

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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

- The BRICS' 'Tectonic Change': A Momentous 72 Hours
- Lavrov Explains Growth of 'Tectonic Shifts' as West's Blunders Drive World To End Exploitation
- Brazilian Economist Discusses Credit and a New BRICS Currency
- Petition and 55-Page Pamphlet for a Just New World Economic Order
- Brazil To Raise BRICS Currency at BRICS Summit
- Serbia Will Step In, If Ukraine Halts Gas Transit to Hungary
- Lukashenko Demands To Know, Whose "Territorial Integrity"?
- Niger's Junta Leader Offers Transition Plan, but ECOWAS Still Threatens Invasion
- Fears That Failure of Ukraine Offensive Will Erode U.S. Support for Kiev Regime
- Italian Foreign Minister Insists That Qaddafi Killing 'Was a Very Serious Mistake'
- RFK, Jr. Argues, F-16 Decision Is a 'Disaster for Ukraine and Humanity'
- From Serbia, Tucker Carlson Delivers a Heads-Up: Americans, a Great World Reset Is Underway!
- The Tragic Toll of U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths

## EDITORIAL

### **The BRICS' 'Tectonic Change': A Momentous 72 Hours**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—The next 72 hours are momentous.

The BRICS summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, Aug. 22-24, moves center stage in the world, and in history. Some 22 nations have applied to join the original five, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The issue is reformulating the world economic relations and ensuring secure relations amongst nations.

The recent address to the summit from the Schiller Institute's founder, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, is that the U.S.A. and Western Europe join in with the joyous mission of wiping out poverty from the world—and in the process, save themselves from financial and moral bankruptcy. To that end, she explains, the irony needs to be recognized, that the “tectonic change” afoot amongst the “Global Majority” was caused by the “huge strategic miscalculation by forces primarily in the U.S.A. and Great Britain, which, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, mistakenly saw themselves as the victors of the Cold War, and derived from this the license to impose their neoliberal economic model on a unipolar world, and to bring the various methods of ‘regime change’ to bear upon all governments who do not want to conform to this ‘rules-based order.’ ” There is a limit to a tyrant's power—the high and mighty have overplayed their hand, and now need to recognize the friendly hand being extended for them to rejoin humanity.

Russia's representative to the summit, Foreign Minister [Sergey Lavrov](#), delivered a similar message today, writing that the efforts of the “collective West” to preserve its hegemony have had the opposite of its intended effect, encouraging the real “World Majority” to dismiss and reject the exploitation of their resources by foreign states. “The international community is tired of the blackmail and pressure from the Western elites and their colonial and racist manners.” He continued: “Tectonic shifts are taking place in the world today.... We are witnessing the emergence of a more just multipolar world order.” Further, the BRICS serves as a “positive force that can strengthen the solidarity of the Global South and Global East and become one of the pillars of a new, more just polycentric world order....” Hence, the summit will focus on such “unconditional priorities” as strengthening the BRICS bank, improving payment mechanisms, and increasing the role of national currencies in mutual settlements.

Brazil has made clear that it is time to get out from underneath the imperial shenanigans of the present dollar system, and they mean to have the BRICS address the matter of a non-dollar means of facilitating trade and development amongst nations. An important outline as to how to proceed was published by Brazilian economist [Paulo Nogueira Batista, Jr.](#), a former VP of the BRICS New Development Bank.

Importantly, he goes beyond the pedestrian, technical matters of such as an accounting mechanism or a streamlined payment system, to address currency in terms of credit issuance and actual value. The BRICS, as five nations with the united political will for long-term infrastructure development, are to stand behind the issuance of bonds, freely convertible with the new BRICS currency.

This is the world of Alexander Hamilton's First National Bank, of Abraham Lincoln's Greenback policy, of Franklin Roosevelt's TVA- vectored approach—the world of physical economy brought back alive by Lyndon LaRouche, Jr., no later than his 1975 “How the International Development Bank Will Work.”

The thing about a momentous 72 hours is that individuals can act for all humanity and have a much-improved chance of enjoying the fruits of their work: “[Appeal to the Citizens of the Global North: We Must Support the Construction of a New Just World Economic Order!](#)”

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday August 22, 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

### Lavrov Explains Growth of ‘Tectonic Shifts’ as West’s Blunders Drive World To End Exploitation

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—On the eve of the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, Russia's representative, Foreign Minister

Sergey Lavrov, delivered a message very much akin to that directed to the gathering by Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Lavrov wrote in South Africa's *Ubuntu* magazine that attempts by the "collective West" to preserve its hegemony actually have boomeranged. Instead the real "World Majority" has been impelled finally to reject, as RT described it, "the exploitation of their resources by foreign states." Lavrov stated: "Tectonic shifts are taking place in the world today.... We are witnessing the emergence of a more just multipolar world order." Lavrov said that the BRICS functions as a "positive force that can strengthen the solidarity of the Global South and Global East and become one of the pillars of a new, more just polycentric world order."

By Lavrov's account, "The unconditional priorities include strengthening the potential of the New Development Bank and the BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement, improving payment mechanisms, and increasing the role of national currencies in mutual settlements. It is planned to focus on these issues at the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg." Lavrov provided a pungent explanation: "The international community is tired of the blackmail and pressure from the Western elites and their colonial and racist manners. That is why, for example, not only Russia, but also a number of other countries are consistently reducing their dependence on the U.S. dollar, switching to alternative payment systems and national currency settlements."

Lavrov wrote, "Today, the BRICS strategic partnership is gaining momentum. The 'Big Five' offers the world creative, forward-looking initiatives aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring food and energy security, healthy growth of the global economy, conflict resolution, and combatting climate change, including by means of a just energy transition. ... We do not aim to replace existing multilateral mechanisms, much less to become a new 'collective hegemon.' "

The complete article is posted to the Foreign Ministry website.

## Brazilian Economist Discusses Credit and a New BRICS Currency

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—Brazilian economist Paulo Nogueira Batista, Jr., in a CGTN op-ed posted today, “[Is a BRICS Currency Feasible?](#)” went beyond the recently common speculations about “de-dollarization” and a new BRICS currency, to link that issue implicitly to the New Development Bank (NDB), and to the ability of such a BRICS financial institution to issue volumes of productive credit under its new President Dilma Rousseff.

That crucial issue was dealt with by Nogueira Batista—a former NDB vice president and former Brazilian executive director at the IMF—in a paragraph which followed his stating, and clearing away as unworkable, ideas of a new currency which essentially treat it only as a unit of account or a limited means of payment, not as a store of value and not as a credit issuance. Recall that Lyndon LaRouche, in agreement on this point with Alexander Hamilton, many times said that when a government issues a currency, it issues credit and it accepts and assumes a debt.

The new currency would be called the “R5,” after the fact that the BRICS nations’ currencies all start with the letter “R”—real, ruble, rupee, renminbi, and rand. He goes on: “The only feasible alternative ... would involve making the R5 convertible into bonds guaranteed by the five countries. The R5 Issuing Bank would also be in charge of issuing R5 bonds, denominated in BRICS currency with different maturities and interest rates. The R5 would be freely convertible into R5 bonds. ‘Backed’ by assets created by the Issuing Bank itself, the R5 would actually be a fiduciary currency of the same nature as the dollar and other internationally liquid currencies. The R5 bonds would be the concrete financial expression of the guarantee that the five countries would give to the new currency.”

The idea echoes the Lincoln Administration’s issuance of the Greenback currency. The currency/bonds of such a bank, as they are bought, also become lending reserves of that bank, potentially to be issued as credit to generate “assets created by the Issuing Bank itself.” There are also indications, in today’s statement from the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, that Brazil’s discussions of proposals for the BRICS summit this week—which

likely included Brazil's former President Dilma Rousseff—are echoing as well. She was, in fact, President of Brazil in 2014, hosting the BRICS summit in Fortaleza when it first conceived the idea of the New Development Bank and Contingent Reserve Arrangement.

### **Petition and 55-Page Pamphlet for a Just New World Economic Order**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—Helga Zepp-LaRouche's "[Appeal to the Citizens of the Global North: We Must Support the Construction of a New Just World Economic Order!](#)" is being circulated as a petition and as the lead item in a 55-page pamphlet, to be available on the Schiller Institute website.

The pamphlet titled "Colonialism Is Over! Appeal to the U.S.A. and Europe: Support a New, Just World Economic Order, Not War!" includes:

1. The LaRouche Plan for 1.5 billion new productive jobs, which addresses, among other things, the real origin of the misnamed "world immigration crisis;"
2. "How the International Development Bank Will Work," by Lyndon H. LaRouche, written on May 16, 1975, and;
3. Helga Zepp-LaRouche's "Ten Principles for a New International Strategic and Development Architecture," released in 2022.

All, particularly those from the United States and Europe, who have wondered what the principles and method of implementation of a "Development Architecture" would be, are encouraged to read and master the concepts for which LaRouche became known, almost 50 years ago, to the people of the developing sector, and for which he and his movement were unjustly persecuted.

### **Brazil To Raise BRICS Currency at BRICS Summit**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Ambassador Eduardo Paes Saboia](#), the Brazilian Foreign Ministry's Secretary for Asia and the Pacific, reported in an Aug. 16 pre-summit Foreign Ministry press briefing that the use of local currencies for transactions among the BRICS countries and the possibility

of establishing a BRICS unit of account are on the agenda of the closed-door leaders' "retreat" at the BRICS Summit in South Africa later this week. Brazil, for one, will raise the idea, he noted, and it is "probable that there will be a result in this area."

According to a report today by [Jamil Chade](#), CanalUOL journalist who is well-connected to the Foreign Ministry, President Lula da Silva will bring up the idea of initiating studies as to whether and how to establish such a unit of account among the currencies of the five members of the BRICS. "The goal is, that once the work is done, the alliance can then determine whether there is room to establish a currency that allows trade to take place without using the dollar." Chade added: "The first step, however, would be to establish a kind of unit of account for value. The project already has the explicit support of the Russians and is viewed sympathetically by China."

The timetable envisioned by his sources for carrying this out is far from immediate, ignoring that the current global financial system is already disintegrating, and at an accelerating rate. Chade's sources suggest the feasibility studies would be completed by 2025, when Brazil is scheduled to assume the presidency of the BRICS, and only later enacted.

Immediately following his report on Foreign Ministry plans, Chade then detailed, at length, the presentation by Brazilian economist Paulo Nogueira Batista, Jr. at the seminar in South Africa, reported separately in this *Alert*.

To keep in mind: Ambassador Saboia reported in his briefing that two documents are to come out of the summit—one an outline of the principles and criteria for expanding the BRICS, the other a final declaration. The content of neither is yet known, because that is what will be discussed among the leaders in their "retreat." He assured reporters, however, that the discussion in that "retreat" will be "much richer" than what will appear in the final declaration.

## STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

### **Serbia Will Step In, If Ukraine Halts Gas Transit to Hungary**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—Serbia’s President Aleksandar Vučić met with Hungary’s Prime Minister Viktor Orbán in Budapest yesterday and discussed Ukraine’s threat to cut off natural gas transits from Russia via Ukraine to Hungary. (Ukraine has been paid transit fees regularly and handsomely by Russia all this time for its gas that travels via pipelines in Ukraine. So, leaving those pipelines empty would seem a strange decision.) Vučić agreed to pass along supplies of Russian natural gas via Serbia to Hungary, should Ukraine halt deliveries. Serbia would deliver the gas to Hungary through the Balkan Stream pipeline, after getting their own supply first via the TurkStream pipeline.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto was quoted by Interfax as saying today: “We’ve heard in recent days that Ukraine would like to terminate the previously concluded natural gas transit agreement with Russia. Today, the Serbian President made it clear that if Hungary would like to increase natural gas shipments through Serbia to Hungary, then Serbia can ensure the necessary shipment capacities.”

Orbán also had occasion to meet with the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, where he expressed interest in Turkmen gas being shipped through Hungary. Budapest was hosting various national leaders for the World Athletics Championships.

### **Lukashenko Demands To Know, Whose “Territorial Integrity”?**

August 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—On Aug. 17 in Minsk, Belarus President Aleksandr Lukashenko met with visiting Chinese Defense Minister Li Shangfu. *Global Times* reported that Chinese observers hailed Li’s visit to Belarus, saying it would further boost defense ties and overall relations between the two countries. China is currently Belarus’s major trading partner. The observers consider that the China-Belarus relationship carries great value in offsetting the challenge of the world losing strategic balance, as the U.S.-led West is increasingly attempting to achieve an imbalanced

strategic pattern that only benefits itself. They discussed collaboration in military training and exchanges.

President Lukashenko greeted Li, saying: “We are absolute supporters of a multipolar world, territorial integrity and unity of the borders and territories formed after World War Two. We stay committed to non-interference in the internal affairs of states. In short, the whole palette on which China's foreign policy is based is similar to ours. You should know that for more than 30 years we have always supported China in all its aspirations, because we consider the domestic and foreign policy of the People's Republic of China absolutely fair, aimed at peaceful resolution of any disputes and conflicts.”

Lukashenko casting the matter of “territorial integrity and unity of borders and territories” counters the fruitless battering ram version of history, whereby history began in 2014 or 1991, and Crimea, e.g., is *ipso facto* Ukrainian. (Crimea has been Russian for most of the last several centuries, and was only put under Ukrainian control by Soviet Chairman Nikita Khrushchev in 1954.) It is fair to ask, whose “territorial integrity,” before going to war, or refusing to stop fighting.

While China has addressed both Russia and Ukraine on the principle of territorial integrity versus the battering ram approach, it is not clear whether they also agree on Lukashenko’s specific dating of 1945.

### **Niger’s Junta Leader Offers Transition Plan, but ECOWAS Still Threatens Invasion**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—The developments around the new military junta government in Niger have been rapid-fire over the last 48 hours. On Aug. 19, there was finally the first meeting of the Niger junta with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). It lasted for two hours.

Following that, junta leader Gen. Abdouramane Tchiani delivered a stirring and very substantial address to the nation. In part, he defended the coup d’état and indicted the illegal and murderous sanctions imposed on the people of Niger by ECOWAS that deprived the country of food and

medical imports and shut off most of Niger's electricity, imported from Nigeria. He said, "Sanctions are not conceived with the aim of finding a solution, but to bring us to our knees and humiliate us." He added, "If an attack were to be undertaken against us, it will not be the walk in the park some people seem to think."

On the plans for a return to a civilian government, General Tchiani explained that an "inclusive dialogue" is planned within the next 30 days to establish the principles for a transition to the refoundation of the state, and that the whole transition may take place within a three-year period.

Of some note, earlier that day, and after ECOWAS threat, conveyed the previous day, of a military intervention into Niger, thousands of Nigerien men came to the Seyni Kountche Stadium in the capital of Niamey to register for a volunteer force in case of invasion. It was the result of a citizens' initiative to collect the names of men willing to volunteer and to give the list to the army.

Also on Aug. 19, Algeria's Foreign Ministry issued a press release calling for a negotiated solution. Algérie Presse Service quoted the strong language of the press release: "At a time when the military intervention in Niger is taking shape, Algeria deeply regrets that the use of violence has taken precedence over the path to a negotiated political solution peacefully restoring constitutional and democratic order in this brotherly country and neighbor." Algeria "remains, in fact, driven by a strong conviction that this negotiated political solution is still possible, that all the paths that can lead to it have not been taken and that all these possibilities have not been exhausted."

The ministry emphasizes that "the history of our region teaches abundantly that military interventions have brought more problems than solutions and that they have been additional factors of confrontations and heartbreaks rather than sources of stability. and safety.... Before the irreparable is committed, and before the region is caught in the spiral of violence whose incalculable consequences no one can predict, Algeria calls on all parties to show restraint, wisdom and reason...."

On Aug. 20, the ECOWAS team, reported most media, promptly declared that they were not satisfied with Tchiani's plans. Britain's BBC went further, quoting ECOWAS Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security Abdel-Fatau Musah as saying, "ECOWAS is not accepting any prolonged transition again in the region. They just have to get ready to hand over in the shortest possible time." He said the "military aspect is very much on," assumedly meaning the ECOWAS threat to invade was still live.

Pope Francis called again for a quick and peaceful solution during his Sunday Angelus on Aug. 20. "I follow with concern what is happening in Niger," he said. "I join the Bishops' appeal in favor of peace in the country and for stability in the Sahel region. I accompany with my prayers the efforts of the international community to find a peaceful solution as soon as possible for everyone's benefit. Let us pray for the dear people of Niger. And let us also pray for peace for all populations wounded by war and violence." All of the Catholic bishops and cardinals of the region had categorically rejected any military intervention on Aug. 11.

The African Union is reliably reported to have reached a decision rejecting a military intervention, though it is unconfirmed as to whether they have superseding authority over a decision of ECOWAS. The obvious question is, what or who has kept them from weighing in publicly? It is likely that the geopolitical warriors pushing permanent destabilizations and wars the last several decades are taking great interest in a Niger fuse to set Africa ablaze.

## COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

### Fears That Failure of Ukraine Offensive Will Erode U.S. Support for Kiev Regime

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—In yet another lamentation on Kiev's failed offensive (which is actually also NATO's failure), the *Washington Post* reported yesterday that Ukraine is running out of options. "Ukraine's inability to demonstrate decisive success on the battlefield is stoking fears that the conflict is becoming a stalemate and international support could

erode,” the *Post* says, referring to the intelligence assessment that was leaked to the *Post* a couple of days earlier.

Analysts warn that Ukraine’s drone campaign, while drawing much attention from the Russians, won’t turn the tide of the battle on the front lines, the *Post* reports further. “The Ukrainians just don’t have enough capacity to build enough drones and strike deep inside Russian territory at enough targets to erode Russia’s will to fight,” said Bob Hamilton, a retired U.S. Army colonel and head of research at the Foreign Policy Research Institute’s Eurasia Program.

The City of London daily *Financial Times*, meanwhile, ran a story yesterday along the same lines. U.S. officials are growing increasingly disappointed with the way Ukraine is conducting its counteroffensive and are skeptical about whether Kiev will be able to achieve any significant gains this year, *FT* said in [“U.S. Grows Doubtful Ukraine Counteroffensive Can Quickly Succeed.”](#) The British daily claimed that the U.S. has been urging Ukraine to double down on its push in the Zaporozhye region instead of spreading its forces too thin along a lengthy frontline.

A major bone of contention between the two countries is how Kiev has deployed its military. “U.S. officials have encouraged Ukraine to be less risk-averse and fully commit its forces to the main axis of the counteroffensive in the south,” *FT* wrote. It argues that the only possible accomplishment for Kiev would be to drive southward and break Russia’s land bridge to Crimea. So all the eggs should be put into that basket, and Russia can have the Donbass.

*FT* reported that the U.S. is not in a position to supply Ukraine with tactical ballistic missiles in quantities that could help turn the tide in its counteroffensive. *FT*, citing unnamed American officials, claimed that the U.S. simply does not produce enough tactical ballistic missiles (this is referring to the Army Tactical Missile System missile (ATACMS), the 300-mile range missile that is fired from the HIMARS launcher), those which Ukraine has been asking for, to “make a significant difference on the battlefield.”

*FT* cites a CNN poll from earlier in August, whereby 55% of Americans no longer wish to fund the war. Then they add the clincher, that now it is not clear that Biden can get Congress to approve more weaponry for Ukraine.

### **Italian Foreign Minister Insists That Qaddafi Killing ‘Was a Very Serious Mistake’**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—It was a “very serious mistake” on the part of the West to let Libyan Col. Muammar Qaddafi be killed in 2011, because his death unleashed instability in the North African nation, Italian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said on Aug. 16. “It was a very serious mistake to let Qaddafi be killed. He may not have been the champion of democracy, but once he was finished, political instability arrived in Libya and Africa,” said Tajani, interviewed by journalist Alessandro Sallusti at the Versiliana Festival of culture in Tuscany, reported ANSA.

It is known that the Italian government, at that time led by Silvio Berlusconi, made all efforts to prevent a NATO intervention in Libya. Then Prime Minister Berlusconi had signed a treaty of cooperation and mutual defense with Qaddafi just three years earlier. Eventually, he also joined the NATO intervention. On Oct. 20, just as Qaddafi was killed, [U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton](#) disgustingly gloated to CBS News: “We came, we saw, he died!” punctuated by a vicious cackle.

When Qaddafi was brutally killed, Lyndon LaRouche issued one of his prescient forecasts on oct. 28, 2021 in “[Qaddafi’s Death: The Threat of World War III](#)”: “In the opinion of certain relevant, higher placed circles in the trans-Atlantic region, the extraordinary mass-execution of the former Libyan principal Muammar al-Qaddafi and his companions, in their attempted flight from Libya, signals a potential for an early outbreak of more general warfare within Europe, the Mediterranean region, and beyond: potentially a new general state of warfare throughout much of this planet. This were probably the included outcome, unless a radical

correction in trans-Atlantic financial and related policies were made more or less immediately.”

## U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

### **RFK, Jr. Argues, F-16 Decision Is a ‘Disaster for Ukraine and Humanity’**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—Presidential candidate [Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.](#) tweeted on Aug. 19 that supplying U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets to Ukraine is “A great decision for the defense industry, but a disaster for Ukraine and humanity. Why not negotiate?”

“F-16s won’t stop the collapse of the Ukrainian military (which some experts say is imminent). These planes require a lot of training and maintenance. This isn’t the movies.”

### **From Serbia, Tucker Carlson Delivers a Heads-Up: Americans, a Great World Reset Is Underway!**

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—Yesterday [Tucker Carlson](#) showed his 9-some million X (formerly Twitter) followers what a royal welcome he had just received from Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić and team, before they sat down to discuss the world. Carlson reported that Vučić is a very smart man, and that Serbia’s perspective on NATO’s war against Russia through Ukraine is “interesting,” because Serbia was bombed by NATO.

Carlson’s parting message in his short video briefing on his talk with Vučić is to the point:

This war isn’t about “democracy!” The upshot of NATO’s crazy war on Russia—which is crushing the European economies, and especially Germany’s—is that Russia, the Gulf States, Türkiye, etc. are looking to China. The world is in a big reset! There is a massive shift in power away from the United States and the West, to the East. It’s all happening right now, but very few people in our country are aware of it!

## The Tragic Toll of U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths

Aug. 21, 2023 (EIRNS)—The *San Francisco Chronicle* released today a nationwide database to track drug overdose deaths in the U.S. per 100,000, by county. According to compiled data, over 1,000,000 people have died since 1999 with 107,669 deaths last year, 73,654 from fentanyl. The worst hit area in deaths per 100,000 has been Baltimore, Maryland, with 174.1. The next four in order were: Davidson County (Nashville), Tennessee at 101.5; Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania at 88.5; Marion County (Indianapolis), Indiana at 84.1; Washington, D.C. at 77.9.

The database will be updated monthly with data acquired from the CDC's public health database known as CDC WONDER. The *Chronicle* article is behind a paywall, but more information was posted by Baltimore's NBC News affiliate [BaltTV11](#).