

EIR Daily Alert Service

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- In Berlin—A Show of Fight Against Green Fascism!
- German BüSo Party Welcomes Crushing Defeat of Pro-Climate Referendum in Berlin
- BRICS Purchasing-Power GDP Is Larger than G7 in 2022
- NATO, Kiev Regime and Paris Criticize Russian Plans To Station Nukes in Belarus
- Russia Building New Base in Kamchatka for Nuclear Drone-Carrying Submarines
- Economic and Political Warfare Against Bolivia Intensifies, as China Ties Are Targeted
- Regional Fed President Says U.S. ‘Capital Markets Closed’ Last Two Weeks
- German Workers Shut Down Public Transport in ‘Warning Strike’
- Netanyahu Paused His Judiciary Overhaul amidst Ongoing Mass Protests against His Government
- Biden Administration Plans To Stay in Syria
- U.S. Second ‘Summit for Democracy’ This Week, as VP Harris Pitches ‘Democracy’ in Africa
- LaRouche’s 1983 Special Report ‘Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023’ Now Available from *EIR*

EDITORIAL

In Berlin—A Show of Fight Against Green Fascism!

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—On Sunday, March 26, a referendum in Berlin for “Climate Neutrality by 2030” resoundingly failed.

It was forced onto the ballot and promoted with huge funding from the green fascist banker networks, based in the U.S., as a pilot for other major Western cities. The failed measure ordered the government to cut and decarbonize human activity—specifics to be worked out—to save the planet, in less than a decade.

The intent of the originators of the “climate neutrality” mandate is that populations should roll over and accept economic death, while the Golden Billionaire class plots ways to save itself from the financial collapse. But Berlin rejected the bill. The details are in a statement today, “BüSo Welcomes Crashing Defeat for Pro-Climate Referendum in Berlin,” released by Dr. Wolfgang Lillge, BüSo Regional Chairman, Berlin.

Moreover, this show of fight in the capital of Germany is a win for sovereignty itself, since Germany has been expected to be subservient in every way to what the Anglosphere/Global NATO dictates. Look at the blatant attack on the Nord Stream pipelines, co-owned by Russia and Germany, which was likely done by the U.S. and covered up by the Anglosphere. Look at the military occupation of Germany by the United States, especially at the use of the Ramstein Air Base as a supranational NATO center.

Another show of fight—and also in the electoral realm—against green fascism is the vote on March 15 in the Netherlands, which swept away the ruling party’s control of the Senate. The population voted alongside the farmers, who have been leading the fight against the EU/government attempt to drastically cut Dutch agriculture and food production, in the name of saving the planet by reducing “nitrogen emissions.”

Four days before the vote, a huge protest rally against the government's green fascism took place at The Hague, organized by farmers and fishermen, and supported by the general public.

These singular victories are taking place in the midst of general mass strikes and actions in many nations in Europe, and for apparently disparate "issues," but all in the spirit that government must serve the people. In Germany today, a nationwide transportation strike was conducted as a warning to the government that wages must be made sufficient relative to inflation. In Israel a huge nationwide protest was sparked Sunday, March 26, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu fired the Defense Minister for questioning Netanyahu's moves to degrade the court system.

At the same time, there are more and more instances of tentative realignment directly with the development drive from China, Russia and the Global Majority. For example, this week, Australian leaders are visiting China. Victoria State Premier Daniel Andrews is leading a trade mission to China, seeking more economic activity. The deals Victoria had made in the past with China, as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, were ripped up under powers of the British Commonwealth. Now Andrews is going again. Many Australian business leaders are also going to China this week for the Boao Forum for Asia, which will be held on March 28-31. The spirit of their visits is directly counter to the AUKUS buildup against China and Russia.

In this context, the second Summit for Democracy, hosted by the United States and four co-sponsor nations, which runs online over March 28-30, is a sick joke. Its message to nations is: "We dictate democracy, and you comply, or else we sanction and attack you." The list of nations which are excluded from the summit, is indicative of the purpose of the event. The not-invited include China, Russia, Egypt, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Honduras and many more. Coincident with the summit, Vice President Kamala Harris is now in Africa this week to pitch "democracy." Her message? "We are not competing in Africa against China; we are just providing more 'options.' "

This is laughable, except for the escalating danger from the dying “empire of democracy.” This crowd is playing with nuclear fire by continuing the provocations against Russia over Ukraine, while at the same time completely blocking starting talks towards a resolution of the emergency. This must stop.

Join the fight now.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday March 28, 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

German BüSo Party Welcomes Crushing Defeat of Pro-Climate Referendum in Berlin

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—In Berlin, the [Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party, or BüSo](#)—founded and chaired nationally by Helga Zepp-LaRouche—issued the following statement today over the signature of Dr. Wolfgang Lillge, BüSo Regional Chairman, Berlin:

The Berlin “climate” referendum, in which oligarchic interests invested €1.2 million, including money from “philanthropic” environmental foundations in the United States, has failed, and failed very badly. The required quorum of 25% of all eligible voters in Berlin (607,518 votes) was far from reached; almost 170,000 votes were lacking.

Particularly striking—which had not been predicted—is the high number of 423,418 “no” votes against a narrow majority of 442,210 yes votes. Many “experts” had expected that the opponents of the referendum would rather stay at home than go to the polling stations. But in six of Berlin’s twelve districts, the “no” votes even had a clear majority.

In the two weeks leading up to the vote, it had already become apparent that there was growing dissatisfaction among the population with the completely exaggerated climate targets. It was calculated that the measures

envisaged in the bill for building renovations, transport and energy conversions would have cost around €113 billion, which would have exceeded Berlin's total budget (currently around €38 billion per year) many times over, not to mention the fact that it would have destroyed Berlin's economic substance and social fabric.

The "Berlin 2030 climate neutral" referendum would have been legally binding on the Berlin Senate [the government of the city-state of Berlin], since it involved a vote on a specific bill, unlike previous referenda on other issues. This would have made Berlin's "Climate Protection and Energy Transition" law, which in its previous version was based on "climate protection targets," a binding provision. And the Berlin Senate would have had to establish a financial dictatorship to enforce this new Morgenthau Plan. Even some politicians in the Berlin Senate were obviously not prepared to do that.

An important element in the resistance was that, for the first time, it was also questioned who financed the campaign for the referendum, because after all, more than €1.2 million flowed into the campaign—a large part of which came from U.S. networks.

Quite obviously, these circles do not see the Berlin referendum as a local German affair, but as part of an international operation for referendums in many major cities around the world, in order to get their hands on leverage against the supposed hesitancy of elected national governments. That's why money poured into the campaign's coffers from the United States. Two of the major donors were Albert Wenger and his wife Susan Danziger of New York, who gave nearly \$500,000. That's ten times or more than the average donation they usually make. In addition to the Wengers, the highest levels of the climate lobby in the U.S. are getting involved in these activities, including Theodore Roosevelt IV, who is a direct associate of environmentalist guru and former Vice President Al Gore.

More and more people now understand what a Davos-style green financial dictatorship means, and they are beginning to show their

opposition openly. This is the really good news of the vote. After the U.S. destruction of the Nord Stream pipelines, the effects of the Ukraine war, and skyrocketing inflation, many people have had enough of the cuckolding by the German government, and especially by Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

But now we have to go one step further, because the SPD, CDU and FDP rejected the petition for a referendum as “too radical,” but want to stay on the “climate course.” In the end, that means only delaying economic and social suicide a little. What can ensure our survival in the long run is the orientation toward higher energy flux densities (i.e., nuclear energy and thermonuclear fusion) instead of relying on medieval technology like wind and sun. Incidentally, that is already the orientation of countries of the Global South, including China and Russia, which are seeking a very different paradigm of cooperation and development in the world.

BRICS Purchasing-Power GDP Is Larger than G7 in 2022

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—The Silk Road Briefing website, run by Dezan Shira & Associates, posted March 27 that, “The BRICS Has Overtaken the G7 in Global GDP” as of 2022. Dezan Shira is a “market analysis and intelligence” firm with headquarters in 100 countries. The report is that in 2022 the BRICS contributed 31.5% of global GDP by purchasing power parity, compared to the G7 share of 30%.

The story was first broke by Scott Ritter in a special to *Consortium News* on March 22, in “[G7 vs BRICS—Off to the Races](#),” which cites the findings by one Richard Dias, founder of Acorn Macro Consulting. Reports Ritter: “After rooting through the IMF’s World Economic Outlook Data Base, Dias conducted a comparative analysis of the percentage of global GDP adjusted for PPP between the G7 and BRICS, and made a surprising discovery: BRICS had surpassed the G7.

“This was not a projection, but rather a statement of accomplished fact: BRICS was responsible for 31.5% of the PPP-adjusted global GDP, while the G7 provided 30.7%. Making matters worse for the G7, the trends projected showed that the gap between the two economic blocs would only widen going forward.”

It is interesting to consider that GDP adjusted for purchasing power parity (effectively, with the value of the nation's currency adjusted by its ability to purchase domestically, the elements of a moderate to high living standard), is strongly related to national economic productivity, and could approximate the adjustment of currency exchange rates which would obtain in a new, fixed-exchange-rate monetary agreement.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, in her speech at the 2023 China Development Forum on March 26, stated the IMF's estimate for China's 2023 economic growth rate at 5.2% and forecast that China would again carry at least 30% of worldwide economic growth, as it did for several years after the global financial crash and so-called Great Recession of 2009. Georgieva apparently did not mention it, but the IMF's growth forecast for India in 2023 is 6.1%, and that India will carry 15% of world economic growth during the year.

In comparison, the "democracies" meeting at U.S. President Joe Biden's invitation March 28, might fairly call themselves the Stagflation Summit.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

NATO, Kiev Regime and Paris Criticize Russian Plans To Station Nukes in Belarus

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—NATO took up the cudgels against Russian President Vladimir Putin after his report yesterday that Russia would be placing nuclear weapons in Belarus under arrangements very similar to those by which European countries host U.S. nuclear weapons. "Russia's reference to NATO's nuclear sharing is totally misleading. NATO allies act with full respect of their international commitments," NATO spokeswoman Oana Lungescu said in emailed comments to Reuters on March 26. "Russia has consistently broken its arms control commitments," Lungescu said.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, after Putin's announcement, called for an extraordinary meeting of the UN Security Council, and demanded the international community "take decisive measures" to prevent Russia's use of nuclear weapons. (Recall that one of the final straws leading to Russia's

special military operation in Ukraine was President [Volodymyr Zelenskyy](#)'s demand at the Feb. 15, 2022 Munich Security Conference, that Ukraine be allowed to have nuclear weapons—ed.). “Russia once again confirms its chronic inability to be a responsible steward of nuclear weapons as a means of deterrence and prevention of war, not as a tool of threats and intimidation,” the Ministry said.

In Paris, the [French Foreign Ministry](#) self-righteously called on Russia to revise its agreement with Belarus on the deployment of nuclear weapons as having a destabilizing character. “France attaches great significance to the commitment to the January 3, 2022 statement on the inadmissibility of a nuclear war and an arms race, which was approved by both [Russian President] Vladimir Putin and all the heads of state and government of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. It calls on Russia to demonstrate responsibility, which is expected from a state possessing nuclear weapons, and revise this destabilizing agreement,” it said, reported TASS.

According to the French Foreign Ministry, this decision “represents an additional element of the erosion of the international architecture of arms control and strategic stability in Europe amid Russia’s violation of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty entailing its termination and Russia’s declared suspension of its participation in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) in February.”

Russia Building New Base in Kamchatka for Nuclear Drone-Carrying Submarines

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—TASS, citing a source “close” to the Russian Defense Ministry, reported this morning that the Russian Navy is building a new base in Kamchatka for the *Belgorod* and *Khabarovsk* nuclear submarines, which are special purpose vessels designed and built to carry the Poseidon nuclear-powered, nuclear-armed torpedo. “The construction of coastal infrastructure facilities for accommodating two special-purpose submarines in Kamchatka is set to be finished at the beginning of next

year,” the source said. The new special-purpose submarines “will deal with strategic deterrence,” he stressed.

Economic and Political Warfare Against Bolivia Intensifies, as China Ties Are Targeted

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—Financial vultures on Wall Street and in London are intensifying their warfare against Bolivia, warning it is on the verge of a currency devaluation due to a shortage of dollars and that it may not be able to meet its foreign debt obligations. On March 24, pointing to a shortage of dollars it said threatened the country’s “macroeconomic stability,” Moody’s downgraded Bolivia’s debt by two notches, to Caa1, and placed it under review for further downgrades. The following day, Bloomberg published complaints by various Wall Street “financial analysts” that Bolivia’s problem was its “overvalued fixed exchange rate” and fiscal deficits and refusal to abandon its currency peg.

Finance Minister Marcelo Montenegro shot back that Moody’s downgrade was “rushed” and that it failed to take into account factors that affect the government’s ability to maintain macroeconomic stability, such as the global financial crisis, high interest rates, increased energy prices and the need to subsidize domestic energy prices. Last week, he had denounced a deliberate campaign of speculation and rumor mongering about the dollar shortage that had caused panicked citizens to line up in front of the Central Bank to purchase dollars.

A related side of this destabilization campaign is the demand by six U.S. Republican lawmakers, three from the Senate and three from the House, that President Joe Biden impose “selective” sanctions on Bolivia for human rights violations. A March 24 letter to Biden by the six, posted to [Sen. Marco Rubio](#)’s (R-FL) website, charged that President Luis Arce’s government “targets political opponents and undermines the rule of law,” and that it is in the national security interests of the United States to demand that Bolivia “uphold the rule of law” and defend the human rights of its citizens.

The “political opponents” in question are Jeanine Áñez, who was illegally installed as President after President Evo Morales was overthrown in a State Department-run coup in November 2019, and who is now jailed for committing human rights atrocities and economic crimes; and the neo-Nazi Governor of Santa Cruz Fernando Camacho, a leading figure in the 2019 coup, now in pretrial detention on charges of terrorism. But the State Department’s real target here is China, with which Bolivia enjoys a strong economic and strategic relationship, as a partner in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Their Republicans’ letter claims that the alleged absence of a “robust opposition, civil society and independent media opens the door to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and other authoritarian regimes to further impose their strategic interests on this South American country and the region.” So, imposing sanctions and making the country “safe for democracy” will deal with the problem of the nasty Chinese. The letter asserts that “the Bolivian people should have the ability to rigorously evaluate and debate the merits of investment proposals that the CCP would rather negotiate behind closed doors. As such, it is imperative that the United States hold accountable those Bolivian human rights abusers that violate the fundamental freedoms of Bolivia’s opposition candidates, and their supporters.”

Aside from Rubio, other signers include Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Rep. Carlos Gimenez (R-FL), Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar (R-FL), and Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL).

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Regional Fed President Says U.S. ‘Capital Markets Closed’ Last Two Weeks

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Neel Kashkari](#), the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank President, and former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury during the 2008 bank crash and aftermath, appeared on CBS News “Face the Nation” on March 26, where he said that in the U.S. economy, “capital

markets have been closed for the past two weeks”; that is, banks have been unable or unwilling to buy corporate bonds or make significant corporate loans. Thus he described a further development of lending “stress” in the banking system beyond the Federal Reserve’s survey of bank loan officers published March 10, which found that 50% more of them were constricting credit, than were expanding or maintaining it.

Kashkari then went into Fed doublespeak regarding a “credit crunch” hitting the entire economy. “[W]hat’s unclear for us is how much of these banking stresses are leading to a widespread credit crunch. And then that credit crunch, you’re right, just as you said, would then slow down the economy. ... If those capital markets remain closed, because borrowers and lenders remain nervous, then that would tell me okay, this is probably going to have a bigger impact on the economy.”

That tautology being as far as Kashkari was willing to be drawn, the ForexLive website, in reporting on his statements, explained that a credit crunch “occurs when banks and other lenders become reluctant, or unable, to lend money to borrowers, even those who have good credit histories; this can cause a sharp contraction in economic activity.”

German Workers Shut Down Public Transport in ‘Warning Strike’

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—Hundreds of thousands of workers from two union confederations shut down much of the transportation system of Germany on March 27 in a one-day “warning strike for fair wages.” The strike hit the airports, and commuter and metropolitan rail systems in about half the German states, and all the longer-distance Deutsche Bahn rail lines.

The strike was large and an effective “warning,” although it appears to stay strictly within the boundaries of trade union demands; a “cost of living strike” is another name the leaders of the larger ver.di union confederation are calling it. Ver.di is demanding a wage increase of 10.5% and the other confederation, the Rail and Transport Workers Union (EVG), one of 12%. Government bodies are offering 5%, when 12-month consumer inflation was just announced as 8.7% officially as of February. Deutsche Bahn

complained in a statement, “This excessive and exaggerated strike makes millions of passengers who are dependent on buses and trains suffer.”

Netanyahu Paused His Judiciary Overhaul amidst Ongoing Mass Protests against His Government

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu went on national TV tonight to announce that his government would delay its push for judicial so-called “reform”—a move to de-power the courts—just as protests were reaching a climax. They started immediately yesterday, when Netanyahu fired his Defense Minister Gallant, who expressed favor for such a delay.

According to Israeli press reports, Netanyahu said tonight that he decided on suspending the legislation in order to avoid a civil war. “Out of national responsibility,” he specified, he is delaying the final readings of the judicial appointments bill—under which the coalition would take almost complete control of the appointment of Israel’s judges—until the next Knesset session a month from now.

“We insist on the need to make the necessary corrections to the judicial system,” but this is “a chance to achieve this via dialogue,” he said. To that end, “I have decided to suspend the second and third readings in this Knesset session” of the judicial selection bill “to give time for broad agreement” before moving ahead with the legislation in the next Knesset session.

He stressed that the overhaul will end up passing “in one form or another.” The “lost balance” between the branches of government will be restored, and individual rights will be strengthened, he says.

Netanyahu’s announcement came after he extracted an agreement from Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) party leader and National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir to put the judicial reform legislation on pause. In return, Netanyahu has agreed that the formation of a civil “national guard” sought by Ben Gvir to boost public safety will be approved in the upcoming cabinet meeting, according to a statement issued by Ben Gvir’s party. The

new guard will be placed under Ben Gvir's National Security Ministry, the statement says, attaching a written promise by the premier. Ben Gvir was threatening to leave the coalition and thus bring down the government.

Netanyahu is a long way from securing his political position, however. While opposition politicians praised his decision to suspend the legislative push with promises to join the dialogue, some also denounced his agreement with Ben Gvir as tantamount to giving him his own private militia. Ben Gvir "has formed a private militia for his political needs. He's dismantling Israeli democracy," said former police chief Moshe Karadi. "The Ben Gvir law is dangerous and is a distinct characteristic of turning Israel into a dictatorship."

The mass protests that followed Netanyahu's firing of Defense Minister Yoav Gallant on March 26, were followed by even larger protests in the morning of March 27 and a general strike called by Histadrut trade unions, which shut down businesses, health care services, schools and transportation, including Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. Even municipalities and other local governments joined in. Following Netanyahu's announcement, a second day of the general strike was called off for tomorrow but the protests will continue. A demonstration against the judicial legislation outside the Knesset in Jerusalem was estimated by police to have drawn as many as 100,000. A counter-demonstration by supporters of the legislation ostensibly drew "tens of thousands."

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

Biden Administration Plans To Stay in Syria

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—National Security Council spokesman John Kirby on "Face the Nation" yesterday declared that the U.S. is in Syria to stay, no matter what anyone else says or does. "And here's what's not going to change, Margaret, the mission and ISIS is not going to change," he told CBS News anchor Margaret Brennan. "We have under 1,000 troops in Syria that are going after that network, which is, while greatly diminished, still viable and still critical. So we're going to stay at that task."

“The President is committed to keeping those 900 or so troops in Syria?” Brennan asked. “That’s right. Absolutely,” Kirby replied.

Brennan noted that Centcom Commander Gen. Michael “Erik” Kurilla testified to Congress that there have been 78 attacks on U.S. troops in Syria since 2021. “They don’t appear to be deterred by these verbal threats or even the retaliation,” she said. “That’s why, again, the President acted so swiftly and boldly here in this particular case,” Kirby replied. “And I certainly am not going to rule out the potential for additional U.S. action if the President deems it appropriate and necessary to continue to protect our troops and our facilities. We’re going to keep at that.”

U.S. Second ‘Summit for Democracy’ This Week, as VP Harris Pitches ‘Democracy’ in Africa

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—On March 28, the U.S. and co-sponsors, Netherlands, Zambia, South Korea, Costa Rica, will open the Second Summit for Democracy. The online event has a reported guest list of 121 nations. Also this week, U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris is on a week-long, three-nation tour of Africa, peddling U.S. “democratic options” against China and Russia.

The first U.S. Summit for Democracy, in December 2021, was seen as the Summit of Hypocrisy. It focussed on “us vs them,” in the jargon of “democracy vs autocracy.” It extolled the unilateral subversion of nations under the euphemisms of “media literacy,” and “election integrity,” etc. as the way to “help” nations that are “backsliding in democracy.”

This week’s summit can be called, “Summit for Poverty.” Expect no serious talk allowed on economic basics of food, water, health care, energy, and means to life, while meantime, the Western financial system is crashing. Count on declarations of “unity” against Russia and China, and chest thumping on the need for sanctions to enforce democracy.

Harris, starting off her Africa trip in Ghana, is following a script saying: We aren’t trying to compete against China in Africa, we are just offering

more democratic “options.” What are they? Maybe some public-private investment. She will next go to Tanzania and Zambia.

Demonstrating its unilateralist democracy in practice, the U.S. has uninvited several nations, including: China, Russia, Hungary, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Honduras, and others, including those heavily sanctioned, and to which the U.S. has deployed forces, visibly or covertly, including: Yemen, Syria, Libya, Afghanistan, Venezuela, and Nicaragua.

SCIENCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

LaRouche’s 1983 Special Report ‘Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023’ Now Available from *EIR*

March 27, 2023 (EIRNS)—*EIR* is making available, through its online store, Lyndon LaRouche’s 1983, 44-page Special Report, “[Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023](#),” with the following description:

“Can a policy written 40 years ago, be so prescient, that it is still as visionary and path-breaking, as well as specific for what might be accomplished today? In ‘Saudi Arabia in the Year 2023,’ written by Lyndon LaRouche in 1983, LaRouche anticipated the mindset of China’s Global Civilization Initiative, as well China’s March 10 successful diplomacy in Southwest Asia, based in a respect for the long arc of civilization, a concept utterly anathema to the mad members of today’s U.S. State Department. LaRouche wrote:

“ ‘In the British view, a nation ought to develop its richest natural resources. In the correct, anti-British view, the people of a nation should base their economic policy, not on the resources they possess, but the resources they most sorely lack. We may develop and market petroleum-assets, of course, but our proper purpose in doing this is to escape from the dangerous trap of remaining forever essentially a petroleum exporter, or specializing in the petrochemical industry.’ ”

The report can be [downloaded in PDF format](#) for \$10 from the *EIR* store. There are no hard-copy editions of the report available through *EIR*.