

Soros's Narco-Politicians Demand Drug Legalization

by Cynthia R. Rush

Feb. 19—No one should have been surprised by the Feb. 11 press conference in Rio de Janeiro, in which leaders of the Latin American Commission on Drugs and Democracy (LACDD), an outfit financed and sponsored by Nazi-trained drug-pusher George Soros, issued a statement calling for legalizing marijuana for personal consumption—just for starters—and for ending the “failed” U.S.-backed War on Drugs. These issues must become the subject of a great debate, the LACDD demanded, in which Ibero-American governments would pressure the U.S. into carrying out a “drastic policy shift” toward legalization.

Co-chaired by three former Ibero-American Presidents—Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico, César Gaviria of Colombia, and Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil—the 14-member LACDD has spent the last year spouting off Soros’s legalization propaganda at conferences around the Americas. Generously financed by Soros’s Open Society Institute and Transnational Institute, the LACDD claimed to be hearing a drumbeat in every country against the “prohibitionist” policies of the U.S. and the Uribe government in Colombia, in favor of a more “humane” approach focussing on “harm reduction” and public-health programs that were more respectful of addicts’ “human rights.”

Drumbeat? There is none. As the LaRouche movement warned, the LACDD only exists to serve as a fifth column in the British Empire’s new Opium War to legalize the global drug trade. The Ibero-American flank in this war is aimed at Mexico in particular, which is fighting for its very survival against the drug cartels, and whose President Felipe Calderón, with aid from the United States, has vowed to follow the Colombia model, and not to cave in to the cartels’ terror campaign.

That can’t be allowed to happen, the LACDD warns in its statement, “Drugs and Democracy: Toward a Paradigm Shift.” The only thing valuable about the Colombian experience, it argues, “is that it is a useful reference for countries not to make the mistake of adopting the U.S. prohibitionist policies.”

Colombia’s Alvaro Uribe is a problem for the Soros toadies, because he is the only Ibero-American President who has vocally opposed the idea of decriminalizing marijuana for personal use, a policy he charges is a first step toward the full legalization of all drugs.

In a Feb. 12 meeting with Catholic bishops in Bogotá, Uribe repeated that legal consumption stimulates trafficking. “It corrupts children, because it links them with distribution.” And, he added, let no one forget that consumption “sustains terrorism.”

With few exceptions, most other Presidents are too cowardly to stand up to Soros, stupidly embracing his decrim and “harm reduction” mantra instead. Even Calderón, despite his otherwise tough stance against the cartels, proposed legislation last Fall to decriminalize marijuana. It’s not too late for Mexico to fall into line, the LACDD insists. Now that the country has erupted in cartel-linked violence, it is “thus well-positioned” to join *with* the cartels in pressuring the Obama Administration to also legalize.

It’s Soros’s Drumbeat

The only drumbeat the LACDD’s narco-politicians hear comes from their boss Soros, or his various acolytes in the Americas.

Ethan Nadelmann, whose Drug Policy Alliance is spearheading Soros’s drug legalization drive internationally, coordinates with the drug kingpin’s network of Ibero-American stooges, such as Mexico’s former Foreign Minister Jorge Castañeda, who once considered running for President, with Soros’s financial backing.

In a Feb. 11 article in the daily *Reforma*, Castañeda admitted that “well-known financier” Soros, and “my friend” Ethan Nadelmann are the “primary sponsors” of the Commission. A mass movement they are not.

This fact notwithstanding, Soros’s network is already waging a well-financed public relations campaign whose insidious goal is to make it socially and politically acceptable for governments to debate whether they have the right to defend the minds of their countrymen, and of future generations.

No sooner had the LACDD report been released, than Nadelmann issued a statement describing the report as “a major leap forward in the global drug policy debate,” because it breaks the “taboo” of debating legalization of all drugs. He announced that he intends to line up endorsements of the LACDD statement from international political and other leaders, and force



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through legislative hearings on legalization in national capitals, including Washington, D.C.

Although the LACDD's report is cloaked in sophistry, there is no escaping its central message: that governments must capitulate to the drug cartels and legalize. It complains, for example, that repressive drug policies are so "firmly rooted in prejudices, fears, and ideological visions" such as the "association of drugs with crime," that this "inhibits public debate." For such a debate to occur, it asserts, it will be necessary to break "taboos and acknowledge the failure of current policies."

Brazilian ex-President Fernando Henrique Cardoso spelled it out explicitly in Rio: "The problem is that in the U.S., to date, narco-trafficking is a crime, so any politician is fearful of talking about narco-trafficking or talking about changing policy because they believe that they will be called soft on crime."

The Soros mafia's main objection is that *drug-trafficking* is labelled a crime! What follows from this is the LACDD's insane assertion that "most of the damage associated with cannabis use" doesn't come from the drug itself, but rather, from "the current prohibitionist policies" involving "indiscriminate arrest and incarceration of consumers," and the "violence and corruption that affect all of society."

When a *Wall Street Journal* reporter asked why the Commission hadn't also proposed cocaine legalization, Cardoso was apologetic. Marijuana is about as harmful as alcohol and tobacco, he lied, "so it's possible to consider marijuana to decriminalize . . . our main idea was to start a debate. So, we are forced to start by saying [let's legalize] marijuana for now, and then let's see what can be done with the rest."

The Three Stooges

Just how much Soros is paying the three "exes" for their services hasn't been revealed. But they are all well-qualified for this dirty job. During their respective terms in office—Cardoso, 1995-2003; Gaviria, 1990-94; and Zedillo, 1994-2000—each obediently imposed the City of London's free-market and privatization policies that allowed the drug trade to flourish, and eventually take over entire economies throughout the region.

At various points over the past year, when Lyndon LaRouche representatives publicly attacked the LACDD's drug legalization agenda and ties to Soros, the co-chairmen loudly protested, claiming their position had been misrepresented, and that they remained "undecided" on the issue. But during a Nov. 26, 2008 conference in Washington, D.C., Zedillo spilled the beans, when confronted by an *EIR* correspondent with the sordid details of Soros's collaboration with the Nazis against his fellow Jews in World War II Hungary. None of that matters, Zedillo said. "It's completely irrelevant to me" in the current discussion about dealing with the drug issue.

Gaviria's participation is also telling on two counts. He is infamous in Colombia for having allowed the drug cartels to infiltrate the 1991 Constituent Assembly that illegally rewrote Colombia's Constitution, and for also making a deal with the Medellín Cartel's Pablo Escobar, by which the drug kingpin would only serve a short stint in prison.

Maximiliano Londoño, president of the Lyndon LaRouche Association of Colombia, has recently documented the iron grip which the cartels still hold over

that nation's economy and finances, despite the efforts of patriots, at various times, including President Uribe, to drive out the drug trade. Gaviria facilitated the cartel's takeover of the economy.

The former President is also now being mooted as a possible Liberal Party candidate against Uribe in the 2010 elections, should Uribe decide to run for a third term. A Gaviria candidacy should be seen as a virtual death threat against Uribe, Londoño warns. Gaviria could only come close to the Presidency, if Uribe were killed, in the same way he became the Liberal Party's Presidential candidate, after the drug cartels assassinated candidate Luis Carlos Galán in 1990.

How Gaviria would approach the drug issue is revealed in his recent statement that the only problem with the drug trade is that it had been "criminalized" by making it illegal.