

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

New Year's Message from Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—Schiller Institute founder and leader [Helga Zepp-LaRouche](#) issued the following in a video address today:

Dear Citizens, I wish you a good New Year.

The New Year 2023, must become the year where humanity reaches the age of adulthood. That means, we must leave behind us childish, geopolitical squabbings, where nations fight each other as if we were spoiled brats, fighting each other aiming war toys against each other in a sandbox. That sandbox can turn thermonuclear radioactive in a moment.

We must remember that we are the creative species which has the lofty task to continue the process of creation for the good of all of humanity. The majority of mankind, the countries of the Global South, and many in the formerly so-called advanced countries, want to leave war behind us, be it the danger of a new global war, or the many interventionist wars, which left millions dead or displaced as refugees.

Let us create a new paradigm of international relations, where the interest of each sovereign nation is respected, where we all join hands to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment. Let us create a modern health system in every country, so that life expectancy is increased for all human beings living on this planet, and let us create the conditions, where every child and every adult has access to universal education, so that each person has the chance to realize his or her innate creative potentials to the fullest.

Let us also create a new credit system to finance these goals and to increase the living standard of the people of the Global South and the poor in the so-called industrialized countries. Let us finally bring infrastructure, agriculture, and industry to all continents on Earth. Let us create a new international security and development architecture, which overcomes the division of the world into blocs, and ban all weapons of mass destruction and work to make nuclear weapons technologically obsolete.

Let us think of the entire human species as that higher One, which is of a higher order than the many nations, and let us never pursue a national interest, which is not in coherence with the interest of humanity as a whole. Let us put the political, economic, and social order in cohesion with natural law, the laws of the physical universe, and let's increase that knowledge through progress in science and classical art. And let's start from the assumption that the nature of man is fundamentally good, and that all evils come from a lack of development, and therefore can be overcome!

A new world economic order is emerging, involving the vast majority of the countries of the Global South. The European nations and the United States must not fight this effort, but by joining hands with the developing countries, cooperate to shape the next epoch of the development of the human species to become a renaissance of the highest and most noble expressions of creativity!

Let us therefore create an international movement of World Citizens, who work together to shape the next phase in the evolution of mankind, the new epoch! World Citizens of all countries, unite!

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday, January 3, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

Editor's Note: *EIR Daily Alert* will skip producing an issue on New Year's Day, and therefore, no issue will appear on Jan. 2: Vol. 10 Issue 2 will be published on Jan. 3, 2023.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Former French President Confirms Deception of Russia Through Minsk Agreements

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—Former French President [François Hollande](#), who was alongside German Chancellor Angela Merkel when the Minsk

agreements were negotiated in 2014-2015, confirmed her Dec. 7 admission that they were designed to “buy time” for the Kiev regime against Russia. Hollande made his remarks in an interview published Dec. 28 with Theo Prouvost, the French correspondent for the *Kyiv Independent*. The interview itself is a fairytale from beginning to end in which Hollande and Prouvost fantasize about Russian “aggression” which began in Crimea in 2014 and in which the Germans and the French had to intervene in some way against it. The purported intent of the Minsk agreements was to settle conflict between the coup regime in Kiev and the Russian-speaking regions in Donbass.

“A break occurred with the return of Vladimir Putin to the Kremlin in 2012. He dreamt of a re-creation of the Soviet Union. Putin adopted an aggressive posture and waited to see what the West’s reaction would be,” Hollande claimed. “He was provocative and aggressive. The main adversary was (now) named the United States.”

Hollande further claimed that Putin’s objective at the Feb. 11, 2015 marathon talks in Minsk, Belarus, “was to postpone the ceasefire as late as possible to obtain the greatest possible territorial gains. He also wanted more ‘autonomy’ for the (so-called) Russian-speaking regions, which in his mind, he could one day prepare for annexation.”

Prouvost then quoted Merkel from her Dec. 7 interview with *Die Zeit*: “It was obvious that the conflict was going to be frozen, that the problem was not solved, but it just gave Ukraine precious time.” Prouvost asked Hollande: “Do you also believe that the negotiations in Minsk were intended to delay Russian advances in Ukraine?”

“Yes, Angela Merkel is right on this point,” Hollande replied. “The Minsk agreements stopped the Russian offensive for a while. What was very important was to know how the West would use this respite to prevent any further Russian attempts.”

His fairytale (what geopoliticians call a “narrative”) continued: Hollande put out the pretense that Putin saw the U.S. failure in Afghanistan and European dependence on Russian gas as weaknesses to be exploited.

“So Putin thought that time had worked in his favor and that he could cross the threshold by further invading Ukraine. Hence the aggression he committed,” he said. “This is where he was wrong. Since 2014, Ukraine has strengthened its military posture. Indeed, the Ukrainian army was completely different from that of 2014. It was better trained and equipped. It is the merit of the Minsk agreements to have given the Ukrainian army this opportunity.”

So, in Hollande’s world, the 2014 EU-NATO-backed neo-Nazi coup in Kiev never happened, NATO expansion never was an issue, and Russia’s years-long diplomatic efforts were meaningless.

Russia Shoots Down Ukrainian Drones, Launches New Missile Barrage vs. Kiev Regime

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—The Russian Defense Ministry reported yesterday shooting down three Tu-141 Strizh jet-propelled UAVs, the same type used in the Ukrainian attacks on Russian airfields, but didn’t say where the shoot-downs occurred.

Today, Russian forces launched another series of large-scale missile strikes on infrastructure targets in Ukraine, ranging from the Donbass battlefield to Western Ukraine. Power outages were reported in the Kiev and Kharkov regions, but otherwise little information is yet available as to the targets.

Significant U.S. and Chinese Air and Naval Activity in South China Sea

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—[The War Zone](#), basing itself on a number of sources, reported yesterday that while a Chinese J-11 fighter jet was intercepting a U.S. RC-135 over the South China Sea, the PLA Navy’s other aircraft carrier, the *Shandong* and its battle group, were engaged in drills simulating attacks on a U.S. Navy task group. “As part of that exercise, a strike group led by the *Shandong* simulated attacks on a U.S. Navy formation,” an official from an unnamed Asian country disclosed to the *Financial Times*. Indeed, the War Zone reports, it’s now clear that there was significant air and naval activity in the South China Sea at the time,

which also included refueling sorties above the Bashi Channel, the highly strategic straits which run from the southern end of Taiwan to the northern tip of the island of Luzon in the Philippines.

Furthermore, it's highly conceivable that the RC-135 that was intercepted was monitoring the same Chinese military drill as it unfolded in the air and in the waters of the South China Sea. In the past, the SCS Probing Initiative, hosted by the Peking University in Beijing, has claimed that "The U.S. military conducts three to five sorties to the South China Sea every day."

On Dec. 21, according to the SCS Probing Initiative, the U.S. military sent three P-8A maritime patrol aircraft, one RC-135V surveillance aircraft, and one E-3G airborne early warning and control aircraft from Clark Air Base and Kadena Air Base to operate over the South China Sea and south of the Taiwan Strait (the War Zone doesn't point out that the SCS Probing Initiative uses air traffic data which is publicly available on websites like [Flightradar24](#)). The RC-135V in question could very well have been the one intercepted by the J-11. This was all happening as China's other aircraft carrier, the *Liaoning*, and its battle group have been operating in the Philippine Sea.

"The ability of the PLAN to carry out simultaneous large-scale carrier operations in two different locations is a significant one, as carriers and out-of-area operations become more central to its concept of operations," the War Zone writes. "Overall, the events of Dec. 21 reflect the patterns of activity that are increasingly commonplace for both China and the United States in the region."

The War Zone reports separately that the U.S. Air Force is in the process of installing an over-the-horizon radar on the island of Palau. Called the Tactical Mobile Over-the-Horizon Radar or TACMOR, it is being installed to enhance air and maritime domain situational awareness for U.S. and allied forces in the region. The TACMOR is one example of the Pentagon's effort to spread military infrastructure all over islands in the Western Pacific.

Munich Security Conference Chair Heusgen Demands European Nuclear Umbrella

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—In an interview with *Welt am Sonntag*, Munich Security Conference Chairman Christoph Heusgen, the former foreign policy adviser to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, said that, in order to safeguard itself from the Russian nuclear threat, the creation of a European nuclear umbrella “must no longer be a taboo subject.” Germany should open up on the French offer to negotiate participation in France’s nuclear force, said Heusgen, and throwing in that, “We should take up this offer and make it a European project that allows British participation.”

“If the U.S. focuses more on Asia, and Europe has to take care of its own security, this should no longer be a taboo subject,” Heusgen said. In earlier interviews, Heusgen had already proposed substantial deliveries of heavy weapons, such as main battle tanks, to Ukraine.

Putin must be brought before the International Court of Justice, Heusgen insisted, saying that the Russian President has lost all credibility. It is “hard to imagine” that Russia will be at the table at the G20 meeting in the fall, he remarked. India, which maintains its decades-long relations with Moscow, holds the rotating presidency for the G20 this year, making it hard to imagine what Heusgen is imagining.

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Zelenskyy and Larry Fink Meet on BlackRock’s 2023 Schemes To ‘Restructure’ Ukraine for End-Game Looting

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—The vultures have been circling over Ukraine, as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and BlackRock CEO Larry Fink held their latest videoconference Dec. 28 to reckon over BlackRock’s designs for ensuring Ukraine is set up for looting, in the course of any reconstruction. Reports of their virtual tête-à-tête said that Zelenskyy “thanked Larry Fink for the work of the professional team that BlackRock has allocated to advise on structuring the reconstruction projects.” During the conversation,

“it was emphasized that certain BlackRock leaders plan to visit Ukraine in the new year.”

On Sept. 19, the two held a meeting, during which BlackRock offered *pro bono* services including advice “on the structure, investment process, governance and use of proceeds for a fund. The goal of the fund would be to create opportunities for both public and private investors to participate in reconstructing and rejuvenating the market economy in Ukraine by delivering fair and just returns to investors.” On Nov. 10, BlackRock Financial Markets Advisory signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukraine Ministry of Economy to that effect. The discussions were initially arranged by Andrew Forrest, founder of the Fortescue Metals Group, who Fink said was instrumental in facilitating contact.

Notably, in the past, Ukraine was a supplier of key metals and metal-working to Russia’s space and military complex. According to an August report by government agency UkraineInvest, “Ukraine has 20 of the raw materials that are considered critical, including lithium, cobalt, graphite and zirconium.” This is on top of its very significant agriculture capacity, given the famous chernozem soils, which had already been “restructured” into plantation-like “agro-holdings” since 1991 by the London-based networks, especially Goldman Sachs in league with BlackRock.

Follow the money. The World Bank estimated in September that the current cost of reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine amounts to \$349 billion, with the figure growing by the day. BlackRock is lining up one last hurrah of looting, before nuclear holocaust, and at Western citizens’ expense, of course.

The Fink-Zelenskyy talks give special meaning to Zelenskyy’s words when he told a joint session of the U.S. Congress on Dec. 21 that aid to Ukraine is an “investment in democracy.”

The American Conservative addressed this point yesterday. “It is all rather infuriating: one can almost guarantee that BlackRock is getting paid handsomely by the Ukrainian government for advising on this reconstruction roadmap. And where is the Ukrainian government currently

getting its funding, given its economy is in shambles and war is an expensive undertaking? The United States government, of course. By the end of the calendar year, the U.S. will have provided \$13 billion in direct budgetary support for Ukraine's government to avoid shortfalls and outright bankruptcy, and President Joe Biden has promised to support Ukraine for 'as long as it takes.' So, BlackRock gets paid by U.S. taxpayers via the Ukrainian government to devise a plan that ensures the success of their future investments in Ukraine, made from money gained by making American housing unaffordable. With a deal like that for our financial and political elite, why would they ever want peace?"

Zelenskyy will be a special guest at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting (Jan. 16-20), whose board includes Larry Fink. BlackRock has a reported \$8 trillion under management, the world's largest asset mogul. Recall, when Fink was suggested as a possible candidate for U.S. Treasury, it was too outrageous to fly, so another BlackRock top gun, Wally Adayema, was put in instead, as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

Kiev Regime's CCD Continues Its Hit List 'Infographics' Profiles with Eva Bartlett

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—The Center for Countering Disinformation (CCD), NATO's information-warfare unit operating out of the Ukraine presidency's National Security and Defense Council, continued its postings on Instagram of what it terms "infographic" profiles on targets guilty of 'Russian propaganda' and info-terrorism, with a posting on independent journalist Eva Bartlett today. Her photograph is provided, and various quotes deemed objectionable.

Bartlett's makes the sixth such posting, since this infographic series was started after Dec. 20, when the CCD re-posted a long list of several dozens of Western "experts" targeted for promoting "Russian propaganda." The first on the list, and first infographic is Helga-Zepp-LaRouche, founder and head of the international Schiller Institute.

All the infographics carry the hashtag “infoterror.” The CCD does not merely “name to shame;” it seeks the elimination of its targets, whether by “legal” means, or physically.

In between Zepp-LaRouche and Bartlett, the others singled out for infographics this month by the CCD are, in order of the infographic appearance: former U.S. military and UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter; RT journalist Caleb Maupin; CATO Institute researcher Doug Bandow; and Fox News host Tucker Carlson. More are promised.

This is an escalation of attempted intimidation and real danger. The U.S. government is funding this activity, most visibly through the State Department’s USAID.

EIR News Service’s research team will provide full background in a forthcoming article.

Fed Emergency Team Sent to New Mexico Hospital, as Shrinking Hospital System Can’t Cope with Peak Need

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—Today at the University of New Mexico Children’s Hospital, a federal emergency medical team of 14, which just arrived some days ago, has begun to provide help. The staffing aid was dispatched when the facility went over 100% capacity, and even with contingency measures, could not cope. Earlier this month, a tent was set up on the UNM Children’s Hospital property to triage adult patients.

The team, including nurses and various specialists, was sent by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra sent a letter to governors on Dec. 2, offering to deploy help when needed, through the HHS National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). The help is extremely important.

However, the U.S. baseline hospital system is itself turning into a disaster, in the decline of beds and staff per thousand residents. A competent system of hospitals, clinics and medical staff is designed to cope with peaks of illness and disasters, but the U.S. system has been shrinking, even before the pressures of the last three years of COVID-19.

From a level of some 1.5 million beds in the nation in community hospitals in the mid-1970s, the number is now down to the level of 760,000. Some states are at very low ratios of facilities and staff for their residents, such as, Oregon and Washington state.

New York ‘Santos Affair’ Marks New Attack on Constitutional Government

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—The political scene in New York State is being rocked by revelations aiming to remove newly elected Congressman George Santos from office, even before Congress is sworn in. Santos’s now-contested victory over Democrat Robert Zimmerman, was one of the five New York Republican gains, that shifted the partisan majority in Congress. If Santos is dumped—and Tulsi Gabbard has already roasted him face to face on national television, telling him to resign—the Republican House majority will slip from four to merely three votes.

Two questions arise from this uproar, which whirls around admittedly convincing evidence that Santos is a con-man, with an uncontrolled habit of pathological lying about his academic and business life. Since he ran for office in 2020, the Democrats have to answer for the fact that they failed to bring any of this up during that election campaign and did nothing to just drive him from politics. The second question comes from the extensive investigations done by the *New York Times* and the Daily Beast into the business background of Santos (largely fictional), and his ties to his sister’s operation, a political action committee (PAC) called Rise NY.

According to Daily Beast on Dec. 29, Rise NY PAC “also counted among its contributors the financier Andrew Intrater, cousin and money-manager to the sanctioned Russian oligarch Viktor Vekselberg.... Intrater and his wife were also two of the largest donors to both (District 1 former Congressman) Zeldin and Santos.”

This reference to a “sanctioned Russian oligarch” implies that the investigation on this matter would already be under the watchful eye of such Department of Homeland Security operations as its “kleptocracy” division. Among the few employments Santos in fact had, and didn’t just

invent, was trading luxury items, like yachts, between international investors, a form of “finance” transaction heavily penetrated by DHS and other branches of U.S. security.

The question here is: how broad-sweeping could an “investigation” into Santos become? On Dec. 14, prior to its first exposé on Santos, the *New York Times* ran a story on a Manhattan “gala” organized by Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia. “Three incoming House freshmen ... attended a conservative gala in Manhattan on Saturday—along with white nationalists, right-wing conspiracy theorists and European representatives of far-right parties with authoritarian roots,” the *Times* stated. The three freshmen were Santos, Cory Mills of central Florida, and Mike Collins of Georgia.

Looking at Santos’s “background,” one cannot help but wonder if he was an asset of intelligence operations from the beginning who is now being unmasked to continue the legacy of, for example, the Jan. 6 investigation.

NEW WORLD PARADIGM

CGTN Features Zepp-LaRouche on ‘China and the EU—What To Expect in 2023’

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—On New Year’s Eve, China Global Television Network posted a video featuring Schiller Institute founder and leader, German native Helga Zepp-LaRouche, titled, “[China and the EU—What To Expect in 2023](#).” The 9-minute video is beautifully illustrated throughout, with subtitles in English and Chinese. In a central aspect of her video, Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche contrasts China’s Belt and Road Initiative, after only ten years, the largest infrastructure project in history, with the European Union’s pretense called “Global Gateway,” which German’s business daily *Handelsblatt* shrugged off as a “billion-euro bluff.” She concluded: “Europe should really rethink their approach and remind themselves of the better traditions ... such as the ideas of Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, who thought it was the task of Europe to develop the South and the East for the benefit of all peoples, or Enrico Mattei from Italy, who thought

that Italy should be a bridge for the development of the Arab and the African countries. ... So in this very difficult strategic environment, it will be very important that the relations between China and the EU be an anchor of peace and stability.”

Kazakhstan, Pakistan Leaders Confer on Trans-Afghan Railway

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—Leaders of Kazakhstan and Pakistan met this past week on the Trans-Afghan Railway project. Kazakhstan is favorable to participating in the project, and could provide construction materials, according to Serik Zhumangarin, Kazakhstan’s Minister of Trade and Integration. He met with Pakistan Prime Minister Shebaz Sharif to discuss the project. As reported on Dec. 26 by the Silk Road Briefing of Dezan Shira & Associates, Sharif expressed welcome for landlocked Kazakhstan to use Pakistani seaports.

Xi Jinping Delivers New Year’s Address on China’s Achievements, Devotion to World Peace and Development

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—China President Xi Jinping broadcast a New Year’s Address today, on the Internet and through the China Media Group. Much of his message recounted the proud accomplishments of the outgoing year. He also ended by addressing China’s role internationally. “We stand firm on the right side of history and on the side of human civilization and progress. We work hard to contribute China’s wisdom and solutions to the cause of peace and development for all humanity.”

As is his practice of citing an ancient adage or poem, Xi said, “I want to quote Su Shi, a renowned Chinese poet, ‘Charge at the roughest and aim at the farthest.’ It means to take on the biggest challenges and go after the most ambitious goals.”

Among the many national accomplishments he cited were:

- “We have consolidated our gains in poverty elimination”
- “We have secured a bumper harvest for the 19th year in a row”
- “China’s third aircraft carrier *Fujian* was launched.

- “The C919, China’s first large passenger aircraft, was delivered.”
- “Shenzhou-13, Shenzhou-14, and Shenzhou-15 soared into the heavens.”
- “China’s space station was fully completed and our ‘home in space’ is roving in the deep-blue sky.”

IN MEMORIAM

World Fighter Antonio ‘Butch’ Valdes Has Passed On

Dec. 31, 2022 (EIRNS)—Butch Valdes, the founder and leader of the Philippine LaRouche Society, and a courageous fighter for peace and development, died in his sleep on Dec. 29. His close friends in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world are shocked and saddened at the news.

Butch’s final “international” action, which has brought joy to hundreds or thousands of people around the world, came around the Christmas holidays, when he gathered his large and multi-talented family together to record a video of four of his daughters, and one granddaughter, singing the canon *Dona Nobis Pacem* (Grant Us Peace), part of the Schiller Institute campaign to introduce this classical work of art as a global theme song for the international movement to stop the current push for nuclear war between the U.S. and Russia.

Butch was both a leading innovator within the Philippines, creating and leading several Philippine organizations aimed at defeating the control of the nation by international financial oligarchs and their Philippine assets, including the Philippine LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), Save the Nation, Citizen National Guard, and the political party Katipunan ng Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP). He ran for office in several elections, most recently for the Senate. He served as the Under Secretary of Education during the Presidency of Joseph Estrade, who served from 1998-2001.

Butch hosted a weekly radio show every Sunday evening on a nationally and internationally broadcast station for several decades, and a several-times a week video broadcast sponsored by the KDP, co-hosted by Butch

and his son Itos. LaRouche organizers from the U.S. and Europe appeared often on the broadcasts, and Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche were interviewed by Butch, to an audience of several hundred thousand.

Butch played a central role in promoting LaRouche's ideas regarding the urgent necessity of replacing the system centered on the British and American financial oligarchs centered in the City of London and Wall Street, and holding a New Bretton Woods conference of nations to build a system which honored the security and development needs of all nations. He was often interviewed by the leading Chinese radio and TV stations. He held an historic interview with the Russian Ambassador to the Philippines Igor Khodavaev, in a wide ranging discussion of the Philippine economy, with a focus on the Russian role in restoring the nuclear power program which had been shut down by the U.S.-controlled assets in the Philippines who carried out the coup against President Ferdinand Marcos in 1986.

Butch became a leading spokesman and promoter for the restoration of the nuclear power program, including reopening the completed (but never turned on!) Bata'an Nuclear Power station and the construction of new Small Nuclear Power plants across the country.

He also emerged as the key opponent of the privatization of the energy industry and other utilities, especially the takeover by oligarchical families of the privatized power and distribution networks, which have left the nation with both shortages and one of the most expensive electricity supplies in the world.

There is much more to say about Butch and his influence in his homeland and around the world. A more complete Eulogy will be produced soon. This creative and resilient fighter for "the good" will be missed. His large and innovative family will play a major role in maintaining his mission, as will the international LaRouche movement, which has been blessed with this unique and courageous Filipino fighting on its side for the betterment of the world for the past three decades.