
II. Schiller Institute MLK-JFK Symposium: Stop NATO's World War

Schiller Institute International Symposium

January 10, 2023

'What About International Law, Mrs. Merkel?'

The Schiller Institute's three-hour symposium focused on the surprising acknowledgments by former Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel and former French President Francois Hollande, that they supported the Minsk Process only as a subterfuge to buy time for the arming and training of Ukraine. Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute and Chair of the German political party, Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BüSo), gave the opening presentation. She was followed by Scott Ritter, former UN Weapons Inspector in Iraq, Ray McGovern, co-founder of Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS), and two prominent retired French military officers and strategic analysts, General (ret.) Dominique Delawarde and Colonel (ret.) Alain Corvez. The video of the full symposium is available [here](#).

The Minsk Process and the Merkel-Hollande Revelations

by Stephan Ossenkopp

Mr. Ossenkopp is a Schiller Institute spokesperson in Germany, who served as the moderator of the symposium. We present here an edited transcript of the simultaneous English interpretation of his opening remarks delivered in German.

On December 8th, in the German weekly *Die Zeit* there was a lengthy interview with former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, in which she also spoke of the Minsk Agreement—an agreement that was supposed to establish a peace process for Ukraine in 2014. Ukrainian President [Petro] Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin had agreed on this and met in Minsk on September 19, 2014. Initially, they called for



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a withdrawal of all weapons and the creation of a security zone for the Donbass and the Donetsk and Lugansk republics.

Then on February 12, 2015, the so-called bilateral contact group of Ukraine, Russia, and the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) signed a comprehensive package of measures. Presidents Poroshenko, Putin, Hollande of France, and Chancellor Merkel became the guarantors of this accord.

In July 2015, the Minsk Accord and the support guarantee were adopted unanimously in the UN Security Council as Resolution 2002.

Eight years later, on Dec. 8, 2022, Mrs. Merkel in her now infamous interview in *Die Zeit*, said:

The Minsk Agreement of 2014 was an attempt to give Ukraine time. They used that time to get stronger, as can be seen today. . . . It was clear to all of us that the problem was not being solved, but that is exactly what gave Ukraine valuable time.

Russian President Putin was asked about that Merkel revelation during a press conference he was giving during the Eurasian Economic Union summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on December 9th. He said:

Frankly, this was a complete surprise to me. This is disappointing. As it turns out, nobody wanted to honor these Minsk Agreements. The Ukrainian leadership had mentioned this as well, but I still hoped that the other participants would be sincere with us. It seems they also deceived us. The only purpose was to pump weapons into Ukraine and prepare it for hostilities. Trust as such is already close to zero, but after such statements, the question of trust becomes primary. How can we negotiate at all? What can we agree on?

Former French President François Hollande said in an interview with the *Kyiv Independent* newspaper on December 28th:

Yes, Angela Merkel is right on this point. Since 2014, Ukraine has strengthened its military position. In fact, the Ukrainian Army was completely different from the one of 2014. It was the merit of the Minsk Agreements to have given the Ukrainian Army this opportunity.

So, what does this mean for us today, eight years later, when the conflict is fully raging? And what does this mean for German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the others? We have the confrontation between the greatest nuclear powers on the Earth, so what does this mean for our future? We're going to discuss this, and we've invited some highly competent guests to do so. Afterwards, the people who were invited will have time to comment on the contributions made by the others, and to follow-up on them. Then, of course, we have ample time to take discussion from the audience.

Are Mrs. Merkel's Lies Dragging Germany into War? Mobilize a Chorus for Peace!

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche

This is the English translation of remarks delivered by Helga Zepp-LaRouche in German to the Schiller Institute's Jan. 10, 2023 symposium, "What About International Law, Mrs. Merkel?" Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche is the founder and chairwoman of the Schiller Institute and the President of the German political party, Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BüSo).



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Helga Zepp-LaRouche

I am going to talk about the subject: How many seconds to midnight do we have on the nuclear war clock? The reason that I called for this conference is to bring the population in the German-speaking countries into an international mobilization for an immediate diplomatic solution to the war in Ukraine. What most citizens do not realize, and what is hidden from them by the mainstream mass media, is that we are

in an existential danger, in which the fuse to a third world war, a thermonuclear war, is already burning, and thus the complete annihilation of mankind has become an acute possibility.

Even *Der Spiegel*, a magazine here in Germany which received its publisher's license from the British, writes that with the decision of Chancellor [Olaf] Scholz to deliver 40 Marder tanks to Ukraine, he has made Germany party to the war. According to Deutschland radio, the German public radio station, people in Ukraine are pretty sure that the Leopard II main battle tank will follow in the short term. Andriy Melnyk, the Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister, is demanding warships, submarines, and missiles. And Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov is also asking for more weapons from NATO. On TNS-TV in early January, he declared: