## 2018: ENDING POVERTY, OVERCOMING GEOPOLITICS

## The Key to True Happiness!

by Kesha Rogers

Jan. 1—The great German philosopher Gottfried Leibniz writes in his essay, "On Wisdom," that "Wisdom is nothing other than the science of happiness, that is to say it teaches us to attain happiness."

The pursuit of happiness is the cornerstone principle of the Declaration of Independence. The pursuit of happiness is not the attempt to attain short-term pleasures, or to fulfill sensual needs; rather, it is the recognition of the distinct difference in the nature of mankind from animals. Mankind creates the future we wish to see through our faculty of creative reasoning, powered by the happiness produced by this activity. As President Franklin Roosevelt put it, "Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. The joy and moral stimulation of work no longer must be forgotten in the mad chase of evanescent profits."

This is the true pursuit of happiness. As Leibniz shows, "Nothing serves happiness more than the illumination of the mind and the exercise of the will to act at all times according to Reason, and to seek such illumi-

nation especially in the knowledge of things, which can bring our mind always further to a higher light, while from this springs a perpetual progress in Wisdom and Virtue, also consequently in Perfection and Joy, the profit of which also remains with the soul after this life."

As we enter into this new year of 2018, we must define a true mission to fulfill a commitment to the common destiny and progress of all mankind. This principle of the pursuit of happiness is one that belongs not only to one nation, but is an inalienable right of all people and all nations.

In the New Year's message from Helga Zepp-LaRouche which leads this issue of *EIR*, she defines the most important goal of 2018 as the overcoming of geopolitics. Geopolitics has been the destructive agenda of the British empire, aimed to keep people and nations backward and impoverished, and at war with one another in a "winner take all" mentality. Geopolitics is the means of control of the British empire to promote zero growth and economic collapse, through lack of progress, while relying on gambling in speculative markets



NASA

The reign of geopolitics has created the poverty, the lack of infrastructure, and the eradication of hope you see here in this NASA composite photo of a space-based view of Earth at night.

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for access to money. The rejection of geopolitics is the key to eliminating poverty. Geopolitical economics requires a belief in a speculative monetary system, because it doesn't create true wealth on its own. China has been largely able to fulfill the promise of ending poverty for its citizens by rejecting the destructive trends of geopolitics.

China has been on a total mobilization for poverty alleviation for the last three decades, and has already lifted 700 million Chinese out of poverty. As the President of China relayed in his New Year's message, during the past year China has lifted 10 million more out of poverty. The nation is committed to the total elimination of poverty by the year 2020.

Of the 350 million people living in the United States, there are reportedly 42 million living below the poverty line. But how do we truly alleviate poverty? Is it through tax cuts and stock market spikes? No, there is no simple monetary solution to poverty. Did "the markets" ever plant an acre of farmland, or make a new scientific discovery that contributed to the increase in the physical productivity of the nation? No, these are physical-economic actions, rather than monetary ones.

President John F. Kennedy, in a special address to Congress on Jan. 24, 1963, on "Tax Reduction and Reform," said:

The most urgent task facing our Nation at home today is to end the tragic waste of unemployment and unused resources—to step up the growth and vigor of our national economy—to increase job and investment opportunities—to improve our productivity—and thereby to strengthen our nation's ability to meet its world-wide commitments for the defense and growth of freedom.

This must be the renewed mission of our nation today. The tax bill just passed by the U.S. Congress does not speak to the effect of ending the tragic waste of unemployment and unused resources. It does not speak to stepping up the growth and vigor of our national economy, or increasing job and investment opportunities. It speaks to none of these solutions, which are more urgently needed for the economic growth of our nation today, than they were over 50 years ago. What this latest tax reform passed by Congress does do, is pump money, not into the real economy, but into more speculation, as did the bailouts and Quantitative Easing.

Eliminating poverty requires an increase in the stan-

dard of living of every member of the population, not merely tax-break handouts. It requires the creation of productive jobs, while ensuring that the skill sets of the workforce are increased to meet the demands of work in the creation of new infrastructure, and improvement in the physical economy otherwise. We must ensure not merely the increase in monetary wealth of households, but physical wealth. Elimination of poverty is not solely increasing the dollar income of a household, but providing every household access to transportation, food, and cheap and abundant energy, ensuring that the elderly are cared for and that no one ever has to choose between buying medicine or paying the light bill.

It is now time for the American people to act to demand the creation of a full-scale Federal Credit System to invest in the productive economy. This is the Hamilton/LaRouche model. The full package of Lyndon LaRouche's Four Economic Laws To Save The United States Economy, starting with the reinstatement of Glass-Steagall (as President Trump also supports), must be adopted now. An essential principle laid out in this program, is that "The purpose of the use of a federal credit-system, is to generate high productivity trends in improvement of employment, with the accompanying intention, to increase the physical economic productivity, and the standard of living of the persons and households of the United States." The elimination of poverty in the United States demands that our nation get on board the New Silk Road. America's future on the New Silk Road is the key to joining with the many nations that have dedicated themselves to ending geopolitics, and achieving a shared community of common destiny for the happiness and productive growth of all people. The Fourth Law of LaRouche's economic recovery plan is the adoption of a fusion economy, which, as La-Rouche describes, "is the presently urgent next step, and standard, for man's gains of power within the Solar system, and later, beyond."

The development of the resources of our Earth's Moon, is mankind's gateway into the Universe. We must harness the power of the Sun. The mining of Helium-3 on the Moon will unleash access to an abundance of energy to power the Earth for a long time to come. It will give us the means to develop mankind's reach far beyond our Solar system, and to develop plentiful resources to meet the needs of all people, both here on Earth and in our exploration and development of space. This is what it means to unleash the power of creative reason and discovery, which brings about true joy and happiness.