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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 85, September 2018

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Revolutionary Communism is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria. Furthermore, the RCIT has fraternal relations with the *Alkebulan School of Black Studies* (Kenya), the *Pacesetters Movement* (Nigeria), the *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance* (Nigeria), *Courant des Jeunes Penseurs Congolais* (Democratic Republic of Congo), the *Marxist Group ‘Class Politics’* (Russia) and *Sınıf Savaşı* (Turkey).

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63,000 Troops

Russian Imperialist Forces back up the Reactionary Assad Regime in Syria

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 27.08.2018

The RCIT has always pointed out that the tyrannical Assad regime would have been already crushed by the popular revolution long time ago if it would not have had the massive military and financial support by foreign powers.

The most important foreign backers are Russia and Iran. About 200,000 soldiers from are fighting in militias controlled by the regime in Teheran – many of them coming not only from Iran but also from Iraq, Afghanistan or Pakistan. (1)

The Russian Forces in Syria in Detail

There are also a number of Russian troops operating in Syria. A few days ago, the Russian defence ministry provided the public with official figures. *“A total of 63,012 Russian personnel have “received combat experience” in the war-torn country, the ministry said in a video about Russia’s campaign to support the Syrian regime dating back to September 2015. This number includes 25,738 ranking officers and 434 generals as well as 4,349 artillery and rocket specialists, it said. (...) The ministry said Wednesday that Russian airforce had conducted more than 39,000 sorties that killed “over 86,000 militants” and destroyed 121,466 “terrorist targets”. It said its forces had tested 231 types of modern weaponry in Syria including aircraft, surface-to-air systems, cruise missiles and others.”* (2)

To this one has to add a number of private Russian military contractors who are also operating in Syria. They are organized under the command of the so-called *Wagner Group* (a kind of Russian version of the notorious US mercenaries company *Blackwater*). According to Yevgeny Shabayev, a local leader of a paramilitary organization in Russia, *“Russia has 2,000 to 3,000 contractors fighting in Syria.”* (3)

Most importantly Russia deploys its Air Force as well as a number of warships in Syria. While the air force operates from the Russian-controlled air base in Hmeymim, the warships are based in the Russian-controlled naval facility in Tartus. The Russian Air Force has proven decisive to support the Assadist and Iranian-led troops to advance against the liberated territories controlled by the rebel forces.

From Astana to the Final Onslaught on Idlib

Of course, the Russian troops are not the only imperialist force operating in Syria. There are also a number of U.S. troops in Syria – about 2,000 soldiers – who are closely collaborating with the Kurdish YPG/SDF in the North and East of Syria. And there are also smaller numbers of French troops.

But the 63,000 Russian troops who have been deployed in Syria in the past three years have been without doubt the most important imperialist force in this country. (4)

The support of Russian imperialism will again prove decisive if the Assad regime and the Iranian-led militias

will launch their onslaught on Idlib – the last citadel of the Syrian Revolution – in the coming weeks. (5)

The goal of the unholy alliance of Assad, Putin and Rouhani is to finally smash the popular uprising of the Syrian workers and poor peasants which started in March 2011. They have been decisively helped in their sinister plan by the so-called Astana process which began in January 2017. This is the name of the reactionary conspiracy of Putin, Rouhani and Turkey’s Erdoğan aimed at ending the liberation struggle of the Syrian people. Unfortunately, the Turkish regime has succeeded in corrupting a sector of the Syrian FSA rebel leadership in supporting the Astana deal.

The most important result of the negotiations in Astana has been the creation of four so-called “de-escalation zones” – in Ghouta, northern Homs, Deraa, and Idlib – in September 2017. The RCIT has warned from the beginning that the Astana process has been a treacherous plot in order to sell-out the liberation struggle. (6) We have pointed out that the purpose of these “de-escalation zones” was to pacify the liberation struggle and to allow the regime to prepare its aggression. And indeed, as soon as Assad had finished his preparations, his army – with the military support of the Russian and Iranian forces and with the tacit agreement of Erdoğan – attacked and smashed one liberated enclave after the other. Ghouta was defeated in April this year. The Rastan pocket in Homs collapsed in May. And in June came the turn to Daraa. Now, the butcher of Damascus assembles his troops in the north in order to assault and smash the last liberated enclave.

In Face of Cowardice and Treachery: Defend the Syrian Revolution in Idlib!

No one must forget the devastating responsibility of the treacherous rebel leaderships which supported the Astana process and preached trust in the negotiations of Putin, Rouhani and Erdoğan. No one must have any doubt about the reactionary role of the Turkish regime which claims to support the rebels but in fact sells out the struggle as it is only interested in suppressing the Kurdish people as well as in making profitable deals with the imperialist Great Powers.

And no one must forget the pathetic role of most sectors of the international “left”. Many of them – the Stalinists and their friends – have always hailed the Assad tyranny. To name a few of them, we refer to the Communist Parties in Syria and Egypt, the Russian KPRF of Zyuganov and the RKRK of Tjulkin, or the WWP and the PSL in the U.S. Other supported the Syrian Revolution at the beginning in 2011 but cowardly deserted it later (e.g. Peter Taffees CWI, Alan Woods IMT, the PTS/FT, the L5I and various others). (7)

The RCIT repeats, that faced with the final onslaught on Idlib, the last citadel of the Syrian Revolution, no honest revolutionary, no socialist, no democrat can remain neutral. Those who have remained loyal to the liberation struggle must now stand with the fighters who refuse to

capitulate!

We call all those who support the Syrian Revolution to reject the reactionary Astana conspiracy, to support the continuation of the liberation struggle and to side with those forces who are ready to fight against the sell-out.

Footnotes

(1) Ahmad Rafat: IRGC Commander Claims 200,000 Iran-backed Troops In Syria, December 31, 2016 <https://kayhanlife.com/translated-features/irgc-commander-claims-200000-iran-backed-troops-in-syria/>

(2) AFP: Russia says over 63,000 troops have fought in Syria, August 22, 2018, <https://www.yahoo.com/news/russia-says-over-63-000-troops-fought-syria-141424820.html>

(3) Rinat Sagdiev, Maria Tsvetkova, Olena Vasina: Special Report: How a secret Russian airlift helps Syria's Assad, Reuters, April 6, 2018, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-flights/special-report-how-a-secret-russian-airlift-helps-syrias-assad-idUSKCN1HD18Y>; see also Russian ships have left Tartus base in Syria for own safety: official, 2018-04-12 <https://www.dailysabah.com/syrian-crisis/2018/04/12/russian-ships-have-left-tartus-base-in-syria-for-own-safety-official>

(4) Concerning the Great Power rivalry and imperialist interventions in the Middle East we refer, among others, to a joint statement issued by the RCIT and supported by five other organizations: Warmongering in the Middle East: Down with all Imperialist Great Powers and Capitalist Dictatorships! Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), Pacesetters Movement (Nigeria), Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), and Sınıf Savaşı (Turkey), 13 May 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/>

[statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/](https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-towards-the-final-battle-in-idlib/)

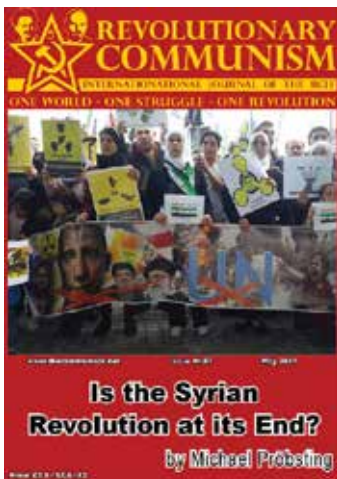
(5) Michael Pröbsting: Syria: Towards the Final Battle in Idlib. Assad, Russia, Iran and Turkey prepare for the final onslaught on the last Citadel of the Syrian Revolution, 04.08.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-towards-the-final-battle-in-idlib/>

(6) See on this various statements which are collected in a special section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. In particular we refer to Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/> and chapter V of Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings, February 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/worldperspectives-2018/chapter-v/>.

(7) See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>

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The RCIT has published a number of booklets, statements and articles on the Syrian Revolution which can be read on a special sub-section on this website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>.



Publications of the RCIT

Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified?

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2017

An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution

Introduction * The Nature of the Local Coordination Councils in Syria * The Contradictory Nature of the Petty-Bourgeois Rebel Factions * A note on the adjectival juxtaposition of “progressive” to liberal democrats versus “reactionary” to Islamists * Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham and Other Islamist Militias * The Role of Religion in Democratic and National Liberation Struggles * Some Arguments on the Ongoing Progressive Character of the Syrian Revolution * Have the Rebels Become Agents of US Imperialism and Regional Powers? * On Foreign Powers’ Support for Liberation Movements p* Lenin and Trotsky on Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference * What Did Lenin and Trotsky Say about Getting Support from Imperialists? * Imagining Two Different Scenarios of the Revolution’s Success & Failure * A Period of Defeats and Retreats: What Are the Reasons? * Some Thoughts on the Future Prospects of the Arab Revolution * The Urgent Need for a Revolutionary Party * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

U.S. Imperialism Wants to “Re-Engage” with the Assad Tyranny

Comment on an Article by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter published in the New York Times

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 28.08.2018

Irrespective of its rivalry with Russia, U.S. imperialism shares Moscow’s desire to pacify the Syrian liberation struggle since years. This has been articulated recently, once more, by the unofficial voice of the ruling class in Washington, former U.S. president Jimmy Carter.

In a well-placed article in the *New York Times*, published on 24 August, he called for Western support for the Assad regime. He demanded that “Western countries, including the United States, should re-engage incrementally with the Syrian government. (...) In exchange for this re-engagement, Damascus should be required to enact reforms, though the West must keep its demands moderate. Additionally, the West should be prepared to contribute to the reconstruction of Syria, perhaps selectively by sector. (...) Syria’s economy cannot be revived while the country remains under sanctions that hurt ordinary citizens. Lifting sanctions will be crucial to solving the huge challenges of reconstruction, unemployment and economic revival.” (1)

Carter also welcomed the desire of the U.S. proxy YPG/SDF to strive for a deal with the Assad tyranny. Likewise, he called the rebels to lay down the arms and to open a “political dialogue” with the regime. “In July, a Kurdish delegation met with the Syrian government to negotiate a continuation of the de facto autonomy the Kurds secured early in the war. This was a constructive development, and more such talks should be encouraged. The opposition, which is concentrated in Idlib province, should also explore what is possible through political dialogue. Continuing to fight would be futile.”

This might come as a surprise to those foolish leftists who always claimed that the Syrian rebels were “agents

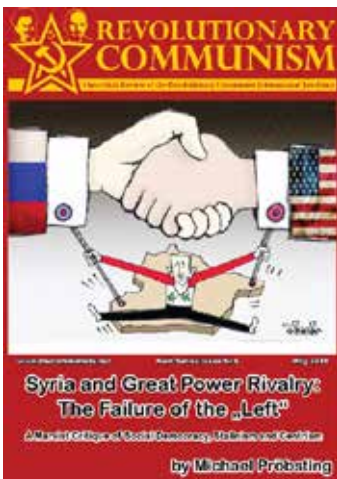
of the U.S.”. In fact, all capitalist powers – despite their rivalry between each other – have desired an end of the revolutionary process in Syria since years. (2)

Surely, the US and the European Union do not like the Assad regime as it is not their but rather Putin’s proxy. Hence, in the first years of the uprising, Washington gave tacit, mainly diplomatic, support for the pro-Western sectors of the rebels in order to create problems in Moscow’s empire. However, when it turned out that Washington could not bring the country into its sphere of influence via a coup against Assad from within the Baathist state apparatus, they reconciled themselves with the prospect of Assad staying in power. In the end, Washington and Brussels always preferred the bloody Assad regime than facing the consequences of a violent popular revolution. (3)

As a consequence U.S. imperialism has never seriously attacked the forces of the Assad regime but rather fought against Daesh/ISIS or the most determined sectors of the anti-Assad rebels (e.g. the petty-bourgeois Islamist HTS which Washington recently classified once more as a “terrorist organization”). (4)

While Washington bombed a few empty ware-houses under control of the Assad regime or an air base after official warning, it carpet bombed Raqqa and assassinated with killer-drones various leaders of the Islamist anti-Assad rebels. (5)

We can expect a similar approach of the U.S. with the upcoming bloody assault on Idlib by the Assadist, Russian



Publications of the RCIT

Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism

Introduction * The liberation struggle of the Syrian people against Assad retains its just character * Against all imperialist aggressors! * Old and new Great Powers * The Ex-Stalinist turned social democrats: “God save the United Nations” * The Stalinists (and some caricatures in Trotskyist camouflage): social-imperialist servants of Assad and Putin * The Morenoite LIT, UIT and FLTI: the heart on the right place but not their brains * CWI and FT: failure to understand the imperialist nature of China and Russia * CWI / SWP(UK) / FT: refusing to support the Syrian Revolution * Conclusion * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

and Iranian troops. (6) Surely, Washington will shear a few crocodile tears about the massacres committed by Assad's mercenaries. One can not exclude one or another symbolic retaliatory strike. But in essence all the Great Powers – the U.S., Russia, EU, China and Japan – share the interest to liquidate the Syrian Revolution and to pacify the country under the bloody bayonets of Assad. (7)

The RCIT denounces the interference and aggression of all imperialist Great Powers in Syria! (8) We call for the immediate withdrawal of the Russian and U.S. troops as well as those of Iran and Turkey. All foreign military bases in Syria must be dissolved! We call the workers and popular mass organizations around the world to rally the support of the Syrian people! Defend Idlib, the last citadel of the Syrian Revolution, against the impending annihilation by the barbaric counter-revolution!

Footnotes

(1) Jimmy Carter: In Syria, an Ugly Peace Is Better Than More War, August 24, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/24/opinion/syria-peace-jimmy-carter.html>

(2) See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>

(3) See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Syria: Assad's Massacre in East Ghouta and the Western Hypercritics, 23.02.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/assad-s-massacre-in-east-ghouta-and-the-western-hypercritics/>; Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified?

(4) See on this e.g. RCIT: Denounce the US terror listing of Syria's Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham! The Trump Administration delivers another blow to the Syrian Revolution. Continue the Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Syrian people! 03.06.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/denounce-the-us-terror-listing-of-syria-s-hs/>

(5) See on this e.g. Down with Imperialist Warmongering of All

Great Powers! Syria attack, Protectionist Tariffs and Salisbury poisoning: Against all imperialist diplomatic, economic and military aggression! In U.S., EU, Russia and China: The Main Enemy is at Home! Support democratic and national liberation struggles of oppressed people! Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT) and the Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), 13.04.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-down-with-imperialist-warmongering-of-all-great-powers/>; ISL: On Trump's attack on Syria, 15.04.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/on-trump-s-attack-on-syria/>

(6) Michael Pröbsting: Syria: Towards the Final Battle in Idlib. Assad, Russia, Iran and Turkey prepare for the final onslaught on the last Citadel of the Syrian Revolution, 04.08.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-towards-the-final-battle-in-idlib/>

(7) See on this various statements which are collected in a special section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. In particular we refer to Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/> and chapter V of Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings, February 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/worldperspectives-2018/chapter-v/>

(8) Concerning the Great Power rivalry and imperialist interventions in the Middle East we refer, among others, to a joint statement issued by the RCIT and supported by five other organizations: Warmongering in the Middle East: Down with all Imperialist Great Powers and Capitalist Dictatorships! Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), Pacesetters Movement (Nigeria), Pan-African Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), and Sınıf Savaşı (Turkey), 13 May 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/>

Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

Tel Aviv: Mass Demonstration against Israel's Apartheid Law

Report by Boris Hammerschlag, Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 12.8.2018

Last Saturday, Tel Aviv saw an impressive mass demonstration of tens of thousands of Palestinian Israeli citizens protesting a law passed last month that discriminates the non-Jewish citizens and decrees that Jews - domestic and foreign - have exclusive national rights.

Thousands of people chanted "We are not second class!" and raised banners like: "Nation-State Law - Official Apartheid" (both Arabic and Hebrew). The demonstration saw no violence as the police refrained from provocations and there was no right wing counter-protest.

Supporters of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine) participated in the demonstration. One of our signs read "Equality without the right of return = racism and arrogance. Jewish OR Democratic." (See picture below)

The demonstration was called by the official Palestinian leadership of Arabs who are Israeli citizens – the Higher Arab Monitoring Committee. While this ensured a mass participation of Palestinian Israeli citizens, it also resulted in several political limitations as this official leadership tries to avoid an open confrontation with the Zionist state.

The organizers tried to make sure that the slogans chanted at the demonstration were mostly pacifist and non-militant. They also asked for a "non-partisan" demonstration which meant that no one raises any flags, no Israeli flags, no Palestinian flags. By such opportunistic measures the organizers hope to accommodate the Zionist public opinion.

Nevertheless, a courageous small minority of militants did raise Palestinian flags and shouted classic Palestinian Liberation slogans such like "With spirit and blood we shall redeem you, Palestine!" or "Millions of martyrs march towards Al-Quds!", etc.

This made the Zionist media go berserk! The headlines say "Palestinian Flags in the Middle of Tel Aviv!!!". The Zionist right is happy because it sees this as proof the Arabs want to destroy Israel, the Zionist left is mad at the Palestinians for ruining their chance to replace Netanyahu.

However, as the Internationalist Socialist League we congratulate these Palestinian brothers and sisters for their courageous act which challenges the Zionist public opinion as well as the opportunist leadership in our own ranks!

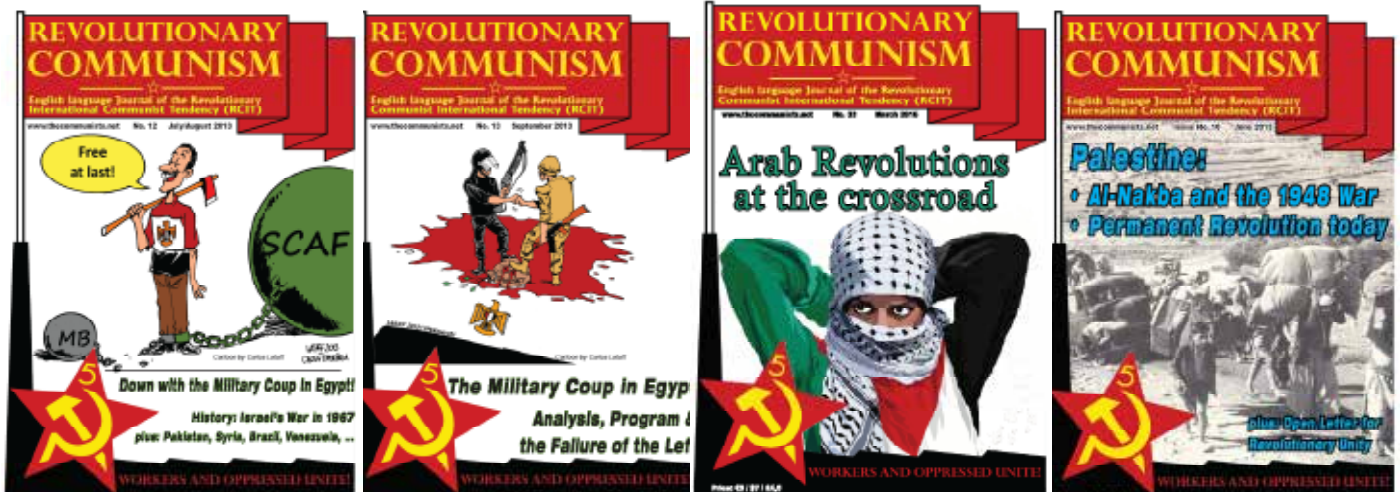
We will continue our struggle for against the Zionist Apartheid system, for the defense of all democratic rights of the Palestinian people and for a socialist future!

For the right of all Palestinians to return!
 For a Single State from the River to the Sea!!
 For a Free Red Palestine!



Activists of the ISL at the demonstration in Tel Aviv

Publications of the RCIT on the Arab Revolution



Rally on the 5th Anniversary of the Rabaa Massacre by the Egypt Military

Report (with Photos and Videos) from a Rally in Vienna on 14 August 2018, Austrian Section of the RCIT

Dozens of Egyptian migrants assembled in the centre of Vienna to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Rabaa Massacre by the Egypt Military. On 14 August 2013 the military slaughtered up to 2.600 demonstrators on a single day! The “crime” of these people was to protest against the military coup which General Sisi had carried out a few weeks earlier on 3 July! The organizers of the Egyptian community invited the Austrian section of the RCIT to attend and speak at the rally. We participated with a delegation, and our comrade

Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed those gathered. He emphasized the solidarity of the RCIT with the resistance of the Egypt people against the military dictatorship. He also condemned the support of US and European imperialism for General Sisi.

See photos and a video clip of Michael Pröbsting’s speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rally-on-5th-anniversary-of-rabaa-massacre-by-military-coup-in-egypt/>



Rally on the 5th Anniversary of the Rabaa Massacre by the Egypt Military (Vienna, 14.8.2018)

Rally in Solidarity with the Popular Uprising in Iraq

Report from the Austrian Section of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 27.07.2018

Yesterday, dozens of Iraqi migrants staged a rally in the centre of Vienna. They expressed their solidarity with the mass uprising in Iraq against poverty, unemployment and corruption. (See pictures below)

The Austrian section of the RCIT was invited to participate in the rally. Comrade Michael Pröbsting, the International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed the rally with two speeches. His German-language speeches were summarized in Arab language. (See videos below)

A comrade from the Russian MGKP, who visited the section during these days in order to discuss about advancing the relations with the RCIT, also addressed the rally. (See video below)

Our internationalist message of solidarity was strongly welcomed by the Iraqi brothers and sisters and many of them bought copies of the second issue of THAWRA, the

Arab language bulletin of the RCIT (See <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9/thawra-2/>)

The Austrian section of the RCIT will continue its long-standing collaboration with the Iraqi brothers and sisters. Long live the international solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Iraqi workers and oppressed!

We refer readers also to a statement which the RCIT has published recently in solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq:

Iraq: Long Live the Popular Insurrection! Bring Down the Government of Haider al-Abadi! Build Popular Councils! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government! 17 July 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/long-live-the-popular-insurrection-in-iraq/>



Rally in solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq (Vienna, 26.8.2018)



Publications of the RCIT

The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

On the Occasion of the Afrikan Day of Remembrance Slavery 2018

Force the Old and New Colonial Powers to Pay Compensation!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 23 August 2018

On behalf of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* we send our best wishes to all activists fighting against the imperialist rape of Africa!

The Afrikan Day of Remembrance Slavery on 23 August rightly draws attention to centuries of plundering by the colonial power of Europe. Millions and millions of Africans have been enslaved or simply killed. This historical crime caused devastating humanitarian, economic and social deformations which affect the continent until today.

Hence, we repeat what we have stated in the *RCIT's Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa*:

"For these reasons, the RCIT supports the call for the old and new colonial powers to pay compensation for centuries of slavery, exploitation and oppression! We denounce the hypocrisy of the western Great Powers which deny African nations and Afro-Americans reparations and ask us to forget the past atrocities perpetuated against these peoples. What a contrast this is compared to the reparations which have been paid because of the horrible Nazi crimes against the Jewish people! Are African lives

worth less?!"

Today, slavery has formally been abolished. But the capitalist super-exploitation continues. Today, the European Great Powers continue to plunder the African people. Other imperialist powers have joined them in their evil work: the United States and, since a few years, China.

It is crucial for the African workers and poor peasants to unite in the struggle against capitalism and neo-colonialism! Our continent which has suffered so much under the capitalist yoke must be liberated and united by driving out all imperialist powers (U.S., Western Europe, China, Russia, etc.) as well as the local capitalist elite. This, in turn, can only be achieved if the working class and the oppressed unite in the struggle for a socialist revolution.

Building a leadership for this struggle, i.e. a revolutionary party nationally and internationally, is the primary task of the RCIT. Naturally, the African revolutionaries play a key role in this historic task.

Forward to the socialist revolution on the Africa continent and in the whole world!

Nigeria: Protest against the Arrest of PACOR Activists!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24 August 2018

On behalf of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* we strongly protest against the arrest of activists of the *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (PACOR)* by the police on 23 August. These three activists, comrades Azezez, Chuks and Ifa-Maberu, got arrested when they were at the verge of submitting the petition for a march at the U.S.A embassy (a march which was planned as part of the Reparation March on the same day).

As the PACOR comrades report in a statement, the police was evidently acting on order from the top – presumably the U.S. Embassy and Nigerian officials. (Read the PACOR Statement here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/forum/arrest-of-pacor-members-in-nigeria/>)

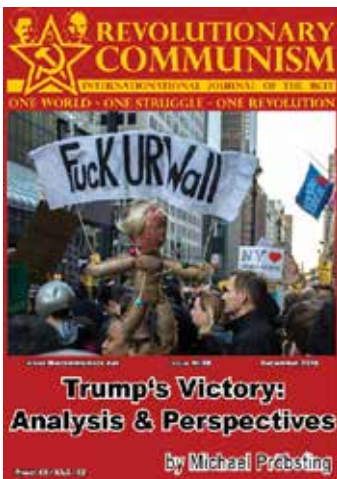
This scandalous event demonstrates once more the collusion of imperialism and the local regimes in semi-colonial countries like Nigeria. It is symbolic that these

arrests took place on the Afrikan Day of Remembrance Slavery – a day commemorating the centuries of plundering by the colonial power of Europe. (See the RCIT Statement: On the Occasion of the Afrikan Day of Remembrance Slavery 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/on-the-occasion-of-the-afrikan-day-of-remembrance-slavery-2018/>)

As we pointed out in this statement, the forms of exploitation and oppression might have changed in the past centuries. Likewise, new colonial powers like China have emerged in addition to the old ones from Europe and North America. But the essence of imperialist and capitalist super-exploitation remains in place. It can only be abolished by a socialist revolution – on the Africa continent and in the whole world!

Stop the repression against PACOR activists!

Long live international solidarity!



Publications of the RCIT

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

Introduction * I. The Election Outcome * II. Where is the Trump Administration Heading? * III. Global Consequences: The Beginning of a New Era * IV. Lessons and Perspectives for the Struggle * V. Summary Theses * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

Arrest of PACOR members by the Nigeria Police Force!

Statement of Ifa-Maberu, Convener of the Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance, 23 August 2018

On behalf of the Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance we desire to express our comradely gratitude to comrades who took out time to join in the campaign for the release of three members of our movement who were hauled off to the Bar Beach Police Station earlier this morning for organizing a Reparation March.

Reports have it that the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Imohimi Edgal and the D.P.O of the Bar Beach Police Station, Mr. I.O Lawal, were concurrently assaulted with phone calls from comrades after the news broke out on the Facebook page of Barrister Ayo Ademiluyi. Initially, the comrades that were arrested, Comrades Azezez, Chuks and Ifa-Maberu were at the verge of submitting the petition for the March at the U.S.A embassy when the D.P.O, who must have been alerted by the security officials of the embassy arrived and whisked the comrades into a police van. The subsequent discussions and the eventual detainment of the comrades exposed that the D.P.O was acting on an order from the top. More so, he subliminally admitted that he got a call from Abuja. In the conversation had with the D.O.P prior to the detainment of the comrades, he said openly that the U.S.A consulate and other consulates around Walter Carrington axis are embodiment of another country inside Nigeria.

This remark was made in response to our letter of notification addressed and also acknowledged by the office of C.P, Lagos State. It would appear that the D.P.O operates under another jurisdiction outside that of the Lagos State because of the foreign offices around the axis. The D.P.O in fact, naively stated that in Victoria Island they do not tolerate us (activists) anyhow, more so that Victoria Island is a different entity entirely. But the attitude of the D.P.O became more despotic and crassly when he began to assert that we do not have to disturb the "peace" of the White people working in the consulates by demanding for reparation. According to the D.P.O, in the stead of a Reparation March we ought to have organized a thank-you rally for the White people supposedly working for the good of Nigeria in the consulates.

For us as a pan-Afrikan revolutionary movement, we think that a mindset of this nature despite its backwardness is a flagrant reflection of the mindset of millions of the masses of Black people. Hence, the essentiality of reparation,

which is significantly on self-repair. For analogy sake, with the corrosiveness of the mindset of this D.P.O, should a situation demands the shooting of either a Black man or a White man in a two-choice game, we strongly believe that the Black man has no chance.

To further expose the class oriented tendency of the Bar Beach Police Station, Comrade Ifa-Maberu discovered that three of the inmates he shared cell with had been locked up for no concrete offenses. Of a special case is a guy who is being locked up on behalf of an affluent fellow who got a wrong "Baba Ijebu" secret number from the guy being locked up. The guy being locked up had been beaten up by this affluent fellow and his men, so much so that he was still bleeding.

The bottom line eventually is that we could not hold our demonstration. It is against this background that we are now planning for a Press Statement and we would want other interested organizations to join us in this intervention.

The excesses of the foreign consulates, embassies in this country have got to be checkedmated. We have no illusion whatsoever that the deliberate disruption of our intended demonstration was ordered by the U.S.A consulate office in collaboration with perhaps other offices and the D.P.O was their errand boy. And for us, that clearly illuminates the modus operandi of imperialism. And ultimately this explain why for us as a revolutionary movement we uphold to the struggle of a two-fronts at the same time. The struggle against the local bourgeoisie and their foreign financiers, the imperialists.

We are not going to be wavered by today's outcome. We are calling on other movements to join us in our pre-press statement organizing committee to share ideas on the necessary approaches and methods that have to be applied in ensuring the successfulness of our agitation on reparations, struggle against the excess of the foreign consulate offices, embassies, indifference attitude of the Nigeria's ministry of foreign affairs to these realities. The ministry of foreign affairs must tell us why it is possible to have an embassy-country within the geographical framework of Nigeria. Whilst protests are being held in U.K, U.S.A, Dutch embassies, etc. across the globe, it seems to be a taboo in the neo-colonial country - Nigeria.

Comunismo Revolucionario

Spanish-language Journal of the RCIT

Price: €3 / \$3,5 / £2 (plus delivery charges)

Order the journal via our contact address: rcit@thecommunists.net

Nigeria: Statement on the Reinstatement of Nine Activists Expelled at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (Futo)

Statement by the Alliance of Nigerian Students Against Neoliberal Attacks (Nigeria), 3 August 2018

The Alliance of Nigerian Students Against Neoliberal Attacks (ANSA) seizes this medium to congratulate the students of the Federal University of Technology, OWERRI and the entire Nigerian Students at large on the reinstatement of Nine (9) student activists who were expelled from the Institution for fighting against draconic hike in fee. This victory over depraved tyranny is for us a further confirmation that if we indeed fight, we may win but if we do not, we have already lost.

It should be recalled that over a year and half ago, the Management of FUTO expelled Nine(9) of our Comrades for resisting the Professor Francis Eze's policy of fee hike. The expelled, now reinstated students are:

1. Kenneth Megwa
2. Chizoba Ukaegbu
3. Chike Fred Abraham
4. Ugwu Collins Okey
5. Mmadu Nnamdi
6. Victor Ihuka
7. Ogbonna Collins (ANSA Imo State Coordinator and Former PRO FUTOSU),
8. Elvis Onuoha (Former Sec. Gen. FUTOSU)
9. Odunze Ebuka

The Alliance upon receiving this news, took up immediately the case both politically and legally laced with diverse engagements with students, members of

staff, Labour Unions et al. Even the barricades was not spared out of the series of engagement with the Authorities of the Federal University of Technology, OWERRI and the Nigerian GOVERNMENT at large.

Our appreciations go to mass of FUTO students who have relentlessly shown dauntless support in the course of this struggle. The National Leadership also seizes thus medium to appreciate all ANSA State Coordinators, Committee of the Defence of Human Rights (CDHR), the Press, United Action For Democracy (UAD) and the Joint Action Front (JAF). Special appreciations go to the ANSA, UNIBEN BRANCH and OGUN CHAPTER. We also seizes this medium to appreciate Barrister Malachy Ugwummadu Chamber for their unrelenting legal and political support throughout the struggle for the reinstatement of our victimized cadres.

For us in the Alliance, we reiterate our unflinching stance against victimization of activists, anti-poor fee hikes and other such policies that steal from the poor to feed the rich.

We call on mass of students, civil societies, organized labour unions and staff unions to join us in this historical struggle of ridding our campuses of tyrannical maladministration.

Dare to struggle. Dare to Win!

Signed:

National Secretariat, ANSA

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018 - A World Pregnant With Wars And Popular Uprisings

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – WORLD PERSPECTIVES 2018: A WORLD PREGNANT WITH WARS AND POPULAR UPRISINGS. The book's subtitle is: Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries.

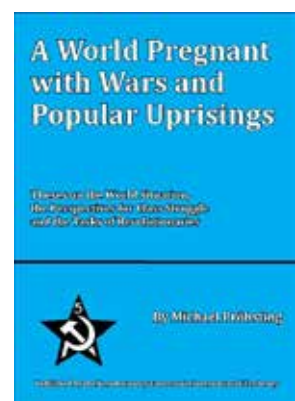
This book is a major contribution of our organization to keep the Marxists' analysis of the world situation and its accelerating contradictions updated. As we emphasize in the document, we consider it as crucial for revolutionaries to understand the nature and the inner dynamics of the current historic period. Without such an understanding it is impossible for socialists, indeed for all liberation fighters, to possess the necessary political compass on which they can base their program, strategy and tactics.

Since several years does the RCIT publish annual studies on the world situation in which it analysis its most important developments and changes. This book updates the Marxist analysis of the state of the world economy, of the relations between the Great Powers, of the struggle between the classes and the tactics of revolutionaries. We also deal in depth with new issues respectively extend our theoretical analysis on several questions. In particular we have deepened in this book,

among others, our understanding of the nature respectively the transitional character of the present world political phase, of the nature of different types of wars and the tactical conclusions arriving from this, of the complex nature of the conflicts in the Middle East, of the capitalist restoration in North Korea and, finally, we have elaborated a new proposal for an international platform for the unification of revolutionary forces in the present phase.

The book contains a preface, introduction and seven eight chapters plus an appendix (118 pages) and includes 23 figures , 9 tables and 2 maps. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2018/>



Zimbabwe: Stop the Repression!

Neither ZANU-PF nor MDC – for an independent political alternative of the workers and oppressed!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 4 August 2018

1. Zimbabwe's President Emmerson Mnangagwa and his ZANU-PF claim to have won the presidential and parliamentary elections. Supporters of Nelson Chamisa and his MDC, the main opposition party, have entered the streets to protest against what they call rigged elections. The army reacted brutally, deployed tanks and fired live ammunition on demonstrators. At least three people have been killed until now.

2. Neither ZANU-PF nor MDC represent an authentic alternative for Zimbabwe's working people. ZANU-PF represents the old, corrupted, capitalist regime which hijacked the country in 1980 after the victorious popular liberation struggle against the colonialist white settler elite. For many years, Mnangagwa was the right-hand man of long-time dictator Mugabe. However in November 2017 he, together with army chief Constantino Chiwenga, ousted Mugabe in a military coup d'état, arranged with the support of imperialist China. Since then Mnangagwa has promised to "renew" the country by implementing neo-liberal reforms.

3. The MDC is a capitalist party too. While it was in opposition for many years, it became part of a coalition government with Mugabe for some time after 2009. While ZANU-PF is orientated towards Chinese imperialism, the MDC leans rather towards US and EU imperialism.

4. Socialists in Zimbabwe support neither of these parties. However, this does not mean that we are indifferent the current wave of repression which is sweeping the streets of Harare. We call for:

** Stop the repression! Free all arrested demonstrators! Get the army out of the streets!*

** No to neoliberal reforms and austerity programs!*

** Build action committees of the working people in workplaces, neighborhoods, villages and universities to organize the resistance!*

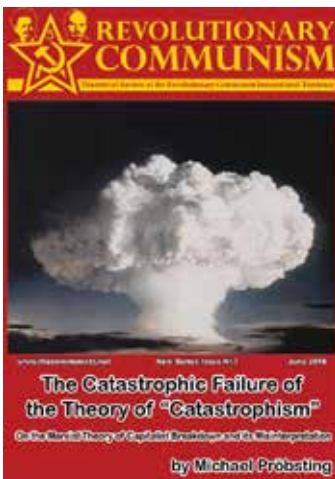
** Down with the corrupted authoritarian capitalist system! For a revolutionary constituent assembly, elected and controlled by the working people!*

** No agricultural counter-reform serving the interest of the white settlers! The land belongs to the black poor peasants – not to capitalists and crony politicians!*

** Neither Chinese nor Western imperialism! Against all economic sanctions of Great Powers against Zimbabwe! For an independent, socialist Zimbabwe!*

** For a workers and poor peasant government which nationalizes the economy, eradicates the corrupted authoritarian capitalist system and opens the road to socialism!*

** Neither ZANU-PF nor MDC – for an independent political alternative of the workers and oppressed! For an independent workers party based on a revolutionary program!*



Publications of the RCIT

The Catastrophic Failure of the Theory of "Catastrophism"

By Michael Probsting, May 2018

On the Marxist Theory of Capitalist Breakdown and its Misinterpretation

by the Partido Obrero (Argentina) and its

"Coordinating Committee for the Refoundation of the Fourth International"

Introduction * A Note on the PO's term "Catastrophism" * What did the Marxist Classics Say? A Brief Overview * Empirical Evidence for the Long-Term Decline of Capitalism * What will come after Capitalism? * Epoch and Periods * The Current Historical Period which Opened in 2008/09 * Empirical Evidence for the Decay of Capitalism in the Present Historic Period * The Dialectical and the Mechanistic Interpretation of Cycles on Capitalism * Permanent Collapse? No, there is Collapse and Collapse * Consequences of "Catastrophism" (I): Confusion on Capitalist Restoration * Consequences of "Catastrophism" (II): Confusion on China and Russia as Capitalist Powers * Excuse: The Theory of "Long Waves" and Dialectical Materialism * From Economic Crisis to Revolutionary Situation? * Can the Crisis of Leadership be Solved without an International Democratic-Centralist Organization? * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 32 pages, A4 Format

Nicaragua: International Solidarity with the Popular Uprising against the Ortega-Murillo Regime!

*Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), Colectivo Rebelión (México),
Grupo Interdisciplinario de Participación Inclusiva (México), 10 August 2018*

1. The Nicaraguan workers, poor and youth are rising up against the repressive regime of President Daniel Ortega and his wife, Vice-President Rosario Murillo. Provoked by the announcement of a reactionary pension reform, in line with the dictates of the imperialist IMF, the protests began in May and have been transformed into a popular uprising against the corrupted and authoritarian regime by now.

2. In response to peaceful mass protests, the regime tried to suppress them with utmost brutality. According to human rights groups, more than 300 demonstrators have already been killed and more than 1500 wounded. However, the popular masses don't stop fighting. They are now defending themselves against the police and army thugs that are recovering some important districts like Masaya which were liberated by the masses from the regime's control. Instead of limiting their demands to a withdrawal of the austerity program, they now call for the resignation of Ortega and Murillo.

3. The Ortega-Murillo regime claims to advance popular interests and the ideas of socialism. It also claims to stand in the tradition of the *Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional* (FSLN) which led the heroic revolution in 1979. The truth is exactly the opposite: the FSLN today leads a regime which is anti-popular and it serves the interests of a small capitalist clique and their imperialist masters. It does not represent the continuity of the 1979 revolution but rather its negation.

4. The regime slanders the workers and youth as "agents of U.S. imperialism". Unfortunately such reactionary denunciation is repeated by various pseudo-leftist forces which usually opportunistically hail China,

Russia and the tyrannical Assad regime in Syria. But the truth is: This is an authentic popular uprising against a regime which acts as a servant of the capitalists and imperialists!

5. At the same time we oppose attempts of all reactionary and imperialist forces to interfere in Nicaragua. The task to overthrow the Ortega-Murillo regime is the sole responsibility of the Nicaraguan workers and poor!

6. The road forward for the popular masses in Nicaragua is to organize themselves in workers and popular councils and militias and to fight for a government which rests on such organs. Such a strategy for liberation must include a determined struggle against capitalist forces like the businessmen of COSEP and the *Alianza Cívica por la Justicia y la Democracia*.

7. We call the international mass organizations of the working class and popular masses to rally in support of the uprising of the workers, poor and youth in Nicaragua and to stop the slaughter.

The undersigned organizations

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria), www.thecommunists.net

Colectivo Rebelión (México), www.rebellion.lat (Remark: "The ongoing mobilization must fight for the expropriation of all land, the private bug industry and of the whole private tourist sector which is in the hands of the capitalists.")

Grupo Interdisciplinario de Participación Inclusiva (México), <https://www.facebook.com/Grupo-Interdisciplinario-de-Participaci%C3%B3n-Inclusiva-803935076374657/>



RCIT Africa Program

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

Adopted at the 2nd World Congress of the RCIT in November 2017

Introduction * Foreign Exploiters – Out of Africa! * The Wealth to Those Who Create It! Economic Freedom Now! * Down with the Capitalist Dictatorships and Corrupt Pseudo-Democracies! * Organize the Workers and Oppressed for the Mass Struggle! * For a Government of Workers and Poor Peasants! For a Socialist Revolution! * For Pan-African Unity! For the United Socialist States of Africa! * For a United Front of Struggle! Overcome the Crisis of Leadership – Build a Revolutionary Party Nationally and Internationally! * Appendix

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Brazil: The Regime of Exception is a Short Step to Become an International Pariah!

Statement of Corrente Comunista Revolucionária (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 23 August 2018

In 1985, as president of Brazil, José Sarney, the first civilian president after the end of the military dictatorship opened the inaugural session of the 40th General Assembly of United Nations. In his speech, he highlighted Brazil's return to democracy and condemned the Apartheid, a regime of racial segregation practiced in South Africa. The president gave the world the tone of how Brazil would from that moment position itself in its foreign relations. At the time, Sarney also communicated to the UN, the decision to adhere to the Covenants of the Organization of Civil and Political Rights and to the Conventions against Torture and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Exactly 38 years later, on August 17, 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee (UNHCR) asked the Brazilian government to guarantee the political rights of former President *Luis Inacio Lula da Silva* in prison and not prevent him from competing in the October presidential election until all the appeals of his condemnation are completed. The manifestation of the UNHCR happened after request by the lawyers of Lula, presented at the end of April of this year. At the moment Lula is imprisoned, almost incommunicado, also forbidden to participate in electoral debates in radios and television networks, while in polls he reaches almost 40% of the intentions to vote.

The leading jurists argue that Brazil, when it voluntarily took the decision to accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, automatically transformed this international treaty into a law that must be complied

with it internally. The country should therefore be linked to the decisions of the United Nations within this document, as are those of the UN Human Rights Committee. Cristiano Zanin, one of Lula's lawyers stressed that "this is a mandatory decision, it is a decision that Brazil has to fulfill. Brazil sovereignly obliged itself to accept the jurisdiction of the UN Human Rights Committee, an injunction of this international body has to be fulfilled, it is obligatory!" Zanin also recalled that there are doctrinal works of important Brazilian jurists as well as precedents in the courts, recognizing not only the validity but also as the compulsory character of UN Committee decisions.

But let us not have illusions. The United Nations is a body controlled by the United States and other imperialist countries. The most likely motive for this decision by the Human Rights Committee may be related to the fear of world imperialism that the political situation in Brazil may be out of control and generate a pre-revolutionary situation that could spread throughout South America at an exact moment that the Venezuelan government is at the focus of intervention threats.

Anyway, the reaction against the document Committee of the UN by the reactionary putschist government of *Michel Temer* was immediate. The Justice Minister *Torquato Jardim* said that the preliminary injunction to Brazil adopt "the necessary measures" to guarantee Lula's participation in the elections has "no legal relevance, an undue political and ideological interference."

This same news that benefits Lula was featured in the

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? The Road from Revolution to the Restoration of Capitalism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new book. It's called *Cuba's Revolution Sold Out?*. The book's subtitle is: *The Road from Revolution to the Restoration of Capitalism*. The book is in English-language. It has 5 chapters plus an appendix, 108 pages and includes 19 Tables and Figures. The author of the book is *Michael Pröbsting* who is the International Secretary of the RCIT.

In *Cuba's Revolution Sold Out?* Michael Pröbsting analyses the character of the Cuban Revolution 1959-61, its bureaucratic degeneration, and the recent march of the Castro leadership towards capitalism.

The author demonstrates how the Cuban Revolution, despite the initial modest intentions of its leaders, was spurred forward to more radical policies by grass roots struggles of Cuban workers and peasants. In fact, the very abolishment of capitalism by the Cuban regime was no part of the original game plan of either Castro's *Movimiento 26 de Julio* or of the official Cuban communist party (PSP), but rather was a product of precisely such pressures from below.

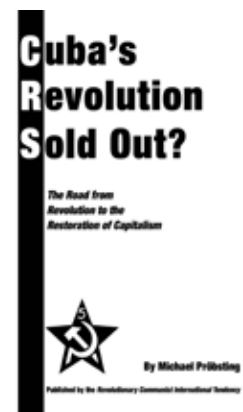
Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? describes in detail how a number of relatively recent political, economic, and social measures were

purposely taken by the Cuban government to open the road back to capitalism. Pröbsting elaborates the key role of the world's new great imperialist power, China, in Cuba's state policy as exemplified in the June 2011 Sino-Cuban agreement for a first Five-Year Plan of cooperation between these two states.

Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? examines these developments from the viewpoint of Marxist theory, the nature of the ruling bureaucracy in Stalinist states, and the process of restoration of capitalism under such regimes.

In conclusion, the book proposes a socialist program for political and social revolution in Cuba to halt the advance of capitalism and to eradicate the country's bureaucratic dictatorship.

Price: 8 Euro / 12 US-Dollars /
7 British Pound
(plus delivery charges) ■



world's leading newspapers, such as *New York Times*, *Le Monde*, *El País*, *The Guardian*, etc, was totally ignored by major Brazilian newspapers, beginning with the All-Powerful *Globo TV network*. However, failing to keep this as a secret for a long time, *Globo* decided to lessen the impact of the news by stating that the statement of the *UN Human Rights Committee* was worthless, it was just a recommendation.

It is clear to anyone who wants to see that the discussion goes beyond legal means and becomes essentially political. If Lula, being arrested and incommunicado, reaches a 39% support in the surveys, by a population that saw his social, labor and civil rights being exploded after the coup d'état in 2016, it is not difficult to imagine what would be with him free and campaigning .

The case of Lula da Silva's extreme dubious conviction, with a strong political content, is not the only one in recent years. The regime of exception is directed against the huge majority of the people with some measures worthy of an Apartheid regime. The presumption of innocence until the judicial appeal was ultimately thrown in the trash. The witness immunities made under psychological torture with suspects of corruption are only realized after threats from several long years of imprisonment make the accused to accuse his own mother. The so-called *Coercive Conduction* accompanied by sensationalist television networks, without the citizen being previously informed or even summoned, became a judicial media spectacle. A *Coercive Conduction* is a juridical tool created whereby any citizen can be arrested and taken by surprise to the police department to provide clarification of alleged crimes which previously he even did not know he was being investigated.

The demoralization of politics and politicians sponsored by the media and the judiciary transformed legislative and executive power into mere adjuncts. Today in Brazil, not very subtly, the government is actually exercised by the Federal Supreme Court along with powerful *TV Globo television* in association with the Public Prosecutors. Members of these institutions have become superstars in the name of the "fight against corruption", but in fact with strong semi-fascist totalitarian tendencies. The public prosecutors have even proposed to demand the end of the right to habeas corpus.

Within this context, it was not surprising to see the Brazilian ruling elite arrogant reaction to the UN document that calls for respect for the very laws of the Brazilian constitution. In not fulfilling the determination of the UN Human Rights Committee, as established by law, the Brazilian government is in a short step from becoming an international pariah as it was South Africa in the Apartheid era.

There is also another element of crisis for the ruling class.

Geraldo Alckmin, former governor of the state of São Paulo (the richest in the country), is the favorite presidential candidate of the financial sector, of imperialism and of the ruling elite as a whole, currently receives only 5% in the polls. The reflection of this is that the national currency, the Real, is suffering a speculative attack of the market, having risen that week to more than 4 reais to buy 1 dollar. This is a development very similar to what is happening to Turkey. Day by day it becomes clear that the presidential race should take place, on the one hand, between the extreme-right, represented by the semi-fascist candidate *Jair Bolsonaro* and, on the other hand, the left with *Lula da Silva* or his substitute in the PT (Fernando Haddad) or another candidate considered from the left. But even this possibility can be run over by upcoming events.

With just over 5 weeks left for the presidential election, we are witnessing a real impasse that raises the following doubts: 1) If the political and economic crisis grows, will there really be elections in October? 2) If the winner will be a leftist, will he actually take office? 3) If he takes office will he stay until the end of the term? 4) Anyway, will they succeed in implementing neoliberal structural reforms?

The position of the CCR is clearly for the end of the exception regime, consequently for the return of democracy and the end of all the structural reforms made by the reactionary putschist government of Michel Temer. We have no illusions about bourgeois democracy; in the end we know that all elections are controlled by the bourgeoisie. However, the weakening or destruction of the few rights that the working class possesses within bourgeois democracy is something of interest to the revolutionaries.

** No to the criminalization of political demonstrations and the criminalization of social movements!*

** Immediate freedom to Lula da Silva and his right to run the presidential elections!*

** Down with all measures of exception regime like Coercive Conduction and witness immunity!*

** Public safety is not the role of the Armed Forces! For the cancellation of federal military intervention in the state of Rio de Janeiro!*

** For the creation of action committees in factories, unions, neighborhoods, favelas and peripheral regions in defense of our rights and against the putschist government and against any military intervention! For committees of self-defense of the workers and poor in the neighborhoods and peripheries!*

** Down with the constitutional law that allows the army to intervene in political matters!*

** For the Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

** For a Government of the Workers in alliance with the Urban and Rural Poor!*

** For a revolutionary workers' party – a new World Party of the Socialist Revolution! For the Fifth International!*

O Comunismo Revolucionário **Portuguese-language Journal of the RCIT**

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Brazil: Important Conference to Organize Resistance against the Coup

Report by *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 26 July 2018

An important conference against the coup took place on the weekend 21 and 22 July in São Paulo in Brazil. The conference was organized by the *Partido da Causa Operária* (PCO), one of the larger left-wing parties in Brazil. The PCO has a long record of warning and mobilizing against the coup – in opposite to the coward leadership of the reformist PT.

In this context the PCO could call a conference which was attended by important sectors from the PT and many anti-putschist activists from all over the country. All in all, about 700 people came. One of them was the current President of PT, Senadora Gleise Hoffmann. There were also many activists from numerous anti-coup committees from all over the country present. These committees often emerged at the initiative of the PCO but have a broad and multi-tendency composition. The conference was an important opportunity to unite these committees.

Activists of the *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (CCR, Section of the RCIT in Brazil) participated in the conference. Comrade Joao Evangelista addressed the conference in a

speech (see video below).

The conference discussed about the next steps in organizing the resistance against the coup. There will be two important mobilizations. One of them will take place on 10 August. This will be a national mobilization against the government called by CUT and other trade unions (CTB, CGT, FORÇA SINDICAL, CONLUTAS, etc). The second will take place on 15 August and will be a national mobilization to go to Brasilia for supporting the right of Lula to registration his candidature.

The problem is that this 10 August is not a general strike but just a day of protest. This is a result of the reformist tactics of the CUT leadership and their adaption to right-wing and “left-wing” forces which refuse opposing the coup (such “left-wing” organizations included like CONLUTAS associated with the pseudo-Trotskyist PSTU/LIT-CI as well as sectors of PSOL).

Many participants of the conference showed interest in the politics of our Brazil section and comrades of the CCR were able to sell more than 50 copies of our publications.



Publications of the RCIT

The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences

What are the background and the nature of the tensions between China and India in the Sikkim border region? What should be the tactical conclusions for Socialists and Activists of the Liberation Movements?

A Pamphlet by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A4 Format

Introductory Remarks * I. Recent Developments * II. The Struggle for Domination of Bhutan * III. The Background: Accelerating Rivalry between China and India in a Period of Capitalist Decay * China's Belt and Road Initiative * India's OCOR as an Alternative to OBOR? * India's Increasing Ties with US and Japanese Imperialism * How are the chances in a military confrontation between India and China? * IV. China as an Emerging Great Imperialist Power * China's Monopolies * Super-Exploitation of the Working Class * China's Capital Export * China as a Military Power * V. India: A Peculiar Semi-Colony in the Role of a Regional Power * A Brief Historical Review * The Characteristics of India's Semi-Colonial Economy * India's Economic Elites: Many ... and at the same time Few * The Parasitic Nature of the Indian Bourgeoisie * India as a Regional Power and an Oppressor State * Brief Remarks on an Historic Analogy: The Ottoman Empire * VI. Revolutionary Tactics in the China-India Conflict * Appendix: Imperialist vs. Semi-Colonial State: Some Theoretical Considerations * 1. What are the Respective Characteristics of an Imperialist vs. a Semi-Colonial State? * 2. Is a Transition from Being One Type of State to Another Possible? * 3. Is the Category of "Sub-Imperialism" Useful? * Footnotes

Free Lula! Rally in Protest against the Coup d'Etat in Brazil

Report from the Austrian Section of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14.08.2018

Yesterday, dozens of people – most of the Latin American migrants – assembled in Vienna close to the Brazilian embassy. They condemned the institutional coup d'état and demanded the liberation of the imprisoned former President Lula. (See pictures below)

Comrades of the Austrian section of the RCIT participated in the rally. Michael Pröbsting, the International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed the rally with a speech. (See video below)

While expressing our critique of the reformist policy of

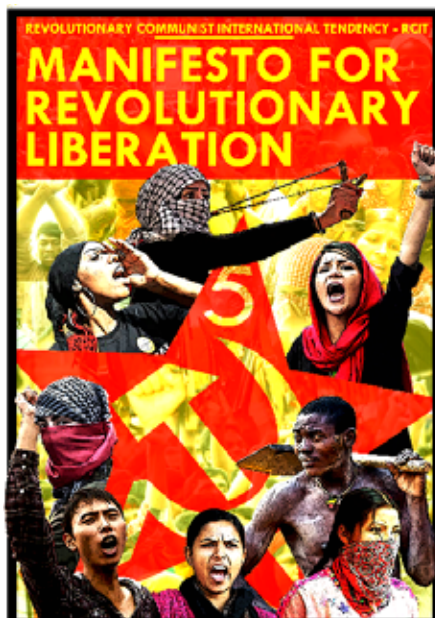
Lula and his party (the PT – Workers Party), we condemned the institutional coup d'état of the reactionary bourgeoisie and demanded the release of Lula and all other political prisoners.

We refer readers also to numerous reports and article of the Brazil section of the RCIT which can be read in the Latin America section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/>

See photos and a video clip of Michael Pröbsting's speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rally-in-protest-against-coup-d-etat-in-brazil/>



Rally against the right-wing coup in Brazil (Vienna, 13.8.2018)



Program of the RCIT

Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation

Adopted at the 1st World Congress of the RCIT in October 2016

Introduction * I. Decaying Capitalism * II. Today's Worldwide Historic Revolutionary Period * III. The Reactionary Offensive of the Ruling Class * IV. A Program for Socialist Revolution to Halt Humanity's Collapse into Barbarism * V. The Crisis of Leadership and the Construction of a Revolutionary World Party * VI. Work in Mass Organizations and the United Front Tactic * VII. The Semi-Colonial South * VIII. The Emerging Imperialist Great Powers of the East: China and Russia * IX. The Old Imperialist Great Powers: The EU, North America and Japan * X. Conclusion

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A5 Format

Solidarity with Venezuelan Migrants!

Statement of the Corrente Comunista Revolucionária (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 21 August 2018

The images could be confused with photographs that illustrated the reports about North African migrants being harassed by right-wing groups at Europe's closed borders. But the scenes of violence and aggression against citizens and refugees families occurred in Pacaraima, a city of the state of Roraima, with 12,000 inhabitants, on the northern border between Venezuela and Brazil. Several places of Venezuelans' refugees fleeing the political and economic crisis in their country were attacked Saturday (August 18) by angry neighbors in this little city in northern Brazil.

On Saturday morning, a Brazilian merchant was injured and his family accused a Venezuelan migrant of assaulting him and stealing from him. About a thousand migrants until then lived in those streets. In retaliation, dozens of Brazilian residents attacked the two major makeshift migratory camps and burned their belongings, as reported by the task force charged with managing the flow of migrants. Images broadcast by local TV stations released by international agencies show parts of a burned camp.

Videos filmed by Pacaraima's own inhabitants were witnesses of the clashes, while the streets bordering the border were full of debris. *"It's terrible, they burned the tents and everything inside,"* said Carol Marcano, a Venezuelan who works in the regional capital *Boa Vista* and who was at the border that day.

In a statement, the Venezuelan government asked the Brazilian government to *"take all measures of protection and security"* in relation to Venezuelan citizens. At the same time, the governor of the state of Roraima, Suely Campos, asked Brasilia (federal capital) for security reinforcements to *"deal with the increase in crime"*, which she attributes to the growing number of Venezuelans in the region. The Brazilian Ministry of Public Security said it would send a contingent of 120 men, who will arrive on next Monday and join the teams already present in the region.

The tradition of the Brazilian people with respect to immigrants

One must never forget that these migrants from our neighbors in South America and Central America, such as Haitians, have been subjected to extreme exploitation. We

can say they are treated as slaves or semi-slaves. This is the case of the Bolivian community in textile garments in São Paulo, or of the Haitians in the construction industry in several Brazilian cities. Let us also remember that Brazilian migrants are still being barred at airports in Europe and the United States, thus suffering the same odious discrimination of xenophobia that now our country shamefully shows to the world.

Brazil has always stood out because it welcomes migrants from any country, it is an old tradition. In fact, like all of the American continent, with the exception of native Indian groups and blacks brought as slaves, we are all descendants of migrants.

What has changed in the last 3 years?

What has changed so that a part of the Brazilian population adopted the same discriminatory, reactionary and xenophobic practices? The answer is the parliamentary coup-d'état in 2016 that overthrew the elected legitimate president Rousseff and installed an extremely reactionary, conservative, regime of emergency that made profound attacks on urban workers and poor peasants. The cutbacks in social investment and rising unemployment caused by so-called structural reforms (pension, labor, education, privatization, etc.) are creating a level of impoverishment of the population at a level of 100 years ago.

It is in this context that, in addition to abandoning its own population in removing the minimum social, economic and civil rights, there is a total lack of an official state policy regarding the various immigrants and refugees (Syrians, Haitians, Bolivians, Senegalese, etc.) who are in Brazil in order to survive. And this situation has now exploded in the state of Roraima.

The influence of the electoral campaign

This context is decisive for the aggravation of the violence with patterns of xenophobia and discrimination widely stimulated by the government of the state of Roraima, commanded by the governor Suely Campos of the Progressive Party, by the sensationalist press and by the discourses of neo-fascist groups. Media reports speculate



Publications of the RCIT

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

Introduction * I. The Election Outcome * II. Where is the Trump Administration Heading? * III. Global Consequences: The Beginning of a New Era * IV. Lessons and Perspectives for the Struggle * V. Summary Theses * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

that the governor's campaign for re-election is at the forefront of the crackdown on repression of Venezuelan refugees in an effort to have more votes for her re-election. Earlier, the governor filed a Supreme Court action to close the border and prevent the arrival of refugees, something that was promptly rejected by Supreme Minister Rosa Weber.

The Position of the Revolutionary Communist Current

The *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Brazil section of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency) expresses its total solidarity with Venezuelan migrants and refugees and all migrants in general. We denounce the responsibility of the Temer Government and the elites in causing the worsening of this situation with obvious objectives. As in the city of Rio de Janeiro, we condemn any military intervention in the state of Roraima. The expansion of this policy of intervention, in the name of

security, at a time when we live in a regime of emergency, can pave the way for the total militarization of the country. In addition, a possible militarization of the border with Venezuela would be a way for this government to meet a demand from the US government for the Brazilian government to pressure the neighboring country and try to overthrow the Maduro government. We reject any intervention in Venezuela, both from the United States or any neighboring countries. It is neither the demoralized coup government of Michel Temer nor US imperialism which can give lessons of democracy to any country!

**All support to the immigrant workers and refugees of Venezuela or any other country!*

**For the opening the borders!*

**Migrants must have the same rights as the Brazilian natives!*

**No to the military intervention in Rio de Janeiro, in Roraima and in all the country!*

**No to any intervention by imperialist powers or by the Brazilian government in the territory of Venezuela!*

Argentina: Defend Rubén "Pollo" Sobrero against Repression!

A Call from the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)

We have been informed by the comrades of the "International Workers Unity—Fourth International" (UIT-CI) about an ongoing campaign in defence of Rubén "Pollo" Sobrero in Argentina.

Comrade Sobrero has been denounced by the neoliberal Macri government for "incitement to violence" because he called "to continue the 36-hour strike until the government falls" during the general strike in 25 June 2018.

Comrade Sobrero is the General Secretary of the West section of the Railway workers trade union and a leader of

the "Socialist Left" (FIT). The "Socialist Left" is the Argentine section of the UIT-CI.

The UIT-CI has launched a campaign in defence of comrade Sobrero. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) states in unconditional solidarity with comrade Sobrero and supports this campaign.

You can sign a petition in defence of comrade Sobrero here: <http://www.izquierdasocialista.org.ar/index.php/firma-el-petitorio-en-defensa-del-pollo-sobrero>

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Marxism and the United Front Tactic Today

The Struggle for Proletarian Hegemony in the Liberation Movement and the United Front Tactic Today.

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – MARXISM AND THE UNITED FRONT TACTIC TODAY. The book's subtitle is: The Struggle for Proletarian Hegemony in the Liberation Movement and the United Front Tactic Today. On the Application of the Marxist United Front Tactic in Semi-Colonial and Imperialist Countries in the Present Period. It contains eight chapters plus an appendix (172 pages) and includes 9 tables and 5 figures. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

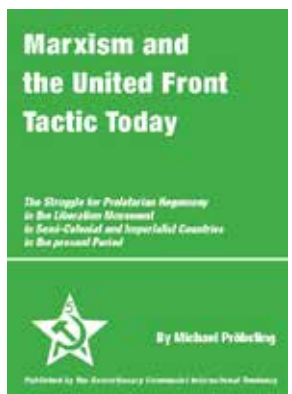
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

The united front tactic is a crucial instrument for revolutionaries under today's circumstances in which the mass organizations of the working class and the oppressed are dominated by social democratic, Stalinist and petty-bourgeois-populist forces.

The purpose of this document is both to summarize the main ideas of the Marxist united front tactic while at the same time explaining its development and modification which have become necessary due to political changes which have transpired in the

working class liberation movement since the tactic's original formulation.

In this book we initially summarize the main characteristics of the united front tactic and elaborate the approach of the Marxist classics to this issue. We then outline important social developments in the working class and the popular masses as well as in their political formations in recent decades. From there we will discuss how the united front tactic should be applied in light of a number of new developments (the rise of petty-bourgeois populist parties, the decline of the classic reformist parties, the role of national minorities and migrants in imperialist countries, etc.). The eight chapters of the book are accompanied by nine tables and five figures.



Debating the Capitalist Nature of China

Controversial Discussion at a Symposium with Chinese University Professors

Report by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24 July 2018

A symposium on “Socialism with Chinese Characteristics” – this was the official title – took place at the University of Vienna on 23 July. This symposium was jointly organized by the *World Association for Political Economy* (an association initiated by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and which holds annual conferences), *Transform* (this is the think tank associated with the ex-Stalinist, left social democratic “Party of the European Left” which includes, among others, the LINKE in Germany, the PCF in France and SYRIZA in Greece), the *Department of East Asian Studies* of the University of Vienna and the *China Study Group Europe*. This symposium was part of a visit of about 50 Chinese university professors to Europe.

The main introduction, as well as the central replies to questions, was made by Professor Cheng Enfu who is the Director of the “Academic Division of Marxism Studies” at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He is furthermore a member of the *Education and Science Committee* at the *National People’s Congress of China* (i.e. China’s “parliament”) and the chair of the *World Association for Political Economy*. Unsurprisingly, all Chinese professors who spoke emphasized the successful advance of China’s “socialist market economy”. They claimed that while the market was expanding and there are meanwhile 16 million private entrepreneurs, the “public sector” and state-led guidance of the economic development remains the dominant factor.

As the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) has elaborated in various studies (see below), this “public sector” is, in reality, a state-capitalist sector. On one hand it operates itself on the principle of profit-maximising and as a result many millions of workers have been sacked and wages slashed. On the other hand, the state-capitalist sector has served for many years in order to advance the formation of a private property-owning

capitalist class.

The symposium was dominated by speeches and contributions by several Chinese professors and, as a result, there was very little time for contributions from the audience. In addition to some brief questions asked by participants, Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, could make a contribution challenging the uncritical appraisal of the “Socialism with Chinese Characteristics”. He pointed out that China has become No. 1 among the world’s billionaires ahead of the U.S. (according to the Chinese Hurun Institute) and No. 2 among the Top 2000 global capitalist corporations (behind the U.S. and ahead of Japan and Germany). Comrade Pröbsting also referred to China’s role as an imperialist power in poor semi-colonial regions like Africa. He concluded that the title of the symposium should not be “Socialism with Chinese Characteristics” but rather “Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics”. Comrade Pröbsting’s contribution was translated into Chinese language.

Unsurprisingly, Professor Cheng rejected the criticism of comrade Pröbsting in a lengthy reply. The debate provoked considerable interest in the Marxist critique of China’s capitalism. As a result, a number of Austrian and Chinese participants of the symposium approached RCIT comrades after the meeting and bought copies of our journals.

We have published a video of comrade Pröbsting’s contribution as well as of Professor Cheng reply. Pröbsting’s contribution was held in German language and translated into Chinese language while Professor Cheng reply was held in Chinese language and translated into German language. However, in the video we have inserted English-language subtitles for both contributions.

View pictures of the symposium as well as the video here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/debate-on-capitalism-in-china/>



Platform of the symposium on China with Professor Cheng Enfu (Vienna, 23.7.2018)

Do it like the Danes!

Important lessons from the protests against the ban of wearing face veils

A Commentary by Almedina Gunić, 4th August 2018

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France and the Netherlands have already implemented a legal ban on wearing of the Burka respectively the Niqab. The same is true for Bavaria in Germany, some towns in Italy and some cantons in Swiss. In Denmark a new law to ban any wearing of face veils was adopted in May 2018 and came into effect with 1st August.

However, on the same day impressive protest in Copenhagen and the second biggest city of Denmark, Aarhus, took place. More than 2,000 people rallied against women's oppression and Islamophobia. However, the most interesting aspect was not so much the number of participants. It was the composition of the protesters and the organizers.

Many of the activists on the streets were Muslim women as well as some Muslim men. So far, this is logical *and* important but not surprising. What made the protest in Denmark unique compared to any protests which took place in the others countries prohibiting Burka and Niqab is the number of activists from a non-Muslim background who supported and even co-organized the protest.

In Copenhagen, the rally itself started in the district of Nørrebro which is a working class district with a very high number of migrants. Since the 1980s, a number of youth-led protests took place against police violence, unemployment, racism and other progressive issues. Violent protests against the police took also place in 2007 after the local government decided to demolish the *Ungdomshuset* building in the district. *Ungdomshuset* was a historic symbol of the revolutionary labour movement as the International Socialist Women's Congress in 1910

was held in the building, which was the starting point for the international tradition of the 8th March as a proletarian Women's Day. *Ungdomshuset* was visited by Clara Zetkin, Rosa Luxemburg, Lenin and other revolutionaries. Unfortunately the building was demolished despite of these protests.

The district of Nørrebro is therefore not only a working class and migrant district but also a centre of the labour movement in Copenhagen. The protest on the 1st August reflected this with a big number of activists from an anarchist respectively communist background who marched side by side with the Muslim women and men against the ban of the face veil.

The so-called left in its very big majority in all other European countries either ignored protests against the ban of Burka and Niqab or even sympathized with such undemocratic and oppressive laws. It is a disgusting bigotry that the petty-bourgeois women's movement of the 1970s is praised so often for its "liberating" character because it challenged the bans on short skirts in schools, universities and other public places as well as it challenged other clothing prohibitions. But the same leftists who praise the protests of the feminists in the 1970s fail to support protests against the ban of veils (or are even in favour of such bans).

The principle must be "*Every woman has the right to wear whatever she wants to wear*" and not "*you have the right to be naked but not to cover yourself as you like*". This is the reason why we say: Do it like the Danes! Protest against the ban on wearing face veils in all countries affected by this Islamophobic and *sexist* law.

Two Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

- * **Marxism, European Union and Brexit**
- * **The British Left and the EU-Referendum**

*Written by Michael Pröbsting
(International Secretary of the RCIT)*

**Price for one pamphlet: 2 Pound (plus delivery charges)
Order the pamphlet via our contact addresses**



Defend Jeremy Corbyn and others against the Zionist Witch-hunt!

Britain: Splits and Divisions inside both Theresa May's Conservative Party over BREXIT and Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party over Anti-Semitism

For a General Strike to bring down the May Government!

By Joseph Adams, August 2018

Splits and divisions have appeared in Theresa May's Tory government. Her party is split amongst those who wish to remain inside Europe, 'The Remainers' and the Brexiteers who wish to leave the European Union. The issue dominating British politics in the last period has led to major resignations in her cabinet. Both Boris Johnson, the Foreign secretary and David Davis, the Brexit secretary have resigned because of May's decision to formulate the policy of a customs union outside Europe which has been rejected by the European negotiator.

"Michel Barnier The European Negotiator has warned that attempts to appeal to EU leaders over his head were a waste of time, as he tore up Theresa May's proposals on customs after Brexit, in effect killing off the Chequers plan.

Against a backdrop of British cabinet ministers travelling across Europe to persuade governments of the benefits of the proposals, the EU's chief Brexit negotiator insisted that there was no difference in opinion to exploit.

"Anyone who wants to find a sliver of difference between my mandate and what the heads of government say they want, are wasting their time, quite frankly," he told reporters at a joint press conference with the new Brexit secretary, Dominic Raab, in Brussels". [1]

Added to May's problems was the visit of Donald Trump, the US President, who muddied the waters by declaring his support for Johnson's Brexit position and criticising May's fudge on Brexit. With the developing trade war between the USA and Europe, May's hope of an alliance with the USA is now in tatters. She is desperately trying to seek a deal for her Brexit proposals. The hard border decision over Northern Ireland by the Europeans means that the border issue between Éire and Northern Ireland, which voted to remain within the European Union makes her recent proposals to create a customs union worthless.

"But echoing the language of Theresa May on her goals for Brexit, Barnier, responded: "Maintaining control of our money, law and borders also applies to the EU customs policy. The EU cannot and will not delegate the application of its customs policy and rules, VAT and duty collection to a non-member who would not be subject to the EU governance structures.

"Any customs arrangements or customs union – and I have always said that the EU is open to a customs union – must respect this principle." [2]

Meanwhile Jacob Rees-Mogg the leading Brexiteer in the Tory party has stated that there is every likelihood of a no-deal around Brexit. In other words it means Britain leaves the European Union on March 19th without alternatives - in effect a divorce with no agreement.

What this reveals is that the Tory party is divided between the Brexiteers like Rees-Mogg and the Remainers like Anna Soubry. A number of Tory MP's want May gone and it only needs 48 Tory MP's to write to the Back bench 1922 committee to force that a leadership election will

ensue. This is a government which on recent votes in the commons has survived by the skin of its teeth. The Tory Brexiteers have rejected her proposals leading to major divisions in the Tory ranks. She does not have the support of her MP's but relies on Labour Brexiteers like Kate Hoey who in deeds support this reactionary Tory government. Without that kind of support it is likely that a general election would have to be called. May is one of the most unpopular Tory leaders in history. The opinion polls give Jeremy Corbyn a very healthy lead if an election was to be called.

Several bourgeois political commentators have drawn a parallel between May and David Cameron as they both try to please both the Brexit wing and the remain wing in the party. They have both failed miserably.

"In the meantime, others have filled the vacuum with their own hopes and dreams - her Brexiteers believing she was now one of them and when her proposals for a deal came, they would not disappoint.

How aghast they were. As Arthur Miller said: "Betrayal is the only truth which sticks."

Justified or not, betrayal is the word on the Brexiteers' lips - in parliament and country alike.

Perhaps this was inevitable but Mrs May made it worse. In saying "no deal is better than a bad deal" she helped convince the public that no deal wouldn't be so bad.

She said it again and again and again and so she ought not to be surprised to learn that the voters believed her.

In saying "Brexit means Brexit" she helped set impossibly high standards for what Brexit might mean.

She could never meet them". [3]

May's government which is so hated by the working class and the best sections of the middle class, sees the prospect of a Corbyn-led Labour party winning the next election. His policies on war, austerity and full employment give many people hope for the future. An end to zero hour contracts, the nationalisation of the major industries under workers control, the repeal of anti-Union laws would be a start for a reformist Labour government intent on, at least, introducing safeguards and protection for workers including free movement for migrants living in Britain.

The Labour party is split between Corbyn's supporters in Momentum and the right wing cabal of Zionist and Blairite MP's who are terrified of Corbyn winning the next election. Together with the capitalist press they orchestrated two coups against Corbyn's leadership which failed. However, the Zionists and Blairites are emboldened and are using the slander of anti-semitism to have Corbyn removed as leader of the party. Many of Corbyn's supporters have been expelled or suspended from the party because of their perceived anti-semitism which was in the most cases nothing else but criticism against the Zionist Apartheid state Israel. This cabal of right wingers are prepared to see

Labour defeated at the election and are allowed to remain inside the party to spread their filth. Corbyn's supporters meanwhile are hounded out of the party.

The issue of anti-semitism is being used against Corbyn and his supporters because of their support for Palestinians who are being slaughtered and murdered every day in the West Bank and in Gaza. Together with the board of deputies, Margaret Hodge, Ian Austin, Ruth Smeeth, Luciana Berger and other Zionist MP's have accused Corbyn of being anti-semitic and racist. They are trying to get a clause in the Labour party constitution that any criticism of the state of Israel will be incompatible with membership of the Labour party. Margaret Hodge and Ian Austin are now being investigated because of their slander and lies about Corbyn.

"A second senior Labour MP has been threatened with disciplinary action after a clash with a Jeremy Corbyn ally over anti-Semitism."

Ian Austin, a former minister and aide to Gordon Brown, has received a letter from general secretary Jenny Formby accusing him of "abusive conduct in Parliament".

The letter was in response to a "heated discussion" between Mr Austin and Labour Party chairman Ian Lavery, one of Mr Corbyn's closest allies, in the Commons earlier this month.

The threat to Mr Austin is the latest row triggered by the NEC's controversial move to unpick the internationally accepted International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism.

It was also on the evening of the NEC meeting that Ms Hodge clashed with Mr Corbyn.

The threat to Mr Austin is the latest row triggered by the NEC's controversial move to unpick the internationally accepted International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism.

It was also on the evening of the NEC meeting that Ms Hodge clashed with Mr Corbyn." [4]

"Jeremy Corbyn is a defender of anti-Semites and is unfit to lead Labour, one of the party's MPs who is facing disciplinary action has said.

Ian Austin is the second Labour MP facing an official party investigation which could lead to suspension after he challenged the leadership's decision not to adopt the full International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) code on anti-Semitism". [5]

Let us be very clear Corbyn decided not to adopt the full International Holocaust IHRA Code because it legitimizes the state of Israel, describing it a non-racist state and it does not recognise the discriminate murder of Palestinians in the West Bank and in Gaza. Anti-Zionism doesn't make Corbyn a racist. These Zionist MP's like Austin and Hodge want to make it a crime to criticise the state of Israel. Anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism as we have said before. As the RCIT has stated before Zionism is using the anti-semitic row in the Labour party in order to present Israel as an anti-racist state. Nothing could be further from the truth because Israel is an imperialist Apartheid state, a racist colonial settler state which oppresses Palestinians and refuses to let them return to their homeland.

"It is part of the exhausting repertoire of the Zionists to automatically denounce any criticism against Israel as anti-Semitism. The Zionist lobby in the Labour party has been very strong ever since the 1945 Labour led government has recognized the State of Israel in 1948. The Blairites together

with the Zionists are determined to stamp out any opposition to the imperialist, racist and apartheid state of Israel and with this to get rid of the left wing in Labour". [6]

THE RCIT IN BRITAIN restates its position on anti-semitism and calls on workers and youth to form a united anti-imperialist front against all aspects of zionism and imperialism. We put forward the following demands to unite the working class and the oppressed against Zionist supporters and imperialists in the Labour party.

- *Organize strikes up to an indefinite general strike to bring down the hated May Government!*
- *Defend Jeremy Corbyn against the Zionists and Blairite witchhunt in the Labour Party!*
- *Expel, purge and deselect in the event of a General election the Zionist MP's such like Margaret Hodge, Ian Austin, Ruth Smeeth, Luciana Berger, John Woodcock, and others*
- *Call on Jeremy Corbyn and Jennie Formby, General secretary of the NEC, to lift the suspensions and expulsions of all Labour party members wrongly accused of anti-semitism, reinstate them back into the party. Carry out the Labour Party's Democracy review!*
- *Close down all bureaucratic, disciplinary committees like the compliance unit! For free and open democracy inside the Labour party*
- *Expel all Zionist and Blairite organizations including Labour Friends of Israel, Poale Zion and Labour First as not being compatible with socialism and transparent democracy inside the Labour Party!*
- *For a free, democratic Palestine from the river to the sea. Support the Intifada and the struggle for a free, red Palestine!*

Footnotes

- 1) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/brexit/michael-barnier-tears-up-theresa-mays-brexit-customs-proposals/ar-BBL65sb?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>
- 2) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/brexit/michel-barnier-tears-up-theresa-mays-brexit-customs-proposals/ar-BBL65sb?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>
- 3) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/brexit/the-tragedy-of-theresa-repeating-camerons-mistake/ar-BBKWYhb?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>
- 4) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/second-labour-mp-faces-action-in-anti-semitism-row/ar-BBLc0QM?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>
- 5) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/jeremy-corbyn-is-a-defender-of-anti-semites-and-is-unfit-to-lead-labour-claims-mp-facing-disciplinary-probe/ar-BBLcZWJ?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>
- 6) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/corbyn-and-zionism/>

UK: Protests against Northamptonshire County Council cuts in Social care

Report by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain

On 1st August a demonstration took place against the Tory controlled *Northamptonshire County Council*, which has wilfully spent money recklessly on buildings and new office blocks while ignoring the concerns of local people. The result was that the authority was driven into bankruptcy. The Secretary of State first sent in inspectors to investigate the situation. They reported back to the Secretary of State, Sajid Javid, and with the powers he has sent in commissioners to run the authority.

The official goal was to cut waste and do whatever is necessary to bring the authority back on a sound financial footing. In reality it meant the sacking of the staff and attacks on social care, which provides help to the most vulnerable people - especially those with learning and physical disabilities.

Over the years the Tories have closed down all provision. They are now going to attack statutory provision in the county. Children are particularly affected.

There was a lively protest of 200 people representing delegations from trade unions like Unite, CWU, GMB and Unison whose members face the sack. Unfortunately the local Unison leadership has failed to conduct any fight against redundancies whatsoever. There were also people with disabilities attending and other campaigning groups. The protest had been organised by save Northants services.

At the council meeting - realising the anger and hatred

directed against the Tory authority - they refused to let them into the main chamber and used security guards to bully and harass people into an antechamber, where they could watch the situation unfold. No decisions were made. The authority is no longer democratically accountable and because of austerity and withdrawal of funds many more local authorities will follow into the same situation like Northamptonshire.

Local government is finished in Britain. This is coupled with privatisation of the NHS and means that the poor and underprivileged will be deprived of any help whatsoever. The main slogan at the rally was to call for the resignation of the Tory cabinet.

Austerity is the main cause. The PFI contracts introduced by the Blair government destroyed the NHS and Social care. However, the Tories just carried on where Labour had started the rot.

Red Liberation puts forward the following demands:

** No meetings or discussion with the Commissioners!*

** Organise an assembly where all groups and organisations attend, which are affected by the cuts in services! Unison must start to fight back against the Tories with bans on overtime strikes and a refusal to do extra work until the commissioners are removed!*

** Organize strikes up to an indefinite general strike to bring down the May Government!*

** The Tory cabinet must be replaced by directly elected representatives from local community groups!*



Activists at a rally in Northamptonshire on 1.8.2018

200 issues of Revolutionary Communism News!

By the Editorial Board, 27 July 2018

This week we publish issue number 200 of *Revolutionary Communism News* – the Newsletter of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT)!

The first issue was published in September 2011 – a few months after the bureaucratic expulsion of the founding cadres of the RCIT by the majority of the leadership of the “*League for the Fifth International*”. This expulsion was the result of our opposition against the centrist degeneration of this long-time revolutionary organization. (1)

While we started with a handful cadres in a single country we were determined to make our development as an *international* organization the most important priority. It was clear to us that without such internationalism – not only as a program and theory but also as organizational practice – we would be doomed to degenerate politically as well as organizationally.

As a result, the RCIT has managed to grow substantially in the last seven years. Today the RCIT has sections and activists in Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria. Furthermore, we have fraternal relations with organizations in Kenya, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia and Turkey.

Our organizational growth is reflected in the substantial increase of our publishing activities. In addition to national publications by our sections as well as books, pamphlets and videos, the RCIT publishes two monthly

journals in English language – “*Revolutionary Liberation*” and “*Revolutionary Communism*”, the later is a theoretical review (2). Reflecting our internationalist outlook, we publish documents on the RCIT website not only in English but also in 23 other languages.

Revolutionary Communism News (RC-News) initially appeared as our monthly newsletter, distributed by email. Today, the RCIT publishes two articles every day (usually one in English and a second one in another language). RC-News, which collects these articles, is sent out once a week.

We are fully aware that many tasks still lie ahead. We have no reason for complacency. But we are proud of the progress we can record after seven years of building the RCIT! We call all authentic revolutionaries to join us in our efforts to build a Revolutionary World Party!

Footnotes

(1) We refer readers for a historical assessment of our predecessor organization and an overview of the political and organizational background of the RCIT to the following book: Michael Pröbsting: *Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice. Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of Organized Struggle for Bolshevism*, RCIT Books, December 2014, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/rcit-party-building/>

(2) You can view these publications on a special sub-page on the RCIT website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/publications/>

Books of the RCIT

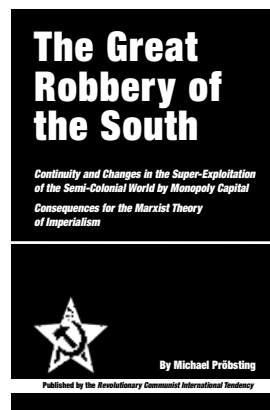
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *THE GREAT ROBBERY OF THE SOUTH*. The book's subtitle is: *Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism*. The book is in English-language. It has 15 chapters, 448 pages and includes 139 Tables and Figures. The author of the book is *Michael Pröbsting* who is the International Secretary of the RCIT.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting analyses the super-exploitation and oppression of the semi-colonial world (often referred to as the “Third World”) by the imperialist powers and monopolies. He shows that the relationship between the small minority of rich capitalist countries and the huge majority of mankind living in the semi-colonial world forms one of the most important elements of the imperialist world system we are living in. The Great Robbery of the South shows that the past decades have been a complete confirmation of the validity of Lenin's theory of imperialism and its programmatic conclusions. *The Great Robbery of the South* demonstrates the important changes in the relationship between the imperialist and the semi-colonial countries. Using comprehensive material (including 139 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that never before

has such a big share of the world capitalist value been produced in the South. Never before have the imperialist monopolies been so dependent on the super-exploitation of the semi-colonial world. Never before has migrant labor from the semi-colonial world played such a significant role for the capitalist value production in the imperialist countries. Never before has the huge majority of the world working class lived in the South – outside of the old imperialist metropolises.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting argues that a correct understanding of the nature of imperialism as well as of the program of permanent revolution which includes the tactics of consistent anti-imperialism is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future. Order your copy NOW! \$20 / £13 / €15 plus p+p (21\$ for US and international, £9 for UK, €10 for Europe)



What the RCIT Stands for

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) is a fighting organisation for the liberation of the working class and all oppressed. It has national sections in various countries. The working class is the class of all those (and their families) who are forced to sell their labour power as wage earners to the capitalists. The RCIT stands on the theory and practice of the revolutionary workers' movement associated with the names of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky.

Capitalism endangers our lives and the future of humanity. Unemployment, war, environmental disasters, hunger, exploitation, are part of everyday life under capitalism as are the national oppression of migrants and nations and the oppression of women, young people and homosexuals. Therefore, we want to eliminate capitalism.

The liberation of the working class and all oppressed is possible only in a classless society without exploitation and oppression. Such a society can only be established internationally.

Therefore, the RCIT is fighting for a socialist revolution at home and around the world.

This revolution must be carried out and led by the working class, for she is the only class that has nothing to lose but their chains.

The revolution can not proceed peacefully because never before has a ruling class voluntarily surrendered their power. The road to liberation includes necessarily the armed rebellion and civil war against the capitalists.

The RCIT is fighting for the establishment of workers' and peasant republics, where the oppressed organize themselves in rank and file meetings in factories, neighbourhoods and schools – in councils. These councils elect and control the government and all other authorities and can always replace them.

Real socialism and communism has nothing to do with the so-called "real existing socialism" in the Soviet Union, China, Cuba or Eastern Europe. In these countries, a bureaucracy dominated and oppressed the proletariat.

The RCIT supports all efforts to improve the living conditions of workers and the oppressed. We combine this with a perspective of the overthrow of capitalism.

We work inside the trade unions and advocate class struggle, socialism and workers' democracy. But trade unions and social democracy are controlled by a bureaucracy. This bureaucracy is a layer which is connected with the state and capital via jobs and privileges. It is far from the interests and

living circumstances of the members. This bureaucracy's basis rests mainly on the top, privileged layers of the working class - the workers' aristocracy. The struggle for the liberation of the working class must be based on the broad mass of the proletariat rather than their upper strata.

The RCIT strives for unity in action with other organizations. However, we are aware that the policy of social democracy and the pseudo-revolutionary groups is dangerous and they ultimately represent an obstacle to the emancipation of the working class.

We fight for the expropriation of the big land owners as well as for the nationalisation of the land and its distribution to the poor and landless peasants. We fight for the independent organisation of the rural workers.

We support national liberation movements against oppression. We also support the anti-imperialist struggles of oppressed peoples against the great powers. Within these movements we advocate a revolutionary leadership as an alternative to nationalist or reformist forces.

In a war between imperialist states (e.g. U.S., China, EU, Russia, Japan) we take a revolutionary defeatist position, i.e. we don't support neither side and advocate the transformation of the war into a civil war against the ruling class. In a war between an imperialist power (or its stooge) and a semi-colonial country we stand for the defeat of the former and the victory of the oppressed country.

The struggle against national and social oppression (women, youth, sexual minorities etc.) must be led by the working class. We fight for revolutionary movements of the oppressed (women, youth, migrants etc.) based on the working class. We oppose the leadership of petty-bourgeois forces (feminism, nationalism, Islamism etc.) and strive to replace them by a revolutionary communist leadership.

Only with a revolutionary party fighting as its leadership can the working class win. The construction of such a party and the conduct of a successful revolution as it was demonstrated by the Bolsheviks under Lenin and Trotsky in Russia are a model for the revolutionary parties and revolutions also in the 21 Century.

For new, revolutionary workers' parties in all countries! For a 5th Workers International on a revolutionary program! Join the RCIT!

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

