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From the Managing Editor

In a sobering, but ultimately, optimistic speech, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, presented the 300 participants at the Schiller Institute conference in Frankfurt, Germany last weekend, with a clear choice for the immediate future: Either walk blindly over the precipice toward economic and strategic catastrophe which has been created by the British financial empire, or move quickly to adopt the Great Projects development perspective which the LaRouche movement has been fighting for, for the last four decades.

Zepp-LaRouche posed the question this way: “Can you help us, and be part of a mobilization to convince the governments of the world to abandon a narrow-minded, geopolitical confrontation, and make the kinds of the changes which are necessary to guarantee the survival of the human species?” She added: “I know that this is possible. I know that the human mind is absolutely capable of making such leaps, of thinking things in the imagination like a great composer, like a great poet, like a great artist.”

In this issue, *EIR* begins coverage of that conference, including, this week, Lyndon LaRouche’s videotaped message, “The Crucial Issue of This Crisis.”

If you still need convincing that we are indeed on the edge of World War III, see our lead story in *International*, “Will Obama’s Re-Election Ensure World War III?” by Nancy Spannaus. In the same section, Ramtanu Maitra contributes two articles: “Afghan Warlords Prepare for Another Civil War,” and “Russia Remains a Target of MI6-Aided Londonistan Terrorists.”

Economics leads with Paul Gallagher’s “A Coming Showdown Over Restoring Glass-Steagall”: Behind the nation’s obsession with the “fiscal cliff,” Wall Street is very worried about the drive for restoration of FDR’s Glass-Steagall Act. A review of UN food expert Jean Ziegler’s latest book, *We Let Them Starve*, makes clear that world-wide hunger is the result of deliberate policies that must be defeated.

Two special sections round out the issue: In *Science*, a report from two members of the LaRouche Basement research team interview participants at the Fall 2012 NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts Symposium; and in *History*, Anton Chaitkin uncovers long-lost evidence of FDR’s commitment to economically develop Iran, as a model for America’s intention to end British and other imperialisms around the world.

