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EIR

From the Managing Editor

Our cover image, 17th-Century Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer's "The Astronomer," brings to life the key concept of Lyndon LaRouche's "Redefining Science, Really: The Subject of Sense-Uncertainty." If you look closely, you will see that the astronomer is not tracing his fingers across a globe of the Earth, but rather of the "celestial sphere." He is looking at the heavens, not with his eyes or his fingers, but with his mind. And the metaphorical celestial sphere, of course, is not actually a sphere at all, but was wrongly conceived as such by centuries of Earth-centered Ptolemaic pseudo-science. Earlier in Vermeer's own century, the great astronomer Johannes Kepler fully overthrew the Ptolemaic view, making the discoveries that laid the foundation for modern science.

In *Economics*, we report big news on the fight over Glass-Steagall—both pro and con. While top U.S. banking regulators Thomas Hoenig and Richard Fisher are calling for the separation of commercial and investment banking, the Association of German Banks has come out squarely *against* that approach, sticking with the casino economy that has brought Germany, Europe, and the world to the brink of financial collapse. (For the effects of EU policy in Europe, see "So. Europe Doctors: Stop Cutting Health.") We also publish an interview with EIR's Paul Gallagher, who answers questions that many readers have about FDR's Glass-Steagall bill, Rep. Marcy Keptur's HR 129 (which is now before the House of Representatives), the relationship of these to the "fiscal cliff," and more. In *National*, we bring you up to date on the growing support for Glass-Steagall among state legislators and others.

International focusses on the spread of war and the threat of wider war in Southwest Asia and Northern Africa. What an irony, that France, with U.S. support, is battling the very al-Qaeda affiliates in Mali that both Washington and Paris are supporting in Syria!

National leads with LaRouche's remarks at his Jan. 18 Friday Webcast, on the subject of *money*. If you think the financial crisis is about money, you'll never solve it! Paper or digital currencies have nothing to do with economic value, which is determined by the productivity of the human mind. The second story in *National* is Sen. Ron Wyden's open letter to CIA Director nominee John Brennan, slamming the Administration's illegal execution of Americans.

