

LaRouche Addresses Argentine Crisis

At his April 7 webcast, Lyndon LaRouche received two questions from listeners at a meeting in the Argentine Congress. Here are excerpts from his replies.

Q: Mr. LaRouche, can you identify what other causes, besides the financial changes, that have brought the world to this current situation of crisis?

LaRouche: We could say the problem is fascism. . . . What fascism actually was, was an instrument of policy, devised and crafted by a slime-mold, the bankers. And they liked it, and so therefore, you have various kinds and variations on fascism, which have come alive in the world generally, especially since 1971-72, around the world.

Now, the basis of this is the conflict between the idea of the Venetian slime-mold and the human being. Modern society is based on the notion of developing the population, developing the conditions of life, developing man in the whole sense as an immortal being, as a human individual, with certain human qualities which have to be encouraged and nourished, in the individual. And you must provide the kind of society, in which this can occur: decent life by that standard. . . .

The problem is today—you've got two questions. One is a simple economic question, which is essentially a *physical* economic problem, which becomes, then, a financial policy problem. The real issue is not money. Who cares about money? I don't care about money! Money, you have to use; but money is not your life. It's only paper! It's only a creation of government, at best! It's not real. What's real is what you use money to trade, to get physical conditions of life, social conditions of life, personal conditions of life, as a human being—not a question of wealth, but a human being. Your development, your life, your intellectual life, your emotional life. . . .

You see in the case of Argentina: Look at a country which afforded the fourth, fifth highest standard of living in the world in 1945-46, at the beginning of Peron's government, at that time. Fourth, fifth highest standard of living *in the world!* What is it today? Now, what does that mean? In that day, Argentina was not only a wealthy country, though there were a lot of poor people in it. A lot of wealthy people too, relatively speaking. But also, it was a country of high technology. It was a leader in technology in the Southern Hemisphere, in the Southern Cone. What is it now? It's been broken! It's been crushed! Look at children living on garbage. It's been crushed!

What should concern us? The financial matter? Yes, it does concern us; but what does mostly concern us, is *the people!* The condition of the people! The opportunities for development of the people. That is the issue. The issue of economy comes from that. The issue of economy, is the issue of, how do we take care of the people? How do we develop the people? How do we create circumstances for the people? . . .

Q: Mr. LaRouche, what's your basic proposal to solve the problem of the foreign debt of the developing-sector countries? Obviously, especially of interest to us, are those of Latin America. Also, what do you think in particular of the recent accords struck by Argentina with its creditors on its defaulted debt?

LaRouche: . . . Argentina was placed in an impossible situation. It could not possibly meet the obligations that were imposed upon it. And therefore, it had to take some kind of defensive measure to establish the dignity of the nation of Argentina and its Presidency, its government, its people. I think a step was made which is not desirable in terms of its effect—what it didn't do—but it was a necessary step. . . .

I think one should look at this strategically. You have a new, sudden development in South America. You have, Uribe of Colombia, Chávez of Venezuela, Lula of Brazil, together with the Prime Minister of Spain, have created an agreement on cooperation, which anyone one month before that, would have said was impossible. What does that tell you? Something has happened! . . .

Argentina is *within a strategic setting*—not an Argentina setting with respect to its creditors. Argentina is, also, in the midst of one of the biggest factors in this recent crisis, which is the *Italian* debt issue of Argentina, which came to light, now, where? In Rome, yesterday, in the Parliament, on the question of the debt, on the question of a New Bretton Woods—which is the same issue, as the issue throughout South America. . . .

In Italy, our friends in the Parliament have struck a blow for freedom, for all humanity, in calling for a new financial architecture. . . .

So therefore, now, President Kirchner of Argentina is in a very interesting strategic position. Not with a perfect agreement on his hands, but with a *fighting position*. And like any good commander, what he needs is not necessarily a victory. The first thing he has to do, is have a position on which he can fight, and then maybe he'll get a victory, because he's got a fighting position. He's not all over the place. He now has a strategic position.

And therefore, I would say, that I look at it, from the standpoint of the Mexico election, the Presidential election: The issues posed by the candidacy of the present mayor of Mexico City, and these developments, is all of one piece. And therefore, *it's a very interesting strategic situation*, which fascinates me. It's the kind of situation that I love: Where you can fight a war and win it.