this—given what, I'm sorry to say, is a degree of petulance and vindictiveness in Washington that is, in my view, unconscionable, by which we are withholding the Afghan national reserves from the de facto government in Kabul, and thereby pushing Afghanistan into a state of famine and anarchy, which I think is intended to punish the Taliban, but which will probably provide fertile ground for the growth of Daesh—the ISIS, Islamic State elements—who regard the Taliban as milquetoast.

I think the most likely vehicle, unfortunately, does not involve the United States, but it's probably the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which includes most of the countries who would be needed for such an approach. We are creating a terrible humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan as we speak. Europeans may be more willing than Americans seem to be, to step forward to cooperate with others in the region to address this. So far, the Biden Administration has shown a degree of cold-hearted disdain for the suffering of Afghans, that I find really reprehensible.

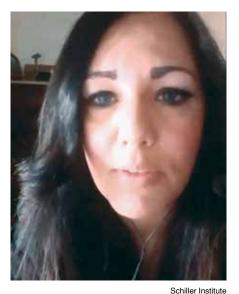
Now you ask, does this have implications for Taiwan? I don't think so. I think Afghanistan has to be approached in its own right, and the Taiwan issue is one that involves factors that are quite different from those in Afghanistan.

Leading Italian Trade Unionist Backs LaRouche's 'Operation Ibn Sina'

Dec. 2—Alessia Ruggeri, renowned trade unionist Sicily and chair of UPI Italia, an association of small and mediumsized enterprises, has publicly endorsed Helga Zepp-LaRouche's proposed "Operation Ibn Sina" for Afghanistan. Ms. Ruggeri issued a press release titled "Helga Zepp-LaRouche launches Operation Ibn Sina to save the Afghan people," published Nov. 23 in the Il Corriere di Sicilia daily, read all over Sicily; it spread from there to other Southern Italian media

The release announced:

The Committee for the Republic, through its spokeswoman Alessia Ruggeri, endorsed the Ibn Sina initiative of the Schiller Institute. "I believe that the world is experiencing a quite sad political, economic and social moment, with the complicity of mainstream media. We have to regain the lucidity and ability to intervene in support of a right cause. The Afghan people are paying the price of international geopolitical strategies



Alessia Ruggeri

which deny their inalienable rights guaranteed by the UN Charter.

"I therefore accept with great honor the invitation of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites to be a part of it and give a significant European contribution."

Also, the lawyer Roberto Zappia [of Milan—ed.] endorses the appeal in support of the Afghan people, first exploited for the affirmation of the territorial and political hegemony of the world powers and subsequently abandoned to the voracity of the finance and to its cyni-

cal ruthless logic.

The Committee for the Republic release quoted Helga Zepp-LaRouche on Operation Ibn Sina from the Schiller Institute conference on Nov. 13 (the Panel above), as well as Dr. Joycelyn Elders on the recent activities of the Committee for the Coincidence of Opposites, particularly in Africa. See Dr. Elders' call, "Open Letter to Virologists and Medical Experts."