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Indian-Occupied Kashmir: The Heroes of Soura

by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 28 August 2019

India's right-wing extremist government, led by the tyrant Modi, has transformed Kashmir into a huge concentration camp. It revoked Article 370 of India's constitution on 5 August which removed some formal autonomy rights of the region. Anticipating mass resistance against this unprecedented and historic attack, the ultra-chauvinist BJP government imposed de facto a state of emergency in the whole region.

As a result, the people in Kashmir are locked up in their own homes for most of the time since 23 days! They have only limited or none access to essential things for survival like food and medicine. They are cut off from all forms of communication. Hundreds of thousands of Indian occupation soldiers and paramilitaries are patrolling the streets day and night. They constantly raid the homes of Kashmiris and have already arrested up to 6,000 people.

All this is the result of the barbarous policy of Prime Minister Modi who is fanatically determined to enforce the Hinduization of Kashmir – for which he must crush and finally subjugate or expel the Muslim-majority population. Semi-fascistic BJP bigots are already publicly fantasizing without any shame about “*getting a Kashmiri girl!*”. India's social media are full with songs about racist and sexist dreams of subjugating Kashmir and its women.

However, the Kashmiri people they are uncowed in their determination to resist the tyrant. They take every little opportunity to enter the streets and to demonstrate their protest against the barbarous occupation. Particularly on Fridays, when the authorities must relax the curfew a bit to allow people joining the Friday prayers, thousands of Kashmiris are marching and throwing stones against the occupation forces.

A particularly heroic example of the popular resistance is Soura. Soura is an enclave in of Srinagar, the main city of Indian-occupied Kashmir. It is home of about 15,000 people. Since the 5 August, it has become the epicenter of Kashmiri struggle against Modi.

The people of Soura have created makeshift barricades at all entrances of the neighbourhood. These barricades

are constantly guarded by youth armed with sticks and stones. Until now they successfully fought off each attempt of the Indian troops to crush this focus of resistance. Effectively, Soura has become a no-go zone for the Indian occupation forces.

There can be hardly a more extreme example of a David vs Goliath situation. Indian-occupied Kashmir is a region of about 8 million people of whom about 70% are Muslims. They face the Indian state which is soon to become the most populous country in the world with more than 1.3 billion citizens. Delhi has sent up to three quarter of a million of soldiers, police and paramilitaries in order to crush the popular rebellion in Kashmir.

However, undeterred by this overwhelming enemy, the Kashmiri people have always resisted the Indian occupation. They launched an insurrection in 1988 which the Indian army tried to smash with most brutal force. They killed 100,000 people and gang-raped about 10,000 women.

The tyrant Modi has brought Israeli policy to South Asia in attempting the Hinduization of Kashmir. But he will get back a Palestinian-type of popular resistance!

The people of Soura already resemble the Palestinians of Jenin who resisted so heroically against the overwhelming Israeli occupation forces in their refugee camp in the West Bank in April 2002.

Soura symbolizes the unbroken determination of the Kashmiri people to fight against the tyranny and to achieve freedom. There can be not the slightest doubt: the people of Kashmir want to become independent of India. They never agreed to be part of this prison house of people. India's ruling class knows this very well which is why it never allowed the people of Kashmir to freely express their choice in a referendum.

All socialists, all democrats, all righteous people must support the struggle of the Kashmiri people for freedom. We repeat: Kashmir is our second Palestine! Their liberation is our liberation!



Public Meeting in solidarity with Kashmir (Vienna, 31.8.2019)

India/Kashmir: Licking the Feet of Modi

On the disgusting support of some Gulf States' monarchs for India's racist government

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 30 August 2019

We could observe an utterly repulsive phenomenon in the last weeks. The right-wing extremist Indian government succeeded in winning support of some regimes for its barbarous crackdown against the people of Kashmir. Some cases are not particularly surprising such as a few small neighboring states which want to appease Delhi.

Likewise, the dumbass in the White House announced that there was no need for him to intervene because Indian Prime Minister Modi *"feels he has the situation under control"*. Unsurprisingly, Modi tweeted jubilant: *"Excellent meeting with @POTUS @realDonaldTrump! We had useful discussions on bilateral matters. Looking forward to expand cooperation as large democracies for the benefit of our citizens and global peace and prosperity."*

What is this? Unintended self-mockery in Reality TV?! Surely, Hitler also *"felt"* in 1939 that he had Poland *"under control"*!

It is however particularly disgusting to see that some so-called *"Muslim"* states have also joined the pathetic caravan of Modi glorifiers. We are talking about the Gulf state monarchs of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as well as of Bahrain.

These regimes like to pretend supporting the global Muslim umma and, on some occasions, they ritualistically shed some crocodile tears for the *"brothers and sisters in Kashmir"*.

When Modi abolished the semi-autonomous status of Kashmir on 5 August, he faced a global outcry of protest. But not all did so. The UAE ambassador to India, Ahmad al-Banna, lent public support to Modi's unprecedented and historic attack on the Kashmir people. He characterized the issue as an *"internal matter"* of India and said: *"We expect that the changes would improve social justice and security and confidence of the people in the local governance and will encourage further stability and peace."* (<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2019/8/7/%E2%80%8Buae-backs-indias-move-to-abolish-kashmirs-special-autonomy>)

However, Dubai's praise for Modi did not end with such diplomatic support. It went further and it invited Modi for a state visit where he received the UAE's highest civilian award! Bahrain did the same and its kind awarded Modi with the *"King Hamad Order of the Renaissance"*. In short, the worst oppressor of Muslim people has been awarded for his crimes by the self-proclaimed defenders of the Muslim umma!

One feels immediately reminded to the scandalous proposal in 1939 to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Adolf Hitler, the bloody dictator of Nazi Germany!

In short, we have seen in the past weeks a disgusting spectacle where *"Muslim"* traitors are licking the feet of Modi while he is transforming Kashmir into a huge concentration camp, arresting thousands of activists and starving and isolating millions of Muslims!

The reasons for this scandalous support of Modi by these Gulf states tyrants are as simple as they are soberly calculated. India is an important trade partner – the Gulf coun-

tries' annual trade with India is about \$100bn, making Delhi an important economic partner. In addition, India is a growing market which offers profitable investment opportunities for the greedy Gulf capitalists.

For the same capitalist reason, we note as an aside, did a number of so-called *"Muslim"* states recently sign an outrageous letter to the United Nations in which they expressed their support for the barbarous policies of China's regime against its Muslim Uyghur minority. (See on this our article *"37 Signatures Are Worth a Thousand Words"*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/37-states-defend-china-s-treatment-of-uyghurs/>)

The Gulf monarchs' *"faith"* is only for public display which shall conceal their real nature as greedy, profit-driven tyrants. Is it surprising that they are hated by their own peoples, which is why they have been able to stay in power for decades only by the undisguised methods of a bloody dictatorship?! When the Arab Revolution began eight years ago, the popular masses in Bahrain joined the struggle for freedom. It was only due to the brutal military invasion of the Saudi army in March 2011 that the king was able to stay in power.

We conclude by repeating what we have said many times: one must not judge political forces by their self-proclaimed ideologies and religious beliefs. The Indian government pretends to represent the *"largest democracy in the world"* while it is raping the people of Kashmir. The U.S. always claimed to defend the principles of freedom which did not stop it from occupying and oppressing the peoples in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Stalin claimed to be a communist but oppressed the people, killed hundreds of thousands of oppositional communists, and deported ethnic minorities like the Crimean Tatars and Chechens. China is headed by a *"Communist"* party and, at the same time, is home to the largest number of capitalist corporations and billionaires in the world. Shamefully, this regime continues to be hailed by numerous Stalinists and Castro-Chavistas globally.

We see the same with the so-called *"Muslim"* states in the Gulf region like Saudi Arabia and the UAE which are hailing Israel and pressurizing the Palestinian people to capitulate to the Zionists.

One must not judge any regime or political force by their words but by their deeds, by their concrete positions in the liberation struggles of workers and oppressed people. And here, we see that these *"socialist"* and *"Muslim"* regimes are uniformly on the side of the exploiters and oppressors!

We repeat once more: All socialists, all democrats, all righteous people must support the struggle of the Kashmiri people for freedom. Kashmir is our second Palestine! Their liberation is our liberation!

We refer reader also to other documents of the RCIT on this issue which are collected in a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/>

Kashmir: Major Event in Solidarity with the Oppressed People

Report from a major event of the Pakistani and Kashmiri migrant community in Vienna on 31 August 2019

About 700 migrants from Pakistan and Kashmir participated in a major event organized by the *Pakistani Community Forum Austria* in Vienna on 31 August. The public meeting naturally focused on the horrible situation in Kashmir where the people are suffering since 5 August under a barbarous state of emergency imposed by the Indian government led by the right-wing extremist chauvinist Modi.

The event, which lasted for four hours, saw a rich cultural program with numerous contributions of singing and dancing mostly by young members of the community. In addition several male and female representatives of the community held speeches.

The organizers invited several guests, among them Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry (a former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir), Alev Korun (a leading member of the Austrian Green Party who has been a member of the national as well as the regional Viennese parliament for many years), Peter Florianschütz (member of the Viennese regional parliament, representative of the Social Democratic Party) as

well as a delegation of the Austrian section of the RCIT.

Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, was asked to give a speech. He sharply denounced the racist government of India and called for support of the liberation struggle of the Kashmiri people. His speech was very well received; in fact he was interrupted several times by cheers and chanting. Later he was interviewed by several media people.

The event reflected the fighting spirit among many migrants and their willingness to stand with the brothers and sisters in Kashmir. This is highly necessary because the oppression of Kashmir will not end soon, hence, our solidarity must continue until liberation will be achieved!

See pictures of the rally and a video clip of Michael Pröbsting's speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/kashmir-major-event-in-solidarity-with-the-oppressed-people/>

Media Reports about the Major Event: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/kashmir-solidarity-event-in-to-news/>



Public Meeting in solidarity with Kashmir (Vienna, 31.8.2019)



Solidarity with Kashmir: Major Event in Media

Brief Report (with Video) by the Austrian Section of the RCIT

As we did report, the community of migrants from Pakistan and Kashmir organized a major event in Vienna (Austria) on 31 August in order to draw attention to the horrible situation in Kashmir (see our report: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/kashmir-major-event-in-solidarity-with-the-oppressed-people/>).

The Austrian section of the RCIT was invited to this event and Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, was asked to give a speech which was well received. He was also interviewed by several media people.

Below are the links to TV media reports about this major event (with excerpts of interviews with Michael Pröbst-

ing).

Report with Video on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/100001455919338/posts/2534998576558648?sfns=mo>

Another report (in Urdu language) has been published in „The Daily Roshni“ and can be read here: <http://the-dailyroshni.com/%d9%be%d8%a7%da%a9%d8%b3%d8%aa%d8%a7%d9%86%db%8c-%da%a9%d9%85%db%8c%d9%88%d9%86%d9%b9%db%8c-%d9%81%d9%88%d8%b1%d9%85-%d8%a2%d8%b3%d9%b9%d8%b1%db%8c%d8%a7-%da%a9%db%8c-%d8%ac%d8%a7%d9%86%d8%a8-%d8%b3-/>

Indonesia: Defend the People of West Papua!

For an independent West Papua as part of a Socialist Federation in Melanesia!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, 13th September 2019

The island of Papua is split in two: the right hand side of the island is the sovereign state of New Guinea Papua where the left hand side of the island are the two states of Indonesia, the archipelago of islands in South East Asia. Western Papua has different identity and has more in common with the Melanesian Islands of Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. It has a history of struggle for independence and still seeks to be an independent state. Recently there have been extreme human rights abuses and racist practices by the police and security personnel who have been sent to the island to quell riots and disturbances.

“One day before Indonesia’s Independence Day on August 17, racial discrimination was experienced by Papuan students in Surabaya, East Java. The problem was triggered by the accidental damage to an Indonesian flag that fell into a drainage ditch in front of a Papuan student dormitory. At that time, it was alleged that Papuan students had deliberately damaged the flag. As a result, the dormitory was surrounded by a nationalist organization and some individuals dressed in the Indonesian National Armed Forces uniform. They broke the dormitory fence, then cursed and shouted “monkey” and other slurs at the Papuan students. They also threatened to kill the students instead of talking diplomatically to clarify what had actually happened. Video of the incident was spread quickly in Indonesian society.

Indonesian society, particularly Papuans, responded furiously to this racism. The governor of Papua province firmly stated to the media that Papuans are not a monkey race; they are members of the human race. Likewise, the racism in Surabaya triggered massive demonstrations in several regions of Papua and West Papua provinces, including Jayapura, Sorong, Manokwari, Nabire, Fakfak and Mimika. They burned the West Papuan parliament building in Manokwari and damaged public facilities in Fakfak, in the same province. Some Papuans even demonstrated at the Presidential Palace in Central Jakarta. They demanded that the Indonesian government heavily punish those who committed racial discrimination”. [1].

Evidence of this seething anger by Papuans against the Indonesian state has a long history. Joko Widodo, the recently elected president, has promised to right the wrong and he campaigned on human rights issues, but his statements were all hot air. As has been shown, Widodo is controlled by the military and does their bidding.

“In 2016, a Papuan student in Yogyakarta was chased, arrested, and beaten by the police for no apparent reason. The most heartbreaking fact was a photo being spread showing the student’s nose being pulled by the police and his hands in handcuffs. However, law enforcement against racist and human-rights violations against Papuans is often biased and incomplete. The Indonesian government has been too soft in dealing with acts of racism against Papuans. According to the country’s Race and Ethnic Discrimination Law, anyone who commits racial or ethnic discrimination may be sentenced to a maximum of five years’ imprisonment and/or a maximum fine of 500

million rupiah (about US\$35,000). However, this provision is not being implemented properly and is not deterring perpetrators, as the authorities do not act quickly and decisively against racist acts”. [2]

The violent clashes in Western Papua and Papua centre on the treatment meted out to Papuans and their belief that when East Timor was given independence, so could West Papua. Their culture is different from Indonesian society which is some miles away from the mainland. Both Indonesia and Papua were colonies of the Dutch Republic and in 1969 became part of Indonesia although ethnically difference are obvious.

“Papua and West Papua form the western half of the island of New Guinea (the eastern half is the nation of Papua New Guinea). The region was known as Irian Jaya until 2000, before the provinces were renamed in 2003 as Papua and West Papua. Jakarta maintains they are an integral and indivisible part of Indonesia, but that has been contested for more than half a century, including via a low-level, armed insurgency. Indonesian troops have been accused of human rights abuses and violent suppression of the independence movement. The two provinces have suffered from systemic underdevelopment but are rich with natural resources, including gold, copper, and timber and generate billions of dollars for Indonesia. Yes, they were part of the Netherlands but in 1962 the Dutch signed an agreement to transfer the administration of what was then called West New Guinea to Indonesia, on the proviso that an act of “self-determination” or vote would be completed within seven years. The so-called Act of Free Choice took place on 2 August, 1969, where 1,025 West Papuans were hand-picked and coerced – including being threatened at gunpoint – to vote in favour of Indonesian control. Rallies in support of Papuan independence have been held across the Indonesian archipelago this month, marking the anniversaries of the vote and the agreement. Last week’s Pacific Islands Forum issued a statement saying the UN high commissioner for human rights should visit and report on any abuses within a year.” [3]

Fight for Independence

Because of the way independence was granted to Indonesia and not to Papua, Papuans naturally believe that the free choice decision was fixed in favour of the Indonesian bourgeoisie so that they were able to enslave the masses mining the rich deposits found on the island. Widodo heads a bourgeois capitalist semi colony and by oppressing the masses there he hopes that the resources and their profits will ensure success for the capitalist regime. The result has been that the police have been sent to the island using their racists and provocative attitudes and arresting anyone who dares talking about independence. Widodo’s regime is very much taking on the appearance of the same tactic used by Narendra Modi against the Kashmiris. It is nothing more than ethnic cleansing. There is further evidence that human rights activists and political activists are

being rounded up.

"Indonesian police shot dead a member of a Papuan separatist group on Friday during an exchange of fire, a spokesman said, after violent demonstrations this week in other places in the eastern region over perceived ethnic discrimination. Police have flown in 1,200 officers to quell sometimes violent protests since Monday in a region that already has a heavy military presence due to decades of separatist conflicts.

Papuan towns such as Manokwari, Sorong and Fakfak had seen protesters setting fire to buildings including a market, a jail and a legislature in the biggest series of demonstrations in years". [4].

Support for independence is growing in Western Papua as scores of people, workers and students, realize that the only response from the Widodo government is repression and prison sentences. Internet access has been cut as the authorities feel a full blown revolt against their rule. Demonstrations and rioting show that the masses and the exploited are taking matters into their own hands.

"Indonesian police have named human rights lawyer and well-known West Papua advocate Veronica Koman as a suspect in the spreading of "fake news", accusing her of provoking widespread unrest in Indonesia's easternmost provinces.

In a move slammed by Amnesty International Indonesia, the human rights lawyer faces charges under the country's controversial electronic information and transactions law, and faces up to six years in jail if found guilty Usman Hamid, the executive director of Amnesty International Indonesia, said the move was deeply misguided. "The root of the real problem is the act of racism by some members of the TNI [Indonesian army] and the excessive use of force by the police in the student dormitory in Surabaya." [5]

Demonstrations and Social Unrest led to Riots

The Indonesian bourgeois regime is now turning West Papua and Papua into a police state with over 1,000 extra police drafted in. They have a notorious racist attitude to Papuans as has been proved in their actions against students. They should be ejected from the province to prevent more bloodshed. The UN Commissioner on human rights has been forbidden to visit the province which shows the role of the Widodo regime faced with massive opposition, demonstrations and uprisings coupled with demands for a free referendum on independence.

"Protests continued on Thursday including in the capital Jakarta, where demonstrators flew the banned Morning Star flag in front of the state palace. Scores have been arrested for raising the symbolic flag of independence in the past, with one activist, Filep Karma, spending more than ten years in prison for the offense before he was released in 2015.

On Wednesday, violent unrest occurred in Fakfak, where a market was set ablaze and street battles erupted between police and protesters. It followed days of large and violent protests across multiple cities in the region, which is divided into the provinces of Papua and West Papua.

The groundswell of anger that has fueled the demonstrators was sparked by an incident in the Javanese city of Surabaya on the weekend, where nationalist groups goaded Papuan students with racist taunts, calling them

"monkeys", "pigs" and "dogs".

The exiled West Papuan leader, Benny Wenda said the subsequent arrests of the Papuan students in Surabaya had "lit the bonfire of nearly 60 years of racism, discrimination and torture of the people of West Papua by Indonesia". [6].

The RCIT unreservedly supports and welcomes the protests and demonstrations against police violence and oppression by the Indonesian bourgeois state. The RCIT puts forward the following demands to the exploited and working masses in West Papua as a basis for working class unity and establishing a free workers and poor peasant republic in West Papua.

** For all Police and security personnel to leave the Island! Stop the repression and arrests against Papuans! Immediate release of all arrested activists!*

** For demonstrations and protests to continue towards an indefinite general strike to smash the bourgeois government of Joko Widodo and to replace it with a Workers Government based on the support of the urban and rural poor! For armed self-defense units of the workers, students and the poor to protect themselves against racism and police violence!*

** For a constituent assembly to discuss the mode of a Workers Government!*

** Fight for Papua to be an independent socialist state as part of a federation of Socialist states in Melanesia, including the Solomon Islands Vanuatu and Fiji!*

** Forward to the Building of a Revolutionary Fifth International! Join the RCIT!*

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.asiatimes.com/2019/08/opinion/racism-to-papuans-humanity-law-enforcement-history-and-momentum-of-independence/>
- 2) <https://www.asiatimes.com/2019/08/opinion/racism-to-papuans-humanity-law-enforcement-history-and-momentum-of-independence/>
- 3) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/22/why-are-there-violent-clashes-in-papua-and-west-papua-explainer>
- 4) <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-papua/indonesian-police-kill-separatist-in-papua-idUSKCN1VD0KK>
- 5) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/05/outcry-as-indonesia-seeks-to-arrest-renowned-west-papua-rights-lawyer>
- 6) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/22/west-papua-protests-indonesia-deploys-1000-soldiers-to-quell-unrest>

Revolutionary Change to End Climate Change!

Only expropriation of the capitalist corporations opens the road towards the end of climate change

Statement by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 20 September 2019

The youth based initiative *Fridays for Future* (FFF) called for a week-long “Earth Strike”, beginning with 20th September 2019. This is a very important and highly necessary campaign which has rightly received the support of millions of workers, poor peasants and youth around the world. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly welcomes and supports this initiative!

The Global Week for Future is supported by various forces including NGOs and even some trade unions. The goal of FFF is to convince the capitalists respectively the imperialist governments all around the world to implement environmental protection measures, which can assure that the goals of the *Paris Agreement* will be met. However, even the full implementation of the *Paris Agreement* would not stop the ongoing climate change but just postpone the turning point towards an entirely new climate that the planet is currently heading towards.

The current emissions trend will bring a new era of climate disasters by 2029 (!) in Sri Lanka, 2031 in Mexico and 2034 in India. Western imperialist countries, i.e. those which caused the climate catastrophe from its very beginning, are more likely to enter the new stage around 2050. Even with the *Paris Agreement* this catastrophe will be postponed for another 20 years but it will not be stopped. In any case, without a radical political and economic change, we will face the beginning of the end of human life on earth. Rulers like Donald Trump and Jair Bolsonaro seem like the type of capitalists who destroy the nature recklessly but in reality all capitalists are the evil.

The *Paris Agreement* is based on the idea of conserving the capitalist system which is the reason for the upcoming catastrophe. When the earth is literally burning all ruling classes are mainly concerned to hold to the capitalist means of production. Only a total and radical change can nearly recreate nature as it was before capitalism started the countdown of extinction. Only expropriation of the capitalist classes via socialist revolutions, i.e. armed uprisings of the workers and oppressed, can enable to save nature and with it humanity!

Fridays for Future supports legal and peaceful actions which are agreed by governments and their state repression apparatus. The political stance of the FFF movement means that those who caused the climate catastrophe shall change their behavior because they are asked nicely to do

so. But those who cause the climate catastrophe, i.e. the ruling classes worldwide and mainly in the imperialist countries of the US, EU, Japan, Australia, China and Russia, are responsible for super-exploitation and imperialist wars up to genocides against the workers and oppressed! It is ridiculous to appeal to these killers to stop destroying woods and end polluting our air and water.

The FFF is currently challenged by more radical forces like the *Extinction Rebellion* which has prominent members like Carola Rakete, the former captain of the Sea Watch saving refugees of getting drowned. *Extinction Rebellion* is open towards forms of protest which can lead to arrests but their radicalism is limited to non-violent, grassroots actions like blockade tactics and sit-down strikes.

There is no more time to waste for the vanguard of the working classes, supported by the oppressed worldwide to become the leading force in the environmental movement! Only we understand that those who are exploiting and oppressing us are those who are burning down the planet that is our home. Only we can organize general strikes up to armed insurrections to expropriate these beasts and to start a worldwide planned economy that is willing to do whatever necessary in order to save the planet and with it humanity! The movement of *Fridays for Future* and forces like *Extinction Rebellion* made an important start.

The RCIT proposes as the next step the organization not only of a symbolic but of a proper international general strike. Such a general strike should target in particular the capitalist corporations, i.e. those responsible for the destruction of the environment. Activists should build committees in work places, neighborhoods and schools in order to organize mass actions and to push the trade union and other mass popular organizations to take a central role in such activities. Such a general strike should be an important step in order to plan the occupation of these capitalist corporations.

However, we need a truly *international* mass movement. Without our brothers and sisters in the semi-colonial countries, who are the first ones to suffer from the climate catastrophe, the environmental movement can not turn into what it needs to become: An internationalist and socialist movement! Our planet got sick from the capitalist class, only socialist revolution can cure it!

International Bureau of the RCIT

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The Gang Leaders of Western Counterrevolution Are Faltering

Some observations on an interesting historic moment in the world situation

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 25.09.2019

I would like to share with the readers some observations on the world situation. To make it clear, this is not a comprehensive analysis of the world situation.¹ I rather want to limit myself to point out some, as it seems to me, highly interesting developments.

It strikes me as highly remarkable that several of the most important figures representing the spearhead of the Western imperialist counter-revolution are tottering. The gang leaders of Western Counterrevolution – Trump-Netanyahu-MBS-Sisi-Johnson – are faltering. Neither of them is out but each of the is weaker than ever before.

U.S. President Trump seems to have crossed a certain Rubicon by pressurizing the Ukraine government to help him by criminalizing Joe Biden, the leading contender of the Democrats for the upcoming presidential election. In addition, the U.S. Administration has suffered a series of public humiliations by military strikes of Iran in reaction to the aggressive sanctions campaign launched by Trump one and a half years ago.² Furthermore, Trump is stuck in a trade war which he launched in 2018 against China and which he claimed was “*easy to win*” (remarkable words for history!). It is now evident that whoever will win this trade war, it won't be the Orange Man!³

Needless to say that Trump has already provoked the hatred of large sections of the working and middle classes (as well as the bourgeoisie) by his unique combination of arch-reactionary attacks, utter stupidity and outright failures. No one likes a king who pushes boundaries in evilness as well as dumbness and who is a looser at the same time! All this has resulted now in the launching of a formal impeachment inquiry – a nearly unprecedented development in modern U.S. history!⁴

Netanyahu, the longest serving Prime Minister of Israel and the driving force in an unshamed racist radicalization of the Zionist society, is now weaker than ever before. Trump's closest ally in the Middle East has lost two elections in the last six months. Last week he was stopped from launching a war on Gaza by the Attorney General of Israel. Discredited by a lengthy list of corruption cases, he might soon switch the governmental office with the front row of the courtroom.⁵

General Sisi, the tyrant of Egypt since July 2013, faces now a spontaneous popular uprising. Years of bloody repression with thousands killed and tens of thousands in prison could not silence the masses. His military dictatorship is a pillar of the counterrevolutionary offensive which was waged against the Great Arab Revolution beginning in 2011. A fall of the Sisi regime would have tremendous repercussions and would immediately open a new period of the revolutionary process in the Middle East.⁶

His brother in crime and financier, Mohammed bin Salman, likewise faces huge problems. Discredited around the world after the barbarous murder of the oppositional journalist Jamal Khashoggi one year ago, he is facing now a humiliating defeat in Yemen.⁷ Years of unlimited bombardment and the killing of tens of thousands of people did not succeed in smashing the heroic Yemeni resistance.

⁸ Quite the opposite, the Yemeni collaborators of the Saudi-led military alliance have fallen out with each other and started a bloody civil war among themselves! As it is well-known, MBS is another close ally of Trump.

Related to this is the end of the crucial counterrevolutionary Gulf alliance between Saudi-Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. These two gangsters have now started to turn against each other.

In addition, MBS just faced a major humiliation when Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure was attacked and severely hit on 14 September, resulting in the greatest disruption on record for world markets. All the billions of dollar spent for the most modern weaponry could not stop this attack by drones and cruise missiles (in fact, the Saudis and their American masters did not even see this attack coming until the oil fields were burning!).

We note in passing that another important figure in this counterrevolutionary alliance, General Haftar in Libya, has also suffered a series of setbacks in his military offensive against Tripoli.⁹

Add to this Trump's new twin, the blond clown in Downing Street No. 10. Boris Johnson tried everything to launch a coup against the parliament and to push through his reactionary Brexit project. Despite all efforts, he first suffered a series of defeats in parliament and now the Supreme Court just quashed his decision to shut parliament.¹⁰

Let us add to this that Macri, the conservative whip of neoliberal reforms in Latin America, faces near certain defeat in the upcoming Presidential elections in Argentina. Brazil's version of Trump remains in power. But Bolsonaro is certainly weaker than he was a few months ago.¹¹

The Eastern counterparts to these gang leaders are less struck. Xi, Putin, Rouhani and Assad face certainly not as many challenges to their rule as Trump-Netanyahu-MBS-Sisi-Johnson do. None of them seems to be close to removal – in contrast to their Western counterparts.

Nevertheless, each of them also faces serious domestic challenges. The Stalinist-capitalist regime in Beijing faces a popular insurgency in Hong Kong – the most serious unrest in China since Tiananmen in 1989.¹² The results of the communal elections in Moscow and the series of arrests around this event suggest that the Kremlin's rule is less stable as it seemed to be. Assad has still not managed to defeat the Syrian Revolution which is continuing its heroic liberation struggle in Idlib. And he has no chance in winning the civil war without the massive help of Russia and Iran.¹³ And the Mullah regime in Teheran has also faced a series of protests in the last year.

To avoid any misunderstanding: we do not predict the immediate downfall of the Trump-Netanyahu-MBS-Sisi-Johnson gang. Each of them can manoeuvre to survive for some time (and one or the other probably will succeed in this). But the very fact that the Holy Alliance of Western Counterrevolution is severely battered is in itself highly relevant for all those committed to the struggle for a socialist future! It demonstrates once more, as the RCIT has pointed out numerous times, how wrong those socialists

have been who pessimistically view the world situation as thoroughly reactionary or counterrevolutionary and hereby ignored the extraordinary instable and contradictory nature of the current historic period!¹⁴

As I said before, these are only brief observations which cannot replace a comprehensive analysis of the world situation – a world situation which is characterized by the decline of capitalism (the next Great Recession has already started or is very close to that), the accelerated rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan (Global Trade War, etc.), the escalation of counterrevolutionary assaults (Kashmir¹⁵, Palestine, South Africa¹⁶) as well as ongoing or new upsurges of important class struggles (Syria, Egypt, Yemen, Algeria, Sudan¹⁷, Hong Kong, Yellow Vests in France¹⁸, mass protests in Honduras¹⁹, the global Climate Strike movement²⁰, etc.).

Nevertheless, I think that these brief notes are sufficient to draw attention to the fact that big things are coming. Political contradictions are accumulating and quantity might transform into quality rather sooner than later! Watch out, comrades, and prepare!

Footnotes

1 The RCIT publishes comprehensive analysis of the world situation on an annual basis. Here is our latest document: World Perspectives 2019: Heading Towards a Volcanic Political Eruption. Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries, 2 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2019/>. This document contains links to earlier World Perspective documents.

2 See on this e.g. RCIT: Aramco Attack: Defeat the US/Saudi/Israeli Warmongers! Defend Iran against any imperialist aggression! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 16 September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/aramco-attack-defeat-the-us-saudi-israeli-warmongers/>

3 The RCIT has published a number of documents on the Global Trade War. They are collected in a special section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/>

4 See on this e.g. Yossi Schwartz: United States: The Need for a Labor Party, 23 July 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/north-america/united-states-the-need-for-a-labor-party/>

5 See on this e.g. the latest statement of our section in Occupied Palestine / Israel: ISL: Israel: On the Results of the National Elections, 21.09.2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/on-the-results-of-the-national-elections-in-israel/>

6 See on this e.g. RCIT: Egypt: Bring Down the Tyrant Sisi! Spontaneous mass protests shatter the military dictatorship of General Sisi, 23.09.2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-bring-down-the-tyrant-sisi/>

7 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: The Barbaric Slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi, 13.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-barbaric-slaughter-of-jamal-khashoggi/>

8 See on this e.g. RCIT: 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/>

9 See on this e.g. RCIT: 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/>

10 Our British comrades have published a number of articles on the actual developments around the Brexit crisis. Here is the latest: Joseph Adams: Britain: Defy Boris Johnson's Coup Attempt to suspend Parliament! Organize Mass Protests up to

an Indefinite General Strike! 06.09.2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/uk-defy-johnson-s-coup-attempt-to-suspend-parliament/>

11 Here is the latest statement of our Brazilian section: CCR: Brazil: Bolsonaro's Auto-Putsch Failed! Workers on the move to the general strike on June 14! 31 May 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/brazil-bolsonaro-s-auto-putsch-failed/>

12 Here is the latest RCIT statement on the mass protests in Hong Kong: RCIT: China: Solidarity with the General Strike in Hong Kong! For an international solidarity movement as the Stalinist-Capitalist regime in Beijing prepares a brutal crackdown! 01 August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/solidarity-with-the-general-strike-in-hong-kong/>

13 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/>. Here is our latest article by Michael Pröbsting: Syria: The Fall of the Martyr City Khan Sheikhoun. Despite this setback, the struggle against the tyranny of the Assad regime continues! 22 August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-the-fall-of-the-martyr-city-khan-sheikhoun/>

14 For the RCIT's analysis of the present historic period see e.g. Michael Pröbsting: The Catastrophic Failure of the Theory of "Catastrophism". On the Marxist Theory of Capitalist Breakdown and its Misinterpretation by the Partido Obrero (Argentina) and its "Coordinating Committee for the Refoundation of the Fourth International", RCIT Pamphlet, May 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-catastrophic-failure-of-the-theory-of-catastrophism/>; RCIT: Advancing Counterrevolution and Acceleration of Class Contradictions Mark the Opening of a New Political Phase. Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries (January 2016), Chapter II and III, in: Revolutionary Communism No. 46, <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2016/>; 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 (Chapter 14), RCIT Books, Vienna 2013, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/great-robbery-of-the-south/>

15 The RCIT has published a number of documents on the national liberation struggle in Kashmir that can be accessed on a special sub-section of this website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/>

16 See on this e.g. ANSA (Nigeria): Statement on the Xenophobic Attacks in South Africa, 4. September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/ansa-nigeria-statement-on-xenophobic-attacks-in-south-africa/>

17 The RCIT has published a number of statements and articles on the revolutionary process in Algeria and Sudan 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-2nd-wave-of-great-arab-revolution/>

18 See on this e.g. RCIT: France: Defend the "Yellow Vests" Movement against State Repression! Build local Action Committees! Push the Trade Unions to Join the Movement! Organize an Indefinite General Strike! 03.12.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/france-defend-the-yellow-vests-movement-against-state-repression/>

19 See on this e.g. Tomás Andino Mencía: Del auge al ocaso de la dictadura de "JOH", 18 julio, 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/forum/del-auge-al-ocaso-de-la-dictadura-de-joh/>; SOLIDARIDAD TOTAL CON EL PUEBLO HONDUREÑO, Declaración conjunta de la Agrupación de Lucha Socialista y Partido Obrero Socialista (México), 25.7.2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/espa%C3%B1ol/solidaridad-total-con-el-pueblo-hondureno/>

20 See on this e.g. RCIT: Revolutionary Change to End Climate Change! Only expropriation of the capitalist corporations opens the road towards the end of climate change, 20 September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/revolutionary-change-to-end-climate-change/>

Egypt: Bring Down the Tyrant Sisi!

Spontaneous mass protests shatter the military dictatorship of General Sisi

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 23.09.2019

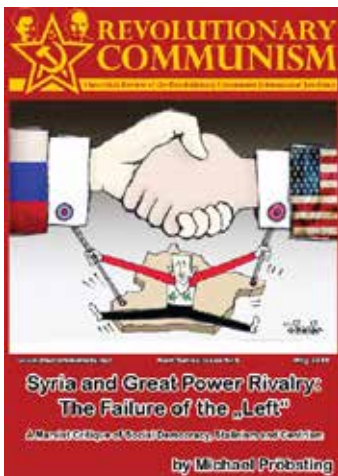
1. Events of profound importance are currently taking place in Egypt. Since Friday 20 September, spontaneous mass demonstrations are taking place in Cairo, Suez, Alexandria, Port Said, El-Mahalla El-Kubra and other cities. People have marched to the historic Tahrir Square, the central place of the Egyptian Revolution which resulted in the downfall of the Mubarak dictatorship on 25 January 2011. They are chanting slogans like “*the people demand the fall of the regime*” and “*leave Sisi*”, “*rise up, fear not, Sisi must go*”, and “*there is but one God and Sisi is the enemy of God*”. General Sisi, Egypt’s dictator who is currently in New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly, is visible getting nervous since he felt it necessary to issue a warning to international journalists “*not to depend on social media platforms as sources of news, for fear of chaos, confusion, false accounts and fabrication.*”

2. The regime tries to suppress the popular uprising by any means necessary. About 400-500 people have been already arrested in Cairo, according to the lawyer Amr Imam. A few hours ago, the police even detained Mahienour El-Massry, a well-known and award-winning human rights lawyer, after she had attended the investigations as a lawyer for several of those arrested during the demonstrations. The military dictatorship is a vicious enemy of the people. Since it came to power via a coup d’état on 3 July 2013 it has killed thousands of people, raped numerous women in prison and thrown at least 63.000 people in the dungeons. On a single day alone – the 14 August 2013 – the army slaughtered up to 2,600 people demonstrating on Cairo’s Rabaa Square and other places! No doubt, this bloody dictatorship will struggle to keep its power and privileges with all its brutality.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) wholeheartedly welcomes this popular upsurge and sends its warmest greetings to the courageous brothers and sisters who are defying the massive, armed to the teeth, state apparatus! This is a struggle for freedom against a barbarous dictatorship – it deserves the full and unconditional support of all socialists, democrats and righteous man and women!

4. The protests have been triggered by a series of videos published by Mohamed Ali who currently lives in Spain in self-imposed exile. He is a business man who worked as a military contractor for 15 years. As an establishment figure-turned-informer he accuses the generals, including Sisi, of numerous cases of corruption. Undoubtedly, most of his claims will be true as the whole country is aware that the military establishment and the Sisi family are corrupted through and through. Ali also addressed a letter to Defense Minister General Mohamed Zaki, calling on him to force President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi to step down or arrest him in the event of rejection. While the exposure of these scandals is highly welcome, the RCIT strongly warns against any illusions in the perspectives advocated by this business man. His appeal to the military to dispose General Sisi represent the treacherous road of a coup d’état which would only remove the tyrant but keep the army as the dominant force. However, it was one of the most important failures of the 25 January Revolution that it remained unfinished and left the generals in power.

5. While it is too early to say if this is already the beginning of the Second Egyptian Revolution, there can be no doubt about the profound significance of these events. Events could move very quickly but it is also possible that



Publications of the RCIT

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

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

this is the beginning of a longer process until the fall of the regime (similar to Iran 1978-79). In any case, it seems that a psychological barrier has been broken down – the masses' fear of the overwhelmingly repression apparatus. And this in itself is already a victory!

6. The importance of an overthrow of General Sisi's regime cannot be overestimated. This dictatorship represents the most important pillar of the counter-revolutionary offensive which has been let off the leash by the ruling classes of the Arab states and the imperialist Great Powers in response to the Great Arab Revolution. The coup d'état on 3 July 2013 not only smashed the democratic achievements in Egypt itself. It helped Israel to strangle Gaza. It helped the tyrant Assad to push back the Syrian Revolution. It strengthened General Haftar and his counter-revolutionary forces in Libya. Unsurprisingly, General Sisi received massive financial and political support by the authoritarian regimes of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates. Likewise, the military dictatorship was considered a reliable ally by all imperialist Great Powers. Just a few weeks ago, U.S. President Trumo literally called Sisi "My Favorite Dictator"! And the EU governments did roll out the red carpet for General Sisi less than a year ago as he guaranteed his European masters to stop migrants crossing the Mediterranean by any brutal means necessary.

7. In other words, bringing down the Egypt dictatorship would be a massive blow for the Zionist state, for the ultra-reactionary Gulf monarchies, for Assad the butcher, for General Haftar, for Trump, Putin and Xi, as well as for the imperialist fortress EU! It would be an important victory for the popular masses in Egypt thirsting for freedom, for the heroic Palestinian people, for the ongoing glorious Syrian Revolution, for the Yemeni masses defending their country against the Saudi aggression, for the Libyan people defending Tripoli and for refugees desperately trying to flee war and misery. In short, *defeating Sisi would mean a defeat for the all counter-revolutionary tyrannies in the Arab world as well as a defeat for all Great Powers!*

8. At this point it is important to bring to mind that it was not only the imperialist Great Powers and regional ruling classes which welcomed General Sisi's bloody grab for power six years ago. This killer regime was also hailed by numerous "left-wing" organizations like the Stalinist "Communist" Party of Egypt and its international friends as well as various pseudo-Trotskyist organizations (like the LIT, Alan Woods' IMT, or, initially, the Cliffite RS/IST). They all hailed the coup d'état as a "Second Egypt Revolution", i.e. *they shamefully glorified the bloody counter-revolu-*

tion as a "revolution"! History will never forget this crime!

9. The RCIT has supported the resistance of the popular masses in Egypt against the tyranny of General Sisi from the very first hour. We participated in numerous solidarity actions of Egyptian migrants. It is crucial that the workers, youth and poor in Egypt finish the revolution this time, smash the whole repression apparatus and expropriate the whole business and military elite! We also call the workers and popular mass organizations around the world to demonstrate their international solidarity and to rally in support of the Egypt brothers and sisters! The RCIT calls all activists sharing our perspectives to join us in building a revolutionary party in Egypt and globally!

* *Forward to the Second Egypt Revolution!*

* *Organize committees of action!*

* *Prepare for a general strike and a popular insurrection!*

* *For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

* *For a workers and poor peasants government!*

International Bureau of the RCIT

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We refer readers to our website where the RCIT has published numerous booklets, statements and articles the revolutionary process and counter-revolutionary setbacks in Egypt and the Arab world. They can be viewed here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>. In particular we draw attention to the following documents:

Report (with Photos and Video): Rally on the 6th Anniversary of the Rabaa Massacre in 2013, 14. August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/egypt-rally-at-anniversary-of-rabaa-massacre-14-8-2019/>

Michael Pröbsting: EU Leaders Praise Egypt's Military Dictatorship, 21.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/eu-leaders-praise-egypt-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: Revolution and Counterrevolution in the Arab World: An Acid Test for Revolutionaries, 31 May 2015, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/theses-arab-revolution/>



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

Aramco Attack: Defeat the US/Saudi/Israeli Warmongers!

Defend Iran against any imperialist aggression!

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

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 16 September 2019

1. A major air strike on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure on 14 September is bringing the Middle East to the brink of another major war. The attack on two key facilities of *Saudi Aramco*, which is the heart of the country's petroleum and natural gas business and one of the largest companies in the world, halted production of 5.7 million barrels of crude a day, more than half of Saudi Arabia's global daily exports and more than 5% of the world's daily crude oil production. This disruption is the greatest on record for world markets, according to figures from the International Energy Agency (even larger than the disruption around the time of Iran's 1979 Revolution). The markets reacted with panic. Brent crude futures, the international benchmark, briefly rose by as much as 19.5% to \$71.95 per barrel, the biggest intra-day jump since 14 January 1991 (before the start of the Gulf War at that time).

2. The Houthi movement in Yemen claimed responsibility for the attack. However, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accused Iran in a Twitter post: "*Amid all the calls for de-escalation, Iran has now launched an unprecedented attack on the world's energy supply*". At the same time, a senior Iraqi intelligence official said that the strikes were made by Iranian drones launched from Hashd al-Shaabi bases in southern Iraq – a claim which has been denied by the Iraqi government (David Hearst: Iranian drones launched from Iraq carried out attacks on Saudi oil plants,

Middle East Eye, 15 September 2019). US President Donald Trump said that the United States is "*locked and loaded*" for a military strike against Iran.

3. Irrespective if the attack has been launched by the Houthis, by pro-Iranian militias in Iraq or by Iran itself, there can be no doubt that this strike was a legitimate attack against Saudi Arabia and its US-American and Israeli allies. Saudi Arabia has waged a barbarous war against the Yemeni people since 2015 resulting in thousands of civilians killed and millions starving. It has aided Israel which launched repeated air strikes against pro-Iranian forces in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq (not to speak about the ongoing Zionist aggression against the heroic Palestinian people in Gaza). Furthermore, the Saudi monarchy is a key force in the pro-US counter-revolutionary alliance in the Middle East which strangles Iran with massive sanctions and military provocations in the Persian Gulf (and which, at the same time, props up the military dictatorship in Egypt, supports the coup attempt of General Haftar in Libya and tries to smash the Palestinian resistance).

4. Clearly, the U.S. Administration is in a quandary: if it launches air strikes against Iran in retaliation it risks a military escalation which could get easily out of control. In any case, a massive rise in oil prices would be guaranteed which would accelerate the downturn of the capitalist world economy (a process which is already taking place).

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.

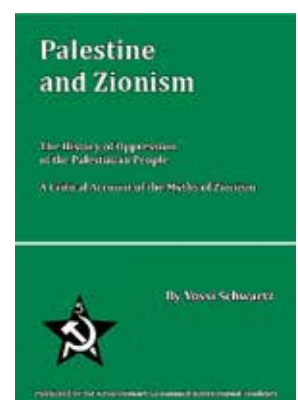
Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership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



It would have immediate effects on the U.S. consumers, diminishing the already modest chances of U.S. President Trump to safeguard his re-election. The fact that Trump recently sacked John Bolton, his National Security Adviser and a notorious anti-Iranian warmonger, reflects the desire of the U.S. Administration to avoid such a war with Iran (of course only after it recklessly escalated the aggression against Teheran for one and a half years without the desired result). On the other hand, if Washington refrains from a military strike against Iran, it would be a major foreign policy embarrassment for the Trump Administration and its whole counter-revolutionary alliance with Israel and Saudi Arabia. It would further diminish substantially the prestige of U.S. imperialism and accelerate its decay – a process which takes already place since a number of years. In any case, the successful air strike against the nerve centre of the Saudi energy system has demonstrated that Saudi and other Gulf oil facilities are vulnerable to this kind of attack which has serious consequences both for world politics as well as for the world economy. In short, whatever will be outcome of the current crisis it will have significant repercussions on the world situation.

5. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) reaffirms its long-standing position on this conflict. We condemn the rampant aggression of U.S. imperialism against Iran and call for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. forces from the region. We call for the immediate and unconditional lifting of all sanctions against Iran. In case of any military conflict between Iran and the US, Israel or any of its allies, we will side with the former and advocate the defeat of the imperialists. We support all activities that undermine and defeat imperialist aggression.

6. As we stated in past declarations on this issue (see the link below), the 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 Rus-

sian 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, while the rivalry between Washington, Moscow and Beijing plays a certain role in this conflict, the current tensions in the Strait of Hormuz are essentially about the hegemony of U.S. imperialism and its allies in the Middle East.

7. We call socialists to join forces on the basis of 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!*

International Bureau of the RCIT

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.thecomunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>



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

Kenya: Public Meeting on the Revolutionary Process in Sudan and Algeria

Report (with Pictures) by the Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya), 16 August 2019

The recent political occurrences and goings-on in the Sudan and Algeria necessarily reflect a growing urge for participatory democracy in Africa and beyond; a system in which the people themselves get to decide exactly how they should be governed, and a system in which those who produce get to enjoy the products of their labour.

In this regard, it was imperative that we engage in conversations geared towards this direction. On Tuesday, 13th August 2019, comrades and intellectuals gathered at the Kenya National Theater (Cheche Hall) to have a symposium on the situation in the Sudan and Algeria. The event was organized by the International League of People's Struggles (ILPS) Kenya Chapter, the Revolutionary Socialist League (RSL), the All African People's Revolutionary Party, Ukombozi PALIAct Library, the National Students Caucus as well as the Social Justice Centers Working Group.

The theme of the symposium was 'Struggle for participatory democracy in Africa'. The event was attended by 50-60 people, mostly from among comrades of the RSL, students and intellectuals.

The morning session of the event was moderated by Sobukwe Shokura of the AAPRP, and the afternoon session

by Lena Anyuolo of the RSL. Speakers included Faisal from the Sudan, Nancy Barasa from #AfricansforSudan, Ochievara Olungah from the RSL and Gacheke Gachihi from Mathare Social Justice Centre.

The speakers, as well as the audience during the plenary session, did well to articulate the situation in the Sudan, South Sudan and Algeria, relating these to our circumstances in Kenya, and the state of our popular struggles.

Solidarity messages from the RCIT and the people of Venezuela were presented by Ezra Otieno of the RSL.

At the end of the plenary session, comrades made a resolution to carry on the popular struggles in Kenya, reinforcing the development of proper structures of people's participatory democracy in the process. In order to avoid the situation in the Sudan, in which conservative forces try to hijack the people's struggle, we have to establish structures through which people's power would be exercised.

The solidarity message from the RCIT can be read here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rcit-greetings-to-public-meeting-on-the-revolutionary-process-in-sudan-and-algeria-kenya-13-8-2019/>



Public Meeting on the Revolutionary Process in Sudan and Algeria (Nairobi, 13.8.2019)

Free Syria: For the Immediate Release of Ahmad Rahhal and Mohammed Jadaan!

Emergency Statement of the RCIT, 13 September 2019

1. In the last days the security apparatus of *Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham* (HTS) has arrested two media activists, Ahmad Rahhal and Mohammed Jadaan. Both are prominent journalists in the free territories of Syria in the North and have been supporters of the Syrian Revolution since the beginning.

2. While the reasons for Jadaan's arrest are not known at the moment, it is clear why Ahmad Rahhal has been detained. Rahhal published a video statement of an important HTS commander Abu al-Abed Ashidaa in

which the latter strongly criticized the central leadership.

3. The RCIT, as an international organization, has supported the liberation struggle of the Syrian people against the tyranny of Assad and Putin from the very first hour. We continue to defend the ongoing Syrian Revolution irrespective of our political criticism of the current leadership of this struggle. We defend the right of free speech of the supporters of the Syrian Revolution.

4. We demand the immediate release of Ahmad Rahhal and Mohammed Jadaan!

Zimbabwe: Police Violence against Peaceful Demonstration

Brutal suppression of the MDC Alliance organized demonstration held on 16th August

Brief report by Daud Sibanda, Correspondent of the RCIT in Zimbabwe, 26 August 2019

Zimbabwe's main opposition party, the *Movement for Democratic Change Alliance*, organised a national demonstration in Harare on 16 August. It started in the late hours of the morning, and saw quite a significant handful number of participants.

They marched towards Africa Unity square where they were greeted by an intimidating heavy police presence. However, the marchers were not deterred, thus they pushed forward and the police pushed them back. The police seeing the resilience of the demonstrators decided to use force to disperse and kill the demonstration. This is where we then see the police force brutalizing the unarmed nonviolent demonstrators.

This is the sad story of Zimbabwe being written by the repressive neoliberal comprador regime. Unfortunately it's a story of two tales of brutality on the one side and exploitation on the other side, by people with the same personal agenda, being pushed from different fronts.

Shamefully, the government not only suppressed the demonstration but also slandered the participants. Government Spokesperson Ndavaningi Nick Mangwana denounced the demonstration as "August 16 Protests Were Acts of Insurgency and Banditry". The state is viewing any form of descent as a threat to security hypothetically speaking but in actual terms it's a threat to their continued hegemony and hold to power.

It is important for the workers and youth in Zimbabwe to organize independently and to fight for a socialist future – without neoliberal governments and imperialist super-exploitation!

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

Daud Sibanda: Zimbabwe: Neoliberal Austerity means Misery for the Popular Masses, 25 July 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/zimbabwe-neoliberal-austerity-means-misery-for-popular-masses/>

Daud Sibanda: Zimbabwe: The Economic and Political Situation after the Ouster of Mugabe, 23 April 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/zimbabwe-the-economic-and-political-situation-after-the-ouster-of-mugabe/>

Enddy Ziyera: Zimbabwe: The Cyclone Idai and the Clueless Government, 25 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/zimbabwe-and-the-cyclone-idai/>

Enddy Ziyera: On the Current Situation in Zimbabwe, 08 February 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/current-situation-in-zimbabwe/>

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

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

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

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

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

Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

Zimbabwe on knife edge over suspected state sanctioned abduction of Dr Magombeyi

by Robert Hood, Correspondent of the RCIT in Zimbabwe, 20 September 2019

Sunday 15th September Zimbabweans woke up to the news that one Dr Peter Magombeyi, a medical doctor and leader of the Zimbabwe Hospital Doctors Association had been abducted by unknown three men gang who many believe are members of the dreaded military intelligence.

The evil act has obviously led to all those who work on the public and private medical fraternity to down tools further worsening a deteriorating health situation.

Dr Magombeyi was reportedly abducted as a form of punishment for his position as a struggle stalwart for not just doctors but all workers right to a living wage and unfair labour practices.

The abduction was a surprise but not unexpected as Dr Magombeyi like others such as Cde Peter Mutasa, the ZCTU Secretary General, who all received some text messages from the same number threatening to deal with them if they partook in actions deemed against the interests of the state.

There is a trail of physical and digital footprints that should have made the State's duty of investigating and apprehending the culprits much easier but alas, the police just gave a muted response blaming a fictitious third force, the US embassy and the MDC Alliance for the abduction.

Dr Magombeyi's abduction came hot on the heels of a plethora of other abductions, torture and threats directed to cdes in civil society and the trade union. Politicians in the opposition especially in the MDC Alliance have not been spared either from this ravenous state machinery that has gone rogue. There is a scary history of state enforced disappearances in Zimbabwe and whenever this happens, the state always refuses to take responsibility, blaming everything and everyone for the heinous acts. Jestina Mukoko, Broderick Takawira, Pascal Gonzo are some examples of people abducted by the state by were luck to be found alive but all agree that they were in the hands of Lucifer

himself. Itai Dzamara was abducted in broad day light on 9 march 2015 was not so lucky and remain unaccounted almost 5 years now. Edwick Nhema who is the organizing secretary of the Zimbabwe Nurses Association reportedly escaped an abduction attempt Wednesday 17 September 2019 as he prepared to travel to Harare to attend a vigil for Dr Magombeyi. He had earlier received a text threatening to kill him if he proceeded with his plan to go to Harare for the vigil.

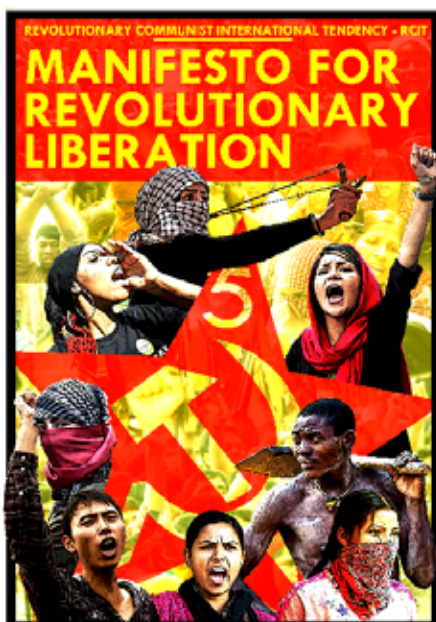
It is clear that the state - government of Zimbabwe stands as a perfect example of one of the erstwhile employers who have deliberately chosen to be a foe of all the working people of Zimbabwe in word and deed.

In the last 8 weeks alone, the government stand accused of abducting and torturing more than a dozen activists including Cde Mombeyarara who was accused of organizing MDC Alliance demos last month. The state went on to abduct and torture Gonyeti, a social commentator and comedian of all people without an iota of concern.

The state has clearly turned into a vampire and citizens have every reason to be afraid, very afraid.

Even the dead have become "unsafe" in recent times with the family of the late former President Robert Mugabe telling the nation that they intend to take his mortal remains for safe keeping back to Singapore where he came to grief on the 6th of September 2019 until his burial which will take place probably in the next two months as the government claims it is constructing a mausoleum for him.

As the local socialist movement in Zimbabwe, we join other progressive forces in calling for the immediate return of Dr Magombeyi to his family. We further demand that the state must stop abducting and torturing citizens but must protect, promote and respect human rights especially labour rights. We seek solidarity from everywhere especially comrades.



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

Statement on Xenophobic Attacks in South Africa

Press Statement of the Alliance Of Nigerian Students Against Neo-Liberal Attacks

It goes without saying that the major cause of mass effusion of Nigerians from Nigeria and the steadfastness of remaining Nigerians to follow suit is a resultant of the crushing hardship that more than half of the Nigerian population are faced with on a daily bases. Even Nigerian students are convinced that no quality source of standard education can be gotten within the boundaries of our nation. Hence the number of Nigerian migrants in other nations of the world is bound to increase. Alas, the recent news reports of Nigerians involving in cyber crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking and racketeering of all sorts shows that no where in the world can serve as 'greener pastures' for too long because the same problems and contradictions we experience in Nigeria are not far fetched in other countries of the world they are only abridged by the age-long agitations of the masses in those countries, a culture which is becoming more popular amongst the populace in Nigeria.

That is why for us, in ANSA, we believe that the salvation Nigerians crave and the hope for a better living can only be supplied by a thorough-going mass struggle against the anti-student and anti-people dictatorship of the Nigerian ruling elite who have been crystallized into the two arms of right-wing despotism in our country namely; APC & PDP. Nigerians must note that at present there remains nowhere to run if the present conditions that face an average Nigerian in his homeland is not ameliorated. The chaos in Nigeria can only produce stigmatized immigrants in other countries. Although we frown at all forms of discrimination but immigrants and minorities have been known to face the backlash of economic ills and ebbs in foreign countries and the only panacea to such is raising the prestige and respect from home.

It is worthy of note that the xenophobic attacks are not peculiar to South Africa alone, discrimination and hatred for minorities and immigrants only has different names under different climes. In America and other parts of Europe it is called White Supremacy the most lucid symbol of which is Donald Trump's proposed border wall; in the Middle East it is Zionism and Jihad yet all of these are but excrecence of an ailing economy both home and abroad.

The world is in a situation where the wealth of billions of people are being arrogated by a handful which consists of an unholy alliance of world governments and the transnational/national business moguls. In this regard there should be no special case of hatred between Nigerians and South Africans.

For the present case of South African xenophobia, both the Buhari and Ramaphosa administration are culpable. The Buhari regime as constantly cut funding for public institutions most especially education and health care. Public education which is a vital composition of national survival has been kicked to the curb continually by the Buhari government which as drastically reduced the budgetary allocation to education for every year in office. This year a terse sum of 50.15 billion naira was allocated to education which has about 40 million students excluding staff making the annual estimate for expenditure per student 1,250 naira and the daily estimate 3 naira 50 kobo while an average senator goes home with nothing less than 14 million naira monthly irrespective of allowances while also failing to implement the 30,000 naira minimum wage. As if this was not enough, the reports of huge sums of money being swallowed by snakes and monkeys is unending. After years of Buhari's 'anti-corruption war' Nigerians have had nothing to show for it besides privatization of public institutions and hikes in the prices of public services such as electricity.

On the southern end of our continent, his more 'amiable' counterpart Ramaphosa is doing nothing to dismantle the primitive accumulation of South African wealth and lands by the 'powerful' few since the apartheid. Now the costs of the decades long unbridled avarice is now being felt by ordinary South Africans. However it is this same rich few who have planted the seeds of discord by amassing resources in a barbaric fashion that have still watered it by employing or giving special grants to foreigners all for the purpose of making illicit gain. It is a known fact that immigrants are always been seen by business cabals as an easy means for cheap labour thereby side-lining there own indigenes.

Also it is the general tendency of modern governments

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)

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

just like that of South Africa to give large control of the nation's economic mainstay to foreigners to weaken accountability and undermine labour relations. This is another form of divide and rule tactic launched against the oppressed.

Our enemies in all parts of Africa are the sponsors and agents of neo-liberalism who are not marked by tribe or race but who signify by their support and action for the concentration of Africa's wealth in the hands of imperialist and governments loyal to their interests. The same is being done in Nigeria where our oil refineries are but extant and all our petroleum products are imported. The new refinery being finished in Lagos would by no means bring a sigh of relief to Nigerians but a continuum in hardships since it is under the control of the same rogue sect that has perpetuated hikes and shortages in our mineral resources.

For us in the Alliance, we are not a party to the declaration by the NANS president that all South Africans should leave Nigeria and their businesses shut-down. It is irrational, impulsive and hypocritical for if you do not address the cause of the problem which is the government of both countries how can you punish the average citizens for something they did not partake in. In fact what leverage has he to effect his threat given that NANS though a supposed student body is totally disconnected from Nigerian students moreso their plight.

We propose rather a working and robust relationship between South African students bodies and Nigerian students unions. The same relationship must be forged between civil society groups and labour unions in Nigeria and South Africa to fight the governments home and abroad. There is no better historical necessity for the formation of this bond than the present crucible of the xenophobia crises.

At every instant of international or regional crises the Ni-

gerian and South African students, workers, and popular masses must acknowledge that the real enemy is at home or is of the same nationality and they are found only in the class of exploiters at the helms of affairs.

OUR MAJOR STANDPOINTS:

WE CONDEMN THE XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS ON NIGERIANS AND OTHER IMMIGRANTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE ATTACKS ARE RESULTANT OF THE ANTI-PEOPLE POLICIES OF PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA IN SOUTH AFRICA AND PRESIDENT BUHARI IN NIGERIA.

WE ALONGSIDE OTHER NIGERIANS CALL FOR AN END TO UNEMPLOYMENT AND "CHEAP LABOUR". EQUAL PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR ALL WORKERS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NIGERIA WHETHER NATIONALS OR IMMIGRANTS.

END PRIVATIZATION! XENOPHOBIA IS A SIGN THAT PRIVATE COMPANIES ARE INUNDATED BY THE SUPPLY IN THE LABOUR MARKET. THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTH NATIONS MUST PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT BY NATIONALIZING MAJOR ENTERPRISES.

THIS IS A LABOUR CRISIS; THE NLC AND TUC MUST BEGIN TO FORGE RELATIONS WITH LABOUR AND OTHER CIVIL ORGANIZATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. PRESIDENT BUHARI AND PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA MUST PAY REPARATIONS FOR DAMAGED BUSINESS ASSETS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NIGERIA.

WE ARE NOT A PARTY TO THE CALL OF THE NANS PRESIDENT DANIELSON BAMIDELE FOR THE EXODUS OF ALL SOUTH AFRICANS LIVING IN NIGERIA AND THE CLOSURE OF THEIR BUSINESSES.

Signed: Akinwilire Boluwatife, P.R.O; Owoeye Olaoluwa (Olamarx), Secretary

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.

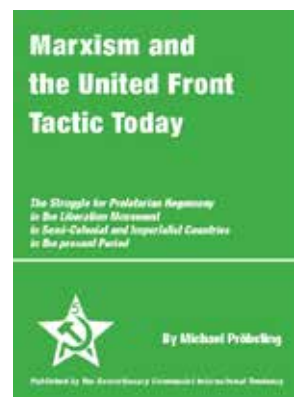
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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: Defy Johnson's Coup Attempt to suspend Parliament!

Organize Mass Protests up to an Indefinite General Strike!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, 6th September 2019

Boris Johnston has decided that the only way he can defeat his remain opponents in parliament and proceed with a no deal Brexit is to prorogue parliament to enable him to proceed to Brexit on the 31st October. For Johnson to achieve this he needs a royal prerogative from the Monarchy. Elizabeth Windsor (like Charles Stuart before her) has created an immense constitutional crisis. This present Queen follows the tradition of her predecessor who ended up proroguing Parliament for 12 years in 1629, a Civil war his own execution and a Cromwellian government taking power. This monarchical system like the present government is outdated and needs to be overthrown once for all. Charles Stuart was to learn one important lesson about Dictatorship.

"In January 1629, Charles opened the second session of the English Parliament, which had been prorogued in June 1628, with a moderate speech on the tonnage and poundage issue.] Members of the House of Commons began to voice opposition to Charles's policies in light of the case of John Rolle a Member of Parliament whose goods had been confiscated for failing to pay tonnage and poundage. Many MPs viewed the imposition of the tax as a breach of the Petition of Right, The provocation was too much for Charles, who dissolved Parliament and had nine parliamentary leaders, including Sir John Eliot, imprisoned over the matter, thereby turning the men into martyrs, and giving popular cause to their protest." [1].

Boris Johnson has proceeded down the same path with the Queen's blessing of arbitrarily closing down of Parliament, leading to a fundamental attack of democratic rights and the potential onset of dictatorship in Britain. This is a struggle between two sections of the Bourgeoisie. Those like Johnson and the Brexiteers who favour the imperialist British nation state and those who support European imperialism. These contradictions and rivalries will sharpen even more with the next recession, affecting all Imperialist nations including Britain.

"Boris Johnson has set up an extraordinary confrontation with MPs when they return to Westminster next week by announcing that he has asked the Queen to suspend parliament for five weeks from mid-September.

The prime minister claimed there would be "ample time" to debate Brexit, as he wrote to MPs on Wednesday, saying he had spoken to the Queen and asked her to suspend parliament from "the second sitting week in September". The Queen approved the order later on Wednesday.

MPs will then not return to Westminster until 14 October, when he said there would be a new Queen's speech, setting out what he called a "bold and ambitious domestic legislative agenda for the renewal of our country after Brexit".[2]

Johnson's decision to prorogue Parliament has led to demonstrations and protests up and down the Country. In all the Major cities there has been rallies against Johnson's attacks on democratic rights with leading protests in Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle and many towns up and down the Country.

"From Bodmin to Berlin, Bristol to Oxford, tens of thousands of people took to the streets in towns and cities across England, Scotland and Wales on Saturday to vent their fury at Johnson's plan to suspend parliament. Around 1,200 people attended the rally in Cambridge where they booed the prime minister and his adviser Dominic Cummings as though they were pantomime villains.

Demonstrations more than 1,000-strong were seen in cities including Manchester, Newcastle and York, where a crowd carrying EU and Yorkshire flags convened outside the famous Bettys tea rooms.

Others were held in Amsterdam's Dam Square, outside the British embassy in Latvia's capital Riga, and beside the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. In the German capital one protester waved a banner that read: "The last time this happened, Cromwell discontinued the custom of kings wearing their heads on their shoulders." [3]

The RCIT unreservedly supports these demonstrations and protests in defense of democratic rights but we say: This must lead to active strikes of the working class, supported by mass mobilisations on the streets to bring government to a halt. Such is a first precursor to an indefinite general strike and to a struggle to replace this system of a capitalist government with a workers government. The consequences of a no deal Brexit could lead to shortages of medicines and food on supermarket shelves, which will mainly effect the working class and the poor. Britain is a small Island nation and cannot last long isolated without some form of trade. This government already has discussed this issue within COBRA, the highly secretive government organization which can act in place of Parliament.

Johnson and his civil servants have already prepared a document called *Operation Yellowhammer* which they admit could lead to social unrest and protests against the increasing authoritarian government of Johnson. This document has been written to look at the infrastructure after Brexit on October 31st. It admits Britain will face shortages of fuels, food and medicines. There will be a hard border with Ireland which will make it difficult to trade with other European countries. COBRA has already established that there are 3,500 troops on standby in case of social unrest, rioting and civil disobedience because of the lack of basic foodstuffs. It would be a situation of unfettered price rises. The most vulnerable will suffer with austerity at worst homelessness, poverty and mass unemployment. The state would clamp down on strikes and any protests and workers would face police state powers introduced under the Blair Government. Martial law would be prevalent with curfews and travel bans. Current existing governmental departments could be taken over if the leaders of the operation believe that they are not working properly. *Operation Yellowhammer* is planned to be implemented for three months but it is obvious that it has the potential to enable a Bonapartist regime in Britain.

Jeremy Corbyn is attempting to organize a care taker government of National Unity comprising pro-European To-

ries, the SNP, Liberal Democrats and Blairites in his own party. This would be a disaster. Corbyn needs to fight on the important social issues and turn to the working class for support instead of following his reformist agenda. National governments have failed in the past and will fail again. The left reformists are hoping for a general election but the current development is a weakening of the Labour Party (left) and as a consequence the increase possibility for a new right-wing, conservative government.

In addition the influence of Blairite forces would increase even more based on such a shift to the right. Both the main centrist forces in Britain the CWI and the SWP have no real answers whatsoever because of their Lexit come Brexit position where they end up on the wrong side, politically confused and disorientated by Brexit and refusing to recognize that there should be no support for either Remain or Brexit but revolutionary defeatism.

Johnson defeated over his BREXIT Plans

Boris Johnson was defeated by 301 votes to 328 votes in the House of Commons over his plans for a no deal Brexit on the 31st October. The remain faction including Labour and Tory rebels have now taken control of the Parliamentary timetable. Johnson's response is to call for a general election either on the 14th or 15th October. Under the rules of the fixed term Parliament act he needs a two thirds majority. Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party, said he will only support a general election when the No-deal Brexit becomes law. The political crisis of Brexit continues to haunt British imperialism and the bourgeoisie with no solution in sight. Johnson's decision to suspend Parliament seems to have now been a hopeless exercise with his defeat in the Commons.

"Boris Johnson has announced that he will ask parliament to support plans for a snap October general election after suffering a humiliating defeat in his first House of Commons vote as prime minister.

Former cabinet ministers including Philip Hammond and David Gauke were among 21 Conservative rebels who banded together with opposition MPs to seize control of the parliamentary timetable on a dramatic day in Westminster.

The move was aimed at paving the way for a bill tabled by the Labour backbencher Hilary Benn, which is designed to block a no-deal Brexit by forcing the prime minister to request an extension to article 50 if he cannot strike a re-worked deal with the EU27". [4]

RCIT Response

The RCIT in Britain recognizes the explosive situation in Britain and puts forward the following demands to workers and the oppressed to defeat Boris Johnson and both sections of the Bourgeoisie whether they are for Remain or for Brexit.

** For mass demonstrations and strikes up to an Indefinite General Strike. Fight for a Workers Government. Build action committees in the workplaces, schools and neighborhoods to organize the struggle. Build a rank and file trade union movement; replace the Bureaucracy with democratically elected trade union activists who come from and stay under control of the rank and file membership. No to any compromise and betrayal!*

Defend all democratic rights, no to any attempt towards bonapartism and dictatorship.

** For the convocation of a Constituent Assembly made up of workers, peoples assemblies and local community organizations. In such a constituent assembly Revolutionaries have to argue for a truly Socialist society and explain why the Bourgeois Parliaments are no proper organs of real democracy.*

** For a programme of revolutionary equality for all migrants – equal access to language, full citizenship rights including absolute access to education and housing.*

** Neither Brexit nor Remain- No support for either imperialist state! For revolutionary defeatism and for the independence of the working class. Smash the EU and all imperialist structures! For the United Socialist States of Europe! Join the RCIT!*

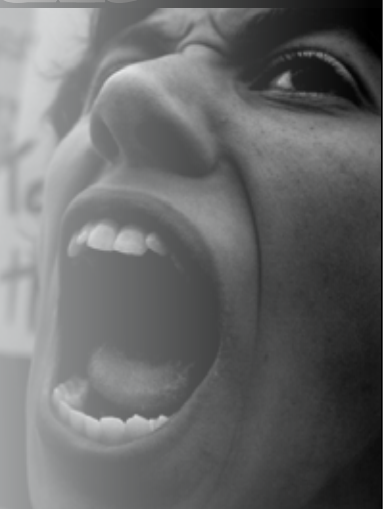
Footnotes

- 1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_I_of_England
- 2) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/aug/28/boris-johnson-suspend-parliament-mps-no-deal-brexit>
- 3) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/aug/31/bodmin-to-berlin-crowds-vent-fury-boris-johnson-coup>
- 4) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/sep/03/boris-johnson-suffers-commons-defeat-as-tories-turn-against-him>

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)



Britain: General Strike to bring down the Tory Government!

For Open Borders and Free Movement for All! Fight Racism and Fascism!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain,

Boris Johnson's new Home Secretary Priti Patel, an extreme racist, has decided that European nationals living in Britain will not have the right to remain in Britain after the Brexit deadline of 31st October.

"Ending freedom of movement for EU citizens immediately after a no-deal Brexit would be reckless and could create a hostile environment for European nationals, a campaign group has said.

The 3million, a citizens group that represents the rights of EU nationals in the UK, was responding to the news that the home secretary, Priti Patel, intended to impose new border restrictions overnight on 31 October if Britain left the EU without a deal, despite reports that an internal government discussion paper had warned that doing so could present "legitimate concerns of another Windrush." [1]

Islamophobia and racism is rife in Britain with threats against migrants from fascists irrespective of Theresa May's promise to honor her pledge to allow EU nationals to remain after Brexit. Border security has been stepped up and Patel a fervent Brexiteer and Zionist sacked by May previously is now the Home secretary. She is willing to deport and lock away anyone she deems not fit to stay irrespective of both Johnson and May, who had said that EU Nationals had the right to stay.

"The muddle arises from reports that home secretary Priti Patel has been pressing for an immediate end to free movement in the event of no deal. This appears to mark a significant shift in policy. Until now, the government has said that in a no-deal scenario, EU citizens will generally continue to be able to come to the UK to live and work until the introduction of a new system in January 2021. While their legal status will change, in practice the main difference is that they will have to apply for European temporary leave to remain for stays of more than three months. Given this status is freely open to all EU citizens, provided they pass certain criminality checks, a version of freedom of movement will in effect continue for at least another year". [2]

The reactionary and racist policy of Patel and her civil servants to refugees and migrants is shown in her attitude to the living accommodation of refugees and asylum seekers, who live in rat infested hostels.

"Hundreds of asylum seekers have been crammed into a network of "guest houses" provided by a Home Office contractor that are overrun by cockroaches, rats and mice, the Guardian has learned.

Lawyers shown footage recorded by the Guardian – which reveals that families of four are sharing small double beds and are being crammed into spaces so small that they are barely able to walk around their rooms – said that the conditions could constitute statutory overcrowding and an environment unfit for human habitation.

One lawyer branded the conditions "depraved" and accused the home secretary, Priti Patel, of being slum landlord in chief". [3].

This climate of fear and loathing perpetrated by extreme chauvinism and Islamophobia has led to attacks on anyone defending migrants and their families. The use of anti-terror legislation was brought in by the Tony Blair government and is already on the statue book in Britain. This anti-terror legislation is being used to label anyone a terrorist especially from Muslim or Arab countries. Recent

evidence and profiling shows this to be the case.

"Muslims are being detained at ports and airports for up to six hours by law enforcement using controversial counter-terrorism powers so disproportionately that the practice has become Islamophobia, according to human rights group Cage.

The organization added there is growing anecdotal evidence that Muslim women are being forced to remove their headscarves when stopped, even though the rate that such stops lead to a conviction is 0.007%, according to Cage's analysis of 420,000 incidences.

Cage said it had made a complaint to the policing regulator, the Independent Office for Police Conduct, on behalf of 10 people, and had written to MPs on the all-party group on British Muslims to spell out the extent of its concerns with so-called schedule 7 stops". [4].

Fascist Attacks in Britain multiply threefold

The election of Boris Johnson as Prime Minister and his stoking up the fears of attacks by migrants and others has led to the perception that anyone who does not embrace extreme chauvinist and Anglo-Saxon views of a white Britain is a danger to our so called democracy. Johnson and his chief ally Donald Trump in the United States are hostile to Muslims migrants and anyone they perceive as anathema to their reactionary culture of Islamophobic racism and sympathy with fascism. This has led to attacks on Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the Labour Party, while attending a Muslim mosque in Finsbury Park North London as well as to attacks on Steve Hedley, the Assistant General Secretary of the RMT (Rail Union) and to the recent homophobic attack on Owen Jones, a *Momentum* activist and supporter of Jeremy Corbyn. In all these attacks it has been noticeable that the police would rather stand by and condone the racist and even fascist attacks. This was certainly the case with the attacks on Steve Hedley who had to protect himself while there were scores of police doing absolutely nothing but watching them.

"Assault on RMT members by supporters of Tommy Robinson As you may be aware RMT members who had been involved in a peaceful counter protest to the "Free Tommy Robinson" rally in Central London at the weekend were subjected to a cowardly and unprovoked attack in broad daylight by supporters of Tommy Robinson. Whilst our members naturally protected themselves and vulnerable supporters nearby, a number of our members and officials and supporters sustained injuries, including Senior Assistant General Secretary Steve Hedley who was taken to hospital and subsequently discharged.

The union issued a statement condemning the attack and is providing support to those caught in this despicable act of pre-meditated violence. We are also raising our concerns with the police authorities and politicians." [5].

Other instances of attacks by Fascists in support of Robinson took place in the Arndale Centre in Manchester, where muslims and socialists protested against Fascism and Islamophobia. Again the police have stood by and done nothing to prevent these attacks on Anti-Fascists and Socialists.

The RCIT has been consistent in its police of open borders and free movement for all. Even some Centrist groups like the CWI (their section in England even supported a backward and racist campaign called "British Jobs for British Workers" in the Lindsey Oil Refinery in 2009), not to speak reformists like Jeremy Corbyn advocate controlled immigration.

For Open Borders

"The RCIT in BRITAIN has always fought against racism and Islamophobia amongst sections of the working class. We live in a multi-cultural society and as such should respect customs and practices of all peoples. Migrants and refugees are the most exploited section of the working class often working in low paid employment and bad housing conditions. The RCIT campaigns for Open Borders and for migrants to have the right to wear their own dress and speak their own language". [6]

With the date of the No-Deal Brexit approaching on 31st October it is imperative that a campaign in the Labour and trade union movement is started for open borders and free movement for all.

The RCIT in BRITAIN puts forward the following transitional demands to unite the Working class around a programme of Open Borders and Free Movement for all.

- *Campaign for Open Borders and Free Movement! Demand from Jeremy Corbyn and the Labour Leadership to support a campaign against both Brexit and Remain, which should be based on the decisions and mobilisations of the rank and file! Pro-Imperialist and Pro-Zionist bureaucrats must be expelled from the Labour Party by democratic vote of the rank and file! No Immigration Controls!*

- *For demonstrations and mass mobilisations up and down the country towards an indefinite general strike to stop*

the right-wing politics of Boris Johnson, Nigel Farage and their reactionary parties and for the abloishment of the Monarchy! Build action committees in the workplaces, schools and communities to organize the struggle. For self-organized defense guards to protect migrants and refugees from fascists or police provocations!

- *For a programme of full equality for all migrants and refugees - equal access to housing, employment and full citizenship rights! For the the right of all migrants and refugees to use their mother tongue, to follow their own customs and traditions in all public institutions!*

- *For the convocation of a Constituent Assembly made up of workers, peoples assemblies and local community organizations. In such a constituent assembly Revolutionaries have to argue for a truly Socialist society and explain why the Bourgeois Parliaments are no proper organs of real democracy.*

- *For a Workers Government. Neither Brexit, nor Remain! No support for any Imperialist State! For Revolutionary Defeatism and the United Socialist States of Europe!*

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/aug/19/threat-to-end-freedom-of-movement-overnight-reckless-say-eu-citizens>
- 2) <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/22/britain-eu-citizens-brexit-business-immigration-policies>
- 3) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/20/asylum-seekers-crammed-into-cockroach-infested-accommodation-home-office>
- 4) <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/aug/20/detention-of-muslims-at-uk-ports-and-airports-structural-islamophobia>
- 5) <https://www.rmt.org.uk/about/policies/political-circulars-and-submissions/assault-on-rmt-members-by-supporters-of-tommy-robinson170718/>
- 6) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/britain-boris-johnson-instigates-racial-hatred/>

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.

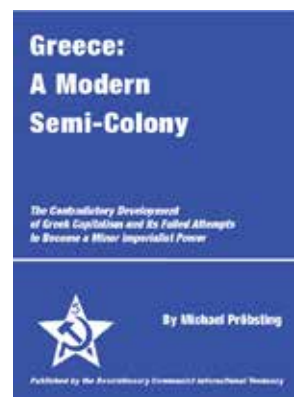
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which gives an overview of its content.

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. ■



Greece: "Many People Could Not Imagine that SYRIZA Was Capable of Doing Such Things!"

Interview with a Greek revolutionary student activist

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 7 September 2019

Note of the Editorial Board: Below we publish an interview with Christos Papadopoulos, a correspondent of the RCIT in Greece. The comrade is a revolutionary activist in "Ενιαία Ανεξάρτητη Αριστερή Κίνηση" (EAAK, United Independent Left Movement), a left-wing student alliance in Greece.

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

Answer: EAAK is a student movement in the universities of Greece. It consists of some communist/left-wing organisations or parties as well as of independent activists. EAAK stands up for all the students and their rights especially inside universities. Also we do not have any hierarchical stratification as we are all equal. EAAK are in front to the most general strikes that have happened in Greece and sometimes, when these strikes are related to student issues, EAAK even initiates them.

Question: What is the situation for students? Have there been cuts in education?

Answer: There have been a number of cuts in education in the last years in order to service national debt, to pay for militarization (NATO, etc.) and so on. Right now the new conservative ND government tries to abolish the university's asylum that protects students to have their political discussions and to help the community. In this effort, the government is aided by an old law from the previous government led by the reformist SYRIZA party. Of course we have a lot more problems like some students can not find houses when they study in another city because of airbnb and a lot more but right now these are the things that bother us more.

Question: Greece had a SYRIZA-led government for four years which has been characterized as "left-wing" by various European observers. What are your characterizations of SYRIZA and the politics of the government?

Answer: I think that SYRIZA is worse than a clearly right-wing party because it won the elections as a left-wing par-

ty and they made things which previous governments of ND and PASOK couldn't do resp. feared to do. Also the concrete experience of the SYRIZA government is useful to explain how silly it was to talk that people in Greece somehow used to live in a communist system. All this was just propaganda! In fact, after four years of SYRIZA being in government, a number of people and most of the left-wing movements were disappointed of what SYRIZA had done. Many left-wing activists could not imagine that SYRIZA was able to do such terrible things despite the fact that they were aware that it was a social-democrats party.

Question: Greece has still a strong orthodox Stalinist party – the KKE. What is your view of this party?

Answer: KKE for sure is the biggest left wing party in Greece with thousands of members. However, the KKE and its youth organisation (KNE) preferred to stay outside of the movements since 2006. And this despite the fact that many important mobilizations took place in these years! The worst thing is that KKE has done in all those years is to announce themselves as the only real communists in Greece. This has not helped the movement or the KKE itself but rather the right-wing organisations which are on the other side of the barricade.

Question: Greece has seen a series of general strikes in the past decade. However they did fail to defeat the austerity offensive. What have been the main reasons for this? And what are, in your opinion, the main lessons to be drawn?

Answer: I think that you can find the answer if you see what happened in the two elections of 2015. That is because a lot of the people who participated in general strikes did not want to make a step further and have advance towards a serious uprising. The lessons that we have to draw are two things. Firstly, we have to stop believing that a party can change something through parliamentary elections. Secondly, we have to be ready and prepare for sharp turns in political events in the next years!

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



Publications of the RCIT

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

Revolutionary Unity in Kenya

Declaration of Fraternal Relations between the Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya) and the RCIT, 30 August 2019

1. After a period of discussion and collaboration the *Revolutionary Socialist League* (Kenya) and the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) have decided to establish fraternal relations.

2. The programmatic basis for our fraternal relations constitutes agreement on a revolutionary platform for Kenya (www.thecommunists.net/theory/action-program-forward-to-a-free-and-socialist-kenya/). We have also reached general agreement on the RCIT's "*Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa*" (<https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/manifesto-for-the-revolutionary-liberation-of-black-africa/>). The comrades from the RSL made several suggestions on this document which shall be integrated in future documents.

3. We discussed the issues of the character of the Gaddafi regime in Libya until 2011 as well as the nature of the Bolivarian government in Venezuela. While we recognize the need for further discussion, we agree that the popular uprisings in North Africa and the Middle East (incl. in Libya) which began in 2011 have a legitimate character as they were resp. are directed against capital-

ist dictatorships. Likewise we also agree on rejecting any military intervention of the imperialist Great Powers. Furthermore we agree on the characterization of the Bolivarian government in Venezuela as reformist as well as on the necessity to defend the country against any form of imperialist intervention or right-wing coup-mongers.

4. We consider Africa as a highly important region – both as a place for super-exploitation by the imperialist Great Powers (like the US, EU, China) and the local capitalists as well as a key area for the liberation struggle of the international working class and the oppressed people. We will therefore collaborate in order to advance the struggle against capitalist exploitation and imperialist oppression in Kenya and the whole African continent. We plan to intensify our discussion and collaboration so that we can develop the basis for a fusion of our organizations.

5. We call upon revolutionaries in Kenya, Africa and internationally to join us in our struggle to rebuild a revolutionary World Party – an international party determined to fight for socialist revolution in Africa and around the world!

Chechnya: Rally against the Murder of Zelimkhan Khangoshvili by the Russian Security Service

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

About 50 migrants from Chechnya held a rally in Vienna (Austria) in front of the Russian embassy. They protested against the killing of the Chechen liberation fighter Zelimkhan Khangoshvili. Khangoshvili was assassinated in Berlin on 23 August by an agent of the Russian security service.

The rally was led by Iskhanov Huseyn, the spokesperson of the Chechen migrant community in Austria.

The rally was addressed by a number of Chechen speakers. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, was asked to speak twice – in German respectively in English language. He sharply condemned

the murder of brother Khangoshvili and emphasized the unconditional support of the RCIT for the liberation struggle of the Chechen people.

See pictures of the rally and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/chechnya-rally-against-murder-of-zelimkhan-khangoshvili-by-russian-security-service/>

A key statement of the RCIT on Chechnya can be read here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/solidarity-with-the-liberation-struggle-of-the-chechen-people/>



Rally against the Murder of Zelimkhan Khangoshvili by the Russian Security Service (Vienna, 30.8.2019)

For Revolutionary Unity in a World Full of Explosive Tensions!

Call for an internationalist perspective in the struggle for a socialist future

Joint Statement by Revolutionary Organizations, August 2019

Capitalism is experiencing unprecedented crisis and decline. It is unavoidable that the tensions and clashes between classes and states are accelerating. Revolutionaries around the world must intervene in their class struggles on the basis of an internationalist and anti-imperialist program for socialist revolution and working class power. We fight for the following:

* **Support the liberation struggles of the oppressed masses against all Great Powers and their proxies!** Drive Russia and the U.S. out of Syria! No to U.S. sanctions and aggression against Iran! No to sanctions against North Korea! Hands off Venezuela and Central America! U.S., European, Russian and Chinese troops – out of Mali, Libya, Niger, South Sudan, Djibouti, and all other African countries! No to the ANISOM intervention in Somalia! Against the intervention of Saudi, UAE, Egyptian, French, Russian and other forces in Libya!

* **Support the liberation struggles of workers and oppressed!** Long live the popular struggle in Hong Kong! Victory for the popular uprising in Sudan and Algeria! For a Free Palestine from the River to the Sea! Down with the Assad dictatorship in Syria! National self-determination for the oppressed peoples of Chechnya, East Turkestan and Kashmir! Support popular mass protests against the pro-imperialist regimes of Brazil, Honduras and all Latin America!

* **Struggle against all Great Powers (U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan)!** Against trade wars, the arms race, military provocations, imperialist protectionism, and globalization! Revolutionaries in the imperialist states must oppose sanctions and tariffs as well as all forms of chauvinism against Great Power rivals (e.g. Anti-China hysteria in the U.S., Anti-Russian propaganda in the EU, Anti-Western demagoguery in Russia and China, etc.)! Revolutionaries in Japan and South Korea must oppose the chauvinist tensions between their countries! Revolutionaries in Greece must resolutely stand against anti-Macedonian chauvinism and the anti-Turkish hysteria of the ruling class! Revolutionaries in the countries of the South must advocate the

united front tactic in the liberation struggle. They must also warn against all forms of opportunism that offers support for one or another camp of any Great Power (in the spirit of "the enemy of my enemy is my friend")!

* **Down with the imperialist migration policy!** Smash Trump's Wall at the Mexican border and oppose the repression against the Central American migrants by the Mexican government! Down with the EU Frontex regime! Against the brutal anti-migrants policy in Russia! Open Borders for all migrants and refugees! Full equality for migrants (citizenship rights, equal wages, access to social and health service, right to use their native language in education, public administration, etc.)!

We call on revolutionaries to help the workers and oppressed to free themselves from the influence of social democracy, Stalinism, Bolivarism, petty-bourgeois nationalism, and Islamism. Forward in joining forces to build a Revolutionary World Party fighting for a socialist future!

Signatories:

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Brazil, Mexico, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria), www.thecommunists.net

Revolutionary Communists (South Korea), <http://go.jinbo.net/commune/view.php?board=cool&id=51945&page=1>

Jammu Kashmir Revolutionary Socialists (Kashmir)

Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya), <https://redflagkenya.wordpress.com/>

Partido Revolucionario de las y los Trabajadores (Costa Rica), <http://prtcostarica.blogspot.com/>

RCIT Supporters in Turkey, <http://sinif-savasi.blogspot.com/>

RCIT Supporters in Zimbabwe

RCIT Supporters in Spain (Note of the signatories: "We consider it as important to fight for the right of national self-determination of all peoples which are oppressed by the Spanish state (e.g. in Catalonia, Euskadi, Galicia, Canary Islands, Andalusia, etc.)" The RCIT agrees with this approach.)

REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM - The RCIT's Theoretical Review

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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!

