

# Danish Candidates Score Media Breakout

by Michelle Rasmussen

Sept. 8—Three activists from The Friends of the Schiller Institute are shaking up Denmark by running as independent candidates in the Danish parliamentary elections, to be held on Sept. 15: Tom Gillesberg, chairman of the Schiller Institute in Denmark, in the greater Copenhagen area; Janus Kramer in eastern Jutland; and Hans Schultz in northern Jutland. The campaigns, covering 30% of the voting population, have caused a national press coverage breakthrough, which can be monitored at: [www.sive.dk](http://www.sive.dk).

With the campaign slogan “Glass-Steagall—or Chaos!” the posters are publicizing the most important first step towards economic recovery—enacting Franklin D. Roosevelt’s 1933 Glass-Steagall law, which separated commercial banks from investment banks. The slogan is provocative because it is a metaphor based on the most famous Danish election poster, “Stauning—or Chaos!” from the 1930s, for the then-leader of the Social Democrats, Thorvald Stauning.

The posters, with a bank division graphic similar to the poster for the BüSo campaign in Berlin (see p. 40), are very noticeable in the three largest Danish cities: Copenhagen, Aarhus and Aalborg. They have become the talk of the town, sparking significant, straight media coverage. The combination of the posters and the press coverage has succeeded in getting the two most important campaign issues discussed throughout the nation: firstly, that Lyndon LaRouche and the Schiller Institute were right about the upcoming financial crash; and, secondly, they know what to do about it—beginning with a Glass-Steagall law. In fact, at least two of the journalists themselves pointed out that our candidates have been right about the crash, and that maybe they ought to be listened to now.

## Gillesberg Interviewed

On Aug. 31, Tom Gillesberg was among the three candidates interviewed live on “Good Morning Den-

mark” (GMD), the popular national TV2 program. Here are excerpts:

**Gillesberg:** During the last election, I ran with the slogan, “After the Financial Crisis—Maglev Across the Kattegat,” and warned about the financial crisis that we are in now. It has now become much, much worse. We have had an administration that has not had the slightest idea about what should be done about it. But I do. Therefore, I have this slogan, “Glass-Steagall—or Chaos.”

**GMD:** Glass-Steagall? Maybe you should—?

**Gillesberg:** That is the law that Roosevelt enacted in 1933 in the U.S., in which they divided the banks in two, and said, “Whatever has to do with the real economy should be saved. All financial speculation, we let go to Hell.” If that is not done today, nations will assume a gigantic debt in order to save the financial bubble. Then they are also bankrupt, and then you will have massive austerity cutbacks, as we saw in the 1930s in Europe, with fascism and other terrible things.

**GMD:** ... There were actually some people in 2007 who made a little fun of you, because—I actually think that it was not “financial crisis,” but “*Financial Crash*” on your posters. There were some people who smiled a little about that, but it ended up that you were actually right, at least on that point.

**Gillesberg:** I would just like to say that it is because I work with Lyndon LaRouche in the U.S., who is an economist who will soon turn 90. ...

Another example of coverage was the article published on the website of one of the two most widely read Copenhagen tabloids, *ekstrabladet.dk*, accompanied with a large picture of Gillesberg’s current poster, as well as that from 2007. The article quoted from an interview that was published in another newspaper from 2007:

## ‘Forecasts a Crash’

“Gillesberg also ran for parliament in 2007. Back then, under the slogan: ‘After the Financial Crash: Maglev Across the Kattegat.’ Back then, a half to a full year before the deep crisis in the world economy occurred, *Berlingske Tidende* asked in an article:

“Your policy is therefore based on the fact that there will be a financial crash?”

“To which Gillesberg replied:

“A financial crash is as sure as the ‘Amen’ in church. We just don’t know how long the priest will speak before the crash comes. Therefore we must prepare for how we can protect our economy from the adverse effects of the international financial crash that is already underway.’

“Now Gillesberg is warning anew of an outright financial collapse like 1929. And the solution is clear:

“‘Banks must be forcibly divided between [commercial] lending and speculative activity, as Roosevelt did with the so-called Glass-Steagall Act during the Great Depression in 1933. So you must not have bank packages to rescue the speculators,’ says Gillesberg.

“And the candidate also thinks that large public infrastructure investments should be started, such as nuclear power plants—and a Kattegat connection [a bridge connecting Denmark’s two largest cities, Copenhagen and Aarhus—mr].

“The Social Liberals and Socialists are [now] talking about the Kattegat connection as you had already suggested as early as 2007.”

An explanatory box, titled “Facts about The Schiller Institute,” includes:

“The Schiller Institute is a think tank, with the Danish branch formed in 1984. Its purpose is to implement the German Romantic [sic] philosopher and writer Friedrich Schiller’s ideas about ‘republican freedom and poetical beauty.’ The movement is heavily inspired by the American politician and economist Lyndon LaRouche, who, depending on one’s point of view, is either visionary and a genius, or a mad guru conspiracy theorist.”

Other press coverage includes: *Jyllands-Posten*, Denmark’s largest newspaper showed an image of Gillesberg’s election video on their page about alternative candidates; regional TV coverage for Janus Kramer in eastern Jutland, and Hans Schultz in northern Jutland; and two articles about Schultz on the regional TV homepage, and in the main newspaper in his district, *Nordjydske Tidende*.



EIRNS/Michelle Rasmussen

*Tom Gillesberg (left), shown here campaigning in Copenhagen, heads up the Danish Friends of the Schiller Institute slate of independent candidates for the Sept. 18 elections.*

## The LaRouche Solution

The Friends of the Schiller Institute campaign is working to lay the basis for the expected new Social Democratic/Socialist government (which would replace the 10-year-old Liberal/Conservative government) to implement the LaRouche solution to the collapse—to establish a financial crisis inquiry commission, implement a Glass-Steagall bank law, pursue a great infrastructure projects investment strategy (to push the construction of the Fehmarn Belt tunnel to Germany, build a Kattegat bridge, and a tunnel between Elsinore, Denmark, and Helsingborg, Sweden), and create massive amounts of national bank credit to finance infrastructure and production.

In addition to domestic coverage, the Danish campaign is contributing to the international LaRouche movement campaigns. Helga Zepp-LaRouche granted a 42-minute English-language video interview to The Friends of the Schiller Institute, now circulating widely on the Internet, in which she endorsed the candidates, and explained how crucial this moment in history is. Gillesberg and another campaign activist were interviewed on The LaRouche Show Internet radio program, and a short statement by the candidate has been broadcast on LaRouchePAC-TV.