
I. The New International Relations

ZEPP-LAROCHE WEBCAST

The Strategic Shift Inherent in Putin's 'Sputnik Shock'

This is the edited transcript of the March 9, 2018 Schiller Institute New Paradigm webcast interview with the founder of the Schiller Institutes, Helga Zepp-LaRouche. She was interviewed by Harley Schlanger. A [video](#) of the webcast is available.

Harley Schlanger: Hello. I'm Harley Schlanger from the Schiller Institute. Welcome to our international webcast today with Helga Zepp-LaRouche, who is the founder of the Schiller Institutes.

Helga, at the beginning of this year, you issued a call for an end to geopolitics, especially geopolitics based on the unilateralist world view of the neo-conservatives and the British imperial doctrine. Events in the last few days have been really quite striking in moving in that direction. People who do not know how to think outside of the box of the geopoliticians have been caught off guard, but you haven't. You and your husband have always been thinking outside that box.

I think we should start with the really amazing development yesterday outside the White House with South Korea's security chief announcing the upcoming summit between Kim Jung-Un and President Trump. Let's begin there in looking at these really incredible changes.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche: I think this is a really groundbreaking development. Hopefully, this meeting between the leader of North Korea, Kim Jung-Un, and President Trump, now planned for May, can overcome the crisis and it can be replaced by economic development and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Chung Eui-yong, South Korea's national security ad-



viser and Suh Hoon, director of South Korea's National Intelligence Service met with their American counterparts in Washington, and with President Trump. Following that meeting, Chjung Eui-yong announced that in their visit to North Korea following the Olympics, Kim Jung-Un agreed to meet with President Trump. The North Koreans also agreed to not only freeze nuclear weapons tests, but also to halt North Korean missile testing. They also agreed, that for now, the U.S.-South Korean military exercises will continue. This is a major concession. North Korea would be willing to denuclearize if its security is guaranteed. This is their key demand. that North Korea's security must be guaranteed. I think this example should teach people a lesson that President Trump once again outflanked his critics. If that historic meeting were to move forward as planned

in the coming two months, one of the most dangerous crisis spots on this planet could be pacified.

I think the desire of the North Korean and South Korean people to unify is motivating these developments. I personally think that in light of the geopolitical manipulation with the deployment of the THAAD missiles in South Korea, people in the two Koreas realized that they were pawns on a geopolitical chessboard. If it would ever come to war, a lot of people—millions and millions of people—in the Koreas would die. This realization has created a very promising development. As we know, there were back-channel discussions involving Russia, China, the United States—who have always had back-channel discussions with North Korea. Just a couple of days ago, President Trump gave lavish praise to China for having played the most important role in bringing this result about.

This is really something extremely important and very positive: it is a model for the cooperation of the three largest powers in the world—the United States, China, and Russia—a model of cooperation to defuse geopolitical crises. That is a very important step in the right direction.

Schlanger: Just to add to that point, I think the critics of Trump have missed the fact that the whole idea of opening to Russia and China is precisely so that this overcoming of geopolitics could take place. You've been very outspoken on the importance of Trump's initiatives in this way, but also I think it's important that the neo-cons who are now attacking Russia and China nonstop—I don't think they'll learn the lesson, but maybe this is the opportunity to sweep them out of the debate.



Russian President Vladimir Putin, at his address to the Federal Assembly, March 1, 2018.

kremlin.ru

Zepp-LaRouche: Well, the debate is slowly picking up on what [we discussed last week](#) in this program, namely the rather groundbreaking speech which President Putin gave to both houses of the Russian Parliament on March 1. In the last part of this speech, he announced the existence of new weapons systems, a nuclear-powered cruise missile that has almost unlimited reach, which apparently is already deployed, according to some experts, an intercontinental missile with a speed of Mach 20—20 times the speed of sound—which is also unmatched in the West, and nuclear-powered, very fast underwater drones, and laser weapons.

I must say, I've seldom seen—one has seen it on one other occasion—such complete misjudgment by the West. I think I mentioned last week the absolutely ridiculous *Bild Zeitung* German tabloid, which said this speech by Putin was a mouse

which squeaked at the lion—meaning the United States—saying this is all completely bluff and doesn't exist. Now, about one week later, it has dawned on some people that indeed, what Putin said at the end of his speech is a reality: He said this now forces the West to the negotiating table, which they have refused to do over the last 16 years. That's certainly interesting: those 16 years were basically the two terms each, of Bush and Obama.



Russian hypersonic Zircon missile set to go into production in 2018.

There have been many commentators acknowledging the fact that this has completely changed the balance. Immediately after Putin's speech, you had an analyst from the Rand Corporation—Mr. Geist—who said that this was absolutely incredible, that he was still in shock. The fact that the West was caught completely by



Ronald Reagan Library

President Reagan delivering his speech to the nation on the Strategic Defense Initiative, March 23, 1983.

Taskforce on National and Homeland Security, has a rather hysterical article about that, but he acknowledges that Russia has gained the upper hand in the field of nuclear weapons. However, he calls for a new “Star Wars” against Russia—which is not the way to go about it. It’s now 35 years since President Reagan, on March 23, 1983, made his famous speech, declaring the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) to be the official policy of the United States. That policy, as many people know, was developed by my husband, Lyndon LaRouche: it was something very different than “Star Wars.” We should discuss this further. I think it’s now time to revive that proposal.

surprise raises another interesting question: what are all these intelligence services doing? These agencies surveil and spy on every citizen around the globe, looking for Russians under everybody’s bed and in the White House, but were completely caught by surprise by this technological military breakthrough by the Russians. Maybe these agencies should be reviewed and their competence should be questioned in Congressional hearings.

A very interesting article by Professor Stephen Cohen, professor emeritus of Princeton and New York University, asks the question: has the West provoked a nuclear arms race, and maybe lost it? He poses this as a question. I think others are also waking up to the reality, for example, Senators Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) issued an [urgent letter](#) to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, requesting him to begin a new round of strategic talks with Russia following Putin’s speech. I think this is very good. Dr. Peter Pry, the executive director of the

Schlanger: I think that’s really important. As you said, it’s the 35th anniversary coming up in just a little more than a week and a half—March 23, 1983—when Reagan shocked most of the American people by saying he wanted to make an offer to share and collaborate with the Russians (the Soviet Union at the time) the development of an anti-missile defense system. We had been campaigning for that going back to the late 1970s when Lyndon LaRouche wrote his pamphlet, “Sputnik of the Seventies: The Science Behind the Soviets’ Beam Weapon.”

What I find interesting is that over the years, Lyndon LaRouche’s ideas, the work you’ve done with Russia, and the scientific questions posed there have all been debated and discussed in Russia, while there’s been silence on that in the United States. I think if we’re going to come to terms with the implications of Putin’s statement, people must turn back to what Lyndon LaRouche said leading up to President Reagan’s 1983 SDI policy, and then in the period after that.

Zepp-LaRouche: I would strongly urge you, our viewers, to



Lyndon LaRouche’s pamphlet issued in the 1970s.

go to the *Executive Intelligence Review* archive and read the [article](#), “Draft Memorandum of Agreement between the United States and the USSR” by my husband, which was first published March 30, 1984 and republished a week ago. I always thought that particular document was one of the most far-sighted and visionary papers of the many, many beautiful papers my husband has written over the decades. This was one year after the SDI was proposed by President Reagan and the counter-reaction to Reagan’s SDI policy was incredible. It came from the Bush circles in the Reagan Administration, but it came also from the circles of Marshal Ogarkov in the Soviet military. One year after Reagan’s 1983 speech, my husband made this very far-reaching proposal, to basically dissolve the NATO and Warsaw Pact blocs, to instead use the collaboration between NATO and the Warsaw Pact—especially between the United States and the Soviet Union—to develop weapons based on new physical principles; to apply those principles in the civilian sector for a science driver effect; and to use the subsequent increase in the productivity of both the United States and the Soviet Union (but especially in the Soviet economy) for major technology transfers to the developing countries to overcome underdevelopment, instead of turning developing countries into sites for proxy wars between the superpowers. The principles which were laid out in the opening statement of this article are that the political foundation for a durable peace must be the absolute, unconditional sovereignty of all nations, cooperation among sovereign nation-states, and unlimited opportunities to participate in the benefits of technological progress, to the mutual benefit of each and all.

If you read this document today, you can’t help but realize that what China is proposing, win-win cooperation and a new model of relations among major powers and all nations, is clearly based on the same principles: access to technology for all, mutual respect for national sovereignty, and non-interference. This is a very beautiful example of the power of ideas: even though these ideas were not acted upon in the short-term, nevertheless they later exerted great influence because these ideas are coherent with the nature of the human species—creativity being the feature which distinguishes mankind from all other species. Then, eventually, these ideas will become dominant. So, while this is not an automatic process—it requires human intervention—



NATO

Czech General Pavel, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee.

nevertheless I think now is the time to do what Foreign Minister Lavrov and President Putin were both calling for—to sit down and discuss a new global security architecture which guarantees the security of all, the United States, Russia, China, Europe, and also smaller nations like the two Koreas and many other countries which still have a lot of problems.

I think it’s really the moment for a complete change in the strategic alignment, to create a new global security architecture, and do what my husband proposed with the SDI, to eventually make nuclear weapons technologically obsolete. This curse, which could lead to the extinction of the human species, must really absolutely go away forever.

Schlanger: You mentioned NATO: The shock effects from Putin’s speech appear to even have been felt in Brussels, where the Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, General Petr Pavel, said that it is now time to talk with Russia and stop seeing Russia as an aggressor and develop better relations. So, it is clear that these shock effects are being felt everywhere.

Helga, there are also some new developments from China. Foreign Minister Wang Yi gave a press conference which was very far-reaching, which takes up some of these same themes. Why don’t you give us a report on what he had to say?

Zepp-LaRouche: This was in the context of the “two sessions,” the meetings of the National People’s Congress and the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference which just met in Beijing. Foreign



Shi Mingde, China's Ambassador to Germany featured in the German publication Handelsblatt.



China Foreign Minister Wang Yi speaks in the Great Hall of the People.

Minister Wang Yi gave a press conference in the Great Hall of the People. He said that China is now proposing a completely new model of international relations based on the idea of benefiting all, which includes mutual respect for the sovereignty of other nations. The aim of this is not only the well-being of the Chinese people, but progress for all of humanity. The aim is to create relations among nations such that all the people can have a fulfilled and happy life. He elaborated further, but that is the gist of the idea.

People should really read these things for themselves—that is very important to do—and also take the time to reflect on it. China has, in the last four and a half years—especially with the Belt and Road Initiative, which now reaches into Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Europe—significantly improved international relations. This has improved the relationship among these nations and brought economic benefits to them. It is clear to those who look at these developments that China is not imposing its own model, which unfortunately the negatively oriented and dishonest Western media keeps incessantly repeating.

The Chinese Ambassador to Germany Shi Mingde just wrote a very lengthy article in the German business daily *Handelsblatt* responding to the increased hysteria against China and the New Silk Road being pushed by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), which is based in Washington, D.C., and by the German think tank, the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS). It's really a shame, because when

these so-called think tanks put out negative propaganda against China, it is sent as press releases, and mainstream journalists—who know nothing about China and don't do their own research—include these dishonest press releases in their articles, which really poison the minds of the readers against China, and against its Belt and Road Initiative, the most important strategic initiative on this planet.

Ambassador Shi Mingde said China has no intention to impose its own model on other nations, and is not doing so. He pointed to the fact that the Belt and Road Initiative is a project for the common good of all people. He pointed out that in 2017 there were 3,673 trains between China and Europe. Forty-eight percent of those trains ended their journey in Germany, pointing to the enormous economic benefit of the trade relations between Germany and China in particular. We urgently need a debate: Why not accept the concept of this Belt and Road Initiative, to overcome geopolitics by aligning the United States, China, Russia, European nations, African nations, Latin American nations, and really work together for win-win cooperation and set a new era of civilization? It's already emerging, but the geopolitical status quo faction of the West is trying to put the brakes on, trying to stop this progress, which is clearly a viable new idea of how the human species can work together. I think we urgently need a public debate about this everywhere.

Schlanger: I don't know if you saw this Helga, but



CC/David Holt

Jeremy Corbyn, British Labour Party leader.

an example of the hysteria you're talking about came when Trump made some remarks at a Republican fundraiser. He talked about his great friendship with Xi Jinping and his respect for him. Then he said, well, you see what Xi did; he just extended his term. Trump said, this sounds like a pretty good thing; maybe we should try it here. The media went crazy, saying this proves Trump wants to be a dictator and he's an authoritarian. But, in fact, Xi's initiative was designed to make sure that the projects that have been undertaken by China to alleviate poverty are actually accomplished, rather than being merely talking points.

There are a couple of other things I want to bring up that I think are quite significant. One is in the United Kingdom, where Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, is on a gigantic road show to talk about the improvements in human rights in Saudi Arabia. But this was addressed very strongly in the Prime Minister's question time in Parliament by Jeremy Corbyn, the head of the Labour Party, who challenged the British government for its continued role in arming Saudi Arabia, which is committing genocide in Yemen. What can you tell us about this, Helga?



cc/Mattia Luigi Nappi

Luigi de Maio, Vice President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and leader of the Five Star Movement.

Zepp-LaRouche: I think it's very important, even though Great Britain is not the only country which is continuously supplying Saudi Arabia with weapons. Corbyn importantly said that UK military advisers have been helping Saudi Arabia in targeting civilian sites like schools and hospitals, killing an enormous number of civilians and children. We have said this repeatedly: the genocide taking place in Yemen right now is one of the worst things to have happened in human history. In Germany, during the period of National Socialism under Hitler, perhaps many people didn't know what was happening or the question was often asked: who knew what, and when? But this time, you have the slaughter of a whole people, and the whole world knows about it. All the Western political leaders know about it, but absolutely nothing is being done to stop it. So, I really applaud Mr. Corbyn for having the courage to do that. At this conference, Saudi Prince Mohammed bin Salman is meeting with Theresa May, with the Queen, with Prince Charles, with Prince William and several ministers. He is getting the full red-carpet treatment. It's important that Corbyn said what he said in this way. We should really appeal to people that there must be sanctions against Saudi Arabia. Why do you have to have sanctions against so many countries while the one country which is continuing to commit war crimes is left untouched?

Schlanger: Another development this week was the elections last Sunday in Italy, in which the insurgency against the establishment continued. What do you see coming out of these elections?

Zepp-LaRouche: It looks like the chances are very high that government formation will be even more difficult than it was in Germany. Berlusconi and Renzi, representing the so-called established parties, lost. The winners were the Five Star Movement and Lega Nord, which will make government formation very difficult. Our Liliana Gorini, the chairwoman

of Movisol in Italy, issued a statement stating that the only way to have a successful government is to go forward with Glass-Steagall, which is in the platform of the Five Star Movement and Lega Nord, as well as the idea of a national bank which is in their party programs. But that is not enough: the entire [Four Laws](#) of LaRouche must be implemented. We have, despite our relatively small forces in Italy, a powerful voice offering programmatic content to this government formation. Given the fact that the danger of a financial crash is still, like the sword of Damocles, hanging over the world, an initiative from Italy would be an important intervention in this debate. The world is really at a point where we need a debate on what the future should look like.

Let us briefly come back to this question of the SDI. China and Russia clearly have demonstrated that they both have a vision for the future. In China, President Xi Jinping has a vision for 2050 and probably beyond. President Putin, in Russia, clearly has demonstrated that he has a clear perspective for the future of civilization. The long-time idea of my husband, which I have been also campaigning for, is the idea of a New Paradigm. A New Paradigm of human history really means putting the interests of the human species first, before all national interests, and especially before so-called geopolitical interests.

The common aims of mankind are what Xi Jinping calls a shared community for the one future of humanity, or a community of destiny. I think we have to define these common aims, and really focus our energies on them. The common aims, for example, are not just the SDI to create a system of defensive weapons that would make nuclear weapons obsolete, but also to enlarge it into what is called the Strategic Defense of Earth (SDE). We urgently need all nations to put their scientific capabilities together, to develop technologies to deflect or destroy incoming asteroids, meteorites, and other celestial bodies. We also should move in the direction of pre-warning systems against earthquakes and tsunamis. I think the common aim of overcoming poverty is moving well, at least in China and in the countries which are participating with China in the Belt and Road Initiative. But, we need the same aim also for Europe, which has 90 million poor people and so far, no intention to overcome that. At the November 2017 Schiller Institute conference, we put out a [resolution](#) calling upon the European Union to lift its population out of

poverty by 2020. I think we urgently need that for the United States. It's a shame that a country like the United States should still have more than 40 million poor people. China is the only country really moving to bring development to poor rural areas, to eliminate poverty by 2020.

There are many frontiers of science we should concentrate on. I think we have to rethink our idea of the character of the human species; the human species is not just earthbound. The space cooperation agreement which was just concluded between China and Russia shows that these two nations are thinking in terms of not only developing villages on the Moon, but also developing nuclear-powered space travel that will completely change mankind's ability to reach other planets. These are all areas of international cooperation, and are much more important than the total waste of spending money to make money, on stock exchanges, or anything like that.

I think we can really shape the world in a human way, but we need a debate. For that, I ask all of you to help us to generate this debate and support the Schiller Institute. I invite you to become members, to help us really initiate a different kind of discussion in all countries on this planet, a discussion which would be worthy of the dignity of the human species. I think we are on the verge of making that all possible with your help.

Schlanger: Well, that's a good way to end this program. I get a lot of communications from people who say, "What can we do to bring this New Paradigm online?" Helga just gave you the answer: Be part of triggering this debate. To do that, we have ample material on the newparadigm.schillerinstitute.com website, which can give you background on what the New Silk Road is, and the Four Laws of LaRouche. Take advantage of this: the strategic situation is shifting very rapidly. Helga and Lyndon LaRouche have been at the center of this for decades. Now it's time for us to have not just an insurgency, but a movement of critical thinkers who have the passion to bring this New Silk Road spirit worldwide.

Thank you for joining us. Helga, thank you again. We'll be back next week.

Zepp-LaRouche: Yes, until next week.

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