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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 96, August 2019

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Sudan: Deal with Military Council is Sell-Out of Revolution!

Emergency Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 08 July 2019

1. The Glorious Revolution is in danger of being sold out! The leaders of the *Forces of Freedom and Change* – formally representing the mass movement against the dictatorship – have made a deal with the Military Council. According to the agreement both sides will form a joint military and civilian sovereign council to lead the country during a transition period of three years and three months. The council will include five civilians representing the opposition and five military members. An 11th seat will go to a civilian chosen by both sides. A military leader will preside over the council for the first 21 months, followed by a civilian after that.

2. This agreement has been reached under massive pressure from the imperialist powers and their regional allies. According to a report by the *Associated Press*, the Trump Administration as well as the dictatorships of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates demanded that representatives of both the opposition and the military reach such an agreement. (AP: Sudanese say US pressure was key to reaching transition deal, 08.07.2019) The report quotes a Sudanese military official: “The Americans demanded a deal as soon as possible. Their message was clear: power-sharing in return for guarantees that nobody from the council will be tried,” he said, referring to the June 3 crackdown where at least 128 people were killed. The efforts of these reactionary powers culminated in a secret meeting on July 29 at the home of a Sudanese businessman in Cairo. It was attended by protest leaders, Generals Burhan and Hemedti, as well as officials from the U.S., Britain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates where the deal was reached. As a consequence, the opposition leaders have cancelled protest marches against a ruling Military Council that has slaughtered hundreds of activists over the past several months.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly warns that this power sharing deal is a dangerous sell-out by the leaders of the protest movement! We repeat what we said in our last statement that “any negotiations with the army command are a dangerous diversion. Authentic freedom and democracy cannot be achieved through a collaborative effort with the army command – but only by defeating and removing it!” Given the fact that the army command retains a very strong position in the transition council, that all generals remain in place, and that

they retain a monopoly of weaponry – they can remove the opposition representatives at any time. Their key supporters are all piloting barbarous dictatorships in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the UAE! Even if they keep the agreement, they have more than three years to create the conditions where any serious opposition force can be weakened, bought-off, or liquidated. If the deal is implemented it would effectively mean that the bourgeois leaders of the opposition will be integrated into the ruling elite and they will sell-out the goals of the glorious Sudanese Revolution in exchange for subordinate positions and personal privileges. It will mean that a new, unelected, military-civilian regime takes power without a shred of democratic control for more than three years.

4. The most important goal for the ruling class – and the most important setback for the people – is that the opposition leaders are now winding down the mass protest movement. Once the workers, youth and poor peasants have been demobilized, the pressure on the elite to make any serious concessions will disappear. It will then be easier for the army command – which will still retain the monopoly of arms – to arrest and suppress any serious opposition.

5. The RCIT strongly denounces the capitulation of the leaders of the *Forces of Freedom and Change* – including those of the misnamed *Sudanese Communist Party* (that has been part of this alliance from the beginning).

6. It is urgent that all activists and organizations that seek the democratic goals of the Sudanese Revolution reject this betrayal. They must join forces to continue the mobilizations of the popular masses. They should support efforts to organize workers, youth and poor peasants in popular resistance committees arising in the work places, neighbourhoods, and universities. Likewise, it is urgent that the popular masses build self-defense committees to resist the vicious attacks by the paramilitaries.

7. Most importantly, all revolutionary activists should unite on the basis of an action program and build a revolutionary party as part of a new International. The RCIT looks forward to collaborating with you!

* *Remove the generals!*

* *For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

* *For a workers and poor peasants government!*



Picture from rally in solidarity with the Sudan Uprising (Vienna, 30 June 2019)

EU-Sudan: A Cynical Division of Labor

The Collaboration of imperialism with Sudanese military in order to stop migration

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 9 July 2019

The European Union likes to present itself in public as a guardian of democracy and human rights. Hardly a week passes without EU officials in Brussels lecturing one country or another of the so-called Third World to behave “like a civilized nation”.

We have always denounced such presumptiveness as empty and hypocritical. The latest example of this is a revelation that illuminates the direct collaboration of the European Union with the military dictatorship in Sudan intended to stop migrants from coming to the self-proclaimed “old continent”. A broad alliance of mostly Sudanese and Eritrean human rights groups has published an open letter to the EU Commission elucidating the role of European Council president, Donald Tusk, in farming out its migrant policy to countries known for systematic abuses, including Sudan. The signatories state: “During your term as president of the European Council, the European Union and its member states have externalised migration policy through direct and indirect cooperation with regimes and militia forces that are entirely unaccountable.”¹

According to a report by the Netherlands Institute of International Relations ‘Clingendael’ at least 160 million Euros were allocated to Sudan in 2016-17.² A significant share of this went to the notorious Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group led by General Mohamed Hamdan Dagolo, known as Hemeti. This is the force that has been central in the brutal oppression of ethnic minorities in Darfur as well as directly responsible for the killing hundreds of protesters in the recent months.

General Hemeti is fully aware of his role and repeatedly reminds the EU that it needs him. In a recent public speech he clearly asserted that: “[The RSF] protects the Europeans from the influx of millions of irregular migrants. We work on behalf of the Europeans, we protect their national security.”³

How true the general speaks! The worst butchers in Sudan “work on behalf of the Europeans and protect their national security”. They brutally arrest, rape, or kill refugees who are fleeing the tragic conditions in their home countries.⁴

Meanwhile, the European governments “critically monitor the human rights situation” in Sudan and wag their fingers. But in reality they are very happy to have such efficient and effective henchmen as General Hemeti do their dirty work.⁵

In fact, such a cynical division of labor between “democratic” Europe and a slew of brutal dictators in Africa and the Middle East is a long-standing enterprise. Let us provide just a few recent examples. In October 2010, the European Union signed a deal with the Gaddafi regime. It paid the dictator 50 million Euro “to combat the flow of illegal migrants to Europe”.⁶ Of course, the European imperialists miscalculated because a few months after signing the deal the Libyan masses rose up and overthrew the dictatorship. Since then the European paymasters have worked hard to “stabilize” Libya so that it can more effectively resume its intended role as a migrant buffer.⁷

In September 2018, the leaders of the European Union held an informal EU summit in Salzburg to which they invited

General Sisi, the butcher of Cairo.⁸ There they announced the plan for “in-depth cooperation” with the Egyptian military. Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, whose country held the EU’s rotating presidency at that time, said: “Egypt and the North African countries can be important partners for us in preventing ships heading to Europe and after their rescue being brought back, in other words to the countries of transit. (...) Only in this way can we reduce illegal migration, can we destroy the business model of the smugglers, and stop drownings in the Mediterranean. (...) “We’ve got to ensure that as few people as possible leave northern African countries for Europe. If they do, the situation should be dealt with as close to the African coast as possible.” Kurz also praised the regime of General Sisi: “Egypt is efficient. Egypt has served as an example when it comes to illegal migration and people smuggling.”⁹

What a glaring example of the cynical collaboration of “democratic” imperialists and dictators in semi-colonial countries in safeguarding the interests of the monopoly capitalists!

All of this does not come as a surprise. We Marxists have always emphasized that the EU’s lectures about “democracy and human rights” originate in the hypocritical foundations of European imperialism. Yes, there are more bourgeois-democratic liberties in Europe than in many other countries. This is because Western Europe belongs to the one of the richest regions of the world, based precisely on the super-profits of imperialism. The imperialist ruling classes have funded the luxury of bourgeois democratic norms by utilizing these super-profits to pacify important sections of European society. (Naturally, this does not exclude brutal police attacks against mass protests like the “Yellow Vests” in France or the independence movements in the Basque country or Catalonia.)

However, one of the most important reasons why Western Europe has become so wealthy is the long and brutal history of colonialism. While direct colonial rule hardly exists today, the imperialist Great Powers continue to squeeze enormous profits by indirectly dominating the formally independent, semi-colonial countries of the South.

The result of this obscene system is that the “democratic” imperialist powers have, for decades, cultivated the collaboration of various dictatorships in the semi-colonial countries. For their services, these dictators have been rewarded with substantial payments from European governments. In short, the European corporations and governments, as well as the Arab dictators, need and support each other. It is an alliance of robbers and killers based on an extremely reactionary division of labor!

Footnotes

1 Open appeal to the EU’s Donald Tusk over Eritrea and Sudan, June 19, 2019, <https://eritrea.org/open-appeal-to-the-eu-donald-tusk-over-eritrea-and-sudan>

2 Jérôme Tubiana, Clotilde Warin & Gaffar Mohammud Saeneen: Multilateral Damage. The impact of EU migration policies on central Saharan routes, Netherlands Institute of Inter-

national Relations 'Clingendael', CRU Report, September 2018, p. 36

3 Kaamil Ahmed: EU accused of 'hiding' from links to Sudanese armed groups in migration funding. Paramilitary force led by Sudan military council leader Hemeti is benefiting from EU migration funds in Sudan. 26 June 2019 <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/eu-accused-hiding-links-sudan-armed-groups-migration-funding>

4 On the issue of migration to Europe see e.g. RCIT: Defend Refugee Rights! Support the Arab Revolution! Defeat EU Chauvinism and Imperialism! An Open Letter to All Revolutionary Organizations and Activists for an International Solidarity Campaign), 22.05.2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/open-letter-refugees-arab-revolution/>; on the Marxist position on the slogan of Open Borders see e.g. The Slogan of "Workers" Immigration Control: A Concession to Social-Chauvinism, 27.3.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/workers-immigration-control/>

5 On the RCIT's assessment of the Sudanese Revolution see Sudan: Fight Back against the Generals with a General Strike! International solidarity with the Sudanese people! 04 June 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/sudan-fight-back-against-the-generals-with-a-general-strike/>; Yossi Schwartz: Sudan: Down with the Military Dictatorship! 03.06.2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/down-with-sudan-s-military-dictatorship/>; RCIT: Algeria and Sudan: Two Important Victories and a Warning. No trust in the army command and the old elite! Continue the Revolution! 11 April 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/first-victories-in-algeria-and-sudan/>; RCIT: Sudan: Bring Down the Regime of Omar al-Bashir! Organize Committees of Action! For a General Strike and Popular Insurrection to bring down the Regime! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government! 28 December 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/sudan-bring-down-the-regime-of-omar-al-bashir/>.

6 See Bjarte Vandvik: The EU's dubious refugee deal The EU is paying Libya to deal with refugees seeking a new life in Europe. Can we trust Gaddafi's regime to look after them? The Guardian, 20 October 2010 <http://www.guardian.co.uk/comment>

[tisfree/2010/oct/20/eu-refugee-libya-gaddafi](https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/libya-defend-tripoli-defeat-haftar/); see also Michael Pröbsting: Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference. The failure of sectarian "anti-imperialism" in the West: Some general considerations from the Marxist point of view and the example of the democratic revolution in Libya in 2011, Autumn 2012, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/liberation-struggle-and-imperialism/>

7 On the RCIT's assessment of the revolutionary process in Libya see e.g. Libya: Defend Tripoli! Defeat Haftar! For Popular Militias to organize an independent struggle against the counterrevolution! 9 April 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/libya-defend-tripoli-defeat-haftar/>

8 For the RCIT's analysis of the military dictatorship of General Sisi see e.g.: Michael Pröbsting: EU Leaders Praise Egypt's Military Dictatorship. Imperialist Europe Aims for Close Collaboration with General Sisi's Regime to Stop People Fleeing War and Misery. This is an Alliance of Robbers and Killers! 21.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/eu-leaders-praise-egypt-s-military-dictatorship/>

9 Salzburg Summit – EU intends to push forward cooperation with Egypt, 20 Sep 2018, <https://www.eu2018.at/latest-news/news/09-20-Salzburg-Summit-EU-intends-to-push-forward-cooperation-with-Egypt.html>; EU leaders to seek 'in-depth cooperation' with Egypt on migration. Plans to deepen EU ties with Cairo over migration crisis would turn 'a blind eye' to human rights abuses, critics say, 2018-09-20 <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/09/180920184826680.html>; Michael Peel and Alex Barker in Salzburg and Heba Saleh: EU and Egypt to launch talks on curbing Mediterranean migration. Discussions to examine how Cairo can help cut numbers in return for economic benefits, 2018-09-20, <https://www.ft.com/content/e16b9808-bce3-11e8-94b2-17176fbf93f5>; Bojan Pancevski and Laurence Norman: EU in Talks With Egypt for Help With Curbing Flow of Migrants. Refugees could be diverted to the North-African country in return for investments, financial incentives, Sept. 20, 2018 <https://www.wsj.com/articles/eu-in-talks-with-egypt-for-help-with-curbing-flow-of-migrants-1537458709>



RCIT Africa Program

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Sudan: Rally in Solidarity with the Popular Uprising

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 30 June 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

On the global day of action in solidarity with the popular uprising in Sudan, more than 150 people from the Sudanese migrant community assembled on 30 June in the centre of Vienna. They protested against the ongoing domination of the army command in Sudan which killed more than 100 people on 4 June when they protested on the streets. The Austrian section of the RCIT participated at the rally

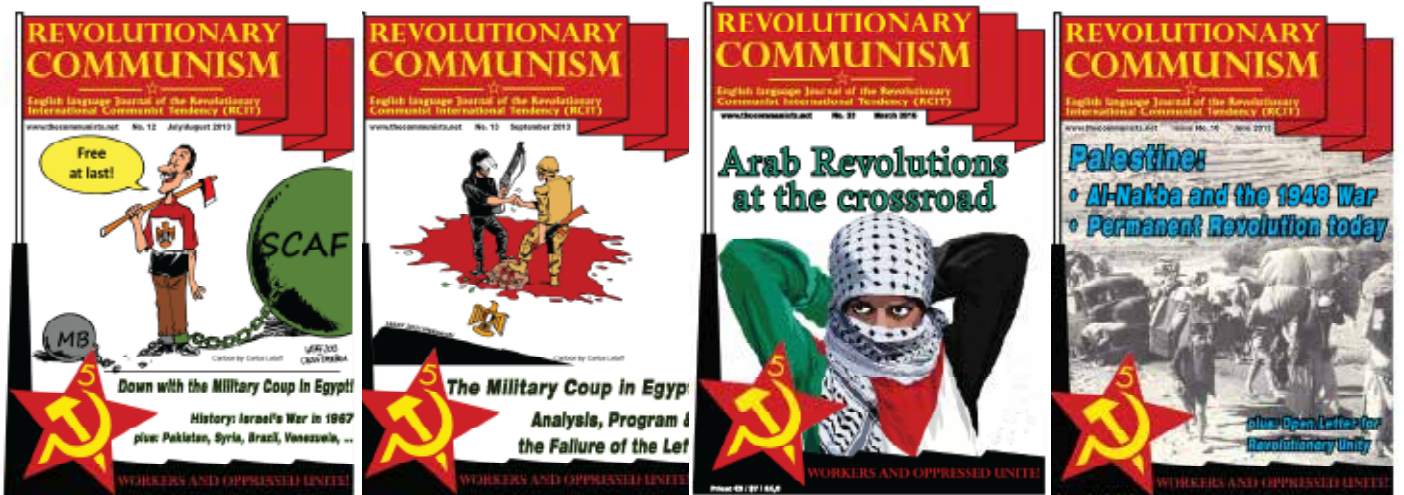
and our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed the demonstrators. He denounced the military dictatorship and called for its overthrow.

See photos and the video clip of the speech of Michael Pröbsting here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/sudan-rally-in-solidarity-with-uprising-30-6-2019/>



Pictures from rally in solidarity with the Sudan Uprising (Vienna, 30 June 2019)

Publications of the RCIT on the Arab Revolution



Strait of Hormuz: Escalating Tensions between US/UK and Iran

Drive the Great Powers out of the Middle East!

But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 22 July 2019

1. In recent weeks we have seen a flare up of tensions between Iran and the dominant Western imperialist powers – the U.S. and Britain. After U.S. President Trump withdrew from the 2015 JCPOA nuclear deal with Iran and levied massive sanctions on Iran in May 2018, Washington imposed even harsher sanctions on the Middle East country a few months ago with the goal of cutting it completely off from foreign trade. The U.S. also increased its naval presence in the Persian Gulf. However, Iran retaliated and shot down on 20 June one of the most sophisticated surveillance drones in the arsenal of the U.S. military. There were also multiple attacks on tankers in the Gulf for which Washington immediately fingered Iran. More recently, the UK – a close ally of U.S. imperialism – sized an Iranian tanker off the coast of Gibraltar. In retaliation, Iranian forces captured a British-flagged oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz on 19 July. Furthermore, Washington announced plans to deploy 500 soldiers as well as F-22 stealth aircraft and other fighter jets to the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. Further escalation of the tensions is highly likely and may result in a regional war between the two opposing camps.

2. There are no doubt massive inner contradictions in the interests of the Western imperialists. Washington (and London) might seek a “nice little war” against Iran. That could, so they hope, help out the crisis-shaken and scandal-ridden governments of the Orange Man and Boris Johnson – another Trumpian douchebag with a profound aversion to tonsorial etiquette. However, this is an extremely risky strategy and even Trump is aware of this – in particular given the anti-war sentiments of sectors of his core electoral base in the Middle West (which is probably why he called off air strikes against Iran at the last minute in June after Iranians downed a US drone.) Washington’s tactics are particularly adventurist because the Iranian military is not only a powerful force fighting in its home territory but also because it receives the un concealed support of Russia and China – the most important imperialist rivals of the West. Furthermore, any serious engagement of the U.S. military in the Persian Gulf undermines the strategic goal of the strongest Western Great Power to counter China in the Asian-Pacific region. On

the other hand, there are strong forces in and around the Trump Administration that desire a military attack against Teheran. Such an unholy alliance of war-mongers includes U.S. National Security Advisor, John Robert Bolton; Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo, Israel and the highly influential hard-core Zionist forces in the U.S. as well as the arch-reactionary monarchies of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

3. As we indicated in our last statement on this issue (see the link below), the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) has not the slightest political sympathy for the capitalist Mullah regime in Teheran. We support the struggle of the workers and oppressed peoples in Iran to overthrow the reactionary regime. We unswervingly stand in the camp of the Syrian Revolution fighting against the tyranny of Assad as well as its Russian imperialist and Iranian backers. However, while the U.S. and UK are imperialist Great Powers, Iran is not. It is rather a capitalist intermediate power which basically remains an industrialized semi-colonial country. As we did explain in the past, the current tensions in the Strait of Hormuz are essentially about the hegemony of U.S. imperialism and its allies in the Middle East, in general, and over the global implications of the trade in oil and gas flowing from the Persian Gulf, in particular.

4. In light of this, the RCIT reiterate that socialists must advocate the defeat of the Western Great Powers and support Iranian actions to undermine and sabotage any imperialist aggression. Hence, we call for an end to the economic sanctions against Iran that have primarily effected the general population. We welcome actions that are directed against the “*Great Satan*”, i.e. U.S. imperialism and its allies.

5. At the same time, the RCIT continues its support for the liberation struggles of the Syrian people against the Assad regime as well as of the Yemeni people against Saudi predation. We reject the reactionary vulgar logic of Stalinists, Castro-Chavistas or petty-bourgeois nationalists. Revolutionaries fighting for the global liberation of the workers and oppressed do not view the world as basically divided into two camps – the Western and the Eastern Great Powers – of which, one is obligated to pick a



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

favorite. We take the side of the working class. Neither do we look at world politics through blurry lenses that subordinate the interests of the oppressed around the globe to the interests of the liberation struggle in a single country. No, the RCIT states that the world is divided between classes irrespective of skin color – between the exploiters and the working class and the popular masses – as well as between the oppressor nations and the oppressed nations. Hence, socialists must *oppose all Great Powers* – in West and East – and they must *support all liberation struggles*, irrespective if they are directed against this or that regime or against an ally of this or that Great Power.

6. In the current situation in the Middle East, this means that the RCIT advocates a *struggle on two fronts*: siding with Iran against US/UK imperialism and siding with the Iranian workers and oppressed against the Mullah regime, with the Syrian people against Assad/Putin/Rouhani and with the Yemeni people against the Saudi aggressors. Hence, we call revolutionaries to join the RCIT in fighting for the following slogans:

- * *End the imperialist sanctions against Iran!*
- * *US Navy and allies – out of the Persian Gulf!*
- * *For the defeat of the US/UK in any military confrontation with Iran!*
- * *US military out of the Middle East! Close all US military bases!*
- * *Support the struggle of the workers and oppressed in Iran against the Mullah regime!*
- * *Victory to the Syrian Revolution against Assad/Putin/Rouhani! Drive the Russian and Iranian forces out of Syria!*
- * *Support the Yemeni popular resistance against the Saudi invaders and their allies!*

* *For workers and peasants republics! For a socialist federation of the Middle East!*

* * * * *

For the RCIT's analysis of Iran and the imperialist aggression we refer readers to our numerous articles and statements that are published on our website at: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>

In particular we refer to:

Iran: Down with Trump's Sanctions and Military Threats! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 11 May 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/down-with-trump-s-sanctions-and-military-threats-against-iran/>

Warmongering in the Middle East: Down with all Imperialist Great Powers and Capitalist Dictatorships! 13 May 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/>

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Six Points for a Platform of Revolutionary Unity Today. A Proposal from the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), February 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/6-points-for-a-platform-of-revolutionary-unity-today/>

Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. 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, RCIT Books, Vienna 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry

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

In *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry* Michael Pröbsting analyses the accelerating rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., China, EU, Russia, and Japan. He shows that the diplomatic rows, sanctions, trade wars, and military tensions between these Great Powers are not accidental or caused by a mad man in the White House. They are rather rooted in the fundamental contradictions of the capitalist system. This rivalry is a key feature of the current historic period and could, ultimately, result in major wars between these Great Powers.

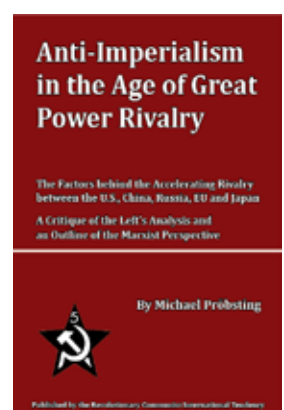
Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry demonstrates the validity of the Marxist analysis of modern imperialism. Using comprehensive material (including 61 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that a correct understanding of the rise of China and Russia as new Great Powers is crucial for assessing the character of the current inter-imperialist rivalry.

In *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry* Michael Pröbsting critically discusses the analysis of modern imperialism by a number of left-wing parties (left social democrats, Stalinists, Trotskyists and others). He demon-

strates that most of these organizations fail to understand the nature of the Great Power rivalry and, consequently, are not able to take an internationalist and revolutionary stance.

The author elaborates the approach of leading Marxist figures like Lenin, Trotsky and Luxemburg to the problems of Great Power rivalry and imperialist aggression against oppressed peoples. He outlines a Marxist program for the current period which is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future.

The book 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.



Rally in Solidarity with the Syrian Liberation Struggle

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 19 July 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

About 50 Syrian migrants hold a rally in front of the United Nations headquarter in Vienna (Austria) to demonstrate their support for the Syrian people. The rally was also held to draw attention to the ongoing hunger strikes of people around the globe in solidarity with the Syrian people.

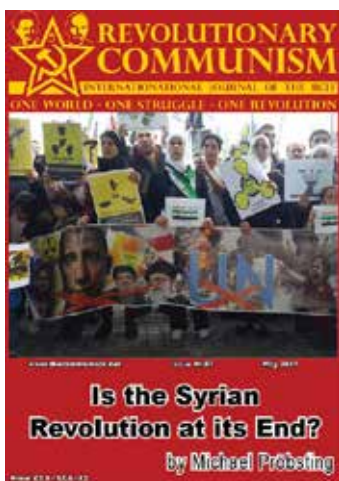
The rally was addressed by Michael Pröbsting,

International Secretary of the RCIT. Our comrade stressed the importance of building an international solidarity movement in support for the Syrian Revolution.

See pictures of the rally and a video clip of Michael Pröbsting's speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/syria-rally-in-solidarity-with-idlib-19-7-2019/>



Rally in solidarity with the Syrian Revolution (Vienna, 19.7.2019)



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 * Lenin and Trotsky on Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference * What Did Lenin and Trotsky Say about Getting Support from Imperialists? * Imagining Two Different Scenarios of the Revolution's Success & Failure * A Period of Defeats and Retreats: What Are the Reasons? * Some Thoughts on the Future Prospects of the Arab Revolution * The Urgent Need for a Revolutionary Party * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Highly Encouraging Solidarity Actions!

French activists successfully obstructed Saudi vessels due to load weapons for the barbarous war in Yemen for the second time

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 04.06.2019

In the last few weeks, French activists have succeeded on two occasions in blocking Saudi ships from collecting weapons and ammunition. These are highly encouraging solidarity actions that should be emulated in other countries!

For a long time, the French government has denied that it would support the reactionary war of the Saudi monarchy against the Yemeni people. In January, French Armed Forces Minister Françoise Parly claimed that she was unaware of “any French arms being used in the conflict.” However, three journalists – Geoffrey Livolsi and Mathias Destal, co-founders of *Disclose*, a Paris-based investigative news organisation, as well as Benoît Collombat, a reporter from *Radio France* – have now published a report sourcing a “classified document” that has documented France’s direct complicity. The classified French intelligence note – provided to the government in October 2018, according to *Disclose* – said that 48 CAESAR artillery guns manufactured by the Nexter group were being used along the Saudi-Yemen border.

In response, these journalists were summoned for questioning by France’s secret service – the *General Directorate for Internal Security*. If found guilty, the reporters could face five years in prison and a €75,000 (\$83,900) fine. (1)

This has impelled multiple progressive groups to launch a campaign to stop the government selling weapons to the Saudi dictatorship. The *Christian Action for the Abolition of Torture* (ACAT) sought to block the loading of weapons onto the ship through a legal filing. When the court threw out their complaint a coalition of activists – including members of the Communist Party and the NPA – resorted to direct action in order to block the loading of arms onto the Saudi vessels. In two cases: first, in northern port of Le Havre and then followed by actions in the southern port of Fos-sur-Mer, the activists were successful and the Saudi ships had to leave port empty-handed. In Le Havre, dockers supported the solidarity action and threatened to block the ship. (2)

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly welcomes these solidarity actions. We have consistently warned that the Saudi monarchy is waging an arch-reactionary war of aggression against the Yemeni people. Contrary to many pseudo-socialists who denounce the Yemeni civil war as reactionary on all sides, we have unconditionally supported the Yemeni resistance from the beginning of the war in March 2015.

Such support for the military struggle of the Yemeni resistance against the Saudi-led alliance doesn’t mean support for the political leadership of the Houthis. Quite the opposite: we strongly reject the petty-bourgeois nationalist-Islamist agenda of the Houthi leadership. However, together with our comrades in the RCIT in Yemen we stress that it is the duty of democrats, anti-imperialists, and socialists in Yemen and the Arab world, as well as internationally, to support the Yemeni people’s struggle for national independence.

We call on activists around the world to follow the example of their French brothers and play a principled role in obstructing the reactionary war of the bloody Saudi monarchy against the Yemeni people.

Footnotes

(1) Journalists face prison for exposing French complicity in Yemen conflict, 19 May, 2019 <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2019/5/19/journalists-face-prison-for-exposing-french-complicity-in-yemen>

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The RCIT has published a number of statements and articles on the civil war in Yemen which can be read on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>

In particular we refer readers to:

After the Death of Saleh: Continue the Defense of Yemen against the Al-Saud Gang of Aggressors! 12.10.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/yemen-after-the-death-of-saleh/>

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Egypt: Rally on 6th Anniversary of Military Coup in 2013

Report (with Photos and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 30 June 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

The Egyptian migrant community organized a rally in the centre of Vienna to commemorate the 6th anniversary of the military coup in Egypt. On 3 July 2013 General Sisi took power and created a military dictatorship which has massacred since then thousands of activists of the opposition.

Activists of the Austrian section of the RCIT participated in the rally. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International

Secretary of the RCIT, delivered a speech in which he denounced the military regime. He also condemned the Great Powers, including the European Union, which is fully supporting the dictatorship.

See photos and a video clip of Michael Pröbsting's speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/egypt-rally-at-anniversary-of-military-coup-30-6-2019/>



Rally on the 6th Anniversary of the Military Coup in 2013 (Vienna, 30.6.2019)

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.
A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz provides a critical analysis of numerous Zionist myths about the Jews as well as about the Palestinians. He demonstrates that the Zionist claim that Palestine is the historic homeland of the Jews lacks any serious basis.

Palestine and Zionism shows that the history of Zionism in the 20th century is a history of colonialism in the service of the Great Powers and directed against the native population – the Arabs. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz deals with key events – the “Nakba” in 1948, the wars in 1956, 1967 and 1973, more recent events like the Lebanon War, etc. – which were decisive for the expulsion of most Palestinians from their homeland.

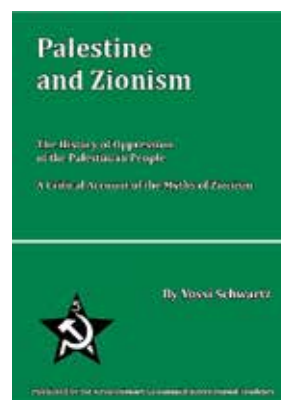
Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership by signing the Oslo Agreement in 1993.

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz defends the right of national self-determination for the Palestinian people and

outlines a socialist perspective. He emphasizes that the only solution is the right of millions of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and to replace the Zionist entity with one democratic state from the river to the sea – a *Free Red Palestine* with equal civil rights to the Arabs and the Israeli Jews.

The book contains an introduction and 7 chapters (112 pages) and includes 7 Tables and 3 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

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



Stalinism: Assad's Best Friends Forever

A commentary on a joint international initiative of Stalinist parties

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 3 July 2019

A large number of major Stalinist parties have recently published a joint statement on Syria.¹ It is an undisguised declaration of support for the Assad regime. This capitalist dictatorship, based on the Assad family clan and stemming from a small sect, has ruled Syria with an iron fist for almost fifty years. Since the beginning of the popular uprising in March 2011 – a component part of the Arab Revolution – the regime has massacred hundreds of thousands of people in order to keep itself in power.²

The 50 signatories to the statement include the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, AKEL in Cyprus, the official Communist Parties of Brazil, Britain, Bangladesh, Chile, Czech Republic, Greece, Israel, Portugal, Turkey and the USA. Other signatories are the Tudeh Party of Iran and, significantly, the Syrian Communist Party and the Syrian Communist Party (Unified). Many of these parties have a presence in national parliaments or have been part of government coalitions. Even small groups like the Communist Party (Italy), the German Communist Party, or the Party of Labor of Austria are among the signatories.³

This statement is significant as it demonstrates once more the counter-revolutionary nature of Stalinism. The statement begins with the bizarre assertion: *"For the past eight years, the people of Syria have defended their motherland, decisively and heroically. They have manifested a remarkable and honourable resistance, that hasn't ceased for one moment in these years, despite the unmeasurable suffering they have been dragged into. It has already had its place in the great history of humanity."*

As a matter of fact, the Syrian people peacefully demonstrated in spring and summer 2011 to bring down a dictatorship fronted by the Assad family. This was part of a region-wide process – from Morocco and Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Bahrain to Yemen. But the Assad tyranny was determined to fanatically drown the protests in blood. As a result, the revolution has been transformed into a civil war against the regime. It is characteristic of their anti-popular character that the Stalinist signatories of this statement cravenly slander the mass uprising and praise the state terrorist repression as *"heroically defense of their motherland"*.

The Stalinists' support for the Assad regime is also reflected in the following sentence: *"We express our deep and unconditional solidarity with the working people of Syria, and their vanguard communist parties."* These two *"vanguard communist parties"* are the Syrian co-signatories of the joint statement – the *Syrian Communist Party (Bakdash)* and the *Syrian Communist Party (Unified)*. These parties have nothing to do with socialism. They have loyally supported the capitalist dictatorship of Assad for decades. They have a few seats in parliament as they are part of the ruling *"National Progressive Front"* – a coalition of parties dominated by Assad's Baath party. This parliament is, of course, a caricature even by bourgeois standards. The ruling coalition has 200 of the 250 seats and the rest are held by so-called *"independents"*. There is not even a pseudo-opposition in Assad's parliament.

It is beyond doubt that the Stalinists' plan to send a *"sol-*

idity mission" to Damascus will be another cheerleading effort for Assad's tyranny.

Another instance of Stalinist hypocrisy is the statement: *"As the following communist and workers' parties, we denounce in the strongest way possible the imperialist intervention of US and its allies, that has created one of the greatest tragedies of the 21st century. (...) We demand the end of imperialist aggression and we fully respect the independence, full sovereignty and the integrity of the national territory of Syria. We emphasize once again that the decision regarding the future of Syria belongs only to peoples of Syria."*

Indeed, there is an ongoing aggression of US imperialism and its allies in Syria taking place. This includes their military support for the Kurdish YPG/SDF in Eastern Syria under the pretext of the struggle against *"ISIS terrorism"*. Using the cover of *"war against terror"*, the Western imperialists destroyed a number of cities in Syria and Iraq (Mosul and Raqqa have been largely annihilated) and killed thousands of civilians.⁴

However, the Stalinists never protested this Western aggression! Quite the opposite, they – as well as many liberals, anarchists and pseudo-Trotskyists – have consistently hailed the YPG/SDF despite their character as foot soldiers of U.S. imperialism.⁵

No, for the Stalinists this is not *"imperialist aggression"*. Such aggression only occurs when Trump denounces the regime in Damascus and lobs a few rockets that wind up destroying a few empty Syrian Army warehouses!⁶

The Stalinists also slanderously claim that the popular rebellion since 2011 has been a *"CIA conspiracy"* and an *"imperialist proxy war"*. As we have demonstrated repeatedly U.S. imperialism never lent any significant support to the rebels and has no interest in a popular revolution against the regime.⁷

There is, however, another ongoing and massive imperialist aggression in Syria. This is the never-ending bombing campaign conducted by Russia against the insurrectional Syrian people. But, unsurprisingly, such a military aggression is not denounced by these *"defenders of working people"* but rather hailed and supported! As we have shown in various publications, many of these parties openly cheer Russia's military intervention in Syria! This is not surprising since most of the Stalinists claim that the regimes in Russia and China are *"anti-imperialist"* and *"progressive"*. As a result they support their political and military interventions.⁸

The close relationship of the Stalinist parties with capitalist and imperialist regimes is also evident from the composition of the leadership of the Stalinist international association. At a meeting of the *"Working Group of the International Communist and Workers' Meeting"* in early June delegations from the ruling parties of China, Vietnam, Cuba, South Africa and North Korea were present together with a number of the parties that signed the Syria statement.⁹

The Stalinists' song of praise for Syria's *"independence and full sovereignty"* contains a touch of the absurd. In actual fact, it's the Assad regime that is selling the country to Russia, Iran and China. It is this regime that has brought

hundreds of thousands of Iranian and Russian troops into the country and handed over to them military, air and naval bases, etc.!¹⁰

We conclude by reaffirming once more that the Syrian Revolution has been and remains a legitimate popular uprising. The RCIT has supported this war of liberation from the beginning and continues to do so.¹¹

In contrast, the latest statement of the Stalinists confirms once more the utterly counter-revolutionary character of this current. Stalinism is the antithesis to socialism. These parties are social-imperialist supporters of Russia and China as well as flag bearers of capitalist dictatorship like the one of the Assad clan. The Stalinist tumor within the international workers movement must be excised once and for all!

Footnotes

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2 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Syria: Who is Responsible for the Civilian Death Toll from March 2011 to September 2018? A Revealing Statistic Shows Who are the Real Terrorists in the Syrian Civil War, 10.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-who-is-responsible-for-the-civilian-death-toll-from-march-2011-to-september-2018/>

3 For a complete list of the signatories see at the end of the statement at the link provided above.

4 See on this e.g. Yossi Schwartz: Raqqa: Defeat the US Imperialist Offensive! An assessment of the US/SDF/YPG war against Daesh, April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/us-offensive-in-raqqa/>; Yossi Schwartz: Down With the New Imperialist Attack on Iraq and Syria! The Renewal of the Imperialist War and the Tasks of the Workers Movement, 2.10.2014, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/us-war-in-iraq-and-syria/>

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View the Syrian Revolution. Revealing Insights from some Documents of the U.S. Military Intelligence Establishment – Another Confirmation of Our Warnings, 25.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/how-u-s-strategists-view-the-syrian-revolution/>; High-Ranking U.S. Delegation Meets Assad's Security Chief. How Big Gangsters and Small Gangsters Negotiate to Get a Deal, 30.08.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/high-ranking-u-s-delegation-meets-assad-s-security-chief/>; U.S. Imperialism Wants to "Re-Engage" with the Assad Tyranny. Comment on an Article by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter published in the New York Times, 28.08.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/u-s-imperialism-wants-to-re-engage-with-the-assad-tyranny/>

8 See on this e.g. chapter XXIV. "The Left Facing Great Power Rivalry: Pro-Eastern Social-Imperialists (Stalinists)" in Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. 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, RCIT Books, January 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>; see also part 2 of Michael Pröbsting: Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>

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11 The RCIT has published a number of booklets, statements, and articles on the Syrian Revolution that can be accessed on a special sub-section of this website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. In particular we refer to RCIT: Save the Syrian Revolution! A call for international solidarity with the Syrian people in Idlib suffering from the barbarous onslaught by Assad and Putin! 04 June 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/call-save-the-syrian-revolution/>; Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/>; Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings, February 2018, Chapter V, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/worldperspectives-2018/chapter-v/>; Michael Pröbsting: Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>.

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Syria: The Shameful Alliance of the Saudi Monarchy and the “Left-Wing” YPG

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 4 July 2019

As is generally known, the Kurdish YPG/PYD has been celebrated by numerous liberal, anarchist, Stalinist, and pseudo-Trotskyist forces in the West and East. They characterize this organization as “left-wing” and feminist and call for its support by progressive forces.

This has always been a myth, as the RCIT has pointed out on a number of occasions.¹ The chimera of the “progressive” YPG has now been dealt another blow. According to a report Thamer al-Sabhan, Saudi minister of state for Middle East affairs, visited Deir ez-Zor on 13 June. There “he met with Kurdish leaders, US Deputy Secretary of State Joel Rayburn, US Ambassador William Roebuck and a number of Arab sheikhs and dignitaries. During his visit, Sabhan called on Arab tribes to join forces with the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) to prevent the return of the Islamic State (IS) and end the protests that broke out in Deir ez-Zor after the SDF liberated it from IS in March.”²

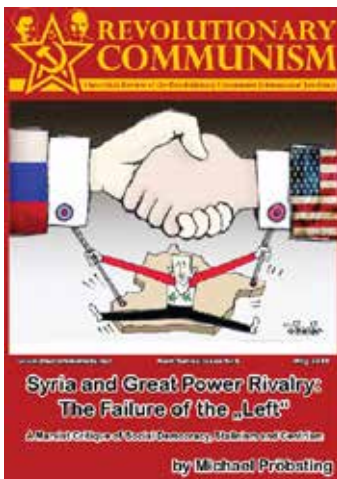
This is an example of the shameful alliance of the “left-wing” YPG with the Saudi monarchy. The Saudi regime is one of the most totalitarian dictatorships in the region and a loyal and trusted ally of the Trump Administration (together with the United Arab Emirates). It suppresses women rights in the most outrageous way. It finances and supports brutal dictatorships like that of General Sisi in Egypt or the warlord General Haftar in Libya. It has launched a barbarous war of aggression against the Yemeni people that has, already, resulted in thousands of civilians being killed. It murdered the journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the most heinous way.

The unconcealed support of this barbarous regime for the YPG destroys once more Stalinist claims concerning the progressive character of this militia. It confirms the RCIT statement that the petty-bourgeois nationalist YPG has played, all in all, a shameful and reactionary role from the beginning of the Syrian Revolution in 2011.³

In the first years of the popular uprising the YPG failed to unite the Kurdish masses with the Arab people rising up against the reactionary Assad tyranny. Instead, they offered their collaboration. Since 2015 it has closely worked with US imperialism and, effectively, became the infantry of the Western Great Powers in the areas of Syria where they had a presence.

True, the YPG legitimately defended the Kurdish people against the attacks of the reactionary terrorists of Daesh/ISIS. But this struggle became more and more subordinated to their service as foot soldiers for U.S. imperialism. As such, the YPG helped the imperialists to conquer large parts of Eastern Syria. In effect, it has become an occupying force over the Arab populations of Raqqa and other non-Kurdish regions. Unsurprisingly, this has resulted in an increasing number of local protests.⁴ More recently, the YPG/SDF leadership has again begun negotiations with the Assad regime.⁵

In short, contrary to the propaganda of the petty-bourgeois left in West and East, socialists can lend no support to the YPG. They must rather denounce them as servants of Western imperialism and the ultra-reactionary dictatorship of Saudi Arabia.



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

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Footnotes

1 See e.g. RCIT: Obituary: The Tragic Death of Lorenzo Orsetti, 20 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/obituary-the-tragic-death-of-lorenzo-orsetti/>; Michael Pröbsting: The Revelations of a U.S. General on Washington's Allies in Syria. Another Blow to the Stalinist Myths about the Character of Syrian Liberation Fighters and the Role of the Kurdish SDF/YPG, 27.10.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/revelations-of-u-s-general-on-washington-s-allies-in-syria/>; Kissing the Feet of the Saudi Chainsaw-Crown Prince. On the Shameful Response of the Kurdish YPG on the Killing of the Saudi Journalist Kashoggi, 20.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-shameful-response-of-the-kurdish-ypg-on-the-killing-of-the-saudi-journalist-kashoggi/>

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5 See on this e.g. Hossam Rabie: Syria's Kurds seek outside help to negotiate with regime, January 13, 2019, <https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2019/01/egypt-mediate-kurds-syria-regime-manbij.html>; AFP: ISIS will be defeated in a month, says Syrian Kurdish militia leader, Jan 25, 2019, <https://www.thenation-ae/world/mena/isis-will-be-defeated-in-a-month-says-syrian-kurdish-militia-leader-1.817941>; Rodi Said: Exclusive: Syrian Kurdish YPG expects negotiations with Damascus soon, January 24, 2019, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-ypg-exclusive/exclusive-syrian-kurdish-ypg-expects-negotiations-with-damascus-soon-idUSKCN1PI2LO>

Books of the RCIT

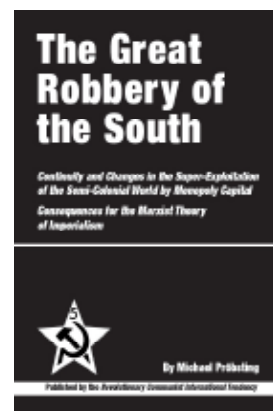
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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)



China: Long Live the Popular Uprising in Hong Kong!

After protestors storm the parliament: general strike against the extradition bill and the Lam Administration!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 03 July 2019

1. The mass protests in Hong Kong have reached a new stage. A huge demonstration on 1 July of at least half a million people resulted in many young activists storming and briefly occupying the city's parliament. Pictures of myriads of young demonstrators dressed in black with head protection, ramming the parliament gates, circulated around the world. Parliament will remain closed for at least two weeks due to the serious damage.

2. Unsurprisingly, China's Stalinist-capitalist regime is outraged and vociferously denounced the popular protests as "mob violence". (Global Times: "Say no to mob violence and reclaim order in HK society", 2.7.2019). The ruling class is worried because the violent protests are not the work of a handful of isolated "extremists". An article in the *South China Morning Post*, a daily paper owned by China's richest capitalist Jack Ma, compares the present movement with the Occupy protests five years ago. It arrived at the conclusion: "While most participants during the Occupy protests had emphasised "love and peace" in their demands for universal suffrage, the threshold for confrontation and violence seemed to have been lowered, five years on. From the crowds present and interviews with protesters, a much larger proportion of Hongkongers appeared to be no longer opposed to violence as a means to an end compared to five years ago." (SCMP: The difference between Occupy and extradition protests: more Hongkongers now believe the use of violence is justified, 2.7.2019) Attempts by Lam Cheuk-ting, Roy Kwong Chun-yu and Leung Yiu-chung, leading politicians of the Democratic Party – the most important bourgeois opposition party in Hong Kong opposing the extra-

dition bill – to calm down the demonstrators failed. They were cursed and quickly pushed aside.

3. These developments reflect a new stage in the radicalization of the popular mass movement against the extradition bill and the Lam Administration. The movement, or at least a significant part of it, openly refuses the conciliatory tactics of the bourgeois opposition and is willing to defend their rights by any means necessary. We are aware that the movement has ideological and organizational weaknesses (e.g. Hong Kong centeredness, illusions in the West, lack of mass organizing structures). But this is hardly surprising given its spontaneous character and its lack of political depth.

4. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) sends its warmest greetings to the courageous young men and women who successfully fought against the police and pushed the reactionary Administration Carrie Lam close to collapse! We reaffirm that the popular struggle against both the extradition law and the Carrie Lam government is an essential democratic and progressive struggle against the attempted repression of the Stalinist-capitalist dictatorship in Beijing.

5. In our opinion, it is urgent that the vanguard workers and youth in Hong Kong organize on a clear action platform in order to advance the movement. For this we think that it is important to transform the protests into an indefinite general strike to kill the extradition law and to bring down the Lam Administration. Furthermore, it is crucial that they organize mass democratic assemblies in the workplaces, neighborhoods, and universities to dis-

The Rise of Russia as an Imperialist Great Power

*** Russia as a Great Imperialist Power. The formation of Russian Monopoly Capital and its Empire**

*** Lenin's Theory of Imperialism and Russia's Rise as a Great Power**

Two Pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

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cuss the demands and tactics of their struggle and to elect delegates for a coordinating body of the entire movement.

6. In addition, the RCIT considers it important to counter the chauvinist propaganda of Beijing which denounces the protesters as “enemies of the Chinese people”. The protest movement should state their support for the democratic rights of all workers, poor peasants, and oppressed nations in the whole of China. Likewise, the vanguard workers and youth must warn the masses to have no illusions in “democratic” Western powers. Finally, it is necessary to consolidate their rupture with the Democratic Party and to build an independent Workers Party.

7. The democratic struggle in Hong Kong is currently one of the most important class struggles around the world. It is one of the most important cities in the largest country in the world which has now become an imperialist Great Power and the main challenger of the U.S. In contrast to the Stalinists and Castro-Chavistas, socialists must stand in solidarity with the popular uprising in Hong Kong. The RCIT calls on activists to join us in building a revolutionary party both in China and globally based on an international and socialist perspective!

** Kill the extradition bill! Defeat the Administration of Carrie Lam!*

** Down with the Pseudo-“Communist” Capitalist Dictatorship in Beijing!*

** For a Workers and Poor Peasants Republic in China! For a Socialist Federation in East Asia as a first step to a socialist world!*

The RCIT has published a number of booklets, statements, and articles on China that can be accessed on our website at <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/> as well as at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>.

In particular we refer to:

RCIT: China: Mass Protests against Reactionary “Extradition Law” in Hong Kong. For an indefinite general strike to kill the bill and to bring down the Administration of Carrie Lam! 18 June 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-mass-protests-against-reactionary-extradition-law-in-hong-kong/>

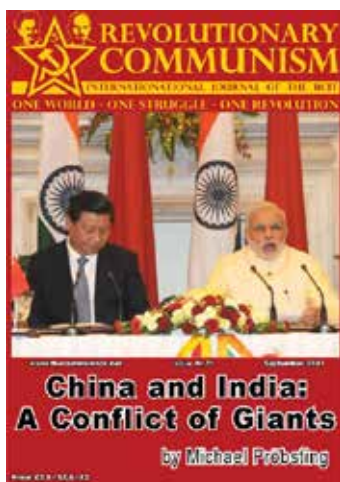
RCIT: China: Down with the Pseudo-“Communist” Capitalist Dictatorship! No to any imperialist Great Power – U.S., China, Japan, Russia or the European Union! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Republic! <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/call-to-revolutionary-activists-in-china/>

Michael Pröbsting: China: Defend the Muslim Uyghurs against Oppression! 18.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-defend-the-muslim-uyghurs-against-oppression/>

RCIT: Hong Kong/China: Long Live the Anti-Government Protests! For a General Strike against Police Repression and for Democratic Rights! Down with the Reactionary CCP Dictatorship! 2.10.2014, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/hong-kong-protests/>

Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. 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, RCIT Books, January 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>

Michael Pröbsting: China’s transformation into an imperialist power. A study of the economic, political and military aspects of China as a Great Power, in: Revolutionary Communism No. 4, <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/why-china-is-imperialist/>



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

No to the Imperialist Trade War between Japan and South Korea!

Down with all chauvinist boycott campaigns! Class War instead of Trade War!

Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communists of South Korea and the RCIT, 19 July 2019

1. A new trade war is looming between two imperialist powers in Asia – Japan and South Korea. Last year, the South Korean Supreme Court ruled that Nippon Steel, Japan's largest steelmaker, is obliged to pay nearly \$90,000 to a surviving worker, and to the families of three other Koreans forced into labor during World War II. Other judgments against Japanese companies for forced labor claims have followed, and more cases are in South Korean courts. Tokyo rejects these claims and threatens to launch a trade war against South Korea. On July 1, citing supposed "national security concerns", it placed restrictions on exports to South Korea of three chemical materials crucial for the manufacture of semiconductors and screens used in smartphones and televisions. Since Korean corporations like Samsung, SK Hynix and LG Display – which are major players in the global technology industry – rely heavily on these materials, this could have dramatic consequences. Furthermore, Japan considers removing South Korea from a list of the country's preferred trading partners, which would require Japanese firms to obtain additional export verifications on hundreds of products before selling them to Korean companies. In response, initiatives have been launched in South Korea to boycott Japanese commodities.

2. There can be no doubt that Korean citizens (and their families) who survived the Japan's barbaric regime of forced labor and sex slavery imposed during World War II have a right of compensation. However, it is also evident that these legitimate claims are only a pretext for the escalation of rivalry between the two countries. If the South Korean state would have been seriously interested in getting compensation for its citizens why is it acting only now – nearly 75 years after these tragic events took place? The reason is obvious: in the decades after World War II, South Korea and Japan were closely bound together as politically subordinated allies of U.S. imperialism in the Cold War. In the past as well as today, the legitimate interests of the Korean citizens have been subordinated to the political goals of the ruling class!

3. However, today we are living in a different his-

toric period marked by the decay of capitalism and the resulting acceleration of rivalry between the imperialist powers. Russia and, in particular, China have emerged as new Great Powers which are challenging the hegemony of U.S. imperialism. As a result, we are witnessing a Global Trade War and military threats between Washington and Beijing, accelerating tensions between the U.S. and the EU, between the U.S. and India, a massive military intervention of Moscow in Syria, etc. The looming trade war between Japan and South Korea is another example of the same fundamental dynamic of capitalist decay and imperialist rivalry.

4. Japan is a long-standing imperialist power which played already a central role in global politics before World War II. Economically, it is one of the strongest imperialist powers behind the U.S. and China. Consequently, authentic Marxists recognize the imperialist character of Japan and stand in fundamental opposition to it. Hence, we strongly denounce the Stalinist Japanese Communist Party which defends since many decades "Japan's sovereignty" against the U.S. as well as all of Japan's territorial claims against Russia, China and South Korea. No doubt, the JCP is not a communist but a social-imperialist party!

5. South Korea's capitalism has been transformed into a junior imperialist state more recently. Nevertheless, while the U.S. continues to play an influential role in South Korean politics, the South Korean *chaebols* have joined the league of global leading monopolies and participate in the super-exploitation of numerous semi-colonial countries. Despite a population of only 51 million people, South Korea's economy is the fourth-largest in Asia and the 11th largest in the world. Its Per Capita Gross Domestic Product is close to the level of Italy. In the ranking of the biggest monopolies in the world, South Korea is No.5 (Forbes Global 2000) respectively No.7 (Fortune Global 500). There can be no doubt that South Korea has become an imperialist nation. Hence, we strongly denounce the Stalinists who claim that the South Korea is still an "oppressed" country and that socialists should fight for its "national liberation". In an imperialist country like South Korea, "national liber-

China's transformation into an imperialist power

A study of the economic, political and military aspects of China as a Great Power

By Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

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ation" means nothing but social-patriotic support for the domestic imperialist monopoly bourgeoisie!

6. The *Revolutionary Communists of South Korea* and the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) call socialists in South Korea and Japan as well as internationally to unite in denouncing the looming trade war between Tokyo and Seoul. We oppose all forms of chauvinism and boycott campaigns. Such reactionary campaigns only serve to subordinate the workers behind the ruling class. We call for international unity of the workers of South Korea, Japan and globally. We stand for the Leninist program of revolutionary defeatism which is based on the principle "*The main enemy is at home!*"

* *Down with the imperialist trade war between Japan and South Korea!*

* *No to chauvinism and boycott campaigns! For internationalist unity of the South Korean and Japanese workers!*

* *Internationalist workers unity instead of nationalist unity with the bosses!*

* *Class War instead of Trade War!*

* * * * *

We refer readers to the following documents:

Korea: There Is No Peace Without Overthrowing Imperialism and the Rule of Capital! Peace through the Proletarian Socialist Revolution! Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communists of South Korea and the RCIT, 8 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-statement-on-south-korean-imperialism/> [The Korean-language version of the statement can be read here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/%ED%95%9C%EA%B5%AD%EC%96%B4/joint-statement-on-south-korean-imperialism/>]; See also <http://go.jinbo.net/commune/view.php?board=cool&id=51945&page=1>]

<https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-statement-on-the-looming-global-trade-war/>

Global Trade War: No to Great Power Jingoism in West and East! Neither Imperialist Globalization nor Imperialist Protectionism! For International Solidarity and Joint Struggle of the Working Class and Oppressed People! 4 July 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-statement-on-the-looming-global-trade-war/>

See also the collection of statements and articles on the Global Trade War here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/>.

홍수천: 한반도 전쟁 위기와 미·중 제국주의 패권 쟁투 (Hong Su-Cheon: War Crisis on the Korean Peninsula and the Rivalry between US and Chinese Imperialism, Article in Korean language, Spring 2019), <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/%ED%95%9C%EA%B5%AD%EC%96%B4/crisis-on-korean-peninsula-us-and-chinese-imperialism/>

홍수천: 현 시기 격화하고 있는 제국주의 패권쟁투와 사회주의자의 임무 (Hong Su-Cheon: The Acceleration of the Great Power Rivalry in the Present Period and the Task of Socialists in Korea, Article in Korean language, March 2019), <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/%ED%95%9C%EA%B5%AD%EC%96%B4/struggle-for-imperialist-hegemony-socialism/>

Michael Pröbsting: The Korean Peninsula: Imperialist Aggression, Capitalist Restoration and Revolutionary Defensism (Chapter VI. in *World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings*), <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2018/>

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.

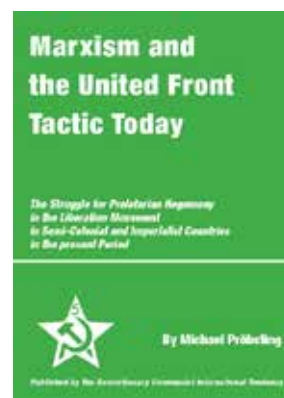
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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.



Britain: Brexit and the Crisis of the Labour Party

Defend Chris Williamson against Zionist Attacks in the Labour Party

By Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, 12 July 2019

The crisis of Brexit in the Labour party has shown the role of reformism within bourgeois workers parties like the British Labour party. The ostensibly left reformist leader Jeremy Corbyn finds himself assailed on all sides by the pro-imperialist and pro-austerity wing of the Labour party. This wing, led by the deputy leader Tom Watson desperately wants to remain within the imperialist European Union, rejects the 2016 Referendum result and campaigns for a second referendum in Europe.

“Tom Watson is urging grassroots members to sign up to a public declaration calling for Labour to be “the party of remain”, as pressure mounts on Jeremy Corbyn to embrace an anti-Brexit position. In a move likely to be regarded as provocative by Corbyn’s team, Watson is publishing a statement online and inviting signatures, to underline the breadth of concern about Labour’s stance. “As the party of remain, we will not take every voter with us, but it’s the only way that Labour can win, and the only way to keep our country together.” [1]

Brexit is the result of the crisis within all the metropolitan capitalist countries. Since the Great Recession of 2008 every bourgeois country has been trying to resolve its relationships with each other but we are in a period of extreme contradictions and inter-imperialist rivalry. The task for the British bourgeois is survival and continued attacks on the working class and the oppressed. This crisis is reflected most strongly in reformist parties.

The trade union bureaucracy recently made a statement supporting Watson’s position. Len McCluskey, leader of the biggest trade union UNITE and a noted Corbyn supporter, defended the changed position of the bureaucracy which is the mainstay of capitalism in the workers movement.

“Labour is poised to declare it will campaign for remain in a second referendum on any deal put to parliament by a Conservative prime minister, after trade union leaders including Unite’s Len McCluskey backed a change of policy. The joint position agreed by the unions on Monday would not commit Labour to

an explicitly pro-remain position in all circumstances: unions also agreed Labour should seek to deliver a Brexit deal if the party won an election before the UK left the EU. Unions have backed a referendum on any deal this parliament and Labour campaigning for remain – that’s a big victory. What’s in a manifesto is a debate for another day,” Labour will campaign for a second referendum in all circumstances and will campaign for remaining in the EU against a Tory prime minister’s Brexit deal and in order to stop no deal.” [2]

The trade union bureaucracy and labour aristocracy have over the years reaped the super profits of imperialism in the semi colonial countries where the oppressed are driven into slave-like conditions. This caste at the top of the working class is the direct agent of imperialism and capitalism in the workers movement. The decision of the bureaucracy to lend its support for the remain position was taken by the bureaucrats in their privileged position. At no time were their members canvassed or asked about this position. Most of the bureaucrats are appointed through the anti-democratic structures of the trade unions.

SPLITS IN THE SHADOW CABINET

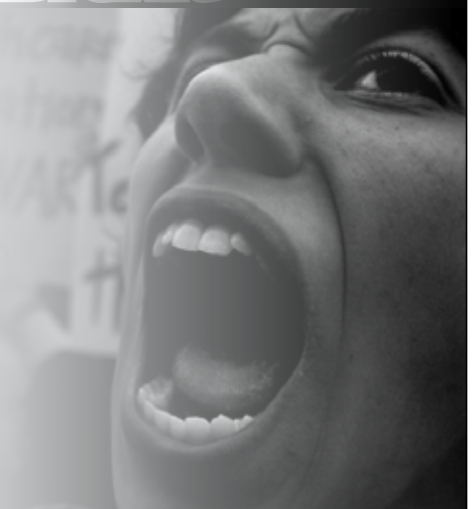
Corbyn has found himself isolated amongst his own allies, alone defending his original Brexit position. Two of his strongest supporters John McDonnell and Diane Abbot are supporting the idea of a second referendum on Europe for a remain position. Of course they are being whipped up to this position by the right-wing in the Labour party led by Watson who now rules as de-facto leader of the Labour Party.

“The shadow chancellor, John McDonnell, has rejected claims that he has been urging Jeremy Corbyn to sack his two most senior aides because they are opposed to Labour committing to backing remain in a second referendum. Insisting that he had not called for anyone to be sacked, McDonnell claimed stories about a split between him and Corbyn were a “myth” promoted by

Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

- * **Marxism, EU and Brexit**
- * **The British Left and the EU-Referendum**
- * **The Reformist Pipe Dream of a “Socialist” European Union**

Written by Michael Pröbsting
(International Secretary of the RCIT)



journalists prone to exaggeration. Earlier this year, in response to fears it was losing support to pro-remain parties such as the Liberal Democrats, Labour shifted its Brexit stance and agreed that any Brexit deal passed by parliament should be put to the people in a second referendum. But the party has not committed to backing remain if such a referendum were to take place. McDonnell said last month he was arguing the case for Labour to explicitly back remain. Diane Abbott, the shadow home secretary, has previously said publicly that she is "beginning to worry" about party policy not being sufficiently remain". [3]

Jeremy Corbyn in a letter to party members has under pressure from the Blairites done a 180 degree turn rejected his original Brexit position and now with qualifications acceded to the Blairite position of supporting a second referendum.

"In those circumstances, I want to make it clear that Labour would campaign for Remain against either No deal or a Tory deal that does not protect the economy and jobs". [4]

DEFEND WILLIAMSON FROM THE ZIONIST ATTACK

Chris Williamson the Labour MP who was suspended and then reinstated finds himself again suspended again by a Kangaroo court who administer the disciplinary procedures in the Labour Party. Anti-Semitism, as we have stated many times, is a red herring in the Labour Party. Many of these Zionist MP's have close connections with pro-Israeli lobby groups which are openly operating in Britain. *"Labour against the Witchunt"*, a small group in the Labour Party, has identified the real reason for Williamson's continued suspension and the preparation for his expulsion. He will join others like Ken Livingstone, Tony Greenstein and Jackie walker who have found them being dragged through these disciplinary procedures to satisfy the Blairites and their pro-Zionist allies.

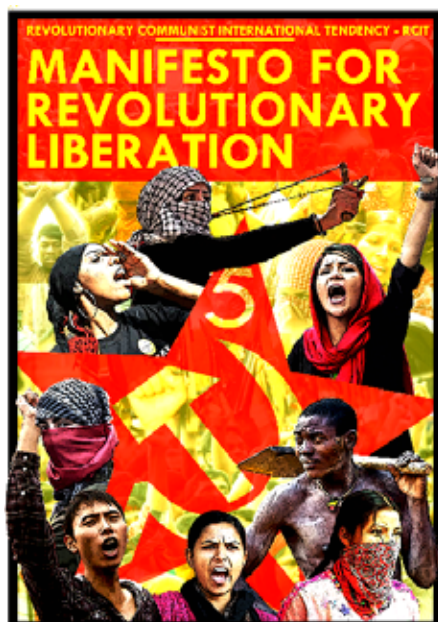
"The renewed suspension of Chris Williamson MP, two days after he was readmitted to the Labour Party, is deeply troubling. We are particularly concerned that Keith Vaz' U-turn seems to have been motivated purely by the pressure coming from the right inside and outside the party. Sadly but unsurprisingly, that now includes Jon Lansman. We presume Vaz initially judged the case

by its merit and found – correctly – that Chris had not said or done anything that could be described as anti-Semitic or bringing the party into disrepute. Vaz quite rightly judged that the evidence did not warrant Chris's ongoing suspension or his referral to the National Constitutional Committee (which is still dominated by the right). But Vaz's U-turn and Chris's renewed suspension, following the deeply undemocratic and hysterical letter organized by Tom Watson, symbolize how unfair and one-sided the whole disciplinary process really is." [5]

OUT POSITION

The RCIT again reiterates its position on both Zionism and the Brexit crisis in the Labour Party. We advocated an abstentionist position in the 2016 referendum and that position has not changed. We do not support either imperialist state whether it is the EU or the British national state. Our position is revolutionary defeatism and for an anti-imperialist position to support the masses and the exploited against the imperialist enemy both here in Britain and throughout Europe.

The issue of Zionism has been a feature of Labour party support since the State of Israel was created in 1948. Zionism is supported by most Labour MP's and they have consistently attacked as Anti-Semitic anyone who criticised the State of Israel or who showed sympathy for the Palestinian or Arab cause. Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have been murdered, assassinated, killed and made homeless and are prevented from returning to their homeland. Islamophobia is rampant in Britain with open attacks on Muslims and migrants from Arab countries, secret deportations and concentration camps exist in Britain like Belmarsh. But Zionist Labour MP's have nothing to say on this or other matters, but when it comes to a defence of Israel and its barbarous activities these reformists will ensure that Corbyn and his supporters are either silenced or expelled. That is why Williamson now faces expulsion and why others who support the struggle for a free Red Palestine are being expelled from the Labour Party. On both Brexit and Zionism Corbyn remains a hostage of the Blairite right refusing even to support his own supporters who



Program of the RCIT

Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A5 Format

are being expelled. He is leader in name only the same as many who have trod this path. When shove comes to push Corbyn will end up capitulating to the Blairite right.

"Let us be clear: the state of Israel is a racist, imperialist and apartheid state comparable to the worst excesses practised against the Black population of South Africa by the ruling white racist minority. Its racism has led pogroms, murders and assassinations against Palestinians and Arabs who have been deprived of their homeland and basic democratic rights. Children and women have been murdered by the Zionist state indiscriminately." [6]

In a recent BBC Panorama special there were further attempts by Zionists and Blairites to continue witch-hunts against both Corbyn and his supporters. The BBC is a direct arm of the state with objective journalism thrown out the window and has consistently in its news reporting maligned workers and socialists. Its aim in the Panorama programme was to malign Corbyn's top aides and the General Secretary of the Labour Party Jennie Formby. Its purpose is to brand Corbyn a racist which he clearly is not, remove him as leader and ensure that Watson is elected leader. The Blairites are determined to destroy any last vestige of socialism in the Labour party and turn the Labour Party once more into a 2nd Tory Party when the Tories are in enormous crisis. These Blairites are consistent and want to ensure Labour's defeat at any General Election if Corbyn remains leader.

The RCIT in Britain puts forward the following transitional demands in order that the right-wing in the Labour party is defeated and for the success of socialists campaigning in the Labour Party.

** Defend Jeremy Corbyn and his supporters against the Zionist*

witch-hunt irrespective of Corbyn's failure to defend those Anti Zionists who find themselves expelled from the party.

** Expel all Zionist and Blairite MP's from the Labour Party. For free and democratic debate. No proscriptions whatsoever.*

** For open borders! Migrants and refugees should have free movement and the right to their own language and able to dress as they please. Reject all immigration controls. No to racism and Islamophobia. For self-defence guards to protect migrant communities from provocation or attack.*

** For a free democratic red Palestine from the river to the sea.*

** For a General strike to bring down this hated Tory Government. Reject both camps of imperialism – neither Remain nor Brexit. For revolutionary defeatism! For a United Socialist States of Europe!*

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/04/tom-watson-urges-labour-members-to-sign-remain-declaration>
- 2) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/08/unions-agree-labour-should-back-remain-second-referendum-brexit>
- 3) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/07/john-mcdonnell-denies-urging-corbyn-to-sack-aides-opposing-remain>
- 4) Letter from Jeremy Corbyn to all Labour party Members, 9th July 2019
- 5) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/>
- 6) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/uk-defend-chris-williamson-and-others-against-the-zionist-witch-hunt/>

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Greece - A Modern Semi-Colony

The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – *GREECE: A MODERN SEMI-COLONY*. The book's subtitle is: *The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial Country with Some Specific Features*. It contains six chapters (144 pages) and includes 12 tables, 35 figures and 4 maps. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

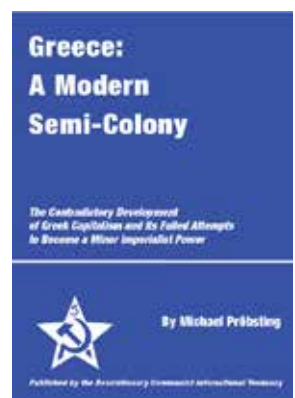
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which gives an overview of its content.

Greece is at the forefront both of the capitalist crisis in Europe as well as of the class struggle. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that what the Arab Revolution has been for the world in the past few years, Greece has been for Europe.

Subsequently, the question of the class character of Greece is of crucial importance both for the domestic as well as for the international workers movement: Is it an imperialist

state, a semi-colonial country or something else, and what are its specific features?

In Chapter I we outline a summary of the Marxists' theoretical conception of imperialist respectively semi-colonial states. In Chapter II we give a brief historical overview of the development of Greek capitalism. In Chapter III we deal with Greece's failed attempt to become a minor imperialist power. In Chapter IV we outline the historic crisis of Greek capitalism from 2008 until today. In Chapter V we elaborate the most important programmatic conclusions and in the last Chapter we present a summary in the form of theses. The book contains 12 Tables, 35 Figures and 4 Maps. ■



What the RCIT Stands for

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

