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Helga Zepp LaRouche Addresses Copenhagen Campaign Event of 'Friends of the Schiller Institute,' Nov. 10, 2017

- The Legacy of Friedrich Schiller and the Schiller Institute –
- In the Confucian Concept of Xi's New Silk Road Today –

Schiller Institute Chairwoman and founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche was introduced by Schiller Institute in Denmark Chairman Tom Gillesberg, who is running for mayor of Copenhagen on the Friends of the Schiller Institute slate.

HELGA ZEPP-LAROUCHE: I'm very happy to be here by Hangout video, because there are a lot very important things happening which the Western media are absolutely hiding from the population. As a matter of fact, since you referred to the founding of the Schiller Institute in 1984, I was just reflecting that the purpose why I created the Schiller Institute in the first place, was because I saw the world very much in need of a different idea of relations among nations.

And that was the main reason why this institute was created, because I realized, in 1983, the relationship between Germany and the United States, Europe and the United States, the so-called "advanced sector" and the developing countries, all of these foreign relations were terrible. For slightly different reasons in each case, but I basically said, "this is not the way nations should organized themselves, and that is not how they should relate to each other."

So I came up with the idea to create an institute devoted to the development of a just new world economic order, whereby every person on the planet would eventually have a decent life, that was explicitly the idea; and that this new world economic order would only function if it would be combined with the idea of a

dialogue of cultures on the highest level, where one country would not refer to the worst tradition of the other, but to the best, and vice versa. And that all of this would be accompanied by a lot of Classical culture, a lot of emphasis on science, on science and technology as the motor for such a development.

Now, I don't want to go through the long history of the Schiller Institute, which has done an enormous amount of work on five continents since its existence, but I'm very happy to say that if you look at the world today, especially in the last several days, a lot of what the Schiller Institute was meant to be, is coming into being.

People really have to realize that the summit which just took place between President Xi Jinping and President Trump, was an absolutely historic breakthrough. Now, if you listen to the Western media, you would think the opposite; you would think, if you read the *New York Times* you would say, "Trump sold out to the Chinese, because Xi Jinping is much more powerful than Trump." If you listen to second channel of German TV, their comment yesterday was that, yes, this was all a big show, but Trump is so irrational and changing so quickly that in two weeks he will not even remember what happened. Or, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* this morning, I had to laugh when I was reading this. On the front page, they said if Deng Xiaoping were still alive, he would have wept tears of joy when he saw that Xi Jinping and Trump were meeting, seeing eye-to-eye, treating each other as equals.

So the Western media are just completely beside themselves, they're cynical, they're absolutely geopolitically blinded in such a way that they can't even look at what is going on. Now, let me tell you what really happened: First of all, on Wednesday [Nov. 8], the Chinese government did something which has never happened, giving an honor to Trump which they have never given to any other foreign head of state. They closed down for an entire day the Forbidden City; this is the largest complex of palaces in the world. Since the 17th century, it was the seat of the emperors, and it is just one large complex of palaces, one after the other: it has opera houses, it has living quarters, it's just an unbelievable environment.

They closed this down, and they performed for President Trump and his wife Melania, excerpts from three Beijing operas, and they showed ancient handicrafts in restoration; and really steeped the Presidential couple in Chinese culture. Which

everybody who knows it, knows it's extremely beautiful and extremely impressive. And they called this a "State Visit-Plus." A commentator from the think tank CASS [Chinese Academy of Social Sciences] said this has never happened in the history of China, either; they have never given a head of state such a high-level visit, so it was a highest honor ever given to a foreign President.

Now, the Western press is not reflecting why this is the case, but President Xi said that this is the beginning of a new start of relations between the United States and China, and it will do very important, good things not only for the two people, but for the entire world. And Trump, on his side, said, what could be more important than the two largest economic countries finding a good cooperation; and he also said that he looks ahead to many years of friendship and collaboration between the two countries, accomplishing incredible things.

Obviously, not unimportant was the fact that there were trade deal deals signed for, altogether \$253 billion, ranging from energy, agricultural products, airplanes were being bought, infrastructure. And in a certain sense, this is important, and designed to grow – it's not the end of it. Trump made several speeches where he said – there was an incredible trade gap up to now, but he doesn't blame the Chinese for it, he blames the former U.S. administrations for allowing this to happen.

So obviously, there are many positive things in this trade relation, as such, but I think more importantly the spirit which comes from the New Silk Road, which is the policy which has been put on the agenda by Xi Jinping since 2013, and which in the four years since, has grown to be the largest economic infrastructure project ever in history: Already something like 70 countries are collaborating. They are building infrastructure corridors, six major corridors, almost 40 cargo trains and connecting between China and Europe, now, every week. The development is spreading with absolute excitement into Latin America, into Africa, into even European countries.

The biggest change, in my view, has happened in Africa, because China has invested in a rail line from Djibouti to Addis Ababa; now from Kenya; another line is being built to Rwanda. Many hydropower dams, projects for hydropower, irrigation, industrial parks. And all of this has led to a completely different attitude of the Africans, who, for the first time, see the perspective of overcoming their underdevelopment.

The philosophy behind all of this is the idea that only if you have harmonious development of all nations on this planet, can you have a peaceful development in China. And this is based on the Confucian idea that only with the maximum development of the individual, who should become a wide person, is spread throughout the entire family and all the families develop harmoniously, can you have peace in the nation, and obviously in the world, among the nations.

This is not understood by the West at all. They are absolutely convinced – and I think some of these political forces are so geopolitically entrenched that they really believe this, that they cannot mention that a country can actually be devoted to the common good of its people. And that China is doing that is without any debate, because, as Tom just mentioned, I was in China in 1971, during the Cultural Revolution, and I saw the country in distress. And I went back in '96, and I saw the absolutely incredible change for the better in these 25 years. And what has happened in the last 30 years is just the biggest economic miracle of any country on the planet. China has lifted 700 million people out of poverty, and what happened at the just-concluded 19th Party Congress of the CPC, was that Xi Jinping announced that by the year 2020, China will have eradicated *all* poverty. There are only 42 million people left who are poor, in rural areas, and they now are using modern technology to overcome that, by providing the means for e-commerce to the farmers in the rural areas of poor regions, so they can market their products via the internet, and that way they are starting to develop more income and more wealth, so that they will no longer be poor by the year 2020. I have no reason to believe that they will not succeed in doing that, because, when you see the vector of development of the last 30 to 40 years, they are going to accomplish that.

By the year 2035, China wants to be a modern socialist country, and Xi Jinping has developed a plan up to the year 2050, for China to be a strong, modern, harmonious, democratic, happy people.

Now, in this speech, at this party convention, Xi Jinping mentioned I think it was 15 times or so, that the purpose of the political work of the Communist Party is that people should have a better and happier life. And what China is doing is obviously a model which is much more devoted to the common good, than you find it in the West, where, if you compare it to the poverty

level in the European Union, for example, where you have 120 million people who are poor; or you compare it to the economic situation in the United States, where for the first time in an industrial nation, you have a lowering of the life-expectancy! Now, if there's any parameter for the productivity and the well-being of an economy, it is the life expectancy of its people. And if you an industrial country with the collapse of the life span, then you know that there is something absolutely wrong. And this is the result of what happened with the neo-liberal system, especially since the United States with the neo-cons decided to become the leader of a unipolar world, which went along with the neo-liberal system, where the rich became so rich that it is unreasonable, and the poor become poorer. And you have right now, I think something like 95 million people in the United States who are no longer counted as being in the labor force, because they have given up looking for work, or they are sick, or they are in prison, or they are somehow misplaced in some other form.

So, I think that what is happening right now is that Xi Jinping has put on the agenda a model of economic cooperation which needs to be studied. I think it's a *big* mistake that the Europeans are just dismissing it. Like, for example, the French Economic and Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire just went to Berlin yesterday, and there he addressed a German-French economic forum, where he said, now Europe must stop being naïve, we must be united to stand up against China, against Russia, against the United States. And then the German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel yesterday on a TV show basically said the same thing – he said, now, Europe must stand united against the aggressive powers of Russia and China, where human rights mean nothing. I mean, this is such an arrogance! You know, talking about “democracy,” why don't you just look for a second at what happened with Hillary Clinton's campaign? Now the big scandal in the United States is that the Democratic Party leadership, one year before the party convention was to supposedly decide on the candidate for the 2016 Presidential election, has decided it would be Hillary. And then they channeled illegal money, violating FEC rules up and down, right and left, intriguing against Bernie Sanders. And then, concocting “intelligence” against Trump with the help of British intelligence, played back into the United States. I mean, this is a joke! There is no democracy, not in this present system.

And I think that to accuse Russia and China of being “aggressive” is just absolutely wrong! The whole question of what was the Ukraine crisis: [Former German Chancellor] Helmut Schmidt said it very clearly: The reason why the Ukraine crisis happened, and where it started was in the Maastricht conference in 1992, because that was when the EU decided to have the Eastward expansion without limit. And that is the same thing as what the NATO expansion to the East was, breaking all promises made to Gorbachev at the time, that NATO would never expand to the borders of the Soviet Union, or Russia for that matter. So we are in a real crisis. And rather than being so arrogant and saying there are no human rights in China and Russia, and these countries are “aggressive” – which they are not – we should rather reflect on what should the future be? China happens to be the only country which has presented a strategic model of international relations based on a win-win cooperation of respect for the sovereignty of the other country, of non-interference, of accepting the other social model of the other system; and this is a strategy for peace. This is the idea of overcoming geopolitics. And we should not forget that it was geopolitics which was not only the cause for many wars in history, but especially two world wars in the 20th century. And the idea to have an inclusive, win-win cooperation among all countries on the planet, what should be against that? Why can Europe not, why can’t Denmark, and Germany, and France, and Italy, just say: When the relationship between the United States and China is already now on such a new historical basis, where the strategic partnership between China and Russia is also very, very strong, and Putin and Xi Jinping have both said that the relationship between these two countries are on the best level ever. And now China and the United States are saying the same thing about their two countries. Now, what could be better, than to have the United States, China and Russia working together for a new paradigm of relations among nations? Why can the European nations not just say, “Well, that is very good, because if the biggest nuclear powers can cooperate in a peaceful way, then the danger of a thermonuclear war is obviously diminished and could be eliminated in a short period of time; and we cooperate.” I mean, we have so many tasks which are urgent: The reconstruction of Southwest Asia, of the Middle East, of countries which have been completely destroyed by wars which are the outgrowth of regime change, of the unipolar world, on wars

based on lies, which have cost {millions} of people their lives in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen. These countries have been absolutely destroyed and they need to be reconstructed.

There is already a discussion that the only way you can do that, is by extending the New Silk Road into the Middle East. And I have said for a very long time, that the only way how you can have peace in the Middle East, is if all the major neighbors – Russia, China, India, Iran, Egypt, hopefully the United States, and hopefully European nations, are all working together, and then you can eliminate the present tensions and frictions and ongoing fights, which have almost been eliminated in Syria and Iraq.

And look at Africa: Don't you think it's time that we join hands with China in the development of Africa? Do you really think that the underdevelopment of Africa is a natural condition? No! It is the result of hundreds of years of colonialism, of decades of IMF conditionalities, which insisted, that countries should pay their debt and not pay for infrastructure and not pay for social expenditures. And the reason why Africa has been in such a terrible condition is because it was the policy of the West {not} to develop the African continent.

And now China has come, and said, "no," we have the idea to eliminate poverty in every corner of the planet, and they have started the industrialization of Africa, and Xi Jinping has offered to Europe, to the United States, to join hands and have joint projects in all of these countries.

Don't you think it's time that we become adult as a human species? I think it should be clear to everybody that in the age of thermonuclear weapons, war cannot be a way of resolving conflicts. And I think also, the idea that the human species should be able to come up with an idea of self-governance of one human species; that it's not a natural condition that you always will have one nation against another nation, or a group of nations against another group of nations.

In reflecting about what happened in the recent period, especially with the 19th Party Congress of the CPC, where Xi Jinping developed a perspective between now and 2050, it is very clear that if you look at the long arc of human civilization, sometime the idea that we would be the one humanity, the "community for a shared future for mankind" – which is the formulation Xi Jinping always uses – had to come! And that it comes from China should not be a reason not to be up on the idea.

It has to do with the 5,000 year history of China, the 2,500 years of Confucian tradition that this idea was made by China, but it is a universal idea, it's not something limited to one culture or one nation.

So I think we are at a very exciting moment of history. I feel very much vindicated that the work, not only of the Schiller Institute, but the organization associated with the name of my husband, Lyndon LaRouche, is now being implemented. This goes back all to the early '70s, where my husband developed the proposal for an International Development Bank, the IDB. This was picked up by the Non-Aligned Movement in '76, in their final resolution in Colombo, Sri Lanka; and it was the idea that a new credit institution should be created, replacing the IMF, which would provide – at that time, the idea was 400 billion deutschmarks, or \$200 billion approximately, per year, for technology transfer to the developing countries.

And that's what China is now doing. That's what they're doing with the AIIB, with the New Development Bank, with the different Chinese banks, focusing on the real economy.

Then, if you look at all the development plans we have been working on: The first development plan for Africa, we published in 1976. We had a plan for the development of Latin America, working with [then Mexican President] López Portillo. We had a 40-year development plan for India, on which we worked together with Indira Gandhi. We had a 50-year development plan for the Pacific Ocean Basin in the early '80s.

Then, in '89, we had the Productive Triangle for the development of East and West Europe. And in '91, when the Soviet Union disintegrated, we proposed a peace plan for the 21st century, starting with Eurasian Land-Bridge, which we already called the New Silk Road, at that time.

So I feel very much that our lives' work has absolutely come into reality. And what we have to do now, is we have to get European nations to understand that the crisis not that China is making these proposals, and the crisis is not that Trump is rejecting the neoliberal model, at least as it was represented by Bush and Obama and Hillary. The real crisis is that people in Europe are still absolutely somehow in chains to their own ideological thinking that they, first of all, are very Euro-centric; they think Europe is the navel of the world; while in reality, the power center is shifting to Asia, since they have better principles than we have right now.

And just to illustrate the point, the Bundeswehr, the German army, put out this study already in February of this year, where they have basically six scenarios by the year 2040. It has all options, where the worst option is Europe will completely collapse, many European countries will leave the EU and join with the Russia bloc; and Europe will just lose all importance. If you look at these six scenarios, what you see there is an absolutely wrong method of thinking: It's the projection of the status quo, of geopolitical thinking, and naturally in a changing world, there is no way how such thinking can survive, therefore, if they keep thinking that way, this is probably what happens in Europe.

Now, look at what China is doing, instead. They just created the largest, highest-level regulatory body, which is even more important and has higher ranking than all the ministries, for the case of a new financial crisis. And it has absolutely nothing to do with the Chinese debt, because the Chinese debt has, as a counterforce, real assets – investments in infrastructure, in industries and so forth, so if there would be a blowout, these assets will be there. While the monetarist system of the trans-Atlantic sector, people have learned absolutely nothing after the crisis of 2008. That is the real danger, and obviously China is looking at that, and Xi Jinping has said this in many speeches since the G20 summit last year in Hangzhou, that the causes of the 2008 crisis have not been eliminated, and therefore the danger of a new crisis is absolutely there.

So what we have to do, is we have to absolutely reflect, what is wrong with the European thinking. The problem is not that other countries are rising and we are stagnating. The problem is that Europe has turned away from its highest traditions.

We have now a pretty decadent culture. If you look at the youth culture, pop music, many of these so-called pop singers are outright Satanic: They are ugly, they promote an image of man which is a beast, it's full of violence, it's pornographic, and it's just "everything goes." There is no more limit, there is no morality, everything is allowed: You don't have two sexes, you have in Germany now officially three sexes, you have 49 genders, it's just becoming absolutely Sodom and Gomorrah, or very much parallel to the end-phase of the Roman Empire, where you had similar phenomena.

So, I think that the problem is not China rising. The problem is that Europe has moved away. We have a beautiful tradition. We have a Classical period, the Renaissance of Italy, we have the Andalusian Renaissance, the École Polytechnique in France. We have a German Classical period which has produced some of the most outstanding thinkers, composers, poets, you know, the rich tradition linking the Classical period of Germany with that of Denmark. I mean, Danish people saved the life of Friedrich Schiller.

So there are enough points where we can say, "Let's just go back to our best traditions, and then we will find out that the Classical periods of Europe, and the Confucian tradition of China, and the Classical periods of other nations, are indeed creating the basis for a new Renaissance."

I think we are at an incredible moment of history, and we should just remind ourselves of the words of Friedrich Schiller, who said, "A great moment should not find a little people." So let's try to elevate our people, to think big, think beautiful, become beautiful souls, create the basis that all children have a chance to become geniuses. And if that is in our willpower to do, and this is why the election campaign of Trump and the other members of the Schiller Institute are so absolutely important, and that is why we should all be happy that the Schiller organization exists in Denmark and creates an option for all Danish people to join this incredible historical moment and make a better world for all of us. [applause]