
III. The Collapse of the Trans-Atlantic System

REPORT FROM GERMANY

Instead of Geopolitics, A Vision and a Framework for Peace in the 21st Century!

by Helga Zepp-LaRouche, chairwoman of the German political party, Civil Rights Movement Solidarity ([BüSo](#))

Feb. 16—It is not just Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) which is in the deepest crisis of its history. It is the entire, old paradigm of the West, based on geopolitics, neoliberal financial and economic policies, and democracy—which, on closer inspection, is not all that democratic. That the protagonists of this obsolete world view lack any idea for a positive future, has just been made clear in the continuing drama around the negotiations for a Grand Coalition in Germany—Martin Schulz, Sigmar Gabriel, Andrea Nahles, and the CDU. Not a word is uttered on the existential questions, such as the safeguarding of world peace,

or a solution to avert the renewed threat of financial collapse, or the overcoming of poverty in Europe—there is only indecent haggling over party positions. This is crystal clear to everyone.

Obviously, these Grand Coalition politicians are just as incapable as Hillary Clinton of questioning the reasons for their political failure; not even its collapse to



16% in the polls can wake up the SPD. And for Ms. Merkel, she seems to believe the world is one will and representation:¹ when she repeats—completely obli-

1. Arthur Schopenhauer's work, *The World as Will and Representation* (*Die Welt als Wille und Vorstellung*), argues that we perceive the world "in the theater of our own mind."

ous to reality—that of course she will form a stable government.

Geopolitics and Arrogance

But it is not only the politicians who twist the truth. There is also the method of fallacy of composition—manipulating the context of a discussion by inserting or omitting a portion of the truth in such a way as to lead the reader or listener to the wrong conclusion. On February 15, on the eve of the Munich Security Conference, conference chairman Wolfgang Ischinger, in an interview on *Deutschlandfunk* with Christoph Heinemann, provided a classic example of how to pervert the truth. He said there was a high risk of a military confrontation between major powers, because of the profound mistrust between Moscow and Washington.

The true part of this statement is the high risk of war between the United States and Russia. What Ischinger does not mention, however, is that Trump has sought and still strives for an improvement in relations with Russia, and precisely for this reason the Obama administration’s secret service chiefs, in collaboration with the British intelligence service MI6, launched a coup attempt against him with the alleged “Russiagate” story. That attempted coup was blown wide open in the course of Congressional investigations over the past weeks, and criminal investigations are underway against the putschists.

Indicative of the side that Ischinger has taken is the theme of the Munich conference: “To the brink—and back?” where the “brink” does not mean the imminent danger of war, but rather the shock of Trump’s election victory as “the new figure in Washington,” one year ago. But fortunately, Ischinger went on, there are reassuring signs now, the U.S. troops are still in Europe, and the most radical innovators are no longer in the administration.

Christoph Heinemann used the same fallacy of composition method by asking Ischinger if the international community is responding adequately to Chinese hegemony; he thus insinuates propitiatingly that China is seeking hegemony, whereas Chinese politicians have put just the opposite on the agenda with their offer of win-win cooperation. Ischinger, in his answer, omits to



China President Xi Jinping.

Xinhua/Ma Zhancheng

say that it is not China’s alleged efforts that are dividing the EU, but rather the fact that the EU has done absolutely nothing for the eastern and central European states, while China is building infrastructure there, which is what makes cooperation with China so attractive. When Heinemann asks, in view of the emergence of prosperity in record time in China, whether democracy, the rule of law, and freedom are not as imperative as the West always says, Ischinger essentially repeats this assertion, saying it is only a matter of time before the Chinese turn to democracy.

Who Cares About Poverty?

It would be a tragedy for Germany and the world if we are unable to free ourselves from this geopolitical and highly arrogant thinking. It is an indisputable fact that China has not only freed 700 million people from poverty, but is currently conducting an unprecedented campaign to free the last remaining 30 million people still living in poverty and help them achieve a good standard of living by building infrastructure in poor regions, with education, job creation, and the rest. China is extending this experience to developing countries, and that is why cooperation with the New Silk Road is so attractive. The overcoming of poverty is obviously not only the byproduct of economic growth, but rather the conscious policy of the Chinese government. In Germany, there is also

economic growth, but one out of every six children here is poor.

The geopoliticians of the West are obviously furious at the unstoppable economic rise of China, which is, after all, a nation of 1.4 billion people with a 5,000-year-old continuous culture that had been at the forefront of technological development for many centuries. Xi Jinping gave an absolutely visionary report at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party, which is now also available in German and should be read by anyone who wants to form his or her own opinion. After Xi laid out the perspectives for the development of China by 2050, and announced that China would assume greater responsibility on the international stage, it took three months for the various geopolitical think tanks to work out their counter-attack. From the Australian secret service to the American think tanks CSIS and CFR, to the Soros-funded ECFR and the German think tank MERICS, an obviously coordinated attack on China's New Silk Road policy as an alleged imperial strategy has been launched.

Western 'Democracy' As a Weapon

Clearly, China is no longer prepared to accept these attacks without comment, attacks that project the geopolitical thinking of their authors. In an article dated February 11, 2018, the *Global Times* countered by [describing](#) in detail the method of regime change that hides behind the facade of democracy. The West claims a monopoly on democracy, but this does not correspond to reality, according to author Thomas Hon Wing Polin. The Chinese term "minzhu" literally means "the people are in charge," which is the essence of democracy, he points out. But the Western liberal form of democracy "neither puts the people in charge, nor does it put their interests uppermost." In reality, it is an oligarchy "that serves the interests of a tiny minority at the expense of the vast majority." On the other hand, Mencius, in the 4th Century B.C., defended the

people's right to remove their government if it does not fulfill its task, and to this day there is no greater disaster for China's leaders, than in forfeiting the "mandate of heaven." In the sense of putting the people's interest first, "China is already more democratic than the West," he says.

But, he continues, the Western concept of democracy, on the contrary, is a weapon of the Western imperialism for perpetual world domination, a voodoo spell that "turns the brains of otherwise intelligent people into mush." It is possible that democracies actually function domestically, but in foreign policy they represent hegemony, neo-colonialism, and dictatorship. The next time someone praises democracy as the best model of government, keep this in mind, the author advises.

Even though the political establishment in Germany is far from realizing it, the old paradigm of geopolitics and neoliberal economic policy has long been floundering. However, there is a way out of the current dilemma: The coup attempt against President Trump can become a boomerang for those who instigated it, and the "Four Laws" put forward by my husband Lyndon LaRouche can prevail in the United States: the Glass-Steagall banking separation

law, a credit system in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton, massive investment in building modern infrastructure, and the launching of a nuclear fusion program and space exploration—and the United States accepting Xi Jinping's offer to cooperate with the New Silk Road.

In Germany, external intervention is obviously needed, as the political minds in this country have fallen prey to partisan carnage and jockeying for positions. But the BüSo stands for the new paradigm: The New Silk Road will become the worldwide bridge of understanding of all nations and cultures of this world, beyond the antiquated geopolitics that have already brought us two world wars.

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Ancient Chinese philosopher Mencius.