

Editorial

Argentina-Brazil-Mexico: Join Now!

The simultaneity of the crises suffered by Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico, leaves no room for doubt that we are face to face with a global systemic crisis, whose dynamic is leading toward social explosions which threaten to dissolve the sovereign nation-state and its basic institutions. Even more serious, is the state of economic and political decomposition of the United States itself, whose government is attempting to ignore the implosion of the global financial bubble, stupidly taking recourse to a militaristic solution which desperately seeks to create an enemy at any cost. As Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche explained during his visit to São Paulo, Brazil in the second week of June, we face an empire which is collapsing under the weight of its own delusions, confusing real wealth with a virtual wealth which never existed, except in the *sui generis* accounting of the capital markets.

The Ibero-American nations cannot wait until the whole continent becomes a gigantic no-man's-land where only desperation, hunger, misery, and the organized crime of narco-terrorism reign, by trying to pay a debt which is part of the world speculative bubble, without any connection to the production of real wealth.

Twenty years ago, when this whole neo-colonial "globalization" was put together, it was possible to stop it—when Mexican President José López Portillo took the historic and heroic decision to suspend payments on Mexico's foreign debt in August 1982, and proceeded to impose exchange controls and nationalize the country's Central Bank. On that occasion, everything was ready, had Brazil and Argentina supported it, to open a new era of sovereign negotiations, dedicated to achieving a more just new world economic order. At that time, Lyndon LaRouche made available an economic survival plan which he called "Operation Juárez." Its point of departure was the necessity of forming a debtors cartel to advance the project for the physical integration of the continent; the formation of a customs union, and even the creation of an Ibero-American currency to mediate intra-regional trade. With this kind of global reorganization, even the banks could have survived.

But the governments of these nations were captivated by the infantile argument that each nation was a separate case, and that, of course, their situation was better than that of Mexico. Mexico was isolated, and lost its sovereignty, opening the way for the gradual process of occupation and economic annexation to the United States which we see today in the North American Free Trade Agreement and its sequel, the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas.

The critical situation presents itself again today, having exploded in Argentina and brought that nation to the brink of dissolution in endless social chaos. It is claimed as a special case, different from that of Mexico or Brazil, with the intention of once again blocking necessary collective action. Any attempt by the governments in the form of "business as usual" will not only be useless, but, de facto, will tend to worsen the consequences.

The nations with the three largest economies of Ibero-America—Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico—should unite, not only to defend their legitimate interests, but also to establish a powerful bloc which, together with countries such as Russia, China, India, South Africa, Malaysia, and others, would be in a position to pressure for a workable and responsible reorganization of the collapsing international financial and monetary system.

A feasible proposal already exists for this reorganization, a "New Bretton Woods" along the lines proposed by Lyndon LaRouche, which would ensure a return to the best characteristics of the original system which made possible the great economic recovery and development of the post-war period. As LaRouche emphasized in his speech in the auditorium of the Latin American Parliament in São Paulo, on June 11, there is no sensible alternative to "changing the rules of the game."

We hope the lessons have been learned. Separated, it is certain that the Ibero-American nations will be devastated, as Argentina is being devastated. United, they could make prevail the fundamental interests of all humanity.