

Schiller Institute Weekly Dialogue with Helga Zepp-LaRouche

Stand Up for Principle: Intervene To ‘Create a Global Security Architecture’!

The following is an edited transcript of the March 12, 2025, weekly Schiller Institute dialogue with Schiller Institute founder and leader Helga Zepp-LaRouche. Embedded links and subheads have been added. The video is available [here](#).

Harley Schlanger: Welcome to today’s weekly dialogue with Helga Zepp-LaRouche. She’s the founder and leader of the Schiller Institute. This is Wednesday, March 12, 2025. I’m Harley Schlanger and I’ll be your host for today. You can send your questions and comments to Helga via email at questions@schillerinstitute.org, or post them in the chat page.

Helga, with the rapid pace of developments, it’s hard to keep up, so I’d like to begin with your view of the big picture, a *tour d’horizon*: Where do you see things standing today in this turbulent transition period between two paradigms?

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: As you say, things are moving so quickly, it is hard to keep up. I just said the same thing to somebody else just a little while ago, but I think the signs are definitely promising. The meeting in Saudi Arabia between United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Ukrainian Presidential Office Director Andriy Yermak seems to have gone well. Now, U.S. National Security Advisor Mike Waltz is on his way to Moscow; the Russians have not yet commented on the outcome of the negotiations between the U.S. and Ukraine, saying they’re waiting for the American delegates to come and brief them. But I think this is going in the right direction. I don’t know if the Russians will agree to what was worked out in Jeddah. That we will know within a day or so. But it is definitely moving in the right direction. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov [said in an interview](#) with



Russian Foreign Ministry



Schiller Institute

American commentators Larry Johnson (left), Judge Andrew Napolitano, and Mario Nawfal interviewed Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov (above) in Moscow.

some American bloggers, who visited him in Moscow—among them Larry Johnson, who was on this program several times, Judge Andrew Napolitano, and a third person, Mario Nawfal—and Lavrov said in this dialogue, when he was asked how he assesses the present developments between the United States and Russia, that he thinks things are going back to normalcy, meaning that the two great powers, the two largest nuclear powers, if they start to have a dialogue again, that should be normal.

I’ve really said many times, that anybody who is not a moron should be happy about that! Because we were, according to many experts—really reasonable, seasoned military experts of many countries—we were rapidly going in the direction of a nuclear confrontation in the final weeks of the Biden Administration, with ever more powerful, long-range weapons being delivered to



U.S. Army/Sgt. Henry Villarama

French President Emmanuel Macron.



European Union

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

an unprecedented rearmament drive for all of Europe. French President Macron apparently had a behind-closed-doors meeting with the military leadership, or chiefs of staff, of 37 countries. Obviously, they have been planning for how to keep the war going, and even talking about sending French troops into Ukraine—all of these things. European Commission President Ursula Von der Leyen is trying to push through the European Commission the “Rearm Europe” Act, where she wants to have €800 billion devoted for the militarization of Europe for the next several years.

Ukraine, and coming very close to reaching the tripwire condition. So, if this is changing now, at least that part of the world strategic crisis is coming to a calmer period; anybody who is not a moron should be happy about that! Because if it ever would come to a military confrontation between the two largest nuclear powers in the world, nobody would survive the consequences.

Losers with Their Discontent

Is everybody happy about that? Well, it’s very interesting: Keir Starmer, the British Prime Minister, who has been trying to egg on the U.S. to keep going, even lining up with French President Emmanuel Macron in the recent period to keep the war in Ukraine going—even though the United States is trying to make a peace agreement—he now welcomed the outcome of the Jeddah meeting, by saying that he warmly, full-heartedly agrees and congratulates U.S. President Donald Trump for this success. The British, who were really the most freaked out about the rapprochement between Trump and the Russians, obviously fear for the existence of the “special relationship” between London and Washington, which has been the basis for the unipolar world after the end of the Cold War. And if the United States is moving away from that, they are sort of hanging in the air.

Obviously, this is not shared by everybody in Europe. But the European Union leadership is in an unbelievable frenzy to keep the war going; to go into

And she wants to do that without consulting, or even informing, the European Parliament, by invoking Article 122 of the Lisbon Treaty, which is basically an emergency condition—which is highly undemocratic and just shows you the nature of what this apparatus, this permanent bureaucracy, has become. The fact that they’re definitely now trying to prevent Călin Georgescu in Romania from participating in the presidential election is just another sign of the disappearance of democracy—which should worry anybody.

So, you have a very strange situation, where the two large powers, the United States and Russia, seem to be on a course of, as Lavrov said, “a return to normalcy,” dialogue, resolving the Ukraine crisis—hopefully in the short term; while some Europeans are absolutely driven by this idea that they have to now militarize. This is very dangerous, because if you now start to create budgets—and Christian Democratic Union leader Friedrich Merz is trying to do the same thing in Germany; we’ll see if he succeeds—if you start to create military budgets outside of the regular budget, in the tradition of Nazi Economics Minister Hjalmar Schacht and his Mefo bills, that becomes, or can become, a self-fulfilling prophecy. Because if you create a financial bubble which is not creating real wealth, but is creating military machinery, ammunition and weapons systems of all kinds, eventually that has to be either used to conquer some other country, or it has to be amortized in some way or fashion—and

that's the big danger which is becoming the driver for war.

So, what we are doing from the Schiller Institute is addressing this situation—and I haven't even touched yet the Middle East; there are many other crisis spots, naturally, around the world. But, basically, the idea is that the only way you can get order into this very quickly evolving situation—which has many bumps and difficulties—is to move to a completely new paradigm: Namely, the idea that you have to have a new security and development architecture which addresses all of these problems at once, by creating a new system in which everybody has their interests taken care of. And the most important precedent for that is the Peace of Westphalia of 1648, which ended 150 years of religious warfare, and where the war parties agreed on principles first, and then proceeded to hammer out the details. Such an approach is absolutely what is needed today.

A New Basis for Russia-America Relations

Schlanger: That certainly was a *tour d'horizon*, and you gave us a lot of things to think about. I have a few questions here, Helga. The first one is from a podcaster in Canada, who asks for your view of what it means that there will be normalization of relations between the U.S. and Russia. You touched on that in your first answer, but maybe there's more you have to say.

And he also asks if you have any comments on Mark Carney, formerly head of the Bank of Canada, then governor of the Bank of England, and one of the promoters of the Great Reset, concerning his winning of the Liberal Party leadership and swearing in as Prime Minister of Canada?

Zepp-LaRouche: I think that the normalization between the United States and Russia— You know, there

is actually a rich history, where Russia and the United States were collaborating, going all the way back to the American Revolution, and in the 19th Century, and naturally in the Second World War. So, it is not that you are starting from scratch, but that there is actually a basis for the large powers in the world to cooperate. And now, if that works out well, it can also become the bridge of reaching into the Global South. Because, if the United States is on the line of the previous Administration, then there is a conflict between the BRICS

and the United States, and the United States and the Global South. But, if you have a rapprochement between the United States and Russia—Russia, which is actually very appreciated by many countries in the Global South because of the support the Soviet Union had given them in their fight for independence—that can also be the stepping stone for remedying the relationship between the United States and the Global Majority of countries.

Now, whether or not that works out we'll have to see, but that potential definitely is there, because Russia is not at all isolated; the entire NATO narrative that Russia is isolated, that Russia has to be defeated, all of this, it is

not the case. Russia is very well connected to countries both in Africa, and in Asia. That's one thing.

On Mark Carney: I think he is probably the incarnation of the City of London and Wall Street and the military-industrial complex combined. Because he was one of the advocates of this regime change, whereby not governments should make policy, but the central banks. That was the big debate which you referred to from the Jackson Hole central bankers meeting in 2019, where they decided to go for the Green Deal, the Great Reset and all of these things. Have you heard about the Green Deal recently? [laughter] They sort of let it drop into nothingness. It's not being talked about any more—and it did not



Mark Carney's Facebook page
Mark Carney, former Governor of the Bank of England, is now the Prime Minister of Canada.



King Charles from Facebook page

King Charles III of the United Kingdom is also the King of Canada.

work, obviously. Now they need a new bubble, and the new bubble, obviously, is the militarization. Given the fact that Canada is part of the Commonwealth, and King Charles is actually the King of Canada, one has to watch this very carefully; consider what the implications are. Because they obviously put Carney in there to counter everything Trump is doing, especially in light of Trump's announcement that he wants to make Canada the 51st state of the United States, which didn't go over so well among many people in the world.

But that's definitely something to be watched, because there are very few people who represent the absolute incarnation of this monetarist system for the maximization of profit, which has been behind a lot of the ills of the world, as does Carney.

The Narrative Spinners

Schlanger: Here we have something from a subscriber to the [EIR Daily Alert](#)—and if you're not already subscribing to it, you should be, because this is the daily picture of the world that we put together. But she writes: "I'm circulating [your statement against rearming Europe](#), but I must admit, I'm very pessimistic. I can't believe that European leaders have learned nothing from the history of the last century, as you explain in your statement. Do you really believe they can wake up before we're in World War III?"

Zepp-LaRouche: Well, we'd better wake them up! I don't think that it's necessarily the case that they will

wake up by themselves, because they're really hardcore. And you can see it in Germany, for example. You have certain representatives of the media, and certain think tank people, maybe a couple of dozen, but some are very prominent; they pop up in every talk show and in every interview—and they are really hardliners! They have this absolute dogged determination that you have to prevent Russian President Vladimir Putin from conquering Poland and the Baltic States, and by 2029, for sure, Russia will have built up its capacities again, so that it will attack another European country. Therefore, we have to absolutely abandon any social welfare; that will come soon, but it's already in the wings. And these people, you know, I was really wondering what makes them tick—because obviously they're professional analysts. But, there's a German proverb which says, "The way you shout into the woods, is how the echo comes out," which I think is a very good image. Just imagine: you have a peaceful landscape, a forest, and fields, and grass, and then somebody stands at the woods and yells, "You bastard! You idiot! You demon!" Naturally, eventually, you would get some demons to come out of the woods!

I mean, it's a fantasy, you know? Russia doesn't have an intention to conquer Europe. Why would they want to do this? The place is not functioning right now. Russia is a very large country. They have 11 time zones; they have more undeveloped raw materials than all of Europe together. What would be their purpose in conquering Europe? It does not make sense. These so-called experts, they have not proven their case; they just insist on it. And since they're very well distributed in the mass media, they have managed to a very large extent to convince a lot of people that that is the case. But it is not the case, and I'm just thinking, what can one do to disprove this narrative?

So, that's why I'm pushing this completely different approach of a new security architecture, because if one is confronted with an unsolvable problem, you have to move to a new plane, a higher level of reason. So, please, continue to support my appeal, because this appeal is basically addressed to people of reason, so that the European leaders recognize that their view is not shared by a majority of the world population. Help to distribute this statement; get as many signatures as you can. I think that's the best we can do at this point, to prevent this thing from becoming an automatism, where at a certain point it becomes too late.

Recognition for LaRouche?

Schlanger: That statement is available on the Schiller Institute website. And people should sign it and circulate it for other people to sign, and go to your local political officials, and labor figures, and church leaders, and make sure that people know about it.

Now, Helga, on this point, there's a comment; someone writes in and says: "The discussion of NATO expansion as the cause of the Russian special military operation, and the shock therapy, is now going much more out into the public. Lyndon and you were way ahead on this story. I just want to congratulate you, and ask, are you finding that there's growing recognition of your work over the years on this?"

Zepp-LaRouche: Well, yes and no. I think "yes," because there are a growing number of people internationally who do express to me directly, and to some of my colleagues, that they really appreciate the work we are doing, especially because we have been unwavering that we "didn't put our little coat with the wind," as we say in Germany, but that we stuck to our principles—the principle being that we need a more just world economic system for all countries of the world to flourish.

But, there's also an increased effort to suppress what we are saying. There are several indicators that they are trying to suppress our view. I'm not yet at a point where I can present you the whole picture, but on several fronts we have observed that. We are not the only ones, obviously. If they can abandon entire elections, as they did in Romania, then the color revolution apparatus is still functioning. The fact that President Trump is dismantling the subversive elements of the USAID does not mean that the structures are not still at work in several European countries.

Anyway, to just answer your question, I think yes and no: On the one side, there are more people expressing appreciation. But unless we have moved the whole world to a new outlook, where we can replace



Călin Georgescu's Facebook page
Romanian presidential candidate Călin Georgescu, undemocratically banned under EU pressure.

confrontation with cooperation, there will still be a lot of battles to fight. So, that's what I think.

Schlanger: Now, here's a question—you've touched on the Romania situation a couple of times—and I have an email here from a self-described "Hungarian freedom fighter." And what he writes is: "Why did the Constitutional Court disqualify Georgescu from running for President of Romania? What do you think? Was there pressure to disqualify him from the so-called democracy advocates of the European Union?"

Zepp-LaRouche: I don't have the intelligence exactly on what happened with this Constitutional Court. The population in Romania is very upset that Georgescu won the election already once, then he qualified to participate in the next election, and then they banned him with the argument that his paperwork was not adequate—which is a flimsy argument. But I think one very compelling reason is the fact that the United States is building its largest military base in Romania—right now. And that might be a reason why they don't want to have a President whom they say is friendly to the outlook of Russia, and critical of the EU. But that's definitely an issue that everybody who believes in democracy should be very concerned about, because if you cancel candidates who win elections, you're not talking about a democracy any more; you're talking about a dictatorship.

Rebuilding Southwest Asia

Schlanger: I remember one of the primaries in Lyndon LaRouche's campaign, where he came in second with 26 or 28% of the vote, and they refused to seat his delegates. So, it's not an unprecedented action.

Now, there's a question on the Egyptian plan for rebuilding Gaza. Someone writes in and says, "It seems that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has rejected the Egyptian plan for rebuilding Gaza, not surprisingly. If he won't support it, is there any way it can go ahead? For example, could the Saudis withhold

mutual recognition that Israel wants, if it won't accept the plan?"

Zepp-LaRouche: They could! My conviction is that the only way—The Egyptian plan is definitely a step in the right direction. But, as we discussed many times, I believe that permanent, durable peace in South-west Asia is only possible through large-scale development programs, like we have presented with the Oasis Plan. And that, however, really requires the strategic cooperation between the United States, Russia, and China. If these three countries can come to an agreement—And you know, there are reports that President Trump is probably calling Putin this week. He said he wants to meet with Putin in person very soon; he also wants to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping, probably within a month. If these developments go well, the geopolitical confrontation in the Middle East of the large powers can be overcome, and all the other problems can be solved—given the fact that China has already mediated between Saudi Arabia and Iran. But the whole Middle East has been a proxy war, staged theater, like Ukraine is. Therefore, a solution has to come from the top down—and then everything can be settled. That is the perspective.

Schlanger: I have a question for you from Thomas B., who says, "It is reported that Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick is the architect behind the Trump tariff policy"—I'm not sure that's true. But he asks, "Do you know what the intent is behind the use of tariffs?"

Zepp-LaRouche: I think that that is an Achilles' heel of the Trump Administration. Because just this morning, at midnight, Trump imposed 25% tariffs on European steel and aluminum exports to the United States; von der Leyen immediately answered several hours later with making a 25% import tariff on whiskey, on peanut butter. It sounds ridiculous, but the total sum on both sides is €26 billion—and that's not peanuts. That will mean things will get more expensive; the consumer will have to pay the price; it will drive inflation up. And if the threat is made good to impose tariffs on auto imports into the United States, it could really hurt the European economy—especially in Germany. And then that will be countered again with something else.

This is really a wrong idea. Obviously, Trump thinks he's protecting the American production, and

he can lure more investors into the United States by doing all of these things. But it hurts everybody! It's a lose-lose game and an ill-conceived theory. Because when Alexander Hamilton and the early Founding Fathers were talking about tariffs, and also later Henry C. Carey, and Friedrich List and so forth, it was a completely different situation, because tariffs *do* make sense if you have a young, nascent economy which has to be protected against conditions of much stronger economies that dominate the trade. In that case, tariffs may make sense, but not if you have a totally integrated world economy. For example: if you look at the different levels of production between the United States and China, or China and Europe, or Europe and the United States, if you try to disentangle that—decouple, de-risk, whatever you want to call it—it hurts all sides.

So, hopefully this can be remedied, because this, together with cryptocurrency, is definitely a weak flank of the Trump economic policy.

Schlanger: Let me finish by asking you about this week's International Peace Coalition meeting. The IPC has been at the forefront of pulling together people from different walks of life, different nations, different levels of involvement, and it's been going on now for almost 100 weeks in a row. What's planned for this week?

Zepp-LaRouche: Definitely to have an assessment of what's going on in Syria, where you have a major flare-up of civilians being killed. We will have several experts talking about that, and also an estimate about the Egyptian Gaza plan, and where we are heading in the Middle East in general. We will definitely have speakers about the condition of the Ukraine crisis, what is the aftermath of the Jeddah meeting, what is the general condition between the United States and Russia, and what about the European reaction to that. So, you should absolutely tune in and participate, because that is the place where every week you can hear top experts giving you their view—and that is a very important addition to what you can read in the mainstream media. Because these are all people who have lifelong experience as analysts, as military specialists, as diplomats. So, you should definitely be part of it. It is a growing peace movement of people who are fighting for a new paradigm to get out of these present strategic dangers.