
Eyewitness Report

LaRouche's Ideas Are Warmly Welcomed in Embattled China

by Leni Rubinstein

Nov. 29—While the trans-Atlantic nations scramble to try to save their bankrupt monetary system, by pursuing the same hyperinflationary approach that led to disaster in the 1920s, China's response has been to shift its policy away from being mainly export-oriented, to that of developing the country's internal physical economy, with great emphasis on building up the infrastructural basis, as a means of lifting hundreds of millions of its people out of poverty. This has been done in tandem with a conscious strengthening of the country's sovereignty.

As Lyndon LaRouche has pointed out, China's approach has been the rational one, in direct contrast to the screams from the international monetary authorities, who are trying to coerce them abandon their controlled exchange rate, and join the inflationary rush. China has been right, and the North Atlantic nations have been wrong.

A Little History

Ever since the shift of China's policy direction in 1978, the ideas of LaRouche have been translated, circulated, and discussed in that country. While the country has obviously maintained its role as a cheap-labor source for international corporations, there has also been this other process going on, which resulted, in May 1996, in Helga Zepp-LaRouche being a featured guest and speaker at a government-sponsored conference in Beijing, entitled, "International Symposium on Economic Development of the Regions Along the Euro-Asia Continental Bridge." At that conference, which brought together over 460 experts and diplomats from 36 countries, Zepp-LaRouche presented the key ideas later published in a Special Report published by *EIR*, entitled "The Eurasian Land-Bridge."

Soon after, at the beginning of 1997, LaRouche issued an international forecast, in which he stated that

Asia was going to be hit by a speculative wave before the end of that year. Asian policymakers in many nations, but especially, leading circles in Beijing and Taipei, were briefed on LaRouche's forecast, and when the speculative assault against Asia indeed happened at the end of 1997, as LaRouche warned, the respect for him and openness to his ideas grew further.

By the time of LaRouche's forecast in 2007, that the global monetary system was in its last throes, and the unfolding of that forecast in the form of an escalating economic breakdown of the trans-Atlantic region ever since, the response from the Chinese government has been to accelerate the development, in-depth, of the basic economic infrastructure of the country as a whole. As described in detail in *EIR* (see, e.g., accompanying article), China has embarked on a grand Franklin Roosevelt-style development of great water projects (the Three Gorges Dam, the south-north water transfers, and more), intends to give 90% of the Chinese population access to fast-speed rail by 2013 (some 16,000 km), and plans to build 500 nuclear power plants by 2050. This, all in a comprehensive plan for the colonization of the Moon and Mars, and the development of thermonuclear fusion power, as well as breakthroughs on other science frontiers.

Optimism and Openness

In a recent trip, first, to mainland China, and then to Taiwan, giving lectures and holding private meetings, this author encountered infectious optimism and an unprecedented openness and resonance towards the ideas of Lyndon LaRouche.

Although people knew something was terribly wrong with the financial and economic situation globally, they were shocked by the degree of the destruction of the physical economy of the United States and Europe. "I had no idea the destruction was this bad,"



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Leni Rubinstein addresses students and faculty at a university in Tianjin.

was a typical reaction. If you can imagine being Chinese, with the tremendous development projects taking place all around, and you are being told that the United States has not built a nuclear power plant for decades, no new refinery for 30 years, has not one single kilometer of high-speed rail, and is now experiencing a fast growth of austerity measures and poverty—that is shocking.

So, people appreciated being able to find out the causes, the immediacy, and the scope of the crisis, to find out what is wrong with Obama (they knew beforehand “something” was not right) and, most importantly, to get acquainted with LaRouche’s solutions to this situation. The idea of a World Land-Bridge, spurred by the American NAWAPA (North American Water and Power Alliance), and the animations from the larouchepac.com website to illustrate this, was met with an electrifying response of excitement: “Wow, do you really think we can do this for the world?” But then, when I asked them to reflect on the developments in China over the last couple of decades, and whether they would have thought these were possible 20 years ago, they got the point. People realized, that, yes, we can indeed develop the entire world, provided we shut down the influence of City of London and Wall Street.

These ideas of worldwide economic development in-depth are not foreign to China’s history. In some of

my lectures, the ideas of Sun Yat-sen, in his paper “On the International Development of China,” unknown to most Chinese, were presented—and met with great excitement. In that paper, Dr. Sun outlines an internal development perspective for China in-depth, much of which is now being realized, like the Three Gorges Dam, and connects this with a development perspective for the entirety of Eurasia and Africa.

Dr. Sun wrote this policy paper after the signing of the Versailles Treaty in 1919, and he conceived of it as a program for peace through development, in *contrast* to Versailles. He states in the preface, that, with the Versailles Treaty, the basis has been laid for a Second World War, and that only through

the adoption of a common principle for mutual development among nations, as outlined in his paper, can a Second World War be avoided and peace secured. No wonder these ideas resonated among young Chinese intellectuals, and the relation to LaRouche’s World Land-Bridge was obvious, as was the commitment from these young people to Africa and other poor regions of the world.

It is clear, that the cultural optimism, and a certain well-deserved pride, spring from a commitment to the development of the nation of China as a whole. Although still a developing nation, with a large number of very poor people, the commitment to change, the commitment to the future, is evident, and that shapes the cultural outlook.

While visiting, I had the occasion to ride on a high-speed train from Tianjin to Beijing. Although we were traveling at 331 km per hour, it was like sitting in a living room: no shaking, no noise, and a trip that just three years ago would have taken three hours, was now done in half an hour! As mentioned above: In a few years, 90% of China’s population will have access to high-speed rail. Imagine the impact of this for the population in general, but in particularly the young. And, for the world at large, it sets the example that “everything is possible.”

On Nov. 8, the *People’s Daily*, the official Chinese

government newspaper, described how Alan Greenspan had created a bubble economy which had been destructive to the United States manufacturing base, and the same day, *China Daily* carried an article comparing Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke's QE2 (quantitative easing, round 2) of \$600 billion, to Weimar Germany in 1923, warning that this policy would lead to hyperinflation. It is understood in mainland China, that the bailout policy is insane, and that if the trans-Atlantic region is allowed to crash, this will be destructive to the world at large—including China. There is therefore great interest in hearing what LaRouche proposes for a solution.

Changes in Taiwan

This reality is also understood in Taiwan. Just two years ago, leading intellectuals, bankers, and businessmen, when briefed on LaRouche's 2007 forecast, would state that, no matter what happened to the U.S., China would still survive. They do not say so any longer. There is a clear understanding, that the world is facing an immediate great danger, a crisis that would destroy China as well, and most discussions centered around key questions as to LaRouche's proposals, and also about what people outside the United States can do to help solve the crisis.

Over the last few years, the relationship between mainland China and Taiwan has changed quite a bit, and become much more "normalized." Apart from families having been reunited, hundreds of thousands of businessmen have settled with their families on the mainland, scholars attend conferences and seminars on both sides of the Strait, and young people are able to study at the various universities in Taiwan or the mainland.

With the establishment of "direct links" a few years back, it is now possible to fly directly between key cities in mainland China and Taiwan, and, with the opening up of tourism, Taiwan received over 1 million visitors from mainland China in the first nine months of this year. This has resulted in a clear shift in attitude, where in Taiwan you find expressed much more a sense of being associated with the mainland. For example, people would express their frustration over the pressure



Rubinstein lectures at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial in Taipei. The banner above her asserts Dr. Sun's principle of the "general welfare," which she developed in her presentation.



The author presents the Schiller Institute's book of Dr. Sun's "The Vital Problem of China," at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial in Taipei.

on China to appreciate the yuan, and positively, a sense of pride and excitement over the last years' developments.

One of the highlights of the Taiwan portion of my trip, was my receiving an invitation to speak at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial, to a grouping of about 200 people gathered to commemorate his legacy. As I began my briefing on the principles that must inform the creation of a new world credit system, I cited the concept of the "general welfare," as it had been famously expressed by Sun Yat-sen. The room

was immediately abuzz, as some pointed to the banner above the podium behind me: It featured the very same quotation from Sun Yat-sen which I had cited.

This is lawful, of course. Dr. Sun, the father of the Chinese Republic in 1911, was steeped in the American republican tradition, especially that of Abraham Lincoln—as is LaRouche himself. This positive legacy, in addition to a common history of resisting the British Empire, provides a solid foundation for the economic cooperation which the U.S. and China must embark upon, if the world is to survive.