

LaRouche Movement Launches Campaign for Germany

Feb. 5—The Jan. 29 congress of the Berlin branch of the Civil Rights Solidarity Movement (BüSo), the party of the LaRouche movement in Germany, initiated a new phase in its battle to bring the nation into the fight for a new world credit system. While the official business of the congress was to launch a 20-person slate of candidates for the Berlin elections to the House of Deputies and the mayor's office, scheduled for September 2011, the real subject was not a "Berlin election campaign," but bringing to all of Germany the fight for a solution to the global economic and social breakdown.

Approximately 90 guests attended the congress, which featured a keynote by BüSo chairwoman Helga Zepp-LaRouche, and a speech by the mayoral candidate of the Berlin slate, Stefan Tolksdorf. Both speakers went beyond "practical politics," and took direct aim at the false assumptions about money, and the nature of man, that permeate politics in Germany, as elsewhere.



EIRNS/Sergei Strid

Helga Zepp-LaRouche gave the keynote speech at the BüSo party congress in Berlin, reminding the 90 members and guests that, while time is short, it is not too late to reverse the crisis, with the adoption of a global Glass-Steagall policy.

Euthanasia, Never Again!

The chairman of the BüSo in Berlin, Dr. Wolfgang Lillge, opened the event with a discussion of the recent victory which the party won against the reinstatement of euthanasia in Germany. Speaking as a medical doctor, as well as a political activist, Lillge described how the mobilization of the LaRouche Youth Movement in Germany, with Zepp-LaRouche's leaflet denouncing the new drive to get doctors to accept "physician-assisted suicide" as the equivalent of Nazi euthanasia, has succeeded in setting back this Nazi campaign.

In the course of this mobilization, Lillge said, the BüSo activated members of other political parties as well, but it was the only party that approaches this "issue" on the basis of the principle of the sacredness of

human life. That's how we must continue our battle, Lillge said, in order to win.

Lillge's presentation was followed by a performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy," by a chorus of youth movement members, several of whom are also candidates for the upcoming election. As intended, the performance set the stage for a high level of discussion throughout the meeting, emphasizing that man can only solve today's problems by mobilizing on the basis of universal principles. That very idea is expressed in Beethoven's text:

"Something great, pressed in the heart, then blooms anew and beautifully aloft. When a spirit soars, a chorus of spirits always resounds. Accept then, you beautiful souls, happily, the gifts of beautiful art. When

love and strength are married, God's grace rewards mankind."

Zepp-LaRouche: We Have Been Right

In her keynote address, Zepp-LaRouche stressed that her party was the only force in Germany with the necessary ideas to resolve the current crisis. At this very moment, we stand before the outbreak of hyperinflation and, while brutal austerity is being proposed, trillions more dollars are being handed out to the bankrupt financial institutions. But there's good news from the United States.

Zepp-LaRouche then described the release of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission report, a.k.a., the Angelides Report, which explicitly states that the crash of 2007-08 was avoidable, and was the clear result of human decisions. This report is an affirmation of the economic forecasts which my husband, Lyndon LaRouche, has presented over decades, she said. "With this, we have all the authority we need" to act in this crisis.

She next described the measures which must be taken now, starting with the reimposition of Glass-Steagall, the rescue of the cities and states, and then the launching of major infrastructure projects, not only in the United States and Europe, but also in Africa, Eurasia, and so forth.

Zepp-LaRouche then turned her attention to the cultural paradigm-shift which has been responsible, over the past 60 years, for creating this crisis. Starting with the founding in 1950 of the Congress of Cultural Freedom, she described how its existentialist ideology has spread pessimism, and prevented any positive approach to solving mankind's real problems. In this connection, Zepp-LaRouche then elaborated on the outlook of Nicolaus of Cusa, the intellectual author of the Italian Renaissance, who understood man as a creative and responsible being in the universe, whose responsibility was to develop himself, and his capabilities to improve the biosphere and his fellow man.

Regional Campaigns

After an extensive question-and-answer period with Zepp-LaRouche, the agenda shifted to the candidates, beginning with Eugenia Fix, who is running in the state election in Baden-Württemberg, and Barbara Spahn, the lead BüSo candidate in the state of Rheinland-Pfalz, whose capital is Mainz.

Fix, a member of the LaRouche Youth Movement who has been at the center of the BüSo battle against the green terrorists who are attempting to stop the improvement of the railroad system in Stuttgart, addressed the question of thinking long-term, over generations. What we create now, must be with an eye to generations that will come after us, 50 to 100 years from now, she said.

Spahn challenged the audience to think big, and elaborated on the historical legacy of Franklin Roosevelt and his battle for a just world economic order.

The Berlin Campaign

The second major speaker of the Congress was the recently chosen mayoral candidate for Berlin, Stefan Tolksdorf. Tolksdorf stressed that while his campaign will be run in Berlin, it is actually being run *from* Berlin for Germany as a whole, and, in fact, the entire world. Among our key constituents, he said, is the Federal government, the Bundestag (Federal parliament), and the Chancellery itself, where, he noted wryly, things have clearly been in some disarray.

Tolksdorf described a recent meeting he had had with someone in an important post in the Bundestag, in which the individual had *no idea* of a solution to the crisis. Worse yet, when this person was asked to push for a Pecora-type commission to investigate the causes of the financial collapse, he fell back on the legalistic argument that, "We can't just send public prosecutors into the banks without reasonable grounds for suspicion!" We, of course, can show him many reasons for suspicion, starting with the role of Goldman Sachs in falsifying the books of Greece.

But, on the other hand, it is clear, Tolksdorf said, that certain political forces in Germany are slowly coming around to the idea that the Green Party and the green movement are a problem *per se*; these people are campaigning against the Greens' sabotage of all necessary economic policies.

Tolksdorf then asked the audience to confront the false ideas in their own heads, especially the ideology of free trade. "If your noggin is filled only with junk," he said, "because that's what you learned at college, then you seldom see anything *but* that, unfortunately." He then turned to the case of the famous American abolitionist, statesman, and former slave, Frederick Douglass, to illustrate the curse of mental slavery, as the worst curse there is.

Turning on the Light in Your Mind

“Douglass is a remarkable person,” Tolksdorf said, “one through whom, as you get to know him, you can become truly enriched. As he was growing up as a slave, he naturally experienced what all other slaves went through. Slaves were forbidden to learn to read and write, but with Douglass there was a certain “accident,” since, when he was seven or eight years old, he entered a household where he had to care for a small child. And these were Christians—nominally Christians, at any rate—whose child it was, and as the wife was teaching her own son the alphabet, she always had little Douglass by her side—for her, it was a completely normal thing. He simply learned along with them, and he enjoyed it, and just as any other child would, he absorbed every bit of knowledge, and was glad whenever he achieved something—that is, up to the day when the husband realized what was happening, and, in Frederick Douglass’s presence, gave her a tongue-lashing, saying: ‘Don’t teach that nigger to read, because you’ll make him unfit to be a slave for the rest of his life.’”

“That was a turning-point for Douglass, because at that moment, it became completely clear to him, what he had to do in order to survive. And he describes what happened to him. Now when he studied the alphabet—he got help from other children whom he encountered on his errands—and then he got a little book containing speeches, one of which was by a certain Sheridan, an Irish-American, about slavery—against slavery.

“And he said, ‘The more I read that, and the more I absorbed of it, learning to understand certain words which I had to ask about, the more light suddenly shone into my mind. Because I could not put words to thoughts



EIRNS/James Rea

Stefan Tolksdorf, the Bündnis 90/Die Grünen party candidate for Mayor of Berlin, held up the example of the great American abolitionist and ex-slave Frederick Douglass, as a model for today’s youth.

which were already present in my soul, thoughts which otherwise would have been hushed and, like fleeting shadows, never graspable.’

“And then later, as an old man, he said that the worst thing about slavery isn’t the chains; it’s not the floggings, and it’s not the rapes, and it’s not the killings. But rather, he said, all these are horrors, but the very worst thing about slavery is the way that the enslaved mind is kept in permanent darkness. Your mind is so dark, he said, that you don’t even have any idea of your own identity.

“And now, when you take a look at what our youth culture is today, it’s exactly the same: without being chained, without being whipped, and people still pay their miserable money for it. They pay miserable piles of money, just to hang around in clubs where it’s so loud you can’t even hold a conversation, and you go back home with your head buzzing, and what

with all the alcohol, drugs, and so forth, you remember little of what happened—and then you keep on partying.

“So, more people today have to take the step which Douglass took, and we’re a good place to set that into motion, so that we can bring light into people’s heads somewhere.”

Tolksdorf concluded with an attack on pragmatism, and call for those present to join with the U.S. LaRouchePAC electoral slate, and the other candidates in Germany, in order to put the real solution to the crisis on the agenda.

Following Tolksdorf’s presentation, the full slate of 20 candidates for the Berlin election was presented, and each candidate got the opportunity to address the body briefly. They were then voted up with an overwhelming majority.