

Helga Zepp-LaRouche i København den 27. april 2015: engelsk afskrift

HELGA ZEPP-LAROUCHE ADDRESSES "CHINA'S 'ONE BELT, ONE ROAD'
POLICY' SEMINAR IN COPENHAGEN, April 27, 2015

Here is the transcript of Helga Zepp-LaRouche's address to the Schiller Institute seminar in Copenhagen, which was held Copenhagen Business Confucius Institute, Copenhagen Business School. Click [her](#) for the audio and video from Helga Zepp-LaRouche's speech and the other speeches from the seminar.

TOM GILLESBERG: I have the great honor of introducing Helga Zepp-LaRouche, who has come here from a rather busy schedule both in Germany and the United States, but also the whole world she's intervening to. Just as a short introduction, Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche has been since 1977 the wife and very close collaborator of Lyndon LaRouche in the United States, the economist, philosopher, statesman who is giving leadership in the U.S., for the U.S. to return to the intentions of its founders, to be a promoter of sovereign nations that can collaborate on an equal footing to secure the benefits for all nations and peoples. And Helga has a very, I think, close connection to China. As a young journalist she traveled to China in 1971, in the height of the Cultural Revolution as one of the first Western journalists and actually saw on the spot what was going on. She then became politically active with the LaRouche movement and embarked on a life-long battle for a new just world economic

order, for the possibilities of development for all nations and peoples.

She then founded, among many other things, the Schiller Institute, in 1984. She is presently the chairwoman of the German political party, the BÜSo – the Bürgerrechtsbewegung Solidarität, or Civil Rights Soliarity Movement. She was vry active after the Fall of the Berlin Wall and one of the authors

of the Schiller Institute program for the development of the world after the Iron Curtain had fallen of the program the Paris-Berlin-Vienna Productive Triangle, a Locomotive for the World Economy. And when that did not materialize, she was very active in extending that program to the program for the Eurasian

Land-Bridge, going from China and Asia to Europe and having a development of the whole region. And as part of that, she then became a visitor many times to China to speak on the need for a

New Silk Road and actually earned her nickname in China as the “Silk Road Lady,” for her efforts to have China embark on this policy.

And since then, she has been also the driving force in holding many scores of conferences in Europe and the United States on the need for creating a paradigm shift, to get the Western world out of its long-term economic, strategic, and cultural crisis. And, over the last couple of years, she has been one of the architects of this report, “The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge.” She has also been leading the campaign to stop the present geopolitical games that threaten to

detonate thermonuclear war and instead get the United States and

Europe to accept the offer of the BRICS countries to join forces

in an inclusive world order, where all nations of the world, on

an equal footing, collaborate to secure the peace and development of all nations.

So I think it's very appropriate that you are here to directly lay what's going on, so please, welcome. [applause]

HELGA ZEPP-LAROUICHE: Thank you, Tom, for these kind words of introduction.

Well I have a certain dilemma, because I want to present to you the potential, which lies in this program, and given the fact

that the Western media have reported very little about it, I have

a dilemma, that I need to tell you, that this is {the} most important political initiative on the planet right now. The dilemma comes from the fact that, by introducing this idea, have

to tell you immediately why this is the case, and that is the reality, that the world is much more close to a new global war,

than most people have an inkling of. And this New Silk Road initiative, which comes from China, but which in the meantime has

been joined by many countries, is the only available war-avoidance policy.

Now there was just on the April 18- 19 in Moscow the Fourth Moscow International Security Conference, and the main subject of

this conference was the danger of nuclear war. And this is a reaction to the fact that NATO has been expanding eastward, up to

the borders of Russia. You have a whole bunch of strategic doctrines which Russia regards as a threat to their security interests, and naturally you have the horrendous situation in Ukraine, which contrary to what the Western media have been reporting on – or not reporting actually – is it's really something which the West must make up. I just participated in

the
last two days, or Friday and Saturday in a conference in
Baden-Baden in Germany, the German-Russian Cultural Days. It's
an
annual conference, and there was a large gathering of German
industrialists and Russian speakers and Russian people. And we
had the fortune to have a videoconference connected to this
conference, which brought in a live program from the former
Prime
Minister of Ukraine, Mr. [Mykola] Azarov. And he gave an
absolutely hair-raising report about the conditions in
Ukraine,
the fact that the country is being torn apart. Political
leaders
are either forced to go into exile or are threatened to be
assassinated; journalists are being killed openly in the
street;
trenches are being built; and, as you know, American soldiers
are
now training the National Guard, which has a lot of Nazi
components in it. And for the Russians this is extremely
severe,
because we are shortly before the 70th anniversary of the end
of
Nazism and the end of the Second World War, and the mood of
the
people were really horrified to see this endorsement of Nazis
70
years after the Second World War.

Now, I don't want to go into this in depth, we can do that
in the discussion if people have questions about it, but I
think
this crisis, in Ukraine in particular, I could also point to
the
Middle East, which is in a similar horrible condition, makes
very, very clear, that if we as humanity cannot move away from
geopolitics – geopolitics was the reason for two world wars in

the 20th century, and right now the continuation of geopolitics is threatening a new global war. I just want to mention an article in {New York Times} from 19th April, where two generals, Gen. James Cartwright, who is former head of the U.S. Strategic Command, and Gen. Vladimir Dvorkin, who is the chief of intelligence of the Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces, they penned together an article, In which they said that the world has never been so close to the danger of nuclear war globally, and therefore extinction, as right now. And the reason is obviously that even the normal code of behavior among nations, which existed in the Cold War, that you had a red telephone between Kennedy and Khrushchev, this no longer exists; and you have the two nuclear forces, from NATO and the West and Russia, all the time on launch on warning. And launch on warning means there are only a few minutes time, if one side perceives a launch, either by intention or by accident, they have a few minutes, actually it's estimated three minutes' time, to respond or be eliminated. So that shows you how extremely close we are to the danger of a global extinction of civilization. Because if this would happen, we would not exist as humanity. And I'm saying it with that gravity, to say that this calls all the more urgently, for a different approach. And the different approach must be to move away from geopolitics and move in the direction of the common aims of mankind. And it just happens to be, that the policies which are proposed by President Xi Jinping, which he calls a "win-win"

policy, is exactly that. It's the idea, that with the New Silk Road, you have a policy where every country which participates in it, will have a benefit for it. The New Silk Road, Maritime Silk Road policy by China is {not} a new imperial policy replacing the Anglo-American imperial policy, but it is a completely new model of the nations among nations, where the enormous example of the Chinese economic miracle, which China was able to develop in the last 30 years – you know, where China in {30 years}, developed as much as most industrial nations needed 100 or 200 years to develop – and China is now offering to export that model and have other countries benefit in a similar way from that kind of economic miracle, which China did.

Can you move to the first slide?

So the world has changed since July last year, the summit of the BRICS countries in Fortaleza in Brazil. And this is a picture which was made at this occasion, showing the leaders of Russia, India, Brazil, China and South Africa. And they basically concluded a new strategic alliance – economic alliance, which Prime Minister Modi characterized in the following way: He said, “This is the first alliance of nations, which are not defined by their current capacity, but by their future potential of development.” And at another occasion, Modi said that the biggest potential of India is, that 60% of its people are below 30 years of age, and therefore, if they are well-educated and

developed,
they can come to the help of other nations, which has demographic
problems, like Germany, for example.

What these countries did, is they concluded an enormous
amount of economic treaties, of economic cooperation,
including
peaceful development of inherently safe nuclear energy, the
development of fusion energy, joint space projects, space
travel,
and numerous other high-tech cooperation areas.

Then, the next day, they met with the leaders of South
America, the organizations of CELAC [Community of Latin
American
and Caribbean States] and Unasur [Union of South American
Nations]. Then a little bit later they also had meetings with
countries of ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations]
and

actually you have now a completely parallel system of
economics,
which is really going to be the infrastructure development of
the
world.

Now this here is an official picture of the New Silk Road
and the Maritime Silk Road, which shows you the old Silk Road
from Xi'an, actually it goes even farther to the west,
Lianyungang, where the end of that Silk Road is on the China
Sea,

all the way through Urumqi, then Central Asia into Europe; and
then Maritime Silk Road is actually connecting even Africa and
much of the Pacific also into Europe. And this is modelled on
the
famous Maritime Silk Road of the 15th century, which connected
the nations of the world already at that time.

Now, I want to very quickly say that this made us very
happy, when Xi Jinping announced the New Silk Road in
Kazakhstan

in 2013, we jumped that high – you know, in the Schiller Institute – because we had promoted this idea. This was our proposal when the Berlin Wall came down, in '89, and the wall no longer was there. So we said let's connect Paris with Berlin and Vienna, which is a triangular area of the size of Japan, and has the highest concentration of industrial capacity in the world; and let's make corridors to Warsaw, to Kiev, to the Balkans. And it would have been a perfect way to intervene. Unfortunately at that time, despite the fact there was a very good resonance, you had Bush Sr., you had Margaret Thatcher, and they had completely different ideas: They wanted to reduce Russia from a superpower to at Third World, raw materials-exporting country, and therefore they introduced the shock-therapy, instead, which dismantled the Russian industrial potential between '91-'94, to only 30% left. But then, when in '91, the Soviet Union collapsed, we connected this triangle, Paris-Berlin-Vienna, and we said: OK, now the Iron Curtain is gone, now we can have development corridors connecting the population and industrial centers of Europe with those of Asia, through corridors. And then we looked at the best geographical conditions. I should say, we were inspired very much by the railway program of Sun Yat-sen, the founder of modern China, who had developed a whole network of Chinese railways, and that went into this program. So, at that time we said let's look at the best geographical preconditions, and we found, not so accidentally, that the old Trans-Siberian Railroad and the old Silk Road, the ancient Silk Road, had the best geographical conditions to build such infrastructure. So at that point the shock therapy started to destroy

Russia's economy, but we kept holding seminars – we had hundreds of seminars, in Europe, in United States, and then, eventually, in Warsaw, in Budapest, in Moscow. And in '96 even in Beijing, where the Chinese government had responded to our proposal to all the governments, to hold a big conference promoting the regions along the Silk Road. And I was there as a speaker, but then came the Asia Crisis in '97, and China, at that conference said, that this will be the long-term strategy for China until 2010. But then the Asia crisis brought chaos and then the Russian GK0 crisis [in '98].

So in the mean time we kept working on this initial proposal which grew. And the latest of this, is this report: It's a 370-page study which is really the idea of connecting the world through infrastructure corridors.

Now, here you see some of these projects, which are already being built, by the BRICS, by some of the other countries – for

example China is now building a transcontinental railroad from Brazil to Peru, this is letter A [on the map]. This has already

started – you know, Latin America does not have an infrastructure network! It is still in the colonial condition, where you have little railroads from the iron ore mountain to the

coast, but if you want to travel from Peru to Brazil, you have to

go via Miami. So this is the idea, to develop a continental railroad system.

Then number 1 there is the canal built in Nicaragua, it will be the second Panama Canal, which obviously is an extremely

important project, which will mean that Nicaragua has a very good chance to become an industrial country, with improving living standards of its population. Naturally the Greenies are going crazy and they say there are two fishermen who have to be resettled. But, first of all, these people will be compensated, and secondly without infrastructure, there is {no} industrial development; without infrastructure there is not even agriculture, because without infrastructure you cannot transport and process food.

So then, naturally you have the Bering Strait, this number 2. This has been recently announced by Vladimir Yakunin, who is the head of Russian Railways. And he proposed (I don't think I have that slide), a fast train connection from London all the way through the Bering Strait to New York. A couple of years ago, Mr. LaRouche and I participated in a conference in Moscow where the fathers of the Bering Strait Project were present. These were all older men over 80, and they said: "Oh, in 20 years, we can go with a maglev train from Acapulco through the Bering Strait to Mumbai, and this will be much faster than you can go by ship today," and they had a very pioneering spirit.

So this is very important because this connection not only would connect the transport lines of North America with those of Eurasia, but it would be absolutely crucial to open up the Arctic Region. In the Far East of Russia you have all the raw materials which are in the periodic table of Mendeleev, and they represent

for the next 100 years a very important raw-material potential which will be important not only for Russia, but for Europe, for the United States, for China, for Japan, for Korea. So this will be the way to develop it, because these raw-material are in permafrost conditions, and you have to build, you have to build cities, which have a dome, because people have to live – you cannot live in permanfrost conditions like that, you have to have a special way of developing it.

Now, I could go into many other projects – the Seikan tunnel between the Japanese islands does already exist, it connects the two important islands in Japan. Then the Bohai Tunnel will connect two Chinese cities and shorten the transport.

The brown line there, this is the actual Silk Road [Silk Road Economic Belt], which is now being promoted by China; this larger gray line is the [21st-Century] Maritime Silk Road; but as you can see, it stretches all the way to Europe and into Africa. Prime Minister Li Keqiang was several times last year in Africa, and he proposed to connect all African capitals through a fast train system. And I know from many Africans, leaders and leading politicians, they are very happy about that, because Africa right now urgently needs development. And I think, if you look at the horrendous refugee crisis, the people drowning by the thousands in the Mediterranean, it makes it {so} clear that to bring development to Africa is the only way how you can overcome this unbelievable tragedy. And if Europe would have a right mind,

they

would join! You know, rather than sending the Triton boats to chase the refugees back, which is a complete moral bankruptcy of

Europe.

Now this is very interesting, because the big question always comes, "who should finance all of this?" As you know, already at the Brazil Fortaleza summit, the BRICS countries agreed, together with some of the other countries, to create new

financial institutions: the New Development Bank of the BRICS, the AIIB [Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank] was already founded in last October, but also a whole set of other banks. And it came from the idea, that when the Asia crisis happened in

'97, in which speculators like George Soros speculated against the currencies of countries like Korea, Philippines, Thailand, in

one week up to 60-80% downward, and these countries had no defense; so they concluded, "OK, we have to protect ourselves,"

so they created the Contingency Reserve Arrangement [CRA], which

is a pool of currencies of a \$100 billion, which will defend all

of the participating countries against speculative attacks.

Now, the AIIB, the New Development Bank, the New Silk Road Fund, the Maritime Silk Road Fund, the bank of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization [SCO Development Bank], and the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Development Fund, are all new banks which follow a completely different principle than Wall Street and the City of London, or Frankfurt,

for that matter. They say, we do not participate in speculation,

but we will use these funds only for investment in the real economy, into these projects. And this is urgently needed,

because as you know, despite all of the quantitative easing of the Federal Reserve, and now [ECB President] Mr. Draghi, who are printing money as if there would be no tomorrow, the money does not arrive at the industries! Because the banks, the speculators prefer to keep the casino going, and this is actually reaching a point where at the IMF annual spring meeting which just took place in Washington, the IMF itself put out a report saying that we are facing a collapse {bigger} than 2008 with the collapse of Lehman Brothers. And several economists from J.P. Morgan and other banks warned that you could have a simultaneous stock and bond crisis, causing a meltdown of the system; or, if the Federal Reserve would increase the interest rate only by a tiny, tiny amount it could blow up the whole derivatives bubble of \$2 trillion. And if the Troika and the ECB are pushing Greece out of the Eurozone, that could also trigger a collapse, because it would not so much hurt Greece, but it would blow up the European banks.

So therefore, the existence of these banks are de facto a lifeboat in the face of the immediate danger of a collapse. Now, as you probably have noticed, when the question came, who would be a founding member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, which was already constituted last October, but the date until which countries could join as founding members was end of March [2015]. And the United States put a lot of pressure

on the allies, not to join; they didn't want Korea to join; naturally, they didn't want Europe to join, and they put maximum

pressure on Asian countries not to join. But then, it just so happened, that the best ally of the United States, Great Britain,

was the first European country to join, and that caused a kind of

a dam break, and then Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and all the Scandinavian countries joined. And the actual founding members included 57 countries. And they basically participate in different degrees in this new bank, which obviously people realize that what China is offering with

the economic cooperation in these projects, is much, much more attractive than to participate in more speculative bubbles which

eventually will pop. So, this was from the founding meeting in October, already, but in the meantime, it become many more states.

Now, this is also very interesting, because this is a proposal which my husband made in 1975. It was called the International Development Bank, and it was basically the same idea as the AIIB, today, saying that the IMF and the World Bank

do not provide enough credit for Third World development. This was a proposal he made in '75, and it went into the final resolution of the Non-Aligned Movement in 1976 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and it had the same idea as the AIIB.

The World Bank only spends per year \$24 billion for projects. But the actual requirement of the developing countries, is about \$8 trillion in the next years! So there is no way the World Bank can manage that, and this bank, on the other side, the AIIB, and the other banks will grow and will become more productive.

Now, this is very important because what the AIIB and the New Development Bank and this new economic system which is

emerging represent, is something completely different than monetarism. Monetarism is the idea that you have to have maximum profit, the real economy doesn't count; as a matter of fact, you all know, that if you have an industrial firm which lays off 10,000, the stock goes up! It doesn't make any sense. In the realm of monetarism, this is explained by the idea that the firm becomes "more productive" because fewer workers work more, and therefore the profit is greater; but from the standpoint of the real economy this makes no sense at all.

And it is exactly that philosophy which has caused the Troika to destroy Greece. What they managed to do is to reduce the Greek economy by one-third, to increase the youth unemployment to 65%, and people are extremely unhappy, not only in Greece, but also in Italy, in Spain, Portugal and so forth. What we propose, both the IDB and these new banks, is really going back to a completely different model. It's based on the idea of this man, whom you all recognize, I'm sure – he is Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. And he created, actually, the United States, by creating the National Bank and the credit system, because, what he did, was after the War of Independence, the different states in the United States were totally indebted. So he unified the United States by taking over the debt obligations of these states, and basically saying, it's no longer your business, we'll take these debts as a Federal state, as a national state, and we will transform that into a credit mechanism, only aimed at areal production.

And that was really the actual founding of the United States. And this idea of a credit system which is not monetarism, but it is the idea that credit can only be given for future production in the real economy, not for speculation, that model was what made the United States a great industrial power.

Because, despite the fact that some following Presidents then tried to dismantle it, the United States went back to it, again and again. It was the policies of John Quincy Adams; it was the policy of Abraham Lincoln with the greenbacks; it was the policy of Franklin D. Roosevelt. This is how Roosevelt brought the United States out of the Depression of the '30s by building the Reconstruction Finance Corp. which financed the New Deal, and that's how America got out of the Depression. And, also, it was the basis for the German Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, the state bank, which help to finance the reconstruction and the economic miracle of Germany in the postwar period – which was modeled on the Reconstruction Finance Corp.

So this is therefore, not something new. It's a tested model, it has always been the basis when there was progress in the real economy, as compared to the financial markets. I'm not talking about the financial markets, I'm talking about real production for the livelihood and the common good of the people.

So the first step there, we have called for – Tom mentioned it – that we think it is an absolute matter, actually of war and peace, if we succeed to get the European nations {and}

America to join with this "win-win," all-inclusive, non-geopolitical system. And, as I said, the financial system of Wall Street and the City of London {is} about to blow up, bigger than 2008, and the only way how that can be avoided from leading to a chaotic collapse, is by going back to the Glass-Steagall legislation which was introduced by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, which was his answer to the collapse of '29-'33 period. And he separated the banks, by making the commercial banks separate from the investment banks, so that the investment bank could not have access to assets of the commercial banks. And this exist from 1933 until 1999 in the United States, and in Europe you had practically the same thing, because you had a very regulated banking sector. But the Wall Street forces did not like it, because naturally it reduced their profit, so they worked very hard to eliminate it, which they were able to do in 1999, and the whole super-expansion of the speculative area only occurred after this law was eliminated. And the good news, is that there is a right now a Presidential candidate in the United States, who has said that his first act if he would move into the White House, would be to reintroduce this Glass-Steagall law: And that is the former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, about whom many papers are writing that he has a very good chance to take the Democratic nomination, because many people think Hillary Clinton

has made too many compromises with bad policies, when she was Secretary of State. But, O'Malley is not alone, but you have a whole bunch of people around him, who say the United States must

go back to being a Republic; it must go back to putting the common good above the interests of Wall Street. And that is really the "to be or not to be" question of the whole world. Now, if this reorganization would take place, then, the United States could easily join with the BRICS countries in such

efforts as the AIIB and other such things. And, as you know, the

Greek government has also demanded that there is no way how they

can pay their debt, because as you know, of all the rescue packages which went to Greece, only 3% of that money remained in

Greece, while all the rest really went to the European banks. And therefore, to demand that Greece should pay back these debts,

it's just impossible! And the Greek government has made the point that they want to have a European Debt Conference, like Germany in 1953, without which the German economic miracle would

never have taken place. So if this all happens, and that could happen in the short term, Europe could easily participate in that.

Now, I just want to say, the ancient Silk Road was not only an exchange of silk, and porcelain, and paper, printing, gunpowder, and many, many other goods, but much more important than that, it was an exchange of ideas and technologies: Silk making is more important than silk; how to print books is more important than the book. So the ancient Silk Road was an extremely important exchange of goods and culture, and ideas, and

understanding among people – and so will be the New Silk Road, just with modern means.

Now, if you go back to the picture, this is why we have said, "The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge" where we have the camels, sort of symbolizing the old Silk Road, and here you see a maglev train, and here you see a rover on the Moon, to give you an idea that the exchange of technologies and goods in the modern world will be the most advanced technologies to the benefit of all of mankind.

So going back to the problem here, is, obviously, if you look at that map, you see, these are the deserts of the world: A

very broad desert band which goes from the Atlantic coast of Africa, through the Sahara-Sahel zone, the Arab Peninsula, the Middle East, all the way to China. And that desert is growing. It's expanding. And then you have the desert in the West of the

United States, which is right now ruined by a big drought in California, in Texas, in all the states west of the Mississippi;

and naturally, Brazil has a drought.

In the United States this is very severe. Here you have a global water scarcity map; here you have the water stress indicator. In the United States, just to mention that, Governor

Brown of California has just announced that the water consumption

will be cut by 25% up to 36%! Now that is the death to Californian agriculture; in the south of California, for example,

in the Central Valley, in this region, 40% of the entire agriculture of the United States is produced, and this is now being completely destroyed. Here you see, this is a former reservoir, which is almost dried up. This is the snowpack: in 2013, it was relatively, a lot of snow, and last year, no

snow,

so the drought is expanding, and obviously, to cut consumption means you kill people. I mean, you cannot cut water – where should these people go? There are already cities and towns where

people are – it's not just not watering their lawn – it's taking public showers, of getting water rations, and then eventually people have to move away, because if there is no water

there is no life. There were already herds being transformed, of

hundreds of thousands of head of cattle, and the idea to just accept that, and as Governor Brown said, "California historically

has only a carrying potential of 400,000 people," is ridiculous,

because there are presently 39 million people living in California! And the idea to say there's only room for 400,000 is

completely ahistorical about what is the role of human beings, who differentiate themselves from animals by being able to increase the living capability for more people by improving productivity, by transforming the industry, the infrastructure,

and in that way, developing the planet.

So obviously, China has taken a completely different approach. Here you see, China is actually the only country which

has taken a very big water diversification: There is on the one

side, the Three Gorges Dam, which is now producing, I think 22 gigawatts of electricity per year, and it has eliminated flooding

which killed many thousands of people in the past; and even more

important, is the water diversification project from the southern

area of the Yangtze River through a Northern Route into the Yellow River and the desert area of China; and the Middle Route

to the region around Beijing.

So this is actually a model which is now being followed by Narendra Modi for India, who just agreed to make gigantic water

projects to tame the water coming down from the Himalayas, and also making canals out of 101 Indian rivers.

Now, what most people don't consider is, that water is not a natural resource like iron ore, or gold, or whatever: You can't

use up, because water is organized in global cycles, where 90% of

the precipitation rains down over the ocean, only 10% rains down

over the land. And that water, the Sun causes evaporation, this

leads to cloud formation, and then the water rains down, and it

is human activity, which can make these cycles more efficient.

It's not just, that it rains down over land and then flows back

into the ocean. You can use it in agriculture, you can use it in

industrial production, you can use it in other urban activities,

and it is actually the ability of man to make that more efficient.

Here you see a very interesting comparison – you see here the water diversion of the United States. Even though the water

diversion of China has started much more recently, it's almost double, which shows you the completely different philosophy.

This is a very important project, which is part of the approach to fight the desert, and this is the Lake Chad Transaqua

project, which is the idea, that you could eliminate a lot of the drought in the Sahel zone and around Lake Chad by bringing some of the surplus water from the headwaters region of the Congo on the one side, through rivers and canals into Lake Chad, which has been reduced to less than 10% right now; and also through a second canal along the Nile to increase the agricultural land in Africa tremendously. And also now to bring real development to these countries, without which you will have more people running away from Boko Haram, which is now at Lake Chad and Nigeria. And without a real development perspective, there is no way how you can contain these projects.

Human beings are the only species, which can improve the conditions of mankind again and again and again, and the last 10,000 years, or 20,000 years since the last Ice Age, just think, what an enormous development mankind has made. We have increased the population potential of the Earth from about 5 million at most, to presently around 7 billion. This is due to the fact that man, unlike animals, can make new discoveries, discovers the universal principles of our physical universe, and think things, which have never been thought before.

Therefore, the attack on the water crisis is not just a question of using the aquifers, because the aquifers can – they replenish, but this goes much too slowly. It's not only re-diverting the rivers, dams, but it's especially influencing

the global cyclical process of water. There is a relationship between what happens in our Solar System and the rain. Because the Sun, which shines on the oceans, causes evaporation, but the

Sun is not the only solar impact on the weather; it's also the cosmic radiation, which comes from our galaxy, which leads to cloud formation, ionization of moisture, and therefore to rain.

That is not just something where we have to wait passively until

it happens, but we can study, for example, what is happening in

our galaxy, which influences the weather, and then understand better, how we can create more water.

Here, you see our Solar System in a 32 million year cycle, moving along the Milky Way. The Milky Way is basically a flat plateau, in which our Solar System is moving up and down in cycles, and you have a complete change in the weather patterns,

which comes from the position of our Solar System in our galaxy.

I'm not saying, that we know everything about that yet. We know, that there is a lot of connection between the Solar System,

the galaxy and the weather patterns on our Earth, and I can assure you, that if you look at the long-term changes in our weather patterns, then {these} things are a lot more important,

than whatever you use in your little car as CO2 production.

Because these are forces, which are of a completely different magnitude, and naturally, the climate is changing, but galactic

processes are really what is the cause of it.

Anyway, the idea of using cosmic rays and ionization of moisture is already successfully being done by Israel and by some

of the Gulf States; Russia is doing a lot of research on this,

and this is, what we have to do. The reason, why I'm saying this, is, the Silk Road is not just building railways from Dunhuang to Lisbon or wherever; it's not just building roads, it's not just building canals. The modern Silk Road, the New Silk Road is, exactly as the old Silk Road was, {an exchange of ideas, of technology, for the common good of all.}

Obviously, today the big challenges are world poverty, are the danger of war, are the danger of water scarcity, which could become the reason for new wars. So the New Silk Road – and this is what we understand with it, and I'm sure that our Chinese friend will show his perspective – but that is the philosophy, which we have taken as a basis in our approach, that the New Silk Road is {a vision}, of how humanity can move away from geopolitics and the stupid idea that we have to fight over scarce resources, that we have to create wars because we don't like another system, that we have to eventually self-destruct, but that we have to make the evolutionary jump to the idea of the common aims of mankind and to define the next phase of evolution in the interest of all.

If you look at this, the Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin of Russia just two days ago, pointed to the fact, that the BRICS countries are all space travelling nations. China is the leader in space travel. When China in December 2013 landed the Yutu rover on the Moon, with was the idea, that in a few missions later, I think it was in 2017, this Yutu – “Jade Rabbit” – that they will bring back helium-3. Helium-3 is an isotope, which is actually a fuel for fusion power. It's much more efficient than deuterium or tritium, because with this heavy

deuterium and tritium in the fusion process, you are still using turbines, and you use turbines to create electricity in the old way. But with helium-3 you can directly gain electricity from the physical process of fusion power, and therefore, naturally, the energy efficiency is much, much higher. And once we have fusion power, for example, this will create for the first time energy and raw materials security for the Earth. Energy security, because on the Moon, you have several tons of helium-3, which will be sufficient for many tens of thousands of years of energy security on the Earth; and raw materials security, because with the high heat of the plasma torch, you can take any waste, including nuclear waste, including waste in your household, and turn it back into isotopes, which you then can reconstruct and make new raw materials. So this is the vanguard of where mankind must go, and China has made that its national pride. And China, contrary to Germany, which is very stupid with respect to energy – you know, this stupid exit from nuclear energy without having an alternative, is completely crazy – but China has basically created a situation, where they are in the right position to solve this problem, and Rogozin, the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, has said, that the BRICS countries will cooperate in space to solve these problems. So this is extremely important, because if mankind makes

that jump to not have war as a conflict resolution, which in a time of nuclear energy, it should be obvious that we must move to

a different regime, that we must define the common aims of mankind, that which is, – if you have seen these pictures with astronauts and cosmonauts and taikonauts, they all report the same: When they are in space and look at our little planet, this

blue planet, they realize that there are no borders. They also realize that our planet is extremely small in a very big Solar System, in an even bigger galaxy, and there are {billions} of galaxies. So, there are dangers from space, like cosmic radiation, like asteroids; there are all kinds of dangers, which

we don't manage right now. But if we don't want to have the same

fate as the dinosaurs, who became eliminated 65 million years ago, because probably a meteorite hit the Earth and created so much cloud cover, that all the vegetation stopped, and then the

dinosaurs, and 96% of all other species were eliminated; if we as a creative species, {are} really the creative species, we should put our efforts together and defend against common dangers

to our planet, common dangers to our civilization, and unite. And there is no better image for that than space collaboration.

This whole question also has a philosophical dimension.

Because people think, China is just doing an imperial expansion,

they want to have their interests. Well, I have the deepest conviction that what is working in China right now, especially with President Xi Jinping, {is} the 2,500-year-old Confucian tradition in China. And I go even so far to say the Chinese people have Confucius in their genes. Confucius was a philosopher, who reacted to a historical period in China, which

was characterized by war, by great unrest, by turmoil. And he developed the Confucian philosophy, which is beautiful. I can only advise you, in case you are not doing it, study Confucius.

Because Confucius has this idea that there must be harmony in the world, on the planet. And that, for example, the best way to have harmony is, there is one key notion, which is {li}, which is the idea, that each person, each nation, should take its proper place, and develop in the best possible way, and then you have harmony. Because if everybody develops their creative potential and their best maximum capacity, and takes the development of the other as their own interest, and vice versa, then you have peace.

And that should also be based on the other notion of {ren}. {Ren} basically means the same thing as love, or {agapë}, or the Christian idea of charity.

And it happens to be that these ideas are also in the European best tradition. There is a very important philosopher of the 15th century, called Nicolaus of Cusa, who was the founder of modern science, the founder of the modern nation-state, and he was very important: He broke through the barrier from the Middle

Ages to modern times. Because he was actually the person, who brought the Council of Florence into being by first finding handwritings in Byzantium, which were then the basis for the unification of the Orthodox Church with the Roman Church; but when he brought the Orthodox delegation in 1453 to the Council of Florence, he had a stroke of genius: He said, now, I am

thinking

something, which no human being has ever thought before. He then

wrote his {De Docta Ignorantia}, and he developed this notion of

the coincidence of opposites, the {coincidentia oppositorum}, which was the idea, that the One has a higher quality than the Many, and that the human mind is capable of synthesizing some hypothesis, which gives you a deeper insight into the laws of the

universe, into Classical art – in other words, it's the creativity of the human mind, which is the driving force in the

development of the universe. And that's for example, what the Russian philosopher Vladimir Vernadsky called, that the creativity of man is a geophysical force in the universe. Now, what he did basically, is to say – he didn't say it in this way,

but the effect of it was – that in order to move away from the Middle Ages, from the Scholasticism, from the Neo-Peripatetics and the Aristotelean ideas, you had to basically break with the

axioms of the Middle Ages thinking, and that you had to create something basically completely new, a new method of thinking.

And I'm saying, that with the New Silk Road, we have to do exactly that: We have to break away from money, greed, monetarism, all of these things, which really are a decaying culture. If you look at the European, American, Western culture,

it {is} a decaying culture. Just look at the youth culture. Look

at what our young people watch in terms of pop music, video games, the violence, just the popular entertainment has become really degenerate. And we have to break with that, and we have to

combine the New Silk Road economic model – which I did not go into so much today, because I already spoke about it two

months

ago here in Copenhagen – but we have to break with the whole axiomatic of globalization and basically go for a New Renaissance, a new cultural renaissance of thinking, which will

build on the best traditions of each country: on Confucianism, on Vedic tradition of India, on Avicenna [Ibn Sina], and other thinkers, Al-Farabi, Abu Al-Kindi in the Arab world; in Europe,

the great Classical music tradition, the Italian Renaissance, the

German Classical music. We just have to take the high points of

all civilizations, and study that, and start to love the culture

of the other countries, and then we will create out of this a completely New Renaissance, which will bring mankind into a completely new phase of evolution.

Because I do not believe, that the present condition of mankind is, what we are here for! We are not here to kill each other; we are not here to eat caviar, until we have it coming out

of our ears. We are here to be creative! We are here to discover

the laws of the universe, to write beautiful poems, to write beautiful music, to celebrate the creativity of civilization.

And

I think, that the idea of man in space, man going into the next

phase of the evolution of man, is really what will get us out of

this crisis. So that is, what the New Silk Road is all about.

[ovation]