

'Peace through development' coalition born in Berlin

by Gabriele Liebig

More than 300 people from 31 nations came together on Nov. 22-23 at the invitation of the Schiller Institute in the Köpenick section of Berlin for a most out-of-the-ordinary conference called to address the issue of world economic recovery. From the northern-most tip of Scandinavia and from Africa, from France and Afghanistan, from the U.S. and distant Peru, as well as from all the nearby states of western and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union they traveled: legislators from Hungary, Peru, Jordan, and the U.S. state of South Carolina; farmers from Germany, Sweden, Denmark; representatives of human rights organizations, economists, businessmen, and union councils alongside representatives of the Ukrainian government and Ukraine's Rukh independence movement; delegates of Croatia, Slovenia, and Kosovo in the former Yugoslavia.

Berlin, which until two years ago was still a city divided by the Wall which had been a symbol of despair and enslavement for nearly three decades, and is now the designated capital of reunited Germany, became the gathering place for an international movement, which was clearly conscious of the urgency of its own decisive intervention at this critical point in history.

"We are already living through the second war in this year," after the Gulf war now the slaughter in Croatia, said the president of the Schiller Institute of Germany, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, in her opening speech. "It is clearer than before, that a change in policy is needed on a global scale, if the explosion of regional conflicts is not to expand and lead sooner or later into a world conflagration." The goal of the conference is "to discuss the concepts and unify the forces, upon whose intervention a change in policy will depend. This means concretely, to link the perspective of an all-European infrastructure program and the Paris-Berlin-Vienna 'Produc-

tive Triangle' as the locomotive of the world economy, with the onset of a 'True Fourth Development Decade' for the nations of the developing sector."

Later, the main resolution, "Europe's Role in the Reconstruction of the World Economy," was passed unanimously, and in nearly identical wording was signed by 113 participants as the founding document of the World Coalition "Peace through Development."

War in Europe

Naturally, the bloody, expanding war of conquest against Croatia stood in the foreground of the Berlin conference. Dr. Barki from the presidium of the Austrian-Croatian Society of Vienna condemned the immoral policy of the European Community. The expanding war against the Croats has already cost 20,000 dead and 30,000 wounded, while 500,000 people, or 10% of the population, are already refugees. For this, people like Lord Carrington must be called to account.

Edita Taheri from Kosovo appealed to the gathering to adopt the cause of the 3 million Albanians who live in former Yugoslavia and over the last 10 years have suffered more and more under Serbian oppression. When, in 1990, Serbia took power militarily in the formerly sovereign region of Kosovo, thousands of Albanians were thrown into prison, and more than 100,000 have been expelled since July of last year.

Dr. Socan, Slovenia's envoy to the European Community in Brussels, sketched the background of the Balkan crisis. The dramatic collapse of the Yugoslav economy since 1986 has fed Slobodan Milosevic's Serbian fascism. The EC and the U.S. caused great harm, because the promotion of a "homogeneous Yugoslavia" meant support for a militarily controlled, totalitarian Greater Serbia. That caused the war

this summer.

The speech of Yolande Tabak-Raibaldi, president of the French-Croatian Association, was read in French. On the evening before, the French delegation held a memorial vigil for Croatia at the Brandenburg Gate, and several people from the vigil then took part in the conference. One Resolution (“Save Croatia and Europe’s Conscience!”) was adopted unanimously, after the condemnation of European policy toward the former Yugoslavia had been formulated more sharply as “in favor of the aggressor and at the expense of the victims.”

Revolution in credit policy

The American economic scientist Lyndon LaRouche, who has announced his candidacy for the Democratic Party’s presidential nomination despite his nearly three-year incarceration as a political prisoner of the Bush regime, had sent a speech from prison, which thrilled the participants by providing historical depth (see page 8). Just as the bankruptcy of the Lombard usurers of the 14th century threw Europe into the Dark Age of plague and depopulation, so the inexorable collapse of the Anglo-American financial system today is making millions of people into victims of the “Horsemen of the Apocalypse”—famine, pestilence, war, and death. Yet just as in Italy before, a renaissance can still follow this horror. To stop the bottomless slide into world economic depression, the “shock therapy” of Margaret Thatcher and Jeffrey Sachs must be scrapped and a “general policy of the creation of state credit” must be introduced to foster, chiefly, “the productive union of idled productive capacity with idled sections of the labor force.”

Helga Zepp-LaRouche had previously compared today’s International Monetary Fund (IMF) shock policy with the deflationary policy of the Brüning regime, which totally ruined the already-battered German economy and thus had paved the way for National Socialism. Frank Hahn of the Schiller Institute in Hanover, Germany contrasted to this, the idea of productive credit creation, which was introduced by the first American Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton. Had it been applied in time in Germany, it would have saved the world from the Hitler regime.

The IMF policy, the so-called Polish model, was unanimously rejected. The warning by the American economic writer William Engdahl to East European participants, that after throwing off the communist yoke they must not now allow the IMF, World Bank, or General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to rob them of sovereign control of their national economic development, was underlined eloquently by the speakers from East Europe.

Professor Nikolov from Sofia, Bulgaria rebutted the IMF model, which in Russia, for example, would sink “the living standard below the biological minimum.” He warned Russia not to adopt it, and criticized the current situation in Bulgaria as the “Pakistan model,” because there is only a tiny layer of

super-rich, along with a broad population for whom things are getting a lot worse than before, and no middle class.

A representative of Rural Solidarity from Poland said that the Polish government’s privatization policy is above all a job-creation program for the ex-communist *nomenklatura*, who now grab lucrative jobs for themselves in the free market. Production is still dropping, and 2 million Poles are jobless. The direction of a positive economic program must be to put the unemployed to work in goods production for Polish domestic use and in projects like the construction of highways and railways, which contribute to the increase of production.

The reports of *EIR* Ibero-American editor Dennis Small and Peruvian Sen. Carlos Calderón Carbajal, which described the devastating results of IMF policies in Latin America, fell on eager ears: financial bloodletting through usurious interest rates, the boom of the drug cartels, control of whole land areas by the drug mafia and their terrorist bands, and famine and malnutrition, as well as outbreaks of cholera and other epidemics.

The ‘Productive Triangle’

Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum, co-author of the book *An Economic Miracle for Eastern Europe*, explained the proposed Eurasian infrastructure program of Lyndon LaRouche starting from the Paris-Berlin-Vienna “Productive Triangle,” with the details that have been worked out since the original conception appeared in the fall of 1989.

One particular project, the planned coastal highway from Lubeck to Gdansk, was reported on by the German businessman who initiated it, Walter Merz. The six-lane highway over the 50-60 kilometer distance will not only decisively improve transportation between western and eastern Europe, but also contribute to economically developing the 150 kilometer band along the route.

Professor Ilya Ryabchenko, chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology for Ukraine—somewhat comparable to the office of science minister—revealed the high scientific and technological potential of Ukraine. Developing and using this potential to modernize industry is considered as the highest priority by the Ukrainian leadership. A national bank, national currency, and state-directed investment in R&D are urgently required to prevent the “brain-drain” of scientists and to secure fruitful scientific-technological collaboration with the other republics, especially Russia, and with western Europe.

Hungarian Member of Parliament Sandor Cseh admitted that he had initially feared the Productive Triangle was a “German project,” but this concern vanished as it became clear to him that the economic problems required a global solution. He also expressed the hope that Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s husband Lyndon will soon be released from prison.

Rosa Tennenbaum, who heads the Agriculture Commission of the Schiller Institute, discussed the world food crisis

Ghana ambassador to U.N. sends greetings

Dr. Kofi Nyidevu Awoonor, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, and chairman of the Group of 77, which represents more than 100 developing nations, sent the following "Greetings to the International Conference of the Schiller Institute for a New Just World Economic Order." The greetings were read from the podium to the participants.

EIR's interview with Dr. Awoonor appeared in our Nov. 1 issue.

I have asked Warren Hamerman of the Schiller Institute to convey my personal greetings to your conference chairwoman, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, for your convening of this very important gathering at this urgent time in history.

I would like to indicate my deep appreciation of the work of the Schiller Institute for presenting to the world, in its proposal for a True Fourth Development Decade, a clear institutional alternative for a life more satisfactory

for the developing world.

The world cannot continue to have peace if so vast a part of mankind is poor, starving, and suffering.

I also believe that it must be emphasized that the concerns and focus of the advanced nations must be turned and focussed on the questions of improving the conditions of the poor. Therefore, I am deeply grateful for your work in struggling to bring this about.

Finally, I am highly appreciative of the Schiller Institute, for drawing the attention of the advanced world to the deprivations of the developing world and suggesting certain concrete proposals for ending poverty and misery everywhere with programs of education and economic growth.

I hope that this conference will be another major landmark in bringing the two worlds together.

I also call on our brothers from East European nations who have just thrown off the shackles of communist imperialism to join with us in building a New Just World Economic Order based on development for all.

My schedule does not allow me to be personally present with you, but I wish you all the best success in your crucial work for a New Just World Economic Order at this conference.

in the East and South, and the need for structural reforms of agriculture in eastern Europe and the republics of the former Soviet Union, with an emphasis on productive, private family farms. She counterposed LaRouche's "Food for Peace" policy to the dangerous GATT policy which would sink food supplies even lower by removing farm subsidies. "All nations have a common interest in sufficient food reserves, so that no one has to go hungry anywhere."

A worldwide movement for development

The most surprising aspect of this conference was the harmony with which citizens from eastern and western Europe, the United States, Asia, Africa, and Latin America discussed problems and all pulled together to discover the solutions.

Democratic state senator and civil rights activist Theo W. Mitchell of South Carolina came as a representative of the real America: He lashed out at the Bush regime's policy for having driven the country into poverty and collapse. Yet Bush, and Reagan before him, would never have come to power, but for the timidity and cowardice of the Democratic Party. Lyndon LaRouche had dared a long time ago to come before the nation and world public opinion and to say that the fatal errors of Reaganomics would doom it to ruin and that the world economy would be brought down with it. Even today, LaRouche is the only one who knows a way out of the

crisis. Only an infrastructure program like the Productive Triangle in Europe will help the U.S. today. "Abolish the IMF!" Senator Mitchell said; the world needs a new, just world economic order.

Brig. Gen. Paul-Albert Scherer (ret.), who was the military intelligence chief of the Federal Republic of Germany during the 1970s, compared the decline of the Soviet empire with the fall of other empires, such as Rome or Byzantium. Despite the great dangers which such processes necessarily conjure up, we must welcome the end of Bolshevism, whose barbarity can only be compared to fascism. All the more indispensable is an organization like the Schiller Institute and its unique role of catalyzing a European-wide Renaissance and joint reconstruction.

It was happily noted that many representatives came from the former Soviet bloc. A delegation from Armenia was led by Yerevan city councilman Bhaboukian; Guntis Vilcans, a member of the Latvian Citizen's Congress from Riga was there; and Ukrainian economics professor Sikora and his colleague Filipenko from Kiev, along with their counterpart Prof. Dr. Taraz Muraniwski from Moscow University, and Professor Beletzki from the private consulting firm Sovintercontact, who belongs to the Boris Yeltsin camp. Dr. Kemur of Afghanistan, who played a leading role in the Finance Ministry before the 1979 Soviet overthrow of Babrak Karmal, spoke of the 2 million victims which the Afghan war

had cost. "But we are proud," he added, "that we beat the Red Army in Afghanistan and thereby contributed to the fall of the Wall in Germany in 1989."

There were significant contributions, too, from representatives of developing lands. Besides the dramatic speech by Senator Calderón Carbajal from Peru and the address by African architect Dr. Amadou Sakho on the development of a modern infrastructure in Africa, the chairman of the Group of 77 and ambassador of Ghana to the United Nations, Dr. Kofi N. Awoonor, sent greetings to the conference. Dr. Awoonor thanked the Schiller Institute for its proposal for a True Fourth Development Decade and appealed to the eastern European nations "to collaborate with us to build a new, just world economic order, based on the development of all" (see box).

Human rights and cultural Renaissance

On the theme of human rights, the first to speak in Berlin was Dennis Small, who in 1988 was convicted together with LaRouche, and had been recently released from prison. He urged everyone to struggle for the release of LaRouche, who has now spent three years in jail: "Enough is enough!"

Ni Yu Xian, the vice chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party of China, reported on the democracy movement in Red China. Like himself, the movement was and is under gruesome persecution from the Beijing regime. At one point, he was barely able to continue speaking as he described how prisoners sleep in such close quarters that they could no longer move an arm, and how anxiety can make people small.

Further speakers were Dimitri Leonov from the Sakharov Memorial Foundation, Dr. Tibor Kovats, co-founder of the Association of Hungarian Political Prisoners from Budapest, and Pham Con Hoang from the Organization of Vietnamese Refugees.

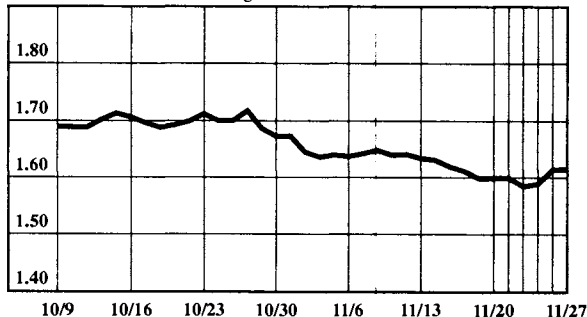
The closing remarks were presented by Elisabeth Hellenbroich, editor-in-chief of the cultural magazine *Ibykus*. She spoke on the Christian-humanist image of man, man endowed with reason in the likeness of God—in distinction to the anti-human concept of the malthusian Club of Rome—which must become the basis of the democratic reorganization of society in the East, if it is truly to lead to a new Renaissance. She cited the letters of Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz to the Russian Czar Peter the Great, and praised the proposal of Karl Dedecius to set up an educational architectural project in Krakow for young Europeans of various nations, where they would rebuild a Renaissance villa by Berecci from the present-day ruins there.

The spirit of the discussion is perhaps conveyed by the remark of a Jordanian official who took the microphone and said that this last speech especially spoke to his soul, because everything that man undertakes, finally depends on these underlying values. Without the express concern for the value of the individual and humanity, "the most finely polished economic projects could become devilish," and fail to accomplish their goal.

Currency Rates

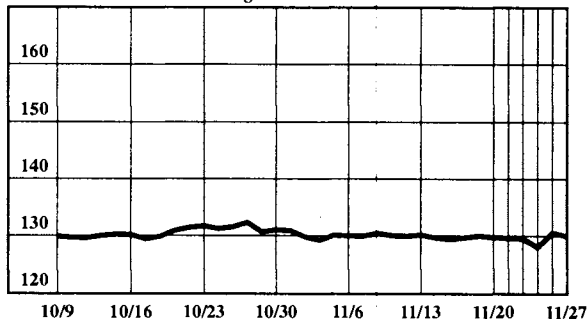
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



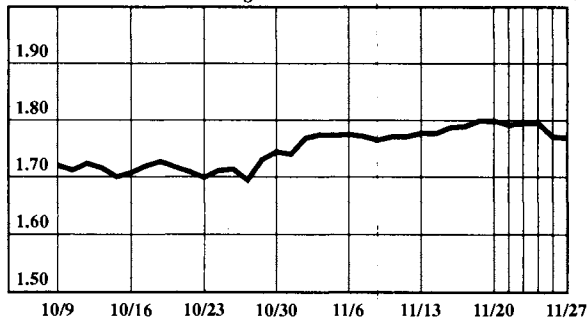
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

