
In Memoriam

Academician D.S. Lvov: Economist and Patriot

Academician Dmitri Semyonovich Lvov, one of Russia's leading economists, died on July 6 at the age of 77. Academician-Secretary of the Economics Section of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and deputy head of the Central Mathematical Economics Institute (CEMI), he was an innovator, who fought tirelessly, both in the late Soviet period, and during the murderous reforms of the 1990s, for economic policies that would better the circumstances of Russia's population. In recent years, he was best known for advocating the utilization of natural rent, including Russia's oil revenues, for investment programs in the national interest.

Academician Lvov carried on a dialogue with Lyndon LaRouche about economic ideas, in person and through their writings, from 1995 to the present. Earlier, during the 1980s, Lvov's CEMI had held seminars on the LaRouche-Riemann economic model. In 1995, after the two economists met in person for the first time, *EIR* published "Toward a Scientific Grounding for Economic Reforms in Russia," a CEMI study prepared under Lvov's direction, with a preface by LaRouche titled "The New Role for Russia in U.S. Policy Today" (*EIR*, Aug. 25, 1995). In June 2001, LaRouche and Academician Lvov gave the core testimony at hearings, convened by then-head of the State Duma's Committee on Economic Policy Sergei Glazyev, on measures to protect the national economy under conditions of world economic breakdown. Lvov emphasized "the undecided problem of ownership of the natural-resource potential of our planet," particularly opposing the idea that Russia should become a raw-materials-exporting appendage of the industry of other nations.

In response to Lvov's testimony, LaRouche wrote "On Academician Lvov's Warning: What Is 'Primitive Accumulation'?" for the *EIR* dated Aug. 17, 2001 (www.larouchepub.com/lar/2001/2831_lvov.html).

As recently as this past Winter, Academician Lvov continued to present his ideas as offering a way forward for Russian society. He addressed a packed auditorium of young people, with a lecture in a series of events that brought university youth together with members of the Academy. His recent lectures included favorite themes, such as "Justice and the Spiritual Life."

The CEMI website reports that on June 20, the Presidi-

um of the Russian Academy of Sciences awarded Academician Lvov its 2007 prize for the best works in popular science. He merited this honor for his writings in the mass media on questions of contemporary economics, in the 1991-2007 period. The weekly *Zavtra* on July 11 published the last such intervention, the raw transcript of a phone interview with Lvov just days before his death. Gravely ill, the economist nonetheless gave a concise and pointed reply, on the foolhardiness of investing Russia's oil earnings in global financial markets, rather than Russian in the Russian economy.

Below is the message of mourning, posted on the website of Academician Lvov's close associate, and member of the State Duma, Dr. Sergei Glazyev, along with additional background from the Academy of Sciences.

'Teacher, Friend, and Comrade'

From www.glazev.ru, July 7, 2007:

On the evening of July 6, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences Dmitri Lvov died suddenly in his 78th year. His passing was announced by the academician's assistant, Sergei Yevsyukov.

Sergei Glazyev expressed condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of the late Academician Dmitri Semyonovich Lvov:

"Russia has lost an outstanding scholar, a true patriot of our Motherland, and a remarkable person, Dmitri Semyonovich Lvov.

"This is an enormous loss for our science and our country. For me it is the irreplaceable loss of a teacher, an old friend, and a close comrade.

"It is difficult to overstate the importance of Dmitri Semyonovich's efforts over many years, in the theory and practice of economic policy. His research, books, articles, and recommendations not only always contained a precise evaluation of economic reality, but they were also permeated by love of the country and knowledge of how to find a way out for millions of our impoverished fellow citizens, how to root out the deep social inequality that exists, and how to build a new economy—an economy based on knowledge.

"All of the works of Academician Lvov provide a shining example of a great spiritual deed, and of unselfish service to our Fatherland, and love for ordinary people.

"It is difficult to hold back the grief of this loss, but the best memorial to Dmitri Semyonovich will be to continue the work to which he devoted his entire life, and into which he put his soul. There is no doubt, that the results of his scientific work will be in demand and will be put to use for the good of our people.

"I give my condolences to the family, friends, colleagues, and students of Academician Lvov, and I grieve together with you."

Dmitri Semyonovich Lvov was a major specialist in the economics of innovation theory and the institutional structure of the economy, according to the Russian Academy of Sciences. Beginning in 1966, his scientific work was associated with the Institute of Economics; after 1972, with the Central Mathematical Economics Institute (CEMI). His books and topical articles on the theory and practice of economic reform in Russia became widely known in our country, as well as abroad.

Under Academician D.S. Lvov's direct leadership, a scientific school took shape and developed extensively, dealing with methods of evaluating the socio-economic effectiveness of investment projects and the economic techniques used in their implementation. Government documents providing the legal back-up for the effectiveness of new technologies and capital investments in the Russian economy were based on the theory of economic measurement and standards for the efficiency for capital investment, which he developed.

Another important area of Academician D.S. Lvov's research is the foundations of a system of methods and institutional forms for management of a transitional economy, taking into account the specific features of the Russian national economy's functional structure. This work opened up a new stage of research by Russian institutional economists.

His works on the theory and practice of economic reform in Russia were reflected in numerous publications—scientific papers and books—which became widely known at home and abroad. He published 14 monographs, two university textbooks, and over 300 articles, pamphlets, and scientific papers. D.S. Lvov guided the preparation of several reports for the President, the government of Russia, and the State Duma, as well as undertaking a great deal of work on contract for government organizations and agencies, major companies, industrial associations, and regions of Russia.

We draw your attention to one of the last interviews Dmitri Semyonovich gave, and to the scientific report he presented at a session of the Economics Section of the Social Sciences Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences, which he headed:

"Dmitri Lvov: 1990s reforms tore Russia apart," www.glazev.ru/nir/2047.

"Russia: the framework of reality and contours of the future" (Nov. 14, 2006), www.glazev.ru/associate/2272.

