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Inside Track

Globalist "Intellectuals" Warn That the EU Is "Coming Apart"

A group of intellectuals is complaining about the patriotism of the masses who oppose their European Union imperial scheme.

Calling them "30 top intellectuals" comprising "writers, historians and Nobel laureates ... from 21 countries," *The Guardian* reported January 25 that they wrote in a "manifesto published in several newspapers, including *The Guardian*, that Europe as an idea was 'coming apart before our eyes.'"

As *The Guardian* summarizes it, quoting the intellectuals, "Liberal values in Europe face a challenge 'not seen since the 1930s' ... as the UK lurches towards Brexit and nationalists look set to make sweeping gains in EU parliamentary elections."

What's really coming apart is the EU, of course — though the intellectuals use the name not once in the manifesto but instead rebrand it as "Europe."

To wit: "Enough of 'building Europe'! is the cry. Let's reconnect instead with our 'national soul'! Let's rediscover our 'lost identity'!" the authors write, explaining, "This is the agenda shared by the populist forces washing over the continent. Never mind that abstractions such as 'soul' and 'identity' often exist only in the imagination of demagogues."

Apropos to this, last year French president Emmanuel Macron cited an "Africa expert" who'd said, approvingly, that the number of Africans living in Europe will rise from nine million today to between 150 million and 200 million during the next three decades. Some call this abstraction "Eurafrica."

Do note that the massive, EU-authored Third World migrations into Europe have led to skyrocketing crime, sexual attacks on women, assaults on non-Muslims, acts of jihad, and the birth of "no-go zones" — and the natives still living in these places don't enjoy 24/7 police protection.

So a battle rages between intellectuals and common people with more common sense. One side warns of the death of the EU, the other of the death of the West. And it's now increasingly clear that for one to live, the other must die.

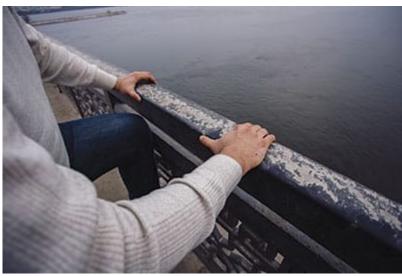
By Selwyn Duke

Thirty-five Percent of Transgender Youth Have Attempted Suicide



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Vladimir Zapletin/iStock/GettyImagesPlus A study released January 25 by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said that just under two percent of high-school students said they were "transgender."

Thirty-five percent of the transgender students said they had attempted suicide in the previous year, compared with about seven percent of those who did not see themselves as transgender, the CDC study found. This startling figure should indicate that young people who identify as "transgender" have a much higher rate of psychological disturbance leading to severe depression than those who do not.

The CDC report found that "transgender" youth were far more likely than non-transgender students to use cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines, and prescription opioids, as well.

Many young people who identify as "transgender" have not had surgery but remain biologically the same as before, while "identifying" as a member of the opposite sex, dressing as such and insisting on having access to public restrooms that match their identity rather than their true gender. Yet, according to the CDC study, even these are prone to severe depression leading to attempted suicide.

The reason for this psychological trauma can be found in remarks made by Dr. Paul R. McHugh, the former psychiatrist-in-chief for Johns Hopkins Hospital, who said in a commentary in the *Wall Street Journal* in 2015 that transgenderism is a "mental disorder" that merits treatment, that sex change is "biologically impossible," and that people who promote sexual reassignment surgery are collaborating with and promoting a mental disorder.

McHugh also reported on a then-current study showing that the suicide rate among transgendered people who had reassignment surgery is 20 times higher than the suicide rate among non-transgender people. The transgendered person's disorder, said McHugh, is in the person's "assumption" that they are different than the physical reality of their body, their maleness or femaleness, as assigned by nature. It is a disorder similar to a "dangerously thin" person suffering anorexia who looks in the mirror and thinks they are "overweight," said McHugh.

By Warren Mass

Koch Network Won't Back Trump in 2020

In a move that should surprise precisely no one, the Koch political network has informed donors that it

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will not support President Donald Trump — or any other candidate — in the 2020 presidential elections. While the network still expects to be active in down-ticket races for the Senate and House of Representatives, it will not weigh in on the presidential race. The organization also chose not to back Trump in 2016.

Koch network spokesman James Davis told the *Washington Post* on January 24 the network is planning to make "significant investment to support policy champions in Senate, House and state races, build broad-based policy coalitions and to launch a major new initiative to fight poverty in America."

The Republican National Committee probably wasn't expecting much Koch brothers support in the next presidential election anyway. In August, the RNC sent a letter to donors critical of the Koch organization after Charles Koch suggested that the network might begin to support Democrats. "Some groups who claim to support conservatives forgo their commitment when they decide their business interests are more important than those of the country or Party. This is unacceptable," said the letter. The same letter claimed that the GOP had "been prepared for this for years."

In a January 2 e-mail to donors, the Koch network laid out its policy priorities for 2019, many of which sound as if they were written by Democrat Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. Among those priorities are income inequality, education initiatives, overhauling the criminal-justice system, and searching for a more permanent answer for illegal immigrants who came here as children, known colloquially as "Dreamers."

President Trump proved in 2016 that he didn't need the Kochs or the baggage that comes with their support. One of the main reasons that voters chose Trump is that they saw him as a person with his own money, who didn't owe donors such as the Kochs anything. Even though their funds and their support could help in 2020, it's for the best that the president doesn't become beholden to them.

By James Murphy

BuzzFeed & Other Media Suffering Financial Woes, Scrambling to Survive

At the same time that many media organizations have hitched their wagons to a rabid anti-Trump narrative, many of them are struggling to survive.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported January 23 that "BuzzFeed is planning to lay off about 15% of its workforce, according to people familiar with the situation." In fact, BuzzFeed, considered by many to be "Fake News," has never actually been financially successful. According to the *Journal* piece, the layoffs are part of a bigger plan "to get BuzzFeed on the path to profitability and in proper shape as it scouts out potential merger combinations with other digital media players," and "to help the company avoid raising money again."

The more than half a billion dollars BuzzFeed has raised over two years was apparently not spent improving the journalistic end of the company. In October 2014, a Pew Research Center survey showed that the majority of people in the United States, regardless of their political affiliation, considered BuzzFeed to be an unreliable source of news.

And BuzzFeed is not alone. As the *Journal* piece stated: "There are signs of growing pressure in the industry. The online publisher Mic recently agreed to sell itself to women-focused publisher Bustle

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Digital Group for about \$5 million. Refinery29, the lifestyle-focused publisher that targets millennial women, laid off 10% of its workforce last fall."

Other big names in liberal journalism are facing similar hardships. In a separate January 23 article, the *Journal* reported that Condé Nast — which owns the *New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Wired, Vogue, GQ, Bon Appétit, Glamour,* and other well-known magazines — will be putting all of its online articles behind paywalls by the end of 2019. There will also be an increase in the price of subscriptions. *The New Yorker's* regular renewal price for a print and digital bundle is going from \$119 a year to \$149. And Verizon Media Group is laying off seven percent of its workforce — roughly 800 employees.

By C. Mitchell Shaw

Another Step Toward Auditing the Federal Reserve



AP Images

Representative Thomas Massie kicked off the legislative new year on January 3 with H.R. 24, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act. This bill is the latest in a series of bills introduced by the likes of Massie and former Congressman Ron Paul calling for a congressional audit of the Federal Reserve, an event that has never taken place in the Fed's 105-year history. Once politically unthinkable, the drive to audit the Fed has gained considerable momentum in recent years as many Democrats and even some influential far-left progressives, such as Bernie Sanders, have signaled their support. With a president in the White House who has made no secret of his dislike for the Fed, there is a real possibility that Massie's bill — should it ever pass the House and Senate — could become law.

"Now is the time," Massie told Breitbart News, "because I believe the president would sign an Audit the Fed bill. This bill has passed through the House with a veto-proof majority. This last Congress it passed out of committee, but the Speaker [Paul Ryan] did not pick it up. I believe if we can get it on the floor in the House and to the Senate, it would pass with a large majority; we wouldn't even have to worry about a veto-proof majority because I believe this president would sign it." Of course, with the House now controlled by ultra-liberal establishmentarians such as Nancy Pelosi, who are determined to avoid any legislative matters that might resonate with a president they detest, Massie's assessment of the bill's political prospects may be overly optimistic. But the fact that a majority of congressmen in the last Congress supported a similar bill bodes well for the movement's eventual success.

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The Fed and its supporters, for their part, remain staunchly opposed to any congressional audit. For more than a century, they have argued that the Fed, in order to function free of political bias or attachment to special interests, must be able to operate completely independent of congressional oversight — which of course would include any type of audit carried out by lawmakers. Were the Fed truly a private corporation, such arguments would have merit. But the Fed was created by an act of Congress, and from its inception has had a long history of aligning its policies with the will of powerful politicians such as Senator Nelson Aldrich, its political sire, and Treasury officials, whose debt issues the Fed buys and sells as a chief means of controlling the money supply. To argue that the Fed, its chairman, and its Board of Governors are beholden to no political interests is to willfully ignore the nature and purpose of the organization. After all, the Fed is charged with managing America's money supply — the very money that is issued by the federal government in the first place.

The real reason for the reticence of Fed officials is to preserve the mystery and obscurity of central banking operations, which few in Congress — let alone the American general public — understand. They rightly fear that, should the public and their congressional representatives come to understand how the Fed truly operates, with its network of privileged primary dealers, its shady currency trading, and its obvious ties to and preference for large banks and financial firms, pressure would be brought to bear to get rid of the Fed altogether.

This, of course, is the desired outcome by those pushing the bill. For more than a century, the Fed's monetary policies have systematically enriched the well-connected few (such as the bankers and traders who work at the Fed's primary dealers) at the expense of the many (the rest of us, whose savings are gradually depleted by the Fed's program of incessant inflation). The Federal Reserve System has fundamentally transformed the American economic and cultural landscape by creating a financial climate in which savers are punished (by inflation) and profligacy is rewarded (by unnaturally low interest rates and easy money that incentivize borrowing and spending). Whereas living within one's means and saving money for old age was once considered prudent conduct, nowadays risky home purchases, online currency trading, and other high-risk activities are regarded as the height of financial sophistication. And all because of generations of Fed-fueled inflation.

It is long past time to end the Fed. Congressman Massie's bill is a much-needed step in the right direction.

By Charles Scaliger



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