

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

‘The Most Essential Thing at This Point, Is Ideas’: Lyndon LaRouche

March 30 (EIRNS)—How, then, should we go about organizing our fellow citizens and those of other nations, under conditions where the world is

facing the very real possibility of thermonuclear war; where it is already descending into a physical-economic meltdown unseen since the 14th-century New Dark Age; and where most about us are gripped by a pessimism which numbs their concern for humanity—and for themselves?

A good starting point is to listen to—or at least read—the wise words of Lyndon LaRouche.

“We come to a point of crisis. What is the alternative to sitting back, and either pretending this isn’t happening, or to simply complain about it’s happening, and protest wildly?

“Now, humanity is different than the animals. Animals, under these conditions, would simply go crazy. But, except for some of my opponents, human beings are not animals. Human beings are cognitive, and the characteristic of history is that, when mankind uses his brain, his mind, and exchanges concepts with others, which define an alternative to an impossible situation, mankind will adopt an *intention*, a governing intention of action, to make some innovation in institutions, to try to solve the problem. Therefore, the most essential thing at this point, is *ideas*....

“But that’s not enough. You also have to provide a clear image of the feasible alternative. What do we do instead?”

Those were Lyndon LaRouche’s words to a May 4-6, 2001 Schiller Institute conference in Bad Schwalbach, Germany, on the subject of “[Winning the Ecumenical Battle for the Common Good.](#)” (LaRouche’s full speech on that occasion can be found in the March 25, 2022 issue of *EIR*.)

Those ideas, that intention, and just such a clear image of the feasible alternative will be at the center of the Schiller Institute’s upcoming April 9 international dialogue, “For a Conference To Establish a New Security and Development Architecture for All Nations.” And the just-issued “[LaRouche Plan for a New International Economic Architecture](#),” the draft of which is now available on the Schiller Institute website, is an essential discussion document for participants in that conference, and in fact for every government and political leader around the world, each of whom is facing

existential decisions that will determine the fate of their nations and of all mankind.

As you will read below, movement in the direction of the required policy is well underway in Eurasia, with the in-depth strategic coordination between Russia and China, the growing potential for the involvement of India, and China's leading role in addressing the Afghan crisis. As Lyndon LaRouche explained in that same 2001 speech, "This is what came up when Primakov was Prime Minister [of Russia], on the triangular cooperation, which we boosted very much, and pushed for, between China, Russia, and India. That is a viable idea. It has to be given more legs to walk on and a mind to direct it, in that sense."

And, as LaRouche then emphasized, "Western Europe has to adopt a mission, and Central Europe has to adopt a mission, of participating in this development of Eurasia." Moreover, "the object would be to bring the United States in to cooperate with that great venture ... and then look at the needs of Africa, in order to see humanity in its wholeness."

That broad strategic orientation, identified by Lyndon LaRouche 21 years ago, remains our mission today.

- Watch **Harley's Updates** with Harley Schlanger on Thursday March 31, 2022: Every weekday morning on **The LaRouche Organization**, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

China and Russia Will 'Speak with a Unified Voice in Global Affairs'

March 30 (EIRNS)—Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi held talks today in the city of Tunxi, in the eastern Chinese province of Anhui, where they agreed that Russian and China "speak with a unified voice in global affairs." The two foreign ministers met on the sidelines of the third Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan's Neighboring Countries on March 31.

Speaking at the meeting of the two ministers, Wang Yi said: “The desire of the two sides to develop bilateral relations has become even stronger; so has the confidence to promote cooperation in various directions. The Chinese side attaches great importance to this,” he stressed.

According to TASS, Wang added that he was ready to work together with his “old friend” Sergey Lavrov to promote the implementation of the agreements reached by the leaders of the two countries, Presidents Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin, to take China-Russia relations of comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation to a new, higher level in a new era.

For his part, Lavrov said: “We are living through a serious stage in the history of international relations. I am convinced that the outcome of this stage will substantially clarify the international situation. We will move towards a multipolar, equitable and democratic world order with you and other like-minded nations.

“We are interested in ensuring the sustainable and consistent development of our relations with the People’s Republic of China, as agreed by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin and President of the People’s Republic of China Xi Jinping.

“Today, we will review specific steps to ensure that all these agreements are implemented.

“Dear friend, I am happy to speak with you, especially in this wonderful province. I have already been to many provinces in China, and all of them evoke sincere admiration.”

He briefed Wang Yi on the state of negotiations with Ukraine and underlined that Russia was committed to de-escalating tensions and would pursue peace talks and maintain communications with the international community on the issue.

Wang Yi reiterated China’s position on encouraging a multipolar world and adhering to the principles of the UN Charter. He declared that the Ukraine crisis had a complex history and that it was only the outbreak of

the long-term accumulation of security conflicts in Europe that led to the crisis, as well as the Cold War mentality which continues to live on. “Under the current situation, we support Russia and Ukraine to continue the peace talks despite difficulties, support the positive results achieved so far in the negotiations, support the cooling of the situation on the ground as soon as possible, and support the efforts made by Russia and other parties to prevent a large-scale humanitarian crisis.”

“In the long run,” Wang continued, “we should learn the lessons of the Ukraine crisis, respond to the legitimate security concerns of all parties based on the principles of mutual respect and indivisibility of security, and build a balanced, effective and sustainable European security architecture through dialogue and negotiation, so as to achieve long-term stability in Europe.”

A **joint statement** issued after the talks reported: “The foreign ministers of both countries stated that in light of the challenging international situation, Russia and China continue to strengthen their strategic partnership and speak with a unified voice in global affairs. It was agreed to further bolster foreign policy coordination, enhance cooperation on the bilateral track as well as in various multilateral formats.”

The importance of the relationship was also underlined at the Foreign Ministry briefing the same day, where spokesman Wang Wenbin stated: “There is no ceiling for China-Russia cooperation, no ceiling for us to strive for peace, no ceiling for us to safeguard security and no ceiling for us to oppose hegemony.”

Russia Organizing Ruble-Rupee Payment Method for Oil Exports to India

March 30 (EIRNS)—Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will arrive in New Delhi for a two-day visit to India on March 31, and one of the main topics of discussion will be establishing ruble-rupee denominated payment mechanisms for increased Russian oil exports to India. Since Russia has been subjected to near-total financial sanctions by the West, such non-

dollar mechanisms are required to maintain the flow of physical goods for the productive economy.

Such a rupee-ruble trade mechanism could be in place by as early as next week, A. Sakthivel, president of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO), told CNBC's "Street Signs" today. The FIEO, a government-backed association representing over 200,000 exporters, oversees India's export promotion councils. There has been no official announcement yet from the Indian government.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov discussed the widening use of national currencies in remarks to the press today. TASS reported that Peskov was asked about a proposal of State Duma Speaker Vyechaslav Volodin to expand the list of products exported for rubles beyond natural gas, to which Peskov replied: "Widening the practice of using national currencies is an area that our government is also pursuing and we need to move further on all fronts. This is in our interests and in the interests of our partners."

Russian Economist Glazyev Details Proposal To Reverse the 'Breakdown of Epochs'

March 30 (EIRNS)—*Sergey Glazyev*, the prominent Russian economist and currently Minister for Integration and Macroeconomics at the Eurasian Economic Commission, the executive body of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), granted an extensive interview on March 27 to *Business Online* (business-gazeta.ru) electronic newspaper, in which he detailed his proposal for a new international financial architecture.

Speaking of academics and specialists in countries such as Russia, India and China, he stated: "We are currently working on a draft international agreement on the introduction of a new world settlement currency, pegged to the national currencies of the participating countries and to exchange-traded goods that determine real values.... Objectively, the ruble could become a reserve currency along with the yuan and the rupee. It would be possible to switch to a multi-currency system based on national currencies. But you still need some equivalent for pricing."

He went on to explain the central importance of issuing for productive activity. “Global economic cooperation is based on joint investments aimed at improving the well-being of peoples.... Macroeconomic stabilization in the modern economy can be achieved only on the basis of accelerated scientific and technological progress.”

Glazyev praised China’s success, particularly on this point: “The entire banking system in China is state-owned, it operates as a single development institution, directing cash flows to expand output and develop new technologies.... [They invest in] expanded reproduction of the real sector of the economy, focusing on financing development investments.”

Earlier in the interview Glazyev presented a broad strategic evaluation of the context of the current Ukraine crisis: the demise of the Western, dollar-based system, and in particular the British-American geopolitical order. As Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov had done in earlier remarks, Glazyev emphasized the role of Zbigniew Brzezinski:

“All the so-called geopolitical science that was written in London was reduced, in fact, to a set of recommendations on how to destroy Russia as the dominant force in Eurasia ... Brzezinski’s famous theorem says that in order to defeat Russia as a superpower, you need to tear Ukraine away from it. All this political dogma, which, it would seem, has long gone down in history, is nevertheless reproduced today in the thinking of the American political elite.... They used Ukraine as an outpost, or rather, as a tool for undermining Russia, weakening it, and in the future for destroying it as a sovereign state, in accordance with Brzezinski’s proposal.”

Zepp-LaRouche Article Featured in CASS Publication ‘Social Sciences In China’

March 30 (EIRNS)—“A Chinese Contribution to Universal History, Viewed from the Future” is the title of an in-depth article by Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche, which has just been published in Chinese and in English in *Social Sciences in China*, the publication of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), China’s leading research

institute and think tank which has been characterized as the top think tank in Asia. The Abstract of the article reads as follows:

“The world seems to be divided at this point into two camps. If the world is to become a community with a shared future for mankind, then the growing conflict between these two camps must be overcome. China is presently the only country that has a clear, exciting vision for the future. Given its incredible record of success, especially during the last forty years, there is every reason to assume that this goal has overwhelming chances of being reached. The main problem, however, is that the proponents of the liberal system regard the Chinese model as a rival and even adversary to their own system, and they are determined to contain the further rise of China. One of the essential keys to solving the strategic dilemma is to enter into a cultural dialogue around those high points in the cultural tradition of the different cultures which did bring mankind a step further.”

Putin’s Measures Are Strengthening the Ruble

March 30 (EIRNS)—Despite the massive international financial warfare being waged against Russia, the ruble closed today at about 82 to the dollar, continuing its trend of strengthening from its lowest recent point of 139 to the dollar on March 7. This is because the Putin government has wisely adopted a series of strictly protectionist measures, including exchange controls, designed to block speculation against the ruble and strengthen the domestic productive economy.

Putin’s announcement a week ago that Russia would only accept payments in rubles for its natural gas exported to 48 “hostile states” (including the U.S. and the entire EU) have also helped strengthen the ruble, as have earlier measures requiring exporters to convert 80% of all foreign exchange earnings into rubles at the central bank. Likewise, the import-substitution measures that the government has been forced to adopt in the face of blistering economic sanctions, have reduced the requirements for dollars to purchase imports.

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

EU Faces Showdown on Paying for Russia's Natural Gas with Rubles

March 30 (EIRNS)—One week ago, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that “hostile states” (those implementing sanctions against Russia) would have to pay in rubles for the natural gas that they import from Russia. The deadline for that policy arrives tomorrow, March 31.

In response, both the G7 and the EU have officially announced that they reject the payments switch—setting up a collision with Russia on the matter. Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz claimed in a speech to the G7 on March 28 that being forced to pay in rubles would constitute a “breach of contract.” Other EU countries claim they can't figure out how to obtain rubles. Stanislav Mitrakhovich, a leading expert at the Financial University and the National Energy Security Fund, yesterday explained to *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* that in reality “finding rubles” is very easy. “It is enough to come to the Moscow stock exchange or simply open an account in a Russian bank and make a conversion.”

But this, of course, would constitute a breach in the sanctions regime being applied against Russia.

This morning, the press probed Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov to see if Putin was giving any sign of flinching. Peskov explained that the details on the arrangements of paying for gas supplies in rubles will be available shortly, but “I don't hold this information yet” as to how and when this mechanism will be presented to the President. “But in any case, the data about all this will be available. Let's wait for March 31. The President's request is in place, it should be fulfilled.” Peskov further stated that payments in rubles itself will not be implemented immediately, starting March 31, reported TASS. “The payment and supplies are a lengthy process. This does not mean that all that will be supplied tomorrow should be paid for (in rubles) by the evening.”

Speaker of Russia's State Duma Vyacheslav Volodin expanded on the situation today, writing on his Telegram account: “European countries have

all the market opportunities to pay in rubles. There is no tragedy in it. The situation is much more terrible when there is money but no goods. Furthermore, it will be proper where it benefits our country, to expand the list of goods exported for rubles: fertilizers, grain, oil, petroleum, coal, metals and lumber.” European politicians need to “end talks, stop looking for justifications why their countries cannot pay in rubles. They did everything themselves to undermine confidence in the dollar and the euro, so that Russia rejected mutual settlements in these currencies.”

British Demand That Europe Stay United on Russia Sanctions

March 30 (EIRNS)—As Europe, and especially Germany, ponder how they will survive if their imports of Russian natural gas and oil are cut off, the British government of Boris Johnson went into high gear to whip everyone back in line on the suicidal sanctions policy. BoJo told his cabinet yesterday, according to his spokesman, that pressure on Putin “must be increased both through further economic measures and providing military aid to ensure Russia changes course completely.” Earlier, his Foreign Secretary Liz Truss had told the *Sunday Telegraph* of March 27, that sanctions “should only come off with a full ceasefire and withdrawal, but also commitments that there will be no further aggression.”

U.S. President Joe Biden followed in the British footsteps, and placed a round of calls on March 29 to his British (Johnson), French (Macron), German (Scholz) and Italian (Draghi) fellow heads of state and government. He told them each how important it was to maintain unity against Russia at this time. And he informed the media afterward that they all agreed to have a wait-and-see approach to Russia’s announcements of troop withdrawals from around Kyiv: “We’ll see if they follow through what they’re suggesting,” Biden stated, emphasizing that there was a “consensus” among the leaders to “let’s just see what they have to offer. We’ll find out what they do.”

CNN reported that the real issue of the calls was that “the U.S. is concerned about keeping the European allies unified on economic pressure

and military support as Washington expects some of them to press Ukraine to accept a peace deal to end the fighting.”

Russians Announce Troop Drawbacks in Ukraine After Istanbul Talks

March 30 (EIRNS)—Immediately after the Russia-Ukraine talks adjourned in Istanbul yesterday, Russian Deputy Defense Minister Alexander Fomin announced a decrease in Russian military activity in the directions of Kyiv and Chernihiv. “Due to the fact that the talks on preparing an agreement on Ukraine’s neutrality and non-nuclear status as well as on providing Ukraine with security guarantees are moving to the practical sphere, considering the principles discussed during the meeting today, in order to bolster mutual confidence and create the necessary conditions for the further talks and the achievement of the final goal—the coordination and the signing of the aforementioned agreement—the Russian Defense Ministry has made a decision to cardinal, several-fold decrease the military activity in the direction of Kyiv and Chernihiv,” he said, reported TASS. “We are proceeding from the premise that Kyiv will make corresponding basic decisions and conditions should be created for the further normal work,”

Prior to Fomin’s statement, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said in a conference call that “the Russian armed forces will continue the special military operation until the goals set are achieved.” He said that “overall, the main goals of the first stage have been accomplished. The combat potential of the Ukrainian armed forces has significantly decreased which allows us to focus the main attention and main efforts on achieving the main goal—the liberation of Donbas.”

Among other things, Shoigu reported the following:

- That out of the 152 warplanes the Ukrainian armed forces had before the start of the operation, 123 have been eliminated, as well as 77 helicopters out of 149, and 152 long- and medium-range air defense missile systems (ADMS) out of 180. “The country’s naval forces have ceased to exist. Significant losses were sustained by all the units of ground and air assault troops,” he stated.

- More than 500 mercenaries have left Ukraine and another 600 were killed in the past two weeks.
- He accused the Kyiv regime of using some of its weapons recklessly, in particular sea mines in the Black Sea which have become a threat to civilian shipping.

Kabul: China Is the Only Country with an Economic Approach

March 30 (EIRNS)—The Third Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan began on March 30 in Tunxi, Anhui, China. Several other important diplomatic meetings will be held around that two-day, March 30-31 gathering of the foreign ministers or representatives of China, Pakistan, Iran, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan; Indonesia and Qatar have also been invited to attend a meeting with the Afghan Acting Foreign Minister. There will be a meeting of the “Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan” with Afghan officials, and a separate China-U.S.-Russia consultation meeting on the Afghan issue as well. The forum will also facilitate a series of bilateral meetings between the parties attending.

From Afghanistan, attending are Acting Deputy Prime Minister of Afghanistan Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and Acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi.

Abdul Nasir Rishtia, CEO of Afghanistan Steel Mills Union, stressed the key role of China in addressing the Afghan crisis. “Afghanistan gets much attention from its neighbors and it [the meeting] will probably have productive results. But unfortunately China has been the only country in Afghanistan’s neighborhood that has brought an economic approach. Such an approach can benefit both countries. We are in extreme need of China’s economic cooperation, as it is an industrialized country that can help Afghanistan technically.”

Shafiullah Azam, General Director of Economic Affairs in the Afghan Foreign Ministry, told CGTN: “This meeting is very important for Afghanistan, because all neighboring countries are invited and usually the

main topic would be Afghanistan, regional connectivity and economic cooperation among these countries.” He also stressed his government’s hope that, “on the other hand, it is an unannounced recognition of the Afghan government.”

COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

German Government Starts Procedures for Energy Emergency

March 30 (EIRNS)—German Industry and Climate Protection Minister Robert Habeck (Greens) announced a pre-alarm stage of the national emergency plan on gas supplies. The emergency plan includes three levels: pre-alarm, alarm and emergency. The pre-alarm stage includes the establishment of a working group that monitors the situation and can decide to cut energy to some end-consumers. However, in order to do that, the third stage (emergency) must first be reached. In that case, households would continue to receive gas, but a few large customers from industry would get none or a reduced amount.

The decision has been taken in view of possible disruption of Russian gas supplies following the EU decision to not accept Russia’s demands for “hostile states” to pay in rubles.

Germany currently imports a staggering 24% of its national energy needs from Russia, in the form of natural gas and oil. If that supply is stopped, Germany would quickly sink into economic collapse and social chaos.

Nebenzia Argues, Reckless ‘Sanction Hysteria’ Means Destroying Global Access to Food

March 30 (EIRNS)—“True causes of grave turbulence that is menacing the global food market is not in Russia’s actions, but rather in unlimited sanctions hysteria that the West started against Russia without thinking either about the population of states of the so-called Global South, or about their own people.” This was the blunt message of [Vassily Nebenzia](#), Russia’s Permanent Representative to the UN on March 29, posted to

Russia's UN Mission website. "Attempted economic, logistical, and financial isolation of Russia from cooperation channels that were established over years are already creating an economic crisis of historic proportions. It is clear even to laymen that only rejection of unilateral restrictive measures can lift tensions from transportation-related, logistical, and financial aspects, ensure unimpeded deliveries and stability of global agricultural and food markets," he said.

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

Gabbard Posts Dramatic One-Minute Video, 'Warmongers Have Set Us on a Path for Nuclear War'

March 30 (EIRNS)—Former U.S. Rep. **Tulsi Gabbard** (D-HI) has just posted a dramatic one-minute video message warning about the danger of nuclear war. She begins: "The warmongers have set us on a path for nuclear war with Russia. And when the nukes start flying, you'll get an alert like the people in Hawaii got on our phones 4 years ago." The video then cuts to a recording of the Hawaii incident: "Seek immediate shelter... A missile may impact on land or sea within minutes. This is not a drill." Gabbard then returns to say that the message told us there was only 20 minutes to find shelter, but there were no shelters. "Parents lowered their children into manholes... When the Russian nukes are incoming, and our leaders tell you to seek shelter immediately, you will realize how our leaders have failed and betrayed you and your loved ones. ... We must stand together and stand up against these warmongers before it is too late," she advises her viewers. Gabbard has 390,000 subscribers to her YouTube channel.

The 'Hannity Doctrine': Kill Putin

March 30 (EIRNS)—On the March 28, Monday night Hannity program on Fox News, while commenting on President Joe Biden's statement that Russian President Vladimir Putin "cannot remain in office," host Sean Hannity called President Putin a "brutal thug, dictator, with blood on his hands," who is responsible for "killing men, women and children," and

then proclaimed: “That would mean, according to the Hannity Doctrine, you would forfeit your right to lead any country, and frankly, you would forfeit your right to even live.”

In Italy, Russian Ambassador Sergey Razov has brought suit against the daily *La Stampa* for publishing a call to assassinate Russian President Putin. In the U.S., such calls for violence (let alone for assassination) are regularly censored from the media—unless it is against supposed enemies.