

under the name of “Global Britain.”

Since World War II, the British have sustained the Empire on the basis of what they call “British brains and American brawn.” When the U.S. and NATO pulled out of Afghanistan, [former UK Prime Minister] Tony Blair, the architect of the Iraq war and the idea of “responsibility to protect” as an excuse for colonial wars, complained bitterly that we must not give up on “forever wars” or the Empire will not survive.

Obviously, the solution which would benefit the entire human race would be for the United States to join with China, Russia, Pakistan and the other countries in the region, to extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor rail line from Islamabad, through the Khyber Pass to Kabul, and on to Uzbekistan. This would not only allow Afghanistan to begin developing as a modern agro-industrial nation, but also provide all of Central Asia with a rail connection to the Arabian Sea, for the first time. It would also provide a model to restore the war-torn nations destroyed by the Bush and Obama regime-change wars, in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen, and to restore the other nations currently suffering from Malthusian depopulation, like Haiti and Lebanon.

It is not well known that in 2019, after the Trump Administration began talks with the Taliban to prepare for the pullout, there was established an institution known as the “Extended Troika,” or the “Troika Plus,” comprising the U.S., Russia, China and Pakistan.

Lyndon LaRouche, following the 2008 financial breakdown in the West, insisted that the only solution for the global financial crisis was for what he called the “Four Powers”—Russia, China, the U.S. and India—to come together in a New Bretton Woods Conference to create a new international financial system which would

restrain speculation and direct credit into the real economy—the opposite of the current deregulated financial empire, which simply prints trillions of dollars to keep the bankrupt banks afloat, at the expense of humanity. The Extended Troika brings these four powers together, although with Pakistan rather than India, due to the importance of Pakistan and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor for the future of Afghanistan.

This Extended Troika has met nine times over the past three years, with the fully attended last meeting on August 10, just five days before the Taliban moved into Kabul. Although Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov called for a meeting of the Extended Troika in Kabul as soon as the airport were opened, and the meeting did take place, the United States, unfortunately, did not attend. The Extended Troika, without the U.S., met with both the Taliban and with [former Afghan President] Hamid Karzai and [leader of the High Council for National Reconciliation] Abdullah Abdullah.

The New Silk Road—first proposed by Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp-LaRouche following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, as a means of ending the imperial division of the world into warring blocs, in favor of Peace Through Development—now has 140 member nations in China’s Belt and Road Initiative.

The big question facing mankind is, Which way will the United States go? The British path of war confrontation with China, as seen in the AUKUS military pact between the U.S., the UK and Australia; or the Peace Through Development path promoted by the Schiller Institute and the LaRouche Organization?

I commend you for organizing this conference, to help humanity make the right choice at this critical turning point in history.

## Two Former U.S. Surgeons General Respond to Helga Zepp-LaRouche’s Afghanistan Initiative

Oct. 2—On September 5, Schiller Institute President Helga Zepp-LaRouche issued a [call](#) titled, “Can the ‘West’ Learn? What Afghanistan Needs Now,” for international collaborative action, on an emergency basis, to supply food and medical care for the citizens of Afghanistan. Two former Surgeons General of the United States were among those who responded.

**Dr. David Satcher**, who served as Surgeon General from 1998 to 2002:

Dr. William Foege, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (1977-1983), in his book, *House on Fire: The Fight to Eradicate Smallpox*, about the successful effort to eradicate smallpox disease, describes how relationships were prioritized, including assuring that credit for successful interventions was appropriately shared. On the other hand, when we came close to eradicating polio in the last decade of the 20th Century, it was the fighting in Afghani-

stan and Pakistan which prevented our success in eliminating polio in those countries, and thus eradicating it in the world. In other words, we were not willing to allow the immunization of children in Pakistan and Afghanistan to take priority over the killing of people and the winning of the war. But, in fact, nobody won the war in Afghanistan, and we failed to eradicate polio.

Ultimately, we will eradicate polio, but unfortunately it will be after many lives have been lost and trillions of dollars have been spent.

We can do better! We can invest in lives rather than deaths! We can bring new thinking into our relationships. We can care about each other and value lives beyond our own and beyond our own culture. We can work to make science work for us and for future generations.

I am impressed with the idea and the statement. We're talking about a whole new definition of winning and what it means to win, especially winning together, and supporting the healthy development of children as a priority. What is needed is a new paradigm, relative to what we value and what we are willing to do to bring it about.

**Dr. Joycelyn Elders**, who served as Surgeon General from 1993 to 1994:

I agree with Dr. David Satcher's response to Helga Zepp-LaRouche's statement regarding the needed approach to the dire health and humanitarian crisis facing Afghanistan and many other nations around the world. When we speak about the need for basic necessities for life, such as healthcare, food and water, that is the same for people everywhere, regardless of where you are or what type of government you have.

The COVID pandemic is exacerbating the crises in previously food- and health-deprived countries. It is clear that the only way this will be defeated is with a modern healthcare system, in every nation. The Committee for the Coinci-



*Dr. Joycelyn Elders*



*Dr. David Satcher*

dence of Opposites has emphasized the need for comprehensive, not piecemeal solutions. Infrastructure, food, energy, and clean water are crucial, combined with modern hospitals and trained personnel. I have long championed the training and deployment of community health care workers, especially recruited from among the young, to augment the resources of trained medical personnel. These workers would now be invaluable in assisting in this effort. Also, here is where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (PHSCC), a branch of the uniformed services of the U.S. which does not bear arms, and which I and my colleague Dr. Satcher directed, could play an important role.

Now is the time for us to end confrontation and engage in cooperation to address the basic needs of humanity.

For more on the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites—founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche and Dr. Joycelyn Elders—and the need for a world health platform, see the [Founding Statement](#): “Statement to Form the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites (Coincidentia Oppositorum).”

See the most recent [statement](#) from the Committee, prepared for the Global Health Summit in Rome, May 21, 2021: “Global Health Security Requires Medical Infrastructure in Every Country—Major Industrial Nations Must Collaborate Now!”