
Conference Report

Berlin Seminar Debates UN Role in ‘Westphalian’ Community of Nations

by EIR Staff

In Berlin on Jan. 12-13, some forty participants from Eurasia, the United States, and Africa met at an *EIR*-sponsored seminar, on the theme “Dialogue of Civilizations: Earth’s Next Fifty Years.” The meeting was keyed by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., who called for a revived “Peace of Westphalia”—a dialogue of civilizations that would place a perspective for 50 years of Eurasian economic development at the center of efforts for world peace. Like the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia which ended Europe’s Thirty Years’ War, the approach today to ethnic, religious, and regional strife must be based on the principle of each party enhancing “the advantage of the other”: wiping the slate clean of the cycles of revenge and counter-revenge that plague the Israel-Palestinian conflict, the wars in Africa and the Balkans, and many other locations.

The discussion focussed around LaRouche’s unique contribution to the science of physical economy: that only by fostering high-technology industrial and infrastructural development, can the basis for a lasting peace be achieved. This requires a conceptual breakthrough to a higher level of scientific understanding of how economic progress actually works, which LaRouche characterized as the “Vernadsky principle” (see *Feature* in this issue). The primary discussion documents for the seminar were LaRouche’s two recent articles, “Toward a Second Treaty of Westphalia: The Coming Eurasian World” (*EIR*, Dec. 17, 2004) and “The Dialogue of Eurasian Civilizations: Earth’s Next Fifty Years” (*EIR*, Jan. 7, 2005).

In this issue, we continue our coverage of this historic symposium, with presentations that address the nature of a new, just world economic order, and the problems that stand in the way of that. Specifically, several participants raised questions about the role of the United Nations, especially in the aftermath of the U.S.-led war against Iraq.

Other speeches appeared in *EIR*, Jan. 28 and Feb. 11. In future issues, we will include presentations that focus on various national perspectives on the current systemic economic crisis.

Dr. Mahander Kumar Saini

What Kind of New, Just, Economic Order?

Dr. Saini is the General Secretary of the Union for Social Justice in New Delhi, and a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of New Delhi. Following moderator Michael Liebig’s opening greetings to the Berlin seminar, he asked Dr. Saini to say a few words in remembrance of the victims of the Dec. 26, 2004 tsunami tragedy, to which Dr. Saini also referred in his speech, which we publish here. He spoke during the second panel of the seminar, on Jan. 12, 2005. Subheads have been added.

I must thank Mr. LaRouche for inviting me to this seminar. . . .

The problems in our part of the world are quite different. So far, I’ve been hearing, that if there is a kind of combination of Euro-Asia, the problems of the world will be solved. Of course, Mr. LaRouche has given a new kind of interpretation to the historical facts. . . . This is the first time I’m hearing the way he has interpreted it, and he has shown how the financial oligarchy can continue to dominate the world system, where there are the countries that develop technology—technologically, financially; and on the other hand, there are countries which are very poor, and which face poverty because of many things.

Colonialism in Another Guise

We in India became independent from the European colonial system, as many other Third World countries also became independent, after 1950. We started looking, from the point