government, which, out of fear—fear of being targeted individually, of being killed, imprisoned, or so forth, for opposition to this President—who are capitulating. Doesn't this remind you of the French Revolution?

So we have that kind of revolutionary potential: You have an *enraged* U.S. population. Ninety percent of the lower income brackets of the population *are enraged*! And as you will notice, even though the House of Representatives, which is the most popular of the institutions of government, *acted* to reject the bailout bill—which is a bailout of London, more than anything else—the popularity of these same people or this institution in the Congress, *fell* among the people—fell catastrophically. So, the people were not satisfied with the fact that their representatives, honestly, had rejected the bailout bill, but their anger went deeper: They have no confidence *in the system*! No confidence in the system of government at the top.

A Russia-U.S. Agreement Is Key

And so, unless there is a change, we're in for some very hard times in the United States, times for which the French Revolution is actually a precedent. It might not seem that way on the surface, but the situation, from our analysis, is that right now. Therefore, if we do not take steps, and the most crucial issue right now, involves Russia: Because, without the role of Russia, the United States could not possibly implement the kind of international program of cooperation which we must have. If Russia and the United States can not come to the kind of discussion, or pre-discussion, which the President of Russia and people immediately around him, have openly proposed, repeatedly, to the United States, there's not much chance for this planet!

Because, if Russia agrees with the United States, on a pre-agreement, that is, a spirit of intention, then China can put its word in, because China has a vast investment in U.S. dollars! Therefore, China's dollar crisis has to be considered. China's not going to do something on its own, without considering the dollar factor. Therefore, if Russia and the United States agree to a pre-agreement, then China can function. If they function, then India can function. If those countries function, the whole world can be brought into functioning! Maybe a few holdouts here and there, but we can get a basic agreement, to create a New Bretton Woods system—as a credit system, not a monetary system!—but a credit system among states, from which we can begin to launch the programs of investment for devel-

opment of humanity in general.

And if we give humanity a sense of optimism, about going in a new direction, out of a very *bad* direction, we may have a lot of quarrels about a lot of things, but that will be secondary or tertiary—just part of the business, and part of continuing discussion.

That's what I think right now, is the crucial issue, what I summed up here. This is it, right now! This is what I'm seeing, getting inside the United States, from my circles here, and what I'm getting also internationally. But the issue of this thing, that former President Putin pressed, on trying to break through with the United States, on a new kind of agreement, of a post-Yeltsin agreement, was the right direction. And now we have the new form of direction, under the new President with Prime Minister Putin, and his associates. They have been pressing in this direction. If we have the brains, to make a pre-agreement with them, from institutions inside the United States-whatever the President himself thinks or not—if we can make a preagreement on that, and the intention to bring this combination into play, bring the key nations of Asia into perspective of a development program, which is needed for Eurasia—deal with the question of Africa, the same way, deal with the question of Central and South America the same way, then we have a way of optimism, of breaking out of this crisis and building a better world.

Russian Policymakers: LaRouche Was Right

Lyndon LaRouche's leadership in fighting for the solutions to the accelerating global financial-monetary calamity, are receiving wide attention in Russia. In addition to his two recent live interviews (Aug. 21 and Sept. 22) with Russia's English-language TV channel, Russia Today, here is further evidence that his ideas are being heeded, at the highest levels of Russian policymaking.

• Russian Railways chief Vladimir Yakunin: LaRouche warned me about this crisis.

In the Oct. 2 issue of the leading Russian business daily *Kommersant*, the CEO of Russian Railways (RZhD), Vladimir Yakunin, was interviewed under

October 10, 2008 EIR International 57

the headline, "Liberal Capitalism Is Coming to an End in Russia." At the outset of his interview, Yakunin states bluntly that Lyndon LaRouche, the "American alternative economist," had warned him of the onrushing global financial breakdown crisis a long time ago.

Yakunin heads the state-owned railway company, a huge enterprise whose high-speed rail and transcontinental expansion projects are a critical component of Russia's economic development policy. He is a long-time associate of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, and the co-founder of the International Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations."

Here is an excerpt from the interview:

Kommersant: When did you realize that there would be a financial crisis?

Yakunin: A year and a half ago. I am not making this up. I remember my first conversation with the American alternative economist, Professor LaRouche [Lyndon LaRouche—Kommersant]. He is someone who uses quite powerful algorithms for evaluating the state of the economy and its prospects. And he said to me, "Vladimir, I can tell you with certainty, that the economic crisis is already taking place." He emphasized that the basis of the crisis is the transformation of the economy and, above all, finance, into a virtual economy and virtual finances. Out of the entire monetary circulation taking place in the world today, in his view, only about 15% of the paper money is backed by real value-industrial production, raw materials, etc. It seems to me that right now we are witnessing the accuracy of this formula. This Summer, I have been discussing the topic of the crisis both with other economists, and with my friends in the government, so the crisis itself was not unexpected. But I am not a professional financier. If the crisis was visible and obvious to me, it should have been visible and obvious to the people who are running financial policy.

• LaRouche interviewed by Russian *Pole Star* on his "Four-Powers" proposal.

The popular Russian patriotic webjournal *Polyarnaya Zvezda* (*Pole Star*), on Oct. 1, published an interview with LaRouche, under the headline, "The world financial system has entered the catastrophic phase of its collapse." The *Pole Star*, founded in Yekaterinburg, Russia, is widely read throughout Russian-speaking areas of Eurasia.

Asked about the current financial crisis, LaRouche

replies: "The present international monetary-financial system is disintegrating, and has no future in its present form. The breakup could come as soon as within weeks. The attempts to rescue bankrupt enterprises at public expense, as are occurring, most notably in the United Kingdom and the U.S.A., threaten a general collapse of the entire world's monetary-financial systems within a time as early as weeks, or somewhat longer. The crucial issue is posed as the question: 'Is it possible, even now, for the U.S.A. to approach Russia, China, and India, with the proposal for using the lever of the same constitutional characteristic of the U.S.A., which Franklin Roosevelt employed, in 1944 at Bretton Woods, to replace the presently absolutely bankrupt present world monetary systems by an international credit-system using the potential advantage of the U.S. Federal Constitution, as Franklin Roosevelt had intended for the post-war world, had he lived to prevent Truman from becoming U.S. President?'

"I believe that sheer necessity requires that this change must occur very soon. We are in the kind of general monetary-financial breakdown-crisis of the present world monetary systems, in which even simple desperation favors such a reform."

In an editorial note, LaRouche is introduced as "the American public figure who has run for the Democratic Presidential nomination in the past, an original thinker, whose scientific interests embrace economics, politics, history, mathematics, physics, music theory, and many other areas."

• Prof. Stanislov Menshikov cites Medvedev, LaRouche on need for U.S.-Russian cooperation on financial system.

In his column for the Sept. 26 Russian weekly *Slovo*, noted economist Prof. Stanislav Menshikov cited both President Dmitri Medvedev and Lyndon La-Rouche, on the need for Russian-American cooperation in the face of the systemic world financial crisis.

"Counting on foreign speculators to create a favorable situation for Russia," wrote Menshikov, "is a shaky basis for Russian financial policy. It would be more sensible to reach agreement on coordinating Russia's actions with the U.S.A. and other financial centers, to combat the world crisis. President Medvedev advocated such cooperation, back in June at the Group of Eight meeting in Japan. The idea has also been supported by prominent American figures, particularly Lyndon LaRouche."

58 International EIR October 10, 2008