

EIR Berlin Seminar

Deeper Strategic Realities Behind the 'Iran Crisis'

A private *EIR* seminar in Berlin on March 2 was the occasion for a lively debate on what to do about the world strategic and economic crisis. Discussion focussed on what really lies behind the London-steered drive for war against Iran; the viability of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT); the superiority of the American System of political-economy over the European model of independent central banking; the history of the current "imperial Presidency" in the United States; and the relationship between *moral principle* and *law*.

The featured speakers were American economist Lyndon LaRouche and his wife Helga Zepp-LaRouche, head of Germany's Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (BüSo). Conference participants, about 100 of them, included Arab, Asian, and African representatives; former German officials; former deputies from Parliament; scientists; and LaRouche Youth Movement members.

The seminar, titled "Iran Crisis: The Danger of a Global Asymmetric War Must Be Stopped," also heard from Jürgen Hübschen, an independent Consultant for Peace-Keeping and Security Policy; Prof. Cliff Kiracofe, a former Senior Professional Staff Member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee; and, via a written speech, Prof. Mohammed el-Sayed Selim of Cairo University. *EIR*'s Michele Steinberg reported on the LaRouche movement's campaign in the United States to stop Dick Cheney's war drive.

Economic Breakdown and the Threat of War

Lyndon LaRouche's keynote speech was published in last week's *EIR*. Insisting that the so-called Iran crisis is widely misconceived (see article, p. 16), he underscored the fact that the fundamental issue is that "the world monetary-financial system, as it took shape especially during the latter part of the 1960s, and especially in the course of the 1970s, is now doomed." The biggest problem, he said, is the ability to create credit. "If you try to create credit by private banking, you're going to fail. That's how fascism came easily to Europe" in the 1920s and 1930s.

But in the United States, LaRouche said, "the advantage was, we have the American System, *not* the European system. The American System is based on *state credit*, not a monetary system. European systems are regulated by monetary systems, which means financier interests in the Venetian tradition, essentially more or less control governments—directly or indirectly. Private banking groups, as predators, often control governments. . . . They're going in, gobbling up things, gobbling up industries, destroying assets, hedge-fund raids on all kinds of assets in this country and other countries.

"To get out of this great world depression which we're in now . . . we're going to have to create a great mass of long-term state credit. . . .

"The leading edge of this investment of credit, now as under Roosevelt, will be in the state sector, the public sector. . . . as Roosevelt did, but on a larger scale, long-term investment, largely in infrastructure, such as rail, power, improvement of our aircraft system, things of that sort."

Respecting the Iran situation, LaRouche stressed the danger of plunging into a policy like the Crusades in the Middle Ages—one that will lead to a New Dark Age, one we cannot break free of, till Cheney is out of power.

In these twin crises, what must happen to make possible a future, is that the real United States, with Europe's cooperation, must be led to do its proper job in the world.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche's speech analyzed the situation in Germany as it evolved since 1989, and what went wrong since then in terms of East-West developments and missed opportunities. She described the development of the Cheney permanent war doctrine, which LaRouche had warned about in a 2001 webcast. In order to stop the "Clash of Civilizations" scenario, she urged instead a Dialogue of Civilizations.

We publish below the contributions of Hübschen, Kiracofe, and Steinberg, along with a selection of the discussion period, in which Lyndon LaRouche fielded questions on the crisis in Southwest Asia and the NPT. The speeches by Helga Zepp-LaRouche and Dr. Selim will appear in next week's issue.