

# International Intelligence

## **German churches issue strong social document**

Germany's two major churches, the Catholics and Lutherans, issued a joint social policy document on March 1, titled "For a Future in Solidarity and Justice." The document begins by addressing "the deep splits" that have been created by mass unemployment, by the gulf between between rich and poor, and between Germany's east and west. There is a grave threat to the fundamental values of solidarity and justice, caused by those who "falsely believe that a balance of interests is achieved automatically, through the free-market economy," it said. "This assessment poses a great challenge to the churches and for Christians. For solidarity and justice belong to the core of any Biblical and Christian ethic."

The memorandum states that the very "dynamic of the market economy system" has now turned against the German economy and its workforce, posing threats "that must not be taken lightly and played down." There is a "requirement for urgent action." Expectations that a pure market economy could somehow cope with social challenges are wrong, the document says, warning that "protracted mass unemployment is a dangerous explosive."

In spite of its other strengths, the document rejects any competent program for economic recovery, by declaring there is "no patent recipe."

## **UN drug control officials blast legalization moves**

Two officials with the UN-affiliated International Narcotics Control Board harshly denounced the stratagems for drug legalization at a March 4 press conference in Bonn, Germany, where they presented the INCB's annual report. Helmut Butke, who heads the UN Drug Commission (UNDC), took the opportunity to denounce plans by the state of Schleswig-Holstein to establish a state-monopoly arrangement through which hashish can be sold in drugstores. Butke pointed out that, while heroin and cocaine consump-

tion in Europe are stable, the use of methamphetamine and hashish, a highly concentrated form of cannabis, is rising. Butke also attacked the Netherlands' liberal drug policy.

In response to questions from *EIR*, Butke, who also heads the Narcotics Law Department of the Federal Health Administration, acknowledged that the drug "shooting galleries" in Frankfurt conformed to international law, but not national law. On a followup question about the fact that Frankfurt's state prosecutor is close to the Drug Policy Foundation, George Soros's legalization lobby, Butke added a broadside against the "medical use" arguments employed by the Soros gang. Axel Wüstenhagen, the director of the UNDC in Bonn, added that pharmaceutical companies are promoting parents groups to pressure governments to ease restrictions on Ritalin, a highly addictive amphetamine, prescribed for so-called hyperactivity disorder.

## **Foreign terrorists find safe haven in London**

In two, not-so-separate cases, Great Britain is blocking extradition of foreign terrorists to two countries. On Feb. 28, the government denied that Nigeria had formally requested extradition of Nigerians who are suspected of being involved in bombings in Lagos in January. The three suspects are leading members of the National Democratic Coalition (Nadeco), a Nigerian group whose head is close to British Overseas Minister Lady Lynda Chalker.

On March 11, France's *Le Figaro* detailed British footdragging on extraditing Rashid Ramda, alias Abu Fares, London-based editor of *Al Ansar*, the mouthpiece of Algeria's terrorist Armed Islamic Groups (GIA). Abu Fares is considered the financier of GIA's French networks and responsible for the 1995 terror attacks there. Scotland Yard had arrested Abu Fares on Nov. 4, 1995, on suspicion of involvement in various terrorist actions in France between July and November. His extradition has been blocked ever since, because his defense lawyer, Gareth Pearce, argued he would be in danger in a French prison.

## **Jiang Zemin takes solace in Mozart to mourn Deng**

Chinese President Jiang Zemin told a group of Hongkong leaders on Feb. 28 that he listens to Mozart's *Requiem* to mourn Deng Xiaoping, according to the publication *Ta Kung Pao*. Jiang, at a forum held by the Hongkong and Macao members of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, said he is deeply grieved by Deng's death and sometimes cannot sleep. "At this time, I would listen to Mozart's *Requiem* to calm myself down," Jiang said. The *Requiem* reminds him of a Chinese poem about his hometown, Yangzhou, written by the poet Du Mu, an officer who had to leave the city. The poem is entitled, "To Han Zhuo, Magistrate of Yangzhou":

"Dim the mountains, far away the waters, autumn is approaching its end in the South, with withered grass in view.

"The moon has lit up the twenty-four bridges in the town. Where is the sweet girl who played the flute for you?"

Jiang said that both Classical foreign music and Classical Chinese poetry are used to find spiritual sustenance. When Mozart was composing the *Requiem*, he used music to review his life, but, while he expressed the setbacks and unfortunate experiences of his life, he also yearned for a bright future.

## **Sejm debate heats up over new Polish Constitution**

According to a mid-March report from Deputy Wojciech Blasiak, the Polish Sejm (Parliament) has been entangled for months in a heated debate over a draft Constitution. The most controversial articles concern national sovereignty and state credit creation. Former Solidarity experts, now in the infamous Freedom Union, which is responsible for implementing economic shock therapy, managed to incorporate into the proposed Constitution, among other things, articles under which: "The Republic of Poland may, by virtue of an international agreement, transfer to an international organization or agency, the exercise of certain government-

tal powers"; and, "The budget law may not provide for offsetting the budget deficit, by borrowing on credit from the central bank of the state."

There are also attempts to include articles which obliquely impose the Maastricht criteria on Poland, e.g., restricting the budget deficit to 3%.

Blasiak emphasized to *EIR* the importance of defeating the proposals of the "cosmopolitans" in the Sejm, such as former Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka, who aspired to imitate Margaret Thatcher, who are now campaigning for Polish membership in NATO, the European Union, etc. Suchocka, also a former member of the European Parliament, is on the board of the Soros Foundation in Poland, and many other members of the Freedom Union, who are also in the Sejm, work with the foundation.

## ***Labour, Tories vie for 'get tough on crime' laws***

In the weeks leading up to the May 1 elections, both the Labour and Conservative parties are in intense competition over which can come up with the toughest measures to "deal with juvenile crime." Labour went first, with a speech by Shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw on March 3, who demanded that children as young as 10-13 be held "criminally responsible" for their actions. Home Secretary Michael Howard went one step further, presenting a "Green Paper," which included a proposed measure to "identify unruly children" who could be classified as "potential offenders." According to the March 5 issue of the *Daily Telegraph*, these children, some of them under 10, "would be referred to a local child crime team made up of representatives from the police, probation and social services, schools, and the National Health Service."

Howard also outlined plans for court-ordered fines on parents, and electronically monitored parent/child curfews. Moreover, while not shying from throwing children into the criminal justice system, all for the sake of gaining votes, Howard also called for suppressing jury trials in many cases, demanding instead, quicker judicial proce-

dures, and ones that are less costly.

While juvenile crime has risen commensurate with soaring youth unemployment, the media—and the parties—have made much political hay by sensationalizing such savage acts as the beating death of a toddler by two children under 10 years old.

## ***Merchants of Venice meet at Cini Foundation***

A two-day "Anglo-Italian seminar" took place at the Cini Foundation in Venice during March 7-8, with the participation of Britain's Foreign Secretary Malcom Rifkind and his Italian counterpart Lamberto Dini. The seminar's themes included: "Centralization-Regionalization: Destructive Change or Innovation," "Privatization," "Flexibility and Deregulation," and "A Widening Alliance in a Widening Europe." The session on privatization was chaired by Lord Eric Roll of Ipsden, head of the Warburg Bank, and Mario Draghi, director general of Italy's Treasury Ministry. Both had participated in the infamous 1992 meeting on Britain's royal yacht *Britannia* off the Italian coast, which mapped out wrecking the Italian state and economy.

The panel on regionalization (i.e., separatism) was chaired by Giorgio Lago, who, as editor of *Il Gazzettino di Venezia* until a few years ago, promoted the early rise of the Venetian League.

Foreign Minister Dini began his written speech: "No other country has captured the significance of the present transformation better than Great Britain. . . . The debate on Europe is more searching in Britain than elsewhere and awareness consequently greater. It is not free from hyperbole, but there is much we can learn from it." Dini, praising Maastricht, said that it is a "hybrid system of multiple sovereignties that are not mutually exclusive, but which overlap as in the Middle Ages." A British journalist quoted in *Il Gazzettino* seconded Dini: "Venice is an example of globalization, a fusion of styles and modernism. Walking [sic] throughout the city, one comes to know its history, but also American novelties, like fast-foods."

**AFRICAN** heads of state of the British Commonwealth ended a two-day summit late last month, calling on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) not to meddle in politics, because it is "detrimental to stable democratic process." The President of Botswana, which hosted the 16 nations, said: "It is the NGOs that come here dressed in sheepskins but are wolves only. They are the NGOs that meddle in politics that we are addressing."

**MIKHAIL GORBACHOV**, now president of the "Green Cross International," World Bank President James Wolfensohn, World Trade Organization Director General Renato Ruggiero, and UN Conference on Environment and Development General Secretary Maurice Strong addressed the fifth anniversary conference of the "Earth Summit" at the Rio+5 Forum over March 13-19.

**HONGKONG** citizens have been openly expressing their anti-British feelings, typified by recent statements from Hongkong influentials, who are signalling their allegiance to Beijing, wrote Francis Deron, correspondent for the French daily *Le Monde*, on Feb. 19. Deron quotes one startled British businessman that, "I knew that we were not really popular, but I did not suspect that there would be so much hidden hostility."

**PRETORIA'S** Municipal Building and another of the city council's administrative buildings was razed by arson over the night of March 2. A man called the police in the South African capital to claim responsibility on March 3 and said that the Medical University of South Africa and the Eesterus Civic Center were possible future targets.

**FRENCH TRADE UNIONS** are alarmed by the rapid growth of adherents to the National Front of fascist Jean Marie Le Pen among their ranks. The FN has run a slick demagogical campaign, targetting unions facing heavy layoffs, such as at Renault.