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tions was to express satisfaction, but with the added hope, and caution, that Biden's lieutenants will act in concordance and consistent with the commitments as expressed at the summit with President Biden. To work together effectively, there must be trust between the two powers: Developing mutual trust cannot be based on the premise of a pick-and-choose. In other words, we can't collaborate on A, B, and C, and fight like hell on X, Y, and Z—that just wouldn't work.

The worst example I can think of, of a fight, of confrontation, is the total embargo on the semiconductor technology that Biden had recently levied against China. At this point, not only can't U.S. companies sell fabrication, equipment, or software design tools, or the most advanced chips to China, but the Biden White House is also asking companies in Europe, in Japan, and Korea to also abide by the same restrictions. The

thanking the mapths deade measure is to stop China cold in developing advances in chip technology.

I would like to end my presentation on an optimistic note.

If President Biden really means what he said at the Bali Summit, I can list a bunch of benefits that would be the outcome. Normalizing trade relations. and removing the tariffs imposed on the imports from China—first imposed under Trump and continued under Biden—will immediately reduce inflationary pressures in the American economy because many of the products made in China are of every-day use, being frequently purchased by American consumers. A lower price would directly benefit their pocketbooks. Removing the tariffs would also mean, that as China responds in kind, this will be good news for American exporters to China, such as American farmers that raise soybean, corn, and the like; California wine makers; Maine lobstermen, and so on.

Nick Brana

Citizens' Action to Demand that Congress Stop Funding the War

This is the edited transcript of the presentation by Nick Brana to Panel 2, "Peace Through Development," of the Schiller Institute's Nov. 22 conference, "For World Peace—Stop the Danger of Nuclear War: Third Seminar of Political and Social Leaders of the World." Mr. Brana is national chair of the People's Party in the United States. The full proceedings of the conference are available at the Schiller Institute website.

Brothers and sisters, we gather today as the world stares into the abyss of nuclear Winter, that long freeze that follows the raging fire of humanity's

last war. A cold and dead world, all that remains of a once lush oasis in the vast emptiness of space. We gather because we stand on the edge of that future; a new Ice Age of our own making where the ash of humanity blocks out the Sun. Where the oceans freeze and the crops perish; where the lights flicker and fade; where famine and plague kill all who survived the blasts; the sudden extinction of all life on Earth.

I've often wondered if every intelligent civilization in the cosmos confronts this great test during their techno-



Nick Brana

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logical adolescence and transition to global abundance. A test of whether their wisdom and empathy can triumph over the division and conflict of their past. A test of whether they can embrace cooperation over competition. Perhaps this is a form of cosmic screening, where violent civilizations destroy themselves before they can spread out into the universe. The question then is, what kind of civilization are we?

Just one week ago, the world had a brush with death. A Ukrainian missile killed two in Poland, and nearly triggered a Third World

War. NATO governments and the Western media quickly blamed Russia and were slow to correct their stories. We escaped with our lives last Tuesday, but we are playing Russian roulette with the fate of the world. And if we keep pulling the trigger, we will get a bullet.

Even if we manage to avert nuclear catastrophe during this crisis and the next, many new existentially threatening technologies are emerging. From engineered super viruses to infrastructure grid hacks, from rogue artificial intelligence to weaponized nanotechnology, from asteroid-redirection to the permanent totalitarianism of [Aldous] Huxley's *Brave New World*, humanity's progress in science and technology has outstripped our advancements in government and economics.

We Get To Decide

We now have the ability to abolish poverty, hunger, homelessness, and scarcity worldwide. But our financial system still siphons wealth to a ruling class of corporate billionaires. World affairs are still dominated by military blocs, imperialism, and war. Politics and law are still instruments by which the powerful subjugate the people.

If humanity remains trapped in an economic system that pits families and nations against each other for resources and power, then existentially threatening technologies will continue to develop and proliferate without restraint. And it is only a matter of time before catastrophe strikes and billions are killed. Humanity will not survive the next few decades without a reinvention of our global security and development architecture toward collaboration and abundance. The decline of the U.S. empire cannot be reversed, nor should it be. It has only brought misery and death to the world and the American people

But we do get to decide what kind of global structure comes next. Will it be the rise of the second finan-

cial and military empire? Another Cold War? Or a step forward into an entirely new collaborative and prosperous system?

The people of the world and the Non-Aligned countries must come together to demand an end to this war in Ukraine, and the abolition of nuclear weapons, NATO, and all military blocs. They must unite to write the rules of the next global economic, financial, and security system.

Americans must protest their government, build independent parties, and demand that the U.S. stop all weapons to Ukraine and negotiate peace with Russia. Let our legacy be one of abolishing imperialism and poverty for all time, one of the greatest milestones in human history. The rich and powerful in the West would sooner see the world burn, than share its abundant resources.

But my spirit calls out in rebellion against the forces of war and annihilation. My spirit calls out for all who suffer from this war and the countless future generations whose lives hang in the balance. My spirit calls out, joined by millions who refuse to accept the destiny written by the most violent among us. We refuse to accept the fate that they have ordained.

So long as we draw breath, we will not allow the life of this world to be extinguished!

Tony Magliano

Compelling Catholic Church Reflections on Peace and Nuclear Disarmament

This is the edited transcript of the presentation by Tony Magliano to Panel 2, "Peace Through Development," of the Schiller Institute's Nov. 22 conference, "For World Peace—Stop the Danger of Nuclear War: Third Seminar of Political and Social Leaders of the World." Mr. Magliano is an internationally syndicated Catholic social justice and peace columnist. The full proceedings of the conference are available at the Schiller Institute website.



Tony Magliano

Before I begin sharing with you a few of the Catholic Church's critical thoughts on peace and nuclear disarmament, I would first like to thank Helga for her dedicated work in promoting this international dialogue. Thanks, Helga.

In Hiroshima, the first World War II Japanese city to be incinerated by a U.S. nuclear bomb, Pope Francis, standing before the A-bomb dome, spoke with heartfelt sentiments, saying:

Here, in an incandescent burst of lightning and fire, so many men and women, so many dreams and hopes, disappeared, leaving behind only shadows and silence. In barely an instant, everything

was devoured by a black hole of destruction and death.