

Conference Presentations

Populorum Progressio and the debt crisis

In honor of the 20th anniversary of the papal encyclical Populorum Progressio, the Schiller Institute and the St. Augustine School sponsored an international conference in Lima Peru on April 3-4. Presentations were made by the following people:

Ernesto Alaiza Mujica, Peru, representing Cardinal Landázuri Ricketts—Spoke on the significance today of Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Populorum Progressio*.

General (ret.) Lucio Añez, Bolivia, former chief of staff of the armed forces, former vice-president of the Inter-American Defense Board—Discussed his country's war on drugs, the need for continental cooperation, and how the International Monetary Fund's austerity conditionals foster the drug traffic.

Reverend Father Juan Barreda Bravo, Peru, former prior of the Augustinian Order, founding director of the Saint Augustine School—Stressed the urgency of Ibero-American integration, in view of the problems of hunger and injustice, and emphasized Pope John Paul II's call for a genuine "Continental Solidarity."

Wilbert Bendezu, Peru, parliamentary deputy from the APRA party—Described his party's 60-year effort to achieve the integration of the Americas, emphasizing that such integration was the key to achieving social justice on the continent.

"Development is the new name for peace."

—Pope Paul VI



Shown here are, from left to right, conference speakers Sara Vásquez, Jossell Muñoz Cordova, Reverend Father Juan Barreda Bravo, and Wilbert Bendezu.

Dr. S.C. Birla, India, counsel to the Supreme Court of India and a founding member of the All-India Bar Association; general secretary and convenor of the All-India Lawyers Conference for 1987—Spoke on the history of India, and how South-South cooperation can be improved to foster transfer of technology. Called for the convening of a conference in India this year to further that process.

Father Cesareo Fernández de las Cuevas, Peru, prior of the Augustinian Order in Peru, director of the Saint Augustine School in Lima—His presentation, entitled "Economics and Morality," addressed the importance of the recent document "An Ethical Consideration of the Debt," issued by the Vatican Commission *Justitia et Pax*.

Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Friedrich Gruenewald, Federal Republic of Germany, deputy chairman of the Patriots for Germany—Discussed the ties between Peru and Germany, back to the 19th century when Alexander von Humboldt visited Peru, bringing with him "the ideals of humanism and the Weimar classics." Promised to work for cooperation with Peru today, including bringing back to Europe a shopping list of what Peru needs—such as machine-building equipment, factories, aeronautical equipment, special ships for fish processing—so that Peru and Germany can together solve their crisis.

Mpinga Kalonji, Zaire, chargé of the Zairean embassy in Bonn (speaking in his personal capacity)—Discussed the theme "Zaire: At the Crossroads," explaining the measures his country has been forced—like Peru—to adopt for its own survival. Among these are actions to limit debt payments to 20% of the government's budget, and 10% of its export earnings, while the country's currency was returned to a fixed parity.

Lyndon LaRouche, U.S.A., economist, candidate for the Democratic Party's 1988 presidential nomination; founder of *EIR*—Discussed the battle for a New World Economic Order, the future of Peru, and a grand design for the colonization of space.

Josmell Muñoz Cordova, Peru, senator from the APRA party—Offered personal greetings to the conference, noting the leadership role that Peru has undertaken in the fight against the International Monetary Fund; predicted that Lyndon LaRouche would be elected President of the United States.

Father Pablo Larrán García, Peru, of the Saint Augustine School—Opened the conference with a prayer dedicated to *Populorum Progressio*, the purpose of labor, and the New World Economic Order.

Carlos Rivas Dávila, Peru, head of the Bicameral Budget Committee of the Congress—Thanked the LaRouches for their leadership in the fight for a New World Economic Order, and discussed the need to integrate Ibero-America, so that it can fully utilize the benefits of science and technology, especially in the generation of dignified jobs.

Sara Vásquez, Peru, president, Peruvian chapter of the Schiller Institute—Inaugurated the conference and presided over its proceedings.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Federal Republic of Germany, president of the Schiller Institute; chairman of Patriots for Germany—Spoke on the theme “Christian Morality and the Debt Question.”

Greetings to the Lima conference

The following are among the telegrams of greeting sent to the conference from around the world:

Brazil

Senator Jamir Haddad, president of the Brazilian Socialist Party:

... I am closely acquainted with the studies of the Schiller Institute, and for that reason, I associate myself with them.

In a recent speech before a plenary of the federal Senate of my country, I said, “Mr. President and Mr. Senators, I have defended several times, from this rostrum, the auditing of our foreign debt. At this time, so that it be known in the annals of this Chamber, I want to submit the opinion of the magazine *Ibero-American Integration* of the Schiller Institute, which has an introduction by a pre-candidate of the Democratic Party to the presidency of the United States of America, Mr. Lyndon H. LaRouche. There, it is proven that the gradual increase in spreads, and the progressive devaluation of the value of Brazilian exports, means that, in reality, we owe nothing, and even that we should receive close to \$58 billion. It is not myself who is speaking, but a member of the U.S. Democratic Party, and pre-candidate to govern that great country.” Up to here, the speech which I gave in the Senate last month.

Now, we hope that unified measures by the debtor countries be taken, so that the problem of the foreign debt can be resolved. . . .

Orlando Moscoso, president of the Federation of Industry of the State of Bahia; vice-president of the National Industrial Federation of Brazil (CNI):

... Your meeting in Lima is a meeting which could be held here in Brazil, because we have the same ideas. We are Christians; we are patriots; we want progress as a means to distribute wealth. Poverty cannot distribute wealth; poverty needs to receive wealth from those who understand wealth as necessary to promote the common good. . . .

The debt was contracted, and should be paid. But what can be questioned, is whether the debt was badly contracted, or whether it was contracted under circumstances which cannot be imposed upon the current life of the nations of Latin America. Therefore, all of us must come together to adjust our accounts, pay our debts, but under conditions tolerable for our countries. Nothing is gained by trying to pay much more than can be paid, and thus leave our people in conditions of poverty. . . .

Euclides Scalco, federal deputy, first secretary of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB):



Shown here are, from left to right: Mpinga Kalonji, Gen. (ret.) Lucio Añez, Carlos Rivas Dávila, Dr. S.C. Birla, and Gen. (ret.) Friedrich Gruenewald