

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

To Climb Out of the Same Abyss We Have Put the People of Syria In

May 10 (EIRNS)—The Schiller Institute has expanded in numbers and influence again this weekend with an international conference that grew out of the decision by Schiller Institute President and founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche taking up and amplifying Apostolic Nuncio to Syria Cardinal Mario Zenari’s call to end the murderous sanctions imposed on the population of Syria. Her passionate insistence that barring reconstruction investment after war, blocking and stealing food, and even preventing imports of medicines—punishing a people to overthrow their elected government—must be ended, led to the conference with 20 international

speakers and greeted by additional institutions: “[The Moral Collapse of the Trans-Atlantic World Cries Out for a New Paradigm](#).” It is here to be watched or re-watched and circulated to recover the social and political origin of morality, the belief in the “general welfare” and the common good of humanity.

It begins with the presentations and extraordinary dialogue among Mrs. LaRouche, Syrian Presidential Political and Media Advisor Dr. Bouthaina Shaaban, and retired Army Colonel and former Virginia State Sen. Richard Black, who called the U.S./British/NATO treatment of the Syrian population “worse than the My Lai massacre” during the time he fought with the Marines in Vietnam.

The conference had a second session, “The Method of the Coincidence of Opposites: Only a United Worldwide Health Effort, Without Sanctions, Can Reverse a Worldwide Pandemic”; presented by active leaders of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites, formed last year by Mrs. LaRouche and Joycelyn Elders, former Surgeon-General of the United States. “Opposites” as, for example, in the apparent opposition between the “superpower” United States and the nations it is presuming to sanction—which, when looked at in a different way, turn out urgently to need exactly the same thing.

COVID-19 has shown that the deterioration in standards and conditions of life in Africa, South Asia, Ibero-America in recent decades has meant that Americans or Europeans cannot escape, and have not now escaped from a pandemic which ravages developing countries. Above all, the great majority of all the world’s nations which do not have modern public health and healthcare infrastructure, in sufficient quantity and quality of treatment and disease monitoring, means pandemics will rage indefinitely until we build those healthcare facilities, everywhere.

Already in February 2020, Helga Zepp-LaRouche proposed that a modern healthcare delivery infrastructure must be built rapidly *in every nation* to fight the coming pandemic. She urged an emergency summit of the leaders of at least the United States, China, Russia and India—or, of the

five permanent United Nations Security Council member nations—to plan to build out those health systems.

That meant new, modern hospital/clinic capacity on the order of 10 million beds, with intensive care and isolation capabilities. Hospitals are extremely electricity-intensive, freshwater-intensive; therefore, tens of thousands of megawatts of new electric power capacity to be built around the world; freshwater management systems, new housing for staff; above all training and “youth corps” recruitment for public health service and medical staff. Almost immediate new productive employment in this mission, of more than 100 million people worldwide, more than 5 million in the United States alone, as Mrs. LaRouche commissioned it to be worked out in a [major study](#) last May.

Such a productive mission was desperately needed by hundreds of millions in the advanced and underdeveloped countries alike who lost their work under the blows of the pandemic; but it has still not been undertaken. It is the kind of mission the United States, from FDR to JFK, gave its people. Now it has been replaced by the murderous folly of sanctions, including sanctions heaped upon the same major powers, Russia and China, with which America must collaborate to rebuild nations like Syria, Yemen, or Iraq, destroyed by war.

And the people of the United States, especially, have reaped poverty, even widespread hunger, now ominous inflation from the collapse of its economy with no productive mobilization to recover it.

Given the impact of the Schiller Institute’s May 8 conference on those who participated and watched, Helga Zepp-LaRouche on May 10 proposed a dual thrust to follow it up. Escalate the campaign to undo the inhuman “Caesar Act” sanctions, putting pressure on Congress to revoke that machine of impoverishment and hunger. This is indistinguishable, she said, from the continuing campaign for a modern healthcare system in every country, which must also be escalated and draw in many more active leaders. The aim is the moral fitness to survive.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday, May 11, 2021: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](#) website, Harley will give you the strategic briefing on what you need to know to start your day.

UNITED STATES POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

Attempt To 'Russia-fy' Colonial Pipeline Cyberattack via 'DarkSide'

May 10 (EIRNS)—The Colonial Pipeline, which supplies 45% of oil and gas for the East Coast, was preemptively shut down on May 7, Friday evening, to prevent a reported cyberattack which locked up the company's software from infecting the operative side of the pipeline. Colonial said on May 9 that they were restoring some of their IT systems. They also stated: "We are in the process of restoring service to other laterals and will bring our full system back online only when we believe it is safe to do so, and in full compliance with the approval of all federal regulations." It is generally thought that the country has four to five days before the shutdown multiplies to bigger problems.

Over the May 8-9 weekend, the White House created an "interagency working group" for all contingencies. Late on May 9, the U.S. government declared a state of emergency, lifting limits on the transport of fuels by road in a bid to keep gas supply lines open as fears of shortages spiked. "This Declaration addresses the emergency conditions creating a need for immediate transportation of gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and other refined petroleum products and provides necessary relief," stated the Department of Transportation.

Despite Colonial indicating on May 8 that they were the victim of ransomware and not a state actor, the media are already contorting matters into an attack by Russia on America. FireEye, the company that played an early and major role in the "SolarWinds" operation, is said to be working for Colonial on the cyberattack. It and others are pointing at "DarkSide" as the likely source of the attack, and then suggesting that it must be a Russian operation. BBC cited an anonymous cybersecurity firm that it is "likely to

be based in a Russian-speaking country” since none of its targets have been Russian. CNN cited an unnamed “former senior official” that the ransomware “originated from Russia.” And on May 10, the FBI stated that “the DarkSide ransomware is responsible....”

DarkSide is described as a “Robin Hood” operation that targets profitable companies and gives a share of the ransom to charities. According to an Avertium cybersecurity firm report from March, on Aug. 20, 2020, DarkSide operators announced their malware in a dark web press release. Avertium claims that DarkSide’s average ransom demand is \$6.5 million and the average downtime is five days. DarkSide primarily targets Windows systems. Then, a month after the announcement by DarkSide operators came the “Russia” link—a “Russian-speaking cybercriminal using the handle ‘darksupp’ posted several announcements regarding Darkside, including an official recruitment for affiliates to participate in the Darkside RaaS [Ransomware-as-a-Service] affiliate program, a pledge not to attack hospitals, schools, nonprofits or government targets and to only attack businesses who can afford to pay a ransom” (sic Avertium’s spellings). If ransom is not paid, encrypted data is published for a six-month period. Evidently, other companies have been hit over the last nine months and have paid a ransom.

The AP adds their interpretation of the situation: DarkSide, like “the most potent ransomware gangs, is known to avoid targeting organizations in former Soviet bloc nations. Colonial didn’t say whether it has paid or was negotiating a ransom, and DarkSide neither announced the attack on its dark web site nor responded to an Associated Press reporter’s queries. The lack of acknowledgment usually indicates a victim is either negotiating or has paid.”

This afternoon, President Biden stated: “So far there’s no evidence from our intelligence people that Russia is involved.” Then he adopted a backup position: Since the ransomware “is in Russia,” they have “some responsibility to deal with this” and he would bring it up with Putin. Dmitri

Alperovitch of the infamous CrowdStrike “no evidence” gang summed it up: “Whether they work for the state or not is increasingly irrelevant....”

López Obrador’s Diplomatic Protest Insists Biden Answer: Are You Trying To Overthrow My Government?

May 10 (EIRNS)—Just hours before his scheduled virtual meeting with Kamala Harris on May 7, Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced that his Foreign Ministry had filed a formal diplomatic protest with the Biden administration over unconstitutional intervention into Mexican political affairs. He presented the proverbial “check-stubs” proving the State Department’s U.S. Agency for International Development was financing of “Mexicans Against Corruption,” one of the leading NGOs organizing for the overthrow of his government. Oh, no, I will not be raising this issue with Harris, AMLO told reporters; those talks are about immigration.

The message was delivered, however. From Harris on down, top Biden administration officials have been overt that their “stop the migrants” plan for Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador is a cover for regime change against all of those governments, using NGOs and a fraudulent “fight against government corruption.” López Obrador’s actions do not just defend Mexico, but also strengthen El Salvador President Nayeb Bukeli’s hand in combatting the same corrupt, neoliberal agents being deployed against his attempt to develop his country.

The Mexican government confirmed the veracity of the invoices demonstrating U.S. government funding of the group —through USAID— from 2018 right up through May this year which had been revealed by *Contralinea* magazine, López Obrador reported. Civil society groups are welcome and free to operate in this country, he said, but “it is reprehensible that an opposition group to our government which has dedicated itself to blocking all the projects which are underway by promoting injunctions against them—as was the case with the Mexico City airport, the Tren Maya [Mayan Railway]—is being given financing from a foreign government. So

yesterday we filed a diplomatic note requesting an explanation from the United States government about this case.”

The supposed “anti-corruption” group in question is headed by Claudio X. Gonzalez, Jr., son of one of the most powerful private business sector leaders in the country (of the same name) who, AMLO noted, in 2006 had threatened that if López Obrador’s probable electoral victory in the presidential elections were recognized, it would be necessary to do what was done in Chile in 1973: a coup d’état.

AMLO also reported that “Mexicans Against Corruption” personnel also overlap the “Article 19” supposed press-freedom NGO which also receives money from the U.S. government. In March 2021, *EIR* exposed “Article 19” as a British-headquartered, British-, U.S.-, EU-, etc., financed operation, after it issued a broadside against alleged López Obrador threats to press freedom.

López Obrador was hardline: “We are going to wait for an answer from the United States government.... This is an act of interventionism, which violates our sovereignty.... No foreign government can give money to political groups of another country. Our Constitution prohibits receiving money from another country for political purposes. That is treason against the Fatherland.”

SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

More African Voices for Nuclear Power and Infrastructure Development

May 10 (EIRNS)—Another strong defense of nuclear power as the centerpiece solution for the supposed “climate crisis” has arisen from the heart of Africa, this time from Ghana. The setting was a conference organized by Ghana’s Nuclear Power Institute (NPI), specifically on how best to meet COP25’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 8 and 9: Decent Work and Economic Growth; and Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, respectively. The speaker was [Professor Benjamin Nyarko](#), who is at once the Director-General of the Ghana Atomic Energy

Commission and Vice President of Ghana Nuclear Power Program Organization, the two component members of the NPI.

In Dr. Nyarko's view, these two SDGs were interdependent, and without industrialization there would be no economic development. "Industries drive the economy of every nation and for industries to thrive, energy will be required, and not just any form of energy but a dense, stable, clean and affordable energy and that is where nuclear energy comes in," he said. "What we are saying is that it should be an addition to Ghana's energy mix—just as South Korea and other developed countries have done and are enjoying the benefits." In fact, as Nyarko saw it, not only was nuclear technology necessary for SDGs 8 and 9, but actually for 9 of the 17 "goals"—such as #2, Agriculture ("Hunger"); #3, Health; #9, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure—would benefit from nuclear applications.

Director of Nuclear Power Ghana Dr Stephen Yamoah additionally held up the image of South Korea's industrial transformation, of which nuclear energy played a key role. Yamoah explained: "Today [South Korea is] not just an economic giant, they are selling nuclear technologies and nuclear power plants to other countries. Nuclear energy is a very interesting technology that as a country we must take very seriously to help transform our country." Ghana has already declared its intent to be home to Africa's second nuclear power plant.

In its choice of topic Ghana was circuitously bypassing many of the goals which the UN might consider more important, such as #3 on Gender Equality, #10 on Reduced Inequalities, or #16 on Peace and Justice. And nothing in the UN literature on SDGs 8 and 9 suggests anything like this, their numerous "targets" being unquantifiable generalizations in which "sustainable" was the most common theme. Nyarko's call is thus yet another in a growing chorus of voices who see the real Green issue as Africa's rightful chance to develop—to achieve parity with the West, something for which the continent now has China as a shining example.

The Ghana meeting has received wide circulation, both within Ghana and beyond, with the *Ghana Times*' account having been picked up by AllAfrica aggregator.

TVA Intends Nuclear Small Modular Reactor Buildout

May 10 (EIRNS)—On April 28, during a virtual conference on “Innovation and the Future of Energy” sponsored by the Atlantic Council, featuring Senator Joe Manchin and TVA President Jeff Lyash (a Trump appointee), Lyash said that, while TVA is committed to shutting down its coal plants, “we cannot attain our goal of 80% reduction in carbon emissions by 2035 unless we preserve and extend the life of our existing nuclear fleet. To close that gap between 80% and 100%, we need new ways to attain energy storage, carbon capture and new nuclear in the form of small modular reactors.”

COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Hyperinflationary Monetary Policy Starting To Have Serious Results

May 10 (EIRNS)—The central bankers' "regime change" plotted at the August 2019 annual Jackson Hole bankers' summit—senior partner central bank and junior partner government Treasury teaming up to print vast amounts of currency and direct its spending—has been carried out since that time, and now has triggered the start of a hyperinflation.

Bloomberg's Commodity Price Index is up 62% from April 2020 to April 2021. These are spot market prices, which means not every buyer is paying them. But, nothing like this has been seen since January 1980, at the end of the 1970s "stagflation" and when Paul Volcker as Federal Reserve chair was already crushing the economy to stop it—10-year Treasury interest rates were then 13%, not 1.5% as now.

Wall Street and the City of London are very happy, so far, about this rapid inflation in various forms of producer prices, which their corporate clients are passing on to households across the world whose wage income—at best—is stagnant. At "regime change" leader BlackRock, Inc.,

its global head of thematic investing Evy Hambro enthused on Bloomberg Television May 8, “There’s still quite a lot of room to go. What we’re really doing is we’re testing the upper ranges of commodity markets to work out what the new price range is going to be.”

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization’s global food price index rose in April to 120.9, which represents a 30.7% increase in one year. Food inflation last reached this level in 2011. Corn wholesale prices have surged the most, averaging 142% in the past year. Otherwise, sugars and oils are rising in price most quickly. Economists will “explain” that food prices both to the farmer and at the supermarket have been deflating during most of the 21st century. But that is not the point: A hyperinflationary policy of printing currency and avoiding productive investment has triggered a sudden and rising inflation, as *EIR* forecast it would last in the fall and the *EIR Daily Alert* in late summer. This inflation is getting started, and it will not be “transitory” unless the policy is changed radically.

In the United States, the price of the median home purchase is 18% higher than one year ago. While rental inflation had fallen quite low during the pandemic (though the lowest-income renters faced the most inflation!), it is now ready to take off. Two very large rental owners, Invitation Homes and American Homes 4 Rent, are raising rents by 8-11% on all new leases and re-leases.

The April Consumer Price Index, defanged of inflation in every way Federal Reserve and Labor Department economists have been able to devise in 35 years of effort, will be published May 12. It tends to shape Americans’ ”expectations” of inflation. That survey by the New York Federal Reserve Bank showed today, for example, that Americans expect home price inflation to be 5.5% in the coming year—when it is already 18% for the median home!

IMF Demands Tunisia Crush Wages, as Kenya Advisor Condemns Conditionalties

May 10 (EIRNS)—Reuters reports that, Tunisia, as part of its (not yet announced) \$4 billion IMF bailout package, has “agreed” to virtually

eliminate its social support programs. “The proposal, shown to Reuters by a government source, envisages eliminating all general [including food] subsidies by 2024 and cutting the wage bill [for public-sector employees] to 15% of GDP by 2022 from 17.4% last year, partly through early retirement and reductions in working hours.” Replacing subsidies, the imperial news source said, will be “direct support” from government, presumably welfare-style checks, something which the IMF would not confirm at its weekly press conference on May 7.

A revolt of students and public sector in Tunisia touched off the so-called “Arab Spring” upheavals in North African and Mediterranean countries in early 2011. Those protests have both resumed and intensified since January, with continued collapse of living standards and severe inflation. In that context, the IMF demands could feed a color revolution in the making.

The cruelty of demands such as these was spelled out May 6, in a rare opinion piece published in the Kenyan Business Daily news site, written by the special economic advisor to President Uhuru Kenyatta, [Mbui Wagacha](#). Kenya recently concluded its own cowering to the gods of finance, negotiating a \$2.34 billion bailout package. Although it’s already been finalized, Wagacha voices strong regret, outlining how the current woes of Kenya Power—whose accrued debt from the coronavirus collapse was a major factor driving Kenya to the IMF—were actually the result of conditionalities forced on the country by the last, 1990 bailout from the World Bank. Under terms of that deal, Kenya dismantled (“unbundled”) Kenya Power and Lighting Company, a company “with decades of profits and profitability behind it,” Wagacha says. The distribution segment, Kenya Power, was left with the liabilities, while the power generators got tax and financing breaks.

Wagacha writes, “So if the question of unbundling was designed as a path to charge consumers and Kenya taxpayers for excess, expensive energy through the stripped-down Kenya Power, we have a profound problem that shackles the economy for the long haul. A superior strategy

would be to fight for affordable electricity, [that decreases] prices to fuel demand and economic growth, rather than prioritize the profit margins of electricity generators.” (In other words: Kenya needs nuclear power.)

As is again shown clearly in the case of Tunisia, Wagacha says that Kenya’s decision to go to the IMF led it “straight into the humiliating policy traps and economic fallacies of the Washington Consensus that derailed many African countries in the last century.”

GREEN NEW DEAL

Greta Thunberg Is a Puppet, *Global Times* Op-Ed Reminds Readers

May 10 (EIRNS)—China’s *Global Times* newspaper ran in an op-ed May 9, in which author Lu Xue both dismissed Europe’s climate change heroine Greta Thunberg as an ignorant “puppet” of imperialist interests, and dismissed climate change demands on China from the likes of the World Economic Forum and the Biden Administration.

The op-ed says “Thunberg, who at age 15 started skipping school on Fridays for her climate protests, is merely 18 years old this year. She is short of sufficient academic knowledge study, and lacks sound self-judgment capability. A girl like her is prone to be affected or even manipulated by some political forces. Li [Haidong, a professor at the Institute of International Relations at China Foreign Affairs University] said, in a bid to achieve their political intents, some Western political forces manipulate teenagers, treating Thunberg as a political puppet. This practice is unethical and despicable.”

Returning to its powerful editorial of April 18 which called zero-carbon demands an attack on the right of developing countries to develop, Lu Xue wrote: “If developed countries only focus on the current [greenhouse gas emissions] figure and pile pressure on developing countries to limit their emissions of greenhouse gases, it is to restrict the right of developing countries to further development.

“During their prior period of rapid development, developed countries emitted huge amounts of greenhouse gases without any penalty and restriction. When many developing countries including China are speeding up their development, developed countries are trying every means to limit developing countries’ greenhouse gas emissions. This practice is unfair and unjust. In terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, climate justice and equality must be underlined.”

Thunberg, sounding like a less-informed Barack Obama, had responded to CNN’s insistence “China’s annual emissions exceeded those of all developed nations combined in 2019, the first time this has happened since national greenhouse gas emissions have been measured, according to a new report. <https://cnn.it/3baiVDI>,” writing on her Twitter account May 7: “Yes, China is still categorized as a developing nation by WTO, they manufacture a lot of our products and so on. But that’s of course no excuse for ruining future and present living conditions. We can’t solve the climate crisis unless China drastically changes course.”

OTHER

Syria Times Reports Dr. Shaaban Attacking British at Schiller Event

May 10 (EIRNS)—Schiller Institute Southwest Asia representative Hussein Askary reported to *EIR* that Syrian media is publishing a news item today in which it is made obvious that Political and Media Advisor to the Syrian Presidency Dr. Bouthaina Shaaban used the Schiller Institute conference as a platform to single out the British as instrumental in the propaganda and psychological war against Syria. Dr. Shaaban usually directs her criticism for the military and economy devastation visited upon Syria, at the United States and Saudi Arabia; seldom at Britain. The link here is for the English version of the story circulating in *Syria Times*. The Arabic version was published in several Arabic newspapers and websites, Askary reports.