

The drug legalization propaganda occurs amidst a plague of drug abuse in Tony Blair's Britain. The *Observer* ran one shrill news feature, entitled "We're All Going to Pot," and the lead editorial began by noting that 10 million Britons, out of a total population of 57 million, have used drugs. Delingpole began his commentary: "Cocaine use is up, says the latest Home Office survey. No fewer than a quarter of British children have tried drugs by the age of 14, and more than half have done so by 15, claims a government-backed study of schools in northern England."

A similar account was published in the Aug. 19 *Guardian*, which reported that "thousands of British ravers have helped to turn [the Spanish island of] Ibiza into the narcotics capital of Europe." Further accounts abound, for example profiling the massive use by British youth of the dangerous stimulant Ecstasy.

Of course, with the demoralization and collapse of British society leading to a vast drug plague, what better solution than to make this degeneracy legal, the Crown's minions argue.

### Lords Harris and Mancroft

One interesting feature of the legalization push, is that a major force behind it, is the same group of high-level British figures, who have been involved in the looting and pillaging of Russia, under such rubrics as "privatization" and "the free market."

*EIR* has it on good authority, that a leading drug legalizer is one Lord Harris of High Cross, founder and director of London's Institute of Economics Affairs, and one of the international stars of the Mont Pelerin Society, the association of radical free-market ideologues founded by the late Austrian Anglophile Friedrich von Hayek in 1947. Lord Harris's role in the destruction of Russia has been documented by *EIR* (see Rachel Douglas, "Criminality Was the *Policy* in Russian 'Reform,'" *EIR*, Sept. 3, 1999).

One of Harris's lordly cronies in drug legalization efforts is Lord Mancroft, a "reformed" heroin addict. On Aug. 15, 1997, the *Guardian* reported that Mancroft had been a director of a "cyberspace bank" in Antigua, the which was a haven for Russian organized-crime dirty money. According to the article, "thousands of investors across the globe are nursing heavy losses, after the collapse of the world's first offshore Internet bank. The European Union Bank, located in the former British colony of Antigua, has gone into receivership, the Bank of England said yesterday. Its two Russian-born owners are believed to have fled with depositors' money. EUB, which has share capital of \$10 million, is said to have links with Russian mobsters, who allegedly used it to launder money." The article was accompanied by a photo of Lord Mancroft, staring into space, with the caption, quoting him, "We could have been very rich."

In recent weeks, the European Union Bank story has resurfaced, in the context of investigations into Russian mafia figures involved in money-laundering and other illicit schemes.

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## Colombia

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# Drug legalization, by any name, still stinks

by Valerie Rush

If you think the issue in the ongoing debate in Washington over Colombia policy is about how much money to give that country for the war on drugs, or whether it should be channelled to its police or its military, or whether it needs Huey or Black Hawk helicopters, then you have been sadly misled. What is, in fact, at stake now, is the de facto legalization of drugs in Colombia, and the establishment of the hemisphere's first full-fledged narco-republic, violently carved out of that nation. And, curiously, the "liberal" international human rights lobby is in bed with "conservative" Congressional Republicans in this project, whether they choose to admit it or not.

Take the case of an Oct. 15 conference, held at the Rayburn Congressional office building in Washington, and organized by a vast array of human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs), under the aegis of the U.S./Colombia Coordinating Office and Colombia Human Rights Committee. Addressing the meeting alongside such top human rights mouthpieces as Amnesty International's Carlos Salinas, the former President of Mexico, and a gaggle of Colombian human rights NGOs, were U.S. Reps. William Delahunt (D-Mass.) and Assistant Secretary of State Harold Koh.

Delahunt, who has gone to Colombia twice to meet with the leaders of the drug-running FARC narco-terrorists in the "demilitarized zone"—handed over to the guerrillas by Colombia President Andrés Pastrana—began by insisting that the solution to Colombia's problems is "neither helicopters nor bullets," i.e., don't try to win a war against drugs—precisely what the FARC loves to hear. Delahunt then introduced Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Koh, who had stunned Colombians on April 9 of this year, when he visited their country to publicly pronounce that the Colombian Armed Forces, institutionally, are the behind-the-scenes sponsors of narco-linked death squads, known as "paramilitaries." Koh's Oct. 15 speech in Washington repeated these accusations, setting the tone for continued "Army bashing" throughout the conference.

Most strident was Carlos Salinas of Amnesty International (AI), who attacked U.S. anti-drug chief (ret.) Gen. Barry McCaffrey's insistence on U.S. support for the Colombian military, saying that it amounts to "the final push to a human rights catastrophe." Salinas lied that the evidence of



*New York Stock Exchange President Richard Grasso embraces FARC narco-terrorist leader Raúl Reyes, during a June 1999 visit to Colombia.*

Army-death squad collusion in Colombia was “overwhelming,” and demanded an outcry from the U.S. population “against involvement in this dirty war.”

It is notable that the London-based, and British intelligence-controlled AI has played a central role inside Colombia for years in coordinating NGO attacks on the Army. Such is its influence, that AI has virtually taken over the operations of the Colombian Prosecutor General’s office, which has pulled thousands of counterinsurgency troops and officers out of the field, on the basis of Amnesty-endorsed “evidence” of human rights abuses, evidence often supplied by FARC members and supporters, often anonymously.

Speaker after speaker declared that U.S. aid would only “strengthen the machine of human rights violations” and make Washington “an accomplice” to the conflict. Spokesmen for various Colombian human rights NGOs were trotted out to echo the FARC’s claims that the problem in Colombia is not narco-terrorism, but “social injustice.” Colombia’s Ambassador to Washington Luis Alberto Moreno declared that eradicating drugs is not the solution to Colombia’s problems, and in a nauseating defense of the FARC narco-terrorists, claimed that the FARC had resorted to weapons only because they were not allowed political “space.” He concluded, “Colombia’s problems can’t be resolved in a military way.”

One of the moderators of the conference was Georgetown Professor Marc Chernick, who had tried to sell a fairy tale to the U.S. Congress during hearings last year, that the FARC—known as “The Third Cartel” in Colombia, for its extensive involvement in all aspects of the drug trade—would be willing to collaborate with the Colombian and U.S. governments against the drug trade, given the right conditions. “I am convinced,” he said, “that if the FARC ordered the eradication of coca production . . . perhaps as much as 90% of coca cultivation would be eliminated tomorrow. This cannot happen with-

out the provision of alternatives, and it cannot happen without a peace agreement.”

The conclusion of the conference? Hand power over to the FARC (the drug-runners, themselves!), and ask them to please stop the drug trade. And don’t give any aid to the Colombian military (who otherwise might be inclined to fight the FARC), because all they do is violate human rights; in fact, the military should be pretty much dismantled. In other words, legalize drugs and the drug-runners.

### **Strange bedfellows**

There is also a curious alliance on Capitol Hill between this gaggle of liberal NGOs and drug legalizers, and Republican Party “neo-conservatives.” That alliance is centered around their common hatred of the Colombian military. Their strategy is to promote Colombia’s national police force as a “clean” institution deserving of support, versus the army as a “corrupt” and “dirty” institution, to be purged, shackled, even dismantled. As one “liberal” human rights militant told the *Washington Times* on Oct. 6, “I can’t believe I am saying this, but we are more in line with the Republican plan [to fund the police] than McCaffrey’s idea to fund the army.”

The argument that U.S. aid to Colombia should be restricted to that country’s police force, because of the military’s “corruption” and “human rights record,” has been the constant refrain of Republican “hard-liners” Dan Burton (Ind.) and Benjamin Gilman (N.Y.), for example. And yet, it is patently obvious that the national police, however efficient they may be, are incapable of handling a nationwide insurgency of drug-trafficking terrorists, who control nearly half the national territory, have bought or blackmailed a large percentage of the country’s political and business elite, maintain a well-equipped army to protect their laboratories, coca and poppy plantations, and smuggling networks, and, most of all, are

bent on seizing state power.

Former Colombian Armed Forces Commander Gen. Harold Bedoya (ret.) was clear on this in an interview he granted to the U.S. Information Agency during a visit he made last month to the United States. He stated: “The reality is clear. Colombia’s problem is one of terrorist organizations which are very well armed, well equipped, and very well trained in guerrilla warfare, with all that money, and combat ability. So, they have to be confronted militarily. The police can be involved in police, but not military, work.”

*EIR* has repeatedly documented the way the international human rights lobby and NGOs are financed and deployed by international oligarchical forces committed to legalizing the drug trade. Mega-speculator George Soros is one of the more visible points of overlap of these networks, which have been active for years, not only in Colombia, but throughout Ibero-America.

### The drug legalizers’ strategy

For example, in June 1998, at George Washington University, a discussion was held under Soros’s auspices, on how to get the flagging drug-legalization drive back on track. A star speaker at the event was from the Andean Council of Coca Producers. The conclusion of the attendees, presented by Coletta Younger of the Washington Office on Latin America, was to concentrate on using human rights conditionalities against anti-drug programs. Younger praised the Leahy amendment—which requires all U.S. security assistance to meet human rights criteria—for keeping U.S. aid funds out of the hands of Colombia’s military. Others urged the human rights NGOs to play a more active role in demanding “accountability” for all government anti-drug programs, and to identify vulnerable points in those programs.

One focus of the conference was on how to sell the Andean coca-producers as “oppressed peasants” who are being mistakenly treated as allies of the drug traffickers. Omayra Morales, an international propagandist for the Andean coca-growers council, insisted that the growers have been producing coca for hundreds of years, and as “civil society,” must not be treated as the enemy. If you want us to stop growing drugs, she insisted, give us money for “alternative development.”

This is, of course, the argument of the FARC, which claims that, as defenders of the oppressed coca-growers, it should be given money to help bring about “alternative development.” While the U.S. State Department has not, up till now, come forward with any such gifts to the terrorists, the Pastrana government has announced that, with the help of the United Nations, it will channel \$10 million into “alternative development” programs in four of the five municipalities in the FARC’s demilitarized zone, in a program jointly sponsored by the UN. Since there is no government apparatus to administer the funds, it is to the FARC that this \$10 million will evidently be delivered.

## Mexican ‘human rights’ activist goes to bat for narco-politician

by Hugo López Ochoa

When it comes to human rights in Mexico, no one yells louder than the country’s would-be “Madame Human Rights,” Teresa Jardí. A perennial leader of one or another human rights non-governmental organization, she gained international prominence as the Attorney General’s top representative in the state of Chihuahua under former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. Tirelessly, she attacks Mexico’s military as congenital human rights violators, and her charges are repeated by her foreign fans. Repeatedly, she has denounced Lyndon LaRouche as a *Pinochetista*, and demanded that the Mexican government drive his associates in the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) out of Mexico.

Unlike her close buddy, David Fernández, S.J., who openly accepts the money of drug-legalizer George Soros to finance his “human rights” work, Jardí’s financial angels remained obscure. Until this October.

On Oct. 7, Jardí appeared as one of four speakers at the presentation of a new book authored by Raúl Salinas, the brother of former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari (1988-94). Raúl could not attend (he sent his son to represent him), because he is in jail, serving a 27-year sentence for ordering the September 1994 murder of José Francisco Ruiz Massieu, Secretary General of the ruling Revolutionary Institutional Party (PRI). Known as “Mr. Ten Percent,” Raúl faces further charges from the Mexican and Swiss governments, that he headed the protection racket for the drug cartels that flourished during his brother’s Presidency, and that he laundered a good bit of money from that “work.”

In his book, *Everything That the Judge Ignored to Sentence Me*, the “uncomfortable brother” of the former President proclaims his innocence. So, too, argued Jardí at the presentation of the book. Jardí declared that Raúl “is innocent,” denounced the proceedings against Raúl as “judicial delirium” and a foretaste of “authoritarianism,” and charged that Raúl’s problems stemmed from the “clear personal vengeance” of current President Ernesto Zedillo.

Jardí thereby proudly proclaimed herself a wholly-owned asset of the drug-running Salinas family—something long suspected in Mexican law enforcement circles. Her association with the machine of these most hated of Mexican brothers