



REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM

Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency



www.thecommunists.net

New Series Issue Nr.15

February 2019

Great Tasks demand Great Initiative! For Revolutionary Unity!

PLUS: The Zionist's Attack on the Progressive Movement

Israel: Hands Off the BDS! * Zimbabwe: Interview of the Uprising

NEW BOOK: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry!

English-Language Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), New Series No.15, February 2019

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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 Nigeria, Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Britain, Germany, and Austria. Furthermore, the RCIT has fraternal relations with the *Alkebulan School of Black Studies* (Kenya), the *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance* (Nigeria), *Courant des Jeunes Penseurs Congolais* (Democratic Republic of Congo), the *Marxist Group 'Class Politics'* (Russia) and *Snuif Savaşı* (Turkey).

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Great Tasks demand Great Initiative!

A Call to All Revolutionary Organizations and Activists to Fulfill Our Responsibility in this Historic Time!

Open Letter from the International Secretariat of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 7 January 2019

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters!
We are living in historic times. Everyone with open eyes can see that the imperialist world order is in severe turmoil. We are heading towards a political volcano eruption.

The *stock markets are in panic*, reflecting the capitalists' fear of another, imminent Great Recession which will be even worse this time than in 2008/09.

The *tensions between the imperialist Great Powers are rapidly accelerating* as indicated by the looming Global Trade War, the tensions in the South China Sea, at the Russian-Ukrainian border, the new imperialist scramble for Africa, etc. President Trump's decision to withdraw substantial numbers of U.S. troops from the Middle East and his admission that the U.S. cannot continue to be "*the policeman of the world*" reflect the official end of the absolute domination of the former super-power. Only a political blind can ignore that the future will be decisively shaped by the rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., China, the EU, Russia and Japan.

At the same time we are at the beginning of a *new global wave of liberation struggles of the workers and oppressed*. The current popular uprising in Sudan, the ongoing liberation struggle of the heroic Syrian people against the tyranny of Assad, the mass protests in Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan and Iran, the steadfast Palestinian people resisting the Zi-

onist oppressor, the powerful "*Yellow Vests*" movement in France which is inspiring similar movements all over the world (as far as Taiwan!), the protesting low-income workers in Hungary, the popular insurrection in Nicaragua, ... all these are powerful signs that we are facing a massive upturn of the international class struggle!

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters! No one should be surprised about these events. This is a complete confirmation of the prognoses which Marxists have repeatedly developed in the past years. We have pointed out since years that the laws of motion of class antagonism in the present historic period must inevitable result in such a development.

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* says straightforwardly that each and every one of us bears a great responsibility in such a period! We have seen numerous heroic mass struggles in the past years. Remember the Arab Revolution since 2011 which has given so many martyrs! Remember the mass movements in Latin America struggling for social justice! Remember the South African miners fighting against super-exploitation! Remember the Indian workers and poor peasants launching several general strikes with the biggest number of participants in history! And these are only a few examples!

But all these impressive struggles have suffered major setbacks and terrible defeats! Why? Because the work-

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.

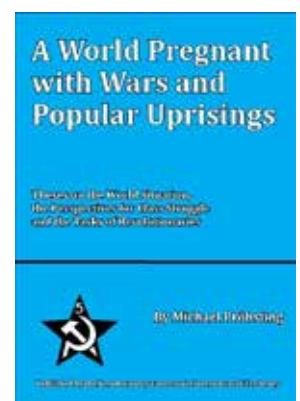
This book is a major contribution of our organization to keep the Marxists' analysis of the world situation and its accelerating contradictions updated. As we emphasize in the document, we consider it as crucial for revolutionaries to understand the nature and the inner dynamics of the current historic 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/>



ers and oppressed have lacked an authentic revolutionary leadership! Because they have been disorientated by various bourgeois, petty-bourgeois, reformist and centrist forces! Because the workers and oppressed are misled by parties which talk about "liberation" or even "socialism" but which, in their deeds, are treacherously serving one or another imperialist Great Power or which are looking for a quick road to enter the system of capitalist power!

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters! The time has come to draw conclusions and to act! Great tasks demand great initiative! Do not wait for others, do not hope for "favorable situations" in the future! All this is nothing but a "socialist" version of resignation to fate. Such superstition is unworthy of authentic revolutionaries! Each and every one of us is obligated to exercise one's responsibility *now*!

It is *our responsibility* to free the worker and oppressed from such corrupting and bankrupt forces! It is *our responsibility* to provide the masses with a leadership which understands the dynamic of the world situation and which draws the consequential conclusions from this! It is *our responsibility* to organize the best, most dedicated fighters on the basis of a program of struggle and to unite them in a joint international organization! It is *our responsibility* to build a *Revolutionary World Party* which can replace the Stalinist, Bolivarian, reformist and pseudo-Trotskyist bankrupts! This is the only way to help the vanguard of the workers and oppressed to find the correct path of the liberation struggle!

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters! In order to meet the great tasks ahead, we must overcome routine, national-centeredness and complacency! We must join forces now in order to advance building a *Revolutionary World Party* with sections in each country! Such a party should be based on a program of struggle for the period ahead, a program which combines each and every struggle with the strategic goal – for the socialist world revolution!

In the last one and a half years the RCIT has intensified its efforts to expand and deepen its collaboration with other revolutionary forces. Today we have sections, activists and fraternal organizations in 18 countries all over the world. Last year, we have launched joint statements on crucial world events (see e.g. *May Day 2018 Statement*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/may-day-2018-joint-statement/>; *Warmongering in the Middle East*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/>; *Global Trade War: No to Great Power Jingoism in West and East!* <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-statement-on-the-looming-global-trade-war/>). Our comrades are spreading the ideas of revolutionary socialism and are actively participating in the class struggles (see e.g. various reports on our activities on a special subpage of the RCIT website, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/activities-on-the-ground/>, as well as on various websites of the RCIT sections).

We are aware that these are still only modest achievements compared with the big tasks ahead. But it is a beginning and it helps us to be better prepared for the tumultuous world situation ahead! It is urgent that we join forces together – by practical collaboration, discussion and clarification of possible differences, etc. – in order to move forward *together* and to *build revolutionary unity on an international level*.

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters! We have no time to lose! The coming months and years will inevitably provoke gigantic battles and political volcano eruptions! It is urgent that revolutionaries around the world achieve a higher level of unity. Below we reissue a slightly actualized version of the RCIT's *Six Points for a Platform of Revolutionary Unity Today* which we published in February 2018. This is our proposal for a joint program of struggle in the current period. However, we are open to discuss any amendments or alternative platforms. We call all revolutionary organizations and activists around the world to contact us and to jointly elaborate plans for closer international collaboration! If you have proposals and suggestions for joint international campaigns in solidarity with liberation struggles, we welcome you to contact us! Please inform us about YOUR campaigns, YOUR ideas and initiatives for revolutionary unity! We plan to organize an international Skype conference of all those who agree on such joint work.

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters! Great tasks demand great initiative! Let us jointly tackle the great tasks of the year 2019! Let us join forces to march forward!

Unity – Struggle – Victory!

Six Points for a Platform of Revolutionary Unity Today

*A Proposal from the Revolutionary Communist
International Tendency (RCIT)*

We are living in a world of rapidly accelerating contradictions and sudden turns. As capitalism is decaying, the capitalist robbers try to raise their wealth by aggressively attacking the working class and the oppressed, by increasingly destroying the environment and, at the same time, by aggravating their rivalry against each other. The survival of humanity is endangered with the uncontrolled climate change and the accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers which creates the danger of an imperialist World War III. This is why we say that the alternative is "Socialism or Stone Age!"

This dramatic situation makes the organized struggle for socialism more necessary than ever. This means that the working class and the oppressed must have a party dedicated to the international struggle for a socialist future!

In our opinion, it is highly urgent that revolutionaries all over the world immediately start collaborating in laying the foundations for a principled unification, so that we drive forward the process of creating a new Revolutionary World Party with stronger forces. The starting point for the creation of such a party has to be agreement on the most important issues of the global class struggle. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* considers the following issues as such programmatic key-stones in the present political phase:

1) Recognition of the Accelerating Rivalry between the Imperialist Great Powers – the US, EU, Japan, Russia and China

It is *only* possible to understand the driving dynamic of the present period of capitalist crisis and to take a correct position if one recognizes the imperialist character not

only of the US, EU and Japan but also of the new emerging powers, Russia and China. Only on such a basis is it possible to arrive at the only correct, anti-imperialist program on this issue – *proletarian internationalism* and *revolutionary defeatism*, i.e., the perspective of consistent struggle of the working class independent of and against *all* imperialist powers. This means that revolutionaries refuse to lend support to *any* Great Power in inter-imperialist conflicts under the slogan “*The main enemy is at home!*”

A similar approach is necessary when India enters into a conflict with imperialist China, as India – a non-imperialist regional power – acts under such circumstances as a proxy for US imperialism.

Those who fail to recognize the reactionary and imperialist character of these Great Powers will inevitably fail to take a consistent anti-imperialist, i.e. Marxist, line and will end up, consciously or unconsciously, supporting one or the other imperialist camp as a “lesser evil”.

2) Consistent Struggle against Imperialism and for the Liberation of the Oppressed People

Revolutionaries stand for the *defeat* of imperialist states and their proxies in any conflict with forces representing oppressed people and for the *military victory* of the latter without, at the same time, giving any *political* support to the non-revolutionary leadership of the oppressed (e.g., petty-bourgeois Islamists, nationalists). This is true both in domestic conflicts (e.g., against an oppressed nation like the Chechen people in Russia or the East Turkestanis/Uyghurs in China) as well as in wars abroad (e.g., North Korea, Afghanistan, Syria, Mali, Somalia). Such an approach is not only valid in the countries of the South but also in

cases of national oppression and discrimination inside the old imperialist states (e.g. Blacks and Native Americans in the U.S.; Catalonia’s struggle for independence against the imperialist Spanish State.)

Likewise, revolutionaries have to fight for *Open Borders* in the imperialist countries and for *full equality for national minorities and for migrants* (e.g. citizenship rights, language, equal wages).

Furthermore, revolutionaries refuse to lend support to one imperialist camp against another in any given conflict (e.g., Brexit vs. EU; Clinton vs. Trump).

Those who fail to support the popular struggles against oppression, referring to their bad leaderships as an excuse, desert the class struggle as it concretely takes place today and hence leave the camp of the working class and oppressed.

3) Continuing the Revolutionary Struggle in the Middle East and North Africa against Reactionary Dictatorships, Imperialism and Zionism

The mass popular uprisings in Palestine, Tunisia, Iran, Syria, Egypt, Yemen, Sudan and other countries have been the most important and progressive class struggle development so far since the beginning of the new historic period in 2008. True, given the lack of a revolutionary leadership, the masses have suffered a number of terrible defeats – like the coup d’état of General al-Sisi in Egypt in July 2013, or the ongoing slaughter of the Syrian people at the hands of Assad and his foreign backers. However, the revolutionary process is continuing. This is reflected in the ongoing popular resistance in Palestine, Syria, Yemen, Egypt, etc as well as its spreading to new countries

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice

Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of Organized Struggle for Bolshevism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *BUILDING THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE*. The book’s subtitle is: *Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of organized Struggle for Bolshevism*. The book is in English-language. It contains four chapters on 148 pages and includes 42 pictures. 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.

A few months ago, our movement commemorated its 25th anniversary. In the summer of 1989 our predecessor organization, the League for a Revolutionary Communist International (LRCI) was founded as a democratic-centralist international tendency based on an elaborated program. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) continues the revolutionary tradition of the LRCI. Below we give an overview of our history, an evaluation of its achievements as well as mistakes, and a summary of the lessons for the struggles ahead. This book summarizes our theoretical and practical experience of the past

25 years.

In Chapter I we outline a summary of the Bolshevik- Communists’ theoretical conception of the role of the revolutionary party and its relation to the working class. In Chapter II we elaborate on the essential characteristics of revolutionary party respective of the pre-party organization. In Chapter III we deal with the history of our movement – the RCIT and its predecessor organization. Finally, in Chapter IV we outline the main lessons of our 25 years of organized struggle for building a Bolshevik party and their meaning for our future work.

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/rcit-party-building/> ■

**Building the
Revolutionary Party
in Theory
and Practice**

Looking Back and Ahead after
25 Years of organized Struggle for Bolshevism



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

like Tunisia, Iran, Sudan and Morocco. The Palestinian and international mass movement provoked by Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital opens a new chapter of the revolutionary struggle against the imperialist powers and against the Zionist Apartheid state and for the creation of a single Palestinian state from the river to the sea (a "*Free, Red Palestine*"). The spontaneous popular uprisings in Tunisia as well as in Iran against the capitalist regime show that the revolutionary wave in the Middle East might be revived and spreads even to non-Arab countries. Authentic revolutionary forces must give unconditional support to these popular struggles against dictatorships and reactionary forces, without giving any political support to their non-revolutionary leaderships (e.g., petty-bourgeois Islamists and nationalists).

Those "socialists" who have failed to support the Arab Revolution since 2011 or who declare it as already finished and defeated, prove to be socialists and democrats only in words but not in deeds.

Revolutionaries oppose any reactionary war between regional power (e.g. Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, etc.). They will determine their revolutionary tactics in any given war by analyzing the concrete character of the war and its political background as well as the role of imperialist powers (in particular the U.S., Russia, China) in it.

4) Revolutionary Struggle against Reactionary Attacks on Democratic Rights

Revolutionaries can only serve the interests of the working class and the oppressed if they are able to recognize the class enemy and to mobilize against it. Thus they must consistently fight against all reactionary dictatorships and corrupt and authoritarian pseudo-democracies (e.g. Syria, Togo, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe), against all forms of national and racial oppression (e.g. indigenous people in Latin America, Rohingya in Myanmar, African slaves in Libya), against all coup d'états (e.g. Egypt 2013, Thailand 2014, Brazil 2016) and against all authoritarian attacks (e.g. state of emergency in France since 2015).

All those who fail to recognize and to fight against these reactionary attacks but rather support them or take a neutral position, are traitors of the working class. Between them and us is a line of blood!

5) Application of the United Front Tactic in all Mass Struggles

Revolutionaries oppose *all* forms of sectarianism which refuses participation in mass struggles under the pretext of their non-revolutionary leaderships. Instead they apply the united front tactic in the struggles of the workers and peasants led by reformist or populist forces (e.g., trade unions, mass organizations of the peasants and the urban poor, but also political parties like PT, CUT, MST in Brazil; CGT, CTA, FIT in Argentina; Islamists in Egypt; rebels in Syria; EFF in South Africa; SYRIZA in Greece before 2015, PODEMOS, Basque and Catalan nationalists in the Spanish State). Such an orientation must be combined with a consistent struggle against all forms of popular-frontism and petty-bourgeois populism, and for the breaking of workers and peasants away from these non-revolutionary leaderships and to advance the formation of an indepen-

dent and revolutionary Workers' Party.

Those who fail to apply the united front tactic in such mass struggles, render their support for these struggles to an abstract statement without any concrete meaning.

6) Start Building a Revolutionary World Party Now!

The struggle for repelling the reactionary offensive of the ruling class and for the liberation of the working class and the oppressed can only succeed if it is combined with the struggle for the socialist revolution. This means nothing less than taking power by the working class and the oppressed and the overthrow and expropriation of the capitalist class so that the road towards socialism will be opened. History teaches us that all struggles of the masses for liberation will ultimately end in failure if they are not led by a revolutionary party. Such a party should organize the most politically conscious and dedicated fighters of the working class and oppressed, it must be free of any bureaucratic degeneration; and it must exist as an international party in order to avoid the dangers of national-centeredness.

Hence we call upon all organizations and activists which honestly strive towards the creation of a new Revolutionary World Party to join forces on the basis of these programmatic keystones. Concretely, the RCIT proposes that revolutionaries constitute a *Joint Contact Committee* in order to politically prepare and organize an *International Conference* which will discuss concrete steps to advance the formation of a Revolutionary World Party. The RCIT is committed to serious discussions and the closest possible collaboration with all forces who share such an outlook.

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The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* has sections and activists in Nigeria, Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Britain, Germany, and Austria. Furthermore, the RCIT has fraternal relations with organizations in Kenya, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia and Turkey.

The Zionist's Attack on the Progressive Movement

A Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 03.01.2019

This coming year will be a year of sharp contradictions among the imperialists themselves, and between the ruling class on one side and the growing resistance of the workers, the oppressed, women, youth and the lower middle class on the other side.

As we wrote in the RCIT's *Greetings for the New Year of 2019: Prepare for a Political Volcano Eruption*:

"We are at the beginning of a new global wave of liberation struggles of the workers and oppressed. The popular uprising in Sudan, the ongoing liberation struggle of the heroic Syrian people against the tyranny of Assad, the mass protests in Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan and Iran, the steadfast Palestinian people resisting the Zionist oppressor, the powerful Yellow Vests movement in France which is inspiring similar movements all over the world (as far as Taiwan!), the protesting low-income workers in Hungary, the popular insurrection in Nicaragua, ... all these are powerful signs that we are facing a massive upturn of the international class struggle!" (1)

The ruling classes and their servants are using all kinds of weapons, from bombing the masses in Syria and Yemen, to police brutality and more. One of the weapons is the Zionist's and their supporter's propaganda smearing the progressive movement by calling them "Anti-Semites".

The headquarters of this reactionary propaganda are in Jerusalem, coming from the right wing government of Netanyahu that is associated with the far right governments and fascist Anti-Semites movements around the world.

The Zionists, who claim that anyone who criticizes their reactionary positions is an Anti-Semite, are working very hard to split the progressive movement and isolate the Jews from the progressive struggle. This is very clear in Britain and the USA. This is an old strategy that began with Herzl. Herzl offered the Russian Tsar (who was behind the pogrom of Kishinev) his services to isolate the Jews from the revolutionary movement for supporting his plans for a Jewish state. These days the Zionists are using the same strategy in Britain and in the USA.

The attack on the working class in Britain

The British Zionists ally themselves with the right wing racists and fascists in Britain to vilify the leadership of the Labor party as "Anti-Semite".

The Labor party has a long history of support for the

Zionists. The Labor Party praised the Zionist labor party of Israel in spite of the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian in the 1947-1948. Among the Pro-Zionists in the Labor party were Arthur Henderson, Josiah Wedgwood, Stafford Cripps, Ian Mikardo, Nye Bevan, Hugh Dalton, Richard Crossman, Manny Shinwell and Harold Wilson. *"The Party's Palestinian policy," Crossman wrote in 1946, "was the result of a profound conviction that the establishment of the national home is an important part of the Socialist creed."* (2) This was purely social imperialist position.

Only in 1969, two years after Israel occupied the remaining parts of Palestine plus the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Height, the *Labor Middle East Council* led by Christopher Mayhew, former Minister for the Navy and MP for Woolwich, founded for the first time a pro-Palestinian network within the working class movement. Then in the early 1980s, the *"Trade Union Friends of Palestine"* led by George Galloway was formed. The *"Labor Committee on Palestine"* backed by Ken Livingstone's was formally established within the Party in 1986. Mayhew in June 1971 published an article for the Fabian journal, *"Venture"* where he wrote: *"support for Israel and Zionism is as difficult as support for South Africa and apartheid and for very similar reasons."* (3) Later on Mayhew left the labor party and joined the Liberal Party.

While Jeremy Corbyn, the left-reformist leader of the Labor party has developed a pro-Palestinian position, the right wing in the Labor party – the Blairites – are openly pro-Zionists even today, and have joined the right wing attacks on Corbyn. He observes correctly, *"I am now more careful with how I might use the term 'Zionist' because a once self-identifying political term has been increasingly hijacked by Anti-Semites as code for Jews"*. (4)

Identifying Jews with Zionism in order to attack the progressive and the revolutionary movement has a long history in Britain. Winston Churchill, the reactionary imperialist, wrote in 1920 that there are three of Jews. The first kind is the *"national Jews"*, those who serve their country whether in England or Russia and the second kind is the bad Jews, *"the International Jews"*.

"From the days of Spartacus-Weishaupt to those of Karl Marx, and down to Trotsky (Russia), Bela Kun (Hungary), Rosa Luxembourg (Germany), and Emma Goldman (United States), this world-wide conspiracy for the overthrow of civilization and for the reconstitution of society on the basis of arrested



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

development, of envious malevolence, and impossible equality, has been steadily growing. It played, as a modern writer, Mrs. Webster, has so ably shown, a definitely recognizable part in the tragedy of the French Revolution".

The third kinds of Jews are the Zionists ones. "Zionism offers the third sphere to the political conceptions of the Jewish race. In violent contrast to international communism, it presents to the Jew a national idea of a commanding character. It has fallen to the British Government, as the result of the conquest of Palestine, to have the opportunity and the responsibility of securing for the Jewish race all over the world a home and centre of national life". (5)

The Zionists in Britain together with the far right, who are truly Anti-Semites, are in the front of the attacks on Jeremy Corbyn for opposing the murdering of the Palestinians and stealing their properties. Their line of attack is that he is an Anti-Semite.

The same line of attack on the progressive movement can be observed in the USA. The latest target is the *Women March* and in particular its black and Palestinian leaders.

In the 1960s many American Jews worked with the Black movement advocating equal rights. About half of the white civil rights attorneys in the South in the 1960s were Jews. More than half of the white freedom riders in the 1960s were Jews, and nearly two-thirds of the white volunteers involved in Freedom Summer in Mississippi in 1964 were Jews. Two of them, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, were murdered by right-wing racists. Jews also provided much of the funds for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Racial Equality, and other civil rights.

But then something happened and most Jews deserted the struggle of the Afro-Americans. So the question is why? In 1967 Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza and has oppressed the Palestinians in those lands. Unlike the time after WWII when Israel was perceived as a safe place for the suffering Jews which blinded many people to the crimes of Israel against the Palestinians, the ethnic cleansing and the robbery of the Palestinian property, following the war of 1967 a growing number of people began to advocate solidarity for the Palestinians.

Among them were Black leaders like Jesse Jackson, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for president, who took a stand against Israel as a repressive state. He and other black leaders refused to repudiate Louis Farrakhan who made speeches against the rich Jews and their influence on the American administration. (90% of the American Jews did not vote for Jackson) Although Jackson repudiates the anti-Semitic remarks of Louis Farrakhan, Jackson refuses to condemn Farrakhan outright. In addition Jackson met with Yasser Arafat and other Arab leaders, and urged the U.S. government to follow a Middle East policy that recognizes both Israel's right to peace and security and the rights of Palestinians to dignity and justice.

That was enough for the liberal Jews who joined the conservative Jews and turned their back on the discrimination of the blacks accusing them as being Anti-Semites. It is true that Farrakhan has expressed bias against Jews and women. However, equating Farrakhan with the right wing racist's Anti-Semitism is wrong. Farrakhan does not possess the power to organize pogroms nor has a history of calling to attack Jews physically. In some ways

he is similar to Hamas and Hezbollah that the Palestinian citizen of Israel refuse to condemn by the demand of the Zionists who kill or support the killing of the Palestinians.

Liberals have a problem: they equate the oppressed and the oppressors. The logic of this position is to equate the uprising of Warsaw Ghetto (that among their fighters were right-wing Zionists) to the Nazis. Both killed is it not so?

Yet when it comes to the fighters against the Nazis the Liberals did not use the formal logic, probably because they supported the imperialist allies against the German imperialists. However, when it comes to black and Palestinians they sing a different song.

Conclusion

The position of the liberal Jews who supports Israel and for this reason split the struggle against racism are much worse than the positions of Louis Farrakhan and his prejudice toward Jews. By splitting the struggle these liberals joined in the real world the real racists. We can find today the same line aims directly at the leadership of the *International Women's Strike* that among its leaders are black and Palestinians. There are articles promoted by Zionists who claim that Palestinian-American activist Linda Sarsour and the black leader Tamika Mallory are anti-Semites.

The *International Women's Strike* is an international day of action "by and for women who have been marginalized and silenced," took an anti-colonial, anti-imperialist position, calling for the destruction of walls "from Mexico to Palestine." Organizers of the strike wrote in its platform that the decolonization of Palestine is "the beating heart of this new feminist movement."

For example, the day before the strike, Emily Shire, in a *New York Times* op-ed, who identifies as a Zionist, expressed her dismay over the platform's stance on Israel and wrote that she felt like she was being forced to "sacrifice" her Zionism for the sake of her feminism. The Zionist women act to split the Jewish women from the *International Women's Strike* to form separate protest that at the same time support Israel. (Below we attach an informative article on this issue which has been written by Daniel Sieradski and which was published by the *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*.)

The leaders of the Women march answer them by pointing out that Israel oppress Palestinian women and thus a Zionists cannot be a supporter of women rights.

This brings to mind the liberal middle class feminists who in the 19th century split the alliance between the feminists and the movement for the abolition of slavery as they demanded to recognize the women right to vote as more important than the liberation of the black slaves (that also included many women amongst them).

Footnotes

- (1) <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/greetings-for-new-year-of-2019/>
- (2) <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-u-k-labour-partys-zionist-problem-1.5420578>
- (3) <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-u-k-labour-partys-zionist-problem-1.5420578>
- (4) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/aug/24/corbyn-english-irony-video-reignites-antisemitism-row-labour>
- (5) Zionism versus Bolshevism Winston Churchill, <http://library.flawlesslogic.com/ish.htm>

Appendix

Women's March is the wrong target in the fight against anti-Semitism

Daniel Sieradski, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Nov 20, 2018, <https://www.jta.org/2018/11/20/opinion/womens-march-wrong-target-fight-anti-semitism>

NEW YORK — The same Jewish liberals who gave in to efforts by the Jewish right to divide the black and Jewish communities in the '70s are back again to divide Jews from their would-be allies, and this time they're dead set on being the breach in the dam that lets the Nazis through.

Not three weeks after the worst massacre of Jews by a white supremacist in American history, Jewish liberals and conservatives alike have found a target for their wrath, and it's none other than Palestinian-American activist Linda Sarsour.

Here's why I'm fuming:

Any day now the president of the United States can sign an executive order, as he has threatened to do, that will strip citizenship from those who were born in America to parents that were here illegally. Forgive me if I take this personally, as the son of a septuagenarian mother who was born to two Holocaust survivors who sneaked into the country by overstaying their tourist visas.

While this possibility simmers in the background, undocumented and documented immigrants are being rounded up, thrown in cages, having their kids taken from them and sent halfway across the country, and are then deported without their children. These kids, who when they are are lucky enough to be reunited with their parents, suffer from severe emotional and psychological trauma from which they may never recover.

In light of this and the administration's attacks on the rights of transgender men and women, women's right to choose, the rights of workers to organize in their workplaces and

the right of black people to vote, it becomes clear that everything this administration stands for will result in the destruction of all that we as Jewish people of conscience purport to care about.

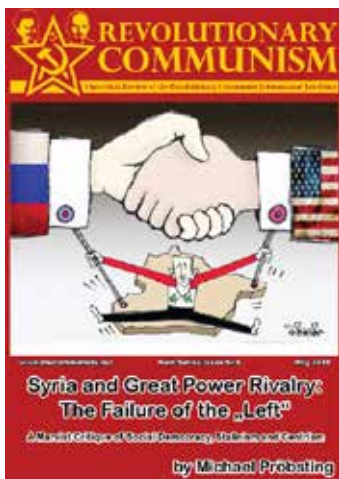
So when, inspired by a president who openly blames prominent liberal Jews for that which white nationalists refer to as "white genocide," a neo-Nazi walks into a shul and kills a bunch of liberal Jews, you'd think that our energy would stay focused on the existential threat in the White House — something actually leading to Jews being killed.

Instead, the dishonorable Minister Louis Farrakhan says something abhorrent, and suddenly all of the energy and anger after Pittsburgh has been shifted away from the president and onto Farrakhan and the left that supposedly embraces him.

Farrakhan, as is well known, is not a leftist but a right-wing conservative religious fundamentalist who once said "I like what I see" in Donald Trump after Trump told the Republican Jewish Coalition that they won't support him because they "can't buy" him. (As is usually the case, Trump was wrong on both counts.)

Farrakhan is also a virtual nobody with virtually no power in the broader American context, who has no hope of ever being in public office let alone president of the United States. He will never have the sway or influence the president has to inspire acts of anti-Semitic violence. And while Farrakhan may boast tens of thousands of supporters, Trump has tens of millions. Unlike President Trump and his white supremacist base, Farrakhan is not an existential threat to Jewish people.

Of course, Linda Sarsour has denounced Farrakhan's rhetoric and the Women's March has repeatedly issued statements saying that they find his views reprehensible and incompatible with their movement. But because Sarsour and her co-organizers won't outright condemn



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

him — due to the mostly positive role his organization is seen as playing in the black community and, in turn, how that may alienate a great deal of black people from their movement — they are seen as being on par with the likes of white supremacist Richard Spencer.

Never mind that Sarsour, even after being vilified and called a terrorist and all manner of degrading racist and Islamophobic insults by a significant portion of self-identified liberal Jews, continues to stand up against anti-Semitism and white supremacy. Never mind that she raised \$150,000 to help with the funeral expenses of the Pittsburgh victims and organized a rally in front of the White House the day after the attack to call out our president for inspiring it. The real threat to American Jewry isn't the guy in the White House inspiring neo-Nazi murders; it's the woman in the hijab protesting him.

This is precisely what the right wing wants: For minorities to be at each other's throats and demonize one another so that we never unify against them and they can continue on with their agenda unopposed.

Liberal Jews have unfortunately been all too eager to estrange themselves from those on the left who offer even the slightest expression of solidarity with Palestinians. In just the last decade and a half, liberal Jews have abandoned not only their fellow Jews who have come to embrace the Palestinian-led BDS movement, but most major progressive movements including the anti-war movement, Occupy Wall Street, Black Lives Matter, the Dyke March, the Bernie Sanders campaign and now the Women's March, each for unapologetically defending the rights of Palestinians.

(Some may recall that the original objection to the leadership of the Women's March was not Tamika Mallory's association with Farrakhan, but Sarsour's interview with *The Nation* wherein she said that a true feminism cannot overlook the suffering of Palestinian women, which was clickbaitingly and misleadingly titled "Can You Be a Zionist Feminist? Linda Sarsour Says No.")

This increasingly universal support for Palestinians on the left has been turned into a wedge by those on the right, used to vilify and demonize the left as anti-Semitic and an unsafe home for Jews. But the left isn't violently attacking Jews — it's making Zionists feel uncomfortable, which is probably how you should feel if you are providing tacit support for the denial of another people's human and civil rights going on half a century.

Yes, there is anti-Semitic violence that transpires in the name of solidarity with Palestinians, but that violence is generally committed out of ethnic or religious hatred, not as an expression of leftism — unlike white supremacist violence, which is firmly rooted in the ideology of the right. It is not left-wing anti-Zionists who have hopped into bed with Donald Trump and fascist leaders around the world, emboldening anti-Semites like Viktor Orban, or who sought to downplay the threat of far-right anti-Semitism after the Pittsburgh attacks. It is the right-wing government of the State of Israel that has done this. It was Israel's Diaspora Minister Naftali Bennett and Ambassador to the United States Ron Dermer who told mourning congregants at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue that Trump was not to blame for inspiring the massacre of their friends and loved ones, but rather laid fault with the nonviolent BDS movement and their own complacency as

American Jews.

Like Louis Farrakhan, members of Benjamin Netanyahu's administration are spotlight-seeking religious conservatives and ethno-nationalists with a long history of racist vituperations, and whose offenses are overlooked by their communities out of tribal loyalty. Some are even outspoken admirers of the late Meir Kahane, the Brooklyn rabbi who established a political movement in Israel that was ultimately banned for its open advocacy of anti-Arab violence and placed on the U.S. terror watch list. Yet somehow this doesn't stop liberal Jews from associating with individuals and institutions that fete obnoxious and racist Israeli politicians, be it their local elected officials, Jewish federations or Hillel chapters. Indeed, when such repugnant and polarizing figures appear on American college campuses and are met with vibrant protest, liberal Jews wring their hands over the "hostile environment created for Jewish students."

We shouldn't have a double standard for people who fraternize with bigots, whether inside or outside of our community. Neither Trump, nor Farrakhan, nor a member of Knesset's hate should be tolerated and the rules should apply equally, just as many liberal Jews have asserted in op-ed upon op-ed.

But while that may be ideal, it also completely ignores that the rules never apply equally to black people and other marginalized communities because the rules were written to disenfranchise them. One needn't infantilize minorities, rob them of agency nor lower one's expectations to recognize the disparities in power. The Torah says to judge rich and poor by the same measure, but our society has entirely different measures for black and white, male and female, gay and straight, cis and trans, and above all rich and poor. How can you demand we hold the disenfranchised to the same standards as the wholly enfranchised, empowered and in-control? And how can you demand they do that which you're unwilling to do in your own community?

Jewish liberals insist that their Zionism be accepted and not be held to account for the offensive associations or troubling policies of other Zionists. But they're not willing to extend the same courtesy to their would-be allies.

It's a cliché but people are human beings and they have warts. If we expect purity and perfection from everyone all the time, we'll never get anywhere. That doesn't ever mean accepting bigotry from anyone. But it does mean forgiving people for having complicated relationships to things that sometimes have ugly sides to them — particularly when you're asking for the same forgiveness.

The day my mom's birthright citizenship is called into doubt, I know that Linda Sarsour will be there to have my back and to stand with me and my family against the full power of the state, because Linda Sarsour is my ally and committed to all minorities coming together as one united front against white supremacy, no matter what intemperate thing she has to say about Israel nor how receptive she is to the Nation of Islam.

Sadly, I have zero confidence that liberal Jews will be there alongside us.

Israel: Hands Off the BDS!

A Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 27.10.2018

The *Internationalist Socialist League* (section of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* in Occupied Palestine) denounces the decision of *DonorBox* to freeze the accounts of the BDS.

"The American funding platform, DonorBox, which serves as the umbrella organization of the Palestinian Boycott Coalition, announced that it is freezing the accounts of the BDS National Committee (BNC), which operates from Ramallah and is headed by Omar Barghouti. DonorBox made its decision after receiving information provided by the Israel Ministry of Strategic the BDS is affiliated with declared terrorist organizations in the United States. "This is a significant achievement in the struggle against the Palestinian boycott organizations that in reality are driving all the BDS organizations of the world," said Minister of Strategic Affairs Gilad Erdan. "We have been working to undermine the financial infrastructure of the boycott organizations" (1)

The BDS is an organization that struggle to boycott Israel because of the repression of the Palestinian people and the state terrorism of Israel. The so-called connection to terrorist organizations in the U.S is another lie of the Israeli state. The decision to freeze its accounts is another attack on the Palestinians and the democratic rights. Was it true that it is connected to terror it would have been charged with terror by the USA.

The Israeli government, that is connected to fascists and Nazis around the world and sell not only sell weapons to government that use terror against its own population

but has a long history of terrorist actions, is the one that all contributions to it should end. Its leaders have to be tried for war crimes and crimes against humanity. It does not happen because the international criminal court is a tool of imperialism that never uses its mandate to bring to justice the big criminals of the imperialist states and their servants.

Israel's history of terrorism

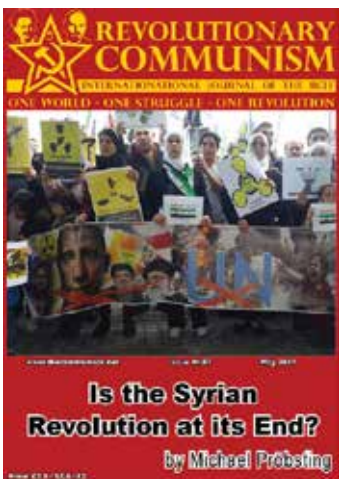
Terrorism during the Mandate period. During the British mandate the armed Zionist organizations used terror against the Arab population of Palestine.

Thomas Suárez in *State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel*. He proved it by using neglected declassified documents from the British National Archives, covering the period of the British Mandate for Palestine (1920-1948). According to this book over 57 violent attacks were carried out by Zionist terrorist groups (e.g. Haganah, Lehi, and Irgun – ultra-nationalist groups from the far right wing of the Revisionist Zionist movement) killing over 5,000 Palestinians prior to 1948.

1. The most known cases of Zionist terrorism prior to 1947/48 took place in:

"Al-Quds massacre, December 1937: Member of the Irgun hurled a hand grenade at the marketplace near al-Quds mosque, killing and injuring dozens.

Haifa massacre, March 1938: Members of the Irgun and Lehi



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

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gang throw grenades at Haifa market, killing 18, and injuring 38.

Haifa massacre, July 1938: The Irgun explodes booby trapped vehicles in Haifa market, killing 21 and injuring 52.

Balad El-Sheik Village Attack, June 1939: This Palestinian village was attacked by members of the Haganah, the Main Jewish Defense. Five villagers were kidnapped and murdered.

King David Hotel Bombing, July 1946: Led by Menachem Begin, the Irgun planned and carried out the bombing of the King David Hotel, the British military headquarters in Jerusalem in July 1946 in order to destroy documents proving the terrorist campaigns of Zionist groups. The attack killed 28 Britons, 17 Jews, 41 Palestinians and 5 others for a total of 91 victims.

In 1948-1947 the Zionists gangs carried out between 40-30 massacres in order to force the Palestinians to flee."

2. The most well-known cases of Zionists terrorism in 1947/48 took place in:

Deir Yassin in April 1948. Commandos of Lehi and Irgun headed by Menachim Begin attacked Deir Yassin, a village of 700 Palestinians, killing between 100 and 120 villagers

Another known bloodier mass murder occurred in the village of al-Dawayima in October 1948 after Israel had declared statehood.

Other massacres recorded by Palestinians: (2)

* *Haifa 20/6/1948*

78 Palestinians were killed and 24 wounded by a bomb placed inside a vegetable box in a Haifa vegetable market. The Irgun and Lehi paramilitaries were responsible for this.

* *The Al Abbasiyah Massacre — 13/12/1947*

A group of Irgun members disguised as British soldiers attacked the village of Al Abbasiyah and opened fire on its residents sitting outside a village café. They also bombed a number of their homes and planted several time bombs. Moreover, British soldiers surrounded the village and allowed the killers to escape from the

northern side of the village. They killed 7 and severely wounded 7 others, 2 of whom died later including a 5 year old child.

* *The Al-Khasas Massacre — 18/12/1947*

73 Zionists from the "Maayan Baruch" kibbutz attacked and shot 5 Palestinian workers on their way to work. During the attack, one of the Zionists was stabbed and killed prompting the commander of the Palmach third battalion, Moshe Kelman, to order a retaliatory operation to burn the homes and kill the men in Al-Khasas. The Zionist commander's report notes that 12 were killed, all of whom were women and children.

* *The Jerusalem Massacre — 29/12/1947*

Irgun paramilitaries threw a barrel full of explosives near Bab al-Amud (Damascus Gate) in Jerusalem which resulted in the death of 14 Palestinians and the wounding 27 others.

* *The Jerusalem Massacre — 30/12/1947*

Irgun paramilitaries threw a bomb from a speeding car killing 11 Palestinians.

* *The Balad Al-Shaykh Massacre — 31/12/1947*

A joint force of the first Palmach battalion and a brigade led by Haim Avinoam attacked the Balad Al-Shaykh village killing 60 civilians, according to Zionist sources. Those killed included children, women and the elderly, and dozens of homes were destroyed.

* *Al-Sheikh Break Massacre — 31/12/1947*

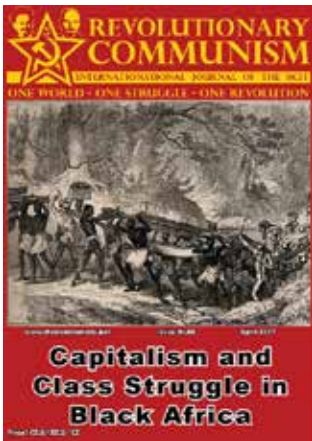
Zionist paramilitaries groups raided the village of Al-Sheikh Break, killing 40 Palestinians.

* *The Jaffa Massacre — 4/1/1948*

The Zionist Stern Gang threw a bomb in a crowded plaza in Jaffa, killing 15 people and wounding 98.

* *The Al-Saraya Massacre — 4/1/1948*

On January 4, 1948 the Irgun Zionist paramilitaries placed a car full of explosives near Al-Saraya in Jaffa which destroyed all that surrounded it, killed 30 Palestinians and wounded several others.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

Theses on Capitalism and Class Struggle in Black Africa

An Analysis of Imperialist Exploitation and Oppression and the Perspectives of the Liberation Struggle

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Introduction * Some Background Notes on Black Africa's Modern History: How Colonial Plunder and Oppression Blocked Independent Development * Popular Struggles against Colonialism Led to Formal Independence * Formal Independence as Disguised Imperialist Dependency * The Reactionary Role of White Settlers * Is Capitalist Black Africa Rising? * Africa in the Grip of Imperialism * China as a new Imperialist Great Power Challenging the Western Domination * The Working Class and the Oppressed * Rising Class Struggle * Key Lessons for a Revolutionary Strategy in Black Africa * Imperialist Domination and Authoritarian Regimes Remain in Place despite Formal Changes * Breaking the Capitalist Chain – The Program of Permanent Revolution * The Revolutionary Struggle against Imperialism * Imperialist Chauvinism and the Anti-Imperialist Patriotism of the Oppressed * The Independence of the Working Class and the Struggle against the Popular Front * The Struggle for Pan-African Unity * The Revolutionary World Party and its African Sections * Footnotes

* *The Semiramis Massacre — 5/1/1948*

The Haganah bombed the Semiramis Hotel located in the Katamon neighbourhood in Jerusalem. The hotel collapsed on its guests, all of whom were Palestinians, killing 19 and wounding over 20.

* *The Jerusalem Massacre — 7/1/1948*

Irgun paramilitaries threw a bomb at the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem, killing 18 civilians and wounding 40 others.

* *The Al-Saraya Al-Arabeya Massacre — 8/1/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries used a car bomb to kill 70 Palestinian civilians and wound dozens.

* *The Ramla Massacre — 15/1/1948*

Palmach soldiers and the Haganah bombed one of the Arab neighbourhoods in Ramla.

* *The Yazur Massacre — 22/1/1948*

Yigael Yadin, a Haganah commander, ordered the Palmach commander, Yigal Allon, to carry out an operation against the village of Yazur. A group from the Palmach attacked a bus near Yazur, wounding the bus driver a several Palestinian passengers. On the same day, another group attacked another bus killing and wounding several people. These attacks by the Palmach and Givati Brigades on Palestinian villages and cars continued for 20 consecutive days while other units detonated bombs near village homes.

Then Haganah paramilitaries decided to attack the village and bomb the ice factory along with two buildings around it. A Haganah group opened fire on the ice factory in the village, while other groups opened fire and used hand grenades on the homes in the village. Moreover, an engineering group bombed the Askandroni building, the ice factory, and killed 15 people.

* *The Haifa Massacre — 28/12/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries from the Al-Hadar neighbourhood, located at the top of Al-Abbas Street in Haifa, rolled down a barrel filled with explosives destroying homes and killing 20

Arab citizens, as well as wounding 50 others.

* *The Tabra Tulkarem Massacre — 10/2/1948*

A group of Zionist paramilitaries stopped Palestinian citizens going back to the village of Tabra Tulkarem and opened fire on them, killing 7 and wounding 5 others.

* *The Sa'sa' Massacre — 14/2/1948*

A Palmach force raided the village of Sa'sa' and destroyed 20 inhabited homes, killing 60 villagers, most of whom were women and children.

* *The Jerusalem Massacre — 20/2/1948*

The Stern Gang stole a British army vehicle, filled it with explosives, and placed it in front of the Al Salam building in Jerusalem. The explosion killed 14 Palestinians and wounded 26.

* *The Haifa Masacre — 20/2/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries attacked the Palestinian neighbourhoods in Haifa with mortar fire killing 6 and wounding 36 others.

* *The Al-Husayniyya Massacre — 13/3/1948*

Haganah paramilitaries raided the village of Al-Husayniyya, destroying homes with explosives and killing over 30 families.

* *The Abu Kabir Massacre — 31/3/1948*

Paramilitaries from Haganah carried out an armed attack on the Abu Kabir neighbourhood in Jaffa. They destroyed homes and killed residents fleeing their homes to seek help.

* *The Cairo Train Massacre, Haifa — 31/3/1948*

The Stern Gang planted bombs on a Cairo-Haifa train which killed 40 people and wound 60 others on explosion.

* *Ramla Massacre — 1/3/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries planned and carried out this massacre in March 1948 in a market in the city of Ramla, killing 25 Palestinian civilians. Inflicting large casualties to send a message of fear to the Arabs of Palestine.

* *The Qalunya Massacre — 14/4/1948*

A force from the Palmach Zionist paramilitary group raided Qalunya, bombed several homes and killed 14 of its residents.

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.

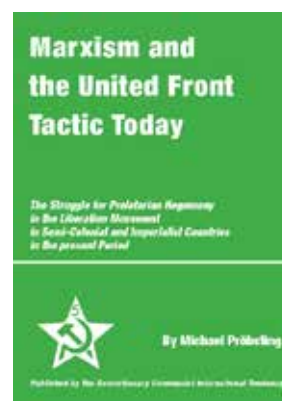
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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.



* *The Nasir al-Din Massacre — 13/4/1948*

A group consisting of forces from the Irgun and Stern Gang in disguise raided the village of Nasir al-Din opening fired on its inhabitants and killing 50 people. On the previous day, both Nasir al-Din and Al-Shaykh Qadumi were attacked and 12 were killed.

* *The Tiberias Massacre — 19/4/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries bombed a home in Tiberias, killing 14 of its residents.

* *The Haifa Massacre — 22/4/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries attacked Haifa from Hadar Alkarmel and occupied homes, streets and public buildings killing 50 Palestinians and wounding 200 others. The residents were taken by surprise, so they took their women and children to the marina to move them to the city of Akka during which they were attacked by Zionists paramilitaries who killed 100 civilians and wounded 200 others.

* *The Ayn al-Zaytoun Massacre — 4/5/1948*

Ayn al-Zaytoun is a Palestinian village on the outskirts of Safed, the population of which was 820. The Jewish writer, Netiva Ben-Yehuda writes in her book "Through the Binding Ropes" about the Ayn al-Zaytoun Massacre saying: "on May 3rd or 4th, 1948, nearly 39 bound prisoners were shot."

* *The Safed Massacre — 13/5/1948*

The Haganah slaughtered about 70 young men from Safed, but there are no details about this massacre.

* *The Abu Shusha Massacre — 14/5/1948*

Zionist paramilitaries committed an ugly massacre in the village of Abu Shusha, killing about 60 of its residents, including men, women, children and the elderly. The massacre ended with the expulsion of all the residents of the village from their homes, which were then gradually demolished.

* *The Beit Daras Massacre — 21/5/1948*

A Zionist force supported by tanks surrounded the village of Beit Daras and opened fire on it. The people of the village realised the critical situation and decided to endure the fire and defend their homes at any cost, so they urged the women, children and the elderly to leave the village to lessen their losses. The women, children and the elderly headed towards the southern area of the village, and once they reached the outskirts, were met with Zionist gunfire, despite the fact that they were defenceless. A large number of them were killed, and the forces burned down several homes and bombed others.

* *The Al-Tantura Massacre — 22/5/1948*

This massacre was carried out by the third battalion of the Alexandroni Brigade and the Zionist plan was to attack the village from two sides; the north and south. One brigade was to block the road, while a naval boat blocked the withdraw route by sea. Every attacking unit was provided with a guide from the neighbouring Zikhron Ya'akov settlement, whose residents knew their way around the village, and the brigade leadership kept a reserve unit for emergencies. Al-Tantura did not initiate a battle with the Haganah, but refused their terms, so the attackers took the men to the village graveyard, lined them up, and killed 200–250 of them

Benny Morris in "The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem, 1947-1949" (1989 in English), wrote: "The attacks of the Haganah and the Israel Defense Forces, expulsion orders, the fear of attacks and acts of cruelty on the part of the Jews, the absence of assistance from the Arab world and the Arab Higher Committee, the sense of helplessness and abandonment, orders by Arab institutions and commanders to leave and evacuate, in most cases was the direct and decisive reason for the flight – an

attack by the Haganah, Irgun, Lehi or the IDF, or the inhabitants' fear of such an attack.

3. Israel's sell of weapons to states using it to terrorize its own population:

The International Anti-Zionist Jewish Network published a pamphlet "Israel's Worldwide Role in Repression" (3) It was researched, written, and edited by members of the International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network. The main researcher is Jimmy Johnson. This publication relies heavily on "The Israel Connection: Who Israel Arms and Why" by Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi (Pantheon City, 1987).

Israel's skills in military occupation have resulted in placing it at the forefront of a global industry of repression: it develops, manufactures, and markets technologies that are used by armies and police around the world for purposes of repression. Israel's role in this industry began with the Israeli military, which first used its weapons of war against Palestinian people in historic Palestine, and against neighboring countries. In recent years, as interest in surveillance and policing technologies and techniques has grown among governments around the world, an Israeli "homeland security" private service industry built on these field-tested instruments has emerged to exploit and export this interest. This industry includes government agencies, the Israeli military, and a network of private corporations that grossed over 2.7 billion U.S. dollars in 2008. This industry accounts for approximately 7% of the Israeli economy. The Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor says on its website: "Israel has more than 300 Homeland Security (HLS) companies exporting a range of products, systems and services... These solutions have been born by the necessity of Israel's survival and matured by the reality of the continual terrorist threat to the country... No other country has such a large pool of experienced former security, military and police personnel and no other country has been able to field test its systems and solutions in real-time situations."

Among other repressive states guilty of genocide and ethnic cleansing were Rwanda, the Balkans, Chile, Argentina, Sri Lanka, Haiti, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Israel also cultivated close ties to apartheid South Africa.

Yair Auron, a genocide researcher at Israel's Open University, said that Israel's supply of weapons to regimes such as Myanmar should be compared to the sending of arms to Nazi Germany during the Holocaust.

"These sales turn me and all Israelis into criminals, because they are sent in our name," he told Al Jazeera. "We are abetting genocide." (4)

In conclusion, we ask: who is collaborating with terrorism? The BDS campaign? Certainly not! It is the Israeli state itself which has a long history of terrorism!

Footnotes

(1) <https://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/BDS-International-donation-accounts-frozen-for-suspected-ties-to-terrorism-575003>

(2) <https://medium.com/@thepalestineproject/notorious-massacres-of-palestinians-between-1937-1948-ae4f4d1f61d0>

(3) <http://www.ebony.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/israels-worldwide-role-in-repression-footnotes-finalized.pdf>

(4) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/10/israel-maintains-robust-arms-trade-rogue-regimes-171022100816302.html>

Zimbabwe: Popular Uprising against the Mnangagwa-Chiwenga Regime

Interview with Comrade Tigwe of the RWG-Z (with an Introduction by the RCIT), 22 January 2019

Note of the Editorial Board: Below we publish an interview which we conducted with comrade Tigwe from the *Revolutionary Workers Group of Zimbabwe*. The comrade elaborates a very interesting insight into the present conditions of the struggle and the socialist perspectives. He also explains the reactionary role both of the Western as well as the Eastern imperialist Great Powers.

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) fully supports the popular uprising against the reactionary Mnangagwa-Chiwenga regime and its austerity program. We consider it as essential to build *action committees* in order to organize the struggle from below and to counter any attempt to manipulate the struggle by the ZCTU bureaucrats or the MDC politicians. Likewise, the RCIT considers it as urgent to raise democratic slogans given the authoritarian character of the regime and the fact that the country suffers from decades of dictatorship and state repression. In addition to elementary slogans like the *right to assembly, free press etc.*, we think it is important to raise the slogan for a *revolutionary constituent assembly, elected and controlled by the working people!* Such democratic slogans should be integrated into a perspective for a *workers and poor peasant government.*

The austerity program and the brutal state repression demonstrate once more the utterly reactionary character of the ZANU-PF regime and its role as a servant of the bourgeoisie and imperialism. This fully confirms the RCIT's position during the time of the military putsch in November 2017 to oppose the coup plotters (of course without lending any support to the Mugabe faction). Unfortunately, at that time some socialists in Zimbabwe supported this coup. Worse, the leader of the pseudo-Trotskyist Lambertist section even stood as a candidate on the list of the ruling ZANU-PF party at the last election in July 2018! This demonstrates once more the corrupted and counter-revolutionary nature of such pseudo-Trotskyist charlatans.

The fact that China and Russia are the main backers of the Mnangagwa-Chiwenga regime also demonstrates again the *imperialist* character of these two new Great Powers. The RCIT has emphasized since a number of years that it is impossible to find a correct orientation in world politics without understanding this development! Unfortunately, many so-called Marxists still refuse to recognize the emergence of the Eastern Great Powers or even claim that China and Russia are "*semi-colonies*" or "*semi-peripheries*" which have to be supported against the U.S., EU and Japan!

Finally, we would like to draw the reader's attention to a number of statements and articles which the RCIT has published on Zimbabwe in the last period:

* *Zimbabwe: Stop the Repression! Neither ZANU-PF nor MDC – for an independent political alternative of the workers and oppressed!* 4 August 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/stop-the-repression-in-zimbabwe/>

* *The Military Coup in Zimbabwe and the Role of Chinese Imperialism*, 29 November 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-military-coup-in-zimbabwe-and-the-role-of-chinese-imperialism/>

* *The Current Political Crisis in Zimbabwe and the Slogan of the Revolutionary Constituent Assembly*, 24 November 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/crisis-in-zimbabwe-and-the-slogan-of-the-revolutionary-constituent-assembly/>

* *Zimbabwe: The Fall of Mugabe – Victory for the Masses or for the Military-ZANU-PF Alliance?* 22.11.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/zimbabwe-after-the-resignation-of-mugabe/>

* *Zimbabwe: Down with the Military Coup! No to the dynastic Mugabe Regime! For Independent Workers' and Poor Mobilisations! For Action Committees of the Workers, Poor Peasants and Soldiers to Advance the Struggle against All Factions of the Ruling Elite!* 15.11.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/against-mugabe-and->

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www.thecommunists.net Issue No:77 January 2018

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- * Liberia: Liberated! But Looted!
- * Brazil: Presidential Elections 2018

[military-coup-in-zimbabwe/](#)

On the emergence of China and Russia as new imperialist powers we refer readers to the new comprehensive book of Michael Pröbsting "*Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry*" which can be read online or downloaded at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>. Comrade Pröbsting serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

* * * * *

Question: Hello, comrade, thanks for taking the time for this interview! Could you first tell us a bit about yourself and your organization?

Answer: Hello comrade, thanks for the interview. I am Tigwe, a member of the Revolutionary Workers Group of Zimbabwe, RWG-Z in short. RWG-Z is a revolutionary Trotskyist political organisation founded in 2011. We are part of the Liaison Committee of Communists (LCC), a revolutionary Trotskyist pre international that is fighting for the building of a truly revolutionary international premised on the revolutionary works of comrades such as Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky.

Question: Could you briefly describe the current situation after several days of militant mass protests and brutal state repression? Would you characterize it as a pre-revolutionary or even revolutionary situation?

Answer: The country is in a very tense situation as we speak. Soldiers and the police are still stationed across cities and residential areas. Activists, ordinary workers, opposition and civic leaders as well as trade unionists are being harassed, arrested, tortured, kidnapped, and sought after as we speak. The internet which was blocked since early last week has however been opened following a high court ruling. Over a dozen people have been killed, with many injured and arrested. Those arrested are facing the threat of fast track convictions possibly on the orders of the government that is eager to send a clear message to both the masses and imperialism. To the masses it wants to create political conditions for a full blown implementation of austerity. To imperialism, both western and eastern, it wants to give an assurance of their ability to crush resistance and deliver super profits. The militant protests were a reflection of the long suffering and anger of the masses. It cannot be discounted that the main opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change Alliance (MDCA), alongside its civic society surrogates saw this as an opportunity to push for their elitist agenda of national dialogue that they expect to lead towards a second government of national unity (GNU). It is important to note that the stay away came after a crippling strike by doctors, a march by some teachers and threats of strike by civil servants and public sector workers. The increase in prices of petrol announced by the president just before leaving for Russia was the last straw in a series of massive attacks on the income and livelihood of the working and poor masses. The main trade union federation, the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) was forced to call for the stay away after realising that workers were going to act one way or the other with or without the ZCTU. Given the nature of the protests, the demands by the poor masses and youths, the realisation by the state that it could not reverse the situation without massive repression and shutting down the

internet, it is clear that since last week Zimbabwe entered a very important phase in the class struggle and political development of the masses. The situation can however be described as one that is between a non-revolutionary phase and a pre-revolutionary one, a sort of a developing prerevolutionary phase.

Question: How much are the protests controlled by the ZCTU bureaucrats? Are there spontaneously created committees of action or similar structures?

Answer: The ZCTU called for a stay away i.e. it called on workers to stay at home and not go to work as a form of protesting the high cost of living and the inability of workers to make ends meet. But as we saw, from the first day the militant protests across major cities and residential areas developed spontaneously as a reflection of the frustration the masses had with the austerity measures. Youths around working class residential areas not only assembled in their areas but in some areas decided to march to town. It was during these assemblies and marches that the initial confrontations with the police began resulting in several deaths and even the looting and destruction of property. So, to a large extent it is true that the ZCTU had no significant control over the protests given that they had called for a stay away and also that they had not properly planned for any meaningful action. There were no committees of action or even similar structures across the country given the spontaneous nature of the protests, the violent crackdown and the shutting down of the internet.

Question: How strong is the influence of the MDC in the protest movement? And how do you characterize this party?

Answer: The MDC or rather MDCA had minimal influence on the protest movement. It is evident that from those killed, injured and arrested the significant majority has not been identified as belonging to any party but rather as poor people protesting against the cost of living. However, it cannot be disputed that the MDCA had an interest to influence and control the protests. The level of influence could have been more visible had the protests continued up to this day. Another point is that the protesters were calling for the reversal of high fuel and food prices whilst the MDCA and other civic groups were calling for national dialogue. The MDCA is a party led and dominated by the bourgeoisie and petit bourgeoisie doing the bidding of capital and yet relying on the support of workers and the poor in society. Since its formation in 1999 on the main basis of the ZCTU it has transformed from being guided by social democracy to being an openly reformist pro capital party that intends to serve capital individually and even in alliance with the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF).

Question: How do you characterize the military coup of Mnangagwa and Chiwenga in November 2017 which ousted Mugabe?

Answer: The military coup was a result of factional fight within ZANU-PF between a nationalist-protectionist wing and a pro austerity wing hence the defeat of the nationalist-protectionist wing opened the country to full blown austerity as a way of solving the crisis of capitalism in a semi colony. So in essence the coup was reactionary.

Question: What are the main slogans which the RWG raises in the present situation?

Answer: Our main slogans are, an indefinite general

strike to defeat austerity and dictatorship, building of cross union strike committees, building of defense committees, international working class solidarity with the workers of Zimbabwe, a workers government to fulfill the interests of workers and the poor and a socialist Zimbabwe as part of a socialist southern Africa.

Question: What are the main areas of your work currently?

Answer: Given our size and the objective conditions currently we are engaged in propaganda work through regular statements on key developments and struggles in Zimbabwe and the region and also by producing a newspaper, the Revolutionary Worker. We are also involved in internal political and theoretical development amongst members on a regular basis. We also do agitation work on key struggles and we are also involved in identifying contacts in key militant trade unions and other bodies of the poor masses.

Question: Zimbabwe was a colony of British imperialism for a long time. However, in recent years imperialist China increasingly played a central role in Zimbabwe. And most recently, the government has strengthened its relations with Russia. How do you assess the influence of the Great Powers in Zimbabwe?

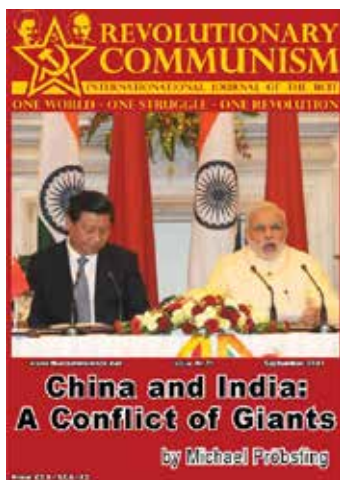
Answer: Ever since 1997 when the government embarked on a military intervention in the DRC the relationship between Zimbabwe and its traditional western capitalist nations has been deteriorating. The fast track land re-

form programme sealed the divorce and in subsequent years the government was leaning more towards China and Russia as a source of both geo-political protection and financial assistance and investment. Today China, an emerging imperialist country together with Russia, has a significant stake in the mining and agricultural spheres. Even in manufacturing China is elbowing out the traditional players and its intimate relationship with the Zimbabwean army has given it an upper hand in the contestation for economic dominance between the two imperialist wings. Russia as well, has spread its economic activities across key economic areas.

Question: How do you characterize the role of the South African government in Zimbabwe?

Answer: To understand the role of China it is important to appreciate the influence of China over South Africa. As we speak the largest trading partner of South Africa is China and the BRICS mechanism has tied South Africa to China in terms of political and financial support. It is in the interest of both China and South Africa that Zimbabwe remains under the pro Chinese ZANU-PF regime. So the role of South Africa is to push for the Chinese interests and at the same time push for the interests of the junior South African capitalists who have no interest in a stable Zimbabwe that would cut the supply of cheap migrant labour used to push down wages.

Question: Many thanks for taking the time for this interview and good luck for your work!



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

NEW BOOK: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry!

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

Preface of the Editorial Board: *The RCIT has published a new English-language book – ANTI-IMPERIALISM IN THE AGE OF GREAT POWER RIVALRY. The book's subtitle is: The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective. It contains an introduction and 29 chapters plus an appendix (412 pages) and includes 61 figures and tables. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT. Below we reprint the introduction of the book.*

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>

One of the biggest issues of our time is the accelerating rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., China, EU, Russia, and Japan. Hence, diplomatic rows, sanctions, trade wars, military tensions and, ultimately, major wars between these Great Powers are prominent features of the historic period ahead. The looming Global Trade War between the U.S. and China, the tensions in the South China Sea, the sanctions between the West and Russia – all that demonstrates the highest actuality of the issue of Great Power rivalry.

These developments are closely related to the increasing aggression of the Great Powers against the oppressed peoples – a phenomenon which has massively accelerated since 2001 under the fig-leaf of “War on Terror”.

For these reasons, we have always emphasized the crucial importance of understanding the nature of the imperialist world system. Without such an apprehension of the Marxist theory of the modern epoch it is impossible to recognize the imperialist character of the Great Powers. This is a particularly urgent issue given the emergence of new imperialist powers – China and Russia – which are challenging the long-term masters of the old imperialist world order (the U.S., as the hegemon, and the EU and Japan as its allied powers).

Consequently, a correct theoretical comprehension of the main contradictions of world capitalism is the prerequisite for socialists to take an unambiguous anti-imperialist stand – one of the most important tasks for Marxists today, in particular for those operating in the heart of the imperialist beast.

Such a Marxist program of anti-imperialist struggle inside the imperialist countries themselves has become known as *Defeatism*, or to be more precise, as *Revolutionary Defeatism*. This program means, to summarize it in a simple formula, to reject any kind of support for each and every imperialist Great Power, to support all liberation struggles against any of them and to utilize all difficulties and crises in order to advance the class struggle to defeat the imperialist ruling class in all countries. Our organization, the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT), has recently published a substantial document on this issue (“*Theses on Revolutionary Defeatism in Imperialist States*”). This programmatic document is republished here as an appendix.

The present book is basically structured in four main parts. In the first part, we deal with several features of imperialism which are relevant for our topic with a focus on the rivalry between the Great Powers. Hence, it is not a comprehensive analysis of all aspects of imperialism but focuses on a few of them. We permit ourselves such a procedure also because we have already dealt with numerous issues of present-day imperialism in other books and pamphlets of the RCIT.

In the second part we discuss the analysis of Great Power rivalry as it has been elaborated by a number of left-wing parties and organizations. In criticizing their position we defend and refine our arguments. In this process we present a number of historical and actual facts. We also compare the arguments of these left-wing organizations with the Marxist theory of imperialism as it has been elaborated by Lenin and Trotsky.

Part three elaborates the essential components of the defeatist program – on the issues of conflicts between Great Powers as well as between imperialist states and semi-colonial countries respectively national minorities and migrants. We explain what the Marxist classics have said on this subject and why it is relevant for today. Furthermore we also analyze which political and social changes have taken place since the times of Lenin and Trotsky and what are their consequences for the program of defeatism.

In the fourth part of the present work we discuss the approach of a number of left-wing organizations on the issue of anti-imperialist struggle. Again, we submit their positions to a criticism from the Marxist point of view and elaborate our arguments with numerous examples. We demonstrate that a number of forces, while claiming to take an anti-imperialist stand, in fact side with one or the other Great Power. In other words, they are not anti-imperialists but rather open or concealed social-imperialists. We bring the book to a close with a summary of the tasks of Marxists in the struggle against imperialist war and aggression.

Finally, a “warning”: this book is not written from a “neutral” point of view. It is not indifferent to the accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers and the imperialist aggression against oppressed peoples. It takes a stand – a stand against *all* Great Powers and for *supporting* all liberation struggles of the workers and oppressed! It therefore polemicalizes against those left-wing organizations which, in our view, fail in taking such an anti-imperialist stand. Hence, this work is not written for the purpose of becoming a commercial success but rather as a guideline for anti-imperialist activists. There are already myriads of best-seller on the market. What is needed is authentic Marxist literature! Lenin liked to say that „*without revolutionary theory there can be no revolutionary movement.*“ (1) This intrinsic truth has not lost its importance.

We are fully aware that the issues discussed in this work are not always easy to understand. This is particularly true as we are discussing phenomena which have come up rather recently (like e.g. the emergence of China and Russia as imperialist Great Powers). Many socialists might prefer sticking with old formula like the idea that

only the U.S., Western Europe and Japan are imperialist states. However, we consider such “conservatism” as highly dangerous as it misses the crucial changes in world politics in the past decade. Trotsky’s observation about the importance of keeping the theoretical analysis in step with the objective developments remains fully valid.

“The vast practical importance of a correct theoretical orientation is most strikingly manifested in a period of acute social conflict of rapid political shifts, of abrupt changes in the situation. In such periods, political conceptions and generalizations are rapidly used up and require either a complete replacement (which is easier) or their concretization, precision or partial rectification (which is harder). It is in just such periods that all sorts of transitional, intermediate situations and combinations arise, as a matter of necessity, which upset the customary patterns and doubly require a sustained theoretical attention. In a word, if in the pacific and “organic” period (before the war) one could still live on the revenue from a few readymade abstractions, in our time each new event forcefully brings home the most important law of the dialectic: The truth is always concrete.” (2)

We hope that this book will help to clarify the complex theoretical and tactical issues related to the accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers. It will have fulfilled its purpose if it aids activists and all those interested in understanding these issues to get a more comprehensive grasp of one of the most important questions of our time and to draw the necessary conclusions from this.

Finally, this book benefited from collective discussions which the author had with a number of comrades in the RCIT. In particular I want to thank comrade Nina Gunić, with whom I have the privilege to develop jointly ideas and arguments since years and who plays a central role in

elaborating the programmatic framework of our theory. Furthermore I want to express my gratitude to comrade Petr Sedov who helped in the elaboration of this book not only with a number of insightful comments but also with providing translations of many quotes from Russian-language sources.

Footnotes

- (1) V. I. Lenin: What Is To Be Done? (1902), in: LCW Vol. 5, p. 369
- (2) Leon Trotsky: Bonapartism and Fascism (July 1934), in: Trotsky Writings 1934-35, p. 35

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)

