

Foreign Minister: 'Countries in crisis should coordinate'

The following interview with Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran, was conducted in Madrid on April 30, following the Institute for Ibero-American Cooperation conference. The minister is a former professor at the Escuela Diplomática in Madrid. He is an expert in African affairs, on which he has written a number of books and articles. Minister Moran was ambassador to Portugal for several years, from which period he retains a keen interest in the Portuguese-speaking nations. The minister is known for a somewhat "Gaullist" stand on the NATO issue, as he does not favor further integration into the military alliance. He is the author of the diplomatic protocol to the recently signed Hispano-American Friendship Treaty, which defined the issue of Spanish national sovereignty more clearly than in previous negotiations.

EIR: What are the most important results of this conference?

Moran: I think that the conference itself is the most important, more so than the conclusions put down in black and white. To gather so many personalities of so many different tendencies, the fact that representatives of Honduras and Nicaragua have been able to sit down at the political roundtable and have laid out their points of view frankly, the fact that there were minimal guidelines and orientation, all that seems to me the most important thing.

EIR: What do you think of the possibility, as Lyndon H. LaRouche has proposed, of creating a cartel of Ibero-American debtors, including Spain and France?

Moran: Spain doesn't have much [foreign] debt, it doesn't have the same proportion of debt that Mexico has, for example, but I think that it can be effective to coordinate the postures of these countries suffering this economic crisis.

EIR: Lyndon LaRouche has made a four-point peace proposal for Central America, suggesting that President Reagan should announce U.S. support for the initiatives of the Contadora Group, including Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama. LaRouche has also proposed that Reagan announce the cutoff of \$4 billion in aid to Israel, because of Israeli arms trafficking in the region, and that the President declare war on the Jesuits and the right-wing cults in Central America. Finally, the President should immediately begin implementation of genuine measures for long-term development of the region. What do you think about this?

Moran: Regarding the freezing of credits to Israel, you understand of course, that as minister of foreign affairs I cannot

make any comment. Now with respect to the other points, it seems to me that everything that really attempts to help maintain the status quo is positive.

Economics Minister: 'Monetarism is destructive'

Miguel Boyer is the Spanish Minister of Economics and Finance. The following exchange took place in Madrid on April 30.

EIR: What do you think of Milton Friedman and the monetarist model that he proclaims for Europe and Ibero-America?

Boyer: I am not a monetarist. It is a simplistic theory of economic functioning and one that has had bad results in countries that need economic development and that have great social injustices; in the U.S. itself, monetarism is being put in question, even by a conservative government.

Former Foreign Minister: 'Debtors need to find solution'

José Maria de Areilza was until April the president of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly. He is a former foreign minister of Spain. The interview was conducted in Madrid on April 29.

EIR: What do you think about creating a cartel of Ibero-American debtors?

De Areilza: It seems good to me. I don't know if it should be called a cartel, but for the inter-American debtors to reach agreement on finding a real solution, realistic and viable, seems very good to me.

EIR: What do you think of Milton Friedman and monetarism?

De Areilza: The "Chicago boys" have set up an economic and financial plan in Chile that has had poor results. That's because of the emphasis on and the tenacity in maintaining that policy, which in theory is acceptable but which in practice has been a failure. I believe something similar has happened in Argentina. The ministers under the military regime have applied a liberal monetarist policy, and they've ended up with rocketing inflation and a chaotic economic situation.

Here in Spain there has not been, fortunately, an excessive application of the Friedman school policy, but there are some big defenders of that policy on the [political] center and right. I think that that policy cannot be applied in Spain with any chance of success.