
Helga Zepp-LaRouche

The Promise of a True German-American Alliance

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Chancellor candidate of the LaRouche Movement's BüSo party in the recent Federal elections in Germany, was interviewed Oct. 8 on "The LaRouche Show," an Internet radio show.¹ We reproduce here her answers to two questions: first, what the content of the German-American alliance for which she has called would be, and second, what effect the BüSo had in the election campaign. The show was hosted by Harley Schlanger, and the panelists were LaRouche Youth Movement members Gaby Arroyo from Boston and Abdul Aliy Muhammed from Los Angeles.

Arroyo: Helga, you brought up this idea, that when you look at history, in the study of history, you have windows of opportunity which are not going to be there forever, in order to intervene and change history. I know that Germany plays a very important role in Europe, as a locomotive for Europe, in a sense. So, my question is, if this is coming from the United States, what kind of role would this German-American alliance be playing in order to unleash the kind of transformation to revive the American System?

Zepp-LaRouche: I think there are several aspects to it. One is economic: The German economy is the largest and the strongest of Europe. And, for example, the German and the French economies are so interwoven, that the direction that Germany takes immediately influences the direction the French economy is going. This would be even more the case, if Germany would ally economically for such a program with

1. Aired every Saturday at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time at www.larouche.org.

the United States. In Italy, the economic system is blowing apart. The crisis in Italy is so big, that now the new Deputy Prime Minister, Tremonti, already said we need such a large infrastructure program, because otherwise the Italian economy will collapse. In France, people are already saying that one has to learn the lessons about the relative defeat of Merkel in the election campaign [in Germany], because she opposed the social state, and so on. So, there is already a debate. So, if Germany would take the lead, and together with the United States, say: "Yes, let's have a new world economic order in the tradition of Franklin Roosevelt," *all* of Europe would follow. I'm absolutely one hundred percent convinced of it.

Now, the second reason which I think is also very important, is that, Germany has a very rich cultural tradition. It used to be called the "people of the poets and thinkers," or "poets and philosophers." And in the same way that Germany has two traditions, one is very beautiful—the Classical tradition of Nicolaus of Cusa, of Kepler, of Leibniz, of Kästner, of Gauss; of Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Schiller—I mean: We have such an incredible, rich tradition. But we also had a terrible tradition, which fortunately only lasted 12 years, but we have this other side.

In the same way, the United States has a *beautiful* tradition, in terms of the Founding Fathers, of Lincoln, of Roosevelt, of Martin Luther King; but the present United States is not so much liked in the rest of the world—which you proba-

bly are aware of. As a matter of fact, the image loss of the United States has never been so bad as it is right now.

So, if both countries would say: Okay, let's go away from what went wrong. Let's really focus on the best tradition. Let's focus in the United States on the fact that we have been the beacon of hope and the temple of liberty for the whole world because of the American Revolution, because of the American Constitution, which says that a government is only legitimate if it's devoted to the common good of the people. And if such an America would say, "Let's have a new Atlantic Alliance," with a Germany which says, "Let's go back to our best tradition of all the many, many beautiful contributions of such people as Leibniz and Schiller and Beethoven, and make a new economic order and let's have a new Renaissance in this spirit"—Man! We are in front of the most unbelievable, positive period of human history! And I think people have to get a vision, that the future can be bright, and that it's in *our hands* to do it!

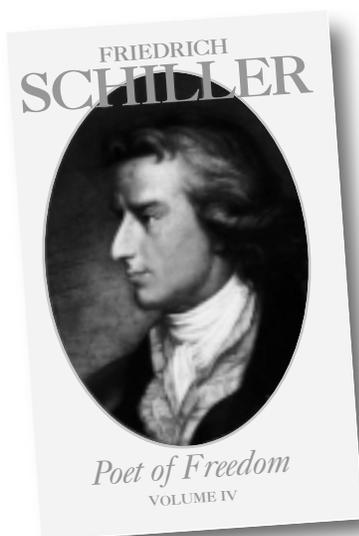
So, I really think we could win this one, if people in time understand that they have to move now: They can not wait. They can not sit it out. But the window of opportunity of history is open now, but people have to move now.

Schlanger: . . .Why don't you give us a quick summary of the effect of the BüSo on the German campaign?

Zepp-LaRouche: We had a tremendous campaign, and I

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think the positive result of this campaign is that we have not only put ourselves on the map as an institution, despite the fact that we did not get any candidates elected; but we also changed the debate from the standpoint of the conceptual input.

Now, first of all, we had the problem that the media, and I think a certain Mr. [Jeffrey] Gedmin from the Aspen Institute in Berlin had a lot to do with it, because he was quite active in mediating the influence of the neo-cons in Germany at this crucial period—we had tremendous problems with the media, which not only had a policy of not mentioning us, but, at a point one week before the election when we had in one election district in Dresden just received 1.2%—which is not bad; German elections work quite differently than in the United States. A percent here is much harder fought for by many parties, so it has a different weight. Then, the *Sächsische Zeitung* published on their front page a poll in which they said “BüSo, 0.0%”—which was a clear attempt to say, “You don’t exist.”

But we had a lot of people who responded very, very well, especially to the Classical singing by the Youth Movement, who were singing Beethoven, Bach, and many political canons. Also we had published already before the campaign started, two books on the neo-cons, one on the American neo-cons, and one on their German counterparts, which influenced the debate tremendously. Because when Merkel wanted to have a certain Professor Kirchhof as her economic guru, and economics minister in her future potential Cabinet, and this guy turned out to be the worst neo-con you could imagine. He threatened to smash the social state with “a sledgehammer,” we mobilized a huge campaign so that Merkel had to withdraw him at the last moment.

And now you have a counterreaction against what could only be described as a coup attempt by the financial oligarchy to smash the German social state and replace it with the Anglo-Saxon model of a free-market economy. And basically, this would have been the end of anything like the social state developed since Bismarck, in Germany for over a hundred years: That attack was fought back, and now you have a situation where Merkel, her teeth have been shortened already a little bit as a result of it.

So, we are coming out of this campaign with the recognition by a lot of voters, who said they would vote for us. They probably didn’t vote for us at the last second, because of this counterpropaganda, a rigging of the media, which was clearly visible. But that has not changed anything from the dramatic impact we had in certain parts of Germany: North Rhine-Westphalia, Berlin, but especially Saxony and Dresden, where we had a tremendous campaign, and we really have made an impact.

Saxony is very important in Germany, because people in Saxony have a very proud tradition—this is the country where Leibniz comes from, where [Friedrich] List comes from, where Schiller lived the better part of his adult life.