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Europe: Defend Muslims against Repression & Racism!

- * Ethiopia: Reactionary Civil War
- * Nigeria: Police & Army on the Streets
- * Western Sahara: Morocco Starts War
- * Saudi Arabia persecutes Al-Ikhwan
- * Britain: Labour before a Split?
- * Indonesia: New Omnibus Labour Law
- * South Korean Marxists Publish Booklet
- * RCIT Leader on Al Jazeera & Arabi21

English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 112, December 2020

Ethiopia: Down with the Reactionary Civil War!	p.3
Nigeria: Defeat the Police and Army on the Streets!	p.5
Western Sahara: Down with the Aggression of the Morocco!	p.7
Saudi Arabia claims that Muslim Brotherhood is a "Terrorist Group"!	p.8
Austria: Hands Off Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas!	p.9
Anti-Muslim Racism in Austria: Michael Pröbsting speaks on Al Jazeera	p.9
Austria: Scandalous Bann of a Rally against Islamophobe Racism!	p.10
Austria: Daesh is the Bullet but Macron is the Political Assassin!	p.11
Anti-Muslim Racism in Austria: Michael Pröbsting speaks on TV Channel Arabi21	p.11
Media Coverage of Activities of Austrian RCIT Section against Islamophobic Racism	p.13
Britain: Split Labour NOW to form a New Workers Party!	p.14
Indonesia: Mass Protests against New Omnibus Labour Law	p.17
Brazil: Debate about the U.S. Presidential Elections 2020	p.18
South Korean Marxists Publish New Booklet	p.19

Picture on the Cover: Contingent of the Austrian Section of the RCIT at a demonstration in support of refugees in November 2016. Banner in the center reads: "Stop Muslim-baiting!"

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**

Ethiopia: Down with the Reactionary Civil War!

Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigeria), Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya) and the Africa Bureau of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 9th November 2020

1. A bloody and dangerous civil war has started in the north of Ethiopia. On 4th November Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered the army to attack the *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) which controls the Tigray region in the north of the country. Since then, the region has been bombed by air force and dozens of people have died.

2. The background of the conflict is a power struggle between different ruling elites. Ethiopia – Africa's second-largest country with a population of 110 million people – is a highly diverse country with numerous ethnical and tribal groups and 90 individual languages spoken. The four largest groups are the Oromo (34.4%), the Amhara (27.0%), the Somali (6.2%) and the Tigrayans (6.1%). The country has been ruled by the *Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front* (EPRDF) – a coalition of several parties – since 1991 when it overthrew the dictatorship of Mengistu. However, the EPRDF itself imposed an authoritarian capitalist regime which opened up the country for imperialist corporations. It has kept power by suppressing dissent and by a combination of creating alliances between some tribal elites, in one hand, and discriminating of other ethnical groups on the other hand. Furthermore, the EPRDF made Ethiopia a close ally of U.S. imperialism and has led the so-called *African Union Mission in Somalia* (AMISOM), a pro-imperialist force which occupies Somalia since 2007 despite popular resistance.

3. Abiy took office in 2018 after three years of mass protests and unrest. This resulted in important changes with the ruling EPRDF regime. Until then, the coalition had been dominated by the TPLF. However, Abiy stems from the elite of the Oromo ethnical group. Since then, he purged many Tigray generals and officers as well as public functionaries and the TPLF left the government last year. This year, the regime delayed elections under the pretext of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the TPLF organized

a local election in September which the Abiy regime called illegal. In response, Addis Ababa stopped sending federal funds to the regional leadership.

4. All this takes place in a historic period characterized by the worst depression of capitalist world economy (beginning in late 2019), an acceleration of the rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers (U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan) and popular uprisings and domestic instability in various parts of the world. Against this backdrop, it is inevitable that domestic and regional conflicts in the South can quickly explode and result in ethnic civil wars, popular uprisings and wars between states.

5. The civil war in the north of Ethiopia is highly important for several reasons. Given the ethnical and national diversity of the country and the tribal conflicts as well as discrimination of various groups, the war could spark unrest in other parts of Ethiopia. Even an implosion of the state as such is not excluded. Furthermore, it could affect other countries in the region since the Tigray region is at the border to Eritrea – with which Ethiopia was at war in 1998-2000 resulting in about 100,000 dead – and Sudan. There exist also tensions between Addis Ababa and the Egyptian military dictatorship as Cairo fears that the newly built *Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam* could dramatically reduce Nile flows. (In October U.S. President Trump caused a diplomatic crisis when he publicly said that Egypt might “blow up that dam”.) Finally, the civil war could substantially weaken Ethiopia's participation in AMISOM and result in the end of pro-imperialist occupation of Somalia.

6. The *Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigeria), Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya)* and the African Bureau of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* characterize the civil war as *reactionary on both sides*. Hence, socialists must refuse to support any side. Clearly,

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



the Abiy regime is an authoritarian capitalist dictatorship and a loyal servant of Great Powers. However, the TPLF represents a sector of the ruling class which has lost a power struggle after dominating politics in Addis Ababa for nearly three decades. The Tigray people do not represent a group which has been historically oppressed or discriminated. This is reflected e.g. in the fact that they are highly overrepresented in the higher echelons of the army. (The TPLF claims that the army's Northern Command, which comprises more than half of the armed forces' total personnel and mechanised divisions, joined its forces.)

7. Marxists are uncompromising defenders of the right of national self-determination. However, as the RCIT has elaborated repeatedly explained, this is a right *which applies only to oppressed or discriminated nations or ethnical groups*. This has not been the case in the conflict in the Tigray region.

8. Revolutionaries intransigently oppose all forms of tribalist policy. We fight for the unity of the workers and poor peasants across tribal and national lines. However, this does not mean that we consider the current borders of African states – which often have been drawn up by colonial powers – as sacrosanct. We support the *largest possible unity of all national, ethnical and tribal groups within and across the current borders of Africa*. At the same time, we insist that such a unity must take place – indeed, it is only sustainable – if it is based on *voluntary agreement* by all sides and if it includes full *equality* (e.g. cultural, language rights). Such a perspective can be only realized if the workers and poor peasants succeed in liberating the continent from the grip of imperialist powers, overthrow the capitalist class and open the road to a socialist future! In other words, self-determination and equality can only be achieved by creating the *United Socialist States of Africa*.

9. Revolutionaries in Ethiopia should defend democratic rights (like the right to assemble, to demonstrate, to organise, to strike, for freedom of press, etc.), oppose tribal chauvinism and work towards uniting workers and oppressed across the different ethnical groups. Likewise, they have to call for the immediate end of Ethiopia's par-

ticipation in the AMISOM occupation of Somalia and for the withdrawal of all troops. Revolutionaries should fight against unemployment and poverty and call to establish a *public employment program under the control of mass popular organizations, financed by the expropriation of the super-rich*. They should also call for a *Revolutionary Constituent Assembly*. Such a perspective must be combined with preparing a popular uprising to bring down the Abiy regime. The goal should be a workers and poor peasant government which expropriates the imperialist corporations as well as the native bourgeoisie and which liberates the country from its dependency of Great Powers. In order to advocate such a program, socialist activists need to unite and build a *revolutionary party*.

Aluta Continua!

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Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RCIT Section in Nigeria), <https://revolutionarysocialistvanguard.wordpress.com>

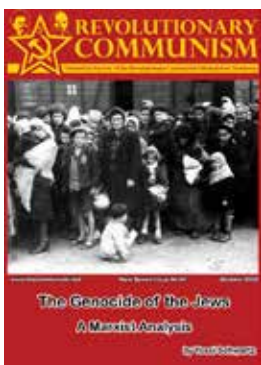
Revolutionary Socialist League (Sympathizing Section of the RCIT in Kenya), <https://rslafrica.org/>

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

We refer readers also to the following documents:

Ethiopia: Down with the State of Emergency! For the overthrow of the reactionary capitalist EPRDF Dictatorship – puppet of the imperialist Great Powers! For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly! For a Workers and Peasants Government! 20 February 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/ethiopia-down-with-the-state-of-emergency/>

RCIT: Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa. Economic Freedom and Political Power for the Workers and Oppressed through Socialist Revolution! November 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/manifesto-for-the-revolutionary-liberation-of-black-africa/>



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

Nigeria: Defeat the Police and Army on the Streets!

Form Action Committees and Self Defense Units!

No trust in the UN or the intervention of any foreign power!

Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigerian Section of the RCIT), 27 October 2020

Nigeria is exhibiting torrents of the present global revolutionary period with sustenance of the END SARS protests which experienced a qualitative leap from protests against police brutality and justice for its victims, to a full blown anti-government uprising between October 17-19. In the days leading up to October 17th the demonstrations assumed a more localised and militant form when protesters and youth began calling for a stoppage of work in the following week. The on-going rampage and attack on police stations, government offices and establishments, prisons started at the same time.

While we do not encourage mob violence we say that the rampage of the masses is inevitable in a system where the people have been kept in utter penury for the pecuniary interests of the oligarchs and ruling class, especially at this point of economic crises where the ruling class unleash anti-people and anti-democratic attacks as they turn to state bonapartism. It suffices to note that the streak of violence especially during the protests was initiated by the police after killing 4 protesters in Surulere, Lagos state and 3 others in Osogbo, Osun state. Some were also killed in Benin, Edo state; and many other states across the country prior to the Lekki Massacre of October 20.

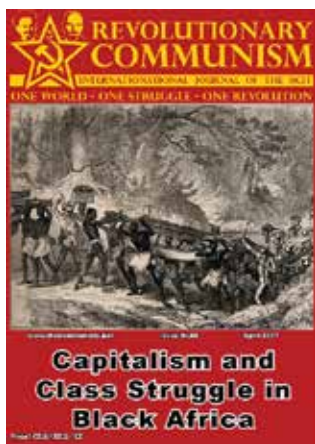
Already before the people retaliated for the killings of 30 protesters in Lekki and other locations in Lagos by kill-

ing a total of 18 police officers the Nigerian government launched the repressive apparatus and armed thugs to disperse protesters. The failure of these coupled with the transformation of slogans from END SARS!/STOP POLICE BRUTALITY! to END BAD GOVERNANCE!/BUHARI MUST GO! forced the Buhari regime to deploy the army into the streets (Operation Crocodile Smile) in a coup plot to quash the protests on October 20. This was followed by a state wide curfew declared by Babajide Sanwoolu, the governor of Lagos state.

It is true that for the moment the protests have largely receded as Lekki toll gate maybe the only remaining bastion which may not last very long, (in fact some liberal/petty bourgeois forces take this as an end to the street demonstrations) and it is also true that the army and police must be defeated in the streets yet there are certain important questions raised by the past two weeks of protests which must not be left unresolved going forward.

A "LEADERLESS" MOVEMENT?

Large sections of the protesters and popular masses are averse to any form of leadership or coordination for the movement. This is understandable since the history of mass movements has been marred by betrayals of liberals/



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

petty bourgeois and bureaucratic forces. It seems that the most recent betrayal of the NLC/TUC aristocrats on September 28 is still very fresh in the memory of many youths, but this is not the only reason as many left wing apologists and their organizations have operated on a sectarian bases making the masses second-guess the real intents of these forces hence the people display a heightened skepticism or even hostility which they believe will prevent the movement from being hijacked.

However it is impossible for a movement to be "leaderless", a movement can at least have a bureaucratic/unofficial leadership which is NOT suitable in our opinion for a mass movement. The actual receding of the protests shows once and for all that the leadership is just a subjective factor in a movement while the objective factor is the rank and file of the popular masses, that is, with or without a leadership a movement can be vanquished but only the readiness and orientation of the masses can truly determine the success or failure of a movement.

Many leftists and centrist organizations succumb to the pressure for a leaderless movement and propagate such ideas instead of engaging the more advance layers on the need for a leadership to galvanize the demands into slogans and coordinate under the directive of the popular masses the next steps in the struggle. True, the masses must learn by experience but comrades must present arguments that will help them to arrive at the right conclusion from such experiences or ease the learning process but our leftists cannot claim that they want the masses to learn by experience because even now they devise numerous ridiculous arguments to support their populism of a leaderless movement.

We call for the constitution of action committees and self-defense units who will be democratically selected or elected at the protest grounds; in universities; work places and municipalities. Members of these committees shall be subject to recall and the committee to dissolution by the people if need be. In this light, we denounce all attempts to form state or national leaderships for the movement through online means or by picking popular figures or activists through online nomination forms. Hence we reject the Nigeria Coalition of Protest Groups/the Coalition of Protest Groups Across Lagos and Nigeria; they are petty bourgeois setups which are incapable of representing fully the interest of the masses!

AGAIN ON POLICE REFORMS

All those comrades who have advocated for a rise in the wages of police officers found themselves in a difficult position when police especially the highly praised Rapid Response Squad (RRS), a different police unit from SARS, dispersed protesters with tear gas and even beat some to a pulp at Alausa, Ikeja. For us, the essence of police is necessitated only by social inequality so that no amount of welfarism of police personnel can change the fundamental pro-elite nature of the force.

This is why we do not support the call for 100,000 naira minimum wage for police rather we reiterate that only reforms which weaken the police as a force like exempting police from youth communities such as schools and campuses; banning choke holds; and passing legislations that disallow police to enter protest grounds with guns or dis-

perse protesters with tear gas, should be supported.

For us, only a planned economy under democratic control of the workers will be able to absorb the men and women currently in the police into the work force, albeit, the revolutionary upsurge which will bring about this may proceed with fissures and fractures in the ranks of the police and army. If this fissure is strong enough the ruling class may be forced to hire mercenaries or turn to other parastatals just like RRS was used to disperse End SARS protesters. Assuming these mercenaries have a temporary victory they become the new police, so the essence of police is pro-capitalist in nature.

Again we emphasize the importance of defeating the reactionary coup of the Buhari regime which means defeating the army and police and driving them away from the streets. This would naturally be done by mass mobilization and grassroots political education.

No trust in the intervention of the UN, AU, ECOWAS or this or that imperialist power! The mere fact that they must wait for 30 days before intervening is a testimony to their allegiance to the class enemy. Form instead international solidarity campaigns with other anti-government protesters in Thailand, Belarus, Hong Kong etc.

We want to be one Nigeria but we are not! Without the continual voluntary participation of all ethnic nationalities in Nigeria as a country; without an end to the marginalization of one ethnic group in favour of the other by the strong men pulling the strings of the Nigerian state; lastly without a robust program that will guarantee the right of self-determination for discriminated ethnic/national minorities as well as regional/state autonomy and minority rights such as local languages in schools and other public institutions, slogans of "one Nigeria" are as empty as they are worthless.

Down with selection of so called influential personalities as representatives for the struggle! Thus we reject the Coalition of Protest Groups Across Lagos and Nigeria! Form action committees and self defense units through democratic elections in the neighborhoods, work places, universities, protests grounds etc. These action committees may combine to give regional and national leadership to the movement under the dictate of the popular masses.

Out with all transnational corporations! Nationalize the economic mainstay under the control of the workers and masses!

We call all mass organizations and campaigns workers and student unions, progressive parties, new campaigns, etc. to unite in organizing a general strike in order to bring down the Buhari regime.

Abolish the police! The only way to do this is to end capitalism!

Western Sahara: Down with the Aggression of the Morocco!

Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Nigeria), Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya) and the Africa Bureau of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency, 18th November 2020

1. With the beginning of a new military operation on 13 November, the Moroccan army has provoked the end of the three-decade-long cease-fire with the Western Saharan *Polisario Front*. Under the 1991 United Nations-brokered truce, the Sahrawi people were promised to have a referendum in which they could choose between independence and integration with Morocco. However, such a referendum has not held until today. Currently Morocco controls about 80% of the disputed territory, while Polisario has created its *Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic* in the area under its control.

2. The *Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard* (Nigeria), *Revolutionary Socialist League* (Kenya) and the *Africa Bureau of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) unreservedly denounce the aggression of the Moroccan state. The Sahrawi people have demonstrated commitment to have their independent state throughout the past half century. Starting with the formation of the petty-bourgeois nationalist guerrilla movement *Polisario Front* in the early 1970s, they fought against the occupation of their territory by the Moroccan state, a long-standing ally of U.S. imperialism. Again and again – e.g. in the *First* (1999-2004) and the *Second Sahrawi Intifada* (2005) and other mass protests, the Sahrawi people demonstrated their commitment to the cause of national liberation.

3. We unconditionally support the struggle of the Sahrawi people for their independent state. We call for the creation of a socialist republic based on workers and popular power. Such a state will only be really independent if it breaks the chains of the imperialist Great Powers

and the capitalist monopolies. In order to avoid isolation, the Sahrawi people should not hope for any solution at the hands of the UN or any capitalist foreign government (like Algeria). It should rather ally itself with the ongoing mass protests and liberation struggles on African and Arab countries.

** Victory to the national liberation struggle of the Sahrawi people!*

** Recognition to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic!*

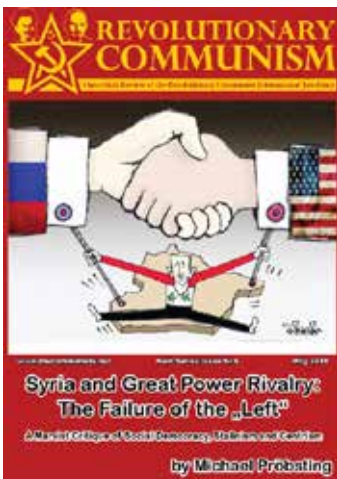
** For a socialist and internationalist perspective!*

Aluta Continua!

Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RCIT Section in Nigeria), <https://revolutionarysocialistvanguard.wordpress.com>
Revolutionary Socialist League (Sympathizing Section of the RCIT in Kenya), <https://tslafrica.org/>
Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria), www.thecommunists.net

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RCIT: Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa. Economic Freedom and Political Power for the Workers and Oppressed through Socialist Revolution! November 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/manifesto-for-the-revolutionary-liberation-of-black-africa/>



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

An Example of Hypocrisy by Political Prostitutes

No Kidding: Saudi Arabia's "Council of Senior Scholars" claims that Muslim Brotherhood is a "Terrorist Group"!

A Commentary of Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 12 November 2020

The Bible warns: "Beware of the hypocrites who disfigure their faces" (Matthew 6:16). And I would like to add that the political prostitutes in the service of tyranny are even worse!

According to the Saudi Press Agency, Saudi Arabia's "Council of Senior Scholars" has announced on Tuesday that the Muslim Brotherhood is a terrorist organization and does not represent Islam. It claims, among others: "The brotherhood is a terrorist group that does not represent the approach of Islam. It is a perverted organisation that disobeys legitimate rulers, stirs up discord, conceals foul doings under the cover of religion, and practices violence and terrorism." The council also states that the brotherhood does not "represent the method of Islam, rather it blindly follows its partisan objectives that are running contrary to the guidance of our graceful religion." (1)

As a leading representative of a revolutionary socialist organization I do not share the political ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood (or *al-Ikhwan* in Arabic). Surely they can defend themselves against these accusations and Yusuf Al Qaradawi, the spiritual leader of the Brotherhood, has already done so.

Nevertheless, I deem it necessary to state – as a political opponent of *al-Ikhwan* – that hardly ever have I seen a more cynical and absurd statement!

Since I am not a Muslim I do not want to intervene in a discussion who represents Islam. However, what I can say is that thousands and thousands of supporters of *al-Ikhwan* have become martyrs in defending their religious and political goals. Albeit I don't share their ideology I recognize that they have proven in practise that they are idealists committed to their beliefs.

Now, compare this to those out-and-out decadent elements which the Council of Senior Scholars serves: a perverted monarchy with a few thousand princes who never have done any hard work in their lives, who enjoy all privileges of the wealthy and who exploit and replace women at a whim! No, I am not an expert in Islam but surely I know who the pervert of those two is!

The "Council" accuses the Brotherhood that it "disobeys legitimate rulers". What kind of rulers are they talking about? The Saudi rulers – the "Best Friends Forever" of Israel and U.S. imperialism? Or do they mean General Sisi who got billions of US dollars from Riyadh for carrying out a military coup and butchering thousands of people? Or do they mean the tyranny of Assad, servant of Russian imperialism and serial killer of hundreds of thousands of Syrians? It is true that the Brotherhood opposes all those rulers. But these monsters can hardly be considered as "legitimate rulers"! "Disobeying" them is the only right thing to do!

The "Council" claims that *al-Ikhwan* "conceals foul doings under the cover of religion". Says who? The "Council" serving the "guardian of Mecca and Medina" who abuses religion for waging a bloody war against the Yemeni people with tens of thousands of dead, including many children?!

The "Council" which serves Mohamed bin Salman who ordered the dismemberment of the oppositional journalist Jamal Khashoggi by a chainsaw?! The "Council" which supports the Crown Prince who kisses the feet of Zionism and supports "normalization" with Israel?!

The "Council" accuses the Brotherhood that it would "practices violence and terrorism". I gave already a number of examples which demonstrate that it is rather the Saudi monarchy, which the "Council" serves, which is practising "violence and terrorism". In any case, these accusations are simply slander! The Brotherhood has acted in Egypt, in Jordan and many other countries peacefully and didn't commit any "terrorist" acts. As I mentioned above, I am not uncritical of the Brotherhood. But my criticism is rather that in the struggle against the military dictatorship in Egypt it acts rather too passive and not that it would be "too violently"!

In summary, the statement of Saudi Arabia's "Council of Senior Scholars" is a worthless piece of paper which can only be of use at a toilet!

Nevertheless, it makes sense to read such documents as it is a great lesson how deep these so-called religious scholars have sunk in their well paid for service as political prostitutes of the Mohammed bin Chainsaw!

Finally, let me point out that it is very telling that the Saudi "Council" denounces the Muslim Brotherhood as a "terrorist group" exactly at the same time as European governments (e.g. in France and Austria) are waging a war against Muslim organizations including *al-Ikhwan*. It is well known that the imperialist states in Europe – fanatic defenders of *Charlie Hebdo* – and the Saudi monarchy are close allies. Hence, all this is no accident. It is part of the imperialist crusade against the oppressed. All socialists, democrats, righteous people – Muslims and Non-Muslims – must stand together against this attack!

1) All quotes from: Tamara Abueish: Muslim Brotherhood is a terrorist group: Saudi Arabia's Council of Senior Scholars, Al Arabiya English, 11 November 2020, <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2020/11/11/Muslim-Brotherhood-is-a-terrorist-group-Saudi-Arabia-s-Council-of-Senior-Scholars>; Muslim Brotherhood responds to Saudi Council of Senior Scholars, November 12, 2020 <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201112-muslim-brotherhood-responds-to-saudi-council-of-senior-scholars/>; Saudi senior scholars: Muslim Brotherhood is a terrorist group that does not represent Islam, November 11, 2020, <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/gcc/saudi-senior-scholars-muslim-brotherhood-is-a-terrorist-group-that-does-not-represent-islam-1.1109367>

Austria: Hands Off Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas!

The Austrian government aids the state terrorist regimes in Israel and Egypt!

Statement of Michael Pröbsting, Spokesperson of the RKO LIBERATION (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 9. November 2020

Austria's police have announced that they carried out a massive raid against Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas today. They searched 60 houses and arrested 30 people. Among them is Ibrahim Ali, the main spokesperson of the Egyptian migrant community and an organizer of numerous protest demonstrations against the military dictatorship of General Sisi.

Since the government can not accuse the people concerned of any "terrorist" activity, it justifies its repression by denouncing the political ideology of these two organizations. Such says the minister for "integration" (an involuntary self-parody) Susanne Raab. „This strike against Muslim Brotherhood shows that we mean serious business in the struggle against radical, extremist ideologies. We do not accept that extremist ideas are spread in Austria and we will continue to act intransigently against such.“ (Our translation)

The RKO LIBERATION (Austrian Section of the RCIT) condemns this raid as an unprecedented attack against fundamental democratic rights! These high priests of freedom of speech suppress people without any shame just because they share a religion and political ideologies different from the government and its right-wing extremist friends of the FPÖ!

As revolutionary socialists we do not share the political ideology of Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas. But as part of our fundamental democratic outlook, we defend these organizations against the brutal and totally unjustified policy of repression by the government of Kurz and its instigator Kickl!

In fact, the Kurz government serves Macron, Israel and the Sisi regime in Egypt. As we emphasized repeatedly, Kurz and Nehammer have become uncritical supporters of Macrons crusade against the Muslim world.

Hamas represents the Palestinian liberation struggle and is considered by Israel as an arch enemy. Israel is an Apartheid state, based on the expulsion of the Palestinian people, and it can keep power only by terror and expulsion.

The same is true for the military dictatorship in Egypt which overthrew the government of Morsi – the only one which ever has been democratically elected – via a coup d'état in July 2013 and has persecuted its supporters in the most brutal way since then.

We demand:

* Stop the persecution of Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas!

* Free Ibrahim Ali and all other arrested!

* No to Islamophobic Racism!

Michael Pröbsting speaks on Al Jazeera on Islamophobic Racism in Austria

Report (with Video) by the Editorial Board of the RCIT, 13 November 2020

The global channel Al Jazeera aired an interview with Michael Pröbsting and Mohamed Aswani about the current situation in Austria and the anti-Muslim offensive of the government. The interview took place on 12 November. His contributions were translated into Arabic language.

Michael Pröbsting starts talking at Minute 0:55 and 8:30. The interview has been translated in Arabic language.

It can be viewed here:

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP97PN-4xHNM&feature=youtu.be>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/125786760767400/posts/4214775311868504/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ajmubasher/status/1327027950118707200>



Screenshot from the interview with Michael Pröbsting on Al Jazeera

Austria: Scandalous Bann of a Rally against Islamophobe Racism! Minister for Interior suppresses freedom of speech ... in the name of freedom of speech

Statement of Michael Pröbsting, Spokesperson of the RKO LIBERATION (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 9. November 2020

A few hours before the official beginning police in Vienna banned a rally against Islamophobe Racism in front of the French embassy on 8 November. Officially this was justified by "danger for public order and security".

Soon it became clear that it was so much the police itself but rather the Minister for Interior Nehammer and his former partners in government, the right-wing extremist FPÖ, which had initiated the ban. The *Kronen Zeitung*, one of the most influential tabloids in Austria, quoted the Minister for Interior: „Further investigations have resulted in the ban of the rally. This was the only possible decision. There must be no space for the ideology of Islamism.“It is intolerable after the brutal attack in Vienna on Monday that a group of extremists can make a demonstration, says Nehammer. “We do not allow that our free democracy, fundamental rights and our right to assemble are abused.” (<https://www.krone.at/2271125>, our translation)

This shows that the ban had nothing to do with any „danger“ emerging from the demonstration. It was rather caused by the determination of the Kurz government and its right-wing extremist former coalition partners to suppress political views which they deeply hate.

The RKO LIBERATION supported the planned rally against Islamophobe Racism und strongly protests against the ban!

Characteristically, on the very same day the former spokesperson of the anti-Islam and anti-migrant PEGIDA movement in Vienna, Georg Immanuel Nagel, was allowed to drive through Vienna with police protection (!) while playing tapes with gun shots, call to prayer of the muezzin and slogans against “Islamization”. (<https://>

wien.orf.at/stories/3075007/)

All this demonstrates that freedom of speech exists in Austria – as well as in France – only for the supporters of Islamophobe Racism and hate-mongering journals like Charlie Hebdo. But for those who protest *against* such Islamophobe Racism, freedom of speech does not exist.

Let us call things by their name: the fanatic rabble-rouser against Muslims sit in the government and in the parliament!

In fact, behind the ban of the rally against Islamophobe Racism is the political decision of the government to join Macron’s crusade against the Muslim world.

1) The so-called „fight against Islamist extremism“ shall justify the oppression of Muslim migrants in Europe.

2) It should also legitimize the sanctions and the policy of aggression against Turkey.

3) Furthermore, it shall justify a stronger participation of Austria in imperialist military interventions. (Hardly recognized by the public, Austria’s army is deployed in Mali since 2013 as is the notorious French Foreign Legion!)

The RKO LIBERATION calls all those to join forces who are ready to defend democratic fundamental rights and who reject Islamophobe Racism and its fanatic supporters in government and parliament. Europe’s governments did already start attacking democratic fundamental rights under the pretext of COVID-19. Now we see the next step towards creating an authoritarian state! (Characteristically, the predecessor of Nehammers’ party was the same which created the austro-fascist corporative state in 1934-38!)

We must confront these developments together – Muslims and Non-Muslims!



Austria: Daesh is the Bullet but Macron is the Political Assassin!

The terrorist attack is the inevitable result of imperialist wars and racist oppression

Emergency Statement by the RKO LIBERATION (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 3 November 2020

1. According to information of Austria's Interior Ministry, a sympathizer of Daesh (the so-called and misnamed "Islamic State") has committed a terrorist attack in the centre of Vienna yesterday night. Four people have died and 15 have been injured before the attacker was killed by the police.

2. The RKO LIBERATION (Austrian section of the RCIT) condemns this terrorist attack as we always condemn the killing of innocent civilians. However, no one should walk into the trap of the government's propaganda. This incident does not come out of the blue – it is the result of years and decades of imperialist aggression and racist oppression!

3. Austrian Interior Minister Karl Nehammer claims: "Austria for more than 75 years has been a strong democracy, a mature democracy, a country whose identity is marked by values and basic rights, with freedom of expression, rule of law, but also tolerance in human coexistence. Yesterday's attack is an attack on just these values." What hypocrisy! Migrants have always been exploited as cheap labor force and are treated as second-class citizens. The Conservative Party, to which Nehammer belongs, is well known for its Islamophobic statements. Until last year it formed a coalition with the extreme right-wing FPÖ which used campaign slogans

such as "Daham statt Islam" ("Home instead of Islam"). Only a few days ago, Nehammer himself rushed to express his support for the racist hate-mongering French President Macron and launched a "task force" against "criminal Chechens".

4. It is telling that Macron was one of the first who stated his solidarity last night with the Austrian government. He wrote on Twitter (in French and German language): "After France, it is an allied country which has been attacked. This is our Europe. Our enemies must know with whom they are dealing. We will not yield." This is a cynical statement not only because Macron's Europe is not our Europe and his war against his enemies is certainly not our war! It is also particularly cynical because it has been Macron himself who is politically responsible for yesterday's night attack. As the RCIT has stated in public declarations in the past weeks, it was Macon's Islamophobic hate-mongering, praising of the right to insult and humiliate Muslims a la *Charlie Hebdo*, his aggression against Muslim people which have provoked such terrorist attacks! In fact, Macron wants to utilize incident in order to rally Austria and the whole EU to support his chauvinist and militarist campaign against the Muslim world in general and against Turkey in particular.

Michael Pröbsting speaks on TV Channel Arabi21 on Anti-Muslim Racism in Austria

Report (with Video) by the Editorial Board of the RCIT, 19 November 2020

The TV channel *Arabi21* aired an interview with Michael Pröbsting about the anti-Muslim offensive of the Austrian government, the situation in Europe and the perspectives of resistance. The video of the interview was published on 18 November and lasts for a bit more than 17 minutes. The interview is in English language with Arabic sub-titles. In addition, Arabi21 published the transcript of the Arab translation of the interview. Both the interview as well as the Arab language transcript can be viewed here:

https://arabi21.com/story/1315733/%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%B3%D9%8A-%D9%86%D9%85%D8%B3%D8%A7%D9%88%D9%8A-%D9%8A%D8%AF%D8%B9%D9%88-%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%B4%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%AD%D8%B1%D9%83%D8%A9-%D8%AD%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B3%D9%84%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%85%D9%87%D9%85%D8%A9#section_338

The interview can be also viewed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-aDyy7RvCg>



Pictures from the Arabi21 Website advertising the interview with Michael Pröbsting (Source: <https://arabi21.com>)

5. Furthermore, contrary to the image of a “neutral state”, the Austrian ruling class is not a neutral or innocent actor in the global imperialist war offensive. While it is a small country, it has repeatedly supported bloody military operations of the Great Powers. Such, for example, Austria has supported the NATO occupation of Afghanistan (and even sent a few soldiers to participate). Its army participates in the French occupation of Mali since 2013. Furthermore, Austria is part of the U.S.-led Coalition against Daesh which has been formed in 2014 to wage war in Iraq and Syria 2014. Hence, it is not surprising that such kind of desperate terrorist attacks which have happened in many cities in imperialist countries (New York, London, Paris, Brussels, Berlin, etc.) are also taking place now in Austria. In other words, a war which the Austrian state has helped to wage abroad is coming home.

6. In fact, what Vienna experienced yesterday night was a glimpse into the reality which millions of people in Kabul, Bagdad, Gaza, Mogadishu, Timbuktu, Idlib, Grozny, and many other cities of the global South are facing on regular bases. We mourn about the four innocent people who have been killed in Vienna yesterday night. But we don't forget that this is the result of the barbaric mass murder of tens and hundreds of thousands of innocent people in the South who have been killed by the U.S., EU, Israeli and Russian army and about whom we certainly don't mourn less.

7. We warn that the government, a coalition of the Conservatives and the Green Party, and the bourgeois media will wage a hysterical campaign against “Islamist extremism”. Such repression will be directed mainly against Muslim migrants. In fact, such a campaign had started already years ago as the government closed down several mosques and banned Muslim organizations. We expect that such a wave of repression and Islamophobic hate-mongering will accelerate in the coming weeks and months.

8. The *RKO LIBERATION* strongly opposes the plans of the Austrian government to support and to participate in Macron's Islamophobic crusade against the Muslim world. Any support of imperialist wars and any praising of the right to insult and humiliate Muslims a la *Charlie Hebdo* can only and will result in more terrorist attacks! It is crucial that all workers and popular organization in Austria (and in the EU as a whole) make clear that there is not one Austria, not one Europe, not one “our values”. There is *their* Austria, *their* Europe, *their* values – and there is *our* Austria,

our Europe, *our* values. *They* – the ruling class – stand for imperialist wars, social inequality and racist hate-mongering. *We* – the workers and oppressed – stand for solidarity, anti-imperialism and equality! These are two different worlds which are in a constant war against each other!

9. In such a situation, it is crucial to stand up for the Muslim brothers and sisters and to defend them against the Islamophobic hate-mongering and the state repression. The *RKO LIBERATION* appeals to the organizations of the workers movement to help building a broad united front, together with migrant organizations, against Islamophobia and in defense of democratic rights.

* *Down with Islamophobia! Defend Muslim migrants against repression!*

* *No to Charlie Hebdo and its racist hate-mongering!*

* *Down with Macron's chauvinist and militarist campaign against the Muslim world!*

* *No to individual terrorism!*

* *Defeat the imperialist wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Somalia, Mali, etc.! Support the popular resistance!*

* * * * *

We refer readers also to the following articles and statements of the RCIT

RCIT: Boycott Imperialist and Islamophobic France! Solidarity with the Muslim migrants! Drive out the French occupiers from Mali and other countries! 26.10.2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/boycott-imperialist-and-islamophobic-france/>

Yossi Schwartz: Down with the Islamophobia in France: “We Are Not Samuel!”, 20 October 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/down-with-the-islamophobia-in-france/>

RCIT: France after the Attacks in Paris: Defend the Muslim People against Imperialist Wars, Chauvinist Hatemongering, and State Repression! 9.1.2015, <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/statement-paris-attacks/>

Michael Pröbsting: The Racist Character of Charlie Hebdo and the pro-imperialist campaign “Je Suis Charlie”. Solidarity with Muslim People! NOT Solidarity with Charlie Hebdo! 17.1.2015, <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/racist-charlie-hebdo/>

RCIT: Expel French Imperialism from West Africa! Macron and his G5 Lackeys plan to intensify their colonialist “Operation Barkhane”, 15 January 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/expel-french-imperialism-from-west-africa/>

RKOB: Austria: Islamophobic Racism on the Rise! Solidarity with the Muslim Brothers and Sisters! No to the Closure of 7 Mosques and the Expulsion of 40 Imams and their Families! 8 June 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/islamophobic-racism-on-the-rise-in-austria/>



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

Media Coverage of Activities of Austrian RCIT Section against Islamophobic Racism (12-14.11.2020)

Report by the Editorial Board of the RCIT, 14 November 2020

In the last days the Austrian section was strongly involved in public activities against the Anti-Muslim offensive of the government which resulted in dramatic repression. A demonstration against Islamophobic Racism in France was banned on 8 November. (See on this <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/austria-scandalous-bann-of-a-rally-against-islamophobe-racism/>) On the next day, the state launched an unprecedented operation with nearly 1,000 police against so-called

Reports 14 November 2020

Turkish language:

<https://kronos34.news/tr/avusturyada-siyasal-islam-suc-ol-acak-terorle-mucadele-yasasina-eklenecek/>
<https://www.haberofisi.com.tr/tr/haberler/yeni-akit/dunya/laiklik-bahane-dertleri-islam-cy0A0K8tKp09>
<https://www.yeniakit.com.tr/haber/laiklik-bahane-dertleri-islam-1446452.html>

Albanian language

<https://kosovapost.net/austri-operacionet-kunder-muslimaneve-shkaktojne-reagim-te-ashper/>

Reports 13 November 2020

Press Conference on 13 November

<https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/report-press-conference-on-islamophobic-austria-13-11-2020/>

Arab language

Interview Al Jazeera (YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP97PN4xHNM&feature=youtu.be>; Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/125786760767400/posts/4214775311868504/>; Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ajmubasher/status/1327027950118707200>)

<https://resalapost.com/2020/11/13/%D9%85%D8%A4%D8%A%D9%85%D8%B1-%D8%B5%D8%AD%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%AD%D9%88%D9%84-%D8%AD%D8%B8%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%B8%D8%A7%D9%87-%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%B6%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D9%86%D8%B5%D8%B1/>

Urdu language

<https://shammanews.com/%d8%b3%d9%84%d8%a7%d9%85%d9%88-%d9%81%d9%88%d8%a8-%d9%86%d8%b3%d9%84-%d9%be%d8%b1%d8%b3%d8%aa%db%8c-%da%a9%db%92-%d8%ae%d9%84%d8%a7%d9%81-%d9%85%d8%b8%d8%a7%db%81%d8%b1%d9%88%da%ba-%d9%be%d8%b1/>
<http://thedailyroshni.com/%d8%a7%d8%b3%d9%84%d8%a7%d9%85%d9%88-%d9%81%d9%88%d8%a8%da%a9-%d9%86%d8%b3%d9%84-%d9%be%d8%b1%d8%b3%d8%aa%db%8c-%da%a9%db%92-%d8%ae%d9%84%d8%a7%d9%81-%d9%85%d8%b8%d8%a7%db%81%d8%b1%d9%88%da%ba-%d9%be/>

Turkish language:

<https://kronos34.news/tr/avusturyada-siyasal-islam-suc-ol-acak-terorle-mucadele-yasasina-eklenecek/>
<https://www.haberofisi.com.tr/tr/haberler/yeni-akit/dunya/laiklik-bahane-dertleri-islam-cy0A0K8tKp09>
<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/dunya/avusturya-da-uzmanlar-iktidar-siyasal-islami-bahane-ederek-islami-hedef-aldigi-gorusunde/2042616>

“Islamists”, resulting in the arrest of 30 people and a raid in 60 homes and offices. (See on this <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/austria-hands-off-muslim-brotherhood-and-hamas/>)

The Austrian section of the RCIT strongly opposed these attacks and, together with others, initiated public activities. These activities were widely reported internationally as the numerous links below demonstrate.

<https://www.son48saat.com/haber/53671/avusturya-da-uzmanlar-iktidar-siyasal-islam-i-bahane-ederek-islam-i-hedef-aldigi-gorusunde>

<https://www.haberler.com/avusturya-da-musulmanlara-yonelik-kiskirtici-eylem-13722160-haber/>

<https://perspektif.eu/2020/11/13/avusturyada-iktidar-siyasal-islam-bahanesiyle-islami-hedef-aliyor/>

<https://www.haberjournal.at/avusturya/avusturyada-uzmanlar-iktidar-siyasal-islam-i-h18909.html>

<https://havadis.at/haber/avusturyada-uzmanlar-iktidar-siyasal-islami-bahane-ederek-islami-hedef-aldigi-gorusunde-h16129.html>

German language:

<https://tekk.tv/news/osterreich-operation-gegen-muslime-verursacht-gegenreaktionen/>

Albanian language

<https://berati.tv/aktivisti-austriak-operacioni-ne-te-cilin-u-arrestuan-dhjetera-muslimane-eshte-nje-tregues-i-qarte-i-vendosmerise-se-tyre-per-te-shtypur-fene/>

<https://www.opoja.net/austri-operacionet-kunder-muslimaneve-shkaktojne-reagim-te-ashper/>

<https://zyrtare.net/2020/11/austri-operacionet-kunder-muslimaneve-shkaktojne-reagim-te-ashper/>

Reports 12 November 2020

English language:

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/austria-operation-against-muslims-causes-backlash-/2039967>

<https://vdare.com/posts/austria-fights-islamic-terror-but-is-doomed-to-slow-motion-defeat-without-nationalism>

Turkish language:

<https://perspektif.eu/2020/11/11/fransanin-islam-dunyasina-actigi-savasa-avusturya-da-dahil-oldu/>

<https://www.diyanehaber.com.tr/dunya/avusturya-da-teror-bahanesiyle-musulman-aktivistlere-duzenlenen-h12807.html>

<https://www.haberjournal.at/avusturya/avusturya-da-teror-bahanesiyle-musulman-aktivistlere-duzenlenen-h18900.html>

<https://www.yeniakit.com.tr/haber/charlie-hebdoya-ozgur-luk-var-musulmana-yok-1443839.html>

<https://havadis.at/haber/avusturyada-teror-bahanesiyle-musulman-aktivistlere-duzenlenen-operasyon-tepkiye-neden-oldu-h16079.html>

<https://www.haberturk.com/avusturya-da-teror-bahanesiyle-musulman-aktivistlere-duzenlenen-operasyon-tepkiye-neden-oldu-viyana-2866234>

Indonesian language:

<https://jurnalpatrolinews.co.id/internasional/austria-operasi-melawan-muslim-menyebabkan-reaksi-balik/>

Dutch language:

<https://nieuws.marokko.nl/67393/oostenrijk-hetze-tegen-mos>

Britain: Split Labour NOW to form a New Workers Party! Defend Corbyn and his supporters against Blairite and Zionist Witchhunt!

Article by Laurence Humphries, RCIT Britain, 10 November 2020

On the 29th October Jeremy Corbyn, the former leader of Labour, was suspended from the party. The decision was taken by Keir Starmer, the current Blairite leader. The pro-zionist elements in the Labour party argued that the expulsion was based on the results of the recent report of the Equality and Human Rights Commission into “perceived anti-Semitism in the Labour Party”. This report claimed widespread anti-Semitic practices in the Labour party under Corbyn’s leadership, again mixing any criticism against the Apartheid state Israel with anti-Semitism.

“Labour has suspended Jeremy Corbyn from the party over his reaction to a highly critical report on anti-Semitism. The human rights watchdog found Labour responsible for “unlawful” harassment and discrimination during Mr Corbyn’s four-and-a-half years as leader. But he later said the scale of anti-Semitism within Labour had been “dramatically overstated” by opponents. Sir Keir Starmer, who became Labour leader in April, said the publication of the Equality and Human Rights Commission’s (EHRC) report had brought “a day of shame” for the party.” [1]

In reality, the EHRC as a tool of the Zionists found very little evidence to back up its claims. In addition, the Tory Party rife with Islamophobic and racists comments about Muslims and has never been investigated. Corbyn is definitely not a racist. He has a record of supporting and defending the Palestinians who are oppressed, displaced and slaughtered by the Zionist state. There are daily killings of Palestinians (nearly all civilians) by the Zionist Military. Starmer on the other hand, is a self-confessed Zionist who

is determined to purge the Labour Party of anti-Zionists and Socialists. This former state agent who worked for the Crown prosecution service before he entered Parliament liaised with the CIA and the NSA security agencies in the USA to murder and assassinate innocent victims during and after the Iraq war. This is Starmer’s heritage and he is proud of his support for rendition by the USA.

“The unprecedented move was defended by Sir Keir - who took over as leader from Mr Corbyn six months ago - as the “right” thing to do. He also said there was no reason for the party to descend into “civil war” over it. Sir Keir told BBC Radio 4’s Today programme: “I made it clear the Labour Party I lead will not tolerate anti-Semitism, neither will it tolerate the argument that denies or minimises anti-Semitism in the Labour Party on the basis that it’s exaggerated or a factional row.” [2].

Starmer intends to Purge the Party of all Opposition

Keir Starmer, the rightful heir to Tony Blair and Gordon Brown intends to expel, suspend and purge the slightest opposition to the openly pro-capitalist trajectory of the Labour Party. The ruling class has seen in Starmer someone they could trust. For them, there is no doubt that the Labour Party must be cleansed of any sign of socialist principles. Corbyn represented a great threat to their aims. However, in recent weeks Starmer has shown how he will work with the ruling class on every issue including his complete acceptance of the proposed lockdown over the Covid-19 pandemic. Starmer is keen to form a coalition government

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

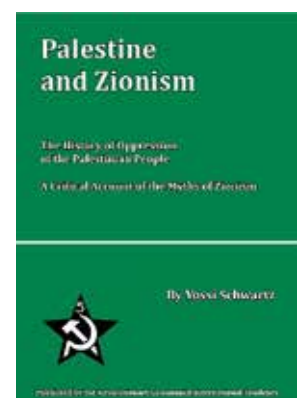
The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.
A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

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/>



with Boris Johnson. His politics are nearly identical to Boris Johnson. That is why it is necessary for him to get rid of Corbyn and his supporters. David Evans, the General Secretary of the party has written to all Labour Party units instructing them that there must be no criticism of the EHRC report either verbally or on social media. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from the Party. What a highly undemocratic attack against the rank-and-file!

Corbyn's Weakness as a Leader of the Labour Left

Jeremy Corbyn was elected because the poor and the working class hoped for a change in British politics. Corbyn advocated anti-austerity, opposition to Imperialist war and basic redistribution of wealth. All this was anathema to the pro-Imperialist wing in the Labour Party and they fought first to overthrow him and later denigrate him and tell lies about him. Corbyn failed to confront the Blairites and Zionists in his own party and allowed Ken Livingstone to resign and Jackie Walker, Marc Wadsworth and Chris Williamson to be expelled from the party. He colluded with these expulsions without raising a hand to defend them. This was align with his general reformist policy.

A much better job was done by the initiative "Labour against the witch-hunt", which has shown the role of the EHRC and the issue of anti-Semitism inside the Labour party.

"The report of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is pretty much a damp squib. It is noticeable that the report doesn't even try to identify what antisemitism is, which after all its remit was. Nonetheless it did pretty much what it was supposed to do when the pro-Zionist groups 'Jewish Labour Movement' and the 'Campaign Against Antisemitism' first lobbied it to launch an investigation into the Labour Party. It helped to paint the false picture that the Labour Party is overrun with anti-Semites. Not one of the EHRC's nine commissioners is Black or Muslim. They are bankers, lawyers and business executives. Many of them have links to the Conservative Party it is a real shame that he did not say so when he was leader and could have made a real difference to the witch-hunt and the civil war in the Labour Party. Unfortunately, it was the Corbyn leadership's silence and complicity in the witch-hunt that has made Corbyn's suspension pos-

sible in the first place. Hundreds of socialists and Corbyn supporters have been suspended and expelled for comments that often do not amount to much more than what Corbyn said. But he stood by and watched as supporter after supporter was thrown to the wolves, all in the vain hope that appeasing the right would work, eventually"[3]

What is Anti-Semitism...and what isn't

It is noticeable that at no time does the EHRC define their understanding of anti-Semitism. Another organization, the International Holocaust Remembrance Association defined anti-Semitism as any criticism of the Zionist state of Israel. It is quite obvious that only based on such a disastrously wrong and indeed Anti-Palestinian definition of anti-Semitism, the outcome of the report by the EHRC makes sense.

The RCIT has time and time again explained the distinction between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. Indeed, most of the members of the Labour party are guilty of not truly understanding the difference rather than consistently defending the Palestinians. From its earliest days the Labour Party has had a strong Zionist presence in its ranks and the Labour Government in 1948 recognized the State of Israel. As the RCIT has stated in many statements the state of Israel is a racist, colonial, settler state with Imperialist features. Corbyn's "weakness" was not to understand the difference and conflate the two – still he is attacked by the Zionists for not denouncing the basic rights of the Palestinian people. With his reformist politics, his indecisive approach towards the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people, he has opened the door to the witch hunters in many ways.

"The weakness of left reformism has shown that when the Blairites and Zionists launch attacks on Corbyn and his supporters, Corbyn fails to support them and buckles under the pressure. A number of left wing activists including Marc Wadsworth and Tony Greenstein have been expelled from the Labour party. Corbyn's supporters continue to be suspended or expelled by the Labour party bureaucratic machine controlled by the Blairites and Zionists. Corbyn with a majority on the National executive committee refuses to use that majority to curb the worst excesses of the right wing and remains a hostage to the pro-imperialists

Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

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

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



in the Labour party. The attack on Livingstone and the expulsions of Marc Wadsworth and Tony Greenstein were all part of the 'anti-Zionism equals anti-Semitism' witch-hunt. It is noticeable that when it came to laying charges the Labour Party avoided for legal reasons accusing people of anti-Semitism. Instead the catch all charge of 'bringing the party into disrepute' was used. Livingstone is the latest victim of a witch-hunt pursued by the pro-Israel lobby and the right-wing in the Labour Party. Anti-Semitism is a red herring used by the pro-imperialists in the Labour party like Blair, Watson and others to prevent the election of a Corbyn-led anti-austerity government. The Blairites and Zionists have strong connections with Mossad, the secret intelligence service of the Israeli state, and are determined to purge the Labour party of socialists and anyone who criticises Zionism or the state of Israel. The closest allies of Zionism are several Labour MP's including Margaret Hodge, Ruth Smeeth and Luciana Berger. Most fascist groups in Britain, including the English Defence League under Tommy Robinson, are the closest supporters of Zionism and are the most extreme anti-Semites".[4]

Split the Labour Party to form a New Workers Party

Prior to the Leadership election in 2015 when Jeremy Corbyn won, the RCIT characterised the Labour Party as a bourgeois workers party. Corbyn had a minimal reformist anti-austerity programme of nationalisation, repeal of the anti-union laws, opposition to Imperialist wars and support for the Palestinians. However, compared to the Labour Party before Corbyn took the lead even his limited left-reformist programme meant a strong push to the left. Thousands of new members entered Labour under Corbyn and revitalised the stagnating and even downward-trending trend in membership. Today, under the impact of the divisions and contradictions of the world capitalist system the Labour Party has veered again to the right. More and more it is moving away from its worker's party character towards its bourgeois capitalist leadership with all vestiges of rank-and-file influence fading away. To really save the best elements of the Labour Party means to split it without hesitation.

Many genuine left wingers and socialists mistakenly believe that they can change the direction of the Labour Party. Corbyn has managed this, so maybe it can happen again – they hope. However, it is those the limitation of the left-reformist leadership of Corbyn himself that proved such hopes to be only post-poning again what should have happened already since decades: a healthy, left split away from the Labour Party in order to build a new workers party – and this time on an authentic socialist base.

Unsurprisingly, the trade union bureaucracy and some centrist groups continue to peddle the fallacy of false hope that Labour can magically stop betraying the interests of the working class and the poor. Socialist Appeal with its deep entry tactic for example forget that already in the 1980's under Neil Kinnock, 'Militant' and other socialists were purged and expelled from the party. That is the course that Starmer has chosen. Every day he resembles a bourgeois capitalist politician and like Tony Blair he is preparing the Labour Party for power - either in coalition or as a caretaker government.

"The RCIT in BRITAIN calls on all principled socialists

and activists in the Labour Party to join with and support our call to split the Labour Party and build a New Workers Party on a genuine socialist base. This rapid lurch to the right with the election of Starmer as leader means that it becomes ever more necessary to split the party and to break with the rotten compromise done for so long with the pro-capitalist, pro-imperialist wing of Blairites and their lackeys.

The New Workers Party could and should be the platform for all socialists and militants to hammer out a programme for Socialism. Various centrist forces like Socialist Appeal continue to peddle the old illusion that somehow Labour can be transformed into a Socialist party only if Marxists stay long enough inside Labour. That is a pipe dream by people who orientate themselves blindly and uncritically towards (left) reformists. As the former comrades of Militant, the members of Socialist Appeal must know that Starmer and the Blairites will most likely do exactly what Kinnock and Blair did in the 1980's - to expel and purge any opposition to them.

The surest way to socialism is through the construction of a Revolutionary Workers Party as part of the new International that can lead the struggle against the ruling class and against all of their direct or indirect supporters. The best elements of Labour must break away now and create a new workers party together with other organizations of the workers and oppressed! Genuine socialists must fight for a revolutionary program as a basis of such a new workers party" [5].

The RCIT puts forward the following programme:

** We call on Jeremy Corbyn and his supporters to split away from the Labour Party and help to build a New Workers Party!*

** Revolutionaries have to fight for an authentic socialist programme as a basis of such a New Workers Party!*

** Rank-and-file members of Labour must be supported in their fight for more democracy in the party including the right to criticise politics of Labour in public, form tendencies and factions, etc. However, revolutionaries have to explain that any believes in reforming Labour at this point are illusions and that the fight for inner democracy will result in either defeat or victorious split!*

** A socialist programme includes an active orientation towards rallies on the street, assemblies at schools, universities and workplaces, strikes up to an indefinite general strike against the British government! Hence, only such a politics can be the healthy basis for a Workers Party – and if Labour is rejecting this, the party is again proving to be incapable of the tasks to lead the workers and oppressed in their struggle! It must be clear that the only alternative to the conservative (i.e. bourgeois) government must be a workers government, achieved via overthrowing the current rule! Any plans of a joint government with the Tories or any other bourgeois party must be rejected by militant members of Labour!*

Join the RCIT and let us fight together for a New Workers Party on a socialist base!

Footnotes

(1) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-54730425>

(2) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-54742096>

(3) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/>

(4) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/uk-defend-chris-williamson-and-others-against-the-zionist-witch-hunt/>

(5) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/britain-the-blairite-keir-starmer-is-elected-leader/>

Indonesia: Mass Protests against New Omnibus Labour Law For an Indefinite General Strike to Overthrow the Joko Widodo Regime!

Article by Laurence Humphries, RCIT Britain, 21 October 2020

On the 5th October parliament in Indonesia rushed through a new Omnibus Law, which attacks the basic working conditions of workers by extending contracts, eliminating severance pay, reducing wages and cutting annual leave for all workers. It is being put forward by Joko Widodo, the President of Indonesia, in attempt to attract foreign capital to the country which has suffered economically through the great depression and crisis of imperialism. It is an attempt by the Bourgeois capitalist regime to arrest the slide into debt. The Omnibus bill also will lead to deforestation and rape of the countryside. Foreign speculators and capitalists are being invited to cause untold damage to the environment. Local poor farmers will lose their rights and the environmental damage caused by this bill will lead to the rape of Indonesia's natural resources.

Indonesia, the biggest economy in South East Asia, has many natural resources of tin, silver coal, natural gas and petroleum. They will be open to these foreign speculators and capitalists to exploit.

Demonstrations and Protests

The response from the working class, students and environmentalists has been immediate social unrest. A revolutionary upsurge of opposition to the regime has been widespread involving protests in Jakarta, Java, Sumatra

and throughout all the autonomous regions. This shows that the masses and the urban poor represent a new revolutionary development who want to oppose and destroy this law. It is not only workers and students, but there is also a petit-bourgeois layer who wants to defend the environment against this destruction of basic land resources. In the best sense of the word, it is a popular movement.

Together, over 1 million workers have engaged in strikes and social unrest against this omnibus bill and this regime which under the crisis of imperialism is taking on dictatorial powers.

"Indonesian workers have launched protests in several cities to oppose the passage of a controversial new jobs law that the government says is vital to attract investment but critics view as too pro-business. Parliament passed into law President Joko Widodo's "omnibus" Job Creation bill late on Monday, revising more than 70 existing laws to speed up economic reform and improve the investment climate in Southeast Asia's largest economy. The new law removes the three-year maximum duration of contracts and cuts severance benefits, provisions the government said were intended to promote formal hiring" [1].

"More than a thousand protesters took to the streets of Medan, in North Sumatra on Thursday as tensions rose across Indonesia following the passage of a controversial "omnibus law" earlier this week that demonstrators fear will destroy jobs rather than create them.

Demonstrators clashed with riot police It is a climax of protest

Books of the RCIT

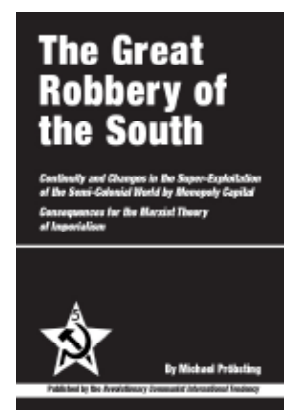
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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)



due to anger and frustration because parliament and the government do not listen to the people, the workers, the students and the social movements in Indonesia," Damai Pakpahan, the country representative of Protection International, an NGO that defends human rights activists, told Al Jazeera. In several locations across the city, as the authorities deployed tear gas and water cannon in an attempt to quell the unrest. Clashes also flared on the streets of the capital, Jakarta, as thousands marched across the archipelago." [2].

These demonstrations and protests by workers, students and the urban poor show the pent-up anger of the working class and oppressed against the state apparatus and state violence. In spite of the Covid19-pandemic, many workers are confronting the violence and combatting it with throwing of rocks and burning of buildings. The police are using water cannon and tear gas to quell the demonstrations. This shows the insurrectionary nature of the fight back by demonstrators.

Revolutionary Movement Emerging in Indonesia

"Clashes between rock-throwing demonstrators and riot police broke out near Jakarta's presidential palace as police tried to disperse the protesters, including workers and high school and university students. Police fired tear gas at the protesters from several high schools and universities as they tried to approach the palace compound, turning roads into a smoke-filled battleground. The protesters hurled rocks and bottles. Similar clashes occurred in large cities all over the country, including Yogyakarta, Medan, Makassar, Manado and Bandung.

Organizers have called for a three-day national strike starting Tuesday demanding that the government revoke the legislation. The Job Creation Law approved by Parliament on Monday is expected to substantially change Indonesia's labor system and natural resources management. It amended 79 previous laws. The demonstrators say the law will hurt workers by reducing severance pay, removing restrictions on manual labor by foreign workers, increasing the use of outsourcing, and converting monthly salaries to hourly wages." [3].

Hundreds of demonstrators have been arrested and detained by the police. The capitalist state is clearly worried about these developments and is using the Covid19 restrictions to prevent protests and take away fundamental democratic rights. Joko Widodo was forced previously to retract a criminal code which banned relations between

LGBTQI consenting adults and sexual relations outside of marriage. The heavy use of water cannon and tear gas by the police shows the move towards dictatorial and bonapartist powers attacking people who fight for their rights and demonstrate.

"Hundreds of protesters have been detained after heated demonstrations swept across Indonesia in response to a law that weakens environmental protections and workers' rights.

Labour unions have vowed to continue their protests until the government cancels the law, despite police warning that the demonstrations violate measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Clashes between police and protesters began on Tuesday night and continued throughout Wednesday, with teargas and water cannon used to break up demonstrations. Six protesters were reportedly in a critical condition in hospital. One legal aid group said nine detained protesters including a 16-year-old were beaten by police and told to drink from the same water bottle, despite the risk of Covid transmission. Police did not respond to a request for comment.

In the Javanese city of Semarang, protesters tore down the fence of the local parliament complex. In Bandung, groups set fire to tyres and threw rocks and petrol bombs at police. Thousands attempted to reach the Bandung parliament building but roads had been blocked.

A spokesperson for the National Union Confederation (KSN) said: "We are going to die because of the coronavirus or die because of the system. We don't know how we will die. But we still can change the system. So we are going to march until we win." [4]

Further developments taking place amongst the opposition to the Omnibus Labour Law is the support given by Islamic groups who have decided to march and support the protests against the Widodo regime. This is of the greatest importance because it is the hardline conservative Mullahs and likeminded parties who back and support Widodo.

"Wearing white Islamic garb and waving red and white Indonesian flags, more than 1,000 protesters from Islamic and student groups gathered in the world's most populous Muslim nation on Tuesday to show discontent over a divisive new jobs law. Conservative Islamic groups are among the latest to join the volatile street demonstrations, during which police fired tear gas on Tuesday to try to break up crowds, as pressure mounts on the government to repeal a law they say undermines labour rights

Brazil: Debate about the U.S. Presidential Elections 2020

Report by the Editorial Board of the RCIT

The *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Brazil section of the RCIT) participated in a public debate via Zoom on 31 October. The meeting was characterized by a highly interesting debate about the presidential elections in the U.S. and the crisis and decay of American imperialism. The meeting was addressed by speakers from different groups including the teacher Joao Evangelista who represented the RCIT section. Below is the link to the video of meeting which lasted almost for two hours.

https://fb.watch/1A_nR4jYTj/



and environmental protections.

The country's largest Islamic organization, Nahdlatul Ulama, is among its opponents and says it favours conglomerates while "trampling" on the rights of working-class Indonesians.

Hamdan, a 53-year-old teacher who goes by one name, said he would keep protesting until the law was repealed." [5]

For a Workers Government

The RCIT fully supports the revolutionary upsurge by the working class and the urban poor. We put forward these transitional demands to rid Indonesia of the Joko Widodo government, a bourgeois capitalist regime and to fight for Socialism. Indonesia has a revolutionary tradition since it removed their Dutch colonial masters and resisted Japanese imperialism during the Second World War. The spark has been lit and we urge workers, students and the revolutionary elements in petty-bourgeois classes to study our programme and have discussions with us on the way forward to revolution!

* Full support for the demonstrations and protests by workers students and environmentalists against the new Omnibus Labour Bill and full support for the demand of the Bill to be repealed!

* For an Indefinite General strike to overthrow Joko Widodo and his regime of bourgeois capitalists!

* Nationalize the Banks and Corporations under Workers Control and without compensation! Expropriate the big capitalist Landlords so the Land can be returned to the Landless Peasants!

* For a Revolutionary Constituent assembly of workers, students and all poor people from the autonomous provinces affected and threatened by this new Labour Law! For a programme of distribution of wealth, to end hunger, poverty and social inequality!

* For Armed Self-Defense Guards to Defend Workers, the Urban Poor and Students against Police Violence especially Defending the Masses against Water Cannon and Tear Gas!

* Defend Democratic Rights! No to Police Violence and Bonapartist Rule!

* For a Workers Government!

* For the building of a Revolutionary, Socialist International - the Fifth International!

Footnotes

(1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2020/10/6/indonesian-workers-stage-protests-against-new-labour-laws>

(2) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/10/9/demonstrations-sweep-indonesia-over-controversial-omnibus-law>

(3) <https://lapnews.com/article/jakarta-indonesia-joko-widodo-environment-archive-d5c64867ff54c884c9bd6339e15d0930>

(4) <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/07/indonesia-police-use-water-cannon-and-teargas-to-disperse-labour-law-protests>

(5) <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-indonesia-economy-protests/indonesia-islamic-groups-students-join-movement-to-scrap-jobs-law-idUKKBN26Y1ES>

South Korean Marxists Publish New Booklet

Report by the Editorial Board of the RCIT

The RCIT is glad to announce that the South Korean Marxists of the Workers' Revolutionary Party (Preparatory Group) have published a new booklet. The thick booklet (see pictures below) is currently sold at meetings and events of the labor movement. It has 162 pages and contains two major documents. (We will publish the booklet as a PDF at a later point on this website.)

The first part is an extensive programmatic document of the WRP(PG) titled "South Korean Imperialism and the Task of Socialist Labor Movement". It elaborates a critical analysis of the state of the workers movement and the political trends which dominate the labor mass organizations.

The second document is a Korean translation of the pamphlet "South Korea as an Imperialist Power. On the nature of South Korean monopoly capital and the ensuing programmatic tasks of the workers vanguard". This document has been written by Michael Pröbsting, the RCIT's International Secretary. The original English-language version can be read and downloaded as a PDF here: <https://www.the-communists.net/theory/study-on-south-korea-as-an-imperialist-power/>.

In addition, the comrades have also translated and printed the Korean version of the RCIT's book "Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry". (We will report more on this soon.)

Finally, we would also like to draw attention to the new Facebook account of the RCIT section in South Korea: <https://www.facebook.com/rcitkorea/posts/131995565202580>



