

**Citizens Electoral Council of Australia conference
 “The World Land-Bridge: Peace on Earth, Good Will towards All Men”,
 28-29 March 2015, Melbourne, Australia**

From Panel 1 The World Land-Bridge: It’s Being Built!

The Power of the BRICS Process: Views from the UK — Introduction

Gabrielle Peut, CEC Executive Member

Good afternoon, everybody. We have three speakers representing views from the United Kingdom. The format is video interviews, which Glen Isherwood and I recorded last week in London, expressly for this conference. Each speaker is introduced in detail on-camera, so for now, let me identify them only very briefly. They are two senior members of the House of Commons from the British Labour Party—the Right Honourable Michael Meacher and the Honourable Jeremy Corbyn; and, from the Conservative Party, Robert Oulds, who is the Director of the Bruges Group, an organization that drew its name from a September 1988 speech given in Bruges, Belgium by, ironically enough, former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (for whom, as you know, we have no love), but the Bruges Group includes a number of prominent Conservative Party MPs, among others, and is strongly opposed to the tyrannical European Union and to confrontation with Russia.

You will thus hear from different parts of the conventional political spectrum in Britain, in a way that shows the possibility of collaboration, right across the spectrum, on matters of principle like Glass-Steagall banking separation, cooperation with the BRICS, and stopping World War III.

Mr. Meacher is one of the British Labour Party figures (from a grouping in the UK that is kindred to “Old Labor” here in Australia), who fought against the “liberal imperialism” policies of Tony Blair and in 2007 personally challenged Blair’s successor, Gordon Brown, for leadership of the Labour Party. Mr. Corbyn, also a member of the House of Commons for several decades, is especially famous for opposing Blair on launching the Iraq War. Both Mr. Meacher and Mr. Corbyn were very active in the intense Parliamentary debate that resulted in the dramatic UK House of Commons vote against authorising the bombing on Syria, in August 2013.

For more than two decades now, the CEC has played a consistent leading role in the international LaRouche movement’s battle against the murderous policies of the British Crown, and the continuation of British imperialism in whatever guise, including when British-style imperial policies are wrapped in American clothing, as under Bush and the Obama administrations. That August 2013 vote against the Syria bombing, as well as the intense fight within the British Parliament over Glass-Steagall banking separation—about which you will now hear much more—made clear to us that there was serious opposition to these policies from within the UK, as well. In the debates throughout 2013 on the Financial Services Reform bill, amendments for full Glass-Steagall—not the fake reform called “ring-fence”, but full Glass-Steagall

banking separation—lost by a mere nine votes in the House of Lords, and by fewer than 50 votes in the 650-member House of Commons. It was a stunning debate.

The main literature we produced in 2014, therefore, we also sent into the UK. The November 2014 issue of *The New Citizen*, as those of you who read it and mass-distributed it in Australia know, was addressed to a British audience, as well. Thanks to the help of people in this room, we were able to mail our Glass-Steagall pamphlet and *The New Citizen* to every member of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, and to every member of the Scottish, Welsh, and Irish national parliaments, and to every bishop of both the Anglican and the Catholic churches in the United Kingdom. Notably, the head of the Anglican Church Dr. Justin Welby, had spoken passionately for Glass-Steagall during the 2013 parliamentary debates.

As a result of the positive response and follow-up to these mailings, I was able to visit the UK in October 2014, with my good friend Robert Barwick and Glen Isherwood, in conjunction with our travel to attend the international Schiller Institute conference in Frankfurt, Germany; and again, with Glen, in March 2015. There is great interest in the policies of LaRouche, the Schiller Institute, and the CEC, on all these vital issues for mankind, in many different layers in the UK.

Before we move to the videos, I am happy to announce that two of our British speakers today have endorsed the Schiller Institute petition titled “The U.S. and Europe Must Have the Courage to Reject Geopolitics and Collaborate with the BRICS”. They are Mr. Meacher and Mr. Oulds, among the several new supporters of the petition from the UK. Another is Professor Prem Sikka, an economist at the University of Essex, and a key adviser to Labour MPs.

Please now listen to Mr. Meacher, Mr. Corbyn, and Mr. Oulds. My interview with Mr. Corbyn has been slightly abridged.

Let me also just decipher a couple of the acronyms and names of things, used by Mr. Meacher:

You’ll hear “SNP”, which is the Scottish National Party.

The “Trident” program refers to Britain’s nuclear-armed submarines, which are based only in Scotland.

George Osborne, mentioned as setting up the so-called Vickers Independent Commission on Banking, in 2010, has been Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Conservative cabinets since that year.

Without any further ado, we’ll now play the interviews.