

Now We Can Move to A New Era of Civilization

This is an edited transcript of [Helga Zepp-LaRouche's Schiller Institute Webcast of Jan. 4, 2018](#).

Harley Schlanger: Hello, I'm Harley Schlanger from the Schiller Institute. Welcome to this week's Schiller Institute international webcast, featuring our President and founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche.

Helga, in [your New Year's greeting](#), you stated that there is reason for optimism this year because solutions do exist. It is only necessary to make sure these solutions are implemented. As we will discuss today, there have been very significant developments on a broad range of fronts, including the new exposures that promise the possibility of ending the Mueller investigation. There's the new opening between North and South Korea, as a channel of communications was opened, that is certainly promising; and continuing developments with the Belt and Road Initiative from China.

Let's begin with the situation in the United States. In the so-called Russiagate, there's a new book that came out called *Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House*, by Michael Wolff, which has the typical stink of a British smear-job. But it's opened the door to an interesting backlash. What do you make of this book and the recent Russiagate developments?

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: I think this book is full of inaccuracies and lies, but it actually had one very positive effect, because it quotes former counselor to President Trump, Steve Bannon, attacking Trump. Now, Bannon had come out in the recent period very strongly anti-China and anti-Russia. Trump responded with a White House message completely distancing himself from Bannon, and that has caused a complete storm.

But these are really side shows. Some-

thing much, much more important is going on, and to begin with, I would like all our viewers and listeners to absolutely make sure that you switch on your livestream connection to [larouchepac.com](#) at 7 p.m. tomorrow, because there will be a [truly important meeting](#) including the whistleblowers from the Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity (VIPS), William Binney and Ray McGovern, and also Barbara Boyd, who is famous for having written the *EIR* dossier on Robert Mueller. They will reveal why all of these lies are very dangerous and could potentially lead to war with Russia. This meeting of three of probably the best experts on the subject you can imagine, is coming in the context of the whole Russiagate hoax falling apart.

While the mainstream media are still trying to change the subject by focussing on this Wolff book and on the Bannon story, the real important story instead is what happened yesterday. Remember that on Dec. 28, Congressman Devin Nunes, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, issued an ultimatum to the FBI and the Department of Justice to release all documents



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Steve Bannon, former counselor to President Trump.



Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein and FBI Director Wray were forced into an agreement with House Speaker Paul Ryan.



relating to the activities involving the DOJ and the FBI with respect to the dossier of Christopher Steele, the so-called “former” MI6 agent, whose dossier is the ground upon which this Russiagate story was built.

Now, this story is falling apart.

There was another absolutely desperate effort by Glenn Simpson and Peter Fritsch, the head and founders of the Fusion GPS firm—the firm that hired Christopher Steele in the first place—with a Jan. 2 op-ed in the *New York Times* in which they try to defuse the whole story, by saying what a heroic job they did in protecting the United States from a terrible Russian onslaught in the 2016 presidential campaign. But none of this is working, because the truth is coming out. Yesterday FBI Director Christopher Wray and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein went to see House Speaker Paul Ryan to discuss the Nunes request with him. Shortly afterwards, Nunes released a statement stating that he had an agreement in hand ensuring that in the

next couple of days all the documents pertaining to this story that he had requested, would be released.

Now, I’ll only believe it when I actually see that these documents are really there, but Nunes is now very confident that all the documents will be released. This is a breaking story, because I’m absolutely certain that once these documents are in the hands of the House Intelligence Committee, or the Senate Judiciary Committee, where Senator Grassley is involved in a similar investigation, then this can boomerang! The real story here is not that Russia was colluding with the Trump campaign. The real scandal is that if it turns out that the Obama Administration colluded with British intelligence and the Hillary Clinton campaign and the DNC, in order to conspire against an opposing candidate—and after he won the election, against an elected President, that is a scandal which could totally dwarf the Watergate scandal. This is now the breaking story.

So don’t be confused by what the mainstream media are trying to sell you as the key story, because the true story is what Rep. Nunes and Sen. Grassley are now pursuing.

Schlanger: You made the point that there was a desperate attempt to cover this up by the two founders of Fusion GPS. In their statement, they essentially said that the work that they did “proved” that there was Russian intervention, and they spoke in the op-ed as if there was actual proof that had been presented. But, as Bill Binney, Ray McGovern, and Barbara Boyd will present tomorrow evening, no proof has been presented, and this why the whole story is falling apart.

Also, Helga, I think it’s important that former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort, who was one of the people who was targetted by Mueller, has filed a civil action to have his case dropped, because he claims it’s outside of the range of the Special Counsel’s mandate.

In the midst of all this, the State of the Union address is coming up at the end of the month and we have

new warnings of a financial crisis. How does this play out? If Trump could be freed from this operation, what could potentially happen with the economy in the coming weeks?

Zepp-LaRouche: The warnings of Roger Stone that the cabal which is trying to get rid of Trump will not give up, have to be taken very seriously. Just now, I think 56 congressmen are cosponsoring a bill to see if they can pursue the 25th Amendment against Trump, and they're trotting out all kinds of psychiatrists who try to interpret Trump's tweets and find reasons that he's not fit to be President. I mean, it looks quite different: If Trump is freed from the Russiagate scandal, which is about to happen; if Trump is freed from the populist scenario which Bannon was associated with—and in his message, Trump said he was elected by the forgotten men and women, and he answers to them, not Bannon.

So, if these two chokepoints are removed from Trump, then the field is totally open. And there are now various conservative news blogs and others who are pointing out that the idea that you create jobs with the tax reform doesn't work—you *need* Glass-Steagall! So if even some from the conservative Republican circles are demanding Glass-Steagall, this is very important. And our colleagues in the United States, colleagues from LaRouche PAC, are involved in a major campaign to distribute the Four Laws of Lyndon LaRouche. The first law is to re-establish Glass-Steagall. Then go to a Hamiltonian credit system. The United States should join the New Silk Road. This is the campaign which allows us to say that there are solutions—because it would be very easy, once you have a clear perspective, to go for a massive infrastructure program. The big battle right now, as far as I can see, is in the Republican Party, where the neocons and the people close to Wall Street want to prevent that from happening, and instead pursue cutting entitlements and the like.

So the crucial battle is really in the remaining three weeks before the State of the Union address. Everyone who is concerned, should see, on the other side, the tremendous momentum of the New Silk Road. Even people who have been distant and have been warning



Photo courtesy of Fluor Corp.

A massive infrastructure program needs Glass-Steagall: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers works on repairing power lines near San Juan, Puerto Rico as part of rebuilding the island's electrical system months after the destruction of Hurricane Maria.

against the New Silk Road, are now saying, “forget all the reservations; this is the big game in town, it's the only show in town; it's the largest infrastructure program in the history of the planet.” It should be obvious that any country which does not work with the New Silk Road will be sidelined.

There are tremendous strategic realignments going on right now, and as a former German Ambassador to China just wrote in a long article in a German economic newspaper, the people who say that the relationship of Europe to the United States and China is a zero-sum game are completely wrong, because you can simultaneously have a very good relationship with the United States, and with China. Those who have reservations are obviously only projecting their own hegemonic intentions from the previous century onto China. This former Ambassador, Michael Schaefer, goes on to say that he knows Chinese President Xi Jinping personally from previous years, and that he is a totally calm person with long vision, with an idea of a harmonious development—and people should just join it.

And there are more and more voices of even bankers, who now say, “No, this is the new game in town.” So if the United States can be brought to join this New Silk Road, and Chinese investments in infrastructure in the United States can take place—I mean, China is a champion at this! They already now have 25,000 km of high-speed rail; they're planning to have 38,000 km by the

year 2030. They will soon connect every major city in China through a high-speed rail system. Why can't that be done in the United States? The conditions in the United States demand a complete renewal of infrastructure. The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* had a very good article recently, noting that Atlanta's airport, which is the world's largest hub for air traffic, closed down for eleven hours because of an electricity blackout due to aging infrastructure, and that that is the condition of most of the electrical grid in the United States, because the infrastructure in the United States is aging, it's 50, 60, or 100 years old—bridges, roads, all of this needs to be repaired.

But this cannot be repaired, it cannot be financed, if you stay within the rules of Wall Street. Therefore, the big battle is how to get President Trump to stick to his election promises, reinstating Glass-Steagall and the American System of economy of Lincoln, Carey, and Alexander Hamilton. That is what we have to get on the agenda, and then all the problems can be solved.

How to Prevent the Coming Crash

Schlanger: On that note, Helga, there's also the question of Lyndon LaRouche's Four Laws as the basis for this, versus this fake economics from Wall Street. The President is, I think, mistakenly talking about the stock market as an indicator of the economy. You were talking earlier about the warnings coming out internationally, with debt bubbles and financial crises. It would seem that this would be the incentive, given this danger of a crash, to go back to these campaign promises, wouldn't it?

Zepp-LaRouche: Yes. As the year is just starting, a lot of analysts from around the world, including from China, are warning of new "black swans" in the financial system. Nomi Prins and many other analysts, and bankers from many countries are warning that there is a 100% certainty that this system will crash. It's very difficult to say exactly when it could crash, whether at the beginning of this year, or a little bit later, but the parameters are all much, much worse than 2008—the corporate debt bubble is much bigger, the indebtedness of the



Xinhua/Wang Lei

Traders at the New York Stock Exchange.

states, student loans, car loans, the real estate situation, all the parameters. Naturally, the derivatives exposure is about one-third to one-half larger than in 2008. The difference now, is that all the so-called "instruments" of the central banks have been used up, and the only thing left is money-pumping. Despite the fact that inflation is not yet so visible, except in the stock market, hyperinflation is a definite possibility. And the stock market—it's a bubble. People should not think that that is an indicator of the health of the economy. If you look at the jobs, at how many people are now omitted from labor statistics, at the suicide rates and the drug epidemic—all of these are factors affecting the real economy, and that has not yet been addressed.

So the pressing need is to really go for a real, Roosevelt-style infrastructure program with the Four Laws of LaRouche—which involves a lot of physical science. It involves a crash program for fusion power and for space technology. We need a real discussion about these matters very urgently, in the next two to three weeks.

Schlanger: And this, of course, is something that our listeners can do something about, by working to ensure that these issues are discussed, that we're not trapped in the fake economic reporting of the mainstream media.

The other significant development on the strategic side of things, was the opening of communications between North Korea and South Korea. This is something that promises the possibility of moving out of this threat

of nuclear confrontation. What do you know about this, Helga?

Zepp-LaRouche: I think it is a promising development, because the dialogue has been started. It's not entirely clear on what level it will be actually be conducted, but rumors are also that South Korea and the United States have suspended military training and drills during the time of the upcoming Winter Olympics in South Korea, and it is a promising thing. Because if the two Koreas talk to each other, the ice is broken. And I think D.P.R.K. Chairman Kim Jong-un is doing it from a position of strength, because he says that North Korea is now a full-fledged nuclear power, so nobody can attack North Korea without paying a terrible price for it. And this is because he looked at Saddam Hussein, at Qaddafi, and at what was attempted against Bashar Assad, and that is why he pursued nuclear weapons.

So I think if we get away from that kind of immediate danger of confrontation, and South Korea resumes the Sunshine Policy of Kim Dae-jung, in the context of the New Silk Road, along with Putin's promise to help in the development of North Korea if they are willing to denuclearize, and China offering Silk Road cooperation—I think we are entering a period where that problem can be brought under control, and I think this is very promising.

And I think the views of U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley, who says she doesn't care about the two Koreas talking, are just completely wrong! It's a completely arrogant view, because after all, it's the Korean Peninsula which is at stake and the people living there. So, I think it's a very good and promising development.

Schlanger: And of course, Nikki Haley is tied to people like John Bolton and the same neo-cons who were responsible for the Iraq War and the chaos in the Middle East.

At the same time, we're seeing a potentially disturbing trend, coming not so much from Iran, but from commentary about Iran, that there may be a regime change under way. What do you know about this situation in Iran, right now?

Zepp-LaRouche: Well—It's a little bit too early to make a definite judgment. What seems to be clear is that the unrest erupted because some mullahs were caught in speculation, where people lost some investments in hedge funds—and then quickly that protest turned from



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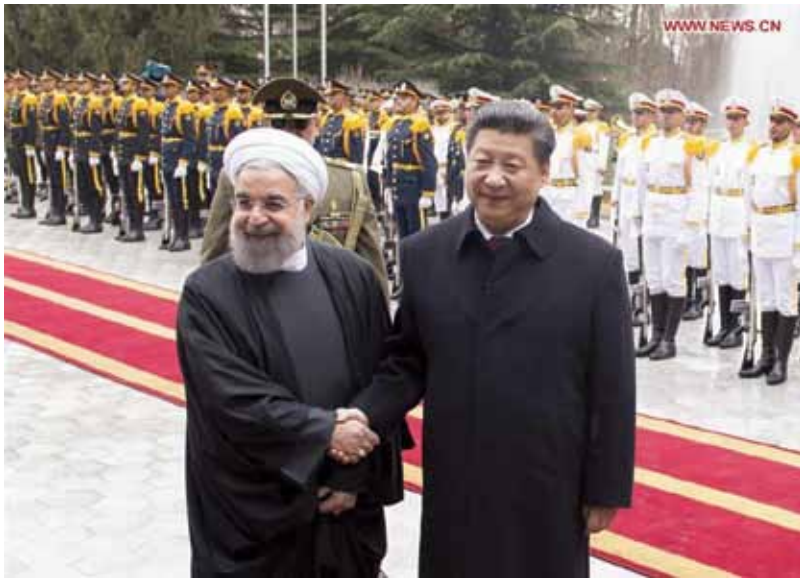
Nikki Haley, U.S. Ambassador to the UN.

people being furious about having lost their savings into demanding a total change of the mullahs. And now there is a claim that the MEK was involved in it, pushed by Saudi Arabia.

Now, the MEK (Mujahideen-e-Khalq) was on the U.S. terrorist list until 2012, when Hillary Clinton took them off. But it was regarded as a terrorist organization, and it's very clear that whether they were the originators, or if they just jumped on the bandwagon, in any case, now the British, Saudi Arabia, and unfortunately a large part of the Trump administration, including Trump himself, have encouraged this unrest.

I think this is very dangerous, because if there is civil war in Iran, or even destabilization, a Syria-like situation in Iran, that would be a disaster wanted by no one. On the other side, if the New Silk Road is extended from China to Iran, which is already under way, then it can be extended to Iraq, to Syria, to Egypt, to Turkey, to Europe, to Africa. That's really the question—and Iranian President Rouhani received President Xi Jinping almost three years ago, and they agreed that the New Silk Road/Belt and Road Initiative should be extended to Iran and beyond. I think that this is a very dangerous development, because if you have a destabilization, the whole Iran deal could go out the window, and we'll be back to the question of building nuclear weapons. Right now, this is really the most dangerous spot in my view.

So people should really not fan the flames, because



Xinhua/Wang Ye

Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in Iran in 2016.

this is just a continuation of the previous British/Saudi policies. When it was clear that ISIS was defeated in Syria and in Iraq, there were offers to extend the Silk Road into Afghanistan via Iran. It's really the question of whether there can be peaceful development, so that these countries can be reconstructed. Are geopolitical forces at work trying to prevent exactly that?

And I think that people should really help to rebuild the Middle East, because these people have suffered so much from wars which were based on lies. Just think how many millions of people have lost their lives, and how much misery has been created. Look at what's happening in Yemen right now: the worst genocide, with seven million people in acute danger of losing their lives! The world community *must* become adult and stop these games—and that is why I said in my New Year's greetings, that of all the many things which have to be straightened out, geopolitics must stop! Geopolitics in the age of thermonuclear weapons cannot be a way to conduct policy. Xi Jinping has established a new paradigm, with the idea of a new, shared community for the shared future of mankind, a community of common destiny. By doing that, he has established a higher level of relations among countries which is not based on geopolitics.

I think people have to think that through, because people in the West are so accustomed to think that policy is a zero-sum game: If one wins, the other loses—that we cannot have a world where everybody cooperates to

the benefit of all—but that is *exactly* the debate which we have to have. And since the New Silk Road is such a strong dynamic, I think it can be realized: It just needs to be discussed, we have to have a political discourse about these questions, and show a willingness to move to new era of civilization.

Schlanger: One of the areas which we see as a bright spot for this “win-win” policy is Africa, where some of these projects are now coming online. You told me earlier that there's now an agreement for Japan to work with China in Africa. What's your perspective on what we can expect in the next period with this cooperation in Africa?

Zepp-LaRouche: I think this is one of the most interesting things, because Japan has not only expressed a total willingness to cooperate with the Belt and Road Initiative, with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in a bilateral relation between China and Japan—but Japan has also offered, for the first time, to cooperate with China in the development of four major projects in Africa. Now, this is exactly what the New Silk Road Spirit can bring about: That you not only have bilateral relations of “win-win” cooperation, but that countries which have major industrial capacities like China and Japan, can unite for the benefit of third countries, or in this case even of an entire continent, and help to overcome underdevelopment.

And that is what the United States should join in, and so should the Europeans. Right now there are many countries in Europe which are coming on board, but some others are not. The visit of French President Emmanuel Macron to China on Jan. 8 will be very interesting in this context. French Economics Minister Bruno Le Maire just gave an interview in which he said Macron's intention is to build an economic backbone from Paris to Moscow to Beijing. If that is the outcome of Macron's visit, then you will have Eastern Europe, Central Europe, the Balkan countries, Southern Europe, and France all moving in this direction, and that would make the position of the European Union and of the non-existent government in Berlin very isolated. As I have been saying the whole time, anyone who doesn't get on board with this new para-



Xinhua/Liu Xiao

French President Emmanuel Macron's state visit to China holds great promise for Europe's partnership in the New Silk Road. Here, President Macron and the First Lady are hosted at China's cultural treasure, the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Emperor Qin Shihuang in Xi'an.

digm, will be sidelined by history, at a great peril for their people.

The solutions are so close. Therefore there is reason to be tremendously optimistic that this year, 2018, can witness a very, very positive change in the history of mankind, where we leave these geopolitical confrontations behind us, and establish a concert of nations working for the common good.

I know many people may think this is all completely idealistic and unrealistic—but look at what China *is doing*: China is going global. There is a new spirit, which was expressed by Xi Jinping and others at the Belt and Road Forum last May. It was reiterated at the 19th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in October. It was expressed by Xi Jinping, and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and others in their New Year's speeches; and China is now moving with incredible speed to go global. It's happening on all levels, and there's no reason to feel threatened by it, because if countries such as Germany or the United States were to return to their best traditions, like the United States going back to the Kennedy Apollo idea, or going back to the New Deal of Roosevelt, there is nothing which the United States and China cannot do together; or Germany and China, or other countries working together.

People have to change their thinking! It's not a zero-sum game. It's the idea of asking—can we define goals

for humanity, can we do what was discussed in the *Federalist Papers* when America was young? Can we find the form of self-rule which ensures long-term survivability of our society? I think we can. I think the human species is capable of reason. I think we are even capable of love—and people think love has nothing to do with politics, but that's not true! The outcome of the Thirty Years' War was a terrible destruction in Europe, but out of that came the Peace of Westphalia. And if you look at the principles of the Peace of Westphalia, the two most important features were, first, for the sake of peace,

forget every evil which was done by one side or the other, and concentrate on joint development. The second principle was, for the sake of peace, foreign policy from now on has to be based on “the interest of the other,” and love.

And I think that that is what China is doing: It's consistent with the idea of the harmonious development of all nations—and that was the policy of John Quincy Adams, so it's not alien to American history. It was also associated with humanism in Europe, with the ideas of Leibniz, of Cusa, and of many other great people who thought in terms of development as the goal of history.

So we are at a crucial change of era, when we have to leave the era of geopolitics behind us and move to a completely new phase in the history of civilization.

Schlanger: Helga, I think you just summarized very beautifully why we can be optimistic as we approach this year. *But!* optimism alone won't do it: We have to be active. And I call on all of our listeners and supporters to make sure that this is the year you become members of the Schiller Institute and become active with us, so that we can ensure that these policy solutions will be implemented.

So Helga, until next week, thank you very much, and we'll see you then.

Zepp-LaRouche: OK, bye.