
Interview: Vakhtang Gogvadze

Georgian leader: America needs a President the world can love

The nation of Georgia sits in the Caucasus Mountains by the Black Sea, right at the epicenter of today's wars and geopolitics (see EIR, Sept. 10, 1999, "Brzezinski Plays Britain's 'Great Game' in Central Asia"). Giga Burduli, Deputy Foreign Minister under President Eduard Shevardnadze, has urged NATO membership for Georgia and, immediately, closer NATO military involvement with the republic, which borders on Chechnya and other North Caucasus regions of Russia. At the same time, Tbilisi is engaged in diplomacy with Russia, aware that Georgia itself can again fall victim to separatist insurgencies, run through the same chains of command from London as the ones that struck Russia with terrorism and turmoil.

Under these circumstances, Georgia faces Parliamentary elections on Oct. 31 of this year, and a Presidential election next April. Dr. Vladimir Kilasoniya, who is active on behalf of the Schiller Institute in Georgia, informs us that the dividing lines among the electoral slates are viewed inside Georgia as chiefly a matter of economic policy. The "rightist" alliances, including President Shevardnadze's Union of the Citizens of Georgia, favor monetarist approaches to economic policy, further privatization of infrastructure and industry, and adherence to NATO, the European Union, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank. Some "centrist" slates, such as the Adjara-based Union for the Rebirth of Georgia, also support gimmicks that would open Georgia up to further looting, such as dotting the country with free trade zones. On the "left," the Socialist Party, Labor Party, and United Communist Party are campaigning to save free health care, roll back some privatization, block the legalization of the sale of land, and pursue closer economic integration with Russia.

Another strong "leftist" bloc is the "Reborn Communists and National Patriots" slate, headed by Valeri Kvaratskhelia and former Speaker of the Parliament Vakhtang Gogvadze. Dr. Gogvadze was interviewed for EIR by Dr. Kilasoniya on Sept. 16, 1999.

Kilasoniya: In the past ten years, you have published a number of philosophical essays on the theme of Apocalypse. What is behind this interest in this? Do you think that Judgment Day is coming?

Gogvadze: Panic about the approach of Judgment Day has

arisen periodically through the ages. It is gathering strength on the eve of the Third Millennium. Of course, nobody knows when the Lord will come. I can assure you, that Judgment Day is the most severe punishment for godless people, but believers welcome it as the justice of the will of God. The Lord will judge us. But judgment does not mean imprudence. "Thy will be done."

Kilasoniya: What do you think about the spiritual crisis of mankind, the unipolar system, and the World Order? What are the prospects for U.S. relations with the rest of the world, particularly with Georgia?

Gogvadze: The collapse of great states has always taken place as a result of great wars. After the Second World War, which took the lives of 50 million people, the fascist banner was broken over the Reichstag. Half a century later, the Soviet banner was taken down from the Kremlin. The Soviet Union collapsed without a single shot being fired. But, defeat in far from cold war has brought to the peoples of the countries of the former Soviet Union more woe, than did the Second World War. I would call the on-going Third World War an enchantment's war, in that it is conducted not in the form of enmity and battles, but under the guise of friendship and "humanitarian aid." Philosophers and writers have not yet shed light on this Satanic miracle. In place of the bipolar world, we got a unipolar system of world rule. One Evil Empire was eliminated, but evil grew back.

There is an interesting story about a forest where the wolves were destroyed, so that the reindeer could multiply. But it turned out that the wolves had kept the reindeer mobilized. They had picked off the sick deer, so that a natural process of improving health occurred. Without the wolves, the reindeer went into decline, they weakened, and fell prey to diseases. The reindeer died off. Thus, there are laws of contradiction, dialectical laws, in nature. Without the Soviet Union to oppose, the unipolar empire confronted unanticipated problems, which threaten to sicken the entire world economy and human life.

American flags were not burned in the Soviet Union, nor in other countries. But now? These unfortunate incidents are taking place on almost all continents. It is a worldwide tendency. In Tbilisi, the beautiful building that houses the U.S. Embassy has been disfigured, turned into a fortress with a

huge guard-fence. Tbilisi residents jokingly call it “the Berlin Wall.” The only ambassador who travels under reinforced armed guard is the U.S. Ambassador. When I was Speaker of the Parliament, not so long ago (1992-95), this was not the case. Tbilisi, unfortunately, is not exceptional.

Kilasoniya: How do you see the U.S. Presidential elections? What would you advise American voters to do?

Gogvadze: I am not a U.S. voter, but the policy of the unipolar empire affects us all. More than ever, we are in one boat. The world community ought to have peaceful ways to resolve problems — problems that are so difficult, as to raise the question, “To be, or not to be?”

Unfortunately, Presidential candidates mainly have to play their cards for the sake of votes. Like children, who don’t ask their father where he got so much money, the voters do not inquire where profit comes from for the United States. But now, an absolutely unusual moment has come in U.S. history. The entire Eastern world of nuclear powers, and bankrupted and enraged Russia, must be pacified. The draconian policy of the IMF, the draconian ideology of Brzezinski and his successors, have incited the entire world against the United States.

The United States and its people, the majority of the people in any case, are against aggression and enmity toward the surrounding world. Every American should travel freely in the world. The Americans have such an ideology — not yet realized, but promising. The United States will take a new path, with a new ideology.

Kilasoniya: With what policy, with what America, would it be desirable to have friendly relations?

Gogvadze: The only candidate for President of the United States, who has sounded out the real tendencies in U.S. relations with the rest of the world, is Lyndon LaRouche, with his almost faultless forecasts about the financial system, the self-destructive current monetary system. There is nobody Russia and the former Soviet republics trust, like LaRouche.

His heroic and moral biography will make it possible to turn all the injured countries and peoples, who have suffered from annexation and aggression by the IMF and the World Bank, to the side of the United States. In today’s different situation, a forward-looking policy is needed like never before.

The conception — essentially, the new ideology of Lyndon LaRouche is based on the need to restore moral principles. The cult of Mammon has taken mankind to the brink of spiritual exhaustion. The world is facing a catastrophe. All spiritual and intellectual capabilities must be mobilized, to cure civilization through culture. “Civilization destroys culture,” as Spengler said. LaRouche’s conception may seem idealistic or romantic in its lofty aspiration — a return to harmony from disharmony.

More concretely: After the barbaric bombing of Iraq and Yugoslavia, after the exposure of covert subversive actions

against the countries of the former U.S.S.R., the United States is up a blind alley. Soon, an Eastern bloc of nuclear powers will be formed against NATO. That bodes no joy for anybody.

I would like to appeal to the American people. Trivial phenomena may be better observed close-up. Colossal phenomena need to be viewed from some distance. From distant Georgia, I would like to express not only greetings and good wishes, but the thought of all peace-loving people in Georgia: We would very much like to see as President in the White House in the year 2000 a person who is wise, unsullied, endowed with God’s gifts, and capable of embracing the entire world with love. It seems to us that Mr. Lyndon LaRouche is

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such a man. Through the image of this person, we shall love your country, beautiful just as it was portrayed in your classic films.

Kilasoniya: Mr. Gogvadze, the political temperature in Georgia is very high. Parliamentary elections take place on Oct. 31 of this year, and Presidential elections on April 9, 2000. What is the people’s mood before the elections, and how do you assess the prospects for democracy today?

Gogvadze: Guided by our customary principle, “Don’t wash dirty linens in public,” I shall make no critical remarks. To characterize the situation in general, we have somehow copied American democracy, but the result was anti-democracy. The form is democratic, but the content is a regime — just as is the case throughout the former socialist countries and the countries of the former Soviet Union. This regime was invented in the West by the children of Satan.

The election is for money, not the people. Moral people, who have no money, are not allowed on board. Eighty percent of the population, victimized under this so-called democracy, is suffering, but they are supposed to vote for those who have robbed them. What an “expression of the will of the people”! One can hear Satan’s laughter. But, no, we are gripped by divine optimism like never before; the stern judgment of the Almighty is near. Ultimately, it is impossible for the Good to be altogether uprooted, for God to hand the world over exclusively to the heirs of Satan.

I am absolutely certain, that justice will triumph.