

Russia Debates LaRouche and His Proposals for Economic Recovery

by Rachel Douglas

Amidst the flaring global, systemic financial and economic crisis, ever greater interest in Lyndon LaRouche's initiatives to solve it is appearing in public policy discussions in Russia. The latest publications to take up LaRouche's "four-power initiative," in particular, include articles by Prof. Yuri Gromyko and by the maverick political figure Alexei Podberyozkin, as well as interviews with LaRouche in *RPMonitor* and the print monthly *Smysl* ("Sense").

An interview with LaRouche by economist Andrei Kobayakov appeared September 28 in the online journal *RPMonitor*, which Kobayakov edits, under the headline "The Threat Comes from London: Defeating the World Oligarchy is the Common Task of America and Russia." It has been reposted on at least 15 other Russian websites and blogs. Excerpts of this dialogue, which was recorded in May 2007 during LaRouche's visit to Moscow, appeared in *EIR* of June 15, 2007.

LaRouche's insistence that Russian leaders, as well as others, must understand the fundamental difference between the nature and potentialities of the American System and the British Empire got another boost on Oct. 18, when the website of the Anti-Globalist Resistance, a Russian movement, posted its own dispatch on LaRouche's Oct. 10 webcast, under the headline, "Save the American Republic from the British Empire!" The editors wrote:

"In connection with the now unfolding financial crisis, which the well-known economist and politician, several-time candidate for the U.S. Presidency Lyndon LaRouche has forecast for some time, he gave a three-hour Internet webcast on how he sees the situation. LaRouche recalled that in January 2001, at the beginning of the George W. Bush administration, he had forecast the inevitability of a collapse of the dollar system, and said that acts of terror could be committed in an attempt to avert this. And, as everybody knows, an act of terror, which LaRouche believes had some internal underpinning from within the U.S. government, did occur on Sept. 11 of that year. Subsequent events showed that Vice President Dick Cheney, who is guided by British influences, was behind the Bush war policy.

"Continuing along that line, the U.S.A. has not only landed in a real estate crisis that is catastrophic for the majority of the population, but it risks being pulled into yet another military adventure—this time in Iran. LaRouche thinks that the solution is impeachment."

In its July 2007 issue, the monthly magazine *Smysl*, issued by the Rosbalt press agency, featured LaRouche in a package about the current moment as a turning point in history: the "end of capitalism," as they put it, and the breakdown of the globalization system. The *Smysl* interview with LaRouche was featured among other articles by Russian academic and other experts. See below for the English text.

Prof. Yuri Gromyko contributed an article to the September 2007 issue of the publication *Political Class*, put out by the well-known journalist Vitali Tretyakov. In the form of a memo to the Russian Security Council on the necessity of a new monetary system, Gromyko discussed the need for the great projects, upon which Russia is currently embarking, to be based on the most advanced technologies, rather than merely off-the-shelf achievements of past decades. In the 20th Century, he noted, the shaping of "a process of industrial development that is technologically ground-breaking, rather than merely catching up" took place in the United States: "The first such attempt, about which Lyndon LaRouche has written a lot, and very convincingly, was associated with the efforts of the U.S.A. under Franklin Delano Roosevelt to break free from the influence of British imperial policy, which wanted to keep the nations of Asia as human cattle. It was in this period, LaRouche believes, that the objective was set of transferring to Asian countries the most advanced technologies and of creating institutions that would be conceptually capable of mastering these technologies. After the death of Roosevelt, however, the United States abandoned this strategy."

Political activist Alexei Podberyozkin concluded an Oct. 19 essay on the Heritage of the Fatherland website, about Russia's current direction, by suggesting a serious look at what LaRouche proposes. A decade ago, Podberyozkin was in the headlines as a pro-industry factional leader in the Communist Party of the Russian Federation. In 2000, he was instrumental in deep-sixing Mikhail Gorbachov's attempted launch of a Social Democratic Party, by joining it, and then pulling out.

Podberyozkin wrote: "Some experts believe that a global economic crisis is approaching, the collapse about which Lyndon LaRouche has warned repeatedly. He has been calling for many years, so far without success, for a radical reform of the entire financial and monetary system of Western

civilization, which would free it from the rule of the financial oligarchy. In particular, he believes that to save civilization in the foreseeable future, we urgently need to create a world coalition of forces around key agreements, which would be reached among four leading countries (LaRouche has in mind the U.S.A., Russia, China, and India). What is needed, is an agreement that returns us to Roosevelt's plans for the post-war world as a system of cooperation among sovereign nation-states, united by a single system of the American type, with fixed exchange rates, working for development of the entire planet. It can be stated absolutely plainly and fairly: strategically, all efforts should be directed towards building a new, just world economy system of general development, guiding relations among the nations and peoples of the planet. The alliance of the U.S.A., Russia, China, and India as leading partners in a true United Nations program is a necessary precondition, which should not be sacrificed for any other concerns."

Documentation

'Smysl' Magazine: World at Turning Point

The monthly magazine Smysl ("Sense"), issued by the Rosbalt press agency, featured Lyndon LaRouche in a package in its July 2007 issue, devoted to the question of a turning point in history: the "end of capitalism," as they put it, and the breakdown of the globalization system. Among articles by Russian academic and other experts, Smysl highlighted their interview with LaRouche under the headline, "The political thinker Lyndon LaRouche believes we must change the vectors of current policy." Almost the entire text of LaRouche's replies, published here in the original English, appeared.

Smysl: Do you think that mankind is now really at a bifurcation point, facing the choice of which historical pathway to take? If you agree, please say why you think so.

LaRouche: Until the death of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the world at large appeared to have entered the most hopeful moment in all modern history. President Roosevelt's leading intentions were to: a.) Free the world from colonialism, by supporting the self-development of former colonies as sovereign nation-states; b.) Establish a system of cooperation among sovereign nation-states; and, c.) Use the great U.S. productive machine for scientific progress in means of warfare for realization of the common aims of mankind. This hope ended within days, perhaps even mere hours following that great President's death.

The present world crisis forces us to look back to the intentions of President Franklin Roosevelt, even under the deterioration in the viability of the economies of the U.S.A. and of western and central Europe in the aftermath of the U.S. war in Indo-China, and the destruction of that Bretton Woods system crafted under the leadership of Franklin Roosevelt.

Radical changes from recent policy-trends must now be made. The success of such needed changes depends upon an initiative which must include a crucial new form of cooperation among the U.S.A., Russia, China, and India. Such a concert of powers must be used to mobilize the greater number of nations of the world for changes in policy which would realize the aims of President Roosevelt's last days, but under the new conditions, and the added new objectives needed for today.

We have reached an awesome turning-point in world history, for the better, or for what would become, suddenly, much worse.

Smysl: Could you describe the possible alternatives to the world order as it is now?

LaRouche: The concept of the Riemannian Noösphere, as specified by Academician Vladimir I. Vernadsky, demands a qualitative up-shift in the concept of modern society, to great emphasis on the leading roles of the new versions of nuclear-fission operations, and future role of thermonuclear fusion for the world of the coming two generations. Very high-speed mass transportation of people and goods by land-based modes of magnetic-levitation, must bring the land territory of the great continents of the Americas, Eurasia, and Africa into a new, higher state of economic development, per capita, and per square kilometer of territory.

This direction of development on Earth, as complemented by exploration and development of the humanization of the Solar System and beyond, must redefine mankind's conception of itself: as man in the universe.

Smysl: How would you characterize the existing world order? What are the overt and covert (hidden) ways that this system is run? How stable is this system?

LaRouche: The qualitative degeneration of systems of government, especially that of the recent thirty-five-odd years, has produced the present hegemony of an increasingly "globalized" world system. This is an emerging, neo-Venetian world-empire of tyranny by lunatic financier power, a form of emerging world-system, a system echoing the medieval imperialism under the hegemony of Venetian financier oligarchy and Norman chivalry. That form of imperialist system is presently, rapidly disintegrating. Either nations cooperate to eliminate that system now, or the self-induced collapse of that present financier-oligarchical system would carry the world at large into a prolonged, planetary, new dark age.