

The SCO and 50-Year Development Prospects

by R.G. Tomberg

Professor Tomberg is a scholar at the Center for External Economic Research, Institute of Economics, Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), Moscow. He sent this letter to the Berlin conference on Sept. 4.

Dr. [Dmitri] Sorokin [of the Institute of Economics, RAS] was kind enough to inform the Center for External Economic Research, which since 2005 has been an integral part of the RAS Institute of Economic Studies, about the forthcoming international web conference in Berlin on the strategic perspectives of mankind for the next 50 years, with a special emphasis on the Eurasian role in world development. . . .

As you mentioned the eventual role of the Shanghai Organization for Cooperation as “one of the key parts of the

emerging world system of economic cooperation between sovereign nation states,” I venture to make some brief comments on this issue.

Evidently, this organization was established by very dynamic nations of Central and East Asia, including Russia, and its role in regional and world policy is steadily increasing. But up til 2005-06, the economic cooperation between member states was not more than a declaration and a desire for the future. Furthermore, the experience of establishing feasible economic cooperation and corresponding structures between CIS [Community of Independent States] members is still limited, and very decisive actions are needed to bring to life the economic agenda proclaimed at the last summit of the organization. This is a real challenge for SOC.

Another challenge is the problem of poverty—global, in the developing world—and in SOC countries, even in Russia and China. The resolution of this problem is one of the critical issues for solving today’s strategic crisis and “economic recovery of the Earth,” as Mr. L. LaRouche mentioned.

May I wish all success to the conference in Berlin.

R.G. Tomberg