

ments. I wish full success to your initiative. The only possibility to avoid the economic depression threatening us and the ongoing financial crisis is the courageous realization of a policy of development and economic growth, investing public and private capital in great strategic projects, which are instead going to financial speculation.”

Archbishop de Lastic sent his greetings: “I wish to send my blessing to this conference, which I unfortunately cannot attend. Creating a partnership for economic and human development is the key for India, as well as for the whole world, which is affected by a new era of colonialism and slavery, this time financial slavery. Sharing wealth and technology in a spirit of partnership, between Europe and Asia in particular, will be the key for the development of Third World countries and a better human life. To all speakers and attendants my blessing.”

Sen. Flaminio Piccoli

Which way for Europe?

Sen. Flaminio Piccoli is president of the new Democrazia Cristiana, former general secretary of the Christian Democracy, and former president of the Christian Democratic International.

It was through a little coup that I immediately responded “yes” to the invitation to speak at the conference of the Solidarity Movement and *EIR*, the intelligent magazine of the American economist Lyndon H. LaRouche. I decided to say a few words of introduction not to be unkind to the two ladies who lead this movement, at least here in Rome, because I always had great esteem for Lyndon, because he is a man who can look forwards, who always expresses his thoughts with great exactness and without prejudice, and therefore can forecast the future. The first time I met him, more than 20 years ago, I listened to him a bit inattentively. But over the years, when I also intervened on his behalf when he went to jail, because he had told the truth on the homicidal folly of those who wanted a war, I realized that the financial and economic crisis he had warned us of had come true. I decided to accept the invitation to speak at this conference, when I heard that Mr. LaRouche, whom I wished to see here again, was unable to attend and the kind lady who works here in Rome with him asked me to comment on his forecasts and his proposals. I agreed, because

I consider him one of those figures who are able to move on their own, who can think profoundly and because of this finds a lot of obstacles put in his way by false politicians, false scientists, or false economists. But then the crisis did happen, which might have been avoided.

He is also a man who not only says how things will go wrong and why, but also proposes remedies. I am a political figure with the only importance of being very old, and of having lived through two world crises. I was born a few days before Italy joined the First World War. I was an Austrian then, because I was born in Trentino, and I can still remember the poverty we experienced during that war. Then I had the luck, or ill luck, of joining the Alpini three months before the Second World War exploded, and I saw also that war and many events which made me suspicious about things I read every day in the newspapers, which pick up on violent incidents just to increase sales.

Listen to LaRouche

I want to say today that it is worth listening to LaRouche’s economic, political, and military warnings and to his proposals, which have annoyed those who make trouble in economic and political life, but which he kept saying, without ever stopping, at whatever personal cost, always formulating proposals which—after many years of knowing him personally—are worth some reflection at the end of this century, since his words are not only prophetic, but the result of an intelligent interpretation of the greatest international crisis.

When we speak of politics these days in Italy, we find a confusion which is frightening, at least to those of us who witnessed the century of wars, and which recommends us not to tail behind politicians who are full of money and reckless ideas, but to rather attentively follow those few political figures who had from Providence the gift of seeing into the future.

I will say at the end, that the theme of this conference is very important, because it poses the question: “Will Europe have a future of stability, or become one of the regions of the world shaken by depression and wars?” I have been a journalist and a party man all my life, and if I look back on my life, I realize that sometimes things happen which remind us of events 30 years ago. The mistakes which were made in the 1920s, the events of the First and Second World Wars, tend to be repeated in a way which is even monotonous.

Lyndon’s proposal this time is summarized by proposals he made four or five years ago, and which he now presents with new features, the idea to convoke a New Bretton Woods conference, to realize great infrastructural projects in Eurasia, which is struck by the Maastricht measures that are part of the problem, and by the systemic crisis. I am glad to invite Mrs. LaRouche, who is our main speaker today, to give her speech and start a debate which I think will be very fruitful and which we will speak of in the years to come.