

GLOBAL TELEVISION FOR OUR FUTURE GLOBAL LEADER

Feb 9/09. Surprise and even shock were among the reactions to my recent column about how elite members of the World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting in Davos, Switzerland, were considering a proposal for a new global television network to usher in a state of “global governance.” It sounded authoritarian, even totalitarian, to some.

The media proposal, which was included in “The Global Agenda 2009” report, is to create “a new global network” with “the capacity to connect the world, bridging cultures and peoples, and telling us who we are and what we mean to each other.” Several prominent U.S. media figures signed on to the alarming and controversial proposal.

This outlandish and frightening proposal doesn’t come from a fringe organization. The WEF is an exclusive club of very rich and powerful people from around the world. It describes itself as “an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional and industry agendas.”

The media proposal was developed by one of several “Global Agenda Councils” under the auspices of the WEF. The new TV network proposal was issued under the supervision of Pat Mitchell, the president of the Paley Center for Media and former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Public Broadcasting Service. She was the chair of the Global Agenda Council on the Future of Media.

There are 22 members (page 183) of the Council on the Future of Media.

FULL ARTICLE> <http://www.worldviewtimes.com/article.php/articleid-4581/Brannon-Howse/Cliff-Kincaid>

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OBAMA'S RHETORIC IS THE REAL 'CATASTROPHE'

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Feb 13/09. President Barack Obama has turned fear mongering into an art form. He has repeatedly raised the specter of another Great Depression. First, he did so to win votes in the November election. He has done so again recently to sway congressional votes for his stimulus package.

In his remarks, every gloomy statistic on the economy becomes a harbinger of doom. As he tells it, today's economy is the worst since the Great Depression. Without his Recovery and Reinvestment Act, he says, the economy will fall back into that abyss and may never recover.

This fear mongering may be good politics, but it is bad history and bad economics. It is bad history because our current economic woes don't come close to those of the 1930s.

Auto production last year declined by roughly 25%. That looks good compared to 1932, when production shriveled by **90%**.

Mr. Obama's analogies to the Great Depression are not only historically inaccurate, they're also dangerous. Repeated warnings from the White House about a coming economic apocalypse aren't likely to raise consumer and investor expectations for the future. In fact, they have contributed to the continuing decline in consumer confidence that is restraining a spending pickup. Beyond that, fear mongering can trigger a political stampede to embrace a "recovery" package that delivers a lot less than it promises. A more cool-headed assessment of the economy's woes might produce better policies.

FULL ARTICLE> <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123457303244386495.html>

JAPAN SAYS ECONOMIC CRISIS WORST SINCE WWII

Feb 16/09. Japan warned Monday that it was in the deepest economic crisis since World War II, after Asia's biggest economy suffered its worst contraction in almost 35 years.

The economy shrank for a third straight quarter in the three months to December as the global slowdown crushed demand for Japanese exports, a key pillar of the world's number two economy.

The government said the slump was even worse than the recession of the 1990s when the country's economic bubble burst, ushering in a decade of economic stagnation and deflation.

FULL ARTICLE>

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090216/bs_afp/japanecomypolitics;_ylt=Aksldrb0C71IEkmVYiytYCbXg8F

FAILURE TO SAVE EAST EUROPE WILL LEAD TO WORLDWIDE MELTDOWN

Feb 15/09. The unfolding debt drama in Russia, Ukraine, and the EU states of Eastern Europe has reached acute danger point.

If mishandled by the world policy establishment, this debacle is big enough to shatter the fragile banking systems of Western Europe and set off round two of our financial Götterdämmerung.

Austria's finance minister Josef Pröll made frantic efforts last week to put together a €150bn rescue for the ex-Soviet bloc. Well he might. His banks have lent €230bn to the region, equal to 70pc of Austria's GDP.

"A failure rate of 10pc would lead to the collapse of the Austrian financial sector," reported Der Standard in Vienna. Unfortunately, that is about to happen.

Stephen Jen, currency chief at Morgan Stanley, said Eastern Europe has borrowed \$1.7 trillion abroad, much on short-term maturities. It must repay – or roll over – \$400bn this year, equal to a third of the region's GDP. Good luck. The credit window has slammed shut.

Not even Russia can easily cover the \$500bn dollar debts of its oligarchs while oil remains near \$33 a barrel. The budget is based on Urals crude at \$95. Russia has bled 36pc of its foreign reserves since August defending the rouble.

"This is the largest run on a currency in history," said Mr Jen.

Spain is up to its neck in Latin America, which has belatedly joined the slump (Mexico's car output fell 51pc in January, and Brazil lost 650,000 jobs in one month). Britain and Switzerland are up to their necks in Asia.

[FULL ARTICLE>](#)

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/comment/ambroseevans_pritchard/4623525/Failure-to-save-East-Europe-will-lead-to-worldwide-meltdown.html

IMF CHIEF: SECOND WAVE OF COUNTRIES WILL REQUIRE BAIL-OUT

Feb 15/09. A "second wave" of countries will fall victim to the economic crisis and face being bailed out by the International Monetary Fund, its chief warned at the G7 summit in Rome.

The IMF managing director, Dominique Strauss-Kahn's warning comes amid growing concern that at some point in the next year a major economy could have to seek support from the Fund. Mr Strauss-Kahn, who was yesterday attending the Group of Seven leading finance ministers' meeting in Rome, said: "I expect a second wave of countries to come knocking."

Strauss-Kahn also said the [rich world](#) was now in the midst of a "deep recession." It came as the G7 pledged to avoid slipping into protectionism and repeating the same political and economic mistakes as were made in the 1930s.

Some have speculated that the UK may have to seek IMF support if capital markets become frightened of the size of its foreign financial liabilities, which increasingly appear to have become supported by the state. But there are a swathe of Eastern European countries which appear particularly vulnerable and may need IMF support.

With the Fund's war-chest expected to run dry later this year, the Japanese confirmed in Rome that they would supply an extra \$200bn of capital to the Washington-based institution.

[FULL ARTICLE>](#)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/economics/4625430/IMF-chief-Dominique-Strauss-Kahn-warns-second-wave-of-countries-will-require-bail-out.html>

NORTH KOREA: 7 YEARS RUNNING AS WORST PERSECUTOR

ONE NEWS NOW [American Family News Network] - By Allie Martin - February 4, 2009

Once again North Korea has retained its title as the worst persecutor of Christians in the world.

According to the 2009 World Watch List compiled by Open Doors, the communist nation of North Korea -- described by the group as a nation with "severe persecution" -- is the number-one worst persecutor of believers for the seventh year in a row. Saudi Arabia is number two and Iran is in third place. Both of those countries are ruled by Shariah law.

Dr. Carl Moeller, president of Open Doors, says the World Watch List is a reliable way to evaluate the level of persecution against Christians.

"The World Watch List is an annual ranking of the worst persecutors on earth that we measure using a 50 question survey that our co-workers put together and assign a point value to each one of those questions. In the process we get a first-hand assessment of the intensity of persecution and the nature of the persecution around the world."

Afghanistan, Somalia, and the Maldives take the fourth, fifth, and sixth positions. Yemen is number seven, followed by Laos, Eritrea, and Uzbekistan.

Countries still imposing "severe limitations" on believers but showing a positive trend over the last year (i.e., whose persecution rating decreased noticeably) include Bhutan, China, Turkmenistan, and Vietnam. Those showing a negative trend (increased persecution) include Pakistan, Iraq, Algeria, and India.

FULL ARTICLE> <http://www.onenewsnow.com/Persecution/Default.aspx?id=408534>