

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

United Nations To Open Amidst a Polarized World—But Solutions Must Be Found on a Higher Level

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—Today the UN General Assembly Debate begins, and will likely be one of the most tumultuous such assemblies in the organization’s history. The world is polarized on a historic scale, and not because of a so-called divisions between “democracies” and “autocracies,” as bobble-heads like Tony Blinken would have us believe.

The Biden Administration is gearing up to push for the expansion of the UN Security Council this week, not to promote increased representation or inclusivity, but rather to dilute the influence of Russia and China, who still hold two out of the five seats with veto power. In addition, Western nations are putting on a show to prioritize the interests of the Global South at the UN, so as to preempt the increased calls to address issues of global inequality. Such plans are being organized by the Anglo-Americans to “pick off” those nations deemed weaker and easier to pull into the Western “rules-based order” camp. Geopolitics at its worst.

To further illustrate the lawless nature of the so-called Anglo-American democracies, a report was released by The Intercept which details how the U.S. secured IMF relief for Pakistan in exchange for that country “agreeing” to send \$900 million in weapons to Ukraine. This followed the ousting of the previous Prime Minister Imran Khan, who had refused to take sides over the Ukraine conflict—a maneuver that was later exposed to have been made under pressure by the U.S.!

Not only are these efforts disgusting and unfitting for modern nations—it will never work! If one thing can be said following the recent period of diplomatic activity—from the Russia-Africa Summit in St. Petersburg, to the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg, to ASEAN in Jakarta, to the G20 in New Delhi, to the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, to the G77+China in Havana—there is a growing sentiment among non-Western nations that the world can no longer be controlled by global hegemonic interests, while the rest are left to fight over scraps. Instead, the time has come for the “comprehensive reform of the international financial architecture,” as was demanded at last week’s G77 Summit. Nations of the Global South have no doubt been discussing these matters over the preceding weeks, and will be bringing an entirely different quality of discussion into a slumbering United States and UN General Assembly.

Further underscoring the massive shift taking place in the world is an article by [Pepe Escobar](#) on Russia’s transition to the Far East as its “strategic priority for the 21st century.” Russia is now positioning itself to

the Far East as the “natural hub for swinging the entire Russian economy to Asian geoeconomics,” Escobar writes. In contrast, Western nations are turning away from the East and away from an orientation of growth, increasingly adopting “green” policies of de-growth instead. As a result, the West continues to see rising costs and declining standards of living, replete with new strikes and protests. The “green” transition, long promised as the savior for struggling Western economies, continues to implode, leaving increased energy prices in its wake.

Rather than be sour when Western sanctions and financial warfare locked Russia out of Western markets, Russia simply noted the reality taking place in the world. Quoting Russia’s Business Rights Commissioner, Escobar writes: “Although Western economies are well-developed, they are already ‘too heavily invested and sluggish.... In the East, on the other hand, everything is booming, moving forward rapidly, developing rapidly. And this applies not only to China, India, and Indonesia, but also to many other countries. They are the center of development today, not Europe, our main consumers of energy are there, finally.” Today, Escobar reports, there are 2,800 projects underway throughout the region.

The situation is extremely dangerous, but also extremely ripe for change. Those who are deaf to this massive shift taking place in the world are living on borrowed time, as this reality will only become more and more apparent as it unfolds. This week is sure to be a further wake-up call as nations from across the Global South descend upon the UN.

What will be the response? Will the West continue to threaten world war to defend their “rules-based order”—using up Ukraine in the process? Or will a shred of humanity emerge, reviving that former identity of nations such as the U.S.?

Only history will fully answer these questions—yet that doesn’t mean we should passively await its results. As the greatest poets and artists throughout the ages have known: The spark of creativity is inherent in every human being, waiting to be awakened. During moments of true crisis, significant numbers of people become susceptible of “receiving and

imparting profound ideas concerning man and nature”—even leaders of nations and institutions. It is this necessarily future-looking task that today’s organizers and world citizens are called upon to take up.

As Helga Zepp-LaRouche emphasized in a discussion with associates Monday, this dramatic situation must be elevated to a higher level than currently exists anywhere else in the world. The crisis will not be solved by seeking retribution for wrongs done. It can only be resolved by a new organization among nations, such as that posed in Mrs. LaRouche’s “[Ten Principles of a New International Security and Development Architecture](#),” where the interests of all nations are defended and a Westphalian commitment to the “good of the other” is maintained.

War and geopolitics are a disease, and only introducing a scientifically truthful cure will work.

- Watch [Harley’s Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday September 19, 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

Pepe Escobar Details Titanic Change by Russia to the Far East

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—In a new article published in The Cradle, [[In Vladivostok, The Russian Far East Rises](#),” journalist Pepe Escobar describes the historic shift indicated by Russian President Putin at last week’s Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) in Vladivostok, Russia. At that event, Putin opened his speech by saying: “The Far East is Russia’s strategic priority for the entire 21st century.”

This goes way beyond Russia’s “pivot to the East,” Escobar says, who was there in person in Vladivostok. “It is impossible to understand the Russian Far East magic without being on the spot,” something which virtually no Westerners took the opportunity to do. Escobar goes on to

describe some of the massive investments being planned in the region, including 2,800 projects underway, 646 of which are already up and running.

The rate of investment into the Far East is now triple the average for the rest of the country, and will continue to be an area of enormous growth considering it is still only 35% explored yet holds the majority of Russia's resources. All this will begin to be opened up as the infrastructure, transportation, and logistics capabilities are developed to make this the new center of global economic activity. Wang Wen from the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University said that Vladivostok's infrastructure must rapidly be expanded as it will become the new Hong Kong.

The vision for this is massive. It includes the Trans-Siberian Railroad and Baikal-Amur Mainline stretching across the country. It includes the International North-South Transportation Corridor from St. Petersburg, running through Central Asia all the way to Iran, and thence to Mumbai. It includes the planned Eastern Maritime Corridor from Vladivostok to Chennai, in Tamil Nadu on India's east coast. And it includes the Northern Sea Route which will increasingly become a major point of transportation, which is also closest to the rich mineral and fossil fuel wealth of the Arctic. It may also include a Russia-China-D.P.R.K. partnership with increased trade and possible rail connections—which was the main substance of Kim Jong Un's visit there. Fesco, Russia's largest rail company, described these projects as a “titanic shift in logistics.”

That was not always the plan. Escobar quotes Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova, who said in Vladivostok that Russia “never supported isolation” and “always advocated partnership,” in this case with the West, but following the events and sanctions of the recent period, Russia made a serious transformation. Escobar then quotes Russia's Business Rights Commissioner Boris Titov, who said, though Western economies are better developed, they are already “too heavily invested and sluggish. In the East, on the other hand, everything is booming, moving

forward rapidly, developing rapidly. And this applies not only to China, India, and Indonesia, but also to many other countries. They are the center of development today, not Europe, our main consumers of energy are there, finally.”

Further widening this picture, Escobar reports that there are now plans to have a BRICS-Eurasian Economic Union joint summit next year to further consolidate the trans-Eurasian transportation corridors, “as two-thirds of world turnover will soon follow the eastern track connecting Russia to Asia.” There are also plans to bring the Shanghai Cooperation Organization into this cooperation as well in the near future.

It is hard to overstate the significance of these developments. It certainly illustrates a new center of the global economy.

Wang Yi Visits Moscow for Four Days, Putin and Xi May Meet

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is arriving in Moscow for four days of meetings with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and other officials, in what were referred to by China’s Foreign Ministry as “strategic security consultations”; TASS cited the Kremlin that the Ukraine war, and the expansion of NATO into Asia, would be central topics of the meetings. These are likely in preparation for a meeting between President’s Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, which Putin, in Vladivostok, had said he expected. Putin said at that time that Russia-China relations “have reached an absolutely unprecedented, historical level.”

The Russian Foreign Ministry was quoted by media as saying, among other things, of Wang’s visit: “There will be a detailed exchange of views on issues related to the settlement in Ukraine, as well as ways of ensuring stability and security in the Asia-Pacific region.”

China’s August Economic Data Showed Real Economic Growth Increased

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—China’s economic data for August, released Sept. 15 by the National Bureau of Statistics of China, showed a strong increase in industrial growth and employment following the much-reported two-

month “pause” in China’s expansion after the end of COVID-19 lockdowns and port closures. Industrial production grew by 4.5% from the previous August, and by 0.5% from July. Manufacturing activity was up more, by 5.4% year to year, and the value-added of “high-tech manufacturing” by 2.9%. Industrial production growth over the eight months of the year to date has been pulled up to 3.9%. Urban unemployment was slightly lower than one year ago at 5.2%.

Fixed asset investment in August was up 3.2% on the year, of which investment in infrastructure grew by 6.4%, in manufacturing capital by 5.9%; in real estate development, by contrast, fixed asset investment dropped by 8.8% for the year. Unsurprisingly, real estate companies’ debt defaults are all that the international media can find to report about China’s economy, and they insist that the real estate problems will drag down the “otherwise positive data” on China’s economy, which these problems have failed to drag down.

In fact, it is, as *EIR* has previously reported, forced trade contraction with Europe and the United States, even to the point of price deflation in trade, which has slowed China’s economic growth, and from which it is now re-accelerating as its trade becomes concentrated in ASEAN nations and Asia more broadly. Goods trade was 2.5% lower than in August 2022; in July it had been 8.3% lower than a year earlier. Producer goods prices are still in contraction, although by less, while consumer prices showed a very slight increase.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

‘The Intercept’ Exposes Secretive U.S./Pakistan/IMF Deal in Munitions to Ukraine

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—The United States, behind the scenes, put in a good word with the IMF to give Pakistan a pass on its June 30, 2023 payment deadline. And once the IMF was informed of the U.S. secret deal with Pakistan to provide \$900 million of munitions to the U.S. for passing along to Ukraine, the IMF allowed Pakistan to count that otherwise

secretive income for the purposes of meeting the IMF's conditions. So reports [The Intercept](#).

The very same U.S. State Department official Donald Lu, who in the early spring of 2022 gave the instructions to Pakistan's U.S. ambassador that Prime Minister Imran Khan had to be dumped, made the arrangements in late May 2023 for Pakistan to get credit with the IMF. On the earlier occasion, Lu had evidently given as the reason for dumping Khan, that he was "aggressively neutral" on Ukraine. Shortly after Khan was ousted, with a vote of "no confidence," the first of \$900 million in munitions began heading for Ukraine. Now it appears that playing ball with the "keep Ukraine fighting to the last Ukrainian" also scores points with the IMF.

The Intercept writes on Sept. 17: "On June 29, a day before the original program was set to expire, the IMF made a surprise announcement that instead of extending the previous series of loans and releasing the next \$1.1 billion installment, the bank would instead be entering an agreement—'called a Stand-By Arrangement'—with fewer strings attached, more favorable terms, and valued at \$3 billion." However, "more favorable" than the previous agreement doesn't mean "favorable"—Pakistan still had to remove all support for energy and allow its currency to freely float. Energy costs doubled almost immediately.

The Intercept continues: "Documents outlining the money trail and talks with U.S. officials include American and Pakistani contracts, licensing, and requisition documents related to U.S.-brokered deals to buy Pakistani military weapons for Ukraine. The economic capital and political goodwill from the arms sales played a key role in helping secure the bailout from the IMF, with the State Department agreeing to take the IMF into confidence regarding the undisclosed weapons deal, according to sources with knowledge of the arrangement, and confirmed by a related document."

Lu's deputy Elizabeth Horst denied The Intercept's reporting on Lu's 2022 demand that Khan be dumped: "We do not let propaganda, misinformation, and disinformation get in the way of any bilateral relationship, including our valued relationship with Pakistan. The United

States does not have a position on one political candidate or one party versus another. Any claims to the contrary ... are false....” However, Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), born in Karachi of U.S. diplomats and Congress’s point person on all matters Pakistani, gave away the charade. He said that he had been assured by the administration that the U.S. did not interfere in Pakistani politics; but, afterwards, in a Sept. 12 interview with *The Intercept*, he explained: “I’m not disputing the accuracy of the cable” which states that Pakistan had to remove Khan, “but I do not read that to mean that the United States engineered his removal.”

Biden Taking Proposals on UN Security Council Reform to New York

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—One of the items on President Joe Biden’s agenda for the UN General Assembly Debate opening tomorrow will be reform of the UN Security Council. “We believe it should be more inclusive and more comprehensive,” National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told the *Telegraph* in an interview. Asked if that meant changing the veto rules or the membership structure, Kirby replied: “We just think it’s time to have a discussion about the architecture in the organization. I think President Biden, the United States, would support more members.”

The *Telegraph* makes clear at the outset, however, that it’s not about inclusiveness, but about diluting the power of Russia and China on the council. “Joe Biden is expected to call for the UN Security Council to be expanded to counter Russia and China as world leaders gather in New York,” the *Telegraph* reports. Names being bandied about as possible new permanent members include India, Brazil, Germany, Japan and South Africa. What’s not clear is whether the new members would get veto power.

In Moscow, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters this morning that indeed the UN Security Council is in need of a transformation in order to maximize its effectiveness. “The UN Security Council indeed needs to be overhauled in order to increase the efficacy of this extremely important international body to the utmost. Of course, to do so, the

consensus of all participants is needed,” he said, commenting on U.S. President Joe Biden’s plans to propose expanding the number of the UNSC permanent members.

Peskov remarked that additionally, the UNSC needs greater inclusiveness “from the point of view of precisely those countries that recently took on an additional role, giving them a much greater impact on global security and the economy as well as more clout.”

“It is necessary to begin this conversation and we have said this repeatedly,” he commented, pointing out that the process requires “very complex and possibly lengthy talks.”

Poland Is Committed to the Dying Trans-Atlantic Order

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—Polish Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau expressed full commitment to the dying trans-Atlantic order in an interview with the Warsaw-based Polish news outlet Nowy Swiat 24. In the interview, [published in English](#) by the Polish Foreign Ministry, Rau effectively argues that Russian imperialism is the source of all evil in the world and that the BRICS is no alternative to the U.S.-EU-G7-NATO system.

Regarding Russian imperialism, Rau claims that the world has been defined by the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact of 1939 because it “introduced completely different ideas to the global policy, restored the method of armed aggression to delimit spheres of influence, and rejected democratization of international relations for the sake of the Concert of Europe and imperial practices.” Stalin, he claimed further, “forced the democratic states into acknowledging the terms of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and the logic of spheres of influence. It was in Yalta that the Soviet Union received the democratic powers’ approval to move the border of its sphere of influence from the Vistula to the Elbe.” That world ended in 1989 but “The world is threatened by the return of policy based on antagonisms.” Therefore, “This is why Poland must actively remind others about the experience of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and, later on, of Yalta, to prevent the development of such standards of the new era that will endanger the peace in Europe.”

No compromise with this new authoritarianism is possible, Rau goes on. “First of all, we have to underline that one must not yield to imperialism, nor even neo-imperial tendencies. The democratic countries must not accept the standards of behavior imposed by autocratic imperialism,” he said. “Secondly, a compromise between democracy and authoritarianism is impossible because it always takes place at the expense of freedom. When democracy gives up on the defense of freedom and territorial integrity, it has nothing to do with realism. But it always endangers peace and, ultimately, also freedom and democracy.”

Not surprisingly, Rau put Poland in the middle of the fight against Russian imperialism. In December 2021, when Russia “demanded” withdrawal of NATO from Poland and the Baltic states, “Poland had to show, by own example, the way towards the right response to the Russian attempts,” he said. “We proved that providing Ukraine with military, political, economic and humanitarian assistance is possible and that we must not yield to Russia’s blackmail and threats of escalation.”

Once the war in Ukraine is over, “we will have to face the threat of another Russian attack,” Rau claimed. “And Europe should be capable of resisting such conventional aggression on its own. Poland is, therefore, perceived as a credible partner in its assessments of the strategic situation and Russia’s intentions, and a one that fulfills its commitments to its allies.”

As for the BRICS, “No alternative world order exists and it cannot be created without the most developed countries in the world, which are still grouped in the Atlantic area, NATO, EU and G7,” Rau proclaimed. “In reality, the BRICS countries do not have much in common, nor do they have mutual interests, but would all like to participate in this format to increase their bargaining position.” A new age has begun, Rau went on, but it’s an age of antagonism, as defined by “all” the security strategies that have been “published recently.” In this new age, “All the countries that experienced colonialism are our natural allies in this regard,” he claimed.

COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

Gone with the Wind, as Siemens Reportedly Not Selling Turbines

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—German business daily *Handelsblatt* carried a report on Sept. 17 that Siemens Energy’s wind power division, Siemens Gamesa, which is one of the largest worldwide producers of wind turbines for offshore farms, had stopped selling and accepting orders for them. Siemens Energy “denied” the report in a statement to a website called Recharge, saying “Our absolute priority is to revise [fix] the affected systems in existing customer projects.”

But this denial sounded a lot like an admission. These Siemens-produced wind turbines have been breaking down, or having system parts fail, very early in their operating lifetimes, causing Siemens Gamesa to take write-downs and losses and its stock to plunge over the past two months.

U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

White House Official Spends Two Days in Talks with Chinese Foreign Minister

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan met in Malta with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi for two days on Sept. 16-17, both the White House and the Chinese Foreign Ministry reported. A senior administration official told reporters that the two sides met for 12 hours over the two days. “This meeting was part of ongoing efforts to maintain open lines of communication and responsibly manage the relationship,” the [White House readout](#) reports. “The two sides had candid, substantive, and constructive discussions, building on the engagements between President Biden and President Xi in Bali, Indonesia in November 2022.”

“The two sides discussed key issues in the U.S.-China bilateral relationship, global and regional security issues, Russia’s war against Ukraine, and cross-Strait issues, among other topics,” the readout reports further. “The United States noted the importance of peace and stability

across the Taiwan Strait. The two sides committed to maintain this strategic channel of communication and to pursue additional high-level engagement and consultations in key areas between the United States and the People's Republic of China in the coming months.”

According to press reports, the Chinese side stressed the Taiwan issue. The Foreign Ministry characterized the talks as “frank, substantive and constructive strategic communications on stabilizing and improving China-U.S. relations,” reported *Global Times*. Wang emphasized that the Taiwan question is the first red line that must not be crossed in China-U.S. relations, and that the U.S. must abide by the three joint communiqués and its commitment not to support “Taiwan independence.” China’s development has a strong endogenous momentum, following the inevitable logic of history, Wang said. It cannot be stopped, nor can the Chinese people’s right to development be deprived.

The two sides also discussed the need to re-establish military-to-military dialogue between the U.S. and China, the senior Biden official said. The official said there were “limited indications” that China may be willing to re-establish those channels, but declined to elaborate further.

Milley Admits, the ‘Chinese Spy Balloon’ Did No Spying

Sept. 18, 2023 (EIRNS)—Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley has admitted what the Pentagon has probably always known: The Chinese alleged spy balloon that floated across the U.S. last January and February, didn’t do any spying (it may have even been a weather balloon, but this is still not said). “The intelligence community, their assessment—and it’s a high-confidence assessment—[is] that there was no intelligence collection by that balloon,” Milley told “CBS News Sunday Morning” on Sept. 17.

After the Navy raised the wreckage from the bottom of the Atlantic, technical experts discovered the balloon’s sensors had never been activated while over the continental United States, CBS reported. But by then, the damage to U.S.-China relations had been done. On May 21, President Biden remarked: “This silly balloon that was carrying two freight cars’

worth of spying equipment was flying over the United States, and it got shot down, and everything changed in terms of talking to one another.”

So, CBS asked: “Bottom line, it was a spy balloon, but it wasn’t spying?” Milley replied, “I would say it was a spy balloon that we know with high degree of certainty got no intelligence, and didn’t transmit any intelligence back to China.”