
Conference Report

An 'Axis for Peace' Against the Neo-Cons

by Christine Bierre

About 150 diplomats, politicians, military figures, journalists, and artists, coming from 37 countries, notably the Arab world, the United States, Ibero-America, and Eurasia, assembled at a conference organized in Brussels on Nov. 17-18 by Réseau Voltaire (the Voltaire Network), under the title of "Axis for Peace."

The conference was called to denounce what its organizers called the "war outlook which is gradually imposing itself in international relations," with the "unilateral rearming of the United States," the unjustified attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq, and "open threats against Syria and Iran." Only the "principles of international mediation and peaceful coexistence offer an alternative to this 'rise of danger,'" states the conference program, which, invoking the spirit of the Hague conferences (1899 and 1907), and the Bandung Conference of 1955, called for all enemies of war to meet in order to "assess contemporary forms of conflict and interference, and shape a relevant and efficient discourse in favor of peace."

The conference issued a declaration which calls for protecting natural resources from financial predators, and rejects the use of "Islamic terror" to promote a clash of civilizations. It further denounces the "military coalition [which] has launched unbridled exploitation of the world's resources and energy reserves. Fuelled by neo-conservatives, it has increased its attacks, practicing all forms of interference, from forcing changes in regimes to colonial style expansionism. . . . To justify their thirst for conquest, they form terrorist groups with the aim of manipulating them, to create pretexts for military action, propagate theories of an international Muslim plot, and fuel conflicts between civilizations."

The document appeals to permanent members of the UN Security Council "to enforce the respect of sovereignty of nations, which forms the basis of international law and constitutes a precondition for the development of democracy in its genuine form."

Among those who participated or were scheduled to participate in the conference: former UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros

Ghali; Arab League Secretary Amr Moussa; three-time Lebanese Prime Minister Selim al-Hoss; Israeli Knesset representative and longstanding collaborator of the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Ahmed Tibi; former chief of staff of the Ecuador Army, Gen. René Vargas Pazzos; president of the Center of Strategic Studies of the Havana Higher Institute for International Studies, Enrique Román Hernández; member of the High Council of the Hugo Chávez Bolivarian movement, Jhanette Madriz Sotil; Gen. Vinod Saigal (ret.) of India; Lebanese historian Youssef El Ashkar; Gen. Leonid Ivashov, of the joint chief of staff of the Russian Army; founding member of the Arab National Congress Subhi Toma; French humorist Dieudonné Mbala Mbala; and Ray McGovern, a former CIA analyst and currently a member of Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS). Some of these people were unable to attend, due to pressure from the Bush Administration and its international allies. The French authorities were not particularly helpful, and French consulates did what they could to block extension of visas to some of the international participants.

International media outlets that worked in tandem with the organizers of the conference included al-Jazeera, *Gulf News*, *Russia Today*, Tele Sur, the Iranian IRIB News, Dubai TV, and the American Free Press.

LaRouche Forces Intervene

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairwoman of the Civil Rights Solidarity Party (BüSo) in Germany, Jacques Cheminade, president of LaRouche-allied Solidarity and Progress Party in France, and Christine Bierre, editor-in-chief of the French newspaper *Nouvelle Solidarité* (who also represented *EIR*), were among the participants. Mrs. LaRouche, wife of the



Axis for Peace/Thierry Monasse

At the Axis for Peace conference in Brussels on Nov. 18 (left to right): Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Gen. René Vargas Pazzos (ret.), Thierry Meyssan of "Réseau Voltaire," James Petras, Russia's Gen. Leonid Ivashov, and India's Gen. Vinod Saigal (ret.).

American economist and Democratic Party figure Lyndon H. LaRouche, spoke at one of the plenary sessions, communicating optimism to the participants by briefing them on the fight in the United States to oust Dick Cheney (most participants were unaware of these developments, due to press blackouts). Cheminade intervened in a round table discussion, emphasizing the need to defend cultural sovereignty, denouncing particularly the Congress for Cultural Freedom created by the CIA after the war, ostensibly to fight Communism, but actually to destroy Classical culture as the basis for the nation-state. (See speeches, below.)

In response to a question from *EIR* about the recent Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata, Argentina, General Vargas Passos said that he supported those movements which aim at Ibero-American integration. "In Mar del Plata, we saw that the idea of integration, as a means to oppose re-colonization, is on its way. The people and the governments came together on this idea, something that had never occurred before. . . . It was really a success. I hope that the President of the United States assimilated this lesson and has seen that there is a different reality in South America. We want peace, we want to be friends of the United States. We know that it is an extraordinary market to trade with, but we want to do it with people who respect us, who think that our raw materials must be managed by ourselves and then sold to the rest of the world."

Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Getting Cheney Out Is the Key to Peace

Mrs. LaRouche is the chairwoman of the Civil Rights Movement Solidarity party (BüSo) in Germany, and the founder of the Schiller Institute.

What kind of balance of forces in the world could bring back equilibrium and guarantee the application of international law?

I think everybody will agree, that the absolute precondition to return to international law, is a change of U.S. policy from inside the United States. And there, I want to say emphatically, I am much more optimistic than most speakers who have spoken so far. Because there is an absolute revolt going on in Washington, where in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, a bipartisan coalition has emerged against the policies of Vice President Cheney and the neo-conservatives.

This is extremely important, because it's a simple fact: The entire world can be for peace, but if the neo-conservatives remain in power, there will be war. The problem is their stated intention to stay on their course in order to remove all "rogue states," in particular Iran, Syria, and North Korea. In reality, they want to continue on a war path, until all independent nation-states are removed and their global empire is established. And this means that the strategic situation could very quickly degenerate into global asymmetric warfare, throwing the world rapidly into a new dark age.

Seismic Shifts

The good news is, however, that there is a seismic change going on in the United States. If you are not fully aware of it, blame the media, most of which are trying very hard not to cover the full dimension of these changes, or to dilute the picture by misrepresenting the story. Last week, on Tuesday, Nov. 7, the same day the Republicans lost in the state [gubernatorial] elections in New Jersey and Virginia, and [Arnold] Schwarzenegger lost all propositions in California, Sen. Harry Reid, the Senate's Minority Leader, and two of his colleagues, held a press conference announcing the opening of phase two of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence investigation of the lies and manipulations used to lure the United States into the war against Iraq.

Senator Reid stated: "There is a dark cloud hanging over the White House. The Vice President is sadly in the middle of that storm. The manipulation of intelligence to sell the war against Iraq: Vice President Cheney is involved in that. The White House energy policy of putting big oil ahead of the American consumer: Vice President Cheney is behind that. Leaking classified information to discredit White House critics: The Vice President is behind that. Halliburton's contracting abuse, the list goes on, and it goes on."

On Nov. 8, Republican National Committee Chairman Ken Mehlman, in a conference call with reporters and activists from around the country, attacked Senator Reid for his remarks that Cheney was at the center of corruption and policy failures, and accused Reid of "having a Lyndon LaRouche moment." The fascinating thing is that, in this way, the Republicans blew the story about the Reid press conference to an even wider audience, while they had been desperately trying to block it from the media.

What did Mehlman mean when he said that Senator Reid had his "LaRouche moment"? Was Mehlman paranoid? What Mehlmann referred to is that the reason there is a storm in Washington to get Cheney out of office, is Mr. LaRouche's personal leadership role.

Yesterday, on Wednesday, Nov. 16, there was a large delegation of about 80 UAW trade unionists and elected officials, and about 100 members of the LaRouche Youth Movement meeting with 40 Senators and Congressmen, and with a larger number of Congressional offices, on the need to save the American auto sector, and to get Cheney out of office.

These two issues are absolutely connected: The only hope to save close to 1 million jobs in the auto industry, in GM, Delphi, Ford, and Visteon, is to go back to the policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal, and this will only happen if there is a bipartisan coalition among Democrats and traditional Republicans. And this is exactly the combination which has come together against the policies of the neo-conservatives, as was shown in the 98-0 vote against torture in the Senate, in a direct rebuttal of Cheney.

Senator [Pat] Roberts made a commitment, that phase two of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence would focus on the central role of Vice President Cheney and his office, in fraudulently leading the nation to war and creating a parallel government, directly under his control. Congressman [John] Murtha, a very respected expert on military affairs who has been in the Congress for 31 years, led the charge against the entire defense legislation of the White House, and proposed a bill for an orderly withdrawal from Iraq, which found almost unanimous support from both Democrats and Republicans in the Congress. The attempted countermove by the neo-conservatives, to put a resolution for an “immediate withdrawal” up for vote, introduced by Duncan Hunter, was recognized as a stunt and a sham by the White House to discredit Murtha, and was voted down 403-3!

The fact that people like [Sen. John] McCain or [former CIA Director] Stansfield Turner now have such a clear position on the issue of torture is definitely related to the in-depth investigation of this issue, conducted by the LaRouche movement, tracing the neo-conservative tradition back from Leo Strauss, to Carl Schmitt, Alexandre Kojève, Nietzsche, Joseph de Maistre, and the Inquisition in Spain in the 16th Century, hailing torture as a legitimate means of political control. The three printings of the “Children of Satan” pamphlets, exposing this, were distributed in several million copies inside the United States, and internationally. To get Cheney out now is the crucial issue, if civilization is to be saved.

Jacques Cheminade

Destroying Culture Destroys Nations

Jacques Cheminade, a French Presidential candidate in 2007 and a collaborator of Lyndon LaRouche, spoke on the panel on national sovereignty in the cultural domain. We publish here extracts of his speech. Sharing the podium with him was French humorist Dieudonné Mbala Mbala, who in the last couple of years, has been demonized and even taken to court,

for having dared to humorously question the cultural and political hegemony enjoyed by extreme forms of Zionism, simply because these currents are protected by the Bush Administration’s neo-conservatives. Cheminade and Dieudonné agreed on the fact that there is more liberty in Israel’s parliament than in the Paris political scene. Participants in the round table also vigorously protested against the same violation of freedom of speech in France, when it comes to historiography on the former U.S.S.R., totally dominated today by neo-conservative intellectuals such as Stephane Courteois.

Philippe Pétain, Minister of War after the events of February 1934, visited the gap of 44 kilometers in the French fortifications, between Montmédy and Sedan. The most vulnerable place in our deployment against a Nazi military offensive had not been prepared for war. Pétain’s judgment was that that sector was “not dangerous.” Nothing was done to ensure the defense of our national territory . . . and the debacle ensued.

Today, the question of national sovereignty poses itself in the same way in the cultural domain, and we are showing the same kind of suspicious non-preparedness as France in the thirties.

Indeed, the sub-culture, the counterculture is flooding us, destroying the very concept of the nation-state, and of national sovereignty, threatening to create today the same effects produced yesterday by Guderian’s tanks. . . .

This is why my intervention here is a call to rise up, addressed to France but also to all other developed countries, including the United States of America, as well as to those countries and peoples of the world, humiliated and offended by a conception which reduces human beings to their animal qualities, their desire to possess, to dominate, and to “have” as opposed to “to be.”

A call to rise up against what, against whom? We know that today power has been kidnapped in Washington, by a handful of neo-conservatives, proponents of preventive war, of permanent war, of constant intimidation against anything that opposes their plans, including by torture and violation of the nuclear weapons taboo. . . .

The Battle for the Mind

However, we understand less well that the war against the human mind—what Dr. William Sargant called, without scruples, “the battle for the mind,” or that which Dr. Sidney Gottlieb worked on during the MK-Ultra project—is a more fundamental stake.

Let us see what Gen. Paul Vallely (ret.), former commander of the 7th Group of Psychological Operations of the American Army, expressed openly about the liberticide policy of his group, the group against which Eisenhower had warned in his farewell speech of 1961, calling it the “military-industrial complex.”

General Vallely wrote: “Strategic MindWar must begin the moment war is considered to be inevitable. . . . To this

end, MindWar must be strategic in emphasis, with tactical applications playing a reinforcing, supplementary role. In its strategic context, MindWar must reach out to friends, enemies, and neutrals alike across the globe, neither through primitive 'battlefield' leaflets and loudspeakers of PSYOPS [psychological operations], nor through the weak, imprecise, and narrow effort of psychotronics, but through the media possessed by the United States which have the capabilities to reach virtually all people on the face of the Earth. These media are, of course the *electronic* media, television and radio. State-of-the-art developments in satellite communication, video recording techniques, and laser and optical transmission of broadcasts, make possible a penetration of the minds of the world such as would have been inconceivable just a few years ago."

General Valley is not an isolated individual, practicing out-of-the-ordinary methods. It's around his group of special operations that the complicity which made 9/11 possible, occurred; . . . that false "proofs" concerning the weapons of mass destruction purportedly held by Saddam Hussein, were concocted. William J. Luti, Lewis Libby, David Addington, Douglas Feith, and Stephen Cambone, within the Office of Special Plans of the Pentagon; the Non-Proliferation Bureau at the State Department, then under the orders of John Bolton; and the Iraqi National Congress of Ahmed Chalabi: that was the machine for fabricating proofs. It's this same group that slandered France's stance on the Iraq War. The name of Michael Ledeen which just emerged in this context, is particularly revealing: He was the author of a 1972 of book entitled *Universal Fascism*.

The Congress for Cultural Freedom

While Vice President Cheney is the protector and godfather of those men, one must look much farther . . . to the Congress for Cultural Freedom, launched in Berlin, and based in Paris starting in 1950. With its twin organization, the American Committee for the Freedom of Culture, this operation was sponsored by American intelligence, in principle, to counter the cultural warfare of the "Soviet Communists." Frances Stonor Saunders exposed this operation in her remarkable book *Who Is Leading the Dance? The CIA and the Cultural War* (Granta Books, 1999; Denoël, 2003 editions). Our movement, the International Caucus of Labor Committees, the Schiller Institute, and Solidarité et Progrès, denounced it in "The Children of Satan, Synarchy and the Strategy of Tension, and the Beastmen of the Cheney Administration."

This was a cultural initiative aimed at the masses, based on the idea of destroying national cultures in order to impose a counterculture, eliminating all ties between emotion and reason, flattering instincts and bestial desire among human beings and weakening the limit of tolerance towards that which is intolerable. It was a mental preparation for a fascist policy. It is historically established that this operation was

financed by the CIA, thanks to the counterpart funds of the Marshall Plan, a sum of nearly \$200 billion per year. One should note that it was Averell Harriman who controlled those funds, distributed by Frank Wisner; the same Averell Harriman who, during the '30s, organized conferences on eugenics and racial selection, in New York, with German "experts."

Why speak about all this today? Because their operation of cultural deformation has reached its climax: A society of immediate gains, of exclusion, of social control, and of triage, corresponds to an existentialist sub-culture of degradation and derision, going from Star' Ac or Koh-Lânta to the indecent fooling around of Jan Fabré at the Avignon Festival, a Jan Fabré who writes: "The vitality that I am searching for is sometimes close to that of the animal."

Jean Jaurès wrote in 1901: "Every human individual has the right to full growth. He has the right to demand from humanity all that can confirm its development. He has the right to work, to produce, to create without any category of human being submitting his work to usury or to a yoke." Echoing that, we must respond that in order to avoid this "end of history" of the Fukuyamas and his "universal fascist" friends, we must look with the eyes of the future, in order to be loyal to those who changed their lives and improved the world in the past. The fall of Dick Cheney and his allies, which we hope will come soon and for which we still have to fight, will eliminate any excuse we have not to act.

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