

# Current Concerns

The international journal for independent thought, ethical standards, moral responsibility, and for the promotion and respect of public international law, human rights and humanitarian law

English Edition of Zeit-Fragen

## “We Are No Longer Willing to Finance Your Wars” China demands replacement of the dollar – and how does Europe react?

by Jochen Scholz\*, Germany



The EU did not understand which responsibility it refuses to take over, if it does not build accessible bridges for future economic co-operation on same eye level with Russia, Central Asia and Latin America. (picture: reuters)

For the first time in its history, the German Federal Intelligence Service (BND) seems to have provided an analysis, whose central statement cannot simply be dismissed, not even by the left political specter, as legitimization and recommendation for action for the Federal Government to retain or to develop the dominance of industrial nations. So far, there has not been a leak within the government machinery; the German Society for Foreign Policy (DGAP), however, was so kind as to grant us a view at the confidential BND studies via its publication organ International Policy (IP).<sup>1</sup> By the way, the political left in Germany and Europe will have to get used to the term “geopolitics”, without immediately lapsing back into the *Haushofer*-defense reflex.<sup>2</sup> Geopolitics has not only been on the agenda<sup>3</sup> since the BND discovered it. Rather the history of Europe can only be understood by including geopolitics, so for example if we consider the strategy of “balance of power”, which the British Empire used to

contain the states of Europe, or the Cold War and the development since 1989. They were both considerably shaped and designed by the geopolitician Sir *Halford Mackinder*'s<sup>4</sup> disciple, *Zbigniew Brzezinski*,<sup>5</sup> President *Obama*'s highest advisor concerning foreign policy.

We turn to the study hoping that the IP author *Andreas Rinke* reflected the basic assumption of the authors correctly. The BND makes the global financial and economic crisis and the respective managing measures in the USA, China and Russia the starting point of its considerations, which leads to three scenarios.

### US national economy on shaky foundations

It is right to say that the consequences of the collapsed gigantic snowball system, produced by the Anglo-American financial oligarchy, will have an impact on the global balance of power. The BND however conveys the impression that the supposed success or failure scenarios, which result from the different anti-crisis measures, would have a crucial influence on a development that has been emerging for years. It is the forthcoming definite end of the “American century”, whose foundations were laid according to the blueprints of the “War and Peace Studies”<sup>6</sup> in 1944 in Bretton Woods<sup>7</sup> with its institutions and the dollar as key currency. That would, the study says, be no more than wishful thinking. The US national economy is still the largest of the world; it rests however on shaky foundations, because its industrial basis has systematically been withdrawn in favor of aggregated value added in the financial sector. This was made possible by the global dollar system that permitted the USA for many years to accumulate an increasing indebtedness with the rest of the world, the transfer of production to foreign locations and a consumption based on debts. The latter equaled 70 per cent of the gross domestic product of the USA until the end of 2008.<sup>8</sup>

### Transatlantic wishful thinking...

According to Rinke's report, the BND study refrained from presenting options to the Federal Government of how it could react to the

global shift of power. That is certainly a deficiency, because it is to be feared that the planning staffs' perspective in the Office of the Federal Chancellor and in the Foreign Office may be limited to the four-year legislative period, while the looming changes will go far beyond this limited period of time. Nevertheless, both the German and the European policies must adjust themselves to this process, which has been brought up for discussion in the relevant literature for the last ten years. *Chalmers Johnson*<sup>9</sup>, *James Cumes*<sup>10</sup>, *Andre Gunder Frank*<sup>11</sup> and *Kishore Mahbubani*<sup>12</sup> are to be mentioned here.

It is not unexpected what an increasing public realizes as result of the current crisis. Nevertheless, the European policy is still determined by those, who believe they could build dams against the rising economic powers in Asia and Latin America. The attempt to establish a transatlantic free trade zone<sup>13</sup> is such an idea, which *Elmar Brok*, European MP of the Christian Democratic Union, is dedicated to.

### ... an unrealistic closing of ranks

Military history teaches us that so far each mere defense strategy was doomed to failure sooner or later, from the Chinese wall to the Maginot Line and Hitler's Siegfried Line, for example. In comparison with the economic forces, which are at the BRIC-states' disposal<sup>14</sup>, the military ones fade against the historical examples. The vulnerability of the USA adds to this, due to the US dependence on the dollar system, whose intended development in the past 65 years has crucially contributed to the currently accelerating shift of emphasis.<sup>15</sup> In 1948, the chief planner of the US State Department, *George F. Kennan*, formulated the US claim to leadership, exclusively to its own advantage<sup>16</sup>. This claim was already called into question in the 1970s by the developing countries in the context of the *Unctad* initiative “New International Economic Order”<sup>17</sup>. The goal was the dissolution of the Bretton Woods system. At that time, the project failed because of the balances of power and because of the conditions of the Cold War.

## Editorial

While there has been another concentration of Wall Street financial giants earning astronomical amounts of money due to the transfusion of tax dollars, the US are virtually bankrupt – the era of American domination should come to an end. Niall Ferguson writes in an article for “Foreign Affairs”, the journal of the Council on Foreign Relations, that the combination of national debt with military overexpansion suggests that the US are standing on the verge of precipice. The collapse could be brought about over night by a refusal to grant the US money politics further credibility – “possibly a negative statement of a rating agency” (“Foreign Affairs”, March/April 2010, p. 31).

There have been recent voices in many media “expecting” the next – and really big – financial crisis at end of this year. Well-informed persons, in the financial business, envisage a crash of another 70 banks in the US, some 30 in Europe. It would not be the first time that inflation and economic crisis are being used to get rid of debts – at the expense of the people. The economic and social disruptions connected with this will exact their toll. The communities will be challenged to cope with these hard times in public spirit.

To distract the public by means of a new war would not be a new strategy, either. Thus, against the backdrop of his observations of economic and political processes over decades, Professor Eberhard Hamer is warning against a Third World War in view of the US debt. It would not only shift financial problems, it would also allow the remains of the US industrial production, the armament industry, to make money. But most of this money will not be paid by the US itself, because – another remarkable statement in Ferguson's article – “it is inevitable that present US financial politics will reduce the resources available for foreign military operations in the next years.”

And Europe? Jochen Scholz points to the historical responsibility of Europe today which has to free itself from indiscriminate trans-Atlantic subservience, to assume a more independent role, based on the knowledge of present realities. “The world outside the 950 million inhabitants of the ‘West’ has woken up”, he writes and rejects the “permanent division of the world economy into upper and lower levels”. It looks like various representatives of the old world have not understood this yet. Instead of rejecting the ill-fated arrogance of the West once and for all – a historically overdue rejection – the European countries use the Human Rights Council to stir emotions against Iran. (see *Current Concerns*, No. 5, p. 3) It looks like this goes well with the new role of the US, who prefer to remain in the background, in order not to further impair their reputation in the developing countries. The US have been demanding for a while that their partners take more responsibilities – as allies in the NATO and to finance the wars?

In his book “La Fondation Bertelsmann et la gouvernance mondiale”, Pierre Hillard, Professor for international relations at the French “Ecole supérieure du Commerce extérieur”, reveals the influence of the Bertelsmann Foundation on politics in Germany, Europe and worldwide: aside from the foreign political connection of the EU and Germany with Israel, the promotion of the Mediterranean Partnership with the goal of transforming the governments, societies and value systems of Arabic countries, the “European Unity” is an important goal, because only with a Europe that “speaks with one voice”, the goal

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### “We are No Longer Willing to ...”

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Today we have a completely changed situation. The USA as the world's biggest debtor can no longer be the only ones to dictate the conditions of the world economy. Just as little, they are able to reduce their enormous balance of trade deficit. Neither does their national economy produce a sufficient breadth of goods, nor do they have the appropriate quality to start an export offensive, nor the means to regain their competitive ability in appropriate time which they deliberately set at risk. This is all the more true as the major share of the trillion dollar bailouts is used to maintain the snowball system of the big Wall Street banks. Before this background the efforts of the transatlantics in Germany and the European Union, who try to stop the dynamic shift of economic power and political influence to Asia by closing ranks with western powers and at their conditions, bear autistic if not suicidal features.

### Asia and Latin America leave the Titanic

While China, the largest creditor of the USA, feels little desire to add further worthless US debenture bonds to its central bank's balance,<sup>18</sup> and – together with the BRIC states and further Asian partners – thinks about alternatives to the dollar, the USA are planning the emission of further 3 to 4 trillion treasuries<sup>19</sup> to finance their household deficit. This will be at 1.8 trillion dollar and over 13 per cent of the GDP for the current budget year. Since it is to be foreseen that there will not be enough buyers, the FED substitutes and starts the money press. The problem is that the expansion of the money supply is not covered by the production of goods. In this situation, the slackening confidence of the rest of the world in Obama administration's wisdom becomes less obvious in the dollar rate. The “Greenback” is still considered as safe port, if the turbulences on the investment markets seem to be too violent in the eyes of the speculators. However, there are other approaches in Asia and in Latin America for the efforts to break open the global dollar system. The six states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)<sup>20</sup> and the BRIC states intend to settle their trade in their own currencies in

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of the transatlantic partnership, a “Trade G-2” between the US and Europe can be realized which would serve to secure dominance over the rising political and economical centers in Asia and South America. The undermining of the power of the nation-states – whose debt comes at the right time for this plan –, the transfer of national power onto supra-national institutions with its effect of eroding the democratic participation of the citizens, the loss of cultural and national identity and the increasing power of trans-national corporations and elites are both means and goal of this strategy designed by stateless-minded elites. A political participation of Europe or European states is not part of the design. According to Hillard, they could reach this goal only as a consequence of tremendous turmoil – financial, economic and social.

In the next months, Europe has to decide: Does it want to become the executor of colonial plans – like it demonstrated in the Human Rights Council –, denying peoples their own development under the pretext of “Human Rights” and possibly even leading the march towards the next catastrophe? Or will it be able to recollect itself, remembering its own roots and respecting equality, liberty and fraternity not only for those “more equal”, but, beyond a politics of interests, for all humans, all countries and all cultures.

Europe has enough substance to reflect on. A policy simply founded on the right of the mighty, enforcing a rule of force, framed by human rights propaganda, is not a perspective. A reflection on its achievements – from overcoming colonial racism in natural law and the surmounting of absolutist ideas during the Enlightenment to various approaches for a solution of the social question – could surface the better heart of Europe.

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the future. Definite bilateral agreements have already been settled between China and Argentina as well as Brazil and between China and Malaysia.<sup>21</sup> The present agreements, however, only have a regional meaning. Nevertheless, this would have been inconceivable before the outbreak of the crisis. Less than five years ago, the US Government was still in the position to prevent an energy agreement well over 20 billion dollar on Yen basis with Iran by exerting pressure on Japan.

### The world refuses to be led by the self-proclaimed leader nations

The world outside the 950 million inhabitants of the “west”<sup>22</sup> woke up. It does no longer accept the separation of the world economy in top and bottom, in profiteers and receivers of alms, who are to make their resources available for the sumptuous lifestyle of self-appointed leading nations, but otherwise only have to obey. The new self-confidence of the 5.8 billion people in newly industrialising countries (NICs) and developing countries does also show in Africa. The African Union with its 53 members refuses co-operation with the International Criminal Court in case of the warrant of arrest for the Sudanese president. Over 40 African states prefer economic co-operation with China, because it is not combined with the degrading “conditionalities”<sup>23</sup>, which the IMF imposes upon its borrowers in favor of the western financial capital. If the *Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung* (Federal Agency for Civic Education) invites to a panel discussion on “China's commitment in Africa: an immoral relationship?”<sup>24</sup> in the context of a series of lectures, the way of putting the question makes the hubris of western thinking evident, a hubris which developed in 450 years of colonial suppression and 250 years of capitalistic exploitation. Pride goes before a fall, the proverb says. Life punishes those who delay, the last Secretary-General of the CPSU said.

### Arrogance up to the bitter end

Looking at the situation of the USA we have to ask ourselves, what is going on in the minds of the Atlantis disciples, who have become politically socialized since 1949 into the relevant networks<sup>25</sup>. Their threads in Germany meet with the Bertelsmann Foundation and in the USA with the Council on Foreign Relations, and they hold key positions in politics, economics, science and the media. What does them make believe the EU together with a shattered U.S. economy could face the loss of western dominance?

The US with its GDP of 14.326 trillion dollar is indebted internationally with approximately 12 trillion dollar<sup>26</sup>. *Nouriel Roubini* expects that the share of the national debt with the GDP will have doubled by 2014<sup>27</sup>. Unemployment figures rise monthly about several hundred thousand. Unemployment rate is already about 16.5 per cent today if we consider those in part-time jobs and those who have given up searching for a job. 50 per cent of the US budget goes back to borrowing, and its share will be by 13 per cent of the GDP by the end of the financial year.<sup>28</sup> Rising budgetary deficits, further high costs for bailouts in the financial sector and rising national debt will have an inflationary effect and lead to higher interest rates, which oppose a recovery of the private demands. Altogether, Roubini recognizes that the margins for further economic incentives become constantly smaller. *Paul Craig Roberts*, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under President Reagan and former columnist of the “Wall Street Journal”, recently asked with a view on his country “What Economy? There is no economy left to recover. The US manufacturing economy was lost to offshoring and free trade ideology.”<sup>29</sup> He expresses his judgment on the economic policy so far in damnable words “Nothing in Presidents Bush and Obama's economic policy addresses the real issues.” And about the deficit he says, “There is no way for these deficits to be financed except by printing money.”

### An alliance at the expense of even more crisis and wars

Thus are the emperor's new clothes, with which the *Elmar Broks* of the EU want to unite even closer against inevitable geo-economic and geopolitical changes, whose speed

could be retarded at best. However, this can only be done at the expense of economic faults and the danger of further military conflicts in Eurasian key regions.<sup>30</sup> In the medium term, the dollar system can no longer be maintained, because its creditors increasingly withdraw their confidence and now invest their surplus into their own development instead of financing the US consumption. On a shattered foundation, however, no transatlantic foreign trade zone can be established. The EU and the German policy must finally take account of these realities instead of holding on to the planks of a sinking Titanic. The BND shirked at this point.

### Does Europe remain sedated by the transatlantic community of shared values?

The USA as the main profiteer of the dollar-centered world economy and world financial system will do everything to keep their position. Outside Europe, this has already led to some resistance which resulted in actual agreements and counter measures.<sup>31</sup> China demands a world key currency, which is not controlled by only one nation.<sup>32</sup> Not least, Japan's export reversal into the Asian area at the expense of the US market – 50 to 20 per cent – shows the initiating changes emerging from the worldwide chaos<sup>33</sup> that was released by the financial and economic crisis. This process of change may not be left to its own devices. It must get together again. The establishment of new structures is necessary for the world economy, and all the states of the world have to participate in achieving the goal to establish a fair international economic system.<sup>34</sup> While Asia's key states open up a new marketing area, Europe seems to mark time, sedated by 50 years of “transatlantic community of shared values” and predominantly occupied with itself. Nobody seems to think of the consequences of a possible dollar collapse of 40 or 60 per cent due to the US debts which can no longer be funded.

### Emancipation of the big brother and fair alternatives

The one-sided measures of the BRIC states and other Asian countries are comprehensible; they are, however, the opposite of a regulatory transition. The EU obviously did not understand which responsibility it refuses to take over, if it does not build accessible bridges for future economic co-operation on same eye level with Russia, Central Asia and Latin America. It refrains from facing the foreseeable conflict with the USA. This conflict consists of making clear to the main allies that in a future world order and in a future international economic system, it can only be primus inter pares at best and that Europe is no longer willing to wage America's wars. China is more courageous. Its demand for a replacement of the dollar also means, we are no longer willing to finance your wars.

The European Union also did not understand that playing off economic superiority does not create reliable partners. The negotiations under the leadership of Germany with the Latin American regional alliance CAN (“the Andes-Community”) on a free trade agreement breathes that sufficiently known spirit of the imperial “divide and rule”.<sup>35</sup> However, the political and economic stupidity and myopia that become obvious in such a conduct of negotiations are even more abominable: Urgently needed allies for the change of the world economy are intimidated. Peoples have, however, a collective historical memory. Who should know this better than the Germans?

In view of historically unique global challenges, where did the political Left remain? Where are its concepts on the active role of Europe and the EU in the context of current upheavals, in order to moderate faults with possibly devastating consequences for large parts of mankind? Does it not always refer to the internationalism as its maxim for action? Nevertheless, the former long-time chairman of the parliamentary group Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL), the communist *Francis Wurtz*, realized in his 30 years as a delegate of the European parliament: “Europe degrades itself too much in the world. With regard to our significance, we should play a much bigger role”.<sup>36</sup> Just like in the BND study, the political Left is also missing the recommendations for action and the

demands on the only participant, whom it can develop influence upon: The European Union. Is it not true that “Philosophers have hitherto only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is to change it”.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.internationalepolitik.de/ip/archiv/jahrgang-2009/juni2009/metamorphose-dergeopolitik.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.dhm.de/lemo/html/biografien/HausoferKarl/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geopolitik>

<sup>4</sup> although incomplete: [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halford\\_Mackinder](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halford_Mackinder)

<sup>5</sup> cf. his book “The Grand Chessboard”, <http://www.sandiego.indymedia.org/media/2006/10/119973.pdf> quotation page 39: “Geopolitics has moved from the regionally to the global dimension, with preponderance over the entire Eurasian continent serving as the central basis for global primacy.”

<sup>6</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War\\_and\\_Peace\\_Studies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_and_Peace_Studies)

<sup>7</sup> <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bretton-Woods-system>

<sup>8</sup> <http://de.biz.yahoo.com/29052009/345/enttaeuschte-boersianer-us-bip-zahlen-trueben-euphor.html>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.amazon.de/Imperium-verfaellt-endet-Amerikanische-Jahrhundert/dp/389667109X>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.authorsden.com/visit/viewwork.asp?AuthorID=3473&id=17161> and <http://www.authorsden.com/jameswcumes>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0520214749/o/qid=977701789/sr=2-1/102-4888843-1948159> as well as <http://reorient.net/index.html>

<sup>12</sup> [www.mahbubani.net](http://www.mahbubani.net)

<sup>13</sup> <http://sandimgetriebe.attac.at/4947.html>

<sup>14</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BRIC>

<sup>15</sup> Even before the bailouts, the USA depended on a daily supply of 2 billion dollar, cf. Richard Haass (Head of Council on Foreign Relations in Newsweek of 3 Nov 2008: “We require 2 billion a day just to stay afloat” <http://www.newsweek.com/id/165648/output/print>)

<sup>16</sup> [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_F.\\_Kennan](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_F._Kennan), see “quotations”

<sup>17</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_International\\_Economic\\_Order](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_International_Economic_Order)

<sup>18</sup> Currently, T-bonds constitute approximately half of the Chinese currency reserves of over 2 trillion dollar. Cf. <http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=13969>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.handelsblatt.com/finanzen/breakingviews/wer-soll-nur-all-diese-us-staatsanleihenkaufen;2152349>

<sup>20</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai\\_Cooperation\\_Organisation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai_Cooperation_Organisation)

<sup>21</sup> See Michael Hudson, “De-Dollarization: Dismantling America's Financial Military Empire”, <http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=13969>

<sup>22</sup> North America, European Union, Australia, New Zealand, Japan

<sup>23</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Monetary\\_Fund](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Monetary_Fund)

<sup>24</sup> [http://www.bpb.de/presse/E5HFUQ,0,Chinas-Engagement\\_in\\_Afrika:\\_eine\\_unmoralische\\_Beziehung.html](http://www.bpb.de/presse/E5HFUQ,0,Chinas-Engagement_in_Afrika:_eine_unmoralische_Beziehung.html)

<sup>25</sup> Atlantic Bridge, Aspen Institute, Atlantic Initiative, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (German Association for Foreign Policy). See also: <http://www.heise.de/tp/r4/artikel/28/28513/1.html>

<sup>26</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_countries\\_by\\_GDP\\_\(nominal\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal))

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.ftd.de/wirtschaftswunder/index.php?p=ViewArticle&articleId=2060&blogId=16>

<sup>28</sup> [http://www.faz.net/s/Rub0E9EEF84AC1E4A389A8DC6C23161FE44/Doc-E05AA2DDF664744E598E87F57F85384D1-ATpl-Ecommon-Sccontent.html?rss\\_aktuell](http://www.faz.net/s/Rub0E9EEF84AC1E4A389A8DC6C23161FE44/Doc-E05AA2DDF664744E598E87F57F85384D1-ATpl-Ecommon-Sccontent.html?rss_aktuell)

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.counterpunch.org/roberts07162009.html>

<sup>30</sup> Cf. Zbigniew Brzezinski, The Grand Chessboard

<sup>31</sup> Cf. notes 20 and 21 as well as <http://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/international/asiatenbauengemeinsamen-krisenfonds-aus;2263811>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.manager-magazin.de/geld/artikel/0,2828,615369,00.html>

<sup>33</sup> “Experte retten Japan”, *Financial Times Germany* of 22/07/2009

<sup>34</sup> Cf. Elmar Altwater “Stosst den Dollar vom Thron”, in: *Freitag* of 09/07/2009 as well as Joseph Stiglitz, “Lasst die Armen mitentscheiden”, in: *Financial Times Germany* of 21/07/2009

<sup>35</sup> Cf. “Eine neue Kolonisation” in <http://www.german-foreign-policy.com/de/fulltext/57580>

<sup>36</sup> Quoted after “Die drei aus dem Versuchslabot”, *Süddeutsche Zeitung* of 29 May 2009

<sup>37</sup> Karl Marx, “Theses on Feuerbach”, 1845

# Increasing Indications for a Third World War

by Prof Dr Eberhard Hamer, [www.mittelstandsinstitut-niedersachsen.de](http://www.mittelstandsinstitut-niedersachsen.de)

Due to the fact that the US has assumed the bank debts and added them to the national budget and their already extreme increase in national debts – one billion dollars worth foreign credits is needed per day –, the biggest financial crisis since World War II has arrived. If the cash flow from abroad ceased or foreign countries decided to escape the dollar, the US would be bankrupt.

Nevertheless, the US is not making sufficient efforts to reduce their growing national debts with cost-cutting measures. Neither do they raise taxes to generate more income, nor do they try to cut their budget, especially not their enormously grown military budget. The US has employed 200 000 soldiers in combat missions worldwide. Therefore nobody understood when the biggest warlord in the world, despite increased force levels, obtained the Nobel Peace Prize. A possible explanation: he received the prize as a precaution, because it depends mainly on him if there is a war in Iran or not.

In history, politicians who were economically at an end have often opted for war as a last resort to maintain power. This has even been truer for a country in a crisis, which sees war as a way out of an economic crisis. This is how the US surmounted the biggest depression of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by entering World War I, as well as the Great Depression by entering World War II, and now they could try to solve their third crisis in the same way. We should not forget that both world wars enabled the US not only to overcome their enormous national debts, but they also developed into the leading economic power of the world. The temptation to go the same way a third time is big.

Against this background these series of war preparations are alarming.

1. The right-wing Israeli prime minister is eager for war and unpredictable. He is claiming constantly changing threats from Iran, none of which substantial evidence. His tone becomes increasingly fierce, and in the last few months he has been traveling to the main capitals in the world to gain support. Frau Merkel is said to have sworn Nibelung loyalty like Wilhelm I. to the Austrians or English or French or Polish before former world wars.
2. Furthermore, Israel has positioned the atomic submarines delivered from Germany with nuclear missiles in front of Iran, and in Georgia they not only rebuilt a nuclear missile position which was destroyed by Russia one and a half years ago, and which faces Iran, but fortified them with 90 US missile experts.
3. The Israeli – influenced world media have an increasingly biting tone against Iran with



“Never again war”, symbolizes the sculpture in front of the UN Headquarters building in New York – more relevant nowadays than ever! (picture es)

changing justifications – the same propaganda campaign which made the world ready for war and even eager to help with false claims before the war in Iraq. Moreover, the US has gathered their biggest fleet concentration ever in front of Iran.

4. Military preparations are already advanced. Although the US military has not yet succeeded in “pacifying” the two neighbouring states Iraq and Afghanistan, they have practiced their biggest military concentration in the world in combat mission. The Nobel Peace Prize Committee have assessed the situation correctly, namely that a war against Iran cannot happen without the US president’s approval, the least without the approval of a Nobel peace prize winner. However, the pressure from banks, the oil billionaires, the arms industry, the military and the Israel lobby could force the US to come into war when Israel carried out the first strike against Iran and the above mentioned powers wanted to secure their interests.

The US is not only the country with the highest debts in the world but along with their currency their empire decays. The world’s allegedly “only superpower” is at the moment imploding in the same manner the Russian did 20 years ago. With some kicks the

ble and the longer a war jeopardizes the region the more would it increase the oil price dramatically. An increase in the oil price always leads to higher costs for the economy and the consumer in general. Therefore, we have to be prepared for shortages, cuts and rising prices of necessary goods.

2. Any war leads to a higher demand for arms. Worldwide the arms industry – especially in the US – will cheer, will be working to capacity, will grow. This again leads to a growing production in neighbouring industries such as the car industry, textile industry, shipyards and aviation industry. Production grows, even if at a significantly higher cost.
3. Banks are the winner of any war. Nobody will talk about the production of toxic waste or banksters any longer, but central banks will have to flood the war with fresh money. Banks will be able to deal in credits again. A growing inflation will uphold the dollar until the end of the war. General cleansings of the sins of war finance usually come after a war.

It goes without saying that the US will get their vassals to pay for their growing financial demands as it was the case with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Therefore, the war will impoverish us and not the US or Israel. As there is no money for a war, financing will happen via inflation like in the two previous world wars, so that we have to prepare for dramatic inflation.

For a war in Iran the US would have to mobilise NATO (“collective defence”). Then governments would need to explain to their soldiers why they have to serve as mercenaries not only in Afghanistan but also in Iran, and they would need a majority supporting war expenditure in the Bundestag. The SPD and the Green Party (Fischer) once already decided upon an actual military intervention disguised as a “peacekeeping operation”. For a Third World War a majority might be more difficult to gain despite all the pressure from the US. In the German population damnation is probably predominant, which might lead to the removal of the obliging government.

Merkel’s government might find a war as the last political way out of their mess after the bailouts, public insolvency, the looming financial collapse of the social systems, and social unrest as a result of missing genuine corrections. War is coming up. The next few months will decide if we will be drawn into a Third World War or if we can escape this danger.

Chinese have already told the US president quite clearly that they do not acknowledge their leadership any longer. Therefore, if Israel decided to strike, the US president would face the terrible choice between sinking further into the quagmire of financial-, economic and social crisis or seeking the solution of a world war, which has made the US a winner twice already.

The danger of a world war has never been greater since World War II. Therefore, increasing warnings to the US mostly from a group of European intellectuals for more than a year have been justified. However, we cannot prevent it. A war in Iran would not remain a local event even if it was only led with missiles at the beginning. On Iran’s side the Chinese would intervene directly or indirectly and the Russians possibly as well to prevent the US from approaching their borders and becoming too dominant. On the side of Israel and the US the NATO states would be obliged to help, especially when they had sworn Nibelung loyalty before. Therefore, we in Europe have to brace ourselves for a participation in a war.

### What would a third World War in Iran mean for us?

1. Any war with Iran would immediately make the Strait of Hormuz impassable

## Western Confrontation Course Against Iran Sparks Disapproval of the Non-Aligned States

km. Since the new Director General of the International Atomic Energy Administration IAEA, Yukia Amano from Japan (who is also favoured by the western states) published in his report on Iran in the middle of February that Iran possibly is working on the development of a nuclear warhead without providing any real evidence, the demands of the US government, the French, British and German governments have become much louder.

Until now no concrete outline for a resolution against Iran have been put forward to the World Security Council. There are only some signals regarding possible US and EU member countries’ sanction plans. The New York Times reported on March, 3rd that an outline for a resolution is in circulation which the USA and the states of the EU have allegedly agreed upon. According to this outline, the sanctions will target the traffic of ships, financial transactions, the assurance sector, foreign assets and travel opportunities of Iranian citizens. Targeted are especially the guards of the revolution, who are supposedly in control of a major part of the Iranian economy.

The Iranian oil industry is probably not affected.

Interestingly – according to an announcement published by Spiegel Online on February, 23 – the plans of the EU would even foresee more drastic measures, which are listed in a 13-page undisclosed paper titled „Non-paper on political and economic context of sanctions against Iran“. According to Spiegel Online massive interventions are being proposed in this paper. These interventions would target the financial sector, investments in Iran, and the energy sector. All of these sanctions would restrict the lives of Iranian citizens massively, once they are implemented.

The reason for no new resolution at the World Security Council may lie in the rejecting stances of the Russian and Chinese governments. Other members of the Security Council – such as Turkey, Brazil and Lebanon – also reject the renewal of sanctions and prefer negotiations.

Yet the US government and also the German chancellor Angela Merkel have declared they would implement stricter sanctions against Iran, if necessary even

without the consent of the World Security Council. Especially the German government, after the visit of the Israeli government and the Israeli president in Berlin, is trying hard to convince the other EU states to implement stricter sanctions.

The USA, the EU and their allies are again now facing resistance from the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). On February 25, NAM, which consist of 118 member states, delivered a note to the Governor’s Council of the IAEA, in which it expresses its protest against the latest IAEA Director General’s Report on Iran and asserts its support for the Iranian position in its nuclear policies. To date, this statement is still unavailable on the homepage of the IAEA, but has been published on Iranian internet pages such as <http://www.presstv.ir/pop/Print/?id=120019> or <http://english.farsinews.com/printable.php?nn=8812091698>.

In their declaration the non-aligned states emphasized the unrestricted right of all states to use nuclear energy for peaceful means. In their statement they stress that diplomacy and dialogue are the only way to come to a long-term so-

lution of the conflict, and reject the plan to put harder sanctions on Iran. The non-aligned states warn that „each attack or threat of attack against peaceful nuclear facilities represents a sincere danger to human beings and the environment, and it signifies a fatal breach of international law“. The members of NAM are working toward international interdiction of such attacks or threats.

Apparently only the US government, a few EU states and especially the Israeli government are endeavouring to put pressure on Iran. It is difficult to say who is behind the proposed sanctions and plans for war. The US government is keeping that option open, EU states are taking different stances on the issue. The German government declared that it rejects a military attack. The Israeli government is also considering a military option.

Yet the US government, the EU governments and the Israeli government do not represent the entire international community. Most states of the world are very much aware of what any intensification of the conflict would mean for the world and are therefore demanding alternatives.

## U.S. Puts Women On a Front Line

by Elisabeth Bumiller

cc. The argument of Women's Liberation served as a justification for the world's most powerful military machinery to wage war against one of the poorest countries of the world by bombing the civilian population. It is the women and children that have to endure unspeakable sufferings. After it became clear that the complete US army and their Nato allies are "whacked" and the alleged civilian reconstruction is nowhere to be seen. The female factor is to put things right: Female marines – this is the fantasy of US generals – are to win the confidence of Afghan women by means of pony-tails, children's games and chatting in order to "gain information".

The U.S. Marines in a recent "cultural awareness" class scribbled careful notes as the instructor coached them on do's and don'ts when talking to villagers in Afghanistan: Don't start by firing off questions, do break the ice by playing with the children, don't let your interpreter hijack the conversation.

And one more thing: "If you have a pony tail," said Marina Kiepinski, the instructor, "let it go out the back of your helmet so people can see you're a woman."

These are not your mother's Marines here in the rugged California chaparral of Camp Pendleton, where 40 young women are preparing to deploy to Afghanistan in one of the more forward-leaning experiments of the American military.

Next month they will begin work as members of the first full-time "female engagement teams," the military's name for four- and five-member units that will accompany men on patrols in Helmand Province to try to win over the rural Afghan women who are culturally off limits to outside men. The teams, which are to meet with the Afghan women in their homes, assess their need for aid and gather intelligence, are part of Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal's campaign for Afghan hearts

and minds. His officers say that you cannot gain the trust of the Afghan population if you only talk to half of it.

"We know we can make a difference," said Capt. Emily Naslund, 26, the team's executive officer and second in command. Like the other 39 women, Captain Naslund volunteered for the program and radiates exuberance, but she is not naïve about the frustrations and dangers ahead. Half of the women have been deployed before, most to Iraq.

"We all know that what you expect is not usually what it's going to end up being," said Sgt. Melissa Hernandez, 35, who signed on because she wanted something different from her office job at Camp Victory, the American military headquarters in Baghdad.

As envisioned, the teams will work like American politicians who campaign door to door and learn what voters care about. A team is to arrive in a village, get permission from the male elder to speak with the women, settle into a compound, hand out school supplies and medicine, drink tea, make conversation and, ideally, get information about the village, local grievances and the Taliban.

Whatever the outcome, the teams reflect how much the military has adapted over nine years of war, not only in the way it fights but to the shifting gender roles within its ranks. Women make up only 6 percent of the *Marine Corps*, which cultivates an image as the most testosterone-fueled service, and they are still officially barred from combat branches like the infantry.

But in a bureaucratic sleight of hand, used by both the Army and Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan when women have been needed for critical jobs like bomb disposal or intelligence, the female engagement teams are to be "attached" to all-male infantry units within the *First Marine Expeditionary Force* — a source of pride and excitement for them.

"When I heard about this, I said, Oh, that's it, let's go," said Cpl. Vanessa Jones, 25.

The idea for the teams grew out of the "Lioness" program in Iraq, which used female Marines to search Iraqi women at checkpoints. Over the past year in Afghanistan, the Army and Marines have assembled ad hoc female engagement teams, but the women were hastily pulled from work as cooks or engineers.

The women at Pendleton are among the first to be trained exclusively for the mission. "Every Marine wants to go outside the wire," said Cpl. Michele Greco-Lucchina, 22, referring to assignments off the base. "We all join for different reasons, but that's the basis for being a Marine."

The women said they were not looking for combat and would work in areas largely cleared of militants. But in a war with no front lines, to be prepared for ambushes and snipers, they have taken an extended combat-training refresher course.

On patrols, the women will carry M-4 rifles, which are shorter and more maneuverable than the military's standard M-16s, but once inside an Afghan compound, and with Marine guards posted outside, they have been instructed, assuming they feel safe, to remove their rifles and take off their intimidating "battle rattle" of helmets and body armor.

They have also been told to be sensitive to local custom and to wear head scarves under their helmets or, if that is too hot and unwieldy, to keep the scarves around their necks and use them to cover their heads once their helmets are off inside.

Marines who have worked with the ad hoc teams in Afghanistan said that rural Afghan women, rarely seen by outsiders, had more influence in their villages than male commanders might think, and that the Afghan women's good will could make Afghans, both men and women, less suspicious of American troops.

Capt. Matt Pottinger, an intelligence officer based in the capital, Kabul, who helped create and train the first engagement team in Afghanistan, recently wrote that when one of the teams visited a village in southern Afghanistan, a gray-bearded man opened his home to the women by saying, "Your men come to fight, but we know the women are here to help."

The man also sheepishly admitted, Captain Pottinger wrote in *Small Wars Journal*, an online publication, that the women were "good for my old eyes."

Rural Afghan women, who meet at wells and pass news about the village, are often repositories of information about a district's social fabric, power brokers and militants, all crucial data for American forces. On some occasions, Captain Pottinger said in an e-mail message, women have provided information about specific insurgents and the makers of bombs.

As part of their conversations with Afghan women, the Marines are to ask basic questions, including what is the most difficult problem facing the village. The answers will go into a database to guide the military and aid workers. As Ms. Kiepinski, the instructor, told the Marines, "If the population has told you that their biggest problem is irrigation and your unit does something about it, that's a huge success."

For now, the Marines remain apprehensive about the unknowns they will encounter. Capt. Claire Henry, 27, the top commander of the team, said she worried, like any officer, about her responsibilities to the women working under her. "You're about to take Marines into harm's way," she said, "and at the end of the day you want to make sure you give them the right training and that they're physically and mentally prepared for it." •

Source: *The International Herald Tribune*, 8 March 2010, © *The International Herald Tribune*

## Fair Distribution of Products Not Possible within this WTO

Interview with the Swiss National Councillor Carlo Sommaruga



(picture zvg)

thk. In March, several proposals dealing with the issue of Swiss agriculture's future were debated in the Council of States (small chamber of the Swiss parliament). One of them dealt with the issue of food sovereignty.

Food sovereignty does not mean back to the cropping battle nor autarky nor foreclosure, but it means self-determined agriculture, primarily oriented towards the requirements of the respective population, as was recommended in the World Agriculture Report, namely to the industrial nations as well as to the developing countries. The following interview with National Councillor Carlo Sommaruga, who visited a country fully on WTO course, makes clear that a self-determined agriculture is not possible by a free trade agreement prescribed by the WTO.

Mr Sommaruga, you have been in Colombia, recently. What is your impression of the country? What is the situation concerning agriculture?

I have been to the center of Colombia, to the region of Magdalena Medio, for 10 days.

My intention was to visit Swissaid projects and to look into the problems arising from monocultures of palms.

Colombia is a country that suffers vehemently from the impact of violence. Workers and farmers opposing the interests of those in power are threatened and murdered. So numerous farmers' trade unionists and spokespersons were murdered by paramilitary groups who are acting in the interests

of the powerful industrial circles and the big land owners. Contrary to President Alvaro Uribe's statement, those paramilitary groups are strongly present. This fact was confirmed by the February 2010 report of *Human Rights Watch*.

To conclude, the violent conflicts take place, where the interests of the small farmers and workers run contrary to the interests of the predominant economic model's protagonists. It is a model of industrial and agricultural production that focuses on the international market and not on the requirements and demands of the country. It is quite evident that the Colombian government is a world champion with respect to the implementation of free trade, while ignoring social and ecological requirements. In some regions there are gigantic monocultures. Big farmers owning endlessly large acreage and planting palms for palm oil extraction are favored. Or huge droves are to be seen. In short, it is pure agro industry with all consequences.

What does this precisely mean? What are the consequences?

In the region Magdalena Medio that I have visited the small farmers are engulfed in misery by extensive livestock breeding, by the government's project to plant palms intensively as well as by the drug dealer's controlled farming of coca plants. There were even times when insufficient food production led to famine.

The small farmers are squeezed more and more. They are forced to go to the forests, where they farm corn and soya. Given the shortage of soil and given the multinational agro businesses' pressure, the newly gained soil is staken away from them and used to do livestock breeding and to cultivate monocultures. A health problem results from planting palm monocultures. The palms are affected by a virus that is spreading very quickly. This means tons of chemicals, damaging the environment, are needed to fight the disease as

the natural resistance is destroyed. In the region Magdalena Medio 14 out of 17 palm oil refineries had to be closed.

Apart from the ecological problems there is a strong social aspect. More and more the small farmers are eliminated and have to struggle to survive, although they embody the future of agriculture and food sovereignty, according to the World Agriculture Report's research.

What are the consequences for the population?

The population's supply with sufficient food is not secured. Simply, the people have too little to eat. People cannot feed on palm oil, but the multinational companies get good money for that on the world market.

How do the farmers try to survive?

Partially, they give their land in payment to others so that at least they can feed part of the family. Then the land is given away and mostly they do not get the money. Others run into debts as the big producers do, but the long term prospects are very bad. It is an unsolved problem, crystal clear caused by an agriculture that is focussed on the world trade.

What is lacking?

Sustainability is completely lost by this farming policy. It is produced for the short term, however, without thinking in the long term and without working towards the own people's supply with sufficient food.

What would be successful in your opinion? Very quickly, people have to focus on developing a solution.

It is an agriculture focussed on the local people that is needed, an agriculture guaranteeing the fair distribution of goods and so, it is for the benefit of the socially deprived. This would never be possible within the still ex-

isting WTO as it is dominated by the USA and other industrial nations. Finally, the agro multinational companies decide on how the trade has to work and what has to be cultivated. The ecological and social issue is completely left out. The results of the World Agriculture Report have to be taken seriously and their implementation enforced, otherwise we will have more starving people in future as well as agro companies making profits at the expense of the poor.

Mr Sommaruga, thank you for the interview. •

### Current Concerns

The international journal for independent thought, ethical standards, moral responsibility, and for the promotion and respect of public international law, human rights and humanitarian law

Publisher: Zeit-Fragen Cooperative

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Subscription details:

published regularly

annual subscription rates: SFr. 72. –

€ 45. – / £ 28. – / \$ 66. – (incl. postage and VAT)

Account: Postscheck-Konto: PC 87-644472-4

Printers: Druckerei Nüssli, Mellingen, Switzerland

The editors reserve the right to shorten letters to the editor. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *Current Concerns*.

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*Current Concerns* is an independent journal produced by volunteers that is not supported by advertising.

Any financial contribution is greatly appreciated.

# The Cooperative – a Model of Honesty, Sincerity, and Humanity



A sense of unity and identity develops in small and in bigger cooperatives, notably also in the political realm from the boroughs right up to the (Swiss) confederation. A sense of unity and identity which does not exclude or think little of fellow beings outside the group, but rather aims at contact – and therefore cooperation – with them. (picture un)

ts. When the 20<sup>th</sup> Century's Great Depression plunged the broad masses all over the world into unemployment, hopelessness, and misery, many people began to organise themselves and to launch additional forms of economic structures, which had proven reliable in former times and outstandingly boomed in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century: We are speaking of the cooperatives, which are organised according to the principle of "one man, one vote", i.e.

of cooperation in equality and with respect for the dignity of man, and which supplied – and still do – a good alternative to communist command economy on the one hand, and on the other to the radical and predatory rule of the monopolies, the captains of industry, and high finance.

Notably in the present times of empty treasuries and impending inflation many people bethink themselves of cooperation

in voluntary cooperatives. Their core values have been described by the *International Co-operative Alliance* founded in London in 1895 as follows: "Co-operatives are based on values like self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. According to the tradition of their founding fathers, co-operative members believe in ethical values like honesty, sincerity, social responsibility, and caring about others."

In the course of the years different types of cooperatives have emerged, such as marketing, service or secondary cooperatives, community cooperatives, consumers' cooperatives, cooperatives concerned with production, agriculture, housing, finances (Raiffeisen-Banks and credit unions), and more.

In Switzerland, in the seven centuries of Swiss history, Direct Democracy evolved in the boroughs from these cooperatives.

### Crisis-resistant and endowing with identity

The great advantage of cooperatives, precisely in times of financial bubbles, hedge funds, and robber-baron-capitalism lies in the fact that cooperatives cannot be bought

or taken over, since – as mentioned above – they adhere to the principle of "one man – one vote".

On a global scale, up to 800 millions of members are organised in cooperatives today, so that cooperatives form the largest non-governmental organisation (NGO) worldwide. Their topmost confederation is the *International Co-operative Alliance* (ICA) based in Geneva. Today, there are over 250,000 cooperatives with 100 million of members and 20 million employees in Europe alone.

In times of crisis, the cooperatives' advantages are their decentralised structure, their local knowledge, their interlacing with local and regional economy and, as the case arises, their cooperation in a compound structure, as in the Swiss example of the Eastern Swiss agricultural cooperative V.O.L.G or the Raiffeisen Union.

Thus cooperatives contribute to the welfare of the region in which their members live and work. They are not under pressure to generate high profits in a short time, and their members would never agree to a transfer of production to a low-wage country without consideration of the social consequences.

The case is different with shareholders, who aim at maximising profits for their invested money without being attached to a certain region and its people. And it is precisely this regional attachment and rooting which is part of the cooperative identity.

A sense of unity and identity develops in small and in bigger cooperatives, notably also in the political realm from the boroughs right up to the (Swiss) confederation. A sense of unity and identity which does not exclude or think little of fellow beings outside the group, but rather aims at contact – and therefore cooperation – with them.

In Switzerland, the *Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation* (SDC) sets the example. The engagement of SDC is not restricted to one continent but is aiming for cooperation and for supporting people in far regions of the world like for instance Mongolia.

On this basis the man-made universal economic crisis can be defied from the bottom up and all over the world, economically, but also politically, since the cooperative idea comprises the germ cell of any true and direct democracy. According to the cooperatives' motto: "All for one and one for all". This is true also and especially in the year 2010!

### Cooperatives safeguard human dignity

"A cooperative unites its members by means of the three "self": self-help, self-administration, and self-responsibility. Its members are not subjects, they are co-proprietors and co-designers with equal rights. They have the same right to vote and to decide. This is contrary to the old regimes, which gave greater voting rights to the rich and the aristocrats than to the politically less well-off, not unlike the corporations of our modern capitalist so-

ciety, which give the owners of big parcels of shares correspondingly more influence on decisions than the owners of only a few shares. Personality, yes, even human dignity was safeguarded in the cooperatives. The simple associate was someone, and it had always been like that."

Georg Thürer. *The cooperative concept in the Swiss state, 1977. In: Community in the national life of Switzerland, Hauptverlag 1998, page 193*

## Mongolian Herdsmen in Dire Straits

### Hard winter intensifies structural problems – help comes from Australia, China and Russia

by Peter A. Fischer, Beijing

Due to a very hard winter, millions of animals are currently dying in Mongolia. The fragile existence of numerous herdsmen is endangered. Above all, the crisis has hit the poorest hardest. Australia, China and Russia provide assistance.

"Dzud" is the Mongolian word for a catastrophically hard winter, endangering the existence of the animal population. For some months the weather has gone crazy in some parts of the country, situated between China and Russia and 38 times as large as Switzerland, but with a population of only 2.7 million inhabitants. Initially many pastures suffered from drought during the last summer. Then in autumn, the west was hit by continuous rain and later extremely cold temperatures so that the pastures froze; temperatures remained extremely low, frequently under minus 30 degrees in the north and around minus 20 degrees in the southern Gobi desert. 90 per cent of the country is snow-covered. Hundreds of thousands of animals have already perished.

The winter period might last three more months, and spring, when young animals are born, is still far away. The Dzud has a lock on the country; a disaster is looming on the horizon. A state of emergency has been called out in 65 districts. According to several re-

ports, the situation is not equally serious everywhere and a final evaluation is still difficult to make, since some districts are cut off from the world due to the snowfalls. The Mongolian Government recently proclaimed a state of emergency for 65 Soums (districts), which means that about one fifth of all districts in the country are officially in a crisis situation.

A further two-thirds of the country is considered heavily affected. After an exploratory mission, the *Food and Agriculture Organization* of the UN concluded that so far 1.7 million animals have fallen victim to the hard winter, a number that corresponds approximately with 4 per cent of total stocks. Without any counter measures many more

of the weakened animals might die in the next months. An exploratory mission of the *Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation* (SDC) found herdsmen in very different emergencies. While some of them were obviously very professionally prepared to meet the disaster, or were less hit by the hard weather and therefore had only the loss of a few animals to bemoan, others have already lost half of their stock. In many places, the carcasses of dead animals are piling up. In Nadal, a shepherd's family was left with only 60 out of 320 animals.

### Assistance is launched hesitantly

Where it was logistically possible, the Mongolian government began to distribute stored hay and bought additional fodder from foreign countries. Nevertheless, existing resources are much too small to change the situation in any fundamental way.

The government's hands are tied in that it is still a relatively poor country strongly dependent on the international prices for raw materials and it was hit hard by the economic crisis. In order to avert the threat of bankruptcy, as early last spring the government had to petition the international community via the

### Swiss "Green Gold"

Since 2004, Switzerland's active developmental cooperation with Mongolia has concentrated strongly on supporting the traditional herdsmen society. Under the slogan, "Green Gold" herdsmen are encouraged to unite voluntarily and form communities to administer their pastures effectively and take precautions for the winter. Its assistance in the reconstruction of an effective veterinarian system is aimed at preventing common diseases and facilitating the development of a modern meat industry. Better seeds create new and alternative possibilities for income in agriculture, and Switzerland's support of the informal mining industry is directed to open-

ing new perspectives to poor herdsmen. At present the framework of Swiss financial assistance amounts to approximately 9.6 million USD per year. Whether and how additional emergency aid will support the Swiss-backed herdsmen communities in coping with the "Dzud" is still subject to discussion. In general it is considered that the cooperatives are better prepared to meet the difficult situation. An index-based animal insurance would also allay the fears that emerge during an emergency situation.

Source: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* 8 February 2010

Translation Current Concerns

# The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Supports Voluntary Associations of Herdsmen in Mongolia

Interview with Andreas Stauffer, Spokesman for the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, DFA

*Current Concerns: What does this fact-finding mission in Mongolia mean?*

SDC: Because of this year's particularly cold and hard winter, called "Dzud", about 1.7 million animals have recently died in Mongolia. In certain regions and families the harsh winter has caused significant emergencies. The SDC Cooperation Office in Ulaanbaatar sent a small team of local staff to the affected regions where the SDC is active in order to better understand the actual situation. The mission lasted four days.

*For what purpose was the mission carried out?*

The information from various sources (government, UN agencies, other donors) are quite different, as a result the mission was carried out in our project areas to verify the specific situation in these regions.

*What are the concrete results from this fact-finding mission?*

The situation is quite different from family to family. Some herding families have lost most of their animals (the Mongolian winter will last at least until mid-April). For many of these families, the animals are their only assets and the only way to earn an income. Losing their stock represents a dire threat to their livelihood.

*How will the SDC's assistance be affected?*

Since 2004 the SDC has been actively engaged in development projects in Mongolia. One of its main objectives is to support the herdsmen in managing their pastures more



Since 2004 the SDC has been actively engaged in development projects in Mongolia. (picture reuters)

sustainably and in better preparing themselves for such extreme winters. It is also important to create alternative income opportunities, to stabilize the total amount of animals in Mongolia or, even better, to decrease their amount. Specifically, in response to herdsmen's plight this winter, the SDC is currently preparing a project to provide direct assistance to the families concerned.

*What does this aid to shepherds in Mongolia mean in practice?*

In general, various countries, especially Mongolia's neighboring states and countries with which it maintains close economic relations have promised help: China is supplying generators, blankets and food; Russia has delivered animal feed, fuel, warm clothes and medicine. In addition, various multilateral organizations have promised help; UN organizations have for instance issued a Flash Appeal and developed several projects for direct aid to the shepherds, also to prevent similar emergencies in the future.

The SDC's particular reaction to this situation has, as mentioned above, the goal of helping shepherd families in emergency situations according to their needs with clothes, shelter, food and animal food. In addition, measures to improve their food supply in the following winters, for instance with backup pastures, hay etc. have been included in the SDC's aid project.

*What projects are carried out by the SDC in Mongolia?*

In Mongolia, the SDC supports projects to improve pasture management and animal production (e.g. by improved veterinary services), to fight desertification, to install a national potato seed system and an improved production and marketing of potatoes, to support small businesses (e.g. through business consulting services or easier access to credits), to improve the situation of families subsisting from small-scale mining and to improve the state services to the citizens.

In the "Green Gold" project, the SDC supports the voluntary association of herdsmen. These groups, consisting of all herdsmen from a particular region, develop pasture usage plans allowing for a sustainable usage of pastures. Rotation plans guarantee that some pastures are not used during the summer, making them backup pastures for the winter. Other areas are reserved for making hay and several groups have restored the irrigation systems which had been strongly neglected after the collapse of the Soviet Union. •

## "Mongolian Herdsmen in Dire Straits"

continued from page 5

*International Monetary Fund* for emergency credits which were connected with fulfilling certain financial policy conditions.

The banking sector got into serious difficulties, and after many years of a raw material boom, the GDP has shrunk by 1.6 per cent according to data of the *World Bank* in 2009. If the Mongolian government is to provide assistance to the herdsmen, it will have to depend on international support. Due to the unclear situation, the international echo has been minimal so far.

The countries neighboring Mongolia are currently competing to participate in the exploitation of one of the probably last big raw material Eldorados of the world. This is also reflected in the assistance provided by these countries. Russia, for instance sent a train full of fodder and warm clothing to Mongolia and donated relief aid for approximately 100 million Russian Rubles (3.3 million USD). China supplied generators, blankets and food for approximately 100 million Yuan (14.9 million USD) and Australia, whose mining company *Rio Tinto* wants to operate one of the largest copper mines of the world in Mongolia, donated 1 million dollars.

### Too many herdsmen and animals

So far, Europe has reacted rather hesitantly, which might also have to do with the fact that the disaster has not hit the country completely unexpectedly. The hardship caused by the cold winter, which is taking a heavy toll now, is at least partially due to many years of protracted structural problems.

The traditional pastoral economy in Mongolia is undergoing changes without a clear course. It employs more than a third of the population and contributes scarcely one fifth to the economy. However, in the beginning of the 1990s, the collectives were privatized and the pastures were declared common land, the existing pasture management was dissolved.

Due to the difficulties of economic transformation, numerous families without agricultural expertise have been driven back into

the pastoral economy. The animal population has exploded, and overgrazing and erosion over large surfaces have been the consequences. From the year 2000 to 2002, the Dzud decimated about one-fifth of the animal population, but by last year the herds grew the previous level. Moreover, the number of Kashmir goats strongly increased and their habit of eating grass by pulling it out has caused particularly strong damage to the pastures. Because there are too many animals and herdsmen, large amounts of the animal stock did not gain enough weight in the summer to survive the winter period.

Despite the large number of livestock, the majority of the herdsmen had less than 300 animals before the crisis, which is not sufficient for a sustainable existence. Official statistics estimate that approximately two-fifths of the population live below the official subsistence level of about 1.50 USD per day and per capita. After the last Dzud, ten thousands of people moved into the capital with their yurts where they now eke out a miserable existence in slum-like conditions, without animals and without regular work.

If assistance is to prevent a genuine disaster in the next few months, it should on the one hand prevent those ten thousands of people without any basis of existence from moving into the cities.

On the other hand, simply keeping or replacing a high number of livestock is no solution. From a medium-term perspective, the traditional pastoral industry in Mongolia must be lifted to a more modern and sustainable level. This means that a part of the herdsmen must find future employment in the mining industry or in the cities. The remainder needs assistance in developing more sustainable livestock farming, meat production and Kashmir farming.

Switzerland, whose cooperation on development has been considerable in the last years, could make an important contribution in this field. •

Source: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, 8 February 2010  
Translation *Current Concerns*

## Horizontes y Debates

### The new Spanish Edition of *Zeit-Fragen/Current Concerns*

At the request of many readers the co-operative *Zeit-Fragen* will publish from now on a Spanish edition: *Horizontes y Debates*. It is published monthly. The first edition is already printed and can be ordered free of charge.

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# “Educational Policy Should Clear its Preferences in View of Today’s Urgent Social Problems.”

by Erika Vögeli, Switzerland

Three young people are on trial – for no reason at all did they beat up some people. All the people present at court were moved by one of the victims’ calm account – all but the offenders. Regret is not tangible and such a thing as bad conscience does not seem to exist. Unfortunately, these are no exceptions. The excesses of senseless and unrestrained violence against defenseless people and the frightening lack of pangs of conscience, however, are merely the most visible expression of a state of emergency in education which is noticeable everywhere. There are children, who are convinced, that they are the boss at home, who do not listen to the teacher at school, ignore instructions or just think adults must not tell them what to do. Asked about their problems, they often express the opinion that it is not them but the others, the teacher, the schoolmate, etc. who have a problem. These children raise the question: What is to be done? Where do we start? What does our youth require? Anyhow, things cannot go on like that. Obviously, the anti-educational ideas did not achieve the goals they had claimed.

We will not get to core of the problem if we categorize our children with all possible diagnoses like “auditive disturbance”, “attention deficit syndrome” (ADS) or hyperactivity syndrome and then treat them with appropriate medicine, therapies or extra lessons. What is required is a reversion to educational theories, which see the child as a human being-to-be, as a person, who requires quite an elementary education and value orientation in order to become a true human being. Many teachers and pedagogues have already provided valuable and indispensable contributions to this topic, for instance *Bernd Ahrbeck* with his book “Kinder brauchen Erziehung. Die vergessene pädagogische Verantwortung” (Children need education. The forgotten educational responsibility)<sup>1</sup>, *Otto Speck* “Erziehung und Achtung vor dem Anderen. Zur moralischen Dimension der Erziehung” (Education and respect of others. About the moral dimension of education)<sup>2</sup> or *Michael Felten* “Auf die Lehrer kommt es an” (It all depends on the teachers)<sup>3</sup>.

An especially encouraging help for teachers as well as parents, educators and everyone who has to do with people is the book “Menschen bilden” (Educating human beings) by *Arthur Brühlmeier*.<sup>\*</sup> His “Impulses to organize the training system according to the principles of *Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi*” could not be more up-to-date. Like a lighthouse in the desert, the book deals with 27 mosaic stones of fundamental educational work. It opposes the present educational-psychological amnesia with the author’s experiences of many years of teaching and training teachers, which naturally combine with fundamental educational, philosophical and anthropological trains of thought – not least as the fruit of his decades of intensive studies of the great educator *Pestalozzi*.

In view of a development in our schools oriented towards the American “Bologna”-model, which is dictated by the economy in the long run and which has led to a constant uniforming and hierarchical controlling of education, *Brühlmeier* directs our attention on the substantial issue. He focuses on the child, on the teacher, on the processes between them as human beings, and on the question, what education actually is. Together with *Pestalozzi*, *Brühlmeier* is convinced that “Economy and the state are served best, if the schools care for the education of the entire human being and thus do not place his humanity but not his usefulness at the center of their considerations.” Thereby referring to *Pestalozzi*, his aim is not, “to follow the historical figure word by word” but referring



(Bild caro)

to *Pestalozzi*’s ideas. *Brühlmeier* illuminates numerous facets of this spirit, connects them to everyday life at schools today and fascinates the reader in a manner that breathes exactly this spirit.

Today we run the risk to reduce people to cerebral structures, neuro-physiological and neurobiological processes. However, *Brühlmeier* leads our thinking back to the nature of man. Of course, man is a biological being who becomes a fellow human being only in the relationship to other human beings, and he thereby requires moral orientation and education in order to reach true humanity. So genuine education cannot be separated from “moral education”. “Good instruction is at the same time always educating instruction.” (P. 63) Pressure, compulsion and violence are no means that can contribute to genuine nobleness of the heart, although a clear stop must be set to immoral, antisocial behavior and a decided opposite standpoint must be taken. Educating people should develop genuine moral behavior with an intrinsic motivation in the child: “It is not sufficient that the children do at least not hit each other. They are to like each other and assist each other, commit themselves to the community and love the truth.” (p. 64)

On each page of his book, *Brühlmeier* develops ideas how this can be made possible and that it is possible, no matter which topic he deals with. The essential point – again a basic insight of *Pestalozzi* and all great pedagogues – is the “positive, lively teacher-pupil relationship. It is like fertile soil, on which education and formation can only really prosper.” (p. 66) “Real education, which is able to change and develop human beings from the inside, is always based on empathic relations.” (p. 206)

*Brühlmeier* thus inevitably places special emphasis on the teacher’s personality and places something in the focus that had been pushed aside by the whole structural hectic of reforms. It is the love of the teacher for his work, which is connected with the love to the child, with the joy in its development and in working together. *Brühlmeier* does not convey sugary ideas here, but he is concerned with a genuine interest in each individual child, from which understanding for the individual childlike personality arises. He does not concede that a teacher cannot like all children “equally”, because according to the experience, “the feelings of sympathy and antipathy fade into the background if we succeed in really understanding a human being – just as he confronts us”. (p. 185)

Psychological and educational literature is helpful; it can and should make suggestions – which are also the intention of this book. However, it cannot replace the exact listening and looking close at each individual child (P.

128), which provides the teacher with information on the student’s standards, his problems and probably where he goes astray.

This closeness to the child, the interest in its development, the pleasure in contributing something to its developing humanity is conveyed to the reader on each page of the book; it encourages the young teacher to let this or her initial motivation for becoming teachers not be drowned in school organization and -development, and encourages the experienced teacher to recollect himself and his commitment.

With regard to the significance of the teacher-pupil relationship *Brühlmeier* takes up the cudgels for the class teacher as he has naturally more opportunities to develop a relationship to each individual child. “With a view to our urgent social problems educational policy would do well to occasionally reconsider priorities.” (p. 206)

*Brühlmeier* does not understand closeness to the child as the chumming up of approval by children or a courting attitude towards young people: according to him the teachers’ personal authority is a self-evident precondition for genuine education. There used to be bad strictness and humiliating or depreciative methods – not genuine authority – in some teachers, but for *Brühlmeier* the main problems of today root in the anti-authoritarian movement and the resulting disregard pupils have for teachers. Personal authority does not mean exercise of any kind power but personal charisma: “This charisma conveys credibility, trustworthiness, competence, willpower, reliability, seriousness of the person concerned.” (p. 181) Based on the teacher’s self-confidence this charisma is accompanied by a calm but determined rejection of any attacks on the person. Besides transfer of knowledge, true development of humanity aims at a furthering of compassion in the child and intends to help develop a personality anchored in life, with a sense of justice, trust, independence and community spirit, which is not possible without a genuine authority in the teacher’s personality. Apart from that it is not possible for children to learn anything if they cannot do what they are told to by an adult. *Brühlmeier* is not afraid of using the taboo word ‘obedience’ at this stage, and his understanding here is the willingness to accept factual requirements. Taking a child’s stubbornness, “fatal compensatory self-assertion”, for independence is one of the current educational misconceptions. Without moral education the human being does not gain genuine inner freedom, which enables them “to refuse obedience to the prevailing rules when suggestions of a situation mislead them into destructive and morally reprehensible behaviour.” (p. 96)

Besides the above mentioned topics there are numerous further suggestions on teaching issues which matter to every teacher: thoughts about calculators, about language teaching, about ENEA- the excessive usage of electronic devices-, about how to deal with violence and many other issues, everything with a view to and embedded in the entire fundamental task of developing human beings.

*Brühlmeier* opposes today’s economic view on education and the biologicistic concept of the child by a deeply humane pedagogy, in which the individual and the human personality enjoys the status they deserve. The focus lies on the holistic development of the child’s personality – which cannot do without moral education. And: moral education, as *Brühlmeier* presents it in his book, constitutes and promotes curiosity, genuine interest and compassion, which again makes learning really productive. A teacher does not foster a personality devoted to such

education with legal or institutional measures or nowadays evaluation and qualification procedures, to the contrary. “The more severe these quality ensuring systems interfere, the less one will gain in quality that is purely based on the moral freedom of the individual.” (p. 158) It goes without saying that school needs an organisational and statutory as well as a democratically legitimate framework. But if we strive “for human development that is based on moral coexistence and morality of the ones involved” (p. 159), we assume that the teacher wants this out of his own free will. This love for the child, which *Brühlmeier* calls an attitude, and “which fosters the ability to empathize, the willingness to work, self criticism as well as a disposition to deal with and solve problems” (p.184), can be conveyed in a good teacher training but it cannot be enacted by decrees. •

<sup>1</sup> Bernd Ahrbeck: Kinder brauchen Erziehung: Die vergessene pädagogische Verantwortung. Stuttgart, 2004. 978-3170179738

<sup>2</sup> Otto Speck. Erziehung und Achtung vor dem Anderen. Zur moralischen Dimension der Erziehung, München 1996, ISBN 978-3-497-01421-7

<sup>3</sup> Michael Felten. Auf die Lehrer kommt es an! Für eine Rückkehr der Pädagogik in die Schule, Gütersloh 2010, ISBN 978-3-579-06882-4

\* After his primary teacher training *Arthur Brühlmeier* led a comprehensive school with eight classes for 17 years. Then he studied at the University of Zurich educational science, psychology and journalism (Thesis: “Changes in the thinking of *Pestalozzi*”). He worked as a lecturer in teacher training, psychology, and didactics. For the past 20 years he taught at the Seminary of St. Michael in Zug, where he contributed to the concept of “Lehrerbildung als Persönlichkeitsbildung” (Teacher Training as Forming One’s Personality). He was able to initiate several reforms in the spirit of *Pestalozzi*. In 2010 his book „Menschen bilden” will be published in English. His website: [www.bruehlmeier.info](http://www.bruehlmeier.info)



Baden-Verlag 2007, ISBN 978-3-85545-147-0

# Killer Games Must Be Banned

lk. There is no doubt about the causal relationship between media violence and increased aggressiveness. 3500 research works have been reviewed. These studies include large epidemiological surveys among the population, cross-cultural studies, field experiments

and "natural" laboratory research. In merely 18 of these studies the respective correlation could not be found.

Human aggression is a result of certain forms of cultures and the interpersonal processes therein, as was shown in comprehensive

research studies in the field of anthropology as well as cultural anthropology and ethnology (Leakey, Malinowski, Benedict, Mead, Montague).<sup>1</sup>

"All that means that the thesis of the innate aggression of man is no longer supportable".<sup>2</sup>

Neither is man "born to be a warmonger in terms of biology". There is no reason to "fatalistically stick to the view that violence and aggression were a sort of 'natural law'".<sup>3</sup>

## Violence is learned

Since the 70ies it has been known that violence is learned and is not the result of an aggressive drive.<sup>4</sup>

### Observational learning

Aggression is learned by observing and imitating a model: "Humans are not born with a predestined repertoire of aggressive behaviors, they have to be learned some way or other."<sup>5</sup> Even children who do not show any readiness to behave aggressively, adopt the aggressive behavior by observing and imitating models. "Obviously one does not have to be emotionally disturbed or hyper-aggressive in order to learn aggressive practices by observation."<sup>6</sup>

To act out one's aggressiveness, however, does not lead to less aggression but quite the opposite to more aggression. (Bandura p. 169, German edition)

### Exposure to violence in the media

Media today offer the most vigorous models for the observational learning of violence. A multitude of research studies have shown this:

*Losing one's sense of reality by exposure to and use of electronic media.*<sup>7</sup>

The use of media, i.e. playing video- or computer games prevents the player's encounter with reality, which alone may enable the child to develop self-assurance, a sense of

responsibility and a positive outlook on life. The child's play is supposed to train basic social skills and to teach to handle negative experiences. Computer games are unable to do that. In these games children are exposed to extreme attitudes and behaviors. But they do not obtain any positive measure of values.<sup>8</sup> Media do isolate children emotionally and physically and separate them from the necessary close personal attachment towards caring adults.<sup>9</sup>

*Exposure to media violence leads to a higher readiness to behave aggressively in the long run*

As early as 1977 the longitudinal research of Lefkowitz et al. showed that "TV with its focus on interpersonal violence and its unrestricted orientation towards profit has assumed the role to stimulate aggression and also to teach the viewers specific techniques of aggressive behavior."<sup>10</sup>

The presentation of violence on TV and Video does not only incite imitation in children but they are also made less sensitive, that means they show less emotional reactions towards violent acts and accept real violence as almost natural.<sup>11</sup>

Longitudinal studies prove the clear connection between exposure to media like TV and aggressiveness. "The more frequent TV viewing of children, the more likely they will be violent as grown-ups."<sup>12</sup>

Learned aggressiveness must not necessarily show in every behavior, but in certain situations the learned aggressive behavior may be applied. "Aggressive thinking on the basis of aggressive thought patterns precede aggressive behavior. The exposure to TV-violence builds up these aggressive thought patterns."<sup>13</sup>

*Killer games: Media as trainers of violence*  
Children are trained to kill and hurt by media, just as soldiers are by military training programs. Dave A. Grossman, former officer and military psychologist in Westpoint maintains that children are made insensitive, brutalized and conditioned to overcome their natural resistance against killing, just like soldiers in military training programs.

*We are exposing our children and teenagers exactly to the same mechanisms as the professional military who are conditioned to kill. "In order to kill you need three things, a weapon, the skill and the will to kill. Violent*

*videos supply two of these: The skill and the will.*"<sup>14</sup>

### *Media violence brutalizes children and youths*

During the last years the use of violence containing computer and video games has increased rapidly, even up to addiction. There are students who play these games over 50 hours per week, sometimes even until they fade.

Professor *Werner Glogauer*, expert on media impact at the University of Augsburg, has proved that a number of massacres committed by children and youths in Germany and the USA since the mid nineties show a obvious relation to consumption of media containing violence.

Violent deeds in films inspire youths. Murders were staged, modeled on well-known film scenes, (e.g. the Littleton massacre, the killing frenzies of Kentucky, Arkansas, Washington, Mississippi).

Video and computer games are produced to be ever more realistic and inhumane. The user can modify the game according to his motives and interests; he can for instance scan photos of hated persons and then kill them per mouse-click.

Violent videos and computer games cause a massive increase in aggressive behavior and a decrease in pro-social behavior of children.<sup>15</sup>

Lack of social and political proscription of violence endangers the social coherence of society.

## Prevention

The prevention of violence has to be conducted in the family, in school and society. Crucial is the banishment of each form of violent behaviour by children and by adults. Fields of preventions and concepts of prevention are:

*Prevention by emotional warmth, empathy (sympathy), setting of limits, non-hostile measures and authority*

Prevention of violence begins in the emotional exchange between the primary caring person (normally the mother) and the child. A positive emotional attitude towards the child, characterized by warmth and empathy, reduces the risk of the child's developing of a hostile and aggressive attitude towards its human fellows and the environment.

Granting of personal freedom to develop personal independence (autonomy) must be supported by clear statements against negative or violent behavior of the child. It is such a consequent attitude which makes up the positive authority of the educator giving the child a positive orientation.

"Love and empathy of the person(s) caring for the child, setting of clear limits, what is allowed and what is not, and the use of non-violent methods while educating a child, will create balanced (harmonic) and independent children."

*Orientation given by the parents promotes the development of pro-social behavior*  
Necessary is:

affection and care (commitment) of the parents; appropriate, but effective control (supervision); guidance and positive role models by the parents; participation in the household, instilling a sense of duty in the children; limitation of malign interaction between the children, promoting of positive (benevolent) interaction; granting of adequate autonomy to the child; securing a positive identification of the child with the adults.

*Positive values arise from living relationships*

The research attachment shows: conveyance of values is an emotional process; not a rational one. Prerequisite for teaching values and developing a conscience is a reliable relationship (bonding) to the caring person in the first years of the life. In the course of life the child will integrate the behavior, norms and values of its social environment into its character. Values are emotional anchored abilities, an integral part of the personality, which guide the behaviour in any situation.

*Prevention of violence at school*

The adults have to take the responsibility for the situation of the child as a whole, its

situation in learning and its social relationships. The teachers and all other citizens have to be supportive.

Olweus presents a whole catalogue of measures for school, for the class room and for the individual level. This concept of prevention of violence led to a memorable reduction of exertion of direct and indirect violence by 50% in Norway - even so at the school, in the family setting and also in the surrounding of the school.

*Punishment is useful*

The American psychologist Ervin Staub condones in his profound book „The Psychology of Good and Evil“ while analysing different studies: Permissivity, a lack of limits and standards or a weak discipline in a group of delinquent juveniles could be attributed to a high level of aggressiveness. (DiLalla, Mitchell, Arthur & Pagliococca, 1988).

In a permissive setting aggression can be amplified by a lack of consequences (Patterson, 1986, Littman, & Bricker, 1967), because the children learn that aggression pays off. (Buss, 1971). This is especially true for environments where aggression is promoted but not controlled (monitored). Permissivity also means a lack of leadership and causes inefficiency and a weak self-control. "One of the reasons for the development of aggress-

sion is permissivity and a lack of punishment for aggressive behavior."

In his fundamental book „Kriminologie für das 21. Jahrhundert“ (Criminologie for the 21. century) (Münster, 2001) Hans Joachim Schneider explains that the depiction of violence in the media is „especially detrimental, if the virtual violence is justified, rewarded or is not punished“

*What is needed?*

- Violence has to be stopped; immediate unmistakable intervention, condemnation of the malpractice, deglorification of violence; non-reaction will be interpreted as affirmation.
- Reconciliation: evocation of empathy for the victim, teaching violent pupils, to work on the compensation of psychic trauma and material damage.
- Formation of positive values: to teach the pupils empathy, understanding, sympathy, to take over responsibility for his own acting; getting involved with human rights.

*Violent movies and killer games violate human dignity and have to be banned.* •

<sup>1</sup> cf. M. F. Ashley Montagu (Hrsg.): Mensch und Aggression. Weinheim/Basel 1974.

<sup>2</sup> Leakey, Richard E./ Lewin, Roger: Wie der Mensch zum Menschen wurde. Hamburg 1978, p. 221 cf. UNESCO: Seville Statement on Violence, 1986

<sup>3</sup> Selg; Herbert (Hrsg.). Zur Aggression verdammt? An overview about the psychology of aggression. Stuttgart, 1975

<sup>4</sup> Bandura, Albert: Aggression – Eine sozial-lerntheoretische Analyse. Stuttgart 1979, p. 78

<sup>5</sup> Bandura, Albert: Aggression – Eine sozial-lerntheoretische Analyse. Stuttgart 1979, p. 296; Results have been confirmed in a modified experiment of ARD 1975. Vgl. Tausch, R./ Tausch, A.-M.: Erziehungspsychologie. Begegnung von Person zu Person. Göttingen 1977, 8. Aufl, p. 36.

<sup>6</sup> Neil Postman: Das Verschwinden der Kindheit

<sup>7</sup> Zöpfel, Helmut: Virtuelle Welt oder reales Leben? In: *Zeit-Fragen* vom 22. 4.02

<sup>8</sup> Alliance for Childhood: Fool's Gold. A Critical Look at Computers in Childhood. Ed. by C. Cordes and E. Miller

<sup>9</sup> Lefkowitz, M./ Eron, L. D./ Walder, L. O./ Huesmann, L. R.: Growing up to be violent: A Longitudinal Study of the Development of Aggression. New York/Frankfurt/M. 1977, p. 113

<sup>10</sup> cf. ib. S. 114–127

<sup>11</sup> «Mehr Fernsehen, mehr Gewalt» A study confirms the relation between media consumption and aggression. FAZ, 2002 April 29 = Johnson, Jeffrey G./ Cohen, Patricia/ Smailes, Elisabeth M./ Kasen, Stephanie/ Brook, Judith S.: Television Viewing and Aggressive Behaviour During Adolescence and Adulthood. In: Science 2002 March 29, Bd. 295: 2468–2471

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<sup>13</sup> Grossman, Dave A.: Warum töten wir? Die Zeit, 23 September 99; Grossman, Dave A.: Stop Teaching our Kids to Kill: A Call to Action against TV, Movie and Videogame Violence, New York 1999

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<sup>15</sup> Olweus, Dan: Gewalt in der Schule. Was Lehrer und Eltern wissen sollten – und tun können. 2. korrig. Aufl., Bern 1996, p. 48 f.

<sup>16</sup> Staub, Ervin: Entwicklung prosozialen Verhaltens. München, Wien, Baltimore 1982, pp. 304–306. (Positive Social Behaviour and Morality, 1978, Academic Press)

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<sup>18</sup> Hanewinkel R./ Knaack, R.: Prävention von Aggression und Gewalt an Schulen. In: Holtappels, H. G./ Heitmeyer, W./ Melzer, W./ Tillmann, K. J. (Hrsg.): Forschung über Gewalt an Schulen. Erscheinungsformen und Ursachen, Konzepte und Prävention. Weinheim, München 1999, p. 303; Olweus, Dan: Täter-Opfer-Probleme in der Schule: Erkenntnisstand und Interventionsprogramm. In: ebd., pp. 291 ff.

<sup>19</sup> Staub, Ervin, Psychology of Good and Evil, Cambridge 1999.

<sup>20</sup> Schneider, Hans Joachim: Kriminologie für das 21. Jahrhundert, Münster 2001, S. 146.