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No “Normalization” with Israeli State Terrorism!

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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 110, October 2020

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Picture on the Cover: Mass Demonstration in Solidarity with the People in Gaza (Vienna, 16.1.2009)

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**

Mali: No to Imperialist Sanctions after the Dismissal of the Authoritarian Keita Regime!

Joint Statement of Revolutionary and Anti-Imperialist Organisations, 27 August 2020

1. After an insurrection of mutinying soldiers, Mali's President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has announced his resignation on 18 August. The rebels declared that they will install a transitional government. The overthrow of the Keita regime took place after months of mass protests against the rigged elections which the government tried to suppress with brute force, killing of at least 14 people.

2. The M5-RFP coalition – a bourgeois alliance of various forces which led the recent mass mobilizations – welcomed the resignation of the authoritarian ruler. In contrast, all imperialist Great Powers – from France, the U.S. to China – as well as West African regimes condemned the end of the Keita regime. They even threaten to impose harsh sanction against Mali.

3. The reason for this is simple: since coming to power in 2013, Keita has been a willing tool in the hand of the imperialists. He fully supported imperialist military missions in West Africa like MINUSMA and “*Operation Barkhane*” / “*Coalition for the Sahel*”. Contrary to official claims, these missions – led by French imperialism – do not serve “the struggle against terrorism”. They rather serve the purpose of securing the political and economic interests of the Great Powers in the region as well as keeping the local ruling classes in power. In addition, such military missions shall stop refugees crossing the Mediterranean Sea and entering Europe.

4. The undersigned organisations sharply denounce the reaction of the imperialist Great Powers and the West African regimes. We strongly reject any sanctions against Mali!

5. Furthermore, we call for the immediate end of imperialist military interventions in West Africa. Expel all imperialist troops and their local allies!

6. We support the right of people from the South to enter Europe. Down with the “Fortress Europe” – for “Open Borders”!

7. While we don't shed a tear for the dismissed Keita regime, we emphasise that the solution is not a new, self-proclaimed government based on mutinying soldiers. The only way forward is the creation of a government of the workers and popular masses.

List of Signatories:

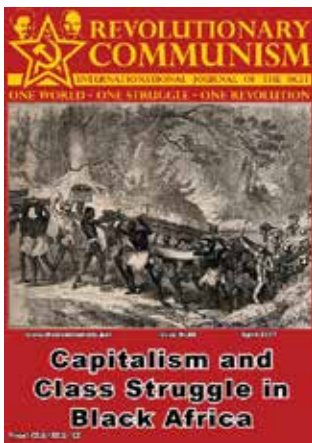
Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigeria)

Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya)

United Textile Employees Lesotho (UNITE)

Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria)

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

Theses on Capitalism and Class Struggle in Black Africa

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

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

MALIANS, DON'T REPEAT THE MISTAKE OF HISTORY!

For independent bodies of the popular masses to lead the struggle! For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly now!

*Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigerian Section of the RCIT) and
Revolutionary Socialist League (Sympathizing RCIT Section in Kenya), 21 August 2020*

Amidst intense mass pressure followed by a military coup the government of, now ex-president, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and, ex-prime minister, Boubou Cisse have been forced to relinquish power and the parliament totally dissolved in the early hours of Wednesday, 19th August, 2020, yet the restive situation in Mali is far from over. The Malian people have suffered decades long economic hardship, political instability and armed insurgency all of which have claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Malians. Like all African nations, Mali has never truly been free from imperialist subjugation that has essentially rendered the nation one of the worst kind of neo-colonies in the world. For one thing, the 'former' colonial master of the country, France, is still very much around and leads a sizeable 15,600 troops in MINUSMA, which is the 2nd largest UN sanctioned peace keeping mission in the world (!). This is without mentioning the influence of other imperialists in the country.

These forces pose as counter weights to terrorism and as agents of stability but in the real sense they form part of the main enemy of the people as they reap humongous profits from keeping Mali and other neo-colonial nations underdeveloped. These military interventions also prevent the influx of African refugees into Europe through the Mediterranean. Little wonder all the imperialist rulers from France through Germany with the European Union (EU); Eastern global and regional powers like China and Turkey; the US and the United Nations have contested the ousting of Keita and Cisse. The same reaction was given by the comprador stooges of these hegemonies in Africa as we see condemnations of the ouster from Nigeria to South Africa; from Angola to Algeria. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU) have both suspended Mali and have closed all borders with Mali and blocked air flights to the country.

We do not endorse military coups as a productive tactic for the mass struggle especially considering the fact that the history of Mali is replete with coups and counter coups since 1968, eight years after the country gained formal independence from France in 1960. However taking into account the concrete and immediate situation in Mali, the coup occurred due to a mass uprising that was sparked by election padding which resulted in emergence of Keita's Rassemblement pour le Mali party and its allies as the parliamentary majority in April. Even though the leaders of this mass uprising include the M5-RFP coalition – a bourgeois alliance of various forces like the thirty-party Front for Safeguarding Democracy (FDS); and beyond the parliamentary elections, the mass uprising occurs within the context of a global revolutionary period birthed by a historic crises in the global capitalist economy and the capitalist setting as a whole.

Thus, the struggle in Mali is part of the fright shaking the heart of the capitalist order. We support the popular desire

to get rid of Keita and his government and don't waste a tear for his detainment by the rebellious soldiers. We also oppose all forms of sanctions and blockades against Mali by the AU and ECOWAS. Yet, we must strongly warn that the battle is far from over. It is a known fact that the history of coups on the African continent can be summarized as a vicious cycle of rising and falling anti-people and neo-liberal governments who are mere servants of imperialism. The Malian people must not repeat the mistakes of history by allowing power to be sustained in the hands of military cliques neither should the masses leave the streets as suggested by the National Committee for the Salvation of the People.

Rather we call on the Malian masses to form action councils and self-defense guards at work places, neighborhoods, universities and villages. These councils in any discussion with the coup leaders must hold the intransigent position of forming a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly instead of new rounds of bourgeois elections which will only replace the same interests of capitalist exploitation with different faces. Members of this Revolutionary Constituent Assembly must be elected by the public; they must receive the wages of an average skilled worker and they must be subject to recall at any instant by the people. This Assembly will be saddled with piloting the affairs of the Malian people for a pro-masses future.

Brothers and sisters have no trust in any politician/opposition party trust only your strength. Out with all imperialist occupation forces in the Sahel! Down with Operation Barkane! For a people's militia now!

We reaffirm the global significance of the insurrection in Mali and its importance in the African liberation struggle, hence all progressive and revolutionary forces in West Africa and beyond must boycott the sanctions and blockade placed on Mali at this time. We call for a unification, based on international workers solidarity, of the uprising in Mali with the popular uprising in Belarus, Lebanon, Hong-Kong, Palestine and the US.

For a free socialist Mali!

Long live the struggle for African liberation!

Long live international socialism!

Nigeria: RevolutionNow! Anti-government Protests

Report (with pictures) by the Revolutionary Socialists Vanguard [Nigerian Section of the RCIT], 10.08.2020

The RevolutionNow! Protest was organized by the Coalition for Revolution (CORE), a joint front of Left leaning groups, socialist organizations and individual activists. CORE was formed last year as a product of the wave of revolutionary upsurge which peaked in 2019. The first August 5th protest took place last year also, as the first joint action of these groups under the banner of the Coalition for Revolution. At the time, one of the major leading figures of the Coalition was Omoyele Sowore, a pro-democracy rights activist who led the Take-It-Back Movement, a petty bourgeois pro-democracy movement. He was arrested on August 3rd, 2019 for calling for the protests which was also called "Days of Rage" last year. Comrades of the *Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard* though a small fraction of these movements have always participated in actions and programs organized by these bodies. The following report was delivered by one of our comrades who attended the protest on August 5th:

RevolutionNow Protest in Nigeria

The Nigerian masses took to street in various parts of the country on August 5, in another form of demonstration tagged #REVOLUTIONNOW! The masses in reaction to the series of corruption cases by government officials, mismanagement of public funds; increasing rate of insurgency and terrorism; increasing rate of poverty and unemployment in the country; filled the streets in demanding that the government find solutions to the devastating conditions of the country or better still, step down!

The protest was not taken lightly by the tyrannical president of the country; as several security forces such as po-

lice, Department of State Services (DSS) agents and personnel, Army, etc. were deployed on the street to ruthlessly deal with the protesters and ensure that the protests do not take place. In several parts of the country, several peaceful protesters were arrested, while some were brutally injured. In Abuja, the Capital of the country, protesters were beaten mercilessly and made to lie down; while in some other states, the police applied tear gas in dispersing protesters.

Nevertheless, the determined protesters went on to state their ground, and refuse to give in to the oppressive acts of the state machinery.

During the protest, nothing less than 90 activists were arrested by the security forces, but through continuous agitations and pressure from the determined masses, all were released afterwards.

The state made use of the covid-19 social gathering laws as the major excuse for the attacking peaceful protesters. Obviously, beyond doubt, the Covid-19 anti-social gathering laws has been manifesting its true essence of existence!

* * * * *

In conclusion, the August 5th demonstrations have become a beacon of anti-government protests in Nigeria, nevertheless, this year, it was an offspring of the revolutionary wave of mass struggles which reemerged with the protests against police brutality after the killing of George Floyd in US. Several groups and organizations in CORE were originally openly or covertly in support of the lock downs and so they were pushed to follow the spontaneous global uprisings which had their counterparts in Nigeria when people started showing solidarity with the #Justice-



Participants at the RevolutionNow! Protest in in Lagos on 5.8.2020

4GeorgeFloyd protests in the US. This re-emergence of public demonstrations has also caused many left organizations to resume meetings, programs and activities beyond the online form.

The Nigerian state also unleashed disproportionate number of forces which attacked protesters with tear gas, rubber bullets, many protesters were also beaten. In Lagos, 22 protesters were arrested including Agba Jalingo who was detained for months in Cross Rivers state after he exposed the corruption scandal of the governor, Ben Ayade. In Osun state about 7 protesters were arrested including Olawale Bakare, who was detained alongside Omoyele Sowore, last year by the DSS. 67 protesters were arrested in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and so on. Due to mounting pressure for the last couple of days all detained protesters have been released.

Summarily, we declare our open support for such initiatives as our comrades participated in the protest throughout the country and we support all demands that call for

better living conditions of people and the revolutionary overthrow of the Buhari regime. It is important to show solidarity with the on-going struggle in Southern Kaduna against the wanton killings of about 300 villagers by terrorists and extreme Islamist groups. We say that international solidarity with progressive protests in Mali, Lebanon, Hong-Kong, Belarus, South Korea and the US is indispensable. We reject all imperialist theatrics which deceive the people by posing as a solution or a better alternative and call for the revolutionary defeat of all Great Powers in the East and West! Finally, such initiatives must work with the trade unions, civil society organizations and progressives to form delegates and self-defense groups against the hired thugs of the Nigerian ruling class and their paid terrorists, the Boko Haram!

A luta continua!

Signed: Oladipupo Jimoh, International Liaison Personnel, Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard [RCIT Nigeria]



Participants at the RevolutionNow! Protest in in Lagos on 5.8.2020



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

Israel-UAE-Bahrain Deal: No to the “Normalization” with Israel!

Continue support for the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian People!

Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel/Occupied Palestine), 17.09.2020

On 15 September, Israel, the UAE and Bahrain signed in the White House in the USA an agreement for the “normalization” of diplomatic relations with Israel.

In a joint statement, the United States, Bahrain and Israel said “opening direct dialogue and ties between these two dynamic societies and advanced economies will continue the positive transformation of the Middle East and increase stability, security, and prosperity in the region.” (1)

Speaking to reporters in a call from the White House soon after Friday’s announcement, Kushner said the UAE and Bahrain agreements “will help reduce tension in the Muslim world and allow people to separate the Palestinian issue from their own national interests and from their foreign policy, which should be focused on their domestic priorities.” (2)

According to the joint statement between the US, Israel, and the UAE released on August 13 by US President Donald Trump: “As set forth in the Vision of Peace, all Muslims who come in peace may visit and pray at the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem’s other holy sites should remain open for peaceful worshippers of all faiths.” (3)

This terminology is an open invitation to Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount. “According to Israel and [and apparently to the United States] anything on the Temple Mount that is not the structure of the mosque itself is defined as ‘one of Jerusalem’s other holy sites’ and open to prayer by all - including Jews.” (4) “One of the biggest Palestinian and Muslim fears is that Israel intends to change the status quo on the Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif which once housed the Jewish temple and today is the site of the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. Israeli

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over the years denounced such fears as incitement. Yet in June 2016 Israel’s Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi David Lau told the Knesset Channel that he would like to see a Third Temple built, and expressed his belief that the Muslim holy sites located on Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount need not be demolished in order to make room for it”. (5)

It is clear that the Israel-UAE-Bahrain deal agreement was orchestrated under pressure by Donald Trump. The public opposition to this deal in the two countries is very evident. “Dissidents in the UAE established an association against the normalization deal being signed between Israel and the Gulf state, reported the Turkish Anadolu Agency in August. The association, the UAE Resistance Union Against Normalization (al-Rabetat al-Emaratiyat Le Moqavemat al-Tatbi’e) rejects any form of normalization with Israel, including on economic, sports, security, social and political issues. Bahraini opposition groups have rejected a decision by the Gulf state to normalize relations with Israel with a leading Shia Muslim leader calling on the people of the region to resist.” (6)

Netanyahu has been criticized for flying to the US as Israel braces for the new lockdown, which will see schools and many businesses shuttered for three weeks, even though the so called normalization agreements are popular with the Jewish public including the protest movement. Yair Lapid, the head of Israel’s right wing Yesh Atid party that is considered a left wing party in Israel “congratulated Netanyahu on the normalisation of relations with the UAE”. (7)

Not all the Palestinians in the West bank oppose the deal; there are some Quislings (traitors). The Palestinian Authority (PA) security forces have in recent days arrested

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.

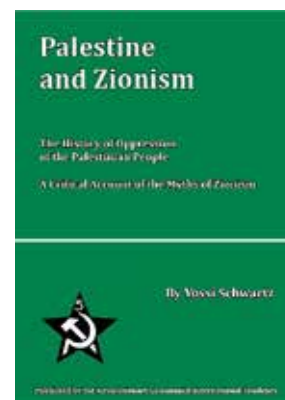
A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

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/>



a number of pro imperialists associated with Mohammed Dahlan after he criticized the PA for burning United Arab Emirates (UAE) flags and insulting Arab rulers who announced the normalization of ties with Israel.

At the same time the Arab leadership in Israel has called for a demonstration in Wadi Ara.

From the little information that was released on the content of this agreement it is clear that what is behind these empty words is a military agreement against Iran and its allies and the support of Israel's repression of the Palestinians.

Facing this reality Fatah, Hamas and the other Palestinian faction agreed to form a united front to fight the deal. A deal that Palestinian leader rightly denounced as "another treacherous stab to the Palestinian cause". "On Saturday, Palestinian groups led by Hamas and Fatah agreed on a "unified field leadership" comprising all factions that will lead "comprehensive popular resistance" against the Israeli occupation, a statement said." (8)

The *Internationalist Socialist League* (RCIT Section in Israel/Occupied Palestine), denounces this deal and supports the idea of a Palestinian anti-imperialist united front. However to form a real anti-imperialist united front it is necessary to mobilize the armed Palestinian people in each town and village, in every neighborhood, to democratically elect the leadership of every popular committee and to form a national leadership leading the struggle. A united front only from above will not be able to fight the oppression.

The problem with the existing Palestinian petit-bourgeois and bourgeois leadership as we have seen for so many years is that they came too late in history to lead a democratic revolution. They are too afraid of losing control over the struggling masses. The only leadership that can lead to a victory is a revolutionary working class leadership fighting for red democratic Palestine in the framework of

a socialist federation of the Middle East

The oppressed Palestinians can win this struggle as part of the Arab Revolution against all the oppressive corrupted Arab local rulers serving the imperialists.

Footnotes

- 1) <https://eg.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-of-the-united-states-the-kingdom-of-bahrainand-the-state-of-israel/>
- 2) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/09/israel-bahrain-agree-establish-full-diplomatic-ties-200911171014685.html>
- 3) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/09/israel-normalisation-partition-al-aqsa-mosque-analysts-200913185257276.html>
- 4) Ibid
- 5) Michael Schaeffer Omer-Man Israel's chief rabbi urges building Jewish temple on Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif + 972 Magazine June 11, 2016
- 6) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/09/bahrain-opposition-rejects-israel-normalisation-200913174204970.html>
- 7) <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20200813-uae-israel-agree-to-normalise-relations/>
- 8) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/09/israel-normalisation-partition-al-aqsa-mosque-analysts-200913185257276.html>

For programmatic documents of the ISL and the RCIT on Palestine we refer readers to:

The ISL's program can be read here: <http://www.the-isleague.com/our-platform/> and <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/summary-of-isl-program/>

Yossi Schwartz: Israel's War of 1948 and the Degeneration of the Fourth International, <http://the-isleague.com/1948-war-5-2013/> and <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/israel-s-war-of-1948/>

Michael Pröbsting: On some Questions of the Zionist Oppression and the Permanent Revolution in Palestine, <http://the-isleague.com/zionist-oppression-and-permanent-revolution/> and <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/permanent-revolution-in-palestine/>

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution

What It Is and How to Fight It. A Marxist analysis and strategy for the revolutionary struggle

In *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution* Michael Pröbsting analyses the dramatic events in spring 2020 which have opened a new historic era. A triple crisis has shocked the world. The Third Depression has begun, characterized by a devastating economic slump of the capitalist world economy which is certainly no less dramatic than the crisis which started in 1929.

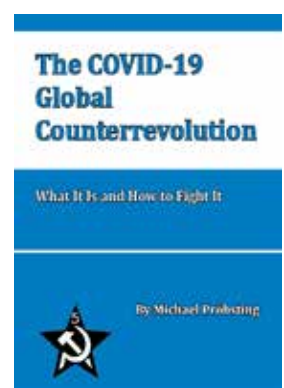
In addition, there is a wave of anti-democratic attacks of a scale which has not been seen in the imperialist countries since 1945. This has triggered a global turn towards Chauvinist State Bonapartism and the creation of a monstrous Leviathan-like state machinery.

And finally, the world faces COVID-19 – a pandemic which endangers many lives and which is exploited by the ruling classes in order to spread fear, to deflect attention from the capitalist causes of the economic crisis and to justify the turn towards chauvinist state bonapartism.

The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution also shows that large sectors of the reformist workers movement and the

so-called left fail to understand the meaning of this triple crisis. Similar to the situation in 1914 after the beginning of World War I we can observe a gigantic wave of opportunist capitulation by many self-proclaimed socialists as they support or at least do not denounce the global lockdown and the suppression of democratic rights which the ruling classes are imposing in the name of combat against the pandemic. *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution* offers a Marxist analysis of this historic crisis and elaborates a revolutionary perspective for the struggles ahead.

The book contains an introduction and 6 chapters plus an appendix (176 pages) and includes 5 figures and a diagram.



Stop Israel's State Terrorism against Gaza!

Support the Palestinian Resistance! Smash the Zionist State!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 25.08.2020

1. Since 6 August the Palestinian people in Gaza face almost daily bombings by the Zionist state. In addition, Israel has tightened the already draconic blockade against Gaza by not allowing fuel deliveries into the enclave. As a result, the people have been left with only four hours of electricity a day. In response, Palestinian resistance fighters have fired some rockets and sent some incendiary balloons which have been causing fires on farmland in southern Israel.

2. This is only the latest escalation in the ongoing terror campaign of the Zionist state against the Palestinian people. Israel has imposed a barbaric blockade against Gaza since 2007, transforming the enclave into a de-facto open-air prison. Unemployment exceeds 50 percent and people live in daily fear for their lives given the regular bombings by Israel. The Zionist state has waged three wars – in 2008/09, 2012 and 2014 – against Gaza. However, in all three wars the heroic Palestinian resistance managed to successfully defend the enclave.

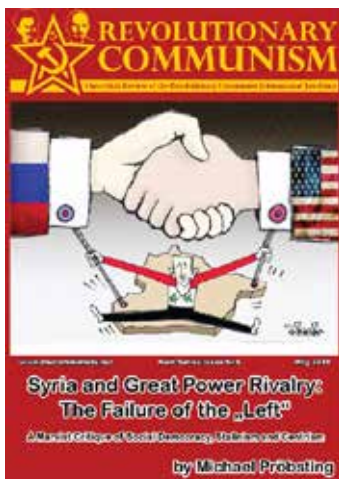
3. Israel's latest escalation has been triggered by several factors. On one hand, the Netanyahu government is emboldened by its diplomatic success in striking a deal with the autocratic rulers of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). On the other hand, it gets increasingly nervous – like its allied dictators in Saudi Arabia, UAE and Egypt – about the possible defeat of Trump at the upcoming Presidential elections in the U.S. Add to this the increasing tensions between different powers in the Middle East which make a regional war a realistic possibility. Furthermore, the Netanyahu government faces increasing

pressure in domestic politics – because of the corruption scandal, the regular mass demonstrations as well as the outrage of right-wing extremist settlers about the delay of the annexations of parts of the West Bank.

4. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and its comrades in Occupied Palestine fully support the resistance of the Palestinian people against the monstrous Zionist aggression! We demand the immediate and unconditional lifting of the blockade against Gaza. In all conflicts between the resistance resp. its various factions (Hamas, Islamic Jihad, PFLP, Fatah, etc.) and the Zionist state we stand for the military victory of the Palestinian camp without lending political support to its leadership.

5. We strongly denounce the recent deal between Israel and the UAE. It demonstrates once more the ultra-reactionary nature of the Arab dictatorships which are servants of the imperialist Great Powers and enemies of the oppressed peoples. This deal is part of the strategic goal of Israel – and U.S. imperialism – to create a "Holy Alliance" with the forces of the Arab Counterrevolution, in particular with Saudi-Arabia, UAE and General Sisi's dictatorship in Egypt.

6. Israel is a terror state and has been such from its very beginning. Since the 1920s the Zionists have systematically expelled the indigenous Arab population from their homelands in Palestine resulting in the traumatic "Nakba" ("Catastrophe") in 1948. Hence, the RCIT calls the workers and popular organizations in the Arab world and globally to protest against all forms of



Publications of the RCIT

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

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

“normalization” with the Zionist state. We denounce all forms of collaboration of the Palestinian Authority with Israeli institutions. Likewise we call for an end of the reactionary blockade of the Egypt dictatorship against Gaza. All Arab states must cut any political, economic or diplomatic relationship with Israel.

7. We support calls for a Third Intifada. Such an Intifada needs to be based on popular committees and self-defense committees composed of Palestinian workers, poor peasants, and youth in work places, towns, and villages.

8. Just like Israel could not survive without the aid of imperialist powers and collaborationist Arab rulers, the Palestinian liberation struggle can not win if it is isolated. It can only succeed as part of the *Arab Revolution* and with the *support of the international workers and popular movement*. This is why the RCIT calls to unite the liberation struggle in Palestine with the ongoing revolutionary process in Syria against the Assad tyranny, in Iraq and Lebanon against the reactionary regimes, in Yemen against the Saudi/UAE invasion, in Libya against General Haftar, in Egypt against the military dictatorship, etc. For a *single Intifada in the entire Middle East* – from Baghdad and Beirut, Idlib, Tripoli, Sana’a, Gaza, Cairo, Algiers, Khartoum to Teheran!

9. Such an international solidarity movement with the Palestinian resistance must go beyond the Arab world. The RCIT advocates energetic boycott campaigns against the Zionist state all over the world (e.g. workers actions against shipments to and from Israel, consumer boycott against Israeli commodities, academic and cultural boycott,

etc.) We also support all forms of medical, financial and military aid for the Palestinian people.

10. The RCIT fights for the right of return of all the millions of Palestinian refugees who were expelled by Zionist state. The only solution is the destruction of the Zionist state and the creation of a *Free and Red Palestine*, i.e. a *Democratic, Palestinian, Multinational and Socialist Workers and Fallahin Republic from the River to the Sea*. Such a single state in the whole of historic Palestine – which will include all Jews who accept the end of the Zionist Apartheid privileges – shall be part of a *Socialist Federation of the Middle East*. The RCIT call activists who share our perspectives to join us in building a *World Party of Socialist Revolution!*

International Bureau of the RCIT

We refer readers also to these articles and documents:

RCIT: Israel Starts Ground Offensive: Defend Gaza! Defeat Israel’s War! Support the Palestinian Resistance! For a Workers’ and Popular International Campaign to Boycott Israel! Down with the Regimes which Collaborate with Israel! For a Free, Red Palestine! 22.7.2014, <https://rcitarchive.wordpress.com/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-defend-gaza/>

RCIT: New Wave of Israeli terror against Gaza: Support the Palestinian Resistance! Defeat the Zionist killing machine! 15.11.2012, <https://rcitarchive.wordpress.com/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/defend-gaza/>



Publications of the RCIT

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

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2017

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Middle East: Is a New Regional War in Preparation?

Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel/Occupied Palestine), 19.08.2020

Last week Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) established diplomatic relations. Yesterday the chief of the Mossad Yossi Cohen has visited the UAE for so called security talks. Cohen's trip to Abu Dhabi marked the first visit to the UAE by an Israeli official. According to the UAE, "The two sides discussed prospects for cooperation in the fields of security as well as exchanged points of view on regional developments." (1)

This regional development can be attributed to either the fear of Iran or the fear of a new Arab revolutionary struggle. As part of the deal between the two was the suspension of the annexation of one third of the West Bank and the Jordanian valley. Netanyahu has stated that he agreed only to delay the annexation. This deal is an open betrayal of the Palestinian people by the super reactionary leaders of the UAE, servants of American and Israeli imperialists.

"Iran's Parliament chief has urged the legislatures of Islamic countries to do all in their power to block a "shameful" normalization deal between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), saying Muslim parliamentarians must join forces to foil a "political assassination" of the Palestinian people." (2)

In May 2020, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Israel "to strategize over a range of mutual interests, including Iran, China." (3)

"In June 2019 US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had blamed Iran for the "unprovoked attacks" He added that the US had made its assessment based on intelligence about the type of weapons used. But Iran dismissed the claim as "unfounded". A senior Iranian official had earlier told the BBC that "Iran has no connection" with the explosions. Dozens of crew members were rescued after the blasts on the Japanese-owned Kokuka Courageous and the Front Altair, owned by a Norwegian company." (4)

On August 14 2020, "the United States has seized more than 1.1 million barrels of Iranian fuel that was headed to Venezuela. A few days before this event an Iranian military unit briefly boarded a tanker in the Gulf of Oman in what several American officials described as a show of force — and, potentially, Tehran's efforts to reclaim any of its fuel that might be on the ship." (5)

On August 15 2020, due to the objections by Russia and China the US was unable to get an extension of the embargo on Iran in the UN Security Council. Donald Trump wants now to force the reinstatement of all international sanctions on Iran against the will of the other members of the UNSC by using the "snapback". "The snapback was granted to the participants in the nuclear agreement in the event of a violation of the terms of the nuclear agreement by Iran." (6)

Meanwhile, the United States reportedly agreed to sell F-35 fighter jets vehicles to the United Arab Emirates, "a move that Washington had apparently shied from due to concerns about maintaining Israel's "qualitative military edge" in the region." (7)

In July this year, "Iran and China drafted an economic and security partnership that would allow for billions of dollars in Chinese investments in energy and other sectors - including the military." (8)

"On August 18th, "Israeli tanks attacked Hamas targets in the besieged Gaza Strip in response to Palestinian rockets and airborne firebombs launched into southern Israel" that did not

kill any Israeli. Tanks targeted a number of military observation posts belonging to the Hamas in the Gaza Strip," an army statement said on Monday. The Israeli army said that Palestinian "rioters burned tyres, hurled explosive devices and grenades towards the security fence and attempted to approach it" on Saturday evening. In addition, the Israeli army said that "dozens of people had also "instigated riots along the Gaza Strip security fence" on Sunday evening. On Thursday, Israel said it would stop shipments of fuel into the enclave in response to the incendiary balloons. That was followed on Sunday by Israeli air attacks on Gaza, including what a military statement called "a military compound used to store rocket ammunition" belonging to Hamas." (9)

On August 17 the Israeli police killed a Palestinian man after he allegedly attempted to carry out stabbing attack in the Old City near the entrance of Bab Hutta. The Palestinian Red Crescent Society, in a brief statement, said its teams were prevented from entering the vicinity of Bab Hutta to treat the man before he succumbed to his wounds. This cold blood murder came hours after Israeli security guards shot and wounded a deaf Palestinian who was not able to hear the orders to stop at an occupied West Bank checkpoint. In late May, Israeli police shot dead an unarmed 32-year-old Palestinian with severe autism who was on his way to his special needs school in Jerusalem's Old City. (10)

In a case of a war between Iran and its allies, on one hand, and Israel and its allies backed by the USA, on the other hand, the question will be: Is it a proxy war between USA-Israel on one side and Russia and China on the other, or is it Iran against imperialist forces. The latter is more likely. In such a case the interest of the international working class will be a military defeat for Israel-USA without giving Iran any political support.

Footnotes

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2) Iran News: "Iran Urges Muslim Parliaments to Act against UAE-Israel Deal" August 19, 2020, <https://irannewsdaily.com/2020/08/iran-urges-muslim-parliaments-to-act-against-uae-israel-deal/>

3) Tracy Wilkinson: Pompeo makes quick trip to Israel to strategize over Iran, Palestinians and China, Los Angeles Times, 13 May 2020, <https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2020-05-13/pompeo-makes-quick-trip-to-israel-to-strategize-over-iran-palestinians-and-china>

4) BBC: Gulf of Oman tanker attacks: Iran calls US accusation 'unfounded', 14 June 2019

5) <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/14/world/middleeast/trump-iran-venezuela-fuel-tankers.html>

6) <https://www.riskscreen.com/kyc360/news/us-cannot-trigger-snapback-sanctions-on-iran-eu-official/>

7) Judah Ari Gross: Reported Deal To Sell UAE F-35 Jets Edges In On Us Promise Of Israeli Dominance, The Times Of Israel, 19 August 2020, <https://www.timesofisrael.com/reported-deal-to-sell-uae-f-35-jets-edges-in-on-us-promise-of-israeli-dominance/>

8) <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/iran-china-trade-military-agreement>

9) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/08/israeli-tanks-attack-hamas-targets-gaza-strip-200817075541627.html>

10) Al Jazeera: Israeli forces kill Palestinian in Jerusalem after alleged attack, 17 Aug 2020, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/08/israeli-forces-kill-palestinian-jerusalem-alleged-attack-200817192823128.html>

War Clouds in Eastern Mediterranean

Down with the imperialist aggression of the EU, Israel and Arab tyrants against Turkey! Support the ongoing Arab Revolution!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14 September 2020

Note of the Editorial Board: The following statement briefly summarizes and updates our analysis and tactics on the conflict in Eastern Mediterranean. For a detailed elaboration we refer readers to the extensive RCIT Theses on this issue ("*Turkey and the Growing Tensions in Eastern Mediterranean*", see below).

1. The military tensions in Eastern Mediterranean are making a war in Europe with the participation of imperialist Great Powers a realistic possibility for the first time since World War II. As this conflict involves various states from three different regions – Mashriq in the Middle East, North Africa's Maghreb as well as Europe – it has truly international dimensions.

2. It is crucial for revolutionaries to understand the complex nature of this conflict and to take a principled position. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) calls to continue supporting the ongoing popular liberation struggles in Syria, Libya, etc. against the forces of counterrevolution (Assad, Haftar, ...) and, at the same time, to defend Turkey against the imperialist aggression of the EU, Greece, Israel, United Arab Emirates and Egypt's General Sisi.

3. On the surface, the conflict in Eastern Mediterranean appears to be a rivalry of regional powers for control over the vast gas reserves in the region. No doubt, such antagonistic economic interests of the states involved exist and constitute an important element in this conflict. However the substance of this conflict is far more complicated as it takes place in the context of profound upheavals in the regional class struggle as well as in the configuration of the imperialist and regional powers.

4. The revolutionary process in the Arab world, which started in 2011, has been the most profound global class struggle event since the 1968-76 period. It has brought down several dictators (e.g. Ben Ali, Mubarak, Gaddafi and Saleh), opened long-running popular liberation wars (in Syria against the Russian-Iranian-Assadist occupation; in Yemen against the Saudi/UAE invasion and in Libya against General Haftar's counterrevolution) and

it also experienced a number of bitter defeats (e.g. General Sisi's military coup in Egypt). Shamefully, numerous Stalinist and centrist forces take a neutral stance in these struggles or even support the Arab tyrants and their imperialist backers.

5. These convulsive events have also provoked the formation of *two counterrevolutionary "Holy Alliances"*. One is the axis of Russian imperialism, Iran, Hezbollah and the Assad dictatorship; the other consists of Saudi-Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Egypt in close alliance with US and Israeli imperialism.

6. In contrast to these two counterrevolutionary alliances, some states hope to maneuver between the Great Powers and to advance their interests by exploiting and materially aiding various liberation struggles. This is particularly the case with Turkey which lends limited support for the remaining liberation forces in Idlib as well as for the Libyan GNA government. Another example is Turkey's tacit support for exiled Muslim Brotherhood leaders who face persecution by the Egypt dictatorship. Qatar, an ally of Turkey, plays a similar role albeit to a more limited degree (e.g. its financial aid for Gaza dominated by Hamas).

7. As the RCIT has repeatedly pointed out, we refuse any political support for the bourgeois-Islamist Erdoğan government. We support the right of national self-determination of the Kurdish people. Furthermore, Turkey's support for the liberation struggles in Syria and Libya is a tainted gift. In exchange for its material (including military) support, Ankara tries to get advantageous business deals. In addition, it attempts to increase its control over the Syrian liberation forces resp. the Libyan government. This is not only dangerous in itself as it liquidates the popular influence over the liberation forces. It is also harmful as the Erdoğan regime tries to advance its political and economic interests by striking deals with Russian as well as with American imperialism (e.g. the Astana/Sochi process which aims to liquidate the Syrian Revolution).

8. European imperialism – in particular its Mediterranean member states led by France – has massively accelerated the tensions in the region. They fully support Greece and Cyprus and their claims against Turkey. These



Publications of the RCIT

The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:
Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

claims – based on the Lausanne Treaty of 1923 which the Great Powers imposed on Turkey – effectively deny Ankara any significant share of maritime control despite the fact that it is the most populous Mediterranean country after Egypt. Shamefully, the Stalinist KKE and other “left-wing” forces in Greece are long-time standard bearers of Athens’ chauvinism as they call for the “*intransigent defense*” of its maritime borders against Turkey.

9. The planned joint pipeline projects between Greece, Cyprus, Israel and Egypt should allow the long-term supply of Europe with natural gas (which in turn would reduce the EU’s dependency on Russian gas imports). This is why these states are determined to scotch the plans of Turkey and Libya to develop their joint exploitation of natural gas reserves in Eastern Mediterranean as their “*Exclusive Economic Zone*” would cut in the middle the pipeline plans of the EU, Israel and Egypt.

10. There are also two additional factors which drive the aggressive war-mongering of European governments against Turkey. First, this campaign should advance the formation of the EU as an independent military bloc which does not totally depend on the U.S. resp. on NATO. Secondly, it shall bolster their Islamophobic agenda, justified by bourgeois secularism (e.g. France) as well as by Christian orthodoxy (e.g. Greece, Eastern Europe), which is directed against the rapidly growing group of Muslim migrants in the EU.

11. More recently, U.S. imperialism also stated its official support for Cyprus and its claims against Turkey. Furthermore, the U.S. also decided to lift a 33-year arms embargo against Cyprus.

12. In summary, the tensions in Eastern Mediterranean do not represent a conflict between two equal evils. On one side there is a counterrevolutionary alliance of European imperialism with Israel and several Arab dictatorships (with the backing of the U.S.). In other words, it is a thoroughly *reactionary bloc of imperialism, Zionism and Arab tyrants*. On the other side is Turkey, an *advanced semicolon*. Ankara tries to advance its interests by maneuvering between the Great Powers and by tactically supporting various liberation struggles. If this conflict ends with a victory for the “Holy Alliance” it would strengthen the

imperialist EU, Israel as well as the Arab tyrants. It would weaken the liberation struggles in Syria, Libya and Palestine.

13. Revolutionaries must strive to avoid such an outcome. Any neutral stance is paramount to indifference towards the strengthening of imperialism, Zionism and tyranny as well as towards the fate of the ongoing popular liberation struggles in the Arab world. This is why the RCIT calls for the defense of Turkey against the imperialist-Zionist-tyrannical aggression without lending any political support to the Erdoğan government. Such a defense must be combined with unconditional support for the ongoing Arab Revolution and the Palestinian liberation struggle. We call for a *single Intifada in the entire Middle East* – from Baghdad and Beirut, Idlib, Tripoli, Sana’a, Gaza, Cairo, Algiers, Khartoum to Teheran – as the way forward to the *Socialist Federation of the Middle East!* We call for building of an international solidarity movement against the counterrevolutionary war-mongering in Eastern Mediterranean.

** Defeat the imperialist aggression of EU-Greece-Israel-UAE-Egypt against Turkey!*

** No to any EU sanctions against Turkey!*

** In any military conflict: Defeat the imperialist-Zionist aggressors – Victory for Turkey!*

** Support the ongoing Syrian Revolution against the Russian-Iranian-Assadist occupation!*

** Solidarity with Libya against General Haftar’s counterrevolution!*

** Defend Yemen against the Saudi/UAE invasion!*

** Down with the “Normalization” with Israel!*

** Smash the Zionist state – Victory to the Palestinian liberation struggle!*

We refer readers to the RCIT’s extensive document on the conflict in Eastern Mediterranean:

RCIT: Turkey and the Growing Tensions in Eastern Mediterranean. Theses on the complex contradictions between imperialist and regional powers, the Arab Revolution and the consequential tactics of Marxists, 28 August 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/turkey-and-the-growing-tensions-in-eastern-mediterranean/>



Publications of the RCIT

The Genocide of the Jews A Marxist Analysis

By Yossi Schwartz

Introduction * The Conditions of the Jews on the Eve of World War II * The Pseudo-Scientific Racist Theory of Social Darwinism * Anti-Semitism as a Branch of Social Darwinism * The Nazi Labor-Death Camps * Zionist Ideology as a Branch of Social Darwinism * The Genocide of the Palestinians * Who Are the Guilty Parties for the Genocide of the Jews? * The Uniqueness of the Genocide of the Jews * The Use of the Holocaust * So What Is Unique About the Genocide of the Jews? * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Egypt: RCIT's International Secretary Michael Pröbsting Speaks about the Death of Essam al-Erian in Arab Media

Report by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14 September 2020

Michael Pröbsting, the RCIT's International Secretary, was invited to speak in Arab media about the death of Essam al-Erian. Al-Erian was the deputy leader of the *Freedom and Justice Party* in Egypt. The event was organized by the Egyptian "Parliamentarians for Freedom" – a group of Members of Parliament associated with this party who were forced to flee the country after the bloody military coup by General Sisi on 3 July 2013).

The statement was aired on 3 September 2020. It can be

currently viewed on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=847038382496622&extid=IMaklesk-1wFfAXRT>.

It can be viewed below resp. on the RCIT's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JL-4HVgGOBQ>

The statement was also translated into Arab language: <https://www.thecommunists.net/home/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9/speech-of-michael-proebsting-on-death-of-al-arian/>



كلمة مايكل بروبستينغ السكرتير الدولي
لحزب التيار الشيوعي الثوري الدولي

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Screenshot from Social Media, advertising the speech of Michael Pröbsting

Books of the RCIT

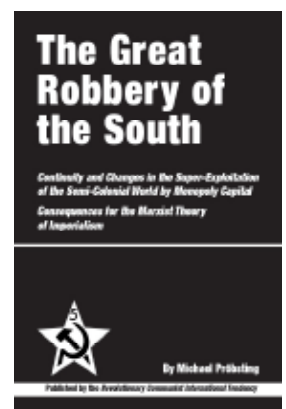
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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

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

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

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



Egypt: RCIT Leaders Speak about the Rabaa Massacre on Arab Channel WATAN TV

Report by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 20 August 2020

Almedina Gunić, International Women’s Secretary of the RCIT, and Michael Pröbsting, the RCIT’s International Secretary, were invited to speak at a TV-Show on the Arab-language channel Watan TV. The show was dedicated to the 7th anniversary of the horrific Rabaa Massacre. On 14 August 2013 the Egyptian army, under the command of General Sisi, smashed the popular mass demonstrations against the military coup which took place shortly before. This barbarous crackdown resulted in the murder of up to 2,600 demonstrators on a single day! Watan TV is a prominent satellite TV channel which airs its shows in many countries. The two-hour show saw a number of prominent speakers from various countries. Almedina Gunić is the very first speaker, starting at min-

ute 4:45. Michael Pröbsting’s speech starts at minute 34.58. Both statements are translated into Arab language. The show was aired on 19 August 2020. It can be currently viewed here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNy2Y_5RoBg. It can be also viewed on Facebook here: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=3072534426148174&ref=watch_permalink. Below are the two statements in Arab language as separate video clips. The statements in English-language can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n40MVOis-dIE> (Almedina Gunić) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5dRAXVIEoo> (Michael Pröbsting).



Screenshots from the Speeches at WATAN TV (14.8.2020); Michael Pröbsting (left) and Almedina Gunić (right)

Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

The collage features several key elements:

- Top Left:** A red banner with white Arabic text: "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين" (Revolution and counter-revolution in the Arab world: a test for revolutionaries).
- Top Center:** A red banner with white Arabic text: "البيان الشيوعي الثوري" (The Revolutionary Communist Manifesto).
- Top Right:** A logo for "ثورة" (Revolution) featuring a red star with a white hammer and sword, with the text "AWRA REVOLUTION" and "الحرية لنور المصباح" (Freedom for the light of the lamp).
- Middle:** A photograph of a woman in a black headscarf and white face paint, holding a flag.
- Bottom Left:** A graphic with a red star and hammer/sword symbol, and a portrait of a man.
- Bottom Center:** A red banner with white Arabic text: "الشيوعي الثوري" (Revolutionary Communist).
- Bottom Right:** A small portrait of a man.

Characteristic Supporters of the Kurdish YPG

Arab dictatorships increase their support for the foot soldiers of U.S. imperialism in Syria

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14 March 2020

A recently published report has revealed new information about the massive support of reactionary Arab regimes for the Kurdish YPG/SDF in Syria. *Al-Monitor*, summarizing the findings of the London-based newspaper *Al-Araby Al-Jadeed*, reports:

*“According to unnamed Egyptian sources, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia have provided “major military assistance” to the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) to aide them in their battle against Turkish troops in northeastern Syria. The sources added that the SDF received significant financial support from both the UAE and Saudi Arabia with Egyptian coordination. The paper earlier revealed that the Egyptian government had been providing political support to the SDF, such as opening a diplomatic office and a TV channel for them in Cairo.”*¹

The newspaper also reports that the Egyptian military dictatorship, which has been a backer of Syria’s Assad tyranny for years, has opened a communication channel between Damascus and the YPG.

These revelations are not surprising. The RCIT has pointed out since several years that the YPG are not at all a progressive force – contrary to the claims of numerous pseudo-left wing forces. As we documented in a recently published article, the YPG has received for years hundreds of millions of US-Dollars from the Pentagon in exchange for their service as foot soldiers of U.S. imperialism in Syria. We have also pointed out several times the close links of the YPG with the Egypt military dictatorship and the totalitarian monarchies of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.²

Hence, given the fact that the YPG leadership serves the goal of U.S. imperialism and its allies among the reactionary Arab dictatorships, it is hardly surprising that it receives such a vast amount of military, financial and political support.

It might surprise some that so-called “Marxist” organizations have uncritically praised the YPG since years – despite its very visible close relations with U.S. imperialism. True, some might have been fooled by the claim that the YPG and U.S. imperialism were supposedly defending the Kurds against Daesh. In fact, the so-called “war against terror” has been a fig-leaf to advance the imperialist occupation of the eastern areas of Syria.³

However, the support of such “Marxist” organizations should not come as a surprise. Just remember that the “Communist” Party of Egypt praised the military coup of General Sisi in July 2013 as a “second revolution”. And their Stalinist comrades in Damascus have supported the Assad tyranny for many years until today. One should also not forget that the pseudo-Trotskyists of the Morenoite LIT and of Alan Woods’ IMT have also hailed the military coup of General Sisi.⁴

In short, a number of Stalinist, semi-Stalinist and pseudo-Trotskyist organizations prefer imperialism and bloody counter-revolution to popular uprisings if they take place with a religious consciousness and under an “Islamist” leadership.

In contrast to them, the RCIT has explained repeatedly that revolutionaries must support all legitimate popular uprisings against reactionary dictatorships and imperial-

RCIT Publications on Kashmir & India

- * **“Azadi Kashmir”: Marxists and the independence of Kashmir**
- * **The Kashmir Question and the Indian Left Today**
- * **India: A Prison House of Nations and Lower Castes**
- * **India: A Peculiar Semi-Colony in the Role of a Regional Power**

Written by Michael Pröbsting
(International Secretary of the RCIT)

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ist aggressors and, at the same time, struggle within such mass movements for a socialist strategy and against petty-bourgeois and bourgeois leaderships.

No one should have any illusions about Stalinism and pseudo-Trotskyism. While they might claim the banner of Marxism, in fact, they support Great Powers and their local allies like the reactionary Arab dictatorships or the Kurdish YPG.

Footnotes

1 Mohammad Ayes: Arabic press review: Egypt helping Kurdish-led troops in Syria fighting Turkish forces, 13 March 2020 <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/arabic-press-review-egypt-coordinating-support-kurdish-led-troops-syria>

2 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Syria: How Much Does the Pentagon Pay for the YPG? On the regular subsidies of U.S. imperialism for its mercenaries in Syria, 24 February 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-how-much-does-the-pentagon-pay-for-the-ypg/>; RCIT: Syria: Assad Regime and Kurdish YPG Strike a Reactionary Deal, 15 October 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-assad-regime-and-kurdish-ypg-strike-a-reactionary-deal/>; Syria: The Shameful Alliance of the Saudi Monarchy and the “Left-Wing” YPG, 4 July 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/shameful-alliance-of-saudi-monarchy-and-ypg-in-syria/>; The Revelations of a U.S. General on Washington’s Allies in Syria. Another Blow to the Stalinist Myths about the Character of Syrian Liberation Fighters and the Role of the Kurdish SDF/YPG, 27.10.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/revelations-of-u-s-general-on-washington-s-allies-in-syria/>; Kissing the Feet of the Saudi Chainsaw-Crown Prince. On the Shameful Response of the Kurdish YPG on the Killing of the Saudi Journalist Kashoggi, 20.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-shameful-response-of-the-kurdish-ypg-on-the-killing-of-the-saudi-journalist-kashoggi/>

3 The RCIT has published a number of booklets, state-

ments, and articles on the Syrian Revolution that can be accessed on a special sub-section of this website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. For a Marxist critique of the so-called left see e.g. the following pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/> and Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>.

4 The RCIT has published a number of pamphlets, statements and articles in the weeks after the military coup in July 2013. See e.g. RCIT: Egypt: Down with the Military Coup d’État! Prepare Mass Resistance! 8.7.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-down-with-military-coup-d-etat/; RCIT: Egypt: International Solidarity against the Army Crackdown!, 14.8.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-international-solidarity/; Michael Pröbsting: The Coup d’État in Egypt and the Bankruptcy of the Left’s “Army Socialism”. A Balance Sheet of the coup and another Reply to our Critics (LCC, WIVP, SF/LCFI), 8.8.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-and-left-army-socialism/; Yossi Schwartz: Egypt: Mobilize Resistance against the reactionary military regime!, 27.7.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-no-to-military-regime/; Michael Pröbsting: The Military’s Coup d’État in Egypt: Assessment and Tactics, 17.7.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-meaning-of-coup-d-etat/; Yossi Schwartz: Egypt: The U.S. Support for the Military Coup and the Left’s ignorance. Notes on the role of US imperialism in the military’s coup d’État and the failure of the Egypt left, 11.7.2013, www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/egypt-us-support-for-military-coup/.



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

U.S.: Once Again, Police Shoots an unarmed Black Man! Build for a national general strike and organize self-defense committees everywhere!

Statement by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 27 August 2020

1. Once more, U.S. police tried to kill an unarmed Black man. Jacob Blake, a 29-year-old man was shot eight times in the back from close distance by two police in Kenosha, Wisconsin, when he tried to get in his car where his three little kids - aged 3, 5 and 8 - were waiting. According to the doctors, he is left paralyzed from the waist down. As this tragedy was captured on cellphone video and soon widely shared online, it provoked spontaneous mass protests not only in Kenosha but also in Los Angeles, Wisconsin's capital of Madison, Minneapolis, and in other cities. This uprising resulted in numerous violent clashes with police and the destruction of dozens of buildings. Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers declared a state of emergency under which he doubled the National Guard deployment in Kenosha from 125 to 250. Late Tuesday three demonstrators were shot, two of them died. A man, a member of a fascist vigilante group which exchanged friendly greetings on the streets of Kenosha just before the killing, has been arrested and charged with homicide. President Donald Trump announced to send 500 more National Guard in order to brutally smash the mass protests.

2. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) sends its warmest greetings to Jacob Blake and his family. We also send also condolence to the families of the killed demonstrators. We can not remove their pain. But we can assure them that their relatives died for the cause of justice and that their names will not be forgotten by all those fighting for a human future!

3. Everyone knows that this is neither the first nor the last time that police try to kill unarmed black people (as well as other people of color). It happens many times every year. It happens since many years and decades. This outrageous police blood lust is the logical result of a system where peoples of color face systematic oppression since centuries. It is the inevitable result of a system which is characterized by heavily armed police forces which face no control from the masses and which act only on the orders of the ruling elite. This system has a name: capitalism.

4. Do not believe that this never-ending story of cold-blood murders and senseless brutality by the police might end if the orange dumbass is kicked out of the White

House and replaced by the Democrat Joe Biden. True, the latter said after the shooting of Jacob Blake: "This morning, the nation wakes up yet again with grief and outrage that yet another Black American is a victim of excessive force." He added that the officers "must be held accountable." But words - particularly in times of elections - are one thing, deeds another. Everyone knows that police brutality did not start when Trump became President in early 2017. It existed already long before - just remember the case of Rodney King in 1992. It existed throughout the eight years when Biden was Vice-President under Obama. And it existed also when Kamala Harris, the Democratic vice presidential nominee, acted as District Attorney of San Francisco resp. as Attorney General of California in 2004 to 2017.

5. No, the police are neither "workers in uniform" and they can not be reformed - contrary to the silly day-dreaming of the reformists and centrists (like "Socialist Alternative"/ISA and ISG/CWI). The killers in blue will continue their bloody job until they are abolished and replaced by a popular militia selected from controlled by the working class and the oppressed people. Such a smashing of the repressive state apparatus can only be achieved by a socialist revolution, an armed popular uprising which overthrows the ruling class, expropriates the monopoly capitalists and opens the road to socialism.

6. At the moment, President Trump wants to utilize the unrest for his desperate attempt to avoid defeat at the elections in early November. He is building his extreme right-wing campaign on white supremacy and "law and order". He hopes to impose a kind of state of emergency in order to impede workers and oppressed to participate in large numbers in the election.

7. The RCIT calls for organizing *self-defense units* in order to defend the black community as well as political demonstrations against the police and fascist vigilantes. As long as the police and the fascists have a monopoly of arms, the oppressed are at their mercy. They can defend themselves only if they have their own popular militia. Furthermore, it is crucial to avoid a localization of the protest. Trump sends federal troops to Kenosha - in response, we must put the resistance on national level. The organi-



Publications of the RCIT

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

zations of the Black community, of other peoples of color, the trade union and other progressive forces must organize a *national general strike*. Such a general strike would send shock waves to the ruling class and let them think twice about their strategy of escalation. Furthermore, it could open the road to *overthrow the Trump Presidency* on the streets (and not via an election which the orange man tries to rig by all available means). In addition, the current mass struggles should be utilized to build a *revolutionary black movement* – in the U.S. as well as internationally.

8. The RCIT warns: do not hope for a victory of Biden-Harris. Even if they win, the system of exploita-

tion, of mass poverty, unemployment, of police brutality, etc. will remain the same. The only road forward is the creation of an *independent workers party* based on mass organizations of the working class and the oppressed. Such a party would remain completely independent from both parties of the capitalist establishment – the Republicans as well as the Democrats. Such a party would fight for a *workers government* which expropriates the super-rich and nationalizes the core sectors of the economy under workers control. The RCIT wants to unite revolutionary activists on the basis of such a program! Join us!

Belarusian Working-Class Protestors Need Your Support!

An open letter of revolutionary and progressive activists around the world

For last weeks Belorussia experienced mass protests and calls for a general strike – a development not seen in Eastern Europe for long. The Belarusian people join mass demonstrations and call for the downfall of the dictatorship of Lukashenko. Some of these activists are promoting working-class interests for more democracy, against neoliberal reforms, and for social rights for laborers.

As progressive activists, we cannot ignore such developments! We are calling for unconditional support for the pro-democracy struggle of the protestors and their initiative to organize a general strike.

Unfortunately, left-wing protesters are not represented in media, and their voices are not heard among right-wing and neoliberal opposition. While any fight for democracy is legitimate for any socialist, progressive, and pro-working class activist, we must support and promote our class position and demand such democracy. Our democracy shall go beyond the streets to the workplace and should

give voice to the oppressed to express their demands.

We are calling everyone to support this letter and to spread propaganda for pro-workers democracy and for on preparing a general strike. We invite all activists to support protests and resist any attempt of hijacking them by anti-working class or pro-imperialist forces.

Victory for the Belarusian working class! Victory for the progressive forces in Belorussia and around the world!

If you support message in this letter, please sign and spread it in your media

Supported by:

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

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

