



REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM

Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency



www.thecommunists.net

New Series Issue Nr.42

August 2020

Nigeria: Crisis of the Political Elite

COVID-19 Counterrevolution * U.S. Uprising * Palestine
Racism and BLM Movement * China-India Border Conflict

English-Language Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), New Series No.42, August 2019

The COVID-19 Counterrevolution and the Betrayal of the Lockdown Left	p.3
Only A Global Victory Over Racism Is Possible!	p.5
FIT (Argentina): A Scandalous Betrayal of the Heroic Palestinian Masses!	p.7
Revolutionary Socialists and Bolivarianism	p.9
The Awakening of the Proletariat in the Heart of the Imperialist Beast	p.10
Ajimobi's Demise and the Crisis Ridden Nigerian Elite	p.12
Chauvinist escapade of social-patriotic Stalinists and the China-India border conflict	p.14
Britain: Black Lives Matter Demonstrations sweep through Cities	p.17

Picture on the cover: Rally in protest against the murder of Vera Uwaila Omozuwa, initiated by the Nigerian Section of the RCIT and other organizations

Revolutionary Communism is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in South Korea, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Nigeria, Kenya, Britain, Germany, and Austria.

**www.thecommunists.net - rcit@thecommunists.net
Tel/SMS/WhatsApp/Telegram: +43-650-4068314**

The COVID-19 Counterrevolution and the Betrayal of the Lockdown Left

Joint Statement of Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria and the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 29 June 2020

1. The great popular uprising in the U.S. which has inspired mass movements all over the world demonstrates that the workers and oppressed, in contrast to the Lockdown left, do not accept the bonapartist attacks on democratic rights. The mass protests in Lebanon, Iraq and Hong Kong as well as various food riots are other example for the popular rejection of the Lockdown regime. The masses have spontaneously defeated the state of siege and quarantine and marched on the streets *despite* all the bans on demonstrations and public assemblies. The *Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria* (CEP) and the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly welcome these popular uprisings. They show once more that the vanguard of the workers and oppressed is far more progressive and politically conscious than the social-bonapartist left. We must follow the path indicated by the workers and the poor popular masses in the US! Pull down the quarantine! Abolish the police and jails!

2. Since a few months the international working class and the popular masses are under attack by the COVID-19 Counterrevolution. Under the cover of the Corona Virus pandemic the imperialist bourgeoisie all over the world has imposed a draconic regime of warfare, wide-ranging surveillance methods and a state of siege. People – in particular the most impoverished sectors of the working class – are made prisoners in their own home, they are suffering from hunger and depression and, more generally, social and economic life is severely damaged. CEP and RCIT the strongly denounce this attack and call the vanguard of the workers and oppressed to organize for the fightback.

3. The bourgeoisie and their ideologists claim that the Lockdown is a necessary instrument against the COVID-19 pandemic. This is simply a lie. Of course, SARS-CoV-2 is not a “hoax” as the clownesque idiots like Trump and Bolsonaro have claimed. It is a real pandemic and it is dangerous. However, what is a lie is that this would be a pandemic “*worse than anything else in the past decades*”. There exist various diseases which unfortunately result in the death of hundreds of thousands or millions of people every year (e.g. HIV/AIDS, respiratory infections, some influenza epidemics). What is a lie is that the Lockdown would be the most effective instrument to fight against this pandemic. As a matter of fact, the countries with the highest numbers of death per capita in the world are all countries which have imposed a Lockdown from early on (Belgium, UK, Spain, Italy).

4. The biggest lie is that the ruling class is imposing the Lockdown because they would care about the people’s health. If they would do so, they would undertake massive investments in the public health sector, they would provide protective equipment to the people for free, and they would undertake wide-ranging and free testing. But, as everyone knows, the capitalist governments are not doing this. The reason is that the objective role of the Lockdown is *not* primarily to fight the pandemic but rather to advance the political and economic interests of the bourgeoisie.

5. CEP and RCIT state that, in fact, the COVID-19 pandemic serves as a pretext for the ruling class to massively attack the democratic rights and to expand the bonapartist state machinery with its police and surveillance apparatus. For example, in the semi-colonies and colonies, they managed to impose with the state of siege and quarantine a brutal increase in the cost of living and labor reform, with layoffs, suspensions, lower wages and factory closings. This is particularly urgent for the bourgeoisie since the capitalist world economy has entered a period of depression in autumn last year – the worst since 1929. In addition and related to this, a global wave of popular uprisings all over the world started in the second half of 2019. From Hong Kong to Iraq, from Lebanon to Chile, from France to Ecuador and from India to Catalunya – the workers and oppressed have been fighting in the streets for democratic rights and against austerity attacks. In addition, the Corona Virus has served as an excuse for the bourgeoisie to “explain” the economic slump of the capitalist world economy. Finally, it is evident that the pandemic – and the fear created about it – serves as an excellent business opportunity for various imperialist monopolies to make extra-profits (e.g. in the pharmaceutical industry, the whole IT and AI sector, the whole military-technology sector, etc.)

6. The bourgeoisie and its ideologists claim that this is an “unprecedented pandemic”. As a matter of fact, what is unprecedented is the massive, sudden and globally uniform bonapartist attack on the working class and popular masses. With one stroke, literally billions of people have been locked up and terrified with fear that they could die at every moment. In that regard, we can characterize the COVID-19 Counterrevolution as a historic event. To a certain degree, this event is comparable to the beginning of World War I with its catastrophic militarism and the unstoppable wave of reactionary chauvinism in all countries.

7. In itself, it is not surprising that the imperialist bourgeoisie attacks the interests of the workers and oppressed in times of its worst economic and political crisis and that it utilizes every possible pretext for such. What is far more extraordinary and outrageous is the fact that the labor bureaucracy and nearly the whole spectrum of reformist and bureaucratized centrist organizations have joined the bandwagon and cheer the Lockdown regime without shame. If they have a criticism of the governments it is that they have not imposed the lockdown even earlier, even harsher and even longer! In other words, these “leftist” forces criticize the bonapartist bourgeoisie that it is not enough bonapartist! CEP and RCIT sharply denounce these reformists and bureaucratized centrists as “*social-bonapartist*”, i.e. they are supporters of capitalist bonapartism under the disguise of “socialist” phrases.

8. If the COVID-19 Counterrevolution has been a historic event, we can say without doubt that it is a test which most reformist and bureaucratized centrist organizations have pathetically failed. Refusing to defend the most basic democratic rights against a reactionary bonapartist ruling

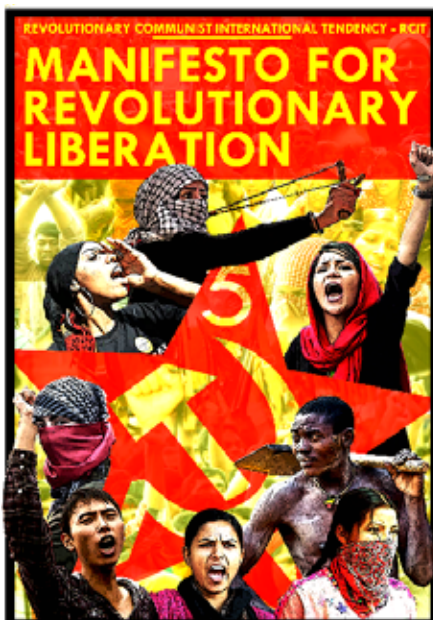
class, this Lockdown Left has outrageously betrayed the working class and the poor. Spring 2020 has been another "4th August" of the reformist and bureaucratized centrist camp – fully comparable with the betrayal of social democracy in 1914. This political collapse demonstrates once more that most of these opportunist "leftists" are inextricably connected with the liberal middle class, the labor aristocracy and the trade union bureaucracy which all support enthusiastically the bonapartist lockdown policy. On the other hand, this events shows the Lockdown Left is voluntarily practicing "social distancing" from the lower and middle layer of the working class and oppressed since many years, i.e. they hardly have any connections with these popular strata. The petty-bourgeois left wholeheartedly supports the Lockdown because for the educated middle class, "home office" and "staying at home" in their comfortable houses is no problem at all. In contrast, for the broad masses of the proletariat and the popular masses, "staying at home" means hunger, misery, domestic violence and mental pressure. Furthermore, a large part of the proletariat – today popularly referred to as "essential workers" – is also continuing working even in times of full Lockdowns. Millions of workers are put under so-called "short-work" with the bourgeoisie cutting the wages. What the majority of the workers and oppressed experience during the Lockdowns is not only a massive attack on democratic rights but also a massive increase of exploitation and a wave of layoffs. At the same time the labor bureaucracy and nearly all bureaucratized centrist forces, living in their alternate universe far away from the oppressed masses, argue for mass struggles on the streets only *after* the pandemic is over. Some of them have even the impudence to suggest that that a Lockdown should last until a vaccine is found (while in the meantime the workers provide the middle classes, of course, with everything necessary and comfortable).

9. Authentic revolutionaries have to break with the opportunist left and orientate towards the militant vanguard of the workers and oppressed. They must redouble their efforts to fight against the corrupting influence of these petty-bourgeois forces within the workers and popular organizations. Instead of cheering the reactionary Lockdown policy, revolutionaries fight for a program

of action which is based on the consistent struggle for democratic rights and against all bonapartist attacks, for economic demands against poverty and unemployment which must include public employment programs and the nationalization of the corporations and banks without compensation and under workers control as well as a program against the pandemic with demands like free testing and distribution of protective equipment, quarantine for those infected with free provisions, free hospitalization of severely infected and the expansion and nationalization of the whole health sector under workers and popular control. Such demands have to be part of a comprehensive transitional program orientated to the formation of a workers and poor peasant government and the struggle for international socialist revolution.

10. CEP and RCIT call all authentic revolutionaries to join us in a fighting bloc against the lockdown policy and capitalist bonapartism which will have the immediate task of calling and preparing an International Revolutionary Conference. The COVID-19 counterrevolution demonstrates once more the desperate crisis of revolutionary leadership. The official "left" is useless, in the best case, and more often an outright obstacle in the revolutionary struggle. In order to fight against the reactionary offensive of the ruling class and the outrageous betrayal of the reformist and bureaucratized centrist left, we must advance the struggle for building a new *World Party of Socialist Revolution*, based on the tradition and the method of founding program of the Fourth International. Without such a party, humanity faces a dark future of barbarism. Armed with such a party, humanity will march towards international socialist revolution and the liberation of all exploitation, misery and oppression!

Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria (Argentina, Chile). We refer readers to ¡¡Abajo el estado de sitio!! ¡¡La única pandemia es el capitalismo imperialista!!, 27 March 2020, <https://www.thecomunists.net/forum/cep-abajo-el-estado-de-sitio/>
Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria).



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

Only A Global Victory Over Racism Is Possible!

A Contribution to the Debate on Systemic Racism

By Oladipupo Jimoh, International Liaison Personnel, Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard [RCIT Nigeria], 23rd June, 2020

We live in exceptional times, the whole world is taken by surprise with strong torrents of anti-racist campaigns triggered by the gruesome murder of George Floyd by police on 25th May, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The anti-racist movement that ensued after his killing is not only wide-spread but also has deepening effects. For the first time in history the statues and monuments that revere and represent slavery, white supremacy, colonialism are being pulled down. This protests has given fresh winds to the sails of a student campaign to remove the statue of Cecil Rhodes in London after the toppling of King Leopold's statue. Even the statue of Christopher Columbus the so-called discoverer of the new world was equally removed.

Beyond the removal of statues and defacement of monuments all around the world, there are calls in the US, for more concrete reforms such as defunding the police; the outright disbanding of the police in places like Minneapolis where George Floyd was killed. Some militants have equally set up an autonomous zone. More so, there are new calls for reparations and compensation for families descending from black slaves. Apart from these, one needs to look at the heterogeneity of the participants in this movement when it comes to race. The protests not only in America but globally is dominated by people from almost all races chanting "black lives matter" and other anti-racist slogans in uniformity.

However one of the most watershed features of this movement is the awakening to the reality of systemic/structural/institutional racism. For the first time, there's a global debate, even in bourgeois media that key world governments are systemically racist. It is a telling fact on the consciousness of the masses and further confirms that we are in a historic revolutionary period.

Unsurprisingly, the Democratic Party in the US recogniz-

es such a movement as an opportunity to allay the sentiments of the people in their favour and use the movement as an avenue to launch darts at their political opponents the Republican Party whose flagbearer, Donald Trump, is doing very little to help matters. Joe Biden and other prominent figures of the Democratic Party have embarked on a fire-brigade approach to suddenly dance to the tune of the music, some example of which include ordering the removal of the frames of confederate governors in Capitol Hill. At some point Nancy Pelosi and other politicians in the Democratic Party knelt in front of the cameras. Joe Biden, the presidential candidate of the Democratic Party gave a speech at the burial memorial of George Floyd alongside several other politicians from the Party. Other members of the party like Andrew Cuomo, the Governor of New York State has yielded to pressure and promised to cut police funding in his state. Same as the Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Gracetti. Joe Biden has also promised to look into calls for reparations for decendants of black slaves if he is elected come November.

Granted leading figures in the Democratic Party like Biden, Pelosi and even Bernie Sanders may have admitted that there's systemic racism in America due to pressure but this admittance has a double faced nature since they deny the economic roots of the question by adamantly refusing to subscribe to the demand to defund the police. However to fully appreciate the hypocrisy of this bourgeois party one has to understand well what racism is and why racism cannot exist unless it is systemic.

Racism like all other vices of the capitalist system has its roots in the economy.

Understandably, it must be for economic interests which consequently means some form of state institution is required to execute and protect this interest by implementing racist attacks. By now it should be common knowledge



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

that the most palpable justification for trans-Atlantic slavery which on its own was a multi-million dollar industry was racism. Without the conditions of chattel slavery it would be impossible for white enterprises to amass such humongous wealth exploiting black labour.

Apart from instances from the history of Black slavery, one needs only to consider the fact that in the US where blacks make only 13% of the population 24% of those blacks are in prison. To give another example a well-known study published by the The Sentencing Project some years ago: *"Racial minorities are more likely than white Americans to be arrested; once arrested, they are more likely to be convicted; and once convicted, they are more likely to face stiff sentences. African-American males are six times more likely to be incarcerated than white males and 2.5 times more likely than Hispanic males. If current trends continue, one of every three black American males born today can expect to go to prison in his lifetime, as can one of every six Latino males — compared to one of every seventeen white males. Racial and ethnic disparities among women are less substantial than among men but remain prevalent."*[1]

Thus, to put it simply, racism is the use of state institutions and apparatus including the media to oppress a particular race/ethnic group for the economic domination of that state. As the revolutionary historian Yossi Schwartz puts it:

".....If the person is discriminating against the other, and this could take the form of ignoring, excluding, avoiding, ridiculing, threatening or even violence, it is not necessarily racism. Racial prejudice and discrimination become racism only at the point at which one racial group has more social, economic, political power than another racial group and it uses that power for its interests against the other group in a systemic manner. To do that, the more powerful group has to be in a position to incorporate their prejudices into society's laws, institutions, policies and norms, which they can then use to discriminate against the oppressed group. The power of the ruling class and of individuals of this class to discriminate is based not on language but on their position in the process of production and in many cases — as the result of this — their control of the state apparatus. Those who own the means of production are the ruling class. They exploit and oppress other classes and when the oppressed are of another ethnicity — this is racism." [2]

Anyone who disagrees with this definition or understanding of racism clings to an idealist perspective on the subject. More so, to disagree with the material roots of racism in the economy is to be prone to errors which makes such a person fight sometimes the oppressed minorities and at other times the racist themselves, achieving no overall progress in the end.

Having proven that racism is inextricably tied to the system, we can only get a complete analyses of racism not when we view it from a nation state, like the US but from a global perspective. It becomes impossible to finalize the argument that systemic racism exists in the US, without pointing to US foreign policy; without pointing to the imperialist relations of the US with nations of the global south. Western imperialism from the time of slavery through the era of colonialism to the present period has robbed the nations of the global south which are prevalently coloured peoples through undermining their internal development and democracy so that the multinational corporations can reap tremendous profit from these nations. The major justification for this was the discriminatory ideology which

is shared by all members of the imperialist government but which we, every now and then, get a glimpse of in the utterances of Fascist like Hitler and contemporary far right government officials like Trump and Johnson.

At this point, it becomes crystal clear that promise of Joe Biden to look into ways to give reparations to decendants of Black slaves is high-pitched hypocrisy. To talk about reparations without taking into account the damage that centuries of slavery, colonialism and neo-colonialism has brought on the African continent is purely electioneering theatrics. Bringing US foreign policy into the equation is the only route possible to prove that the US government and its institutions have always thrived on racism. We can already see support for chauvinist campaign of Western governments against China led by the Trump administration.

Many liberals, leftists who orientate towards the Democratic Party fail or refuse to mention the oppression and robbery of the nations of the global south most especially African nations, the failure to recognize this corner stone in not just institutional racism in the US but around the world makes the whole argument of this so-called activists a campaign rhetoric for the Democratic Party. Now that all and sundry can agree that serious changes are exigent in relation to coloured communities it is only logical to extend such changes to those continents from which they hail.

Since racism originates from and is bolstered by imperialist cum capitalist hegemony it becomes impossible to destroy racism without resetting the global economic imbalance which has left sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Latin America under the choking weight of poverty, wars and death. Only when movements as these are harnessed by genuine revolutionaries and change seekers, the world over, to push the following demands and slogans can systemic racism be defeated;

**Foreign Exploiters – Out of Africa! Expel All Great Powers (US, China, EU, etc.) from Africa!*

**The Wealth to Those Who Create It! Economic Freedom Now! Nationalization of All Big Corporations and Banks under Control of the Workers! Nationalization of Large Estates so that the Poor Peasants Can Decide How Best to Use These Lands! Down with all forms of pollution of the environment and the people by imperialist corporations! Protect the health and the future of the people!*

**Down with the Capitalist Dictatorships and Corrupt Pseudo-Democracies! For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

**For a Government of the Workers and Poor Peasants! For a Socialist Revolution!*

**For Pan-African Unity! For the United Socialist States of Africa!*

**No future without socialism! No socialism without a revolution! No revolution without a revolutionary party!*

Long Live the Revolution! Aluta Continua!

[1] See Michael Pröbsting: Arming of the Popular Masses or Reforming the Police? A discussion of strategies like "Defund the Police", "Community Control over the Police" and "Autonomous Zones" in the context of the current popular uprising in the U.S., Part II, Marxism and the Capitalist Police.

[2] Yossi Schwartz: Racism, Anti-Semitism and Zionism.

On the oppression of North American Indians, Afro-Americans, Muslims and Jews in history and present, Part I, What is Racism. Pg 3

FIT (Argentina): A Scandalous Betrayal of the Heroic Palestinian Masses!

Joint Statement of Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria and the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 2 July 2020

1. On 18 June 2020, the three deputies of FIT-U in the Legislature of the City of Buenos Aires voted for a bill which opens the doors to criminalize those who protest against the Zionist state of Israel and its crimes against the Palestinian people. (*) This bill has been based on the notorious IHRA definition of "Anti-Semitism" which denounces any form of Anti-Zionism. This IHRA definition is advocated by the Israeli government and many imperialist states. It has been already used by European governments to criminalize pro-Palestinian activists. Hence, socialists and pro-Palestine activists around the world, including the BDS movement, have condemned since years the pro-Zionist IHRA definition.

2. Authentic Marxism must intransigently oppose both Anti-Semitism as well as Zionism, which is inherently racist. The *Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria* (CEP) and the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) call for the unrestricted right to return of all Palestinian refugees to their home land, the abolition of the Zionist state and the creation of a single democratic state in the whole of historic Palestine ("from the River to the Sea") which will have a Palestinian majority population. We unconditionally support the Palestinian liberation struggle and stand for the defeat of the Zionist enemy. We call for the immediate abolition of all laws which discriminate and criminalize Anti-Zionism.

3. The support of the Zionist bill represents an unprecedented capitulation of the parliamentary delegation of FIT-U. Unsurprisingly this has provoked an outcry by

numerous activists – including many rank and file members of the parties which constitute FIT-U. When the public pressure by progressive activists became too strong, the three deputies published nine (!) days later a statement in which they announced the "rectification of their mistake". They provided the lame excuse that they had not enough time to read the bill. This is impossible to believe. Do the three deputies with their apparatus of assistants really not read the bills on which they are voting?! And do they not even read these bills in the days after the vote?! It seems that they take the supporter base of FIT-U for fools! As a matter of fact, another left-wing deputy (from "Autodeterminación y Libertad") voted against this bill and denounced it on the same day in public. The FIT-U at this point makes an involuntary confession, since they show that in case of "doubts" they vote together with the class enemy.

4. CEP and RCIT sharply denounce the pro-Zionist capitulation of the FIT-U deputies. Supporting a pro-imperialist and pro-Apartheid bill is not "a mistake" which can be "rectified". It is supporting the camp of the imperialist enemy. This is even more so as the deputies obviously did not consider it a mistake at all by themselves but only made a lame "self-criticism" nine days later when a huge outcry forced left them no alternative. The FIT-U vote is particularly cynical as it has taken place in the weeks when the Zionist state is preparing further annexations of the Palestinian territory in the West Bank. To give a historic analogy, it was not just a "mistake" when the social democratic deputies voted for the war budget in August

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.

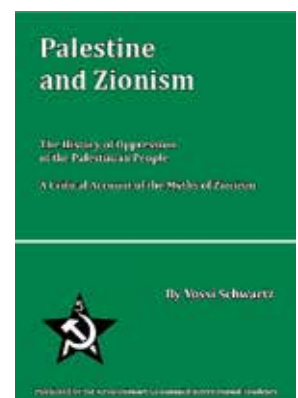
Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership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



1914. It was a reformist betrayal against the international working class!

5. This scandal demonstrates how much central sectors of the FIT-U leadership (the three deputies belong to the two strongest parties of this alliance – PTS and PO) has already opportunistically adapted to the pressure of the bourgeois public. We have also seen this in the past few months when the FIT-U leadership de facto capitulated to the pressure of the ruling class and supported the reactionary Lockdown policy under the cover of the COVID-19 pandemic. This pro-Lockdown policy is a social-bonapartist capitulation to the anti-democratic policy of the bourgeoisie which expands the repressive state apparatus in a period of the worst crisis of the capitalist world economy. It is the quarantine and the state of siege is what ties the hands of the working class and the popular sectors that defend the Palestinian masses. The Lockdown Left is the one that sustains this attack in the world, preventing the masses from rising up against the current Zionist attack on Palestine.

6. The Lockdown Left “suspended” the class struggle in the midst of a war with the bourgeoisie by tying the hands of the working class. Because today, in Argentina, the governing institution which is the real center of power is a one-person Bonapartist regime, based on the police and armed forces. The “sessions” of the parliament are only a decoration to validate with a “democratic” disguise the state of siege and the “apartheid” in the working class neighborhoods as we saw happening in Villa Azul or in working class neighborhoods of Córdoba, the attack on the Assembly of Western Mendoza resulting in the jailing of comrade Micaela. Repression and the “easy trigger” of the police are common. In Tucumán just a few days ago, the police murdered a worker in Tucumán, like the US police did with George Floyd. At the same time there is a draconic increase of the costs of living, layoffs and suspensions, etc.

7. All revolutionary activists of the FIT-U should not accept the lame excuse of the three deputies for their pro-Zionist voting. Well this is not just a matter of repudiating

a “wrong” vote of three legislators who pretend to have slept and just woke up to vote. We insist that they confess that they vote laws with the bourgeoisie. Time passes and the Zionist state of Israel carries out new advances in this war of extermination. This is why we propose:

We call on all the workers on the lists in opposition against the trade union bureaucracy, on all the student centers, structures, factories that the led and influenced by FIT-U to set up grassroots assemblies and demand that the FIT-U leadership breaks with bourgeois policy by opposing all laws which allow the state of siege and the policy of quarantine, by refuting all forms of support of Zionism, etc.! Furthermore, FIT-U must break with its electoralist policy, i.e. it must turn away from its focus on participating in parliamentary elections and concentrate instead on organizing the class struggle in the workplaces, neighborhoods and streets.

We propose that from such grassroots assemblies a march to the Israeli embassy should be called against the Zionist State’s offensive to the West Bank and the continuation of its colonialization of Palestinian territory!

In these assemblies of combative workers and students we call that the struggle for the Palestinian cause should be the banner of the struggle of the workers and students movement!

Let’s hold rallies and public meetings in defense of the Palestinian masses and against the Zionist aggression!

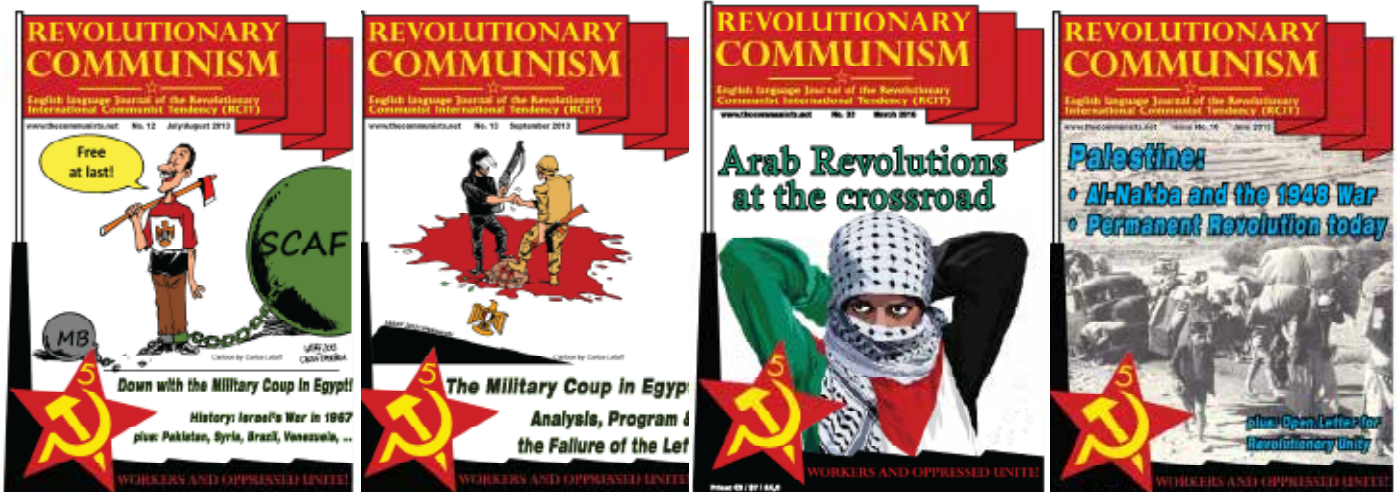
For the destruction of the Zionist state of Israel! For a revolutionary, workers and socialist Palestine!

All militants who still believe in the FIT-U project should act now!

(* While CEP considers Israel to be a fascist state, the RCIT characterizes it as a racist settler state.

Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria (Argentina, Chile)
Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria)

PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT ON THE ARAB REVOLUTION



Revolutionary Socialists and Bolivarianism

Joint Statement of the RCIT and the Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya), 9 June 2020

1. After a period of discussion, the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* and the *Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya)* announce their agreement on the issue of Bolivarianism – the political current based in Latin America and most prominently represented by the Chavez/Maduro government in Venezuela and the former Bolivian government of Evo Morales.

2. We recognize the fact that Venezuela has experienced a number of reactionary coup attempts by pro-US forces. Likewise, Morales had been toppled by a right-wing coup in autumn 2019. In addition, Venezuela suffers from economic sanctions imposed by U.S. imperialism. We denounce such coup attempts and call for a united front tactic towards the Bolivarian forces. This means we propose joint actions against the main enemy while, at the same time, keeping political independence. We also call for the immediate and unconditional lifting of all sanctions against Venezuela. (See on this e.g. “Venezuela: A Failed Imperialist Plot”, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/venezuela-a-failed-imperialist-plot/> and “Attempted Coup D’etat in Venezuela: Defeat Guaidó and Trump!” 5 May 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/attempted-coup-d-etat-in-venezuela-defeat-guaido-trump/>)

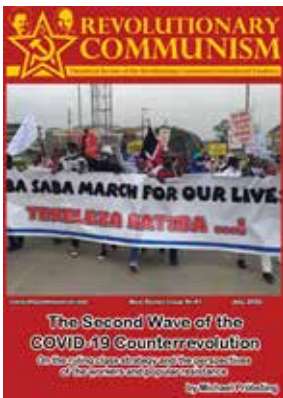
3. At the same time, we recognize the reformist but contradictory nature of the Bolivarian current. These governments and their supporters, while socialists in rhetoric, don’t take serious measures aimed at overthrowing capitalism. Despite being in power since 1999, the Bolivarian government in Venezuela has not expropriated the capitalist class. Until today, 70% of the economy remains in private hands. At the same time, there is close collaboration between the top of the state bureaucracy and the re-

gime-friendly sector of capitalists (“*Boliburguesía*”). A similar development could be observed in Bolivia in the long period when Morales was in power (2006-19). In addition, these governments have a strong top-down characteristic which betrays a bonapartist nature – something which is in contradiction to authentic workers and popular power. Such a bureaucratic nature is also revealed in the repression against militant workers leaders who have been persecuted and imprisoned in the past years. We demand the release of political prisoners like the union leader Rubén González or the working class activist Rodney Álvarez. Finally, we recognize that Bolivarianism is a reformist current as it orientates to get (and keep) power by bourgeois-parliamentary elections instead of mass mobilization and a socialist revolution.

4. At the same time we take note that the pressure of the masses resulted in a number of social and democratic reforms in Venezuela and Bolivia which are despised by right-wing and pro-US forces. Revolutionary socialists unconditionally defend such gains against any reactionary attack.

5. Finally, we warn that the Venezuelan government is increasingly subordinating itself to Chinese and Russian imperialism. While we recognize that it is legitimate to look for practical collaboration with other states in order to withstand the pressure of U.S. imperialism, we oppose any political admiration for the regimes of Xi and Putin or of their allies like Assad and Rouhani.

6. We confirm once more that the most important task of Marxists today is to build a Revolutionary World Party dedicated to mobilize and organize the international working class for socialist revolution. The RCIT and the RSL agree to jointly commit their forces to this task!



Publications of the RCIT

The Second Wave of the COVID-19 Counterrevolution

On the ruling class strategy in the current conjuncture, its inner contradictions and the perspectives of the workers and popular resistance

By Michael Pröbsting, July 2020

Introduction * The localized version of Lockdown policy is spreading * New information concerning severity (or not so severity) of the pandemic * Telling figures for Europe, Sweden and Ischgl * The worst pandemic in Africa? Really? * Capitalism and care homes as deadly traps for old people * The real nature of the ruling class bonapartist offensive under the cover of COVID-19 * Why is the ruling class opting for a local lockdown strategy? * Excuse: A crisis characteristic for the present period of capitalist decay * The nature and inner contradictions of the local lockdown strategy * Preparing for a new counter-revolutionary offensive * The Lockdown Left: a never ending embarrassment * The shameful example of the PSTU/LIT-CI * The imperialist aristocratism of the Lockdown Left * Building a Revolutionary World Party * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

Despite the Traps of the World Bourgeoisie: The Awakening of the Proletariat in the Heart of the Imperialist Beast

The Revolution and Counterrevolution Face Each Other!

Joint Statement of Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria and the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 3 July 2020

The brutal murder of George Floyd has been the drop that spilled the glass of the level of oppression suffered daily by the exploited masses in the United States. The cry against racism and oppression has reverberated throughout the world because the global working class sees its demands and hardships reflected in those of its American class brothers and sisters. It is that the murder of George Floyd opened the gates so that all sectors of the exploited masses begin to emerge as a fighting force: the unemployed, the dockers, workers of different factories bursting into massive strikes, etc. What is revealed is that the richest imperialism in the world cannot live if it does not plunge its own proletariat into misery as it did with the entire semi-colonial and colonial world.

Despite and against the state of siege that the bourgeoisie has imposed under the cover of COVID-19, the masses of the United States have shown the way to the entire world working class on how to fight against our enemies, how to conquer our demands and to raise our voice. They wanted to erase us from the political scene, locking us in our houses, instilling fear to control the heroic masses that in different parts of the world raised their voices demanding their rights, such as in Chile, France, Hong Kong, Ecuador to give just a few examples. These phenomena have developed without the treacherous leaderships, which the bourgeoisie has squeezed to the last drop and which began to see that it was losing control over the labor movement.

Today, in different parts of the world, such as France, Britain, Belgium, etc., the masses are fighting in the streets and supporting the struggles in the United States. This reflects a dramatic change in the world situation that might even result in the near future in the opening of a revolutionary world situation. This shows that what has begun is a *mass struggle at the international level against the imperialist system*. The masses, in many countries of the world, have identified the true enemy, which is not a virus that comes from bats, but the bourgeois states that kill with bullets if not with hunger. The control of American imperialism over the masses has weakened as a result of the revolutionary eruptions which attacked the control and manipulation devices that imperialism used until now. Examples for this are the burning of the AFL-CIO headquarters, the lack of trust by the advanced sectors of the masses in the Democratic party, etc.

There is no time to lose! In Seattle, a sector of the masses had taken 6 blocks and made a list of progressive demands that express the hatred of the exploited towards the state, such as the dissolution of the police, workers and popular courts. However, the insulation of the movement within a few blocks will only result in a process of wearing it down. At the same time, it will give the bourgeoisie time to organize its reactionary forces. So today, *in the Seattle commune we must set up the headquarters of the American Revolution*. It is necessary organize a congress of all the fighting masses to bring down the Trump government and set up a revolu-

tionary provisional government organized by the fighting masses, i.e. a workers and popular government based on assemblies and militias of the masses.

Armed with weapons, the masses will organize their own workers' militia and move towards dissolution of the repressive forces (police, CIA, national guard) and once and for all sweep away the REPUBLICRAT regime. Only such a government, which sweeps away that reactionary regime responsible for the greatest genocides on the planet, can manage to stop hunger, unemployment and homelessness in the richest and most advanced country in the world. Only such a government can end racist oppression and give citizenship to all immigrant workers such as Latinos so that they have the same rights as native American workers.

"With fascism there is no discussion"

The senior staffs of the US government argue that the initiative with which Trump threatens to take the army to the street would be crazy. It is not because they care about the constitution, the laws are respected by imperialism only insofar as it serves them against the proletariat. The reality is that imperialism knows that rank and file soldiers could refuse to repress and even insubordinate and join, with their weapons, the camp of the masses. That is why sectors of the Yankee bourgeoisie maintain the fascist gangs and white supremacist movements attacking the mobilizations of the fighting masses. Today these groups are tiny, but as time passes, they can grow, feeding on the desperate sectors of the middle classes who yearn to return to their old "order". For this reason, by organizing the workers' militia subordinate to the organizations of the fighting masses, we will be able to crush and end once and for all with the fascist KKK gangs that have been ravaging the United States for more than 100 years.

Another sector of the U.S. bourgeoisie tries to contain the masses by making limited concessions like legal charges against a few killer cops, removing of statues of reactionary racist figures in the country's history, proposing some reforms of the police, etc. Naturally, these are only fake-reforms which shall confuse and pacify the fighting masses!

"A people that oppresses another cannot liberate itself"

But the struggle against the bourgeois state of the United States is not a struggle only of the North American proletariat but of the exploited of the whole world, especially those in the semi-colonial and colonial world who are oppressed and crushed by the Yankee army. In Colombia alone, the United States has 7 military bases, it has troops controlling the Middle East oil wells in Syria and Iraq, the racist Zionist settler state of Israel is occupying Palestine, and so on. As the dominant power, the U.S. has military bases and interventions all over the world. For a long time,

the masses of the colonial and semi-colonial countries did not have such favourable conditions to rise up against their governments. Today, these puppet governments of imperialist powers face unrest and resistance by the masses of their own countries. That is why in a congress of the fighting masses of the United States it is of utmost importance to call for the defeat of the Yankee occupation troops in the countries where they are and for the dismantling of any imperialist military base outside their territory. The struggle for such goals is an obligation not only for the proletariat of the oppressed countries but also for that of the oppressor countries. We emphasise that a state that oppresses the world cannot be defeated only in one country. Such a call would unite the oppressed all over the world across borders. First of all it could unite the American proletariat from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego.

Crisis of leadership

Today in the struggle of the masses it is visible how their full potential is developed when they get often act by ignoring the advice of the leaders that subdue them. They can more quickly identify the enemy and go beyond the limits of legality, i.e. they can carry out insurrections an even to set up their self-determined fighting bodies. But

rarely in history has the lack of revolutionary leadership been so noted. Revolutionaries know very well that imperialism is preparing new meditations or containment dikes. Popular fronts serve to divert the struggle of the masses that changed the world. However, after this, nothing will be as it was before. Revolutionaries warn that the leaderships of community organizations, of the Black Lives Matters movement, Sanders etc. will try to channel and pacify the fighting masses.

What the masses need to succeed is a revolutionary party, is to re-found the SWP of 1938 led by the Fourth International. The healthy forces of the revolutionary and Trotskyist movement must focus on fighting for the re-foundation of that party that, by winning the masses in the soviets, will be able to lead the proletariat to take power. Let's be clear: the struggle in the US is of fundamental importance not only for the future of the world proletariat, but of the whole humanity.

Colectivo Emancipacion Proletaria (Argentina, Chile)
Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria)

Books of the RCIT

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

The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan.
A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective

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

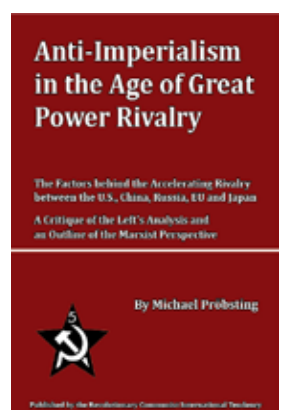
Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry demonstrates the validity of the Marxist analysis of modern imperialism. Using comprehensive material (including 61 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that a correct understanding of the rise of China and Russia as new Great Powers is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

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

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

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

The book contains an introduction and 29 chapters plus an appendix (412 pages) and includes 61 figures and tables. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.



Ajimobi's Demise and the Crisis Ridden Nigerian Elite

By *Oladipupo Jimoh, International Liaison Personnel, Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard [RCIT Nigeria], 26th June, 2020*

Senator Abiola Ajimobi was officially declared dead yesterday after much prevarication from government sources.[1] His death follows a long string of events that indicate burgeoning chaos in the Nigerian ruling class stratum. Before his death, or the official announcement, there has been internal wranglings over the national chairmanship of the All Progressives Congress (APC) the ruling party in Nigeria. This tussle over the chairmanship of the party which started some months ago resurfaced because of the disagreement between the de-facto national chairman who was the former Edo state governor, Adams Oshiomole and the incumbent Edo state governor, Godwin Obaseki. The de-facto chairman ended up getting the short end of the stick as his suspension as chairman from the party was reaffirmed by the Court of Appeals and the incumbent Edo state governor who was his stooge defected to the other wing of the arch-reactionary caucus of the Nigerian bourgeoisie, the People's Democratic Party. [2]

What followed was the immediate attempt by opposing factions in the APC to lay claim to the position of chairman. Although the late senator was the deputy national chairman, because of the now strong rivalry between the factions of the party from the western, southern and northern parts of the country, the national secretary, Chief Victor Gaidom, representing the northern/southern faction, declared himself the new chairman. In response the Tinubu led/western faction denied the death of the deceased senator because he was a member of this faction and laid claim in his name to the chairmanship. Now that the president has declared the National Working Committee (NWC) "dissolved", his death has been announced.[3] Add to all this, the embarrassing cause of his death—the corona virus. This crisis is further exacerbated by the disquieted protests in the North over the insecurity and terrorism in the region. [4]

We are entering a period where more defection from the ruling party is more likely. In fact a mass defect to PDP is more likely than the split of the ruling party. Even if none of these occur there are already harbingers, as far back as 2019, that portend a greater or more acute dichotomy between the factions of the Nigerian ruling caste most especially between the western/southern or pro-Tinubu caucus and the northern section. The most lucid of this omen was the formation of the Western Nigeria Security Network (Operation Amotekun) in June 2019 [5] when there was no popular knowledge of the SARS-CoV-2 but warning signs of a 2nd Great Depression. Granted, both the APC and PDP are arch reactionary parties and there has been interparty rivalry between even the predecessors of both parties but this internal crisis is different because it creates right through the heart of the presently most dominant party, a crevice, that can only be paralleled by the emasculation of PDP in the periods leading up to the 2015 radical general elections.

However to trace back signs of these crises to such periods means these internal crises is not peculiar to Nigeria neither is it an APC thing but it is more of a global trend.

One doesn't need a professor in political science to see that there is a serious domestic crisis in the Trump ad-

ministration and whole ruling class order in the US which started with the acute discord between the Republican and Democratic Party but which is now fully represented by the widespread demonstrations against racism and police brutality coupled with the highest corona virus death toll. In Egypt, the government of general Sisi faces insurgency on the Sinai which he has been unable to crush for some time now. Bin Salman of Saudi Arabia and his allies in the United Arab Emirates suffer from the successful drones and missiles attacks against Saudi's oil industry, their failure to crush Qatar and the global price collapse of the oil market (the main source of income of the Gulf States), etc. [6] Add to the few examples above the rising number of corona virus cases and the failure of many world governments to tackle the corona virus pandemic and the wave of anti-racist protests all over the world.

It is historically proven that most times when the ruling class are faced with domestic crises they opt to divert attention by expanding the scope of their foreign intervention. A classic example is the assassination of Qassim Soleiman by a US drone when Donald Trump was in the thick of his impeachment hearing by the US Congress. Another example is the blame game between the US and China over the spread of the corona virus after both parties failed to tackle the pandemic in their respective countries. Even now, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other powers in the gulf are gearing up for the invasion of Libya.[7] We can already see attacks against the Nigerian commission in Ghana and chauvinist reprisals from reactionary propagandists after the Ghanaian earthquakes.[8] Even when we admit that the conflict between states and powers are intrinsic for this stage of capitalism, the domestic crises in the respective nations will definitely exacerbate the rivalry in international politics.

Revolutionaries must shun giving the whole crises an APC nature rather they must put it within the proper context of escalating collapse of the capitalist order. As earlier said, the case of Operation Amotekun was only a visible forerunner of things to come in terms of ruling class dichotomy and systemic crises.

The demise of Ajimobi from corona virus shows again at this time that the health sector has not seen any tangible improvement and now as the death tolls in Nigeria and globally increase governments are proposing a return to the lock down or more stringent restrictions. We warn that this would be a perfidious move from a government that is planning to cut funding for the health sector by more than 40% while they continue to lobby for and receive more loans from the World Bank.[9] Further, the lock downs have either failed or had no meaningful effect on ameliorating the health crises. Take China for example, there are proposals in the country for a second lock down despite the recent harshest form of clamp down for the same purpose. Other European nations which towed the path of China have started to launch fresh restrictions.

For us, all forms of travel ban, lock downs and all restrictions on the right to publicly gather must be opposed. The Nigerian masses have no reason to trust this government given their failure to fight the pandemic which resulted in

the death of two high-ranking members of the ruling class stratum. This is without forgetting the on-going strike of the National Association of Resident Doctors (NARD). Hence, a return to the lock down or increased restriction status is handing over the wheel to the arch-reaction.

Already, a global campaign against racism and discrimination—one of the most consequential pre-existing conditions which has subjected many to death from poor health facilities, underdevelopment and illiteracy—has begun. We must push such campaigns further by demanding a publicly controlled health system. While this health system should optimize mass testing with quarantine of confirmed cases, it must not over-prioritize the dangers of COVID-19 but give appropriate attention to other diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria, Lassa fever, Ebola, etc. There must also be proper provision for care for pregnant women and other emergency cases. We must call for at least 20% and 26% budgetary allocation for the health and education sector respectively. Massive financial and otherwise aid must be mobilized for Africa from the rich imperialist countries which impoverished Africa and left the health sector in a precarious state. This aid must be mobilize by taxing the multinational corporations. For fulfilment of all the demands of the National Association of Resident Doctors (NARD). The only way out of this abysmal cataclysm is mass action!

Unfortunately, the Nigerian left continues to underutilize these crises as broad sections of the left have also been plunged into similar chaos. This can be seen in the split in some left organizations and the bitter discord amidst some left coalitions. The reason for this is due to the fact that these sections are under the influence of centrist, reformist, opportunists and Stalinist persuasions so they could not avoid pitfalls.

More so, some of these bodies subscribe to foreign branches or mother sections who acknowledge the revolutionary nature of the current period only after the anti-racist protests broke out in the US and around the world, an assessment that was already overdue by mid-2019. Others would still subscribe to the bourgeois narrative that the economic recession and the current capitalist catastrophe was triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, instead of admitting that the measures by government is what has worsened the economic and health crises. In fact SARS-CoV-2 is a product of a new age of historic capitalist decline which began in 2008 in which we have seen previous similar epidemics like SARS and MERS. This decadence is why most of these organizations have failed to follow a consistent socialist approach from the beginning of the pandemic.

The schism in the ruling class ranks is bound to worsen as the economic slump deepens accelerating contradictions in the run up to the 2023 general elections where will see more naked tussles. The Nigerian left must make a clean break from all reactionary tendencies cum national centeredness and find what is the true Marxist path to use such crises as a spring board for the advancement of the cause of the masses because the future is pregnant with wars and revolution.

Footnotes

[1] <https://punchng.com/breaking-ex-gov-ajimobi-is-dead/BREAKING: Ex-Oyo Gov, Ajimobi Dies At 70>

[2] <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/398053-updated-edo-2020-court-of-appeal-upholds-oshiomholes-suspension-as-apc-chairman.html&ved=2ahUKEwjfx7W3kKHqAhVN5uAKHSdnAIYQFjADegQIB-BAC&usg=AOvVaw2mSUxkS4UKvkSs757YVS76>

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/398491-breaking-edo-2020-obaseki-joins-pdp.html&ved=2ahUKEwiN9c_u3qHqAhWRDxOKHQooCdAQFjAFeg-QIARAB&usg=AOvVaw1WC57wTkVK0VReJ5Yhofmi

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/06/breaking-edo-2020-governor-obaseki-formally-joins-pdp/amp/&ved=2ahUKEwiN9c_u3qHqAhWRDxOKHQooCdAQFjAHegQIBRA-J&usg=AOvVaw2wHCRqDsk_KJr-JNv0iZAY&cf=1

[3] https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/398071-breaking-apc-appoints-acting-chairman-after-court-upheld-oshiomholes-suspension.html&ved=2ahUKEwjfx7W3kKHqAhVN5uAKHSdnAIYQFjAEegQIBBAI&usg=AOvVaw0o_eF6-Z_bkhe76bF5wgc-W&csid=1593254866255

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://punchng.com/breaking-victor-gaidom-announces-self-as-apc-national-chairman/%3F&ved=2ahUKEwiT1Z6Pk6HqAhUN-hOKHV5MC0QOFjAFegQIBX-AB&usg=AOvVaw0wn3sBmsXSaQtG_4XHCDWs&cf=1&csid=1593252925710

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://secure.saharareporters.com/2020/06/25/breaking-president-buhari-dissolves-apcs-national-working-committee&ved=2ahUKEwjfoL3Z6qHqAhURCWMBHX9w-C9AQFjAAegQIARAB&usg=AOvVaw3cJgeFOvs4riHSCbBLb-b_G

[4] <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.premiumtimesng.com/regional/nwest/397932-groups-protest-in-katsina-demand-end-to-killings.html&ved=2ahUKEwiTyI3l6aHqAhWaAGMBHSt-nA8sQFjACegQIARAB&usg=AOvVaw1MUDEX-E14O0KX-tqm28nQ5>

[5] https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Amotekun

[6] & [7] See **Egypt's Dictator Sisi Threatens to Invade Libya Defeat the counterrevolutionary bandit Haftar and the powers behind him!**

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24 June 2020, <https://wp.me/paky5E-5J>

[8] https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/06/demolition-of-nigerian-high-commission-building-in-acra/amp/&ved=2ahUKEwiKs5emgKLqAhUOahOKHQ9ZBu4Q0PADMAT-6BAgDEAo&usg=AOvVaw19Dn_1KvUyYMgE4MZ-Fd-p4&cf=1

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/06/reactions-greet-social-media-as-tremor-rocks-ghana/amp/&ved=2ahUKEwjmtf78gKLqAhWEDGMBH2mnBiYQFjABegQI-ARAB&usg=AOvVaw10RqoCnEbVs36HkqgGmFCb&cf=1&csid=1593261467399>

[9] <https://punchng.com/lagos-osun-threaten-fresh-lockdown-as-cases-hit-23298/>

[Nigeria gets World Bank's \\$750m loan to boost electricity infrastructure](https://punchng.com/lagos-osun-threaten-fresh-lockdown-as-cases-hit-23298/)

[Nigeria close to securing \\$3 billion World Bank facility](https://punchng.com/lagos-osun-threaten-fresh-lockdown-as-cases-hit-23298/)

“Unite to Protect India’s Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity”?

Chauvinist escapade of social-patriotic Stalinists & the China-India border conflict

by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 29 June 2020

A wave of patriotism is sweeping India. The right-wing Hindu chauvinist government of Narendra Modi tries to utilize the border conflict with China in order to recover its lost prestige. His government currently faces its worst political crisis as a result of two key developments in the past months: first, the unprecedented slump of India’s economy – against the backdrop of the depression of the capitalist world economy; and, second, the brutal and reactionary lockdown policy which resulted in agony for hundreds of millions of the poor.

Modi and his *Bharatiya Janata Party* (BJP) have repeatedly provoked and utilized military actions in order to deflect the people’s attention from social and economic crisis. This was the case during the conflict with Pakistan from September 2016 to June 2018 and even more so in late February 2019 when New Delhi launched several military strikes against Pakistan after a successful guerrilla attack of Kashmiri liberation fighters against the Indian occupation army.¹

And in August 2019, Modi again wiped up again reactionary Hindu chauvinism when he abolished the decades-old autonomy rights of Kashmir, the country’s only Muslim-majority state.² This was only the latest brutal attack

against the Kashmiri people who suffer from Indian occupation since many decades.³ And only a few months later, Modi again waged a brutal chauvinist campaign via the so-called *Citizenship Amendment Act* which discriminates national and religious minorities.⁴

Modi wipes up chauvinism against the Chinese rival

Today, the government hopes to utilize the same chauvinist methods by exploiting the border conflict with China. The latest escalation between the two Asian powers has taken place in the Ladakh area which is part of Indian-occupied historic Kashmir. Wiping up Indian patriotism became particularly urgent for Modi since the army suffered a humiliating defeat in a clash with Chinese troops in the disputed region on 15 June. As a result, India lost at least 20 soldiers and officers. In addition, 10 additional troops were captured by China and released only some days later.

After this clash, both sides agreed to avoid further confrontations. However, in fact, both armies have mobilized thousands of troops, tanks and airplanes near to the Ladakh region and fortified their position there.⁵ Hardliners on



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A4 Format

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

both sides call to prepare for a war.⁶

In response the BJP and various affiliated organizations have launched aggressive campaigns to boycott Chinese goods. Likewise, they are calling for a push back of the growing influence of Chinese corporations (e.g. Huawei in the 5G telecommunication sector). Such a campaign strongly affects the relations between the two countries since China is India's largest trading partner. *Swadeshi Jagran Manch*, the economic wing of the *Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh* (a semi-fascist cadre organization which is highly influential within the BJP) has intensified its "Boycott China" campaign.⁷

Marxist vs. Stalinist Approach

Marxists must support neither side as we explained in the RCIT statement on the latest China-India border conflict: *"Under such circumstances, revolutionaries are obligated to refuse supporting either camp. Hence the RCIT calls socialists in both countries to oppose both the ruling class of China and of India. Chinese and Indian workers and oppressed: Your main enemy is at home! The task is to denounce the chauvinist and militaristic agitation of both governments which is diametral opposed to the fundamental interests of the popular masses. Socialists in both countries must oppose any chauvinist campaign directed against the rival (e.g. economic sanctions, "patriotic" consumer boycott campaigns, etc.). The Chinese workers and poor peasants have no interests in war at its border for the control of a Himalayan plateau. The same is true for their Indian brothers and sisters. In case of a war, socialists should refuse any support for "their" ruling class and act on the basis of the Leninist program of revolutionary defeatism. This means, they should work towards transforming such a reactionary war into a civil war against the ruling class."*⁸

Shamefully, the largest "Communist" parties take a diametrically opposed position in the current China-India border conflict. Instead of unequivocally opposing Indian chauvinism and taking an internationalist stance, they join the patriotic bandwagon and by this objectively aid the reactionary goals of the Modi government. They patriotically praise the Indian army and call for the "defense of our country" against the Chinese rivals. Let us give a few examples to illustrate this sad charade of "Communism".

The *Communist Party of India* (CPI) – the historic Stalinist party in the country – unashamed praises the Indian army and calls the people to rally behind it. In a public statement – characteristically titled *"Unite to Protect India's Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity"* – General Secretary D. Raja left no doubts that his party is a hardened supporter of capitalist patriotism: *"Our Party salutes the martyred Soldiers and Officers who sacrificed their precious lives on June 15th. Every Indian is proud of our Defence Forces for their valour and dedication in defending the security and borders of our country. They are Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force. The whole country stands behind them. (...) Coming to the current stand-off between India and China, our Party is of the view that no compromise on sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country should be made. (...) The political parties in India should stand together in defence of our sovereignty and territorial integrity. The whole country should stand as one. CPI stands for such unity."*⁹

In a similar spirit, the *Communist Party of India* (Marxist) also "expressed its deep condolences at the death of an Indian

*officer and two soldiers."*¹⁰ Naturally, as "good Indian patriots" they offered no condolences at the casualties on the Chinese side. The CPI(M) is the largest and most influential Stalinist party in India.

In another statement, it attacked Prime Minister Modi when he said that there was "no intrusion, no occupation and no capture of our posts" by the Chinese army. This was a statement by the government in order to deescalate the conflict with Beijing (which, as an imperialist Great Power is clearly the stronger side with an economy five times as large as India's).¹¹ However, the CPI(M) leadership strongly criticized Modi for this statement: *"The PM's remarks came as a major setback to the legitimacy of the act of heroism of our brave soldiers. Further, this undermines the strength of our diplomatic efforts to resolve the dispute."*¹² Hence, we see that the CPI(M) strongly identifies with "our diplomatic efforts", i.e. it signals that the CPI(M) views itself as being part of the same patriotic camp with Modi against the "Chinese foreigners"!

Another "Communist" party which demonstrates its patriotism during the current conflict with China is the *Communist Party of India* (Marxist-Leninist) *Liberation*. This party comes from a Maoist tradition and has traditionally claimed to be more left-wing than the CPI and the CPI(M). However, their statements of the last weeks show that it is not accidental that the *CPI(ML) Liberation* is part of a long-time "left-wing alliance" with the two larger "Communist" parties mentioned above. Like them it announced that it "will observe a day of mourning and respect for the fallen soldiers on 22 June." We note in passing that the pseudo-Maoist *CPI(ML) Liberation* also commemorated the Indian soldiers who died in a Kashmiri guerrilla attack in February 2019. At that time it organized "candle marches ... to pay tributes to the soldiers"!¹³

Worse, the *CPI(ML) Liberation* accuses Modi for lack of patriotic defence of the national interests! *"Even as China is claiming sovereignty over the Galwan valley area which has been under Indian control for so long, Indian PM is rejecting the very allegation of any Chinese intrusion. Does it mean the Modi government accepts China's claims?"*¹⁴ We can only reply: Does this mean that the *CPI(ML) Liberation* accepts India's claims to the Ladakh area which is part of historic Kashmir? Unfortunately, we can answer this question beyond doubt: yes, the *CPI(ML) Liberation* supports the reactionary goals the Indian expansionism!

Shameful social-patriotism

These are some examples which illustrate the shameful capitulation of Indian Stalinism to the wave of patriotic chauvinism which the Modi government has wiped up in the past weeks. Which army are these pseudo-Marxists praising?! The CPI praises "our Defence Forces for their valour and dedication in defending the security and borders of our country". But what this army is actually defending is the power of the Indian ruling class. It uses this army in order to viciously suppress national and ethnic minorities – most of all the Kashmiri people. In this province, the Indian army has demonstrated since decades how they "defend the security and borders of our country"! They do so by killing about 100,000 people in Kashmir since the beginning of the Intifada in 1989! They do so by acting as instruments of the power games by the ruling capitalist class which tries

to expand its influence at the cost of its regional rivals (like China and Pakistan).

Likewise, it is absolutely illegitimate for Marxists to identify with the power interests of the capitalist class. India is a prison house of nations and lower castes. The Indian bourgeoisie defends expansionist interests in their conflicts with Pakistan or China (of course, the same is reciprocally also true for these two states). Praising the army of the Indian ruling class, defending their territorial interests against its rivals – all this is an arch-opportunist policy. It is reactionary patriotism under the disguise of “socialism”. Lenin and the Communist International had a specific category for such forces. They called them “social-patriots”.

The Indian workers and oppressed don't need such opportunist servants of the ruling class. These Stalinist parties only confuse the masses and prevent the vanguard from taking the path of consistent struggle for socialism. It is urgent to build authentic revolutionary parties in India, the whole of South Asia as well as globally. The RCIT is committed to this goal and calls revolutionaries in India to join us in our efforts!

Footnotes

1 See on this e.g. the RCIT statement: India-Pakistan: Defeat the War Mongers! Free Kashmir! 27 February 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/india-pakistan-defeat-the-war-mongers-free-kashmir/>

2 We have collected the RCIT's statements and articles on Kashmir in a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/>. Our statement on the latest escalation by the Indian Modi government can be read here: India: Defend the Kashmiri People against Modi's "Israel-Style" Attack! India's ultra-chauvinist BJP government abolishes decades-old autonomy rights of Muslim-majority province, 6 August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/india-defend-the-kashmiri-people-against-modi-s-attack/>.

3 On the RCIT's analyses of the liberation struggle in Kashmir see e.g. the following essays by Michael Pröbsting: The Kashmir Question and the Indian Left Today. Marxism, Stalinism and centrism on the national liberation struggle of the Kashmiri people, 26 September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/kashmir-question-and-indian-left-today/>; Revolutionaries and the Slogan of “Azadi Kashmir”. Should Marxists advocate the independence of Kashmir? 13 September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/revolutionaries-and-the-slogan-of-azadi-kashmir/>; India: A Prison House of Nations and Lower Castes (On the Reasons for Modi's Coup in Kashmir). Essay on the social and national contradictions of Indian capitalism and the rise of Hindutva chauvinism, 16 August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/india-is-a-a-prison-house-of-nations-and-lower-castes/>

4 See on this the RCIT statement: India: Down with CAB! Solidarity with the uprising of the Assamese people! 14 December 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/india-down-with-cab/>

5 See in this e.g. Kristin Huang: China and India flex military muscle near disputed border, South China Morning Post, 26 June 2020 <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3090809/china-and-india-flex-military-muscle-near-disputed-border>

6 See on this e.g. Catherine Wong: Prepare for India border row to escalate, Chinese strategists warn Beijing, 27 June 2020, <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3090855/prepare-india-border-row-escalate-chinese-strategists-warn>; Indian jets fly over Galwan as China again blames India for clash, 24 June 2020, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/06/indian-jets-fly-galwan-china-blames-india-clash-200624105950727.html>

7 See on this e.g. Nilesh Christopher: 'Boycott China' is trending in India, but turning rhetoric into reality may be easier said than done, South China Morning Post, 28 June 2020, <https://www.scmp.com/magazines/post-magazine/long-reads/article/3090662/boycott-china-trending-india-turning-rhetoric>

8 RCIT: China-India Border Conflict: Down with Chauvinist Warmongering on Both Sides! Support the national rights of the Kashmiri and the Nepalese people! 28 May 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-india-border-conflict-down-with-chauvinist-warmongering-on-both-sides/>; for a more extensive analysis of the conflict between China and India see e.g. our pamphlet by Michael Pröbsting: The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences. What are the background and the nature of the tensions between China and India in the Sikkim border region? What should be the tactical conclusions for Socialists and Activists of the Liberation Movements? 18 August 2017, Revolutionary Communism No. 71, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-india-rivalry/>

9 CP of India: Unite to Protect India's Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity, 20 June 2020, <http://www.solidnet.org/article/CP-of-India-Unite-to-Protect-Indias-Sovereignty-and-Territorial-Integrity/>; other examples of such patriotic praising of the Indian army can be found in the CPI statements: CPI Salutes Martyred Indian Soldiers, Demands Resolution of Conflict Through Negotiations, 17 June 2020, <http://www.solidnet.org/article/CP-of-India-CPI-Salutes-Martyred-Indian-Soldiers-Demands-Resolution-of-Conflict-Through-Negotiations/>; CPI Expresses Shock and Concern over the Continuing Stand-off between India and China, 17 June 2020, <http://www.solidnet.org/article/CP-of-India-CPI-Expresses-Shock-and-Concern-over-the-Continuing-Stand-off-between-India-and-China/>

10 Polit Bureau of the Communist Party of India (Marxist): De-escalate the situation on the LAC, 17 June 2020 <http://www.solidnet.org/article/Marxistindia-De-escalate-the-situation-on-the-LAC/>

11 On China as an imperialist Great Power see the numerous booklets, statements, and articles on our special sub-page on the RCIT website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>. In particular we refer to our book by Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective, RCIT Books, January 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>.

12 CPI(M): Clarifications Over PM's Statement Compounds Confusion, 21 June 2020, <https://cpim.org/pressbriefs/clarifications-over-pm%E2%80%99s-statement-compounds-confusion>

13 CPIML: Pulwama Attack Puts Modi In The Dock, <http://cpiml.net/liberation/2019/02/pulwama-attack-puts-modi-in-the-dock>; see on this also Michael Pröbsting: Kashmir: Social-Patriotism among the Indian Left. On the opportunistic adaptation of various “Stalinists”, “Trotskyists” and “Maoists” to the chauvinistic wave in the wake of the latest conflict between India and Pakistan, 02 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/kashmir-social-patriotism-among-indian-left/>

14 CPI(ML) Central Committee Deplores Modi's Misleading and Evasive Statement, Calls for Observing a Day of Mourning and Respect for Fallen Soldiers on 22 June, 20 June 2020, <http://cpiml.net/Press-Statements/2020/06/cpiml-central-committee-deplores-modis-misleading-and-evasive-statement>

Britain: Black Lives Matter Demonstrations sweep through Cities Justice for all victims of Racism and Police Repression!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, 22 June 2020

For the last two or three weeks there have been demonstrations and protests in response to the brutal police murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis police in the United States in all the major cities and towns in Britain including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield and Newcastle. These demonstrations have been spontaneous and showed the pent up anger against police brutality, unemployment, austerity and the killing and indiscriminate brutality against people of Afro-Caribbean descent. In Britain the same brutality has been meted out to people of colour as well.

“Shayla Avery texted a friend after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, nearly 2,000 miles away in Berkeley, California. “We should do something,” wrote the 16-year-old high school student, frustrated that her teachers were not talking about it. So they started planning and a few days later, Avery, together with two school friends, had organized her first protest.” [1]

The involvement of young people has been an inspiration to many others to join these protests which at the height of the Pandemic of Covid-19 have broken the lockdown although respecting social distancing and wearing masks and using sanitizers. This tremendous leap in revolutionary consciousness has completely eclipsed the Lockdown-Left of Labour Party Mayors in London like Sadiq Khan and Andy Burnham in Manchester. Both Khan and Burnham slavishly supporting the lockdown even denounced the demonstrations. Keith Starmer, the Blairite Leader of

the Labour party also denounced violent attacks on the Police, demonstrating again his commitment to the bourgeois state. He also opposed any breach of the lockdown. Both the Labour Party leadership and the trade union bureaucracy have completely capitulated to the lockdown which is a clear attack on democratic rights and a move towards Bonapartism. These social-democrats as well as the opportunists in nearly all centrist groups have gone along with these attacks like sheep to the slaughter.

The Black Lives Matter movement and the protesting youth have now ignored these “rules” and sparked a revolutionary charge against the state attacks and brute force by the police.

The backward sections and lumpen elements associated with the fascist movement of Tommy Robinson’s English Defense League and Britain First have deliberately organized counter demonstrations and provocations, attacking the BLM protests. They are defacto at the behest of the capitalist state in order to get these demonstrations and marches banned.

“Priti Patel has been urged to impose an emergency ban on all protests after Britain’s biggest police force condemned the “mindless hooliganism” and “utterly shocking” violence of far-right activists against its officers in London.

The head of the body representing rank-and-file police officers in England and Wales called for tougher restrictions on demonstrations after 23 officers were injured and more than 100 people were arrested during clashes in London

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice

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

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

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

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

25 years.

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

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

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

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



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

on Saturday. The Metropolitan police said officers had been injured after being kicked, punched or hit by missiles as they faced hundreds of angry demonstrators who claimed that they were protecting statues in central London on Saturday.

Police said 113 people were arrested, including a 28-year-old man detained on suspicion of urinating by a Westminster memorial dedicated to the murdered police officer Keith Palmer.

Bas Javid, a commander at the Met, said: "The scenes of officers encountered across central London yesterday were utterly shocking. Once again they were pelted with missiles, or challenged by groups of men intent on violence". [2]

Statue of Slave Trader Edward Colston pulled down and thrown into the River

The Black Lives matter protests have acquired a more important development and that is to campaign against the remnants of slavery. Many towns and cities have statues of important historical figures who have been slave owners respectively traders. The masses in Britain have learnt an important lesson which bourgeois academics and historians reject and that is that most of these so-called historical figures were leading proponents of imperialism, colonialism and slavery during the period of the British Empire and should never be looked at as heroes but rather as the oppressors they were. In London, Winston Churchill (much beloved worthy of Boris Johnson) was a leading imperialist politician who used the army and the police against strikers and workers during the early 20th Century when he was Home Secretary. His history is littered with attacks on the working class and he remained an imperialist and racist until his death. No wonder that Winston Churchill's statue was daubed with the words racist on it. When the fascists responded, they claimed that they act patriotic which is true to the sense that British history and present is imperialist. In fact most fascist groups emerged from proto-fascist groups formed during and after the Second World War but have a specific element today which is the neglect of Hitler fascism and the cultivation of British fascism with a focus on Islamophobia.

"The statue of Edward Colston, originally erected in The Centre in Bristol England, is of Bristol-born merchant Edward Colston (1636–1721) whose earlier reputation as a philanthropist has come under increasing scrutiny because of his involvement in the Atlantic slave trade. The bronze statue, created in 1895 by sculptor John Cassidy, on a Portland stone plinth, was designated a Grade II listed structure in 1977.

On 7 June 2020, the statue of Colston was toppled, defaced, and pushed into Bristol Harbour by Black Lives Matter protesters during the George Floyd protests. The plinth was also covered in graffiti." [3]

Winston Churchill as Home Secretary in the Early Part of the 20th Century

Here are two excerpts showing Churchill as a major imperialist politician demonstrating his actions against the working class. "Back in Britain (Churchill), he was tasked with dealing with the Tonypandy Riot in which coal miners in the Rhondda Valley violently protested against their working conditions. The Chief Constable of Glamorgan requested troops to help police quell the rioting. Churchill, learning that the troops were already travelling, allowed them to go as far as Swindon and Cardiff, but blocked their deployment; he was concerned that the use of troops could lead to bloodshed. Instead he sent 270 London police—who were not equipped with firearms—to assist their Welsh counterparts. As the riots continued, he offered the protesters an interview with the government's chief industrial arbitrator, which they accepted. Churchill became involved with the Siege of Sidney Street three Latvian burglars had killed several police officers and hidden in a house in London's East End which was surrounded by police. Churchill joined the police although did not direct their operation. After the house caught on fire, he told the fire brigade not to proceed into the house because of the threat that the armed Latvians posed to them. After the event, two of the burglars were found dead. Although he faced criticism for his decision, he stated that he "thought it better to let the house burn down rather than spend good British lives in rescuing those ferocious rascals" [4]

Demonstrating against the existence of Britain's colonial and imperial past there have been campaigns in social media against well-known racist and imperialist exploiters respectively slave owners and traders. One such campaign was successful at Oriel College Oxford where there is a statue of Cecil Rhodes, the racist in Africa who propagated imperialist rule in Southern Africa. After facing enormous pressure, the senate decided to have the statue taken down and removed.

Recently, a lawyer working for the Crown Prosecution Service has tweeted support for a Britain First tweet calling for Nelson Mandela's statue to be pulled down as a known terrorist. This is a provocation against people of colour and particular Afro-Caribbean's and it shows the collusion of the state with fascist ideology. It also proves again that more people of Afro-Caribbean descent are likely to be prosecuted than white people in a system where lawyers in the highest state structures sympathize with positions of fascist groups.

"A senior lawyer at the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is under investigation after a petition from far-right group Britain First calling for the statue of Nelson Mandela to be "torn down" was posted on her Facebook page. The petition was shared on the Facebook page of Kim Kendall, a senior lawyer at the Yorkshire and Humberside CPS. It accuses Mandela of being "a communist and terrorist mass murderer" who should be "consigned to the dustbin

Comunismo Revolucionario
Spanish-language Journal of the RCIT

of history". CPS employees are civil servants and required to be impartial, particularly when making decisions about whether individual cases should proceed to court or not.

Kendall's investigation by her employers follows complaints by at least two lawyers who were concerned about the material on her Facebook page" [5].

RCIT Programme and Perspectives for the Coming Period

The RCIT in past articles has identified COVID-19 and the Pandemic coupled with the lockdown as further evidence of a counter-revolutionary attack against the masses and the working class. Together with the deep recession, the years of austerity, exploitation and poverty for the masses this was an opportunity for the ruling class to take preventive steps against potential resistance in future. However, the killing of George Floyd combined with the looming frustration of the poor masses in this deep capitalist crisis have unleashed all the anger leading to major class battles in the imperialist heartlands of Britain and the USA.

"However, the decisive breakthrough has been the unprecedented mass protests in the U.S. – the heart of the imperialist beast – after the cold-blood murder of George Floyd by the police. Since the end of May, a pre-revolutionary situation has opened up in the most powerful capitalist state which is now politically paralyzed by the largest popular uprising this country has ever seen since the civil war in 1861-65 and, more recently, the black power mobilizations in the 1960s. This has provoked an international wave of mass demonstrations against racism and police violence with hundreds of thousands people on the streets in several countries of Western Europe, While the concrete issues of protest differ, in most cases they share a general theme: the rage against racism and police violence, the exploitation and humiliation of the poor and oppressed by authoritarian regimes. In other words, the democratic question is in the forefront of the mass struggles. This confirms the RCIT's thesis of the central importance of the revolutionary democratic struggle in the current period as we outlined in our program adopted in 2016 and re-emphasized in our analysis of the current global counter-revolutionary offensive under the cover of the COVID-19 pandemic" [6].

The RCIT in BRITAIN puts forward the following transitional demands in this current period in order to unite the working classes and the masses under a revolutionary banner.

* For a continuation of the Social Protests! No to the Lock-downs! Defend the right to demonstrate and assemble!

* No to Surveillance! Stop the Police State!

* Defend all Communities from Fascist Provocations and Police Attacks! Organize armed Self-defense guards of workers and oppressed to protect our communities! All police officers involved in brutalities against Afro-Caribbean people must be sacked immediately and imprisoned! However, the ultimate goal is to smash the police which is nothing else than an instrument against our class!

* Support the Black Lives Matter movement and fight for a revolutionary orientation of the movement! The goal must be to forge an international Revolutionary Black Movement which dedicates itself to smash the capitalist system together with other revolutionary movements of the workers and oppressed!

* No sackings of workers! No wage cuts! For a strike movement up to an indefinite general strike to remove the hated and reactionary Boris Johnson Government!

* For the building of a new Workers Party!

* Fight for a Workers Government to be established through an armed uprising!

Join the RCIT and fight with us for a new, a 5th International - a world party of the workers and oppressed!

Footnotes

1) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jun/15/black-youth-activism-george-floyd-protests>

2) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jun/14/met-police-condemns-mindless-hooliganism-far-right-protesters-london>

3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Edward_Colston

4) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winston_Churchill

5) <https://www.theguardian.com/law/2020/jun/18/senior-cps-lawyer-investigated-for-posting-britain-first-petition>

6) <https://www.thecomunists.net/worldwide/global/the-global-popular-uprising-against-racism-and-police-violence/>

Two Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

*** Marxism, European Union
and Brexit**

*** The British Left
and the EU-Referendum**

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

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



