

# Zepp-LaRouche Article Runs in People's Daily

*July 17—The Chinese-language online edition of the official People's Daily published a commentary by Helga Zepp-LaRouche on the West's hypocrisy on the issue of "human rights." The article was solicited by People's Daily in order to respond to Western criticism of China's human rights record. The text is as follows:*

**"China has done more for human rights than any other country on the planet, and through its own efforts has brought from tens of millions up to a hundred million people out of poverty and to a decent standard of living, maintaining a positive thrust of economic development for which the world has every reason to be optimistic about China's future."**

China has done more for human rights than any other country on the planet. Ever since 1978, with the "reform and opening up" policy, a large part of the population has been able to shake off poverty and today can enjoy a comfortable life. This fact is obvious to everyone—that not only have the people in the coastal regions and in the south enjoyed the fruits of an economic miracle in their development accomplishments, which are admired by the whole world, but also poverty in the rural areas and in the interior and western regions has also been tremendously reduced. With the implementation of the visionary concept of the New Silk Road Economic Belt of President Xi Jinping and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, China has every chance to eradicate poverty in the not-too-distant future.

Poverty is one of the most severe threats to human rights. Poverty means hunger, lack of adequate medical care, poor housing, lack of opportunities for personal development, and a shortening of life in general. China by its own efforts

made it possible for several tens of millions to hundreds of millions of people to escape from poverty and attain today a decent standard of living. By maintaining the present direction of development, the world has reason to be optimistic about China's future.

It's not difficult to discover that the Western notion of "human rights" is greatly distorted, mixing up the narrow egoism of "freedom" with the notion of the common good. During recent years, "street revolts" have occurred in the northwest of China as well as in Ukraine, Thailand, and other places, by groups antagonistic to, and in revolt against, their societies. These are well financed by Western NGOs, which manipulated them, under the slogan of a "pluralistic society," raising the banners of "democracy" and "human rights." In fact, all of this has been the effort of Western countries to transform the regional situation in their own interest by bringing about regime change. Their declarations of a "pluralistic society" are merely a synonym for inciting domestic political forces against a country that disagrees with them.

Some Westerners, in their hypocritical "human rights" stance, show more clearly their true intention of preserving their own interests, in the many instances where they apply a double standard. For example, during the Ukraine crisis, the Western nations have clearly exhibited a double standard toward Russia.



*Helga Zepp-LaRouche is interviewed on Chinese TV during a visit there in April.*