

# EU Membership Means Death For Countries of Eastern Europe

Jan. 10—After Ukraine broke off its negotiations on an Association Agreement with the European Union (EU) last November, Russian President Vladimir Putin told a Moscow press conference (Dec. 19) that if it had not done so, Ukraine would have “immediately become—just read the documents—an agricultural appendage” of the EU. Out of Ukraine’s \$17 billion worth of exports to Russia, he said, \$7 billion [41%] is currently in industrial goods, whereas the EU countries buy only \$2 billion in machinery and equipment [only 11.7% of a total that is likewise around \$17 billion in dollar terms], as against \$5 billion in agricultural products [and the remainder in raw materials and semi-manufactures]. Joining the EU would make that imbalance even worse.

When the Soviet Union collapsed and Ukraine became an independent country in 1991, it was one of the top ten machine-building countries in the world. But after 20 years of IMF-dictated free trade, Ukraine is no longer “on the charts”; by joining the EU, what remains of Ukraine’s industry would be relegated to the scrap heap.

Apparently, the foreign journalists in attendance have still not read the documents, as they continue to shriek about Russia’s “imperial” takeover of Ukraine.<sup>1</sup> Ukraine’s government not only read the documents, but also looked at what was happening to its neighbors.<sup>2</sup> And what Ukrainian officials saw was industrial shutdown, devastation of social services, and lower life ex-

pectancy—death—not only in the former socialist countries, but in longtime EU members such as Greece, Portugal, and Spain.

Economists from both Russia and Ukraine, notably two friends of the LaRouche movement, are broadcasting the facts and figures showing how not only Ukraine, but other former Soviet republics or the Soviet bloc in Eastern Europe, have been or will be destroyed by membership in the EU. They are also offering solutions for global reform and Eurasian economic integration which would help not only these countries, but others as well.

Russian Academician Sergei Glazyev<sup>3</sup> made the bold proposal that countries such as Greece, Cyprus, and even non-EU member Turkey would be better off if they affiliated with the Eurasian Customs Union and the Eurasian Economic Union, which is currently in formation. The article, titled “Who Stands to Win? Political and Economic Factors in Regional Integration,” appeared in English Dec. 27 in *Russia in Global Affairs*, and in that publication’s Russian edition this month.



Academician Sergei Glazyev

1. For example, from the London *Financial Times* on Jan. 7: “The Eurasian project is a mirage of a post-Soviet archipelago in which authoritarian leaders use each other to preserve their power. It may last a little longer. But before long, the sun will set on Mr Putin’s imperial ambitions.”

2. The former Soviet Union/Comecon members that have joined the EU are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, and Romania; Georgia and Moldova have signed Association Agreements and are in the process of becoming members; Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Belarus are included in the EU’s Eastern Partnership.

## Destruction of the Real Economy

In this article, Glazyev, who was formerly deputy secretary of the Eurasian Economic Community, and is now an advisor to Putin, outlined some of the most

3. [Glazyev](#) invited Lyndon LaRouche to address the Russian State Duma’s Economics Committee in Moscow in June 2001. The two also gave a joint press conference. EIR News Service published an English translation of Glazyev’s book *Genocide: Russia and the New World Order* in 1999.