

EDITORIAL

Now Is the Time To Put the World on a Peace Trajectory

by Megan Dobrodt

Aug. 16—The August 15 Alaska meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin “was an extremely important step towards normalizing relations between the two largest nuclear powers, and it pulled the world away from a possible abyss,” said Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche in an [interview](#) with TASS about the significance of the summit. The same day, she told a gathering in New York City, “We are lucky that Putin and Trump did what they did yesterday in Alaska. It’s just the first step. Hopefully this will lead to other agreements. Hopefully Trump will go to the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in Beijing on the 3rd of September.” If he does, she told TASS, this will give him the opportunity “together with President Xi Jinping, President Putin, and a host of other leaders from the Global South to send a powerful signal to the world that the leaders of the major powers are moving from confrontation to cooperation, and thus ushering in a new era in human history.”

Coming out of the Alaska summit, President Trump declared that the U.S. would not be supporting a ceasefire in Ukraine, as was desperately hoped by the bellicose, British-led Coalition of the Willing, but that “the best way to end the horrific war ... is to go directly to a Peace Agreement,” as Trump [posted](#) on Truth Social early Saturday morning, August 16. The hysterical chorus of reactions from the warmongering Western media to this and to the meeting in general is an indication, Zepp-LaRouche pointed out, of the success of Friday’s summit.

What the British and their partners may do to try to sabotage the outcome of the meeting must be closely watched. Putin even warned about this directly in the joint press conference following the summit. On Monday, Ukrainian acting President Zelensky and, likely, European leaders, will travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with Trump. Depending on the outcome of those discussions, a meeting between Putin, Zelensky, and Trump could follow.

While not all problems have yet been solved, new potential was opened up in Alaska—a change in direction. The fact that Trump avoided the ceasefire trap, which would only freeze the conflict in order for Ukraine to be boosted militarily, and is joining Putin to call for a peace agreement to end the war, is crucial. As the Russians have made quite clear (and as has been completely ignored by Western media and other mouthpieces), security guarantees are needed for all sides—Russia included. Now is the time, Zepp-LaRouche insisted, “not only to resolve the Ukrainian crisis through a sustainable peace treaty,” but also “to eliminate the root causes of various geopolitical crises around the world by creating a new global security and development architecture that would take into account the interests of all countries on the planet.”

The momentum in this direction has been growing as the vast majority of humankind has, through mechanisms of cooperation and development like the BRICS and China’s Belt and Road Initiative, begun moving away from the collapsing neo-colonial system

and looking elsewhere for economic development opportunities. Take, for example, BRICS partner Nigeria, which [just announced](#) that China would be investing \$60 billion to build a 4,000-km high-speed rail network across Nigeria. The first phase of the project—1,700 km of rail connecting the country’s three major centers of commerce—will be completed by 2028. Other such examples from the Global South abound, and discussion of the formation of a new economic order is growing.

Will the West break from the control of this suicidal geopolitical system? In the first two weeks of August, Helga Zepp-LaRouche issued a series of calls for the next steps to be taken toward such a strategic shift and called on citizens all over the world to organize for them as if their lives depended on it. Her August 5 appeal, “[Urgent Appeal to Presidents Xi Jinping,](#)

[Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin!](#)” calls on those three presidents to meet in Beijing on September 3, as reiterated above. [The second appeal on August 11](#), issued in response to the then-upcoming Alaska meeting, intervenes with what is, in its full implications, the perfect, permanent war-avoidance policy: “The Bering Strait Tunnel and related great infrastructure projects could also serve as the basis for further in-depth discussions among Presidents Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin, and China’s Xi Jinping, should President Trump be invited and agree to attend the 80th anniversary celebration of the end of World War II, to be held in China on September 3—as I have earlier proposed. This project for integrated infrastructure of the whole world as the basis for development will lay the basis for ending war as a means of conflict resolution forever.”