



REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM

Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency



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China: A Good Place for Billionaires!

COVID-19 and Capitalist Business * Uprising in Myanmar

Nigeria: The Struggle against Northern Hegemony

UK: Building Workers Strike 1972 * Great Robbery of South

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Pictures on the cover: Some of the richest man and women in China; from left top to right below: Jack Ma, Wang Jianlin, Robin Li, and Chen Lihua. Sources: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Ma#/media/File:Enabling_eCommerce-_Small_Enterprises,_Global_Players_\(39008130265\)_cropped.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Ma#/media/File:Enabling_eCommerce-_Small_Enterprises,_Global_Players_(39008130265)_cropped.jpg); https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9f/Wang_Jianlin_-_Annual_Meeting_of_the_New_Champions_Dalian_2009.jpg; https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/Robin_Li_at_the_Web_2.0_Summit_2010_%28cropped%29.jpg; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chen_Lihua#/media/File:Chen_Lihua_2012_Shankbone.JPG

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.

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COVID-19: “A Market of up to 23 Billion US-Dollar”

The big corporations in the pharmaceutical industry expect gigantic profits by the vaccine business

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 12.2.2021

N-TV, a major television news channel in Germany, has published a highly interesting report. The article explains: “Initially, the development of the corona vaccines was a one-off feat financed by government aid worth billions. But now it is becoming increasingly clear that a permanent market is emerging for the pharmaceutical companies, which could be far more profitable than the current global vaccination campaign.”

The author, referring to estimations of analysts, reports: “A market is emerging that, according to analyst estimates, could turn over up to \$ 23 billion – year after year. Of this money, much more is likely to be left over as profit for the pharmaceutical companies. In a conference call with investors, Pfizer announced according to “Bloomberg” that it would increase the price. The scope is therefore enormous: Pfizer currently charges 19.50 dollars per corona vaccination dose in the USA, for example. For other vaccines, the company takes up to \$ 175.”¹

N-TV is beyond any suspicion of sharing “anti-capitalist prejudices” or “Corona conspiracy theories”. The channel is a kind of German version of CNN. It is owned by Bertelsmann, one of the world’s largest media corporations. This makes the article even more valuable as it represents a report from arch-capitalist media about gigantic profit expectations for their brothers- and sisters-in-crime in the pharmaceutical industry.

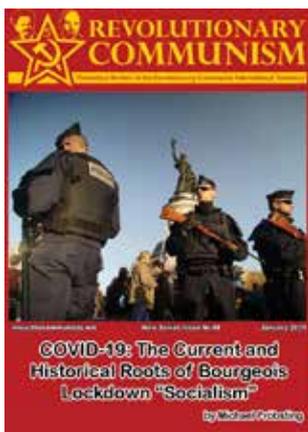
To give you an idea. A market of \$23 billion is the equivalent of the total annual economic output of a whole nation state like Cyprus – a member of the European Union!

Only a fool can overlook that the capitalists of the phar-

maceutical corporations have a huge incentive for creating public hysteria about the Corona Virus and its mutation. Only someone who willingly closes eyes and ears can ignore the fact that these corporations are pushing governments all over the world to spend gigantic sums on public vaccination programs. Only an idiot can brush aside the fact that these corporations and the capitalist governments – which are both closely linked via career opportunities, huge provisions, secret deals, etc. – are pushing such vaccination programs irrespective if they are safe and irrespective if they are effective. They will say to themselves: “Who cares, if we can make 23 billion bucks?!”

True, ministers of all capitalist government around the world, medical “experts” a la Drosten and Ferguson (today’s version of Rasputin), media commentators – they will all denounce such critical observations as “crazy conspiracy theory”. “Trust in science”, they will say. And the loyal servants of the capitalism among the left – the Lockdown Left – will continue to act as useful idiots and servilely repeat their phrases.

The RCIT has pointed out since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis that the ruling class has deliberately created public fear in order to exploit the pandemic for their political and economic interests. On one hand, they are massively expanding the police and surveillance state – a process which we call a shift from parliamentary democracy to *Chauvinist State Bonapartism*. On the other hand, the big corporations utilize the crisis for advancing the process of monopolization and for creating gigantic profits.²



Publications of the RCIT

COVID-19: The Current and Historical Roots of Bourgeois Lockdown “Socialism”

Police State, Universal Basic Income & a new version of “War Socialism” of 1914

By Michael Pröbsting, January 2021

Introduction * 1. An Overview of the Policy of the Lockdown Left * 2. A Marxist Critique of Lockdownism and Universal Basic Income * 3. The Bourgeois Ideology of the “Caring State” (The Capitalist Handout State) * 4. The Objective Basis for Lockdown Socialism: Changes within the Political and Economic Physiognomy of Capitalism * 5. A Historical Analogy: The Mobilization of the Imperialist State for World War I * 6. War Socialism in 1914: The Social-Chauvinist Lensch-Cunow-Haenisch Group in German Social Democracy * 7. Lenin and other Marxists Declare War on War Socialism * 8. The Lockdown Left: A Worthy Successor of Social-Chauvinist War Socialists * 9. Once Again, the State Question: Marxism versus the Opportunist Left

A RCIT Pamphlet, 32 pages, A4 Format

In the past weeks we have published several articles which demonstrate, based on official reports, that the monopoly capitalists made gigantic profits in the past 12 months.³ For them, the Lockdown policy is highly advantageous! It is only the Lockdown Left which refuses to recognize this elementary fact.⁴ Worse, many of them even call now for a *longer and more draconic* curfew for the popular masses (see e.g. the notorious bourgeois “ZeroCovid” campaign).⁵ Who can deny it any longer: The Lockdown Left are the bosses’ best friends forever!

Let us conclude by stating once more that *all pharmaceutical corporations should be expropriated and nationalized under control of the working people*. This is the way to make sure that only such vaccine is produced which is seriously tested and which serves public health and not the profit of a few. It is also the precondition for *international cooperation* between all institutions – instead of reckless dog eat dog rivalry. Only such global planning and coordination will result in enhancing the health and living conditions of the *world* population (and not only of those in rich countries). Furthermore, socialists must continue to *fight against the Lockdown policy and restrictions of democratic rights! No police and surveillance state!*

Footnotes

1 Max Borowski: Jährlich neue Impfkampagnen Corona-Mutanten schaffen Milliarden-Markt, 9 February 2021, https://www.n-tv.de/wirtschaft/Corona-Mutanten-schaffen-Milliarden-Markt-article22347267.html?utm_source=pocket-newtab-global-de-DE; an English version of the article can be read here: New vaccination campaigns every year: Corona mutants create a billion-dollar market, <https://gettotext.com/new-vaccination-campaigns-every-year-corona-mutants-create-a-billion-dollar-market/>

2 The RCIT has analyzed the COVID-19 counterrevolution extensively since its beginning. Starting from 2 February 2020 we have published nearly 80 pamphlets, essays, articles and statements plus a book which are all compiled at a special subpage on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-2019-corona-virus/>. In particular we refer readers to the RCIT Manifesto: COVID-19: A Cover for a Major Global Counterrevolutionary Offensive. We are at a turning point in the world situation as the ruling classes provoke a war-like atmosphere in order to legitimize the build-up of chauvinist state-bonapartist regimes, 21 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-a-cover-for-a-major-global-counterrevolutionary-offensive/>. In addition, we draw attention to our book by Michael Pröbsting: The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution: What It Is and How to Fight It. A Marxist analysis and strategy for the revolutionary struggle, RCIT Books, April 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-covid-19-global-counterrevolution/>. See also our very first article on this issue by Almedina Gunić: Coronavirus: “I am not a Virus” ... but WE will be the Cure! The chauvinist campaign behind the “Wuhan Coronavirus” hysteria and the revolutionary answer, 2 February 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/wuhan-virus/>; Michael Pröbsting: 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, 20 July 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/the-second-wave-of-the-covid-19-counterrevolution/>; by the same author: The Police and Surveillance State in the Post-Lockdown Phase. A global review of the ruling class’s plans of expanding the bonapartist state machinery amidst the COVID-19

crisis, 21 May 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/police-and-surveillance-state-in-post-lockdown-phase/>; COVID-19: The Great Barrington Declaration is indeed Great! Numerous medical scientists protest against the reactionary lockdown policy, 11 October 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-the-great-barrington-declaration-is-indeed-great/>; Michael Pröbsting: COVID-19: The Current and Historical Roots of Bourgeois Lockdown “Socialism”. Police State and Universal Basic Income are key elements of the new version of reformist “War Socialism” of 1914, 19 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/covid-19-the-current-and-historical-roots-of-bourgeois-lockdown-socialism/>.

3 See e.g. Michael Pröbsting: COVID-19: That Was A Damn Good Year ... for the Billionaires in West and East who massively gained from the anti-democratic Lockdown policy, 5 January 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-that-was-a-damn-good-year-for-the-billionaires-in-west-and-east/>

4 For our critique of the Lockdown Left see e.g. chapter V of our above-mentioned book by Michael Pröbsting: The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution: What It Is and How to Fight It; see also by the same author the last chapters in the above mentioned essay: The Second Wave of the COVID-19 Counterrevolution; COVID-19 and the Lockdown Left: The Example of PODEMOS and Stalinism in Spain, 24 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-lockdown-left-podemos-and-stalinism-in-spain/>; Social-Bonapartism in Argentina. The Partido Obrero (Tendencia) of Jorge Altamira supports the State of Emergency, 29 April 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/social-bonapartism-in-argentina/>; When Ultra-Leftism marries Social-Bonapartism and Gives Birth to “Post-Marxist” Obscurantism. A reply to the CWG/ILTT, 5 May 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-when-ultra-leftism-marries-social-bonapartism/>; Brazil: Social-Bonapartism of the Lockdown Left in Practice. How the leaderships of the trade unions, PT, PCdoB, the pseudo-Trotskyist PSTU and PSOL sabotage the struggle against the Bolsonaro government, 10 June 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/latin-america/brazil-social-bonapartism-of-the-lockdown-left-in-practice/>; Lockdown Left says: “Cops Need to Enforce Laws”. The ex-revolutionary L5I as another example for shameful social-bonapartism in the era of the COVID-19 counterrevolution, 24 July 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/lockdown-left-l5i-says-cops-need-to-enforce-laws/>; COVID-19: Zero Socialism in the “ZeroCOVID” campaign. Following the model of China and Australia, some British Stalinists and “Trotskyists” call for a “total and indefinite lockdown”, 22 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-zero-socialism-in-the-zero-covid-campaign/>; COVID-19: The Current and Historical Roots of Bourgeois Lockdown “Socialism”. Police State and Universal Basic Income are key elements of the new version of reformist “War Socialism” of 1914, 19 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/covid-19-the-current-and-historical-roots-of-bourgeois-lockdown-socialism/>

5 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: COVID-19: Zero Socialism in the “ZeroCOVID” campaign. Following the model of China and Australia, some British Stalinists and “Trotskyists” call for a “total and indefinite lockdown”, 22 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-zero-socialism-in-the-zero-covid-campaign/>

Nigeria: For a People's Militia to Defeat the Conquest of Northern Hegemony!

Defend the Right of Southern Ethnic Nationalities to Secession and Autonomy! For an Indefinite General Strike to Bring Down the Buhari Regime!

Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV) [RCIT Nigeria]. 01 March 2021

“*Gunmen suspected to be bandits have abducted over 100 people, including 80 nursing mothers and children in Sabuwar Tunga village, Dankurmi district in the Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.*” [1] This occurs when the abduction of over 300 girls in Jangebe, Zamfara state in Western Nigeria by armed groups goes unresolved. The attack in Maru is the latest in a string of macabre attacks throughout the country. To mention a few, Boko Haram attacked local residences killing 36 people in Kano and Kaduna states on the eve of the abduction in Jangebe. Beyond the 3 persons killed in Yewa North Local government of Ogun state between February 13&14, the herdsman crises in the local government is worsening. A day does not go by without abductions and/or terrorist attacks happening in at least one part of the country. The answer of the federal government has been negotiations and ransom payment to these terrorists who are christened as “bandits”. In fact, the national assembly is currently considering giving amnesty to them.[2]

In contrast, air raids have been conducted against Eastern Security Network (ESN) forces after intense fighting with the army. Pastors and other religious leaders have equally been arrested for allegedly being part of IPOB/ESN. Bank accounts of the popular self-acclaimed agitator for Yoruba rights, Sunday Igboho, has been frozen by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) before foiled attacks were made by a combination of DSS, police and army to arrest probably intimidate him. Amotekun (South Western Security Network) corps have been shot, arrested and attacked by both police and other state forces.[3]

As expected more and more interesting developments follow from the South in response to the biased nature of the federal government. To many southerners it is the backing of oppression of southern ethnic nationalities by the entrenched Hausa-Fulani barons of the far north who also dominate the federal government and the state forces. Hence the people of Edo state have not ceased to voice out against the domination of their forests by killer Fulani herdsmen. Similarly the Niger Delta militants, a group with a history of fighting the environmental degradation caused by transnational oil magnates such as Chevron, have threatened to launch attacks in Lagos and Abuja.[4]

We say that the current degree of armed insurgency which is majorly perpetrated by northern actors throughout the country, including attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP, is founded in the age long onslaught of the far north to conquer the southern and middle belt nations that has from the onset had an Islamist coloration. As the governor of Ekiti state, Kayode Fayemi, did attest after the abductions in Kagara:

“The agenda is to destroy the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Let's not make any mistake about it, that's the ultimate agenda... these are remnants of the actors of the North East that have

found themselves in other parts of the country whether they are known as ISWAP, or known as Albanawi faction or as Shekau people.” [5]

However, such conquest and national oppression has reached such a climax due to the peaking crises of the capitalist system. The present chaotic dispensation of the capitalist system exacerbates other tensions upon which the system of exploitation is founded, part of this is national oppression. So not only do the oppressor Hausa-Fulani alliance of the far north have no other choice than to step up operations for their conquest, but the southern ruling class also finds it extremely difficult to continue to collude with the northern cabals. Hence, more notable figures of the southern ruling class have begun to campaign, albeit, in the reactionary ways for a Nigeria where the North has significantly less control. This was the major theme during the second term inauguration of the Ondo state governor, Rotimi Akeredolu:

“ “ Restructuring should not be driven by political expediency, but by economic and financial viability. “The resources in each state should belong to the states. The constituent entities should pay federal taxes or royalties for those resources.” On unity of the nation, he argued that instead of a Federal Government of Nigeria, the citizens could think of the United States of Nigeria or the Commonwealth of Nigeria...former Deputy Governor of Osun State, Iyiola Omisore, said the topic was apt since it was aimed at addressing the problems facing the country and exploring opportunities that abound. Governor Akeredolu...blamed the growing sectional activism, which he said, was gradually replacing national patriotism, on the faulty federalism being operated in the country. He lamented that most Nigerians were losing faith in ‘Unity in Diversity,’ mantra while urging that true federalism was the only opportunity to restore national consciousness.”[6]

Only a handful of left wing forces reserve a correct assessment of the nature of the crises, even less are able to give limited support to the national movements or agitators. In essence, this means leaving the leadership of the movement for equality across all ethnic nationalities to petty bourgeois-liberal or even outrightly bourgeois forces like the governors of the southern states. What these leftists cannot see is that the national conflicts have crossed a Rubicon because just like the capitalist chaos that threw them up it will be nearly impossible to return to pre-crisis normal. In this case both the oppressor nations of the far north and the oppressed ethnic nationalities of the south are determined to change the balance of forces forever.

We have tried in previous statements on the same question to point out that the mechanism of collapse of country wide security can be very much hinged on national oppression/inequality using the oppression of minorities in the US as a paradigm, that is, minorities or people from oppressed nationalities are mostly at the receiving end of

the so-called insecurity. This is the same for Nigeria, even though most of these attacks are concentrated in the north, the heightened levels of such attacks in the south shows that the attacks are in line with a conquest which must also take place throughout the whole northern region since as many intellectuals have pointed out: "the north is not monolithic." That is, it has its own fair share of minority ethnic nationalities. The US as an imperialist nation is hell bent not just on maintaining its global hegemony but improving it by oppressing nations beyond its borders yet it is racist towards national minorities within its borders because the treatment of nationalities within its borders and beyond is part of one agenda of imperialism. This is a replica of what we see in the federal government of Nigeria which is controlled by the northern region.

Thus, since the crises we are now facing cannot be sufficiently understood as a security failing of the Nigerian state, Buhari cannot also be seen as the main source of the problem. So any anti-government campaign that does involve or include resolving the national question respectively incorporating the struggle for national liberation of the ethnic nationalities of the south, is incomplete. It should suffice to say that before the emergence of Buhari as president extremist groups such as Boko Haram have flourished unrestrained. Even though Buhari has worsened the pale of all facets of Nigerian living like every other member of the ruling class around the world in this time of burgeoning capitalist catastrophe. He is far from being the sole or major cause of the national crises. The conflict between majority and minority ethnic nationalities is first a reflection of the inherent contradictions in the capitalist system and as such has its roots in Nigerian colonial society:

"Ahmadu Bello, the premier of the Northern Region, for instance, criticized the idea of carving out the Middle Belt State from the Northern Region. He described the Minorities Commission as a "wandering and most embarrassing commission" set up by the colonial office. Bello argued that his great-great grandfather's family had ruled virtually the entire Northern Region without any difficulty and wondered why any group should agitate for the creation of a physically incongruous Middle Belt. Bello also stated that state creation in Nigeria would lead to further disintegration along ethnic lines. Based partly on these arguments, the Minorities Commission concluded that the boundaries of the three regions should remain intact.

Bello's reference to the Minorities Commission as the "most embarrassing commission" lends credence to the view that the British nurtured despotism in the North by vesting a lot of powers on the ruling class and their relatives. Some scholars have interpreted these developments as showing that colonial authorities were more inclined to protecting the interest of the Northern leaders than other groups. While making a case for the retention of a large region in the North, Bello raised a vital issue that is easily neglected in the minority discourses." [7]

We support the cause of the Niger Delta militants. For decades, their lands have been destroyed and their water bodies contaminated by oil spills and other effluents from oil exploration of multinational corporations. What is worse is that this region has seen subsequent decrease in the already minuscule amount of oil revenue allocated to it making it one of the poorest regions in Nigeria:

"A more widely supported demand of the oil-producing states and communities is that a significant proportion (usually put at

not less than 10 per cent) of federally collected mineral revenues should be returned to the producing areas on the basis of the derivation principle. Derivation is, of course, a long-standing principle of revenue allocation in Nigeria. The derivation or origin principle of distribution stipulates that a significant proportion of the revenues collected in a locality should be returned to that locality or segment. Derivation has, however, been progressively de-emphasised as mineral exploration replaced agricultural exports as the principal source of government revenues and foreign exchange earnings in Nigeria. This change in the rules for allocating revenues has been denounced by ethnic minority elements as a politically motivated assault by the majority nationalities on the economic rights of minority communities who are perceived as too small and weak to threaten the stability of the federation."

"The following statements by the first civilian Governor of Rivers State and the representatives of the Ijaw community, respectively, aptly capture the intensity of ethnic minority resentments over the perceived abortion or distortion of the derivation principle by the Federal Government:

Derivation as a revenue allocation criterion is not new in this country. It featured prominently when cocoa, groundnuts, etc, were the main sources of revenue for Nigeria. But it has continued to be deliberately suppressed since crude oil became the mainstay of the country's wealth... simply because the main contributors of the oil wealth are the minorities... there have been disheartening contradictions and inconsistencies in Nigeria, a nation that recognised 100 per cent derivation as the basis for revenue allocation in 1950, but reduced it to 50 per cent at independence in 1960; to 45 percent in 1970; 20 per cent in 1975; 1.5 per cent in 1982 and 3 per cent in 1992 as crude oil, found in the Ijaw country, became the main source of national revenue" [8]

Admittedly, the Niger Delta militants have been largely inconsistent and have been most times bought over especially when a politician from the South-South region is represented at the federal level, for instance, President Goodluck Jonathan. Albeit this does not invalidate or reduce the legitimacy of their cause rather it is a weakness of their leadership. Genuine revolutionaries are obligated to give critical support to the militants while denying the leadership any political endorsements by criticizing its flaws in order to win the membership for the truly emancipatory practice. We are not against guerilla warfare as a tactic for revolutionary struggle but no illusion should be had that the total liberation of the oppressed can come through this means alone since the balance of forces must change considerably for a workers and poor peasant government to be established:

"As Marxist revolutionaries, we do not oppose guerrilla warfare as a tactic in the service of proletarian revolutionary warfare, and as a section of the 'regular' workers' army consisting of armed workers' militias. We do, however, strongly oppose guerrilla-ism, which is the idealist belief that guerrilla warfare could or should replace the proletarian army and achieve victory on its own."[9]

As earlier mentioned all anti-government campaigns, like the on-going #BuhariMustGo campaign, that does not also acknowledge the exigence of providing solutions to questions of autonomy and self-determination of southern and central regions/ethnic nationalities is incomplete. These campaigns must also include or occur simultaneously with the call to remove the duplicitous leaderships of the labour movement. Our leftists put themselves in a dilemma, they

do not support the liberation movements of oppressed ethnic nationalities, yet they refuse to campaign for the deposition of Wabba and Oladimeji, the leaders of the NLC and TUC, bodies they agree is pivotal to overcoming the bourgeois regime in Nigeria. They conflate support for the national liberation movements in the south with support for their reactionary leaderships.

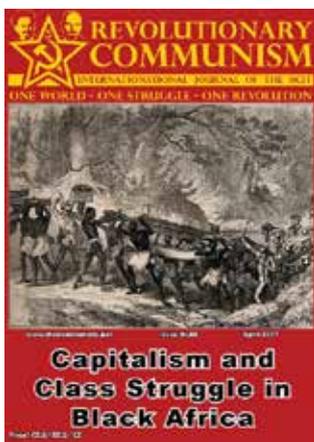
True, the working-class vanguard must dominate the leadership of revolutionary movements before a socialist victory is possible, but this does not invalidate all other struggles which are not based on economic issues. Rather, it means pouring the revolutionary liberation struggle of the working class into all areas of resistance of the oppressed. For this to happen, the trade unions and all structures of the workers movement must be purged of the bureaucratic scum floating atop the movement, clogging it torrents from bringing down the APC/PDP regime and leading the liberation struggle of the southern ethnic nationalities.

We seize this medium to stress again that only nations/ethnic nationalities fighting to maintain their dominance or oppression are tribalistic. Nations or ethnic nationalities in their fight for liberation cannot be tribalistic since they fight for their emancipation against oppression. However the RCIT rejects all forms of bourgeois nationalism. Workers and masses of the northern ethnic nationalities must recognize their bourgeois as the main enemy and support the right of the southern ethnic nationalities to economic and political autonomy even up to secession!

Thus we say: Down with northern ethnic jingoism! Similarly we oppose all tribalist attacks whether verbal or otherwise launched by the Yoruba ruling class against the

Igbo people or any other oppressed nationality/minority in any part of Nigeria and vice versa. These tropes, for instance during the #OccupyLekkiTollGate and the #End-SARS campaign, are attempts to increase their own powers to oppress the workers and masses. While we agree that the bane of the issue is not nomadic/pastoral farming but the Northern hegemony, we say that the southern people have every right to ban open grazing/nomadic farming in their region. Hence, we do not support the strike of Myetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACABAN) (10) who are demanding unrestrained access to land for herdsmen. MACABAN has played the role of the middle man in negotiations with reactionary terrorists and killer Fulani herdsmen on behalf of the federal government and is tool of northern aggression towards respectively conquest, of the south.

Finally, for us in the RCIT while revolutionaries must give no political support to reactionary leaderships of the nationalist movements viz-a-viz the south western governors as they participate in the liberation struggles, the permanent liberation of the southern ethnic nationalities is hinged on a socialist struggle which seeks to bring down the Buhari regime and expropriate the bourgeoisie in all parts of the country so as to install a workers government based on a planned economy and nationalization of commanding heights of the economy. The southern ruling class are either too weak or too treacherous to carry through the total liberation of the south from northern hegemonic forces. They may sell out the liberation struggle as they have always done for a federal government positions. Worse, they sponsor a campaign of chauvinism against each other to atomize and demobilize the masses.



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

Their petty bourgeois counterparts, like Nnamdi Kanu and Sunday Igboho are not any better because they retain illusions in the system, that is, their nationalism is within the confines of the capitalist system.

Form self-defense militias to protect the northern people! Decimate Boko Haram, ISWAP with all their appendages and offspring like the so-called bandits and killer herdsmen! Stop the ethnic jingoism in the north! No support for the MACABAN strike!

For a national liberation struggle of oppressed nationalities in the south and central parts of Nigeria which seeks to secure the right of self-determination (secession) and the highest level of political cum economic autonomy for these nationalities!

Defend the ESN from military attacks! But no political support for the reactionary leaderships of these groups and the southern nationalist movements vis the southern governments! Stop the attacks on Sunday Igboho!

Support the Buhari must go campaign! For an indefinite general strike to bring down the Buhari regime! Kick out the rotten bureaucracy holding back the workers with a WABBA MUST GO campaign!

For a Revolutionary Workers Party now!

(1) <http://saharareporters.com/2021/03/01/hours-after-killing-40-people-bandits-return-zamfara-community-abduct-80-women-children>

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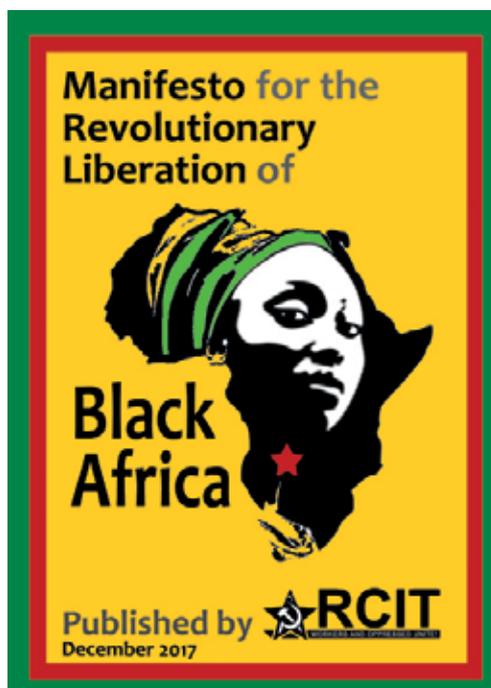
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RCIT AFRICA PROGRAM

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

Myanmar: Popular Anger also Turns Against Japanese Corporations

Once more, Stalinist slander against a popular democratic uprising is refuted by reality

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 17 March 2021

Yesterday, the RCIT issued a statement on militant actions against property of Chinese corporations by popular masses protesting against the military dictatorship in Myanmar.¹ A few hours after we published this statement, the news agency *Reuters* reported about more attacks by demonstrators, this time directed against property of Japanese corporations.

*"Japan's Fast Retailing Co said on Tuesday that two supplier factories in Myanmar were recently set on fire amid violent unrest following a military coup. A representative for Fast Retailing, known for its Uniqlo brand of casual clothing stores, confirmed that fires had broken out on Sunday at two factories used in the manufacture of its apparel. (...) The situation in Myanmar will lead to some delays in the production and delivery of products, the company said."*²

As we reported, the mass movement in Myanmar rightly denounces all forms of support by imperialist Great Powers and monopolies for the military regime which came to power via a coup d'état on 1st February. Their pressure has already resulted in some success. The same *Reuters* article reports: *"Foreign firms have been urged to suspend operations in Myanmar to put pressure on the military junta to end its bloody takeover. Japan's Kirin Holdings Co is winding up a beer alliance with a military-linked company after coming under pressure from activist groups."*

The RCIT has supported the popular uprising against the brutal regime of the *Tatmadaw* – the Myanmar army – from the very beginning. We call for an indefinite general strike and armed insurrection to bring down the dictatorship! While we denounce imperialist sanctions – like those by the U.S. or the EU (we don't support big thieves against small thieves) – we fully support *popular actions* directed against the regime and its imperialist master.

Since, currently, China is the most important Great Power which lends support to the *Tatmadaw* it is hardly surprising that the popular masses in Myanmar direct their anger against them.

However, the Japanese government is also quite hesitant in criticizing the putschists since its corporations are also making pretty good profit in Myanmar. In fact, the Japa-

nese imperialists have built close relations with the *Tatmadaw* for years. It is symbolic that on 20 January, i.e. only days before the coup, Hideo Watanabe, a former politician and the current chairman of the *Japan-Myanmar Association*, met with Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the commander-in-chief of the *Tatmadaw*, to discuss *"the promotion of relations between the Japanese and Myanmar military."*³

And Yohei Sasakawa, chairman of the Nippon Foundation, *"prayed"* that countries do not *"urgently place economic sanctions"* on Myanmar, as it will *"increase the influence of China."*⁴

China's *Global Times* smears the pro-democracy demonstrators

As we did report in our statement, the Stalinist-capitalist regime in Beijing as well as its *"left-wing"* friends around the globe try to smear the protestors fighting on the streets as Myanmar as *"fanatical agents of Western powers driven by anti-Chinese hatred"*. *Global Times* – the English-language central organ of the Beijing regime – claimed in an article: *"The perpetrators who attacked Chinese factories were possibly anti-China locals who have been provoked by some Western anti-China forces, NGOs and Hong Kong secessionists, sources in Myanmar told the Global Times."*⁵

The same article quotes Bi Shihong, a professor at the Center for China's Neighbor Diplomacy Studies and School of International Studies at Yunnan University: *"Those Myanmar people who participated in the attacks were actually cannon fodder, and they were being incited and used,"* Bi said. He said that behind the growing anti-China sentiment in Myanmar was the anti-China forces in the West, which have been creating obstacles for exchanges between China and other countries for a long time.

And another article in *Global Times* claimed: *"But what requires more attention is the increasing threat to Chinese companies operating in overseas markets by certain Western anti-China forces, as it was exposed in the outrageous attacks in Myanmar."*⁶

China's transformation into an imperialist power

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

By Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

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

Old and tested methods of slander

In short, the Stalinists deny the popular outrage against Chinese imperialist support for the *Tatmadaw* and “explain” it as a “Western conspiracy”. These are the old and tested methods of Stalinism. In the 1930s, the Moscow bureaucracy slandered the Trotskyists – the defender of working-class democracy and the tradition of authentic Bolshevism – as “agents of Hitler” and, when Stalin formed an alliance with Hitler, they replaced the old lies by new ones and called our predecessors as “agents of France and Britain”.⁷

When the Indian masses revolted against British colonial rule in August 1942, the Stalinists denounced them also as “fascist provocateurs” since London was an ally of Moscow at that time. When Israel brutally expelled the Palestinian people from their homeland (the *Nakba*) and created a settler state in 1947-49, they were supported by Stalin and the Arabs resisting such genocide were slandered as “reactionary fascists”. The reason was Moscow’s cynical (and utter silly) calculation to win the support of the Zionists against the Britain.⁸

Likewise did the Stalinist bureaucrats denounce the workers and youth in Eastern Germany in 1953, in Hungary in 1956, in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and in Poland in 1980-81 as “agents” and “provocateurs” when they went on the streets against the bureaucratic dictatorship.

And in the last years, Stalinists and Semi-Stalinists have relentlessly slandered the revolutionary Arab masses revolting against the capitalist dictatorships in Libya and Syria as “Western agents”. They deny the democratic character of these popular uprisings and side with tyrants like Ghaddafi, Assad and General Sisi.⁹

In short, the whole history of Stalinism and similar currents is marked by hysterical and absurd slander – a method which must be fought relentlessly by all authentic Marxists.

In contrast to the Stalinist slander, the RCIT insists that the militant actions against property of Chinese corporations in Myanmar are motivated not by “Western incitement” but by popular anger about Beijing’s support for the *Tatmadaw*.

The latest militant actions against property of Japanese corporations fully confirm our statement. If the Stalinists would be correct about “Western incitement”, activists of the pro-democracy movement would never attack Japanese corporations. Everyone knows – and even the most fanatic Stalinist moron could not deny it – that Japan is part of the Western imperialist camp since many decades. Currently Tokyo is a key member of the so-called *Quad* – the US-led alliance which also includes India and Australia, and which is directed against their imperialist rival China. So, we ask the Stalinist muddleheads: If the militants attacking Chinese property are operating at the instigation by the West, why do they also attack property of a country belonging to the Western camp?!

Footnotes

1 RCIT: Myanmar: Popular Masses turn against Chinese Imperialism! For an indefinite general strike and armed insurrection to bring down the dictatorship! No illusions in US and European imperialism! 16 March 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/myanmar-popular-masses-turn-against-chinese-imperialism/>. We draw reader’s attention to other documents of the RCIT on the military coup in Myanmar which

are compiled on a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-military-coup-in-myanmar/>. See also: Myanmar: Solidarity with the Uprising of the Rohingya Muslims! No to the Regime’s Buddhist Chauvinism! For the Rohingya’s Right of National Self-Determination! 27.08.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/solidarity-with-rohingya-muslims/>; Almedina Gunić: Stop the Ethnic Cleansing of the Rohingya Muslims! Recalling the war in Bosnia and the genocide in Srebrenica, we need to stop the ongoing war against our Rohingya brothers and sisters, 15.09.2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/ethnic-cleansing-of-rohingya/>.

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3 The RCIT has published numerous works analyzing the imperialist character of China. These documents are compiled on a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>. In particular we want to draw attention to the following book by Michael Pröbsting: *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left’s Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective*, January 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>

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5 Global Times: Myanmar people called on to refrain from being incited by West in damaging China-Myanmar relations. 32 Chinese factories vandalized in Yangon, no fatalities, 15 March 2021, <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202103/1218466.shtml>

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7 The RCIT and its predecessor organization have analyzed Stalinism on numerous occasions. See e.g. the above mentioned book by Michael Pröbsting: *Cuba’s Revolution Sold Out?*; see also LRCI: *The Degenerated Revolution: The Origin and Nature of the Stalinist States*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/stalinism-and-the-degeneration-of-the-revolution/>. There exists vast literature about the history of the Trotskyist movement in the 1930s. To name only a few books we refer to the second volume of Pierre Broué’s Trotsky biography (Pierre Broué: *Trotsky - eine politische Biographie*, Neuer ISP-Verlag, Köln 2003) as well as to the third volume of Isaac Deutscher’s Trotsky biography (Isaac Deutscher: *The Prophet Outcast. Trotsky: 1929-1940* (1963), Verso Books, London 2003). See also our own view of the history of the Trotskyist movement: LRCI: *The Death Agony of the Fourth International*, London 1983, Chapter „The epigones destroy Trotsky’s International, 1940-1953”, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/death-agony-of-the-fourth-international-1983/>

8 See on this e.g. Yossi Schwartz: *Israel’s War of 1948 and the Degeneration of the Fourth International*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/israel-s-war-of-1948/>

9 On Syria see e.g. these two pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting: *Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“*. The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia – A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism, 21 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syria-great-power-rivalry-and-the-failure-of-the-left/>; *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/>. The RCIT has elaborated its analysis and programmatic conclusions for the Syrian Revolution in numerous documents. They are all collected in a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. On Libya see e.g. Michael Pröbsting: *Liberation struggles and imperialist interference. The failure of sectarian “anti-imperialism” in the West: Some general considerations from the Marxist point of view and the example of the democratic revolution in Libya in 2011*”, in: RCIT: *Revolutionary Communism*, No. 5; <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/liberation-struggle-and-imperialism/>; On the “lefts” support for the military coup of General Sisi in Egypt see e.g. 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, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/egypt-and-left-army-socialism/>

China is Definitely the Place where You Want to Be (If You are a Billionaire)

Following the Latest Report of the Hurun Global Rich List

By Michael Pröbsting, Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 8.3.2021

A few days ago, an important annual report about the richest people in the world was published – the co-called *Hurun Global Rich List*.¹ The *Hurun List* is published in China and is the country's equivalent to the American *Forbes List*.

The latest issue confirms a trend which been visible already in the past years and about which we have reported on several occasions.² The number of billionaires in China is continuing to grow. Not only this, but it is also growing at a faster pace than those of the U.S. (See Table 1)

According to the *Hurun Global Rich List 2021* the number of Chinese billionaires increased by 259 last year and amounts now to 1058. This makes up nearly exactly 1/3 of all 'known' billionaires in the world! The number of U.S. billionaires grew by 70 in the same period and amounts now to 696. Together, the super-rich of these two leading countries make up 54% of 'known' billionaires in the world. (See also Table 2)

Most Chinese billionaires live in Beijing (145), Shanghai (113), Shenzhen (105), Hong Kong (82), Hangzhou (66) and Guangzhou (61).

Hurun's chairman said that actually the real number of billionaires is about 7500 – double as many than are known. He adds: "We have found 696 billionaires in the USA, for example, suggesting the true number should be at least double that, perhaps as many as 1500. In China, we have found over 1000, but the actual number is probably closer to 2500."

Another interesting development revealed in the report is the fact that Healthcare was the fastest riser of the year 2020 (with Chinese corporations playing a leading role). Currently Healthcare and Real Estate are the main source of wealth for the world's billionaires. This demonstrates once more, as the RCIT has repeatedly pointed out throughout the last 13 months, that large sections of monopoly capital are massively profiteering from the COVID-19 policy of bourgeois governments all over the world.³

In summary, the *Hurun Global Rich List* shows once more that China is a "communist" country only by name.⁴ Not only is it a country with a fully developed capitalist class, but it even has also become the strongest capitalist state in the world (aside the U.S.). Therefore, the RCIT charac-

terizes China as an imperialist Great Power and why we consider the Cold War between the U.S. and China as a key axis of the current historic period.⁵

Hence, it is impermissible for socialists to glorify China as a "progressive" state. The only legitimate slogans from a Marxist point of view are:

Neither Washington nor Beijing! In any conflict between imperialist Great Powers: no support for any side! For revolutionary defeatism against all imperialist rulers!

For international unity in the struggle for liberation of the working class and the oppressed peoples!

Forward in the international struggle for socialism!

Footnotes

1 Hurun Global Rich List 2021, 2.3.2021, <https://www.hurun.net/en-US/Info/Detail?num=LWAS8B997XUP>. All figures in this article are taken from this report.

2 See e.g. Michael Pröbsting: China's Billionaire Lawmakers. A telling comparison of extremely wealthy Chinese lawmakers with their peers in the US Congress, 9 March 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-s-billionaire-lawmakers/>; by the same author: China: A Paradise for Billionaires. The latest UBS/PwC Report about the Global Super-Rich Delivers another Crushing Blow to the Stalinist Myth of China's "Socialism", 27.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-is-a-paradise-for-billionaires/>; China's "Socialist" Billionaires. Following the Latest Report about the Global Super-Rich, 16.11.2015, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-s-billionaires/>

3 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: COVID-19: "A Market of up to 23 Billion US-Dollar". The big corporations in the pharmaceutical industry expect gigantic profits by the vaccine business, 12 February 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-a-market-of-up-to-23-billion-us-dollar/>. The RCIT has analyzed the COVID-19 counterrevolution extensively since its beginning. Starting from 2 February 2020 we have published nearly 80 pamphlets, essays, articles and statements plus a book which are all compiled at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-2019-corona-virus/>. In particular we refer readers to the RCIT Manifesto: COVID-19: A Cover for a Major Global Counterrevolutionary Offensive. We are at a turning point in the world situation as the ruling classes pro-

Table 1. China and U.S. Lead the Global Rich List 2013-2021

	2013	2016	2020	2021
China	349	568	799	1058
U.S.	409	535	626	696

Table 2. China and U.S. Lead the Global Rich List 2021

	2021	Change 2020-2021	Share of "Known" Global Billionaires 2021
China	1058	+259	32.8%
U.S.	696	+70	21.6%

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[indeed-great/](https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/great-robbery-of-the-south/); Michael Pröbsting: *COVID-19: The Current and Historical Roots of Bourgeois Lockdown "Socialism"*. Police State and Universal Basic Income are key elements of the new version of reformist "War Socialism" of 1914, 19 December 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/covid-19-the-current-and-historical-roots-of-bourgeois-lockdown-socialism/>.

4 On the process of capitalist restoration in China see e.g. chapter 10 in the book of 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*, RCIT Books, Vienna 2013, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/great-robbery-of-the-south/>

5 See on this e.g. our book by Michael Pröbsting: *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective*, RCIT Books, January 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>. Other RCIT documents on the accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers are compiled at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>. See also the numerous RCIT's documents on the Global Trade War which have been collected at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/>.

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.

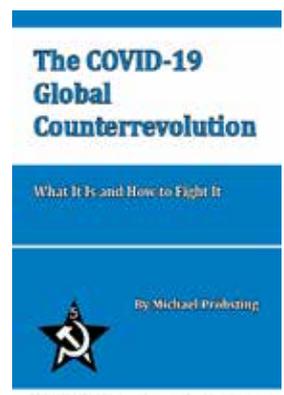
In addition, there is a wave of anti-democratic attacks of a scale which has not been seen in the imperialist countries since 1945. This has triggered a global turn towards Chauvinist State Bonapartism and the creation of a monstrous Leviathan-like state machinery.

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.



UK: On the 1972 Building Workers Strike

A conspiracy by the capitalist state and the betrayal of the Stalinist CPGB

by Laurence Humphries, RCIT Britain

Note of the Editorial Board: Below we republish an article of Laurence Humphries which deals with the history of militant building workers in Britain and the betrayal by the Stalinist leadership of the CPGB. Comrade Humphries, a supporter of the RCIT Britain, had initially published this article nine years ago in the *Weekly Worker* – the paper of the *Communist Party of Great Britain* (<https://weeklyworker.co.uk/worker/921/conspiracy-betrayal-and-flying-pickets/>).

Forty years ago, on June 28 1972, the building workers union, Ucat, called a national strike over pay and the iniquitous system of casualised labour known as ‘the lump’. This strike came at a time of major clashes between sections of workers and the Tory government of Ted Heath. It followed the victory of the miners, which included the famous blockade of Saltley Gate coke depot, and coincided with the dock strike, which saw the imprisonment of the Pentonville Five under Heath’s Industrial Relations Act and their subsequent release after mass protest strikes.

The building industry was notorious for fatalities amongst workers and the lack of some of the most basic amenities. Jim Arnison, a *Morning Star* reporter at the time, highlighted this in his book, *The Shrewsbury Three: strikes, pickets and conspiracy* (London 1974). He pointed out the appalling situation on many big sites: “... they worked in the rain, they worked in the dark and had no time to bother about canteen or toilet facilities.” Arnison described how scabs and ‘lumpers’ were used. Flying pickets belonging to both Ucat and the Transport and General Workers Union were employed in north Wales and the Liverpool area. Many members of both unions were blacklisted - still a major concern for building union activists today. The recent electricians’ dispute involving mainly Unite members showed that building employers still operate unsafe sites

and blacklist those ‘troublemakers’ who protest.

The Tory government decided that it wanted to exact revenge on Ucat and the TGWU for the use of flying pickets. The state had been seriously defeated over the miners and the dock strike, and the establishment believed that if it could criminalise building workers it would force the union leaders into submission. Months after the strike 24 building workers were arrested - they had refused to abide by a court ruling that their picketing was unlawful during the strike. There were two separate trials - in Mold and Shrewsbury - and it was in Shrewsbury that Des Warren, Ricky Tomlinson, John Carpenter, McKinsie Jones, John Llywarch and Ken O’Shea were charged under the 1875 Conspiracy Act. Robert Carr, the home secretary who had introduced the Industrial Relations Act, colluded with both the North Wales and West Mercia police divisions and the building employers to try to ensure that workers would never again be able to conduct an effective strike.

All 24 were found guilty of the charges brought against them and six were jailed in 1973. Des Warren and Ricky Tomlinson were sentenced to three years and two years respectively for “conspiracy to intimidate” (ie, mounting pickets). As Arnison points out in his pamphlet, “The only conspiracy was the collusion of the police, judiciary, Labour and Tory governments and the security services.”

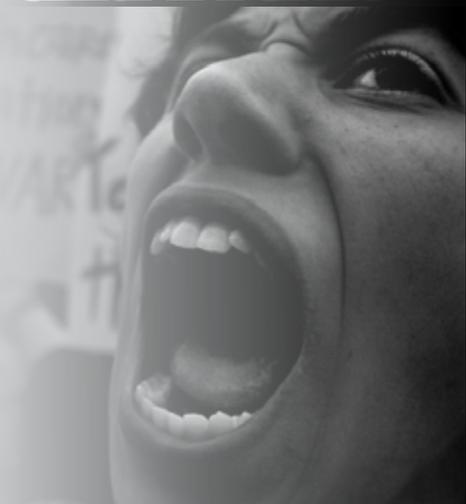
Nick Warren, Des Warren’s son, points out in his book *Thirty years in a turtle neck sweater* (London 2005): “The building unions condemned the Shrewsbury pickets as violent, even though not a single act of violence was ever proved.” Nick Warren also points out that his dad was writing a pamphlet about the case and that the Communist Party, of which Des was a member, was reluctant to get involved: “They wouldn’t help him write it, wouldn’t help get it printed and then wouldn’t review it in the party newspaper, the *Morning Star* ... They misled the campaign and bent and knuckled and kowtowed to the rightwing union leaderships.”

Two Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

- * **Marxism, European Union and Brexit**
- * **The British Left and the EU-Referendum**

Written by Michael Pröbsting
(International Secretary of the RCIT)

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Des Warren had joined the Communist Party in 1964. He was to be involved in all the actions around the building workers' strike. In his book, *The key to my cell* (London 1982) he describes not only the building workers' dispute, but the 1972 miners' strike and the jailing of five dockers which nearly precipitated a general strike. Des had believed that the CPGB would fight and mobilise the working class to get him and Ricky Tomlinson out of jail.

During his time inside, both he and Tomlinson were to learn very quickly the nature and role of the Ucat leadership and the Communist Party. Ucat even refused to provide legal aid, despite previously having agreed to do so. Warren and Tomlinson fought for their status as political prisoners and refused to wear prison uniforms. They also went on hunger strike in protest at the refusal of the state to give them political status. As Des wrote, "It should be made clear to the movement as soon as possible that it was not a legal attack on us personally, but a political attack on the movement as a whole."

Des thought that while he was in prison the CPGB would be mobilising a mass movement to free him and Ricky. The working class in its thousands did attend many demonstrations and lobbies, but the Ucat leadership did no more than lobby Labour, especially when it was returned to power in the 1974 general election. At no time did it consider trying to use the combined strength of the unions to free Warren and Tomlinson.

Bert Ramelson, the CPGB industrial organiser, insisted in letters to Des that the party was doing everything to free him and Tomlinson. Nothing could be further from the truth: the CPGB was closing down the defence committees and winding up the rank-and-file Charter Group it had set up. It seems the Communist Party wanted to wash its hands of the whole affair. Ramelson and CPGB executive member Pete Carter bore the main responsibility for this treachery. They provided left cover for union bureaucrats like Ucat's George Smith. They had no intention of using their industrial influence to help free Warren and Tomlinson. They called for a public enquiry, sponsored motions in the House of Commons and mobilised for lobbies and demonstrations, but there was never a move to call for

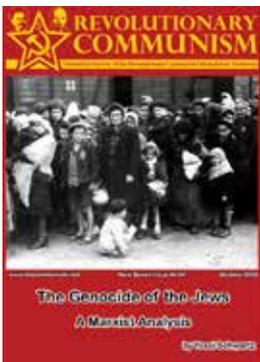
strike action at any time, despite the lessons of the Pentonville Five: if the TUC had called a general strike they would have been freed.

Des Warren comments in *The key to my cell*: "This was, I think, the beginning of the breach between myself and the Stalinist leadership of the CP." The defence committee that had been set up had no strategy for getting him out of jail. Warren says: "Not only was the fund being closed, but the campaign was being wound down." He said of the trade union leadership, aided and abetted by the Communist Party: "Let us not forget the desperate, cowardly, self-interested role that these spineless maggots have played in the Shrewsbury issue." It was Ramelson and the Communist Party, acting as messenger boys for the union bureaucracy, who persuaded Tomlinson and Warren to give up both their hunger strikes and other prison protests.

In 1980 Des Warren joined the Workers Revolutionary Party, which, through the Wigan Builders Action Committee, had organised a march from Wigan to London to free Warren and Tomlinson and demanded that the TUC call a general strike. The WRP was the only organisation at the time that recognised the political implications and the role of the capitalist state. Today that state is once more preparing for battle with the working class.

After Heath's defeat in 1974, the Tory Party turned to a leadership that was determined to go much further than he did - the Thatcher years. There was very little difference between Thatcher and Blair: they both supported the use of the anti-union laws rather than having to rely again on antiquated conspiracy legislation.

In this year's sparks' dispute, it was rank-and-file activity, bypassing the Unite bureaucracy, that brought victory. That is the perspective in today's major class battles against austerity. Twenty-four-hour general strikes are useless: they are just reformist protests and will not change anything. Most of all, we need a perspective for the overthrow of the property relations of capitalism. In the words of Des Warren: "The movement requires complete organisational unity and leadership based on the principles of scientific socialism".



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

Preface for the Portuguese Translation of “The Great Robbery of the South”

By Michael Pröbsting, 14 March 2021

It is a great pleasure to see the Portuguese-language translation of “*The Great Robbery of the South*”! It has been clear to us for a long time that the super-exploitation of the South by the imperialist monopolies has become an increasingly important feature of global capitalism. This has been the case because the imperialists not only have exploited the natural resources of the (semi-)colonial countries (which they have done since centuries) but also because capitalist value production has increasingly moved to the South.

Another, corresponding feature of the very same fundamental development has been the increasing migration from the South and the resulting growing importance of migrants for the class struggle in the imperialist countries. This issue played an important role in the faction struggle in our predecessor organization and our resulting bureaucratic expulsion in April 2011. ¹ Our book-like “*Theses on Migration*” became one of the earliest major works of the RCIT which we founded soon after our expulsion. ²

As said above, it was clear to us that the increasing role of migration and the increasing shift of capitalist value production to the South were two sides of the same coin. Hence, we soon decided to deepen our theoretical understanding of the second aspect of this major topic. The result was, after several months of writing and discussions,

the publication of the “*The Great Robbery of the South*” in April 2013.

Naturally, some figures in the book could be replaced by more actual data. But basically, the book has not lost its actuality because all the main developments with which dealt it, their theoretical analysis as well as the issues of program and tactics remain of crucial importance for a proper Marxist understanding of the world situation.

In this brief preface we will not summarize the content of this book, not least because its last chapter contains already such a summary. At this place we shall draw attention only to two issues which, in our opinion, are particularly relevant for a Brazilian audience (but also for others).

First, the book critically deals, among others, with the so-called *theory of sub-imperialism* (see chapter 9). ³ This theory was initially developed by the Brazilian socialist Ruy Mauro Marini in the 1960s. Rejecting Lenin’s conception which divides the world in oppressor and oppressed nations, imperialist and (semi-)colonial countries, this theory claims that a third category of countries (“sub-imperialist”) has emerged. Actually, he viewed Brazil as such a country.

⁴ As we show in this book, such a view is utterly wrong since Brazil was and remains basically a semi-colonial – albeit an advanced and industrialized – country dominated by imperialist powers.

Books of the RCIT

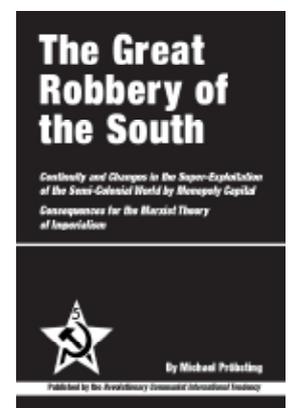
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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)



However, since the days of Marini, this theory of sub-imperialism has become increasingly popular – mainly among Marxist academics but also among some socialist organizations. All kind of countries are now characterized as “sub-imperialist”: China, South Korea, Russia, Iran, Greece, Turkey, South Africa, Argentina, etc.⁵

Naturally, Marxists are intransigent enemies of the national bourgeoisie of their country. Hence when the capitalist government conducts a reactionary military operation abroad, revolutionaries will rigorously oppose it. For example, when Brazil socialists opposed the leading role of the Brazil army in the MINUSTAH mission in Haiti (“United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti”) in 2004 to 2017 we fully shared such a stance. All socialists and sincere anti-imperialists had to oppose what was effectively a military occupation force in the service of the Great Powers.

Hence, if socialists, under such conditions, flirt with the application of the theory of sub-imperialism for their own country as an expression of their anti-patriotic approach, this could reflect – to a certain degree – a healthy class instinct.

Nevertheless, the theory of sub-imperialism as such is wrong and can only result in utter confusion and might even lead to dangerous practical consequences. The denial of the semi-colonial character of a country might easily result in the refusal to defend it against an imperialist power. Take the example of the pseudo-Trotskyist currents associated with the names of Ted Grant, Peter Taaffe and Alan Woods (once united in the CWI, they have split over the years in different international organizations like the CWI, the ISA and the IMT with *Liberdade, Socialismo e Revolução* and *Esquerda Marxista* – both currents within PSOL – as the Brazilian sections of the latter two internationals). This tradition openly or in disguised fashion utilized the concept of sub-imperialism in order to refuse the defense of Argentina against Britain in 1982 or of Iraq against Western imperialism in 1991.

On the other hand, the concept of sub-imperialism can also be applied to states which are in fact imperialist states (e.g. to China, Russia or South Korea). In such a case this

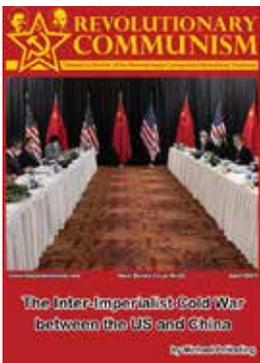
might result in refusal of taking a revolutionary defeatist position in a conflict between such a state and an imperialist rival (e.g. the U.S. or Japan).

Unfortunately, such an approach is highly popular among many leftists – in Latin America as well as globally. Many reformist and populist currents – from social democracy like the PT, *Chavismo/Bolivarianismo* to Stalinism – they all consider China as a welcome ally against Yankee imperialism. It should not go unnoticed that most forces of Latin American Trotskyism share such denial of China’s imperialist character. The Argentinean PO (both factions) even fancies that capitalist restoration still has not been completed in China! Others – like the PTS/FT, PSTU/LIT and UIT – recognize its capitalist character but also categorically reject the theses of Chinese imperialism.⁶

These brings us also to the second issue to which I would like to draw attention in this brief preface. As the reader can see, we deal extensively with the process of capitalist restoration in China in the early 1990s and its subsequent transformation into an imperialist power in the late 2000s. We can state, not without pride, that the RCIT was nearly alone in recognizing this process from early on. We took such position already in summer 2010 and, two years later, we published our analysis in a substantial study.⁷ Chapter 10 in the present book is based on this study. Since then, we have published a number of additional analytical works on China’s class character which are all compiled on the special page on our website.⁸

As said, at that time we were nearly alone in recognizing the imperialist character of China. Today, an increasing number of activists as well as intellectuals recognize this fundamental fact which is the basis to understand the character of the Cold War between the U.S. and China as a form of inner-imperialist rivalry. In fact, the example of Chinese imperialism demonstrates how important it is for a Marxist organization to undertake serious theoretical work in order to recognize new developments – and to recognize them when they are taking place and not only a decade later when everyone can see it!

Such recognition of the imperialist character of the rivalry between the Great Powers (U.S., China, EU, Russia,



Publications of the RCIT

The Inter-Imperialist Cold War between the US and China

By Michael Pröbsting, March 2021

Introduction * A symbolic public row * Two thieves as upholders of moral standards * Escalating the conflict between China and Japan * The Quad Summit * Inter-Imperialist tensions in the Taiwan Strait * Unavoidable continuation and acceleration of inter-imperialist rivalry * Continuing doing business * Towards escalation on the Korean Peninsula? * “Fuck the EU” and Russia, again? * Confirmation of the Marxist analysis * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

and Japan) is particularly crucial today. As we have said repeatedly, it is impossible to grasp the dynamic of the world political developments without understanding the key role of the antagonistic interests and conflicts between the imperialist Great Powers.

This is all the more true as we have entered a period characterized by the *Third Depression*, i.e. the worst economic slump of the capitalist world economy since 1929, a global anti-democratic turn towards *chauvinism* and *state bonapartism*; and the COVID-19 pandemic, the ruling classes all over the world are determined to strengthen themselves at the expense of their rivals. Against such a background, an acceleration of the rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – in particular between the two strongest, U.S. and China – is unavoidable.

In such a period, socialists – in Latin America as well as globally – must not lend support to *any* imperialist bourgeoisie. They need to fight against imperialist domination by any Great Power – the U.S., China or others. In any political, economic, or military conflict between imperialist states, socialists must take a revolutionary defeatist position against each of these reactionary enemies. Latin America can become free only in the struggle against *all* imperialist powers and *not in alliance* with one of them!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to comrade Joao Evangelista. As the reader can see, this is an extensive book, and it is easy to imagine what an arduous work this translation must have been! It is a pleasure to work along such a comrade so gifted in speaking several languages!

Footnotes

1 On the history of the RCIT and its predecessor organization see our book by Michael Pröbsting: *Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice. Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of Organized Struggle for Bolshevism*, December 2014, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/rcit-party-building/>

2 Michael Pröbsting: *Thesen zu Rassismus, Migration, der Lage der MigrantInnen in Österreich und der Strategie der revolutionären Integration* (2011), <https://www.thecommunists.net/publications/werk-7/>. Unfortunately, this work exists only in German language. However, we published a summary of it in English: *Marxism, Migration and revolutionary Integration*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/revolutionary-integration/>.

3 See on this issue also the essay by Michael Pröbsting: *Semi-Colonial Intermediate Powers and the Theory of Sub-Imperialism*. A contribution to an ongoing debate amongst Marxists and a proposal to tackle a theoretical problem, 1 August 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/semi-colonial-intermediate-powers-and-the-theory-of-sub-imperialism/>

4 See e.g. Ruy Mauro Marini: *Brazilian "Interdependence" and Imperialist Integration*, in: *Monthly Review* Vol. 17, No. 7 (December 1965); Ruy Mauro Marini: *Brazilian Sub-Imperialism*, in: *Monthly Review* Vol. 23, No. 9 (February 1972)

5 We have elaborated a concrete analysis of these countries in numerous works. See on this – beside the relevant chapters in the present book – the following: *On China and Russia see the extensive literature mentioned in the special sub-section on our website: https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/*; on China see also the essay of Michael Pröbsting: *Chinese Imperialism and the World Economy*, in second edition of *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism*, Palgrave Macmillan, Cham 2020, https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-3-319-91206-6_179-1;

Books of the RCIT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry

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



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International of Theory

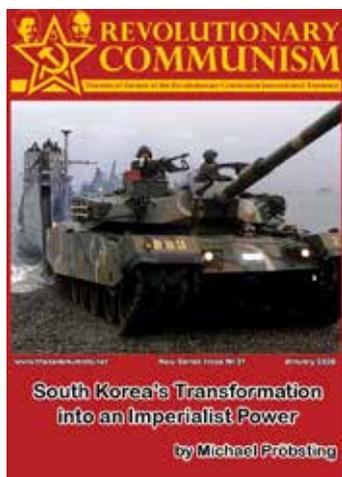
on South Korea see e.g. our pamphlet: South Korea as an Imperialist Power. On the nature of South Korean monopoly capital and the ensuing programmatic tasks of the workers vanguard, December 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/study-on-south-korea-as-an-imperialist-power/>; on India see our pamphlet The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences, August 2017, Revolutionary Communism No. 71, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-india-rivalry/> (chapter V); see also Michael Pröbsting: Is India a New Emerging Great Power? In: Critique: Journal of Socialist Theory, Vol. 48, Issue 1 (2020), <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03017605.2019.1706783>; on Iran: RCIT: Iran: Down with Trump's Sanctions and Military Threats! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 11 May 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/down-with-trump-s-sanctions-and-military-threats-against-iran/>; on Greece see our book by Michael Pröbsting: Greece: A Modern Semi-Colony. The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial Country with Some Specific Features, RCIT Books, Vienna 2015, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/greece-semi-colony/>; On the RCIT's analysis of Turkey as an advanced semi-colony see: Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings. Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries

(Chapter V), RCIT Books, Vienna 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2018/>.

6 See on this e.g. the book by Michael Pröbsting: *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective*, RCIT Books, Vienna 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>; see also Michael Pröbsting: How is it possible that some Marxists still Doubt that China has Become Capitalist? (A Critique of the PTS/FT). An analysis of the capitalist character of China's State-Owned Enterprises and its political consequences, 18 September 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/pts-ft-and-chinese-imperialism-2/>; by the same author: Unable to See the Wood for the Trees. Eclectic empiricism and the failure of the PTS/FT to recognize the imperialist character of China, 13 August 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/pts-ft-and-chinese-imperialism/>.

7 Michael Pröbsting: China's transformation into an imperialist power. A study of the economic, political and military aspects of China as a Great Power, in: *Revolutionary Communism* No. 4 (August 2012), <http://www.thecommunists.net/publications/revcom-number-4>

8 See <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>



Publications of the RCIT

South Korea's Transformation into an Imperialist Power

*On the nature of South Korean monopoly capital
and the ensuing programmatic tasks of the workers vanguard*

By Michael Pröbsting, December 2019

The Relevance of the Issue * Definition: What Constitutes a State as Imperialist? * Historical Background: Extraordinary Conditions Allow for Rapid Industrialization * South Korea as a Highly Industrialized, Modern Capitalist Country * South Korean Monopoly Capital: Domination of Domestic Market * South Korean Monopoly Capital: Global Players on the World Market * South Korean Monopoly Capital: The Role of Capital Export * On Some Political Issues Resulting from South Korea's Imperialist Transformation * The Emergence of a Labor Aristocracy and Inequality within the South Korean Working Class * The Political Role of South Korean Imperialism and its Limited Independence * The Stalinist Myth of South Korea Being Still a Neo-Colony of U.S. Imperialism * The Mistaken Conception of Sub-Imperialism * The Program of Revolutionary Defeatism * Anti-Imperialist Tasks in South Korea Today * Appendix: A Historic Analogy: Marxist Tactics in Germany in 1891 and 1914 * Capitalist Development in South Korea and Taiwan (1996)

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A4 Format

What the RCIT Stands for

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

