-persecuted American statesman and economist Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., I urge the participants, as well as the uninvited nations, to look behind the flowery phrases on the State Department’s webpage at the actual state of affairs within the United States, and to consider that this “platform” may be more like the platform beneath the feet of unfortunate souls waiting to be hanged.

The 100,000 drug-overdose deaths in the United States last year, or the 14 deaths in the New York City

gathered within a six-week window of time. Such restrictive measures mean that there will be no opportunity for the voters to oppose the policies which have created such hardship for them.

Since the number one issue that this “Summit of Democracy” purports to address is “Defending against authoritarianism,” perhaps someone should ask their American hosts about the status of “free and fair” elections in the United States. One would think that upholding the right of citizens to seek public office, as well as having their votes counted in a fair and transparent fashion, would be an important safeguard against “authoritarian” regimes. At least citizens should

be able to challenge their elected officials on policy matters and allow the voters to make their choice—but, not so in the State of New York.

I declared my candidacy for the 2022 U.S. Senate race in July of 2020, knowing that the State of New York already had one of the most difficult ballot access procedures in the nation; namely requiring 15,000 valid signatures of registered New York voters to be gathered in a short six-week period, plus other additional onerous filing requirements. Even U.S. Senator John McCain failed to meet these requirements for the 2020 Republican presidential primary, while, thanks to a genuine political machine of dedicated volunteers, Lyndon LaRouche’s name did appear on the New York ballot in two presidential primary elections.

I had been prepared to face the already onerous 15,000 signature requirement to challenge Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, who is pushing national drug legalization, in order to legitimize massive income streams for the Wall Street crowd he represents. Unbeknownst to me (and most New York voters), major changes in ballot access were disingenuously introduced into the 2020 New York State budget (see S.7508B, p.259). The signature requirement was tripled for non-major party affiliated candidates in statewide races, to a virtually impossible 45,000 valid signatures, all to be collected over the same short six-week period. And yet, for Democratic and Republican Party candidates who have the substantial resources of their party organizations to draw upon, the requirement remains at 15,000 signatures!

Also in this budget item, the Libertarian and Green Parties were stripped of their party lines on the ballot, as the previous requirement of 50,000 votes in a statewide election was more than tripled to 2% of the statewide vote.

So, in the State of New York, while great care is allegedly being taken to make sure that ‘anyone and everyone’ can vote virtually at any time and at any location, the only candidates allowed on the ballot will be those from the two major parties, as well as the New York State Conservative Party and Working Families Party, which both got around the requirement by endorsing Trump and Biden respectively, thus depriving their members of a non-establishment presidential choice.

The ostensible rationale for this outrageous elimination of independent campaigns from the New York State ballot, was that the state intends to disperse \$100 million in matching funds, and they don’t want to spend money on “frivolous” candidates, obviously meaning that they intend to keep the money within the hands of those who already have it. Since the matching funds are given in an 8:1 ratio, this widens the gulf between establishment and non-establishment campaigns even more. It also makes the tripled signature requirement for my U.S. Senate campaign the more absurd, as federal candidates are not eligible for matching funds in the first place. That is, no matter how many signatures I get, or how much money I raise, I will not receive matching funds, thus proving that the argument for the requirement is based upon fraudulent premises.

My independent campaign for U.S. Senate currently represents the only serious challenge to incumbent Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer. Of the several candidates supposedly challenging Schumer, I am the only candidate who has filed a report with the Federal Elections Commission. Thus, as of this time, if I am excluded from the ballot, there will be no opposition in this very important U.S. Senate election.

Further, over the past 18 months, I have hosted over 50 weekly symposia on various urgent topics,

Andrey Kortunov

Director of the Russian International Affairs Council

These remarks are part of the article, “Summit for Democracy Attempts to Turn Multicolor Modern World into Black and White Division,” by Dr. Kortunov, released on November 22.

It goes without saying that the nations of the world should firmly oppose corruption, abuses of power by state authorities and gross violations of human rights. If the goal of the Summit for De-

mocracy were to confront these evils on a global scale, there would be no need to make the event exclusive by inviting mostly US friends and allies. If the goal is to advertise the US political, social, and economic model, Washington should probably delay the summit and put its house in order first. If the goal is to isolate Beijing and Moscow in the world of politics, this is not likely to work well for the US.

including: homelessness, food shortages and famine, Afghanistan, education, election reform, nuclear power, water management, and more, with panel participants from among leading national and state experts including medical doctors, scientists, prisoner rights advocates, farmers, housing association leaders, teachers and others (Those symposia webcasts are available [here](#)). If I am denied ballot access, the voting public will have no opportunity to express their opinion

on these important policies.

Perhaps some courageous individual will ask their American hosts at the upcoming “Summit for Democracy” about the question of ballot access in American elections, as well as the case of Julian Assange, and the case of former presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche. If the summit hosts were sincere, these clearly un-democratic matters would be at the top of the agenda as issues to be happily rectified.

THE SUMMIT FOR DEMOCRACY

Not So Wise To Throw Stones When Sitting in a Glass House

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

The following are excerpts from Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s strategic webcast on December 1, 2021. The full Schiller Institute webcast is available [here](#).

Harley Schlanger: You mentioned the danger of geopolitics underlying the continued underdevelopment of the former colonial world. We see this again at play in the mobilization by the U.S. war hawks of NATO against Russia over Ukraine. It’s worth noting, there are meetings going—the NATO foreign ministers’ meeting, there was a NATO summit last Monday in Brussels. But at the same time, they’re announcing the prospect of a Biden-Putin meeting some time earlier next year. Catch us up on just exactly how dangerous this is, because the Russians are not playing games.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: According to very qualified experts, both in respect to China and Taiwan, as well as in respect to Russia and Ukraine, red lines that have been drawn by these nations pertaining to their absolute security interests, have been crossed several times, and the West just ignores them. But this will come with a price, eventually, because you cannot continue to do this.

And then you can see how this is moving toward a potential point of no return. This is very, very dangerous. And the same goes for China and Taiwan, where the red line has been crossed several times by essentially U.S. forces giving credibility, or giving encouragement to the forces of independence in Taiwan. And the biggest danger, naturally, is that these two conflicts would flare up at the same time, and we would be in World War III in no time.



NATO



NATO

As at the NATO foreign ministers’ meeting in Riga, Latvia on Nov. 30, 2021 (right), NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg (left) and the NATO leadership argue from the premise that NATO has vital security interests, but Russia and China have no security interests that NATO needs to respect.



Lorie Shaull

Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Nancy Pelosi.

So, I really think this should be in people's consciousness, and I cannot see any reasonable debate in the public media, or among politicians warning of such a danger. And that is almost like sleepwalking into World War III.

Schlanger: Not surprising, we have the comments of the Chief of MI6, British foreign intelligence, Richard Moore, who made his first major public statement just the other day, and what he said is that the NATO countries must take on Russia, China, Iran, and terrorism, but the primary threat is coming from China. So just one cue, you have a total mobilization of NATO along these lines, of crossing the red lines.

Now, ironically, there's going to be a "Democracy Summit," called for by Joe Biden, supposedly to counter the authoritarian regimes. Do you have any comments on this, Helga?

Zepp-LaRouche: Yes, that is a strange thing: Because if you look at the countries which are invited—and I don't want to step on the toes of any of these countries, but there are many of them which are generally not regarded as "democracies," at all! And on the other side, if you look at the list of countries that are not invited, you have such countries as Russia, China, Hungary, many countries. So, what is going on here? It forces countries which are being categorized as being "autocratic regimes," into an alliance! So, you are moving Russia and China closer together; there was also recently a joint statement from Russia and China in response to all of these things. So, you are creating new, geopolitical blocs! And this is very, very dangerous. I think it's a typical case of somebody who sits in a glass house and throws stones, because the state of democracy in the



EIRNS/Sylvia Spaniolo

Senate candidate Diane Sare taking her "Save the Humans!" message to the streets of New York City, Nov. 2, 2021.

United States itself is not exactly one of glory.

And this has been highlighted by Diane Sare, who is a candidate for U.S. Senate against Schumer from New York in 2022, who just wrote an [open letter](#) to the summit. She is running as an independent candidate against Schumer, mainly because—not only, but mainly because of the policy of legalization of drugs pushed by Schumer.

So, what happened? Without much public attention, New York changed the rules. Previously independent candidates had to collect 15,000 signatures from eligible voters, within 6 weeks, which is a very short time to do that. Without public debate, the rules were changed to require 45,000 signatures, in the same period! And if you know the business of collecting signatures, you always have to collect at least double the given amount to be sure that you have enough valid ones. So that would mean, she would have to collect close to 100,000 signatures in 6 weeks! Now, that makes it almost unsurmountable.

And at the same time, they changed the rules for smaller parties, that they don't need 50,000 votes from the previous election to reappear on the ballot, but they need 2%. Now, that throws out the Libertarian Party and the Green Party, so it is a completely arbitrary way of

changing the rules in such a way that only the officially “mainstream” approved parties like the Republican and Democratic Party have a chance to run.

Now, Sare is fighting that, and one part of the fight is to take this to the Democracy Summit, because if the United States wants to be the leader of democracy, they should apply more democracy at home, first, because it would give them a better position to speak on the issue.

I think the party system is completely wrong, as George Washington made the point, when he left office, by warning that the party system is very dangerous because it leads to one section of the population trying to rule over the other. And we see in Germany right now, the party system does not function. In Germany, it does not matter if you vote for the Liberal FDP party, or the Green Party, which are very opposite on almost all points, like migration, like taxes, many other issues; or you vote for the SPD, because now you have a coalition government of all three. And they have to make a coalition agreement, which means you get a cocktail of the opinions of these three parties, but every voter gets the same cocktail to drink, which probably tastes very bad for most of the people who thought they voted for their preference.

That is one more case demonstrating that the parliamentary system really does not function. And I could say a lot more about it, but rather let me just suggest that it would be wise to think about a representative system which really works. And there are models different than the one we have right now in most Western countries.

So, I really think that the Democracy Summit will be tested by all of these things. And we should see. But right now, it looks like a geopolitical maneuver, rather than any concern about democracy as such.

Schlanger: One aspect of the Democracy Summit is going to be the continued attacks on Russia, supposedly for suppressing opposition, suppressing free press. All you have to do is look at the example you gave from Diane Sare’s case, of keeping parties and candidates off the ballot, on top of which you have the censorship. And clearly the U.S. is no longer qualified as a democracy under those kinds of definitions.

Now, at the same time you have the war buildup, we’re watching the disintegration of Western economies, with the combined effects of hyperinflation and the collapse of efficient energy systems. There’s recently been reports from Germany on this that are really quite astounding. The whole world is now facing a profound crisis in the aftermath of the COP26 summit.

Our Own Democracy Is In Bad Shape

by Ambassador Chas Freeman

Asked about President Biden’s planned “Summit for Democracy,” former U.S. Ambassador Chas Freeman responded in a Nov. 30 interview with EIR. The full hour-long video and transcript of the Nov. 30 EIR interview with Ambassador Freeman are available [here](#).

We’re about to have a Summit on Democracy, which is ironic, because our own democracy is clearly in bad shape. And we are evaluated internationally as having a partially failed democracy. So, this is an odd moment to be attempting to trumpet the virtues of the system we ourselves are abandoning. But by trying to reorganize the world along ideological lines—democracies versus authoritarian regimes or non-democracies—the whole conceit was ridiculous!

Because authoritarians—I know lots of autocrats, I’ve dealt with many of them over the years. I’ve never met one who was the least concerned about others. They don’t think they have anything in common, they’re concerned to stay in power, not to keep other autocrats in power.

So, there’s no international league of autocrats, but we are creating one. Because by excluding countries that don’t meet or aspire to sycophancy in the democratic sphere, by assembling them as a sort of broad coalition aimed at Russia and China, we have stimulated Russia and China to issue a joint declaration against this, and then try to organize their own coalition.

So, we are trying to replicate the Cold War. I don’t think we’ll succeed, because basically the underlying proposition that somehow the United States is currently in a condition to appeal on a democratic basis to the world is problematic. And I don’t think countries want to choose between the United States and its designated adversaries, whether they are China or Russia or Iran.

We are in effect, creating the very phenomenon we invented and imagined. And it’s not to our advantage.... This smacks of geopolitics rather than ideology. And it will be interesting to see how it goes. Here we are in a country where it’s very uncertain that we will make it through our next general election without violence, or that there will be a peaceful transition in 2024 or 2025, when we have our next Presidential election. This is an odd moment to be insisting that others democratize. Perhaps we should focus on practicing democracy at home. I’m all in favor of democracy. I’d like to see more of it here.

The Significance of the Unfulfilled Fight for the Truth Behind the JFK Assassination

by Harley Schlanger

Nov. 26—On October 22, one month before the 58th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, President Joe Biden issued a [memo](#) announcing a “postponement” of the public release of classified documents related to the assassination, which occurred on November 22, 1963. The reason given in the memo is “to protect against identifiable harm to military defense, intelligence operations, law enforcement or the conduct of foreign relations....” It set a new prospective date for release on December 15, 2022. The delay was attributed to the COVID pandemic, which purportedly limited the manpower available to review the documents!

This latest delay follows a previous one, announced by President Donald Trump on October 28, 2017, that the remaining documents would be publicly released in October 2021, to assure “full disclosure.” At that time (Oct. 2017), he presided over the release of nearly 35,000 files, mostly related to CIA activity surrounding the assassination and its aftermath. Of the documents released between October and December 2017, many had “significant redactions,” according to those who studied them.

Was fifty-eight years not long enough to determine what “identifiable harm” would result from full disclosure? If not, what difference would a further delay of one year make? Perhaps enough time to shred whatever evidence remains, which might implicate certain institutions in the planning and coverup of the crime? Or to hope that some who would be implicated would pass away, to avoid judgement?

During his 2016 presidential campaign, Donald Trump pledged to declassify all files, as part of his

commitment to “drain the swamp.” According to “source reports,” the full release of the JFK files did not occur during the Trump presidency due to his acquiescence to “last-minute requests from national security agencies,” for more time to review the docs! It is estimated that nearly 23,000 documents remain classified, totaling more than 442,000 pages.



Victor Hugo King

The Kennedys, moments before the assassination in Dallas, Texas, Nov. 22, 1963.

The release of the full files was ordered by the U.S. Congress in the 1992 President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records [Act](#), which mandated that all records related to the assassination “should be eventually released.” The vagueness of this language has provided wiggle room for all subsequent presidents, none of which has acted decisively to provide closure about the assassination. The official story, compiled by the Warren Commission, that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone to kill JFK, was not accepted by more than 51% of those polled

immediately after its release, in October 1964. Recent polls show that between 64% and 70% of Americans do not accept the conclusions of that report today.

Who Were JFK’s Enemies?

The assassination marked a turning point in American history, away from the scientific and technological optimism which characterized the post-World War II period in America, which had been strengthened by initiatives taken during Kennedy’s short time as President. Many of these initiatives were reversed following his death, including his full commitment to exploring new frontiers in space; seeking a dialogue with the Soviet Union; pulling back from military engagement in Vietnam; his support for decolonization in the developing sector, in the tradition of the anti-colonialism of the U.S. Founding Fathers and President Franklin Roosevelt; and an effort to limit the power of the Federal Reserve, by a June 1963 Executive Order issuing Treasury bonds, to create credit for upgrading industrial productivity, which was being undermined by the Fed’s tight interest rate policies.

Each of these actions was controversial, and was vehemently opposed by financial/intelligence networks directed by the City of London and Wall Street, networks identified by his predecessor, Dwight Eisenhower in his farewell address, as those of the “Military-Industrial Complex” (MIC). Perhaps most important in galvanizing the opposition to him, was his firing of CIA Director Allen Dulles, for his role in dangerous covert operations, such as the murder of Congo President Patrice Lumumba. The final straw was the failed Bay of Pigs operation in 1961, organized to force Kennedy to send U.S. troops to overthrow Cuba’s leader Fidel Castro. An administration official reported that Kennedy responded to the covert action



Allen Dulles, CIA Director, fired by President Kennedy. NARA

against Cuba by saying he “wanted to splinter the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds.”

These actions by JFK set off urgent alarms among those in London and their American allies, who were steering U.S. policy during the Cold War. The possibility that he would break with the doctrine of geopolitics, by which the British and their corporate, globalist allies in the U.S. had made the U.S. the enforcer of London’s post-war policies, was a threat to the Anglo-American order. Lyndon LaRouche identified this policy nexus, of the wedding between British and U.S. neocons and neoliberals, as the source for the plot to kill JFK, and then cover

it up.

To protect this nexus, Allen Dulles, who had been fired by Kennedy, was placed as one of seven commissioners who drafted the Warren Commission report.



Congo’s Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba, a JFK ally, assassinated by British Secret Intelligence and the CIA three days before President Kennedy’s inauguration. Here, next to the Belgian Prime Minister, he signs the papers granting independence to his country, then known as the Republic of the Congo (Léopoldville), June 30, 1960. CC/Wikimedia

Why This Is Relevant Today

In addition to his order for the eventual public release of declassified JFK documents, President Trump on January 17, 2021, ordered the release of

declassified documents in FBI files on Russiagate, though he did agree to accept redactions requested by the FBI. His Director of National Intelligence, John Ratcliffe, reported on December 3, 2020 that he had declassified intelligence community documents “that would be suitable for the public to see, that wouldn’t jeopardize sources and methods.” He said he shared “literally thousands” more with special counsel John Durham, but that many of these cannot be made public.

In October 2020, Durham was tapped by Trump’s Attorney General William Barr as a special counsel to investigate the FBI and related activity in the Russiagate farce, which alleged that Trump and campaign officials colluded with Russian government operatives to defeat Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election. Over the last few months, Durham has filed three indictments, which hold the potential for even more explosive revelations regarding criminal activity behind the attempted regime change coup against Trump.

Those indicted include an FBI lawyer, Kevin Clinesmith, who altered a document related to Trump campaign adviser Carter Page, which was used to obtain a warrant from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISA) allowing spying on the Trump campaign; a lawyer for the Clinton campaign, Michael Sussman, for lying to the FBI, about providing false intelligence to the FBI regarding an alleged connection between a Russian bank and the Trump campaign; and a shadowy figure, Igor Danchenko, a Russian citizen living in the U.S., for lying to the FBI about his role as a source for the dossier compiled by former British MI6 agent Christopher Steele. The Steele dossier, which has been thoroughly debunked, was used by the FBI in applying for warrants from the FISA court, despite knowing that it was full of lies and unverifiable charges, and that it had been paid for, and circulated by, the Clinton campaign.

The indictments by Durham expose the unholy alliance between U.S. intelligence agencies, officials of the Obama administration and the Clinton campaign, the mainstream U.S. media, and their reporters—who were awarded with prizes for their stories now confirmed to have been complete fabrications—and British intelligence, working on behalf of the City of London, committed to either

containing or removing Trump as President. There is an unbroken continuity in the policies imposed by the networks behind Russiagate, with those who opposed JFK—as well as those who covered up the 9/11 terror attacks for the sake of launching “endless wars.”

Will John Durham continue to investigate, and move toward the higher-level officials responsible for these crimes? Is he looking into the roles played by former federal officials such as FBI Director James Comey, CIA Director John Brennan, and Director of National Intelligence James Clapper? What about those in London who coordinated and vouched for the fraudulent Steele dossier? Or Robert Hannigan, the former director of the NSA equivalent, GCHQ, who first claimed he had evidence, in late 2015, of “suspicious interactions” between Trump allies and “known or suspected” Russian agents—and who later came to Washington, D.C., to share his suspicions with CIA Director Brennan?

As events unfolded over the four years of the Trump presidency, it is evident that his opposition to the policies of the globalists running the corporate cartels behind the MIC—especially his efforts at peaceful cooperation with Russia and China—was the *casus belli* behind the coup attempt against him.

Full disclosure is not only important for revealing the truth about the criminal cabal behind forty years of war in central and southwest Asia, and the moves toward a security/surveillance state in the U.S., but for preventing this same gang of U.S.-UK unilateralists from using false allegations and doctored intelligence to provoke confrontation between the trans-Atlantic countries, and Russia and China, today. On November 22, the U.S. Director of National Intelligence, Avril Haines, was in Brussels, to present “evidence” compiled by U.S. intelligence agencies which purports to show that Russia is massing troops along its border with Ukraine, claiming that this proves that Russia may invade its neighbor by the end of January, or early February, 2022.

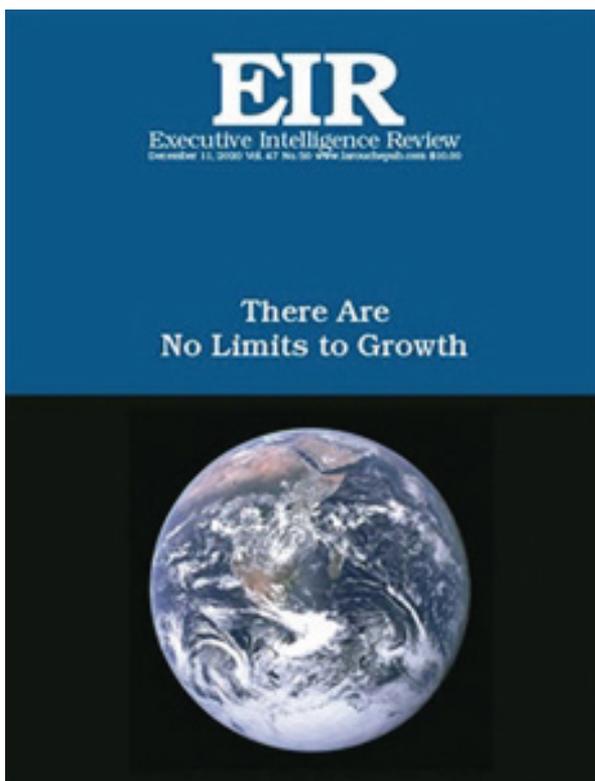
The best war avoidance policy begins with full disclosure of those behind the geopolitical operations that have provoked and launched an escalating torrent of wars, regime change coups, assassinations, and sanctions, beginning nearly sixty years ago with the JFK assassination, which continues to threaten the survival of mankind today.

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