

## EIR Daily Alert Service

P.O. BOX 17390, WASHINGTON, DC 20041-0390

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## EDITORIAL

### **Blacklist from Ukraine/Global NATO? ‘They Have Unmasked Themselves!’**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—The speed of dangerous events is quickening—such as Pelosi’s Taiwan provocation against China, and also note today’s unannounced FBI raid on former President Trump’s Florida residence—but, at the same time, a critical counter is gaining force to bust up this

process and its sick “democracy” cover narratives. Attention and disgust are growing to the Ukraine/U.S. State Department/NATO issuance in July of a blacklist of 70-some individuals internationally, whom Kiev has denounced as “information terrorists” subject to “war criminal” treatment, because these individuals have been engaging in dialogue about solutions to the crisis, for which they are denounced as “propagandists for Russia.” The issuing agency is the Center for Countering Disinformation, of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s National Security and Defense Council.

Thirty people on this list happen to be names from the speakers list of participants on panels at international dialogue conferences held since February by the Schiller Institute. Schiller Institute founder and leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche, named on the list, said today of Kiev, “They have unmasked themselves.” The others named are likewise leading figures from many nations.

The Kiev government, as Zepp-LaRouche reviewed, is blatantly opposite from democratic. It has banned 16 opposition political parties, shut down all media critical of the government, and they have “disappeared” leading figures. This is all now coming into the spotlight. No matter how blaring are the lies from London, Washington, Brussels and Kiev, about how Ukraine stands for democracy, Western values and the rest, the truth is cutting through, and individuals on the infamous blacklist, and others are speaking out and demanding government and institutional action against the Kiev operation.

So far, demands for government attention to the Kiev threats have been raised from New Zealand, to Denmark, the United States and Italy. Many individual statements have been released denouncing the Kiev action, as well as a joint statement. This week’s *EIR*, cover date Aug. 12, posted on Thursday, Aug. 11 will have a full compendium of statements as of today.

In the last 24 hours, new initiatives include a strong statement in RT by senior Greek former Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, an interview on a top Danish radio program with Jens Jørgen Nielsen, a leading Russia expert, and a very tough statement today from Dr. Wolfgang Bittner in

Germany, who is a jurist, and spoke at a Schiller Institute conference in June. Dr. Bittner states that the “persecution of dissenters in connection with the Ukraine war is taking the form of unbridled fascism. It is unacceptable that state terrorism is being carried out here under the eyes of the world public. The persecution of critics and opposition figures by Ukrainian government organizations must be stopped immediately.”

Nielsen, who spoke at a Schiller Institute event in Denmark in May, and gave *EIR* an interview in December 2021, said that he is not spreading Russian propaganda, but he is critical of sending weapons to Ukraine, and also of the narrative that Ukraine is a flowering democracy. That the leader of the Center for Countering Disinformation called the people on the list “information terrorists,” who should be tried before a military court, is absurd. That office is supported by the U.S. State Department. Nielsen asserts that he disagrees with the Russian military operation, but there has to be a serious discussion, because this is the most dangerous crisis since World War II.

The Big Lie just isn’t going down anymore about “democracy vs. autocracy,” meaning “Global NATO vs. Russia and China.” Still, the U.S. State Department is pushing it hard. Today, Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in South Africa—part of a three-nation African tour this week—to assert that Africa must reconsider how it has been too friendly with Russia and China, and instead, “realign” itself with the U.S./NATO/U.K. In the South Pacific, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman is pushing the same message in the Solomon Islands, Tonga and Samoa, and bolstering it in meetings with New Zealand and Australian officials.

Meantime, just what is being offered by the “democracy” axis in concrete ways to supply the means to life—food, water, power, health care, infrastructure, at a time when millions are suffering in Africa, and many other places? Insults, not action. The State Department Fact Sheet released today on “U.S. Food Security Assistance to Sub-Saharan Africa” is mostly an “aura” of action. The list includes such help as satellite ways to predict

bad crop weather, ways to more precisely apply fertilizer, so as to not “overuse” it (in the midst of fertilizer shortages and hyperinflation!) and harm the planet, crop risk insurance for agriculture losses, etc. No projects for water, power, health systems or any major infrastructure, steps that could actually solve the crisis.

This kind of evil incompetence characterizes the domestic policies as well in the trans-Atlantic, as seen in the new U.S. monster bill for green projects, passed Aug. 7 by the U.S. Senate, titled “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.” It characterizes the insanity over cutting energy use to “stand up for democracy” in Ukraine, and the EU Green Deal “Farm to Fork” dictates to cut fertilizer, chemicals, land use, livestock and other fundamentals of agriculture, in the name of mitigating climate change and protecting biodiversity. In fact, these measures will cut food production, ruin farmers, cause famine and mass death. That is their intention.

Farmers in Europe are now taking the point worldwide on fighting this immorality and insanity, as a world food production emergency issue. After staging protests over the past three winters, European farmers are now demonstrating during the height of crop season, in the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and elsewhere. In the Netherlands, the leading farmer groupings last week refused to acquiesce to the government’s demand to meet and negotiate, until the government drops its insistence that food production and farms must be cut.

In Germany, a farmer protest action is now in the works for Berlin on Aug. 26, and designed to be a “365” demonstration—that is, to continue as long as necessary, to force the backdown from the green shutdown and economic breakdown policies. A chief organizer of the action explained that the current crisis in food, power and the means to life goes way beyond an electricity blackout; we are in an “economic blackout” right now, of disappearing supplies of fuel, equipment, everything. And soon, world famine. We must stop this.

The Schiller Institute will be collaborating shortly on an international statement of support for the farmers in Berlin, as a leading flank in the world fight for a new system.

“Food is not a ‘farmers’ issue,’ ” was the strong reminder today from Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche!

- Watch [Harley’s Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday August 9, 2022: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

## STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

### German Jurist and Author Writes, German Chancellor Must Denounce Ukraine Fascist Hitlist

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—The widely-read German website NachDenkSeiten published an article today by Dr. Wolfgang Bittner, a well-known jurist and author, who spoke at a [Schiller Institute conference](#) on June 18. Dr. Bittner’s name was among those on the hitlist of Ukraine’s Committee for Combatting Disinformation. The article, “[Ukraine’s Blacklist—the Federal Chancellor Must Act](#),” notes that in addition to himself and Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the list includes Rolf Mützenlich, the Chairman of the Social Democratic Party caucus in the Bundestag (Chancellor Olaf Scholz is a member of the SPD).

Dr. Bittner writes: “The political situation is appalling and the persecution of dissenters in connection with the Ukraine war is taking the form of unbridled fascism. It is unacceptable that state terrorism is being carried out here under the eyes of the world public. The persecution of critics and opposition figures by Ukrainian government organizations must be stopped immediately. The Federal government is called upon to lodge a protest with the Zelenskyy government against the discrimination against German nationals ... and to stop all aid for Ukraine. The list of the CCD must be deleted immediately.”

## Ukrainian Government Troll Army Targets Anti-NATO Voices

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—On Aug. 6, Jackson Hinkle, who hosts a popular news analysis and interview program on YouTube and Rumble, released screenshots from the online chat room of a group called “Digital Forces of Ukraine.” The screenshot demonstrated that members of the 3,000-person chat room, hosted on the popular app Discord, were actively coordinating efforts to target Hinkle’s YouTube channel via “mass-reporting,” a technique designed to overwhelm the YouTube moderators with reports of rule-breaking content. What rule-breaking were they claiming? That Hinkle was spreading “Russian propaganda.” The relevant screenshots date from April 25, several weeks after Hinkle interviewed Col. Douglas Macgregor (ret.), who questioned the narrative that the Bucha massacre was perpetrated by Russian forces. The screenshots show that comedian Jimmy Dore was similarly targeted.

On July 10, Hinkle tweeted that he had been permanently demonetized by YouTube. He posted an email from YouTube stating that “policy specialists” had reviewed his material and identified that it is “not in line with our YouTube Partner Program policies.” According to Hinkle, that resulted in a loss of 80% of his income.

The website of the “[Digital Forces of Ukraine](#)” features the Discord logo at the top of the page, as well as a button that reads “Join Digital Forces,” which links to the Discord server. The website lists its “core volunteers”: Ivan Volkov, Archer Christman, Alexander Marinich, Liubov Kalinichenko, Dan Slobodian, Nick Sokalskyi, and Anna Mishchenko. LinkedIn describes Volkov as a “Senior Project Manager at the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine,” a Ukrainian government department.

The website links to a press release, published by AIN Capital on March 28, 2022, announcing the creation of the “International Legion of the Internet Army of Ukraine,” identified as a project of the “Internet Army of Ukraine,” created by Ukraine’s Ministry of Culture and Information Policy. It instructs interested volunteers to join the Discord server to learn about “completed and pending tasks.” A Telegram channel and a Reddit forum

(r/ukraine) are also listed. Recruitment to this team evidently continues, as posts to Reddit inviting new members were made today.

Other screenshots from the Digital Forces server document similar tactics used to target the Twitter account of Daniel Burke, an organizer of the Schiller Institute, along with dozens of other accounts of people who refute NATO war propaganda. Public statements by accounts associated with the “Digital Forces of Ukraine” (many of which have the same username on Twitter as they do on Discord) indicate their strategy: identify a target, scan through their tweets for anything that can be construed as harassment, and then mobilize mass-reports of the tweet in question. Other tweets indicate that these trolls regularly swarm any account identified as a “Russian propagandist” with hostile tweets, intending to goad the target into an emotional response that can then be used to remove them from Twitter. The trolls “swarm” effective anti-NATO threads on Twitter, including those prompted by the Aug. 4 Amnesty International report, with repeated assertions that Putin is fascist.

The pro-Ukraine, pro-NATO trolls use the tongue-in-cheek “NAFO” as an identifier, standing for “North Atlantic Fellas Organization.” They use cartoon dogs for their profile pictures. It is speculated that many people recruited are teenagers.

### **PLA Continues Exercises around Taiwan**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—The Chinese Ministry of National Defense announced earlier today that the PLA Eastern Theater Command continued to carry out joint combat training exercises in the waters and airspace around the Taiwan Island, mainly focusing on joint anti-submarine and air-to-sea assault operations. *Global Times* cited unnamed experts saying that such drills are expected to become routine until reunification, as the Chinese mainland shows its determination to push forward the reunification process after U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s provocative visit last week that violated China’s sovereignty and territorial integrity. Furthermore, these drills not only lock the island from inside out, but also from the outside in,

telling external forces that the PLA has powerful area denial capabilities in the region that even the U.S. cannot rival, analysts said.

Reuters cited Taiwan's Defense Ministry reporting that it had detected 39 Chinese air force planes and 13 navy ships in and around the Taiwan Strait on Aug. 8. Twenty-one Chinese air force planes had entered Taiwan's air defense zone, including fighter jets that crossed the median line in the northern part of the Taiwan Strait, the ministry said.

The focus of yesterday's drills, according to Xinhua, was on testing the capabilities of using joint firings to strike land targets and striking long-range air targets. The Air Force under the theater command deployed multiple types of warplanes, including early warning aircraft, bombers, jamming aircraft, fighter-bombers and fighter jets, to conduct drills on such combat missions as joint reconnaissance, airspace control operation, strikes on ground targets, and air support and cover, Xinhua said. Supported by naval and air combat systems, the air strike forces, together with long-range multiple launch rocket systems and conventional missile troops, conducted drills of joint precision strikes on targets. Multiple bomber formations flew across the Taiwan Strait from north to south and from south to north, while several fighter jets conducted joint drills with destroyers and frigates.

## U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

### **Flash: FBI Raid Former President Trump's Florida Residence, Club**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—In an unannounced federal raid today, FBI agents swooped in on former President Donald Trump's Florida Mar-a-Lago residence and club. At the time of this writing, there were no official statements, only media accounts and Trump's statement on Truth Social.

President Trump's statement read:

These are dark times for our Nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before. After working and cooperating with

the relevant Government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home was not necessary or appropriate. It is prosecutorial misconduct, the weaponization of the Justice System, and an attack by Radical Left Democrats who desperately don't want me to run for President in 2024, especially based on recent polls, and who will likewise do anything to stop Republicans and Conservatives in the upcoming Midterm Elections. Such an assault could only take place in broken, Third-World Countries. Sadly, America has now become one of those Countries, corrupt at a level not seen before. They even broke into my safe! What is the difference between this and Watergate, where operatives broke into the Democrat National Committee? Here, in reverse, Democrats broke into the home of the 45th President of the United States.

The political persecution of President Donald J. Trump has been going on for years, with the now fully debunked Russia, Russia, Russia Scam, Impeachment Hoax #1, Impeachment Hoax #2, and so much more, it just never ends. It is political targeting at the highest level!

Hillary Clinton was allowed to delete and acid wash 33,000 E-mails AFTER they were subpoenaed by Congress. Absolutely nothing has happened to hold her accountable. She even took antique furniture, and other items from the White House.

I stood up to America's bureaucratic corruption, I restored power to the people, and truly delivered for our Country, like we have never seen before. The establishment hated it. Now, as they watch my endorsed candidates win big victories, and see my dominance in all polls, they are trying to stop me, and the Republican Party, once more. The lawlessness, political persecution, and Witch Hunt must be exposed and stopped.

I will continue to fight for the Great American People!

### **Rock Star Roger Waters Humiliates CNN Neocon on Ukraine**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—Roger Waters, who was a founding member of the rock band Pink Floyd in 1965 and now enjoys a large following as a solo act, also has outspoken anti-neocon views, particularly in his support for Julian

Assange and his opposition to the proxy war against Russia in Ukraine. He has called Biden a war criminal for his role in arming Ukraine. Waters is currently touring the U.S. and is making these messages an integral part of his performance, causing anxiety among the narrative managers.

CNN deployed presenter Michael Smerconish to interview Waters on Smerconish's Aug. 6 morning show. The strategy was to play the gushing rock fan, and then manipulate Waters into "walking back" his political views. Smerconish was ill-prepared to take on Waters, as excerpts show:

**CNN:** You used to attack Trump. Why would you call Biden a war criminal?

**Waters:** Well, he's fuelling the fire in the Ukraine for a start—that is a huge crime. Why won't the United States of America encourage Zelenskyy to negotiate, obviating the need for this horrific, horrendous war that's killing we don't know how many Ukrainians and Russians?

**CNN:** But you're blaming the party that got invaded. You've got it reversed....

**Waters:** [T]his war is basically about the action and reaction of NATO pushing right up to the Russian border, which they promised they wouldn't do when Gorbachev negotiated the withdrawal of the U.S.S.R. from the whole of Eastern Europe.

**CNN:** What about our role as liberators?

**Waters:** You have no role as liberators!

**CNN:** World War II?... You lost your father in World War II! Thank God the United States got in!

**Waters:** The Russians had already won the bloody war almost by then! Don't forget, 23 million Russians died protecting you and me from the Nazi menace!

Waters told Smerconish he should try to figure out what the U.S. would do if the "Chinese were putting nuclear-armed missiles into Mexico or Canada."

**CNN:** The Chinese are too busy encircling Taiwan as we speak.

**Waters:** They're not encircling Taiwan. Taiwan is part of China. And that's been absolutely accepted by the whole of the international community since 1948 and, if you don't know that, you're not reading enough. Go and read about it.

### **Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman Tours South Pacific with an Anti-China Agenda**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman is on a tour of the Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Australia and New Zealand aimed clearly at shoring up the U.S. Indo-Pacific front—such as it is—against China. The Solomon Islands are a specific target because of the security treaty that nation signed with China in April of this year. The U.S. charges the treaty represents a security threat, based on the unfounded claim that China may be planning to build a military base there.

*Global Times* today charges that Sherman's visit aims to sabotage China's relations with Pacific Island countries as part of Washington's effort to contain China. The daily cites academics that the U.S. is going so far as to pressure Pacific Island nations to cancel projects signed under the Belt and Road Initiative and hope to convince Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare to abandon the security treaty with China.

In meetings with her colleagues from New Zealand and Australia, Sherman emphasized how they are collaborating to increase their cooperation through the ill-defined Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) and are engaging the Pacific island nations more directly. She warned, according to Australia's ABC, that the U.S. and Australia "are watching very carefully" to see how China's security pact with the Solomons takes shape, emphasizing that should China build a military base there, it would be "a threat, potentially, to all the Pacific islands."

With all the emphasis placed on the importance of the Solomon Islands, the State Department's one paragraph readout on Sherman's meeting with Prime Minister Sogavare and "select cabinet ministers," listed a few topics

discussed, including “developments affecting regional and global security”—undoubtedly referring to Taiwan and Ukraine. It is revealing that at a weekend service commemorating the 80th anniversary of the World War II Battle of Guadalcanal, organized by the U.S. and attended by representatives from Australia and New Zealand, Sogavare, billed as one of the speakers, didn’t show up.

Using her own remarks to attack unnamed countries that don’t “respect the rules-based international order”—referring to China—Sherman then publicly chastised the Prime Minister, saying she “really felt sorry” for him, because he missed an opportunity to reflect “on how the Japanese were turned back” during World War II. She lectured him on how he will have to answer to his own citizens for such action, as the ceremony was an opportunity, she said, to “feel the solidarity of our work together for freedom and democracy in the Pacific.”

## COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

### **German Farmers Will Take To the Streets Again on Aug. 26**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—Farmers in Germany are expected to take to the streets again, protesting against their own government’s and EU’s policies. A national rally will be staged in Berlin on August 26. Organizers regard it as a “365 day” demonstration, if nothing is done. Among charges brought up is the one pointing to the lethal mix of green policies and the EU and government’s inaction against the ongoing fertilizer/diesel price inflation, as main causes for the drop of grain harvest by 60% (!) in Germany this summer. A lot of shelves in the supermarkets right in the middle of Europe will be empty this coming winter season.

### **Dutch Farmers Insist Government Change Policies**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—The Dutch government’s attempt to enter into a dialogue with farmers in the conflict over harmful nitrogen emissions has suffered a setback. Only one interest group from the conventional farming

organizations, the LTO, will take part in the mediation talks, which began Aug. 5.

At a top-level meeting Aug. 3, all other associations, including the more rebellious farmers groups, Agractie and the Farmers Defense Force (FDF), decided to boycott mediation as long as the government sticks to its goal of halving allegedly harmful emissions by 2030, which would have serious consequences, especially for livestock farming. “Our farmers have no confidence in the government-led consultations,” a joint statement said. The biggest organization for agricultural interests, the LTO, was mandated to deliver their statement as a clear message to the government.

The Aug. 5 meeting with the LTO also went poorly (as expected), according to media accounts. Sjaak van der Tak, head of the LTO is reported in AFP saying that the “ball is in the government’s court.” The talks produced “really too little.”

The government representative was Johan Remkes. He said there was a “grave crisis of confidence” between the two sides, and the rift “went deeper than nitrogen.” Brilliant Prime Minister Mark Rutte recently published a “nitrogen map” showing where farms were most expected to have to close, to protect non-emitting nature reserves. Not backing down, he has since mumbled about how the map caused “great confusion.”

Donald Trump’s statement of support for the Dutch farmers is also getting great play in Europe.

## **‘New’ U.S. Sub-Saharan Africa Strategy Based on Same Old Rotten Axioms**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—Secretary of State Tony Blinken was in Pretoria, South Africa today, in day-long activities, including a “Strategic Dialogue” with his Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor, who pulled no punches on key issues, before the big event of the day, which was the presentation of the Biden administration’s “new” [Sub-Saharan Africa Strategy](#).

Blinken bent over backwards to present it as a thoroughly new approach to Africa, one in which the United States “will do with African nations and

peoples, not for African nations and peoples.” As a senior State Department official had explained a day earlier, “we’ll give them a seat at the table,” to work out problems together. However, Blinken let slip a few zingers that reveal that their “new” strategy is based on the same old axioms underlying the rotting trans-Atlantic financial system, and is intended, among other things, to counter Russia and China’s influence in the region.

The new strategy, according to Blinken, will be based on a collaborative effort, focusing on four priority areas: 1) openness, by which individuals, communities and nations “choose their own path”; 2) working with African partners to fulfill the promise of democracy; 3) working to recover from the devastation of COVID-19, laying the basis for “sustainable economic opportunity.” Infrastructure projects? Railroads? Dams? No mention of that; 4) the transition to green energy and combating climate change.

Green energy, Blinken promised, will “power economic opportunity.” Soon, he said, removing “10,000 cars” from Ghana’s roads could become a reality. That sounds like former [President Barack Obama’s 2013 admonition](#) to students in Soweto for Africans not to hope for cars or air conditioning, lest “the planet will boil over.”

These are “at the heart” of the Biden Sub-Saharan Strategy, Blinken boasted, promising the United States will “not dictate Africa’s choices. Neither should anyone else.” But, of course, “the United States and the world will look to African nations to defend the rules of the international system that they’ve done so much to shape. These include the right of every country to have its independence, its sovereignty, its territorial integrity respected, a principle at stake now in Ukraine.” Whose rules?

Yes, any nation can choose its own path, its own model, Blinken said, and without naming it, attacked the Belt and Road Initiative. “We’ve seen the consequences when international infrastructure deals are corrupt and coercive, when they’re poorly built or environmentally destructive, when they import or abuse workers, or burden countries with crushing debt.”

As for democracy, no African nation likes authoritarianism, Blinken remarked, so better to look to the very select Summit of Democracies that

Biden organized soon after he took office and the African Leaders Summit that the U.S. will host in December. This is the way to “build momentum” around democracy, he promised.

Blinken otherwise raised initiatives already presented to the world community that failed to address the pressing issues of debt, hunger, and COVID-19, including his own Global Food Security Ministerial boondoggle held at the UN earlier this year, and he, of course, blamed Russia at every opportunity for world hunger. He promoted Biden’s Partnership for Global Infrastructure, a pathetic alternative to the BRI, and the G20’s Common Framework for Debt Relief and various other programs organized under the aegis of the IMF and World Bank incapable of solving the problems of developing nations.

Blinken concluded by telling his audience that every one of the priorities he presented had been “championed by Africans first.” It’s doubtful that Africans would have envisioned the future of zero growth, austerity and enforced backwardness that is the actual content of this “new” program.

## NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

### **Wang Yi Visits to Bangladesh and Mongolia Focus on Cooperation and Development**

Aug. 8 (EIRNS)—Following the ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ meeting in Cambodia, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi traveled to Bangladesh and Mongolia, where he thanked those nations’ leaders for supporting the One China policy, in the context of recent developments around Taiwan, and to discuss development strategies and cooperation projects related to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

In Bangladesh, Wang met with Foreign Minister Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen on Aug. 7, who expressed his enthusiasm about strengthening Bangladesh’s involvement in the BRI, which he said meshed very well with Dhaka’s own development strategy. Dr. Momen stressed that Bangladesh firmly adheres to the One China policy, and that Bangladesh, and the world, “needs the strength and voice of China,” Xinhua quoted him saying.

It is imperative, he said, that the purposes and principles of the UN Charter be upheld. The two discussed cooperation in such areas as infrastructure, the economy and building of industrial parks, also discussing the Global Development and Global Security Initiatives.

In Mongolia, Wang met with Prime Minister Luvsannamsrai Oyun-Erdene in Ulaanbaatar. He emphasized that China is a true friend that Mongolia wants to work with on joint development strategies and bilateral cooperation. Mongolia “firmly supports” the One China policy, he said, and rejects outside interference in China’s internal affairs, related to Taiwan, Xinjiang, Xizang and Hong Kong.

“China is a responsible major country representing the future of Asia, and China’s development serves the common interests of all Asian countries,” the Prime Minister underscored. Discussion focused on building ports and “corridors,” and coordinating the BRI with Mongolia’s “Steppe Road program.” The Steppe Road program aims to improve the Mongolian economy through transborder transportation projects, examples of which are a new highway linking Russia and China, a railway extension of the existing Mongolian railway system and building an oil and gas pipeline through Mongolian territory linking Russia and China.