

EIR Year in Review

The year 1985: picking up history's thread from 1439

by Criton Zoakos

The year which is now behind us, 1985, will be marked in future history books as that year in which history's main thread, worn thin and nearly cut, in the aftermath of the reactions to Florence's 1439 Council, was fastened once again. Most of our contemporaries, living in the here and now, will have trouble appreciating this fact, for most of them would not know what this "thread" is, many others, because they have not fully assimilated what really occurred in 1985.

Our contemporaries' momentary difficulty in grasping the point does not lessen either the reality of what has happened, or the impact it is bound to have on future developments.

The panorama of this year's developments is dominated by the consolidation, inside the vast Russian Empire, of a ruthless, skilled, and very ambitious leadership, around a group which *EIR* had, early on, identified as the "Andropov Dynasty." These persons, brought to the fore by Mikhail Gorbachov, Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov's protégé, are now in their third year of a full-scale, wartime-style economic and technological resource mobilization. Their principal objective is, by not later than 1988, to establish sole world domination, a modern version of their legend of Moscow, the Third and Final Rome (page 29).

In a history-making special report, titled *Global Show-down* (page 38), *EIR* alerted leading world institutions of the import of the present Soviet mobilization and posture.

Another influential report of *EIR*, on the Trilateral Commission, shed light on the question of who, in the West, is aiding and abetting Moscow's present drive for world domination. The close philosophical and moral affinity of the Trilateral Commission's leading luminaries with the present

Soviet leadership, when examined by informed persons, would surprise many. Though not sharing Moscow's ration for a Third and Final Rome, the Trilateral Commission is fully engaged in revamping the world map to accommodate an imperial condominium with Moscow.

The group's stated program is simple, and its results can be read in any daily newspaper's headlines: force the United States to accept living under the economic *diktat* of austerity, net disinvestment, and debt-collection policies of the International Monetary Fund, a future now imminently upon us, after the passage of the Gramm-Rudman legislation (page 6); accelerate the rates of economic looting at the expense of the heavily indebted Third World (page 12); transfer to the Soviet Union jurisdiction and responsibility for the affairs of the Middle East (page 58); abandon United States commitments to the defense of Europe (page 44); force a new American capitulation to Soviet arms-control, so called, demands, and derail President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (page 60); unleash a new wave of cultural warfare against the world's population, principally by means of the growing plague of narcotics (page 15); intensify the efforts to reduce world population by means of permitting famine and pestilence to run unchecked (page 20).

The year 1985 was the year which saw virtually every single issue previously identified by *EIR* as critical, actually capture the agonized attention of the world public:

- Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) is now in jeopardy as a result of a Palace Guard coup d'état in the administration.

- AIDS, now spreading in pandemic proportions, has become the world population's most dreaded threat, and the

hottest political issue, in domestic and international politics.

● Third World debt has, by virtually every one concerned, been recognized to be unpayable.

Ibero-America, led by the extraordinary President Alan García of Peru, has launched its fight for preservation and economic development, along lines very similar to the *EIR*'s proposed *Operation Juárez* for financial reorganization.

The year leaves with the world population in a vast material and moral misery: in the Third World, decimated by famine and an incredible degree of sheer material deprivation; in the Middle East, further maddened by runaway sacerdotal and political warfare; throughout the advanced, Western sector, by mass unemployment, skyrocketing drug abuse, collapse of governmental services, disintegration of public health, growing moral confusion, and the new plague: AIDS.

Russian military power bursting at the seams.

Western Europe frightened and less defensible than the year before.

The Far East now wide open to Russian expansion.

The Middle East, virtually fallen.

Africa also.

The United States weakened, its defense budget mutilated, its SDI compromised, its President sounding the uncertain trumpet of 1938 Munich at his summit in Geneva.

When December had arrived, what old-timers used to call the "moral fiber" of Western culture appeared to be snapping. *EIR* and its political allies had just emerged from one of the most important political projects of the year, a great international conference in Rome, Italy, honoring St. Augustine, the one man most credited with weaving that which is Western civilization's "moral fabric."

And then, something momentous happened, the Extraordinary Synod of Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church, assembled in Rome by Pope John Paul II.

A call to arms and a resolution was issued from that truly extraordinary Synod, by a religious leadership which had resolved to address not its ecclesiastical, narrowly considered, concerns, but, finally, to do battle on behalf of a frightened, tormented, demoralized world. We have already spoken extensively on the subject of this Synod. We shall note here only two of its aspects.

John Paul II's Synod issued a call addressed not to formal members of his Church, but to all of humanity.

His Synod also, firmly and resolutely identified the one standard under which this good man will do battle: "To make all men into sons of God."

The strategic issues, as a result, have been restored to their true historical perspective, as they had been identified in the year 1439 at the Council of Florence, when Eastern and Western Christianity had resolved to achieve unity under a common acceptance of the principle of what theologians call *Filioque*, and what John Paul II's Synod explicitly named "to make all men into sons of God."

The immediate practical consequence of this, to many seemingly obscure issue, was spelled out by Joseph Cardinal

Ratzinger: No economic theory, and no economic practice, is considered acceptable from the standpoint of natural law, unless it is derived from moral responsibility. After indicting Russia's version of economic determinism, Ratzinger proceeded to deliver a devastating indictment of the Trilateral Commission's and of Rockefeller's, by name, brand of Adam Smith, amoral "free enterprise."

It has been made clear that the authors of the Extraordinary Synod have pronounced Russia's and the Trilateral Commission's economic philosophies and economic practices to be the root cause of virtually all the evils under which nations and individual human beings are being crushed today, and also pronounced both of these incompatible with the principle of the *Filioque*, the program "to make all men into sons of God."

Full circle from 1438-39: Between that time and the year that just passed, vast historical chapters were written. The Russian Orthodox Church took its specific national shape for the sole purpose of fighting the *Filioque* principle, of resisting the program "to make all men into sons of God." Protestantism was born into the world; then the Enlightenment; the American Revolution was fought and won; nations emerged and nations disappeared; the two rival forms of capitalism, feudal-based finance capitalism, i.e. Adam Smith's "magic of the market place," on the one hand, and the "American System," of dirigism and incessant technological progress, on the other, warred with each other.

The unresolved problems of all these great experiments, conquests, defeats, achievements, and disappointments of mankind, have accumulated and piled up over the centuries, to give us the agonizing picture of agony, fear, confusion, sheer human suffering that was 1985.

The crisis of this past year has produced such profound tremors inside peoples' deeper thinking processes, where the greater conceptions of our civilization are forged, that people had to go and confront fundamentals, such as that most fundamental, the thread of Western civilization's history, its "moral fiber," its program "to make all men into the sons of God," the *Filioque*.

In retrospect, though *EIR* had, from its inception a decade ago, campaigned precisely for this subordination of economics to moral law, we cannot say that John Paul II's Extraordinary Synod "had to happen."

It did not "have to happen."

All we can say in retrospect is, humanity's chances for survival, after what transpired during this tormented year, would have been very, very slim, had humanity's problems not been placed on the table for examination from the vantage point of absolutely irreducible fundamentals, such as our civilization's historical program, from its inception, "to make all men into sons of God."

This has now happened. Where it will lead, dear reader, will also depend on how you, too, will respond to this, nearly unprecedented challenge.

The next, could truly be a Happy New Year!