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- Western Leaders Don't Even Know What Hit Them—Escalate To Shape a New Paradigm
- Big Brawl on Wording for G20 Declaration
- G20 Fails To Deliver on Carbon Reduction Promises
- Indian Foreign Minister Acknowledges, the World Has Changed
- India, China Defy West's Games To Have Them Brawl over G20
- Brazil's President Lula at G20 Insists, Stop the Geopolitics
- India and Russia Aim for Productive Credit from Trade in National Currencies
- Russia and China Propose To Build Clean Coal-Fired Plants in Afghanistan
- Ritter Says Russians Employing New Defense Doctrine in Special Military Operation
- Projects Stop, Offshore Wind Builder Declares, 'The Bubble Is in Trouble'

EDITORIAL

Western Leaders Don't Even Know What Hit Them—Escalate To Shape a New Paradigm

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—The news of the last few days is the utter failure of representatives of Western governments to reach an agreement at India's G20 summit to condemn "Russian aggression" and thereby bolster confidence in their supposed "rules-based order." This is just the latest in the ongoing process of beginning to come to grips with the 10,000-pound

elephant called reality standing in the middle of the room. It was revealed by India's G20 Sherpa that over 200 hours of negotiations went into the final Declaration, and 15 drafts, yet still, the West deemed the final text a major disappointment.

Russians, Indians, Chinese, and Brazilians on the other hand, were enthusiastic at the results, and proclaimed it as a success for the actually important issues facing mankind. Brazilian President Lula da Silva expressed that in his final comments at the conclusion of the summit when he said: "We cannot let geopolitical issues sequester the G20 agenda of discussions." Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov even emphasized that it showed that the West had failed to "Ukrainainize the agenda at the expense of discussing pressing issues facing developing countries."

It was further underlined, although not as widely reported on, by the refusal to commit to any de-carbonization pledges at the summit. Despite all kinds of talk of "green" energy, the world is clearly less willing to commit suicide, and merely made pledges to move away from coal "in line with national circumstances." Add to this the fact that both Russia and China are planning large investments in coal power plants in Afghanistan, and the fact that the wind farm construction bubble is imploding in the United States, and this picture becomes even more clear.

However, the reality spans far beyond the fact that the majority of the world is reluctant to condemn Russia, or that the Ukrainian counteroffensive is failing, or that the Global South has no interest in banning fossil fuels. While these might be the footprints of a larger monster traipsing about, what is the actual creature making such seemingly shocking footprints?

India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar, in an interview on Sept. 11, drew people's attention to this phenomenon. When asked about those complaining of the language in the final Declaration, he simply said, "The people who are putting it that way are not really understanding what is happening in the world."

The best way to understand the developing process of reality is to study last weekend's Schiller Institute conference, which took up the topic of the transformation to a new era underway in the world today. Helga Zepp-LaRouche has emphasized that the last 600 years of colonialism and neo-colonialism is finally in the last stages of being thrown out in favor of a world that respects all nations as equals and encourages growth instead of decay.

The events of the last week serve to underscore the fact that the world is not the same as it was even one year ago, and is at an extreme moment of tension as to how the situation will be resolved. The best way to shape this moment is to organize with the LaRouche movement and not let that opportunity go to waste!

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday September 12, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

Big Brawl on Wording for G20 Declaration

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—All indications are that the [G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration](#) was an absolute brawl over whether or not to include language condemning Russia for its intervention into Ukraine—something which was put into last year's G20 Bali Declaration. This year's not only does not mention "Russia" or "Russian aggression," but has changed from last year's language of "war against Ukraine" to "war in Ukraine."

India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant tweeted on X that efforts to arrive at the compromise text over this language involved "over 200 hours of non-stop negotiations, 300 bilateral meetings (and) 15 drafts."

Russian Foreign Minister [Sergey Lavrov](#) hailed the final version of the Declaration as a victory: "I would also like to note the important role

played by the Indian presidency, which, for the first time in the history of the G20, has consolidated its participants that represent the Global South. Our BRICS partners, particularly India, Brazil, and South Africa, were highly active in this regard. This consolidated position adopted by the Global South in defense of its legitimate interests helped thwart the West's attempt to Ukrainianize the agenda at the expense of discussing pressing issues facing developing countries," he said at a press briefing on Sept. 10.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman [Maria Zakharova](#) also sounded a happy note, accompanying photos of Lavrov and Modi shaking hands: "The G20 summit in Delhi has ended. Let me add: on a very positive note. India, thank you!" she wrote on her Telegram channel.

Kiev was not pleased. "G20 has nothing to be proud of," Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Oleg Nikolenko wrote on X. Nikolenko then posted an image of the text, marked up with a bunch of bright red cross-outs and corrections added over top.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said at a press conference at the conclusion of the summit that he had wanted the language to be much stronger. Trudeau called the G20 an "extremely disparate group," and said that they worked very hard "to get as strong language as we possibly could."

G20 Fails To Deliver on Carbon Reduction Promises

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Despite the G20 Summit and its final Leaders' Declaration being filled with pledges for green energy, biofuels, and sustainability, corollary pledges to eliminate fossil fuels were clearly a non-starter.

There was no mention of the need to phase out fossil fuels or to eliminate carbon-emitting energy sources. Instead, commitments were made to "triple renewable energy capacity" by 2030. On the subject of coal and fossil fuels, they could only muster this strangely worded sentence: "To recognize the importance ... accelerating efforts towards phasedown of

unabated coal power, in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards just transitions.”

Fossil fuels are not going away anytime soon. G20 members Russia and Saudi Arabia continue to be large oil exporters, and both China and India, the world’s largest coal consumers, continue to increase their coal consumption.

French President Emmanuel Macron was not happy, commenting on Sept. 10 following the summit, that the climate pledges were “insufficient,” and that the world must “phase out coal very rapidly and much more quickly than today.”

Indian Foreign Minister Acknowledges, the World Has Changed

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—In the wake of the Sept. 9-10 G20 Summit in New Delhi, [Indian Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar](#) gave an interview to India Today about the overall process leading into and during the summit. The Minister was proud of the success his country had achieved, and emphasized that there were changes in Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as well as changes in the world, epitomized by the change in attitude among the Global South, which contributed to pulling off the summit.

When he was asked about the contentions over what language to use to describe the war in Ukraine, he replied that it was not a question of “finding the right words and finishing it with good language...” “I think the declaration also happened because his (PM Modi’s) stature had gone up. So when he brought up the issue with some of his counterparts, and considering the fact that it was Prime Minister Modi himself bringing up the issue, I think it definitely had an impact on his counterparts,” [Jaishankar](#) said.

Even more revealing, in response to a question about criticism that the Declaration was soft in its condemnation of Russia, he said “I don’t think it’s a cop out. I think the people who are putting it that way are not really understanding what is happening in the world. ...

“The core concept of our agenda of the G20 this time was really about the Global South. The Ukraine conflict directly impacted the Global South. That didn’t come through in Bali [Indonesia, last year’s host of the G20]. A year after that, given the food shortages, inflation, energy shortages, the impact it has had on economies across the developing world, don’t you think, in fairness, we needed to reflect that in the declaration?”

Jaishankar also said that the New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration needed to reflect the situation where multiple countries have been working to resolve the Ukraine conflict. “So we had to find a different set of words and different formulations. Which is why I said, ‘Bali was Bali, Delhi is Delhi.’ ”

That last reference refers to comments that Minister Jaishankar had made at a [press conference](#) on Sept. 9 during the G20 Summit. During that press conference, he was asked which nations helped the most in reaching the final agreement reflected in the Declaration. Jaishankar replied: “The question who helped ... eventually everybody helped, because everybody came together for the consensus. ... I think the emerging markets took a particular lead on this and ... many of us have a strong history of working together. Bear in mind that actually you have four developing countries in succession as G20 presidency, Indonesia, us, Brazil and South Africa.”

India, China Defy West’s Games To Have Them Brawl over G20

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar stated firmly Saturday evening, Sept. 9, after the end of the first day of the G20 summit that “China was very supportive” of India’s efforts to get a unified statement adopted at the G20. That certainly made headlines in India.

Prodded by media about Chinese President Xi Jinping not personally attending the summit, [Jaishankar](#) responded in his final press conference answer: “It’s for every country to decide at what level they will be represented. I don’t think one should overly read meanings into it. What I think is important is, what is the position that country has taken, and how

much that country has contributed to the deliberations and the outcomes, and I would say that China was very supportive of the various outcomes.”

China and India have their differences, but the leadership of both countries are no fools.

On the day the G20 opened, China’s often-hardline *Global Times* ran an editorial calling out U.S. and Western efforts to “woo India” into getting into a fight with China, ruin the G20 summit, and thereby block India’s growing leadership in world affairs:

“This is the first time India will hold such a large-scale multilateral diplomatic summit. Judging from the preparations, it seems that New Delhi highly values this event, hoping that its status as a ‘great power’ can be enhanced by hosting the G20 summit successfully. But the U.S. and the West, which often claim they ‘stand with India,’ have made great efforts to hype the ‘differences’ between the participating countries of the G20 summit....

“[I]t is not difficult to see that the Indian side wants to focus the discussion on economic recovery and multilateral diplomacy, which has been the main theme of the G20 platform all along. New Delhi has repeatedly said that the forum is not a place for geopolitical competition. For instance, on the India-China conflict, which the U.S. and the West have been hyping up....”

First, the U.S. and West “hyped up” an imagined conflict between the BRICS and the G20 platform. “Second, they try to provoke China-India conflicts by using India’s presidency to hype the competition between the dragon and the elephant.... The U.S. and the West have shown a gloating attitude over some geopolitical divergences, including those between China and India. They want to see deeper division and even fights.”

The *Global Times* recommends the West cut it out and recognize that “it is ... in the long-term interests of the U.S. and Western countries to let consensus transcend differences and gather strength through cooperation.”

Brazil's President Lula at G20 Insists, Stop the Geopolitics

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—At the conclusion of the New Delhi G20 Summit, after Indian Prime Minister Modi handed over the presidency of the G20 to Brazilian President Lula da Silva, who will chair the event in 2024, the Brazilian President made a few sharp remarks at the podium. “We cannot let geopolitical issues sequester the G20 agenda of discussions,” Lula said, in a clear reference to Western attempts to corral everyone into their anti-Russia hysteria. “We have no interest in a divided G20. We need peace and cooperation instead of conflict.”

In an earlier interview with Indian news channel FirstPost, [Lula](#) commented on Brazil's view of the world today and its stance in regard to the war in Ukraine. “From the beginning, Brazil has been saying that we do not want to participate in the war efforts. Brazil wants to participate in the peace effort. We want to try to negotiate as also India, thinks like that, China, thinks like that. Many other countries think like Brazil, and so that's why we believe that it's very important that the war issue should not be included in the document, in the declaration from the G20. That's very important,” said Lula da Silva.

He said that people get worked up in discussing the war, instead of discussing the problems that involve the world, for example the hunger that is affecting 735 million people. “And so I believe that it was very important, the decision that was made to not allow that the war would come into our declaration. The declaration is very serious, minded. It's a mandatory reading for all of us who participated in the G20, and I hope that it serves as a guideline, as a roadmap, so that we can, in Rio next year do something even better,” said the Brazilian President.

India and Russia Aim for Productive Credit from Trade in National Currencies

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—The negotiations between India and Russia on Russia's accumulated rupee surpluses, equivalent to tens of billions of dollars, have been underway all year.

This planning is significant because so many of the nations which want to trade in their national currencies want to do so in unbalanced trade relations—and none more so than Russia and India. In 2023 it is projected that Russia-India trade will be equivalent to \$44 billion, with Russia's exports so far being 4.5 times (by value) its imports from India; by the end of the year the ratio is likely to be nearly 5:1. That is fundamentally why simply trading with the ruble and rupee has not functioned. Trillions of surplus reserves of rupees sit in the specially created “vostro” accounts of Russian exporters (or of their banks) in Indian banks, with no arrangement to repatriate them to Russia nor feasible use for them there.

India proposed a free trade zone to Russia in May, and in July the Reserve Bank of India published a “framework” which emphasized “capital payments for projects and investments,” but also suggested simply investing in long-term Indian government bonds (rather than short-term government bonds, which the Russian banks have been buying with speculations in mind). The rupee surpluses, if invested directly or indirectly in Indian infrastructure builders' bonds, could sprout green shoots of development projects in Russia's Far East, where India has already begun to invest.

The leading fossil fuel producing nations, almost all now in the “BRICS 11,” tend to have substantial trade surpluses, which can now go into the New Development Bank as core capital and/or borrowed capital, and fund development projects worldwide (including for example, in Argentina, to which the World Bank will not lend).

If the India-Russia negotiation succeeds, it gives an example of how national currency trade can be turned into credit, even in a situation where the New Development Bank has—for now at least—accepted that it is blocked by sanctions from engaging with Russia.

Russian national-currency trade with [Türkiye](#) gives a different example; according to a report today in RT, it has jumped by 230% for comparable 7-month periods from 2022 to 2023; it covered Russian exports of \$438 million equivalent and imports of \$267 million, with the imports growing

much more than the exports, so was reasonably balanced; but it is thus far only about 1% of the two nations' total trade. They are working on encompassing the natural gas trade, however; in which case the India-Russia example will apply.

Russia and China Propose To Build Clean Coal-Fired Plants in Afghanistan

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—Russia and China are each offering to Afghanistan to build coal-fired electricity-generating plants, in order to expand the country's limited installed electricity-generating capacity, and to aid Afghanistan in becoming a modern economy. Afghanistan does not possess a coal-fired plant.

The March 6 *Izvestia* quoted Russia's Ambassador to Afghanistan Dmitry Zhirnov that "businessmen from the Republic of Tatarstan signed a memorandum on the development of the coal thermal power in Afghanistan in Kabul. It is a trilateral project with Iran and Pakistan." That means that Russia, Iran, and Pakistan would bring their considerable shared knowledge to bear on building coal thermal plants in Afghanistan.

The coal plants that the Russians would build only bear a faint resemblance to those of the 1980s and 1990s, and instead produce clean coal. Much of the alleged "greenhouse gasses" and pollutants are cut and reduced below stringent levels; they operate at a far higher efficiency—Russian coal plants are either supercritical or ultra-supercritical. The latter have thermal efficiencies of approximately 47%, where that percentage of the fuel's heat content input translates into work to produce electricity—the thermal efficiency of older, "normal" coal-fired plants is 33-35%.

But the Russian mission to Afghanistan in February year went further. Ambassador Zhirnov told *Izvestia*, "in addition, Russian engineers inspected Kabul boiler houses, heating networks, water supply systems, power substations and prepared a plan for the restoration of [Kabul's] utility system." Thus, Russia would do an important overhaul.

Respecting China's role, an article in the April 24, 2023 *Kabul Times*, entitled "Afghanistan To Go for Coal-Fired Plant To Generate Electricity," reported that, "previously, China's Chamber of Commerce representative, during a visit to Afghanistan and meeting with Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat's (DABS) head, had said his country was ready to invest in Afghanistan's energy sector and generate 500 MW of electricity from coal. The Chinese official said China has experience in producing electricity from coal in 11 countries around the world, and that they are ready to install technical equipment and teams in Afghanistan." (The article also reported on a domestic project to produce coal-fired plant electricity.) China also employs ultra-supercritical clean coal-fired plants, obtaining all the benefits.

Most remarkable, a June 2018 report entitled, "The State of Environment of Afghanistan 2011-2017," states that "Approximate total coal reserves in Afghanistan are 440 million tons." *EIR* is attempting to verify this claim. But if it is true—and other sources use this number—it is a large number. It would entrust to Afghanistan the condition that it could work with China and Russia to build advanced clean coal-fired (as well as nuclear, gas, and hydro) plants in Afghanistan, while exporting some of the coal deposits to other countries for earnings.

Initially, for the first 10-15 years, Afghanistan would import advanced coal-fired plants from Russia and China, but as it acquires the technological skills and capital goods, it would build its own.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Ritter Says Russians Employing New Defense Doctrine in Special Military Operation

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Scott Ritter](#) is among the very few military experts who's always willing to say that the Russians are accomplishing exactly what they set out to do in the special military operation. In an interview with Sputnik Radio at the end of last week, he argued that the Ukrainian "advances" in the area of Rabotino will actually cause the further

destruction of Ukrainian forces. “Rabotino was always meant to be part of the crumple zone in the fire element, defensive zone of the first line of defense. The purpose of Rabotino was to help break up the Ukrainian attacks, and it has done this magnificently,” said Ritter.

This, he said, is the product of a new Russian military doctrine now being implemented along the front, particularly in the Zaporozhye part of the front. “Russia always had a primarily defensive doctrine inherited from the Soviet times,” Ritter said. “But this new defensive doctrine that’s being implemented, especially in the Zaporozhye front, is the brainchild of Lt. Gen. Alexander Romanchuk, former deputy commander, I believe, of the 58th Combined Arms Army. He was sent to the Combined Arms Academy after participating in the early phases of the special military operation. While he was at the Combined Arms Academy, he rewrote Russian defensive doctrine and then he was brought out of the Combined Arms Academy and given a leadership position in the Zaporozhye front in the Rabotino area.”

In accordance with the doctrine, “the purpose of the forward defensive zone is to receive an enemy attack to help break it up, to use defensive belts, minefields, obstacles, what they call, ‘fire cauldrons’ or ‘sacks’ where you want to force the enemy to come in so you can hit them with artillery, to break up the attack, but not to hold and die,” explained Ritter. “That is, as the enemy presses forward, the idea is to minimize your own losses by withdrawing back to prepared positions and continuing to bring the enemy under increasing levels of firepower from the air, from artillery, from anti-tank guided missiles, etc., all the while bogging them down with minefields, other obstacles.”

Once Ukrainians achieve localized superiority, Russians will withdraw and continue to grind the enemy forces further, says Sputnik. The irony of the situation, according to Ritter, is that the first line of defense is meant to be broken by the Ukrainians, at a time and place, determined not by the Ukrainians, but by the Russians who’ve been shaping the battlefield from the outset of Kiev’s botched counteroffensive.

“Even if the Ukrainians have succeeded in penetrating the first line of Russia’s defense, this is done by design. This is not the final battle. They would still need to exploit this breach. Move on to the second line of defense where they’ll come under even increasing intensity of attack.” That is, even if the Ukrainian military takes a couple of villages here and there it does not mean any breakthrough, but rather a beginning of the end of Kiev’s counteroffensive.

The result of this is that the Ukrainians have already burned through their reserve force, the force that was supposed to be available to exploit the breakthroughs made by the initial attacking force, to drive on to Tokmak and then Melitopol. “The strategic reserve is being committed because the initial wave of the attack, the follow-on attack, have all failed to break through the defensive zone in front of the first line of defense,” Ritter said. Exhausted by struggling to overcome Russia’s defense lines, the Ukrainians will have no strength left to push on forward, said Ritter. “This is part of Alexander Romanchuk’s defensive concept, and it’s been executed perfectly by the Russians at Rabotino,” he stressed.

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Projects Stop, Offshore Wind Builder Declares, ‘The Bubble Is in Trouble’

Sept. 11, 2023 (EIRNS)—OilPrice.com, which reported on Aug. 3 that there is a “financial crisis developing in offshore wind energy”—taking from Bloomberg News that the cost of carrying out projects had risen by an average 57% in two years—runs a report by [Zero Hedge](#) on Sept. 9 that Ørsted Energy, the world’s biggest wind turbine producer, wants to drop its U.S. East Coast projects unless the Biden Administration grants it aid one could only call “Ukraine-style.”

Here are projects recently cancelled by Ørsted and others, totaling about 3.5 GW of rated power capacity:

Spanish utility Iberdrola SA cancelled a wind farm off the Massachusetts coast, paying \$48.9 million in fines; Ørsted withdrew a bid

to produce offshore wind power in Rhode Island waters; Swedish utility Vattenfall AB cancelled a planned wind farm off the shore of the U.K. One-third of the rest of the projects under Biden's "30 GW by 2030" plan for offshore wind are "in dispute" according to Clearview Analytics. Ørsted is threatening to walk away from all its projects, according to the underlying Bloomberg News report, unless the Biden Administration gives it bigger subsidies than the already-in-place tax credits of 30% or more, *and* guarantees those subsidies without imposing the domestic content requirement on Ørsted, which is supposedly the basis for the Inflation Reduction Act subsidies!

The head of Vattenfall's wind energy division, Helene Bistrom, was quoted by *Fortune* and requoted by OilPrice.com, "Energy coming from these projects is desperately needed, but with new market conditions, it doesn't make sense to continue."

The CEO of Ørsted Energy, Mads Nipper, was unusually frank about what King Charles' minions have been up to. He said, in an investor conference call in August, according to Bloomberg, "The situation in U.S. offshore wind is severe. [It is] a warning sign that the green energy revolution bubble is in trouble."