
Interview: Sen. Vincenzo Carollo



Christian principles and democracy endangered by debt

The following interview with Senator Carollo, vice-chairman of the Christian Democratic group in the Italian Senate, was conducted by Giuseppe Filippini on Feb. 26, 1987.

EIR: On Feb. 20, speaking over radio and TV, Brazil's President José Sarney announced that his government was suspending all foreign debt interest payments. This patriotic act was endorsed by Peru and by other Latin American countries. Have we come to the end of the age in which the IMF could impose its austerity policies without any opposition?

Carollo: Like other Ibero-American countries and like developing countries generally, Brazil is not in the condition to pay interest on its foreign debt, which amounts to more than \$1 trillion. It could pay only by badly cutting the living standards of its population. This would mean that colonialism, instead of presenting itself as a conquering army, would obtain the same aim through mechanisms of international finance. We certainly cannot hope that these countries, which are the poorest in the world, can accept the financial impositions dictated by the selfishness of the richest. It is easier to imagine the danger that they may condemn and reject such impositions, even if they had to accept other exploiters who "with words" promise to change the present situation: the

Marxist-Leninist power.

EIR: What can Italy and other industrialized countries do?

Carollo: Christian principles are against free-market selfishness as well as against Marxist-Leninist cheating. If Christian ethical and moral principles are not applied by various governments to solve the great debt problem of developing countries, not only will the Christian view of life, mankind, and people be turned upside down, but democracy will also be jeopardized in these countries, and particularly in the poorest and most underdeveloped.

Solidarity among democratic peoples cannot limit itself, as has happened up to now, to penetrating underdeveloped countries in order to produce raw materials and other goods cheaply and export them to industrialized countries, countries in which they also make profits from such exports. This is colonial exploitation.

The industrialized countries, first of all the United States, should work out a new Marshall plan and another UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency] to cancel step-by-step the debt of the poorest and supply further capital for their development. This is in the interest of the industrialized countries themselves.

is a toy in the hands of the "old harpy of history," as a lucid Argentine writer baptized England, and of the international financial oligarchies. Twenty percent of the U.S. population lives in poverty. The trade deficit is so great, that they cannot manage to cover it with the usurious sucking-in of capital produced by our nations' foreign debt. Its industry is being swept aside by foreign competition. In a short time—and if things go on as they are now—the United States will be the biggest debtor in

begun between the empires. To give a historic kick to the "old harpy" and break the trap set at Yalta, Potsdam, and Bretton Woods has become vital for us, and for the people of the United States. Mrs. Thatcher, the main culprit of modern British piracy, will fall like a ripe fig, the day the United States stops helping her as it did in the war for our Malvinas. And Great Britain as an empire would topple that same day, and it is necessary that it topple.

As far as I know, the only U.S. politician of importance who agrees with this interpretation of the facts and with these ideals of liberation of every national people, is Lyndon LaRouche. If he succeeds in making the dominant U.S. "Establishment" totter, and in unhitching that people from the designs of Mrs. Thatcher and her empire, we will find our pathway enormously facilitated. This is also known by the "Establishment" of the north, and that of every one of our countries, all imbued with the same political subservience to foreign interests, and unified for those same interests. That is the source of their combined action to destroy, there, the project of Lyndon LaRouche, and here, every attempt at national policy. If they succeed, all of the Americas will continue to be one more pearl in the empire of the "old harpy." If we win, every country, or every American region, will have a consolidated national people. This is the point of our struggle.