

Belt and Road Must Foster a Dialogue of Cultures, Zepp-LaRouche Tells China Audiences

by William Jones

May 24—Following her participation in the May 14-15 Belt and Road Forum in Beijing—called by President Xi Jinping to gather world leaders and the leaders of major think-tanks worldwide to discuss the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and to consolidate its achievements after its inception four years ago—Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the president of the German Schiller Institute, traveled to Nanjing, China.

There she gave a personal report-back from the Belt and Road Forum to the Phoenix Publishing Group, China's largest publishing house and the publishers of the Chinese version of the *EIR* Special Report, [*The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge*](#). "The Belt and Road has injected optimism into many countries," Zepp-LaRouche told the audience of about 200 at Phoenix headquarters, "and the momentum is unstoppable. But bringing it to full fruition will not be easy," she warned.

"Immediately after the Forum, the attacks against the Belt and Road escalated, combined with attacks against President Trump, who had sent a high-level delegation to the BRI Forum. The attacks were based on the absurd charges of collusion with Russia in the election," Zepp-LaRouche said. "After the Cold War, the British and their American allies wanted to create a unipolar world. And in doing so they have destroyed the Middle East and left it in a shambles." And this has precipitated the refugee crisis, the general reaction against "globalization," and the rise of right-wing movements. "The Belt and Road will bring about the creation of the World

Land-Bridge which will connect all continents," she stressed. "And this is something we in the LaRouche organization have been fighting to achieve for over 40 years."

She described her fight and the fight of her husband, Lyndon LaRouche, over the past decades, to build a new world economic order. She described Mr. LaRouche's call for an International Development Bank in 1974, the Schiller Institute's fight for an African development plan in the late 1970s and 1980s, and the collaboration between LaRouche and Mexican President José López Portillo in the 1980s to rally the Latin



Helga Zepp-LaRouche, participating on May 15 in the Think Tank Summit associated with the Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

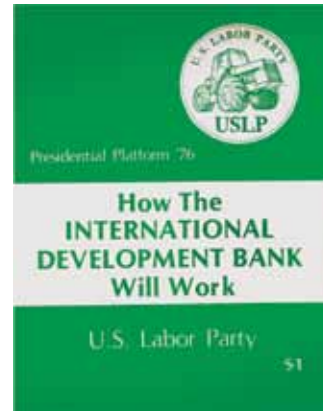
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Left: Guyana's Foreign Minister, Fred Wills, at the U.N. General Assembly.

Below left: Mexican President José López Portillo and Helga Zepp-LaRouche.

Below right: Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.



Belt and Road Initiative,” Zepp-LaRouche warned. She also underlined the tremendous opportunity that has arisen with the election of President Trump, who has expressed a willingness to move in the direction of Glass-Steagall and to rebuild the U.S.’s crumbling infrastructure. “This will create opportunities for China to make a contribution to the President’s program,” she said, but she warned that it cannot be accomplished simply by “market forces,” but will require government involvement through the creation of a Hamiltonian bank or a similar infrastructure bank.

Zepp-LaRouche underlined how crucial it is

American nations around a just new world economic order.

Mrs. LaRouche also pointed to the hundreds of seminars held since the 1990s by the Schiller Institute calling for the creation of a New Silk Road. “Transforming the Belt and Road to a World Land-Bridge will realize politically for the first time a real future for all the people living on this planet, and will establish a new form of governance for the world,” she said. “But to fully realize this, you must also study the ideas of my husband on the question of economics.”

Zepp-LaRouche described the precarious state of the present international financial system, warning of the onset of a new financial crisis soon, unless measures are taken to revamp the present financial architecture, beginning with the implementation of the Glass-Steagall legislation which President Trump has repeatedly said that he intends to accomplish. “The financial crisis represents a grave threat to the

for the Belt and Road to become the launch-pad for that necessary dialogue of cultures that had also characterized the ancient Silk Road. “Each of the cultures along the Belt and Road must bring out its finest



National Archives

President Ronald Reagan announces his anti-missile Strategic Defense Initiative, on March 23, 1983.

achievements, in order to use these to create a cultural dialogue between the nations on the Belt and Road.” She discussed the importance of Friedrich Schiller for German and Western culture, and compared this with the importance of Confucius for Chinese culture, showing the close similarities between the ideas of these two great thinkers, although separated in time by almost 2,000 years.

LaRouche’s Decades of Struggle

Zepp-LaRouche was followed by Bill Jones, the Washington Bureau Chief of *EIR*, who showed PowerPoint slides describing the various stages of the struggle of the LaRouche organization, starting from the destruction of the Bretton Woods system by President Nixon in 1971 and the 1970s launch of the Zero-Growth and Zero Population Growth by the genocidalist Club of Rome.

There was a fight against these developments at the Colombo conference of the Non-Aligned Movement and at the UN General Assembly, led by Guyana’s Foreign Minister Fred Wills, who led the call for LaRouche’s International Development Bank. This proposal was finally realized with the recent establishment of the AIIB and the BRICS New Development Bank.

Jones also recalled the attempt by Lyndon LaRouche to bring President Reagan, who had adopted LaRouche’s concept of the Strategic Defense Initiative, into collaboration with Third World leaders like Indira Gandhi and José López Portillo in order to bring about a New World Economic Order. LaRouche’s influence in the Reagan Administration led to a violent reaction by the neo-conservative circles around Vice President George H.W. Bush, who targeted LaRouche in a government-sponsored witch-hunt, which led to La-



Friedrich Schiller in discussion with friends.

Rouche’s lengthy incarceration along with seven of his close associates.

Jones was followed at the podium by Professor Bao Shixiu, a professor of military science, who outlined for the audience the strategic importance of the Belt and Road, showing how it will allow China to overcome the traditional difficulties it has had with some countries like India and Japan.

Professor Bao underlined the seminal role of the LaRouches in bringing the Belt and Road initiative to the forefront of the world’s attention, and the ongoing struggle of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche to overcome the opposition to it from the London-New York financial elites. Professor

Bao also discussed both the economic and the strategic implications of the Belt and Road for China, which would help ensure a harmonious climate in the region and in the world, and allow China and all other countries to continue along their development paths.

The audience showed a great deal of interest, particularly in Zepp-LaRouche’s call for the dialogue of cultures, and there was a heightened degree of interest in the work of Friedrich Schiller among the Phoenix staff, some of whom had a rather extensive exposure to the works of German classical culture.

Proceeding from Nanjing on the final leg of her trip, Zepp-LaRouche traveled to Shanghai for a series of meetings with several important Chinese think-tanks to discuss the issues raised in Nanjing. In Shanghai she was also interviewed by the *Shanghai Daily* and by the *China Daily*. Her consistent emphasis on creating a vibrant dialogue of cultures on the basis of the Belt and Road Initiative, struck a responsive chord among all her interlocutors, and elicited a commitment to exert even greater efforts in promoting such a dialogue.