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(703) 777-9451

European Headquarters: E.I.R. GmbH, Postfach

Bahnstrasse 9a, D-65205, Wiesbaden, Germany

Tel: 49-611-73650

Homepage: <http://www.eirna.com>

e-mail: eirna@eirna.com

Director: Georg Neudecker

Montreal, Canada: 514-461-1557

Denmark: EIR - Danmark, Sankt Knuds Vej 11,

basement left, DK-1903 Frederiksberg, Denmark.

Tel.: +45 35 43 60 40, Fax: +45 35 43 87 57. e-mail:

eirdk@hotmail.com.

Mexico City: EIR, Ave Morelos #60-A, Col Barrio

de San Andres, Del. Azcapotzalco, CP 02240,

Mexico, DF. Tel: 5318-2301, 1163-9734, 1163-9735.

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EIR

From the Managing Editor

Behind the endless hype about the “fiscal cliff” is the reality that 2013 is likely to be the *punctum saliens* for civilization. As Helga Zepp-LaRouche writes in our cover story, “the damage caused by the absolute failure of the dominant policy is huge: An entire region, from North Africa to the Middle East, is at war, in chaos, and dominated by terrorist organizations, and there is an intolerable divide between rich and poor, with a potential for social explosion of unprecedented scope.” She adds, “A reversal is still—hopefully—possible, but it must be done immediately.”

Several contributions from the November 2012 conference of the Schiller Institute in Germany (*Conference Report* and *Guest Commentary*), provide powerful and poignant examples of that “failure of the dominant policy,” and, at the same time, expressions of hope for the future. Mulugeta Zewdie Michael of Ethiopia, noted that his nation was, in the First Century, “among the decision-makers of the world,” a bread-basket, yet, whose very name today is synonymous with “famine.” Rather than be defeated by this crushing reality, Mr. Michael focused on the dream of his nation: the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, which promises to uplift the nations of the Nile River Basin.

Elsewhere in the issue, we review some of the key developments at the year-end: In the *Feature*: a report on the press conference by Rep. Walter Jones, demanding that the President obey the Constitution, and seek Congressional approval before waging war, or face impeachment; and the release of a LaRouchePAC “Fact Sheet” on Obama’s alliance with al-Qaeda in Libya and Syria.

International leads with an update on the horrific disintegration of Syria, as the country is ripped apart by exactly that unholy Obama/al-Qaeda alliance.

“The Larger Horror Behind the Sandy Hook Massacre” (*National*), locates the descent into bestiality, reflected in our cover image, Bruegel’s “Massacre of the Innocents,” in the “shift in philosophy about the value of human life itself,” which began with the death of FDR.

2013 may be our last chance to reverse that shift, so let’s make sure we succeed.

