



Building a Bridge to Peace

Feb. 16—The possibility of achieving a peaceful resolution for Israel and the Palestinians can seem downright impossible. The saying “You can’t get there from here,” seems to apply here. Indeed, sometimes you can’t solve a problem without solving the bigger one of which it is a part. That’s the case today, where a new paradigm of international relations is required, a new geometry in which actions are taken, a new set of guiding concepts—that can work in a way that aiming to achieve specific actions cannot.

Consider the setting:

A supposed peace deal is reportedly being worked on by the U.S. and its regional “partners.” It is said to call for a Palestinian state, hostage release, and so forth. But the current U.S. leadership is not going to push Israel to make it happen, and much of the Israeli political leadership is dead-set against it. “Israel will continue to oppose the unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state,” Prime Minister Netanyahu said. “Israel outright rejects international dictates regarding a permanent settlement with the Palestinians.” Finance Minister Smotrich was even more blunt: “We will in no way agree to this plan, which says Palestinians deserve a prize for the terrible massacre they carried out against us: a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital,” he said. “A Palestinian state is an existential threat to the State of Israel...”

Meanwhile, the International Court of Justice responded to a February 12 request from South Africa for additional measures against Israel. “The Court notes that the most recent development in the Gaza Strip, and in Rafah in particular, ‘would exponentially increase what is already a humanitarian nightmare with untold regional consequences,’ as stated by the UN Secretary General,” says the decision. “This perilous situation demands immediate and effective implementation of the provisional measures indicated by the Court

in its Order of 26 January 2024, which are applicable throughout the Gaza Strip, including in Rafah, and does not demand the indication of additional provisional measures.” That is, the ICJ has already told Israel not to commit acts of genocide.

Turn to the other conflict of potentially civilization-ending scope—the NATO-Russia conflict playing out on the territory of Ukraine—a nation that has had the misfortune of being the recipient of nearly two years worth of “aid” and “assistance” from Anglo-American NATO leaders who plainly don’t care about the country’s future.

Ukrainian forces continue to lose men, matériel, and resources, and NATO-land is finding it difficult to maintain funding and supplies of weapons.

The reported death of Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny will provide a new opportunity for finger-pointing and exclamations of false concern about “autocracy.” Be prepared for many of the same people only too happy to see multi-pronged lawfare against presidential candidate Donald Trump, the same people who will not act for the release of Julian Assange, make bold proclamations of principle on behalf of democratic values in Russia.

But this foolishness is not universal!

The Minister-President of Saxony, in Germany, is demanding that the German government be more actively involved in determining who blew up Nord Stream, and to move for the pipeline’s reconstruction. He added that he is “alarmed that there is so little strategic diplomacy” to end the Ukraine war. “We have to work with countries like China, India and other important partners of Russia to achieve this ... there must be a ceasefire in Ukraine as quickly as possible,” he said. Russia is not the great threat: “Germany’s economic weakness is a huge threat to our security.”

The City of Toledo, Ohio, has joined the ranks of those calling for a ceasefire in the Gaza war.

The LaRouche Organization’s promotion of the

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partnered with its anti-growth Malthusianism, and the cultural tendency, even among people seeking to do good, to replace efforts to solve big problems with tiny improvements that are local in scope.

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