Schiller Institute Stages First Moscow Conference

The Schiller Institute held its first-ever conference in Moscow on Oct. 30-31, 1992. Co-sponsored by the Russian State Humanitarian University and the Ukrainian University in Moscow, the conference focused on the programs for comprehensive Eurasian-wide development which have been prepared by American statesman and political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche.

The fact that IMF (International Monetary Fund) shock therapy is ripping the Russian economy and social fabric apart, has created considerable interest in LaRouche's economic alternative in the Russian capital. This fact was reflected in the composition of the audience of more than fifty, which included a parliamentary delegation from Armenia, political party leaders from Russia and Ukraine, and two representatives of Russian government ministries.

In greetings read to the conference, Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche emphasized that a solution to the Russian crisis must be part of a global alternative to the IMF system, and that the failure to get rid of that system will mean escalating war both within the former Soviet Union, and throughout the world.

Breakdown Crisis

Michael Liebig, European Director of EIR (Executive Intelligence Review, the international news service founded by Lyndon LaRouche), opened the conference with a presentation on the reality of the Great Depression now dominating the world. The collapse of the Bretton Woods financial system has encroached upon the industrial countries now, but the Anglo-American financiers refuse to abandon the system. Liebig shocked the audience by providing graphic detail on the state of decay in the U.S. and British economies.

EIR’s Director for Russia and Eastern Europe, Konstantin George, reviewed case studies from the Third World and Eastern Europe, as to how the IMF had devastated all of the economies it is supposed to have aided. Under IMF surveillance, the Third World has already paid, in the last ten years, twice the amount it owed back in 1982, George showed. And yet the books show that the same countries still have the same debt burden they had back in 1982.

In addition to the financial transactions, of course, many Third World nations literally starved their people to death, in order to pay this debt. This is the process which the IMF has now determined is necessary for all the Eastern European countries, including Russia. Dumping the IMF program is not just a sound idea, but a moral prerequisite for saving the lives of millions of Russians, George argued.

The LaRouche Program

The second day of the conference opened with a presentation by Dr. Jonathan Tennenbaum, president of the German Fusion Energy Forum, and co-author with LaRouche of An Economic Miracle for Eastern Europe, the Productive Triangle: Paris-Berlin-Vienna, a book-length development program for Eurasia.

Tennenbaum presented the policies of Hamiltonian national banking, in answer to what is perhaps the most often-asked question in the nations of the East: If no aid comes from the West, how can the necessary, huge infrastructure projects and industrial-agricultural modernization described in the LaRouche-Tennenbaum book be funded? As Dr. Tennenbaum detailed, the state can act in a sovereign manner and establish a national bank, as Alexander Hamilton did in the young United States, to issue credits to the state, banks, and enterprises. If this is done to finance infrastructure construction projects and other investments which will get modern industry and agriculture going, it will promote the growth and technological advancement of the real economy.

In Russia, the necessary projects center heavily on building a modern, high-speed railway network which would connect the country with the powerhouse industrial region of Western Europe. This is precisely the opposite of the IMF’s demand for dismantling heavy industry, and turning...
sections of the economy over to financial mafias and speculators.

Hamilton's ideas were understood in the nineteenth century by the American System political current out of which came Abraham Lincoln in the U.S., Friedrich List in Germany, and Finance Minister Count Sergei Witte in Russia. In the modern period, the regime of General Charles de Gaulle and the methods which created the German postwar “economic miracle,” were closest to the Hamiltonian idea.

Today, economists the world over can't get past the erroneous idea that such state-funded directed credit for infrastructure is inflationary. But it is not inflationary, as long as it creates real wealth through promoting industrial and technological development. After a period of time, the program so increases employment and productivity, that tax revenues increase sufficiently to liquidate the original cost.

**Russian Involvement**

Two professors from Moscow also addressed the conference—the first, Prof. Dr. Taras Muranivsky, doctor of Philosophic Sciences and rector of the Ukrainian University in Moscow, and the second, Prof. Dr. Arkady Romanenko of the Russian State Humanitarian University. Both made introductory remarks to the assembly.

Also speaking was a Moscow scientific researcher, Dr. Victor Petrenko, a member of the Schiller Institute in Moscow, who introduced the forthcoming first Russian-language edition of the physical-economy textbook authored by Lyndon LaRouche, *So, You Wish to Learn All About Economics?* After Dr. Petrenko's presentation, the conference participants received copies of the proofs of the Russian-language book.

The Schiller Institute has been organizing aggressively around LaRouche's Productive Triangle program in Eastern Europe since late 1989. Seminars have been held, with high-level government participation, in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Croatia.

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**EXHIBITS**

‘Greek Miracle’ Brings Classical

A spectacular art exhibit featuring original Greek sculptures of the fifth century B.C. opened on Nov. 22 at Washington's National Gallery of Art. *The Greek Miracle: Classical Sculpture from the Dawn of Democracy* will run through next Feb. 7, 1993; it then will be on view from March 11 until May 23 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

The exhibit is the first-ever organized in the United States of this period of Greek art, which set the Classical standard for the visual arts of western civilization. In every succeeding era, artists have chosen either to emulate the Classical model or to rebel against it. It includes thirty-four bronzes and marbles, twenty-two of them from Greek museums, including many which have never before left Greece.

The show marks the 2,500th anniversary of the beginnings of Greek democracy, launched with the reforms of Cleisthenes in 508 B.C. In the introductory essay for the catalogue, writer Nicholas Gage described the unique...