Zepp LaRouche used examples from a number of German Romantic poets, to contrast the fascination with the grotesque and ugly—which led to today’s embrace of the hideous—to the Classical poet’s concentration on beauty and the sublime as the means to develop the human character. The fascination with ugliness is nothing but the ideology of the Roman Empire, and the enslavement—including the literal enslavement—of mankind and its emotions, she argued. This contrasts with the use of the ugly, to show mankind overcoming it, as exemplified in the Classical Greek statue of Laocoon.

**Economic Reality**

After an afternoon session devoted to a dialogue with LaRouche, the final panel reported on the current economic situation, under the title, “The Demise of the Importer of Last Resort.” Using extensive charts and graphs, EIR’s Dennis Small, Paul Gallagher, Richard Freeman, and John Hoeftle presented a picture of the ongoing devolution of the U.S. and world economy.

Campaign for ‘LaRouche in 2004’ Launched

On December 27, Lyndon LaRouche, world-renowned economist and former candidate for the Democratic Party Presidential nomination, announced that he will run for the Democratic Party nomination for President in 2004, and released a statement. Excerpts from the statement follow.

‘... I herewith set my guidon at the top of the hill; those supporters of the Democratic Party, and others, who recognize the need to return to that quality of leadership out of a great financial crisis which President Franklin Roosevelt represents, must have a rallying-point around which to transform the efforts into an effective, mission-oriented mobilization, a mobilization to save this republic from what appears, presently, to be our assured ruin.

“Although the outgoing President Bill Clinton will be, still, the leading institutional figure around which the Democratic Party will continue to be rallied as a party, that is not sufficient. The world is gripped by a great moral crisis, which is also a great economic crisis. The great need, is to return this nation, from the past thirty-five years direction in policy-making, by which the nation has ruled and ruined itself, to those successful principles of policy-shaping by means of which the nation survived the great crises of 1933-1945. The fate of this nation depends upon our ability to choose, now, a kind of leadership qualified to lead our republic...
As we plunge into the worst global financial crisis in more than a century, only among those three national powers which were principal victors of World War II, the British monarchy, the United States, and Russia, do we find the historically defined, cultural temperament needed, to lead the introduction of a desperately needed, new world economic order for the planet as a whole. Only in two of those three, the U.S. and Russia, do we find any inclination among leading political institutions, to look back to the successful U.S. recovery policies of the 1933-1945 Roosevelt era, and to the 1945-1965 reconstruction of Western Europe, as the basis for challenging the rampant follies practiced under the present I.M.F. and World Bank systems.

With these words, American statesman and economist Lyndon LaRouche opened his remarks at a March 5 Berlin seminar attended by approximately 100 policymakers, diplomats, and citizens. LaRouche’s subsequent remarks elaborated his unique vision of how, despite the disastrous Bush administration, the intention of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s General Welfare policy could be fulfilled today, by collaboration between the U.S., Russia, Western Europe, and other leading Eurasian nations.

The kind of international dialogue required was previewed by the participants in the seminar themselves, which included leading representatives from Russia, France, Germany, and Italy.

America’s Economic Collapse
EIR’s Lothar Komp opened the seminar with a presentation on “The World Economy in a Dive—The Basic Economic-Financial Data, with Focus on the U.S.A.” Komp was followed by LaRouche, whose keynote stressed the need to revive the intention of the American intellectual tradition, which was shared by Lincoln and Roosevelt, in order to build up Eurasian cooperation that will be beneficial to the entire planet.

Other presentations included:
- Dr. Kurt Riechebächer, noted economist and publisher of the Riechebächer Letters, read a prepared statement entitled, “Today’s American Economic Model: ‘After Us, the Deluge.’”
- A speech on “Globalization, Multinational Concerns, and Labor Power,” by Dr. Nino Galloni of the Italian Labor Ministry.
- A paper entitled “Remarks on an Overdue Reorganization of the World Monetary System,” by Prof. Wilhelm Hankel, former chief economist of the post-World War II Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt), was read.
- Professor Dr. Sc. Tatiana Ivanov-