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## **Against Russia, U.S. & EU! Hands Off the Ukraine!**

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**Workers and Oppressed Unite!**

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Picture on the Cover: Russian Mechanized Infantry (Source: Wikipedia, <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e8/MechanizedInfantryExercise2018-13.jpg>)

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# Putin's Recognition of the Donbass "Republics" – A Major Escalation in the Inter-Imperialist Conflict between NATO and Russia

*Emergency Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 21 February 2022 [UTC 21.00]*

1. After several days of military clashes in the east of Ukraine, Russia's President Putin officially recognized today the two Donbass "Republics" as "independent states". These territories have been already effectively controlled by Moscow since the civil war in 2014. Putin and the two Donbas leaders signed a formal "treaty of friendship and mutual aid" in front of a live camera. This treaty effectively means, among others, that Russia promises military support for these "Republics".

2. Putin's decision represents a major escalation of the conflict in the Ukraine as well as of the tensions between NATO and Russia. Effectively, this step is a declaration of war against Ukraine – even more so as both Donbass "Republics" officially lay claim on more territories in the east of Ukraine which are currently under control of the Kiev government.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) unreservedly denounces Putin's decision. It represents a Russian aggression against Ukraine and a policy of Great Power expansionism, aimed at robbing and occupying a portion of Ukraine's territory. We oppose such aggression unconditionally.

4. Moscow's decision to formally recognize the two Donbass "Republics" as "independent states" is basically the result of two developments. First, it reflects the desire of Russian imperialism to expand its sphere of influence (a process which has gathered speed since the war against Georgia in 2008). Second, Putin failed to gain any mean-

ingful concession from NATO in the negotiations of the past weeks and in which he demanded "security guarantees".

5. These negotiations are taking place against the background of the acceleration of the rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan – in the current period of capitalist decay. Beginning in the 1990s, NATO pushed back Russia step by step and expanded its influence in Eastern Europe. However, this process changed in 2008-10. Since then, the U.S. – the absolute global hegemon for a long period – declined (dramatically manifested in the historic defeat of the U.S. in Afghanistan in August 2021). At the same time, China rose as an imperialist Great Power and Russia started to expand its influence. Against this background, the Putin regime senses that it has now an opportunity to push NATO back. As part of this process, it hopes to bring the Ukraine either under its control or, at least, to transform it into a neutral "buffer state". In addition, Moscow hopes to drive a wedge between the U.S. and its European allies.

6. It is very likely that Moscow's formal recognition of the two Donbass "Republics" will provoke a new war in the Ukraine. Such war would be an aggression against the Ukraine and would be considered an imperialist war waged under Great Russian chauvinist pretext. In this conflict, the Donbass militias will be backed by Russian armed forces while the Ukrainian army will receive massive support by Western imperialist power.



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

### Putin's Poodles (Apologies to All Dogs)

*The pro-Russian Stalinist parties and  
their arguments in the current NATO-Russia Conflict*

*by Michael Pröbsting, February 2022*

**Introduction** \* 1. NATO is the sole aggressor! Really? \* Is it relevant for Marxists who is the aggressor?  
\* What is causing the escalation of tensions between Great Powers: the party of warmongers or the imperialist system? \* Can socialists defend "legitimate spheres of influence" of Great Powers? \* Putin and Great Russian Chauvinism claim that the Ukraine is not an independent nation \* Stalinism versus Bolshevism: The Ukraine and the right of national self-determination \* From Kazakhstan to Syria: Stalinism is siding with the counterrevolution \* Is Russian imperialism a "force of social progress"?  
**Discussion of a remarkable Stalinist document** \* Stalinism and social-imperialism: concluding remarks  
\* Footnotes

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format*

7. Likewise, it is very likely that Putin's decision will be utilized by Western imperialist powers as a pretext to impose massive financial and economic sanctions against Russia. This, in turn, might provoke counter-sanctions by Russia which could affect its energy exports to Europe. As we explained in the past, Russia did already start to utilize its energy monopoly in autumn 2021 in order to strengthening its negotiation positions. All such measures represent a kind of economic warfare. It is clear that such an escalation of tensions would have massive disruptive consequences for the political world order as well as for the capitalist world economy.

8. As we did explain in past statements, the RCIT characterizes both camps – NATO as well as Russia – as *imperialist*. The Ukrainian government and the leadership of the Donbass "Republics" are nothing but proxies of Great Powers. This has been revealed once more in the past weeks when Zelensky and the Donbass leaders effectively played no role in the negotiations between NATO and Russia. Nevertheless, it does not exclude that Ukrainian people has a legitimate concern against Russia and its imperialist politics which denies its existence as an independent nation.

9. We therefore characterize the current tensions between NATO and Russia respectively between their proxies as an *inter-imperialist conflict*. In such conflict, socialists have to oppose both sides which are equally reactionary. Of course, neither the Ukraine nor the Donbass "Republics" are imperialist forces in itself. However, they both act for a long time as puppets of their imperialist masters. Therefore, it is illegitimate for socialists to support either of these forces.

10. The RCIT advocates the policy of *revolutionary defeatism* against both NATO and Russian imperialism as well as against their respective proxies in the Ukraine. We say: "*The main enemy is at home!*". The task of socialists today is to oppose chauvinist and warmongering propaganda on all sides. They also need to denounce all forms of economic warfare by the imperialist Great Powers.

11. Likewise, socialist must wage a political war against all variations of social-imperialist policy by so-called "left-wing" forces. Such forces are, among others, the Stalinist KPRF in Russia (and its international allies). Actually, it was the KPRF which introduced the bill in the State Duma to formally recognize the so-called Donbass "Republics". Another example of social-imperialism is Senator Bernie Sanders and his allies who support the Biden Administration against "*Putin and his gang of oligarchs*". Others are the social democratic and ex-Stalinist "*Party of the European Left*" (e.g. LINKE in Germany, PCF

in France, IU and PCE in Spain) which proposes to the EU governments that "*Europe must develop an independent geopolitical attitude*". Its Spanish party is currently also a government party in a NATO members state.

12. As we explained in past statements, the RCIT advocates the right of national self-determination of the Ukrainian people. This means the right to have an independent state and to oppose any denial of the existence of the Ukrainian nation. We also defend this right for the national minorities within the Ukraine – including the Russian-speaking population. However, the current conflict basically does not represent a struggle for the right of national self-determination *by any side*. The Donbass "Republics" do not defend the right of national self-determination but rather the "right" to become a colony of Russian imperialism. And the Zelensky government fights for its "right" to become a member of the imperialist NATO and EU alliances and it already acts as a puppet of Washington and Brussels. It is true that NATO formally recognize the Ukrainian people as a separate nation. However, it would be a tragic mistake to trust Western powers. Such governments view the Ukrainian people only as a bargain chip with Russia. They are ready to drop their support for the Ukraine in order to strike a favorable deal with Moscow. The RCIT emphasizes that the right of national self-determination can only be achieved in the struggle *against all Great Powers* and not as imperialist proxies! The only way to realize the right of national self-determination – of the Ukrainian people as well as of others – is an *independent and socialist Ukraine!*

13. We stand against the Russian aggression and, therefore, defend the right of the Ukrainian people for self-defense as an oppressed people. But such self-defense is impossible under the Zelensky puppet regime. The only way forward is to overthrow this pro-Western proxy government and to open the road for an authentic national liberation struggle which is independent of all Great Powers.

14. In this difficult hour of war-mongering and explosive tensions between the Great Powers, the RCIT calls socialists to join forces on the basis of an internationalist and anti-imperialist program. Let us build together a *Revolutionary World Party* which fights against all Great Powers and for the liberation of the international working class and the oppressed peoples via an international socialist revolution!

*Jointly adopted by the International Bureau of the RCIT as well as RCIT comrades in Russia*

## Revolutionary Struggle for Women's Liberation

See all RCIT documents on Women's Liberation

on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/oppressed/>

## The Current NATO-Russia Conflict and the Anti-Imperialist Tasks of Revolutionaries

**Down with all Great Powers and their proxies! For an independent and socialist Ukraine!**

*Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 29 January 2022*

1. The current crisis between NATO and Russia carries the danger of war – either directly between the imperialist Great Powers or, indirectly, between their proxies in the Ukraine. By its very nature, this is a main issue of the current world situation. Hence, it is imperative that revolutionaries – not only in the countries directly involved but all around the world – take a clear and principled position on the basis of socialist internationalism and anti-imperialism.

2. This is even more crucial as the escalation of tensions between NATO and Russia (resp. their proxies) is the first time – since the acceleration of the rivalry between the Great Powers began in the last decade – that the inter-imperialist Cold War could transform into a Hot War. It is therefore a harbinger of the future as similar escalations of inter-imperialist conflicts are inevitable in the future.

3. In addition, this conflict can – even if it does not escalate into a war this time – provoke major domestic crisis in one or several of the countries involved. Hence, a humiliating outcome for the Ukrainian government can result in the downfall of the government of Volodymyr Zelensky. Likewise, it could provoke the worst domestic situation of the Putin regime since its beginning in 1999. The same is true for European governments or for the Biden Administration (which is already in a fragile state).

In short, the current NATO-Russia conflict contains major political consequences for the parties involved and is, therefore, also an urgent issue for revolutionaries.

4. As we did already explain in past statements, the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* characterizes both camps – NATO as well as Russia – as imperialist. Hence, we consider the conflict between these powers as reactionary. The same is the case with the conflict between the Ukrainian government and the so-called “Donbass Republics” (i.e. the Russian-controlled territories in Eastern Ukraine) as both act as proxies of Great Powers. In all these conflicts, socialists have to oppose both sides as equally reactionary.

5. The RCIT advocates a program against the current NATO-Russia conflict which is based on three pillars:  
i) *revolutionary defeatism on all sides; against opportunistic adaption to any reactionary camp; against pacifism*  
ii) *anti-chauvinism*  
iii) *pro-liberation anti-imperialism*

6. The policy of *revolutionary defeatism* against both NATO as well as Russian imperialism means to refuse any support for one or the other Great Powers. As revolutionaries refuse to defend the imperialist “fatherland”, they have no reason to get alerted if “NATO comes close to Russian borders”, if “the ‘Ruskij Mir’ is under threat”, if “Europe

## 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 Tendency

is dependent on Russia gas", or if "Europe has no foreign policy which is independent of Washington". Only social-imperialist patriots – in East or West – worry about such issues. Authentic revolutionaries do not identify in any way with such problems for this or that imperialist power. We have only one "fatherland" and this is the international working class and the oppressed peoples – not any Great Power!

7. The RCIT advocates a policy of *class war against imperialist war. Down with all Great Powers and their proxies!* Revolutionaries work towards weakening and, eventually, smashing all imperialist powers. In case of an actual war, we advocate the policy which has found its expression in the famous phrase of Karl Liebknecht in World War I – "The main enemy is at home" – as well as in Lenin's formula of the "transformation of the imperialist war into civil war".

8. Following such an approach, socialists – in East as well as in West – denounce any participation of reformist parties in capitalist governments (e.g. like PODEMOS, IU and PCE in Spain). Such participation is tantamount to assuming responsibility for imperialist aggression. This is also the case if such parties – like those in Spain mentioned above – verbally disagree with such aggression. Actions speak louder than words!

9. Likewise, revolutionaries condemn any words of advice to imperialist governments how such administrations could implement a more successful foreign policy. An example for such a social-imperialist policy is the call of the ex-Stalinist "Party of the European Left" (e.g. LINKE in Germany, PCF in France, IU and PCE in Spain) to the EU governments that "Europe must develop an independent geopolitical attitude". (Statement, 25 January 2022) Another example is the draft bill of the Stalinist KPRF in the Russian Duma to formally recognize the so-called "Donbass Republics" (meanwhile this bill has been adopted by *Единая Россия* – the pro-Putin government party "United Russia").

10. As Marxists we know that imperialist conflicts and wars will exist as long as capitalism dominates the world. Any idea about a "new world order" based on a "peaceful co-existence" between Great Powers – the so-called "multi-polar world order" advocated by numerous reformist and Stalinist parties – is a reactionary illusion. This is not possible as it is in the nature of imperialist powers to expand their influence as the cost of their rivals. Neither is it desirable as socialists fight for a world *without* any Great Power and not for a world *with many* Great Powers in which each has its own sphere of influence! Only an *international process of socialist revolutions resulting in the creation of a global federation of workers and peasants republics* can establish a world without war and oppression!

11. For these reasons, the RCIT sharply *denounces all forms of pacifism*. Wars can not be eliminated by committing capitalist governments to peace but only by eliminating capitalist governments itself! For this purpose, the working class needs to arm itself so that it can overthrow the ruling class. This is why Marxists say "War on War"! Any ideology which is aimed at creating a "peaceful world" without an international socialist revolution is backward and only creates illusions among the popular masses.

12. However, this does not mean that we advocate a kind of ultimatum policy of ignoring the struggle for immediate goals and reforms. Every small step forward is pro-

gressive if it weakens the enemy and if it raises the class consciousness and state of organization of the workers and oppressed! Hence, revolutionaries need to support all concrete steps which undermine the imperialist powers. For these reasons we support the struggle in each country to leave imperialist military alliances like the Western NATO or the Russia-dominated CSTO. Such steps could bring closer the goal to smash NATO and CSTO. Likewise, socialists need to fight for the closure of all military bases of such alliances in their country.

13. To the same effect, socialists oppose all forms of imperialist sanctions against rivaling Great Powers. Such an anti-imperialist policy has nothing to do with the reformist approach of whitewashing any imperialist powers. The glamorizing of Russia as a "peaceful power with legitimate national interests" by various Stalinist parties is just one example for such a reactionary policy. The advocacy of a "strong and independent EU" by various European "socialists" is another example.

14. Intransigent opposition against all Great Powers, against all forms of chauvinism and sanctions is the precondition for building international unity of the workers and oppressed. It is the policy of Great Powers which divides the international working class as it preaches, in one way or another, "national unity", rallying around the banner of "fatherland", etc. However, it is only possible to unite the workers and oppressed across the borders *from below*, against any unity with capitalist governments, and in constant struggle against all forms of "patriotism" for the own or for another imperialist "fatherland"!

15. Furthermore, it is urgent that socialists coordinate internationally in order to initiate joint anti-war activities. A Global Day of Action could be a first step to that effect. Collaboration with reformist and pacifist forces is utterly legitimate for such purpose as long as Marxists keep their independent program.

16. Intransigent opposition against all Great Powers and their proxies does not – and must not – mean ignorance concerning the interests of small countries and oppressed peoples. Marxism has nothing to do with national nihilism which, objectively, serves only the interests of imperialist powers. This is why the RCIT supports national liberation struggles of oppressed peoples in East and West. The resistance of the Chechens against Russia, of the Syrian people against Assad the butcher and the Russian military, of the Mali people against the French/EU occupiers, of the Afghan people against the American occupiers (until August 2021), of the Palestinian people against Israel or of the Kazakh people against the Tokayev regime and his master in Moscow, are just a few examples for our anti-imperialist program. *Anti-imperialism is pro-liberationism or it is not anti-imperialism!* For these reasons, the RCIT has always sharply denounced Stalinist and various centrist forces which failed to side with the legitimate democratic and national liberation struggles of oppressed peoples.

17. Therefore, the RCIT fully recognizes the legitimate desire of the Ukrainian people to remove any interference and domination by foreign powers. In order to build a truly independent Ukraine, democrats and socialists must not look for any alliance with this or that Great Power. Linking the struggle against one Great Power with an alliance with the rivaling power is tantamount to giving up independence at all. It means, objectively, to help

transforming the Ukraine into a de-facto colony of Western resp. of Russian imperialism.

18. Hence, revolutionaries need to raise the slogan of an *independent Ukraine* which can achieve such independence only as a *workers republic*. Such an independent and socialist Ukraine would offer the *widest-possible autonomy rights* to the Russian speaking and Russian population in the East with equal rights in terms of language, religion, culture etc. It would also respect the right of this minority for self-determination, i.e. that they can freely choose if they want to remain within such an Ukrainian state with various degrees of autonomy or if they want to separate from such a state.

19. We also respect and agree with the desire of the Ukrainian nation to oppose a military invasion by imperialist Russia. The Ukrainian nation has been oppressed by Russia for most of the time of the last one and a half centuries. It was free only in the period of the early Soviet Union in the time of Lenin and Trotsky. It was Trotsky who raised the slogan of an independent socialist Ukraine in the later 1930s after the experience of Great Russian chauvinism under the Stalinist dictatorship. As socialist we unconditionally oppose a Russian invasion. According to polls about one third of Ukrainian men would be prepared to take up arms in case of a Russian invasion. At the same time, large sectors of the population don't trust the Zelensky government and refuse to rally under its command. It is crucial for socialists to explain that real independence of the Ukraine and defense against foreign aggressors cannot be achieved under the leadership of a demoralized and corrupt capitalist government which acts as a proxy for Western imperialist powers. The only road to real independence of the Ukraine is via the overthrow of the capitalist government in Kiev and the creation of a workers republic!

20. We consider it as a serious mistake that some Ukrainian socialists (like *Social Movement/commons/Спільне*) call for the stationing of UN peace-keeping forces in the East of the country. Naturally, we respect and share their desire to avoid war. But history has shown that the

United Nations is nothing but an institution dominated by imperialist Great Powers. UN forces either implement the interests of these robbers (e.g. in Haiti) or they act as toothless dummies which can't offer any protection to the population (remember the shameful betrayal of the Dutch UN troops in Srebrenica in July 1995 resulting in the massacre of thousands of Bosnian Muslims!) Objectively, certainly against the intentions of the left-wing advocates, such a proposal only lightens the road to interference in the Ukraine by foreign powers. Furthermore, hoping for a benevolent role of the UNO is a gross illusion given the fact that Russia is a veto-power within the UN Security Council. In other words, calling for UN troops means that the Ukraine would make itself dependent on Russia. Only an independent struggle of the Ukrainian working class based on a perspective for a workers republic, can ensure real self-determination of Ukrainian people.

21. Socialists in Russia cannot take a passive stance or limit themselves to abstract calls against Russian aggression or even lending support to the rivalling imperialist camp. Russian socialists shall actively oppose Russian warmongering hand in hand with other international socialist forces in and outside the country, advocate Russia's defeat in any war and call for the immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from the Ukraine and Syria.

22. The RCIT repeats that socialists can not find a correct orientation in the current world situation without understanding the reactionary nature of the NATO-Russia conflict and the ensuing tasks for revolutionaries. We call socialists to join forces and to advance in building an international organization which intransigently opposes all imperialist Great Powers and, at the same time, unconditionally supports the legitimate liberation struggles of the oppressed peoples. This is the only road to build a *Revolutionary World Party* and to advance the struggle for international socialist revolution!

*Jointly adopted by the International Bureau of the RCIT as well as RCIT comrades in Russia*



## *Publications of the RCIT*

# The Peculiar Features of Russian Imperialism

A Study of Russia's Monopolies, Capital Export and Super-Exploitation in the Light of Marxist Theory

*By Michael Pröbsting, August 2021*

**Introduction \* Another Denial of Russia's Imperialist Character \* The Methodological Failure of our Critics \* Russia's Economy: Dominated by Domestic, not Foreign, Monopolies \* Capital Export and the Problem of "Round-Tripping" Foreign Direct Investments \* "Phantom FDI": No Russian Peculiarity but a Global Phenomenon \* Russia's Leading Multinational Corporations and their Foreign Investments \* Imperialist Super-Exploitation via Capital Export \* Imperialist Super-Exploitation via Migration \* Conclusions \* Footnotes**

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format*

# NATO-Russia Conflict: Down with all Great Powers in East and West! International Solidarity against Chauvinism!

*Platform of Socialists in Russia and the Ukraine, February 2022*

**W**e, socialists from Russia and the Ukraine, unite in this difficult hour marked by imperialist war-mongering and chauvinism. When the Great Powers in East and West are saber-rattling, it is the ordinary people who are paying the prize! As it always the case in times of inter-imperialist tensions, both camps claim to defend the “fatherland”, “human rights” or “democracy”.

As a matter of fact, nobody of them – neither the Putin regime, the White House nor Brussels – cares about the interests of the people. They care only about profit and power for the ruling elite! We therefore unite in anti-imperialist opposition against both Great Power camps!

Likewise, we strongly oppose the pro-Western Zelensky government as well as the pro-Russian leadership in the so-called “Donbass republics”. Both act as puppets of Washington respectively Moscow.

We say no to any Great Russian chauvinism against the Ukraine (or other people) and against any denial of its right to have an independent state. We also stand against Great Russian chauvinism in Crimea against Crimea Tatars, Ukrainians. Likewise we oppose all forms of chauvinism in Russia against non-Russian people.

The pro-Western Zelensky government must be replaced with a government of the working people which is willing to defend the country against any Great Power. We stand for an independent and socialist Ukraine!

We also reject all forms of nationalist discrimination in the Ukraine. Such discrimination is made by the bourgeois government via violation of language rights. We support national self-determination for all people in Ukraine.

The working people in Russia and the Ukraine have no friend among those in power. The “friendship between the peoples” can only be built from below. It can be only built in the struggle against Great Powers and reactionary regimes – both in West and East!

We call socialists in Russia and the Ukraine to unite around this platform:

\* *War against War! No support for Russia nor NATO!*

\* *No to the assembly of Russian troops at the Ukrainian border! No to Russian aggression in Ukraine! No to NATO troops in Eastern Europe! Russian and NATO troops – out of the Ukraine!*

\* *Hands of the Ukraine! Support the independence of the Ukraine! Down with Great Russian chauvinism!*

\* *No to language or any other form of discrimination for minority nations in the Ukraine (Crimea Tatars, Hungarians, Romanians, Russians and others)!*

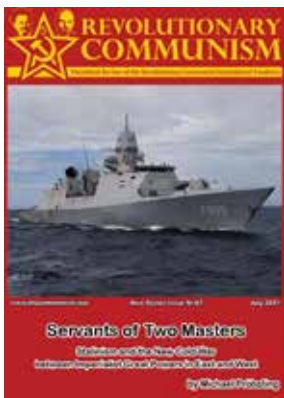
\* *Down with all puppet regimes of Great Powers! No to the Zelensky government and no to the rulers in the so-called “Donbass republics”!*

\* *In case of a military conflict, we call the people in Russia, the Ukraine and the NATO countries to refuse support for the war efforts!*

\* *Long live international solidarity across the borders!*

\* *Only the establishment of a socialist society will allow peoples to live in freedom and peace!*

If you support this platform, contact us at [rcit@thecomunists.net](mailto:rcit@thecomunists.net)



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

### Servants of Two Masters

*Stalinism and the New Cold War  
between Imperialist Great Powers in East and West*

*by Michael Pröbsting*

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format*

**Introduction \* The New Inter-Imperialist Cold War \* A View on the Military Strength of the Great Powers \* The Main Point of both Statements: Siding with Chinese and Russian Imperialism \* Stalinist Fantasies Shredded in the Light of Reality: The Rise of Chinese Imperialism \* The KKE’s “criticism” and its fraternal bonds with the Chinese CP \* Beside the Servants of Assad the Butcher - Who Signed the KKE-initiated Joint Statement? \* The Xi Fan Club: Signatories of the CPUSA-initiated Joint Statement \* The Concept of Multilateralism and Peaceful Coexistence: A Reactionary Illusion \* “Socialism in One Country”: The Historical Roots of the Stalinist Concept of “Peaceful Coexistence” \* Serving Two Masters: The Eastern Imperialists as well as Sectors of the Domestic Bourgeoisie \* A Note on the tight-lipped “Trotskyists” (CWI, IMT, ISA) \* Conclusions \* Footnotes**



## I Don't Want to Wage War, But If I Have to ...

### On Bernie Sanders and the liberal left in the U.S. in the current NATO-Russia conflict

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 11.2.2022

People without political experience (or those who refuse to learn) are ready to trust the words of politicians of the ruling class. If Putin says he mobilizes troops at the border in order “to defend the country”, many leftists believe him. If Biden says he deploys U.S. soldiers to Eastern European countries – far away from their homes – in order to defend “democracy”, many liberals in Western countries believe such claims.

However, in politics it is better to judge politicians and parties not by their words but by their deeds. This Marxist principle is also relevant if we judge so-called progressive politicians and parties.

This becomes particularly evident in the current NATO-Russia crisis – a reactionary conflict in which socialists must oppose both two imperialist camps.<sup>1</sup> We did already critically analyze the social democratized ex-Stalinist parties in Europe which advise EU imperialism how to advance its Great Power interests.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, we have dealt in detail with various Stalinist and centrist forces which side with Russian imperialism in the current conflict.<sup>3</sup>

There are also those “progressive forces” which are affiliated to the political establishment of U.S. imperialism. Let us take Bernie Sanders – a prominent Senator and presidential candidate in the U.S. – and his allies in the House of Representatives (the so-called “Squad”). They are considered by many as some kind of socialist force in the U.S. Why? Because they say that they would stand for social justice, for equality, for peace, etc. As a result, many left-wing forces in the U.S. – including the *Democratic Socialists of America* and the Communist Party (CPUSA) – enthusiastically support Sanders and his allies.

Bernie Sanders is also a leading “progressive” figure outside of the U.S. A few years ago, he founded – together with the social democratic *Democracy in Europe Movement 2025*, led by former Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis – the so-called *Progressive International*. This is an international association which has been joined by prominent social democratic and Bolivarian politicians from various countries (e.g. leading parliamentary deputies of the Brazilian PT and PSOL, former President of Ecuador Rafael Correa, the former leader of the British Labour Party Jeremy Corbyn, the former Vice President of Bolivia Álvaro García-Linera, etc.)<sup>4</sup>

#### *“Putin and his gang of oligarchs will face major consequences”*

A few days ago, Bernie Sanders published an article in the British *Guardian* in which he outlines his views on the current crisis.<sup>5</sup> For a superficial reader, Sanders is an advocate of peace and negotiations, someone who opposes the policy of imperialist war-mongering of his friend, U.S. President Joe Biden. In his article, Sanders states: “That is why we must do everything possible to try and find a diplomatic solution to what could be an enormously destructive war in Ukraine.”

However, it is useful to read the article carefully in order to better understand the hypercritical method of such

figureheads of left-liberalism which, in effect, is only a concealed form of imperialism. Sure, Sanders wants peace and negotiations. But, he also makes clear that he shares the fundamental pillars of the U.S. foreign policy concerning Russia.

*“We should be clear about who is most responsible for this looming crisis: Vladimir Putin. Having already seized parts of Ukraine in 2014, the Russian president now threatens to take over the entire country and destroy Ukrainian democracy. In my view, we must unequivocally support the sovereignty of Ukraine and make clear that the international community will impose severe consequences on Putin and his associates if he does not change course. (...) And we must make clear that Putin and his gang of oligarchs will face major consequences should he continue down the current path.”*

So, effectively, Sanders share the approach of the Western imperialist powers that “Putin must face major consequences” by the “international community” (i.e. by NATO).

This is hardly surprising as Sanders is a well-known supporter of NATO. He said during his presidential campaign: “NATO has been the most successful military alliance in, probably, human history. I will stay in NATO.”

In addition, Sanders also backed NATO's wars in Yugoslavia (1999), Afghanistan (2001) and Libya (2011). Furthermore, his allies in the House voted for the NATO Support Act of 2019.<sup>6</sup> And, as we did already point out in the past, Sanders also supported in principle the trade war against China which former President Trump launched in 2018.<sup>7</sup>

In summary, we see Sanders is a loyal supporter of U.S. and Western imperialism. He just combines this with “progressive” rhetoric. His approach can be summarized as follows: *“I Don't Want to Wage War, But If I Have to ...”*

#### **Realpolitik and Monroe Doctrine**

Sanders calls for a more cautious approach than the White House. Of course, such a “moderate” position is helped by the fact that Biden is the President (i.e. he has to make the decisions) while Sanders is only a Senator who can say some “wise” words of moderation.

But it would be utterly wrong to equate Sanders approach with something progressive. What he suggests is rather the kind of imperialist foreign policy which is known as *Realpolitik*. This policy whose most prominent advocate in recent history has been Henry Kissinger – a former Secretary of State and National Security Advisor of U.S. Presidents – basically advocates a “pragmatic” approach. It aims at expanding the influence of a Great Power at the cost of its rivals without provoking a major war.<sup>8</sup>

Hence, Sanders advocates negotiations with Putin in order to find a compromise where both imperialist camps – the U.S./NATO as well as Russia – respect a “sphere of influence” of each other. *“Putin may be a liar and a demagogue, but it is hypocritical for the United States to insist that we do not accept the principle of “spheres of influence”. For the last 200 years our country has operated under the Monroe Doc-*

trine, embracing the premise that as the dominant power in the western hemisphere, the United States has the right to intervene against any country that might threaten our alleged interests. (...) To put it simply, even if Russia was not ruled by a corrupt authoritarian leader like Vladimir Putin, Russia, like the United States, would still have an interest in the security policies of its neighbors. Does anyone really believe that the United States would not have something to say if, for example, Mexico was to form a military alliance with a US adversary?"

Basically, this is not a "progressive" policy but classic Great Power policy where state leaders sit down together, threaten each other, make compromises and, finally, agree about the division of region under dispute. This is how Great Power policy usually works ... until a compromise is no longer possible, and diplomacy is replaced by guns.

It is telling that the policy of compromise with Russia on the basis of dividing the "spheres of influence" is not only advocated by Sanders. It is currently also propagated by right-wing conservative forces in the U.S. like Pat Buchanan, Rand Paul, publications like *The American Conservative*, the *National Interest*, etc. And, as we did show in a recently published pamphlet, the same approach is advocated by forces sympathizing with Russian imperialism like the CPUSA.

Socialists have nothing to do with the politics of Bernie Sanders and his allies. The RCIT intransigently opposes any support for Great Power policy. We do not support the expansionism of one or the other imperialist power. And neither do we support a compromise between these evil forces. Socialists advocate the struggle against all Great Powers and the replacement of the global imperialist system with socialism!<sup>9</sup>

#### Footnotes

1 We refer readers to a special page on our website where all RCIT documents on the current NATO-Russia conflict are compiled: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>.

2 Michael Pröbsting: NATO-Russia Conflict: The "Party of the European Left" as Government Adviser for EU Imperialism. Ex-Stalinist LINKE (Germany), PCF (France), IU & PCE (Spain), SYRIZA (Greece) etc. urge governments that "Europe must develop an independent geopolitical attitude", 30 January 2022, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/nato-russia-conflict-the-party-of-the-european-left-as-government-adviser-for-eu-imperialism/>.

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5 Bernie Sanders: We must do everything possible to avoid an enormously destructive war in Ukraine, 8 Feb 2022 <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/feb/08/we-must-do-everything-possible-avoid-enormously-destructive-war-ukraine>. All quotes are from this article if not indicated otherwise.

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8 See on this e.g. Henry Kissinger: World Order, Penguin Press, New York 2014; by the same author: Diplomacy, Simon & Schuster, New York 1994

9 The RCIT has dealt on numerous occasions with the inter-imperialist rivalry of the Great Powers. See e.g. RCIT: World Perspectives 2021-22: Entering a Pre-Revolutionary Global Situation, 22 August 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2021-22/>; see also 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, Vienna 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/>; see also the following two pamphlets by the same author: "A Really Good Quarrel". US-China Alaska Meeting: The Inter-Imperialist Cold War Continues, 23 March 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/us-china-alaska-meeting-shows-continuation-of-inter-imperialist-cold-war/>; Servants of Two Masters. Stalinism and the New Cold War between Imperialist Great Powers in East and West, 10 July 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/servants-of-two-masters-stalinism-and-new-cold-war/>; for more works on this issue see these sub-pages: <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/> and <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/>.



## Publications of the RCIT

# The Inter-Imperialist Cold War between the US and China

By Michael Pröbsting, March 2021

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

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

# NATO-Russia Conflict: The “Party of the European Left” as Government Adviser for EU Imperialism

**Ex-Stalinists demand that “Europe must develop an independent geopolitical attitude”**

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 30.1.2022

Great crisis often brings out the best or the worst in people. This is true both in political as well as personal life. The escalation of tensions in the current NATO-Russia conflict is no exception to this rule.

As we elaborated in several documents in the last few days, the current crisis between NATO and Russia carries the danger of war – either directly between the imperialist Great Powers or, indirectly, between their proxies in the Ukraine. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) characterizes both camps – NATO as well as Russia – as imperialist. Hence, we consider the conflict between these powers – respectively between their proxies in the Ukraine – as reactionary. In all these conflicts, socialists have to oppose both sides as equally reactionary and advocate a program of revolutionary defeatism, i.e. working towards the defeat of the respective governments and the transformation of this conflict/war into a revolutionary crisis at home. <sup>1</sup>

It is hardly surprising that the ex-Stalinist parties in Europe, which constitute the so-called “Party of the European Left”, have a very different approach. The most prominent parties of this alliance are the LINKE in Germany, the French PCF, IU and PCE in Spain, and SYRIZA in Greece. Since January 2020, the two Spanish parties are part of the government led by the social democratic PSOE. And SYRIZA governed Greece in the period 2015-19, in coalition with the extreme right-wing party ANEL.

## Servants of Two Masters

Half a year ago, we published a pamphlet with the title “*Servants of Two Masters*”. In this document we analyzed the policy of various Stalinist and ex-Stalinist parties in the period of the new Cold War between the imperialist Great

Powers in East and West. We characterized such forces as “servants of two masters”. These parties are “in Europe and other pro-Western countries in the South both – inverted social-imperialist (towards Beijing and Moscow) as well as social-patriots (towards their own bourgeoisie).”

By such characterization we mean that these “socialist” parties support China and Russia – the new imperialist Great Powers in the East. At the same time, they advocate a strategy which objectively serves the interests of sectors of the domestic bourgeoisie in their respective countries. As we outlined in detail in this pamphlet (and other works), the decline of U.S. imperialism has pushed a growing sector of the monopoly bourgeoisie in Europe, Latin America, Africa or Asia to look for better relations with China and Russia. <sup>2</sup>

The current conflict between NATO and Russia strongly confirms the RCIT’s analysis. A few days ago, the “Party of the European Left” issued a short statement on this issue. This modest statement (it has no more than six sentences – maybe that was all they could agree on!) calls for peace and de-escalation and ends with the following sentence: “It is in our conviction that Europe must develop an independent geopolitical attitude working for collective security with Russia, refusing any path leading toward a New Cold War, and try to build itself as a diplomatic power to establish and reinstate humanitarian, cultural and economic cooperation.” <sup>3</sup>

These are revealing words if we strip them from the diplomatic camouflage. Calling Europe (this means the governments of the EU) “to develop an independent geopolitical attitude” and “to build itself as a diplomatic power” effectively means the following: the ex-Stalinists urge the imperialist EU to become more independent of Washington and to act as an independent Great Power.

Naturally, the formulation “diplomatic power” sounds soft,



## Publications of the RCIT

# World Perspectives 2021-22: Entering a Pre-Revolutionary Global Situation

Theses of the International Executive Committee of the RCIT, 22 August 2021

**Introduction \* I. Great Depression, its Genesis and its Relevance for the COVID Counterrevolution \* II. Peculiar Features of the Crisis and Prospects of the Capitalist World Economy \* III. Acceleration of the Cold War between the Imperialist Great Powers \* IV. The COVID Counterrevolution Enters a New Phase \* V. A New Global Wave of Mass Struggles \* Entering a Pre-Revolutionary World Situation of Accelerating Polarization between Classes and States \* Footnotes**

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 28 pages, A4 Format*

but every child knows that no state in the world (or an alliance of states) has an inch of “diplomatic power” without political, military, and economic power! We can safely assume that the leaders of PEL are not idiots and are fully aware of this. This is even more the case since these parties have already been part of imperialist governments in Europe, including of such which waged imperialist wars. For example, the PCF was part of the French government during the NATO wars against Yugoslavia in 1999 and Afghanistan in 2001. And Spain’s government – with the IU and PCE as part of it – is also currently sending warships to the Black Sea as part of the NATO military drive against Russia. In short, the ex-Stalinists know very well from first-hand experience that “diplomatic power” is nothing but a code word for an imperialist Great Power!

### Alliance with Russian imperialism

The PEL’s call to “work for collective security with Russia” means that the EU should expand its global influence as a Great Power by building constructive relations with Russia – one of the two imperialist powers in the East. This reflects the interests of relevant sector of Europe’s monopoly bourgeoisie which are increasingly worried by the Trump/Biden foreign policy. Since a few years, Washington aims at defending the hegemony of U.S. imperialism by escalating the rivalry with China and Russia and, by this means, forcing the EU (as well as Japan) to subordinate to the US foreign policy.<sup>4</sup>

However, such an escalation of the inter-imperialist rivalry at the current stage contradicts the interests of large sectors of Europe’s monopoly bourgeoisie. Since the EU is economically strong but weak as a political-military power – compared with the U.S., China or Russia – it can only lose in such a process of rapid escalation. At the same time, European imperialism has extensive economic and political relations with the Eastern Great Powers. Just think about the EU’s energy dependence on Russia and its greedy eagerness to access the huge and growing Chinese market.

The sympathy of a sizeable sector of Europe’s ruling class for “constructive relations” with Russia has been revealed by various statements of political and business leaders. Just a few days ago, vice admiral Kay-Achim Schoenbach – the head of the German navy – was forced to resign after coming under fire for his call for an alliance of Europe with Russia and his opinion that President Vladimir Putin deserves “respect.”<sup>5</sup>

The PEL’s call for better relations with Russia corresponds to such currents among the political elite in imperialist Europe.

Another statement issued by the Spanish PCE – it is a government party in a NATO country as mentioned above – reflects the same strategy of serving the interests both of European as well as Russian imperialism. It tries to appeal to the interests of Europe’s monopoly bourgeoisie by denouncing NATO as “an instrument of the United States to maintain its domination of Europe and a large part of the planet, to ensure the subordination of the European Union and to burden its allies with part of its irresponsible imperial war adventures. (...) Europe’s interests are not those of the United States. In addition to the economic cost, the political consequences and the problems associated with the disruption of energy supplies,

*Europe risks becoming a battlefield once again, because the United States always plays war far from its borders. (...) The European Union cannot accompany the United States in this dangerous scenario, but must implement immediate measures to de-escalate the conflict.”<sup>6</sup>*

This is a shameless advocacy of the “independent interests” of (imperialist) Europe. Conveniently, the PCE has joined the feeding trough of power in one of the EU’s member states. Other parties of PEL were in similar position not long ago and are ready to do everything imaginable to regain such comfortable positions.

Since the PCE/PEL are “servants of two masters”, they combine their policy advice for European imperialism with the defense of Russian (and Chinese) imperialism. Neither the PCE nor the PEL statement contains a single word of criticism on the Putin regime and its foreign policy. They rather express sympathy for Russia’s warmongering. Such states the PCE declaration: “It is the United States and NATO that bring their troops and weapons to Russia’s borders, not Russia that deploys its military apparatus in the vicinity of the United States. It should come as no surprise that Russia is concerned about its security.”

No doubt, NATO is an aggressive imperialist force which must be smashed by the working class. But so is Russia! Just ask the peoples in the Ukraine<sup>7</sup>, in Chechnya<sup>8</sup>, in Kazakhstan<sup>9</sup> as well as in Syria<sup>10</sup> which have all experienced the imperialist policy of the Putin regime firsthand!

The pro-Eastern social-imperialist outlook of the ex-Stalinist parties becomes even more evident in another joint statement which was issued half a year ago. It was signed, among others, by the PCE (as well as the French PCF as well as the Czech KSCM) and revealed the sympathies of these parties for Chinese and Russian imperialism very clear.<sup>11</sup>

*“The US, the de-facto leader of the NATO alliance has made it clear that its interests lie in igniting a “new Cold War” centered around anti-Chinese and anti-communist propaganda. This is a threat to all workers around the world. Since the infamous “Pivot to Asia” under President Barack Obama, it has been clear that the US capitalist elite has seen the rising successes and power of the People’s Republic of China as a threat to its unipolar, neoliberal world order. During the administration of Donald Trump, the US government became increasingly aggressive in its anti-China and anti-socialist policies and many began to talk about a “new Cold War”. (...) Why does the world’s largest country lifting itself out of poverty constitute a security threat to the NATO powers? The answer is that it doesn’t. It does however constitute a threat to US hegemony and capitalist’s profits. Both China and its strategic ally Russia, find themselves surrounded on all sides by hundreds of US and NATO military bases. Despite promises to not expand into Eastern Europe, NATO has continuously expanded closer and closer to Russia’s borders and is aiding anti-Russian, fascist forces in Ukraine while using economic sanctions to punish the people of Russia. The world cannot be allowed to descend into another anti-communist Cold War.”<sup>12</sup>*

As the statement makes unmistakably clear, the PCE, PCF and other (ex-)Stalinist parties consider China and Russia not as imperialist powers. They rather view the two Great Powers in the East as victims of (Western) imperialism, of “anti-communism” and “fascism”. In short, these (ex-)Stalinists reveal their true color as social-imperialist supporters of the Xi and Putin regimes!

Such social-imperialist parties are nothing but servants

of the monopoly bourgeoisie in various countries. They are enemies of the international working class and the oppressed. The RCIT calls socialists to merciless fight against their reactionary influence within the labor movement!

### Footnotes

1 We refer readers to a special page on our website where all RCIT documents on the current NATO-Russia conflict are compiled: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>; see also RCIT: Theses on Revolutionary Defeatism in Imperialist States, 8 September 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/theses-on-revolutionary-defeatism-in-imperialist-states/>

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[russia-as-imperialist-powers/](https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/) and <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/>.

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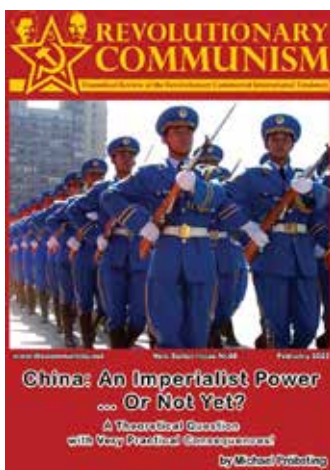
8 . See e.g. Where does the RCIT Stand on Russia's Occupation of Chechnya? <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/russia-and-chechnya/>; Russian Troops Out! Self-determination for Chechnya!, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/freedom-for-chechnya/>; see also Fight against Russian capitalism and imperialism at home and abroad! Provisional Platform of the Revolutionary Communists (Russian Federation), September 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/platform-of-rcit-russia/>

9 See the compilation of RCIT documents on the popular uprising in Kazakhstan on a special page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/compilation-of-articles-on-the-popular-uprising-in-kazakhstan/>

10 The RCIT has published a number of booklets, statements and articles on the Syrian Revolution which can be read on a special sub-section on this website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>

11 As we did show in our above-mentioned pamphlet "Servants of Two Masters", this joint statement has been signed by numerous Stalinist and ex-Stalinist parties. Among the larger ones are, in addition to the above-mentioned European parties, the two "Communist Parties" in Brazil (PCB and PCdoB). Both parties were part of the former Lula/Rousseff government and is still part of several regional administrations.

12 Joint Statement (initiated by the CP USA): The Communist and Workers' Parties Condemn NATO's Cold War Rhetoric, 29.6.2021, <http://www.solidnet.org/article/CP-USA-JOINT-STATEMENT-THE-COMMUNIST-AND-WORKERS-PARTIES-CONDEMN-NATOS-COLD-WAR-RHETORIC/>.



## Publications of the RCIT

# China: An Imperialist Power ... Or Not Yet?

*Continuing the Debate with Esteban Mercatante and the PTS/FT  
on China's class character and consequences for the revolutionary strategy*

*By Michael Pröbsting, January 2022*

Introduction \* I. The importance of the dialectical method \* II. A summary of our characterization of China as an imperialist Great Power \* III. On China's unevenness and vulnerability \* IV. The Taiwan question in its historical and geostrategic context \* V. Is China a Great Power without imperialist features? \* VI. Can China's development as an imperialist power be aborted? \* VII. China, imperialist wars, and revolutionary tactics \* Footnotes

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format*

## Why Are the Coups Happening in Africa

By Oladipupo Jimoh, International Liaison Personnel of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV), 11.2.2022

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) happens to be the latest in a long chain of coup d'états across the African continent which has experienced at least 5 coup attempts in the last 18 months. The ascendancy of military takeovers in Africa especially West Africa is the necessary result of the decline of US imperialism and the whole Western imperialist bloc with it. This decline reflects in its totality the deep-rooted decay of the capitalist world order. Rising from the same immanent contradictions responsible for the decline of capitalist society are new imperialist superpowers from the Eastern hemisphere – Russia and China.

The continent experienced a similar conflagration of coups when after World War II British imperialism diminished as the number one Great Power paving way for the rise of the United States to take its place. It is true that the independence movements in the colonies were also indicative of the emasculation of British and European hegemony as the major imperialist force. Albeit the coups that followed will redivide the south to allow colossal inroads for US geopolitical and business interests.

As a passing remark, the coups can be seen as a sign of the shift from neo-liberal to Bonapartist capitalism something the RCIT as pointed out in early 2020 with the rise of the COVID Counterrevolution which saw unprecedented roll backs of democratic rights. The fact that the chauvinist state Bonapartist model of capitalism is now being adopted by broad sections of the global ruling class shows that Russia and China, the states well versed with this kind of rule, are best suited for world dominance if a workers revolution is delayed.

That is why the Eastern powers are expanding their sphere of influence at rates alarming to their Western rivals, notably the US. All these are just ways of putting the historic decay of the capitalist world order which we now experience in context.

### Marxist Approach Towards the Coups

Now that Russia and China threaten to usurp the supremacy of the US, a dying superpower, and whatever is left of the European strangle hold on the peoples of Africa. The head of the Malian military junta, Assimi Goita, favouring the intervention of Russian troops gave a 72 hr ultimatum for French Ambassadors to leave Mali as diplomatic rows continue to turn sour between Paris and Bamako. Acclamations on the streets of Ouagadougou were also due to the ousting of the Kabore government, the displacement of French imperialism and promise of Russian intervention by the putschists.

We condemn the coup in Burkina Faso even though we do not sympathise with the Roch Kabore government. Already in 2020 after the coup in Mali we stated that socialists do not advocate for coups as revolutionary practice but against ECOWAS, AU, the supporters of the Keita government and other stooges of Western and French imperialism the Malian people must be supported militarily and physically irrespective of the regime in Bamako:

*“We support the popular desire to get rid of Keita and his government and don't waste a tear for his detainment by the rebellious soldiers. We also oppose all forms of sanctions and blockades against Mali by the AU and ECOWAS.”* (<https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/malians-don-t-repeat-the-mistake-of-history/>)

In a similar manner, we denounce all sanctions against Burkina Faso by the regional bloc ECOWAS and its suspension from the African Union (AU)

The RSV and RCIT warned also that:

*“The RCIT does not advocate a military coup as a legitimate means of the class struggle. We rather call for popular mobilizations, general strikes and armed insurrection as the methods to bring down reactionary regimes ... While we fully understand the rejoicing of the masses about the end of the Keita regime we warn them that power must not remain in the hands of small military cliques which are under no control of the people ... Furthermore, it is likely that the imperialist Great Powers and the corrupt rulers in the region will attempt to manipulate the situation in order to secure their interests.”* (<https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/mali-the-imperialist-puppet-ruler-keita-has-fallen/>)

The 2020 coup in Mali had progressive backing of the masses from the protests but its essence has degenerated and it is this degeneracy that has spread to other Francophone countries of the Sahel. The widespread coup hijacks truly mass based movements or prevents them from reaching maturity like in Burkina Faso for the ambition of a clique of uniformed men to seize power. The abortive coup in Guinea Bissau and the DRC demonstrates this lucidly, the military in most West African countries now see the recurring coups as a means to seize power. Moreso the coup contagion expresses a decadent character since, like the Malian junta, the military rulers turn to Eastern imperialism to consolidate their regimes all in the name of fighting terrorism.

While coups are becoming increasingly popular in the Sahel the masses in Sudan have not ceased for one second to fight the military regime in Kartoum since it took power. This to us is due to the experience the Sudanese people have drawn from the Arab Revolution which began in 2011. In fact the mass resistance in that country is a continuation of the Arab Revolution against dictatorships and imperialist domination in the same current with the Syrian masses fighting the Assad tyranny etc.

We call the working class and oppressed of Francophone West Africa to follow the path of the Sudanese people in bringing down the military governments. This must be followed by the installation of a workers and poor peasants government formed by the fighting organisations of the masses and independent of bourgeois influence. We support the booting out of French troops and other Western forces from the Sahel and demand the dissolution of all imperialist headed coalitions like MINUSMA. We say down with Operation Barkane! At the same time we are against the incursions of Russian and Chinese forces into the Sahel or any part of Africa.

It is a teachable moment that despite the backing of Rus-

sian imperialism for the shaky regiment of Al Burhan, the masses recognised the objective consequence of letting the lackeys of Russian imperialism have their way. Russian imperialism has achieved a greater level of consolidation in the Middle East than in West Africa where Russian military intervention is somewhat alien. This is an advantage as the masses can more easily throw off the yoke of Russian imperialism than in North Africa but this is only if the popular masses in West Africa draw lessons from Russian interventionism in the Middle East.

### Is A Coup Possible in Nigeria?

The political situation in Nigeria is the most volatile pre-elections and is a build up from the capitalist crises of historic proportions which began in 2008/09. This has opened a world revolutionary period. As far back as 2012, a year after the Arab Revolution began, the Occupy Nigeria uprising was underway. The End SARS movement of 2020 has spurred renewed political participation, disorganized as this participation maybe. Thus, heightening the concern for possibility of a coup in Nigeria.

Quite frankly, the question of a future coup in the country has not just become possible but also very probable. The ruling class is confused and the masses are not organized. The ruling class factions find it evermore difficult to resolve the national question within the context of One Nigeria. The bustling sentiments of national self-determination expressed through campaigns for secession now take the form of support for proposed candidates based on the roots of these candidates from this or that marginalised group or region in the south even among ardent proponents of one Nigeria.

Until now a coup has been a remote possibility since the return to civilian rule in 1999. With very little prospects left to resolve the divide along national lines and with the palpable dissatisfaction of other sections of the oppressed the ruling class is left in a dilemma that a military coup seems the most likely solution. Dependent on the turn of events this coup can occur before or after the 2023 elections. In order to smash other factions of the Nigerian ruling class the northern hegemony may utilise a military coup before elections or to hijack an anti-government uprising if one occurs before the elections.

Even now litigation disputing the victory of President Buhari in the 2019 general elections has resurfaced. If the courts rule in favour of his major opponent former vice president Atiku Abubakar, the northern ruling class might end up retaining power for the next 4 years with the automatic cancellation of next year's elections. Such a court ruling is a coup in itself but could also lead to a real mili-

tary takeover. A coup after the elections will most likely be a concerted effort of broad sections of the ruling class to smash a popular uprising.

So the further spread of the coups through out Africa can only have a reactionary end. Since France is the dominant imperialist power in the Sahel rejoicing on the streets of Ouagadougou after the coup is legitimate but rapprochement with Russian or Chinese imperialism is not permissible. The popular masses in Sudan already have had a taste of Russian imperialism and can see more clearly how all imperialist powers fit the squarely into the politics of the old regime. Although this is first and foremost the continuation of the Arab Revolution where the masses continue to fight the age-old political establishment irrespective of its imperialist backer.

West Africans must draw lessons from the Arab Revolution and the counter-revolutionary role of Russian imperialism the world over. Putin has been the potentate behind the Assad tyranny which has butchered the Syrian people for a decade and turned the Arab Revolution in Syria to a stalemate. Russia also plays the role of imperialist backbone to the Sisi dictatorship in Egypt and has quite recently smashed the popular uprising of the militant working class in Kazakhstan where over 160 protesters were killed using forces from the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO).

For us in the Vanguard, the degenerative propensity of these coups will worsen as the rot in the capitalist system goes deeper. Workers and revolutionaries must therefore oppose any further coup even if such a coup is orchestrated by a so-called civilian government as has been done by Kais Saied in Tunisia. That is why we recognize the fact that the "civilian" and/or "democratic" regimes are but only the dominant section of the same ruling class carrying out these coups.

Thus, the masses must not settle for any government or opposition parties but fight to establish a Workers and Poor Peasants Republic that will expropriate the corrupt establishment; push back the imperialist forces and nationalise the commanding heights of the economy for the benefit of the toiling people.

*Against all ECOWAS/AU Sanctions on Burkina Faso and Mali! No Rapprochement with Russian Imperialism in Burkina Faso!*

*Down with MINUSMA! End Operation Barkane! Neither French nor Russian imperialism! Drive out all imperialist troops from the Sahel and the African continent!*

*No to all forms of dictatorships whether civilian or military! Down with all Neo-liberal governments! For A Socialist Federation of West Africa!*

## Comunismo Revolucionario Spanish-language Journal of the RCIT

Order the journal via our contact address: [rcit@thecommunists.net](mailto:rcit@thecommunists.net)

# Green Pass Rule: We Workers are not Police Officers! Stop the Raids in the Shops!

By Emina Avdic, Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)

There is a certain freedom in the existence of a blue-collar worker, especially for a communist. Earning a living is not bind to any ideological service for capitalists. When I work in retail, sell coffee, clothing or other goods to costumers and work in the warehouse, literally no boss cares what my worldview is. Probably they just assume I have none, because otherwise I would choose a profession with academic background. Maybe they assume that we as blue-collar workers are too stupid and primitive for a worldview. They assume that trade union work only exists because we want to have a little more money in the pocket at the end of the month.

However, their ignorance was always my freedom. During the working hours, I am free to process great ideas while I clean the floor or stack up the shelves. My mind is not occupied with intellectual labor for the capitalist system, it is free to work on smashing it.

This was sort of a happy bubble until a week ago, when the Austrian government implemented a new order for all retail workers. In a rush of only five days a Bonapartist new rule was announced and put into action. A rule that forces workers in retail to control the vaccination status of all costumers and to deny service, even entrance into the shop if the costumers have no valid green pass. Under normal circumstances one could ignore such an order, which was the first impulse of me and all my coworkers.

Just keep going and don't ask because what will the government do? *Send the police?* – we joked. But this was not a joke for the state capitalist. The Bonapartist government seemed to expect such a reaction already and so they imposed a law that police should control shops, costumers and us, the workers.

The reaction of the bureaucratic trade union leaders was criticizing that it brings additional stress to our work. The Bonapartist measure itself as well as the fact that police controls are enforced did not bother the trade union bureaucrats at all. Unsurprisingly, no protest or activity against the new rule was organized, not even discussed in the trade unions. Maybe this was due to the support of the official trade union leaderships for the lockdowns, the mandatory mass vaccination policy, and all other Bonapartist attacks under the pretext of fighting the COVID pandemic.

So, it led to the following situation: Two plainclothes police officers entered a larger clothing shop, pretending to be costumers. They took their time to wander around, counting costumers, observing the workers. Within few moments, one of the two plainclothes police officers approach the worker nearest to the entrance door, showing his police badge and demanding to lock the door immediately. At the same time, the other plainclothes police officer gives a signal to a uniformed police officer who was

## 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.

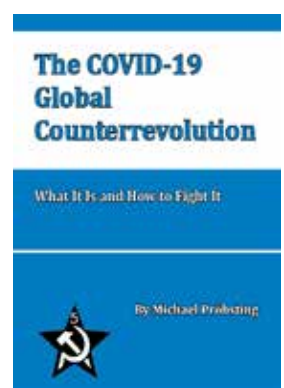
In addition, there is a wave of anti-democratic attacks of a scale which has not been seen in the imperialist countries since 1945. This has triggered a global turn towards Chauvinist State Bonapartism and the creation of a monstrous Leviathan-like state machinery.

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.





waiting outside, around the corner. The uninformed policeman stands then outside the soon locked door in order to catch those customers who manage to flee the shop.

In the meantime, the whole police unit is informed and within few minutes, six other uniformed police officers arrive for the raid. All costumers and workers are controlled by the police who takes their identity and the information provided by the health pass. This raid happened twice at the same clothing shop in a day, the very first week of the new rule. It was a scrupulously precise plan, implemented in a way that is normally trained for dealing with criminal gangs, drug producers, gunrunners, or brothel owners. The clothing shop is the one next to my workplace at the same mall.

Well, it was my workplace until the end of last week. No principled communist worker would obey to such measures, not to speak implement them in collaboration with the police. Rejecting the measures however meant to lose the job. It meant that the capitalists who own the shop are not willing to pay the high financial penalties that come with rejecting to ID the costumers. It didn't spare me to get into a planned police raid at my very last day at work, poetically in the very last 30 minutes of my shift.

Again, two plainclothes police officers entered the shop – this time the shop I work in. They pretended to be costumers and observed what we, the workers were doing... and what the costumers were doing. After a while they approached my younger colleague showing their batch. Luckily the shop is small enough for me to join the conversation within seconds, speaking in a very loud but calm voice, explaining that our shop falls under another category and they have no right to assume that we must control all costumers. Perplexed by the whole situation, both police officers looked baffled which gives me time to proceed explaining which items fall under the category of products of daily needs. As by the new rule, only products of daily needs can be bought by literally all people – no matter if vaccinated or not –without penalties. All people therefore

can enter the shop as we offer some of these products of daily needs. They can buy these items without breaking the new rule. This is obviously a very welcomed loophole, which I was prepared to use. During the very loud explanation I gave, I am moving through the entire shop, gesturing dramatically.

The argument between one of the police officers and myself continues in which she tries to explain that we nevertheless must control all costumers as the shelves are mixed with various items, most of them not falling in the category of products of daily needs. I disagree and argue against it. In the meantime, all costumers have left the shop while the irritated police officers have not demanded from us to close the door or anything else. I ask for their names and if they want to do a raid (in the meanwhile empty shop) and both explain that this was only a conversation, sort of enlightenment to support us, not a raid. *"Everything is great"* and they are *"happy that we are so well informed"*.

I see them to the door. No control of my health status or those of my colleagues. The situation is over and so is my last shift at this workplace. Obviously, they will come back, and another full raid will happen soon.

Police officers are not workers in uniform. We, the workers are not police officers. The Bonapartist rule, the COVID Counterrevolution wants to change the latter. The Kraken of counterrevolution is grabbing for us, it might corrupt and break the one or the other of our colleagues. It can not break our class. The only way forward is organizing the resistance against this obvious counterrevolution. Obviously, we can not rely on the help of the bureaucracy in the trade union as they are more than willing to support the counterrevolution. Revolutionizing the trade unions via the rank-and-files is the only chance we have in transforming them into a powerful weapon against the Bonapartist attacks.

Blue collar work is hard on the body. It is up to us to stop it from becoming hard on our minds too.

## Authoritarian COVID Policy and Resistance: Interview with Michael Pröbsting on Arab News Channel INFOGRAT

Report by the RCIT, 28 January 2022

Michael Pröbsting, the RCIT's International Secretary, was invited to speak at a news program of the channel INFOGRAT. INFOGRAT ([www.info GRAT.com](http://www.info GRAT.com)) is an Arab-language TV channel produced by migrants in Europe. In this interview, Michael Pröbsting explained the background for the mass protests against compulsory vaccination.

Michael Pröbsting spoke in German language. The interview lasted for 8,5 minutes. You can watch the interview below or click on one of these links:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=306410274788604>  
<https://business.facebook.com/IG.TVM/videos/306410274788604/>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-o-xnBP3\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-o-xnBP3_w)

You can view the whole news program here (the interview with Michael Pröbsting starts at minute 7:10): <https://www.facebook.com/IG.TVM/videos/684114109540549/>



## Defeat Saudi Arabia-led coalition backed by the USA and Britain in Yemen!

By Yossi Schwartz, ISL the RCIT section in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 03.02.2022

In the last few days, we have learned that Israel joined Saudi Arabia and Oman in naval exercises for the first time amid heightened Gulf tensions. That the Zionist war Minister Benny Gantz landed on 2 February 2022, in Manama, Bahrain for an official visit to the Kingdom. No doubt about a military agreement against Iran and the Houthis in Yemen. We also have seen vicious airstrikes by Saudi Arabia on the civilian population.

Yemen is located on the Bab al-Mandab Strait at the southern entrance of the Red Sea. Since the Kingdom's foundation in 1932, the Saud family (al-Saud), the ruling family of Saudi Arabia has acted to expand its control over Yemen. In 1934, the first modern war broke out between the two Arabian states. That war ended in the 1934 Treaty of Ta'if that ceded the three provinces of Asir, Najran, and Jizan to the army of Ibn Saud.

In September 1962, the army staged a coup against the Mutawakkilite Imam and set up a republican government. Civil war followed. Egypt backed the republicans with tens of thousands of troops and aircraft. The Russian Stalinists provided airlift for the Egyptian intervention. The Saudis backed the royalists, with help from Jordan and Israel.

South Yemen was a British colony until 1967. The National Liberation Front (NLF) took power over the country following negotiations with the British government in Geneva in 1968. The NLF was a left-wing nationalist insurgent coalition seeking to unite the forces of the Aden petroleum and port workers' trade unions, Nasserites, and Stalinists led by Abdul Fattah Ismail, a founding member of the NLF and its chief Stalinist ideologue.

In 1969, with support from the Russian Stalinists, Ismail formed the Stalinist regime based on state capitalism in South Yemen. When Stalinist Russia collapsed the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the south joined the North.

The Saudi Kingdom relied on Ali Abdallah Salah, president of North Yemen from 1978 and later of a unified Yemen from 1990 until 2012. Saleh was inclined to support Iraq after Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990. The Saudis believed that Saleh was secretly conspiring with Saddam to restore the territory that the Saudis had won

in a war with Yemen in 1934. U.S. President George H.W. Bush backed the Saudis. The Saudi government expelled a million Yemenis living and working in Saudi Arabia.

When the Arab revolution began in Yemen in 2011, the Saudis intervened to get rid of Ali Abdullah Saleh. He was replaced by his Vice President Mansur Hadi, from southern Yemen who had trained in Moscow. "When Hadi assumed the presidency in 2012, his only frame of reference for leadership was Saleh, but the new president lacked his predecessor's tenacity and skills of political maneuvering. Yet Hadi attempted to copy the centralized one-man rule model, with the result that the key weakness of the Yemeni government, lack of accountability, got even worse. During the transitional period (2012-2014) this state of affairs was further exacerbated by elites affiliated with the Islah party – most notably prominent sheik and businessman Hameed al-Ahmar – who used the government as an instrument to further their own commercial and political interests" [i]

"The failure to come to some form of accommodation with the Houthis led the government to unleash a war that it could not control – particularly through the dubious authorization in 2015 to the Saudi-led coalition to wage a destructive military campaign against the Houthis" [ii]

"The Houthis are Zaydi Shiites or Zaydiyyah. Shiite Muslims are the minority community in the Islamic world and Zaydis are a minority of Shiites, significantly different in doctrine and beliefs from the Shiites who dominate in Iran, Iraq, and elsewhere (often called Twelvers for their belief in twelve Imams). The Zaydiyyah take their name from Zayd bin Ali, the great-grandson of Ali, Muhammad's cousin and son-in-law, whom all Shiites revere. Zayd bin Ali led an uprising against the Umayyad Empire in 740, the first dynastic empire in Islamic history, which ruled from Damascus. Zayd was martyred in his revolt, and his head is believed to be buried in a shrine to him in Kerak, Jordan. Zaydis believe he was a model of a pure caliph who should have ruled instead of the Umayyads" [iii]

The Zaydis established themselves in north Yemen's rugged mountains in the 9th century. They are the majority of the population in the mountains of the north. They fought against both the Ottomans and the Wahhabis in the 18th and 19th centuries.



### Publications of the RCIT

## The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

The Houthis led by Hussein al Houthi, from whom they are named emerged in the 1990s. They opposed Saleh's corrupted dictatorship like other Arab dictators in Tunisia, Egypt, and Syria. They also criticized Saudi and American backing for the dictator. The American invasion of Iraq in 2003 radicalized the Houthi movement. The Houthis adopted the slogan: "God is great, death to the U.S., death to Israel, victory for Islam" in the wake of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. The group also officially called itself Ansar Allah, or supporters of God.

Yemen has been fragmented. The Houthis control the north and some parts of the south. The UAE-backed Southern Transitional Council (STC) controls the southwest and the Saudi-backed government controls the south and the east.

There are heavy fights in the Marib and Shabwa districts in south Yemen. These are the last districts controlled by the government of Rabbu Mansour Hadi supported by Saudi Arabia. Hadi is hiding in Riyadh.

The victory of the Taliban in Afghanistan has encouraged the fighting spirit of the Houthis who are fighting against the Saudi Arabia-led coalition backed by the USA and Britain. They also oppose Israel that has a history of intervening in Yemen.

The fact that they are Islamists is not a reason for working-class revolutionaries not to side with them in the military clashes with the Imperialists and their local servants. The main enemy is always the imperialists and their servants. The Saudi Arabia-led coalition has committed war crimes by bombing the civilian population. Yet you do not see the reformists and the centrists supporting the Houthis.

The last time the right-wing centrist organization the IMT wrote an article on Yemen was one year ago and, in that article, there is not one word on the need to side with the Houthis in the military conflict. They wrote: "The war in

Yemen is a proxy war for the Saudis, desperately trying to avoid Iranian influence extending to their southern border. The imperialist powers share this interest. Much of the international oil trade passes the coast of Yemen. These powers would much rather have a country bombed to pieces than give Iran significant influence over Yemen. The fact that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates provided most of the financing and the mercenaries for the conflict only made it a more attractive proposal (as the Western powers didn't have to get directly involved themselves).

The only problem is that they lost the war. The Houthi militias have held out and are now even threatening Marib, one of the most important hubs for Yemeni oil production. Now they all want out, starting with Biden. The Yemen war has been a political embarrassment for too long. They are looking for a negotiated settlement, but the Houthis would have to be part of such an agreement. This, however, would be a humiliation for the Saudis, and in particular for Mohamed bin Salman, the country's de facto ruler, and provoke a political crisis in the kingdom" [iv]

Their twin sister the ISA has not written one word on Yemen. The Mandelites' International Viewpoint last meaningful article on Yemen was in June 2019 dealing with the mobilization of dockworkers in three different ports in France and Italy that prevented attempts to deliver ammunition for Caesar cannons and other types of armaments to Saudi Arabia. [v]

*Victory for the Houthis*

*Down with Saudi Arabia led coalition*

#### Endnotes

[i] <https://sanaacenter.org/publications/analysis/9569>

[ii] Ibid

[iii] <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/markaz/2017/12/18/who-are-the-houthis-and-why-are-we-at-war-with-them/>

[iv] <https://www.marxist.com/imperialist-powers-refuse-money-to-feed-yemen.htm>

[v] <https://internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article6118>

# Books of the RCIT

## Yossi Schwartz: The Zionist Wars

### A History of the Zionist Movement and Imperialist Wars

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz gives an overview about the process of Zionist colonialization of Palestine as well as the resistance of the indigenous Arab population. He deals in detail with the popular struggles of the Palestinians against their expulsion by the Zionists. *The Zionist Wars* elaborates in detail the character of Israel's military campaigns in 1948 and the following decades which resulted in the expulsion of large parts of the Palestinian population. These wars were also crucial to implement the imperialist subjugation of the Arab countries.

However, as Yossi Schwartz elaborates, the Zionist state has passed its peak already some time ago which has been demonstrated by its failed military campaigns in Lebanon as well as in Gaza.

In *The Zionist Wars* the author also discusses in much detail the program of the communist movement on the Palestinian question. He shows the adaptation and finally capitulation of Stalinism to the Zionist project – culminating in massive arms shipments for the Israeli forces during the War of 1948.

In this book Yossi Schwartz elaborates the analyses and conclusions of Leon Trotsky and the Fourth International for the libera-

tion of Palestine. He also discusses the strength and weakness of his successors in dealing with the Zionist state and the Arab liberation struggle against it.

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz defends the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and outlines a socialist perspective.

The book contains an introduction and 20 chapters (136 pages) and includes 2 Tables and 4 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-zionist-wars/>



## The Myth of the Jewish Race

Yossi Schwartz, ISL the RCIT section in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 02.02.2022

The black actress Whoopi Goldberg was suspended from ABC's "The View" talk show on Tuesday for asserting a day earlier that the Holocaust was "not about race. This is white people doing it to white people, so y'all going to fight amongst yourselves," Goldberg said at one point" [i]

Goldberg and her "View" co-hosts were discussing the Holocaust after a local school board in Tennessee voted to remove the graphic novel Maus, by Art Spiegelman, from its eighth-grade language arts curriculum. [ii]

Maus is a graphic novel written by a cartoonist, Art Spiegelman. It was first published in 1980 in episodes. Later, it was published as a book in 1991. Its publication reignited a few Jewish arguments about the Holocaust and Nazi barbarism. The novel presents the story of Art's father, a Holocaust survivor, and his struggles to escape the Nazis. Using different postmodern techniques and depicting the Jews as mice, the Nazis as cats, the Polish as pigs, and the Americans as dogs. Art Spiegelman uses his art to present life in the concentration camps[iii].

So, what next? Are they going to remove Orwell's the animal's farm? Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice?

Jewish groups and others were infuriated by Goldberg's assertions, which they said contradicted the fact that the Nazis killed some 6 million Jews during World War Two based on an anti-Semitic ideology fomented by Adolf Hitler's that they were an inferior race. [iv]

The 66-year-old Goldberg apologized for her remarks later on Monday during an appearance on "The Late Show," and again on the next broadcast of "The View" on Tuesday morning.

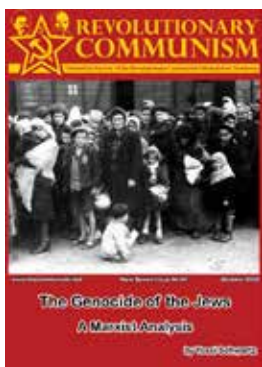
There is no doubt that the Nazi ideology is racist. Hitler states: "First, the Jews are definitely a race and not a religious community. The Jew himself never classifies himself as a Jewish German, a Jewish Pole, a Jewish American, but only a German, a Polish, an American Jew. From the foreign nations in whose midst he lives the Jew has adopted very little more than their language. A German who is compelled to use French in France, Italian in Italy, Chinese in China, does not thereby become a

Frenchman, an Italian, or a Chinese; similarly, a Jew who happens to live among us and is thereby compelled to use the German language cannot be called a German. Even the Mosaic faith, however important for the maintenance of this race, cannot be considered as absolutely decisive in the question of whether or not someone is a Jew. There is hardly a single race whose members belong exclusively to one particular religion." [v]

In the museum of tolerance, we also find THE FACTS: "Hitler promoted a racial ideology that identified Whites (he called "Aryans") as superior and everyone else as inferior. Since Jews in Europe were considered White he classified them as a different race—a race of people that he said was not only inferior but "dangerous" and needed to be destroyed. Making them a race in Nazi ideology served to justify their mistreatment. The idea of race, then and now, is based on pseudo-scientific theories from the 18th century suggesting that humans descended from biologically differing groups. Today, science confirms that there is no such thing as the 'race' classification. Humans are the same on the inside with endless differentiation on the outside. It is a made-up political category. If we think of race as skin color mainly, Jews can be found among all so-called races and share the same wide variety of physical characteristics. Jews, who are associated by religion and culture, come in all colors and nationalities".

In a book written by Alain F Corcos: "'The Myth of the Jewish race' he dealt with the question whether the Jews a race. He spent four years of his youth under the Vichy government, which was the most virulent anti-Semitic regime that had ever ruled France. In its efforts to "cleanse the Jewish dirt" from French society, Vichy devised a broader definition of a Jew than that of the German Nazis. It classified a person with two Jewish grandparents as Jewish, which meant that children of a Jew and non-Jew could face deportation to a death camp. This definition applied to the author's family because some of his ancestors had practiced the Jewish faith. Soon after its establishment, Vichy required all persons who fit the description to register as Jews. The wisdom and courage of the author's parents in refusing to register undoubtedly saved the whole family from death." [vi]

As a trained geneticist, he became convinced that there



### 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

are not and never were human races. In the last twenty years, an increasing number of anthropologists and biologists have reached the same conclusion. They argue that there is no way to genetically characterize race because no human population has ever been isolated long enough from other populations to avoid "crossbreeding." The history of the Jews, in particular, supports this thesis. From day one, they had children with non-Jews. Hence, biologically, Jews are not different from non-Jews. [vii]

Uncouthly Whoopi Goldberg believes in the myth that colors of skin separate the human race from different races. From this point of view, the (Ashkenazi) Jews are a white race. But any intelligent Jew knows that Jews are not a race but religious, ethnicity, and different nationalities. However, the United States Census Bureau goes as far as to include six races that it recognizes as living within the U.S. and its territories. These are White, Black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. The sixth category is Some Other Race. According to this classification Caucasian/White races include Aryans, Hamites, and Semites.

At the same time, the Zionists accept the myth that the Jews are a race. As Tony Greenstein wrote: *"what else is the myth of Jewish nationhood other than a racial one? Given that Jews are members of every nation on the Earth and speak most languages, what else but race binds them according to Zionist folklore?... Since the creation of Israel, the Orthodox rabbinate has had exclusive control over the question of who is a Jew. All personal matters,*

*from birth to marriage to death, are in the hands of its representatives; Reform Rabbis do not get a look in. Why? Because Israel is a state based on the concept of the Jewish "race", in the same way in South Africa or Nazi Germany it was necessary to define who was part of the white or Aryan race"* [viii]

Thus, the attack on Whoopi Goldberg that considers the (Ashkenazi) Jews part of the white race is a reflection of the racist outlook, not a scientific outlook. This outlook is very dangerous for the Jews as it supports the worst form of Anti-Semitism.

The main fault of Whoopi Goldberg's statement is that the Jewish Holocaust is a problem for the whites. All genocides are the problem with the class society and in the epoch of decaying capitalism of the human race.

*Down with all racist ideologies!*

*Down with racist Zionism!*

#### Endnotes:

[i] <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-695248>

[ii] Ibid

[iii] <https://literarydevices.net/maus/>

[iv] <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-695248>

[v] <https://www.museumoftolerance.com/assets/documents/hitler-letter-handout-4.pdf>

[vi] <https://lupress.cas.lehigh.edu/content/myth-jewish-race>

[vii] Ibid

[viii] <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2019/2/7/why-israel-is-a-jewish-not-a-white-supremacist-state>

## Solidarity with the uprising in Kazakhstan

**W**e are republishing this international solidarity statement with the protests in Kazakhstan. It was written by socialist TD Paul Murphy of Ireland. The statement was signed by many organizations including the RCIT.

We, socialists, trade unionists, human rights activists, anti-war activists and organisations have watched the uprising in Kazakhstan since 2 January with a sense of deep solidarity for the working people. The striking oil workers, miners and protesters have faced incredible repression. The full force of the police and army have been unleashed against them, instructed to 'shoot to kill without warning'. Over 160 protesters have been killed so far and more than 8,000 have been arrested.

We reject the propaganda of the dictatorship that this uprising is a product of "Islamic radicals" or the intervention of US imperialism. There is no evidence of that whatsoever. It is the usual resort of an unpopular regime – to blame 'outside' agitators.

Instead, the trigger of the protests was the rise in fuel prices. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, in a country where immense oil wealth exists side by side with terrible poverty and exploitation. It is also the result of the crushing weight of a brutal dictatorship on people's backs. This regime has liquidated all opposition parties, imprisoned and tortured trade union and human rights activists, and was responsible for a massacre of striking oil workers in Zhanaozen ten years ago.

The position of all the major capitalist powers is clear. Putin stands full square behind the regime. The Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) has sent

3,000 troops to Kazakhstan to intimidate protesters. Chinese President Xi Jinping also announced his support for the Kazakhstan government and claimed the unrest was the deliberate result of "outside forces."

The US administration has called for "restraint by both the authorities and protesters". The EU has similarly called on protesters to "avoid any incitement to violence" and called on authorities "to respect the fundamental right to peaceful protest and proportionality in the use of force when defending its legitimate security interests"!

Unsurprisingly, they all prioritise 'stability' for their oil companies who are benefiting from the exploitation of the natural resources and Kazakh workers.

In response to the class solidarity of the capitalist regimes, we respond with working class solidarity and commit to raise the following demands in our trade unions, parliaments and organisations:

- \* Solidarity with those rising up against the dictatorship in Kazakhstan
- \* End the repression of the protests
- \* Release all the detained protesters and political prisoners
- \* No to Russian and CSTO intervention – withdraw the troops now
- \* No to the hypocrisy of the EU and US who equate the revolt of the masses with the brutal violence of the regime
- \* Down with the dictatorship
- \* Support the call from oil workers for nationalization of the oil wealth and major industries under workers' control
- \* Support the building of an independent trade union movement and socialist movement in Kazakhstan

# Brazil: Brutal Murder of Congolese Migrant Moïse Kabagambe

## Down with racism! Equal rights for migrants!

*Report by Corrente Comunista Revolucionária (RCIT Section in Brazil), 8 February 2022*

On January 24, Congolese immigrant Moïse Kabagambe was brutally murdered in Barra da Tijuca, a noble neighborhood in the West Zone of Rio de Janeiro. Moïse was only 24 years old and had been with his family in Brazil for more than a decade as a political refugee from the Congo.

On January 24, Moïse went to the kiosk where he worked to claim payment for two days of work that had not been paid by his boss, who, according to the management company Orla Rio, is a military police officer and an "illegal occupant" of the establishment. For demanding only what he was entitled to, Moïse was immobilized and beaten to death by three people. A report from the Legal Medical Institute (LMI) indicated that the cause of death of the young Congolese was trauma to the thorax, with pulmonary contusion, caused by blunt action.

The first violence that must be registered is the class exploitation without any labor rights offered to immigrants coming from countries full of conflicts and poverty. It was the modern slavery aggravated by the delay of the salary that forced Moïse demand for his money. Violence against the poor, and black people in particular, is a historical routine since colonial times that, in the eyes of a certain part of the population, is something absolutely normalized. Such normalization has been accentuated with the ultra-reactionary wave of the last eight years, and currently, with the explicit support of an extremist right-wing ruler like President Jair Bolsonaro, who habitually makes racist political propaganda that blacks and inhabitants of the quilombos are bums. He famously said in a meeting with businessmen: *"I went to a quilombo. The lightest afro-descendant there weighed 200 kgs, they are not even good enough to procreate."*

Although the Brazilian people are used to seeing police repression against the poor and the black people on a daily basis, especially in the favelas areas, without any exemplary punishment for the aggressors by the courts, the murder of Moïse drew attention by its extreme brutality, by the fact that the aggressors were also non-white, and by the fact that he was an immigrant coming from a country with a history of poverty caused mainly by the colonial domination.

Several international organizations, some linked to the United Nations (UN) the *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* (UNHCR) and the International Organization

for Migration (IOM), the non-governmental organization *Pares Caritas* of Rio de Janeiro, *Amnesty International Brazil* demanded clarifications from the Brazilian government about the murder of Moïse.

But this tragic fact can be an important step for the resistance of workers in general, of the poor and oppressed people of all ethnicities, together with these immigrant peoples. Five days after Moïse's murder almost nobody knew about it. It became only known when the Congolese immigrant community called for an act of protest through its Facebook page, at the same place of the murder. The protest got the attention of the press and soon after a video of the murder was released. It was only after these protests and the video that those responsible were identified and arrested. Later information indicates that the family, before the protest, tried to file a report, but was threatened by some military police officers. It is interesting to point out that even though some of the killers are non-white, racism does not depend on the color of the skin, but on the degree of intoxication with the racist bourgeois ideology that the individual possesses. Some black citizens support Bolsonaro, such as the president of the *Palmares Cultural Foundation*, Sergio Camargo, a semi-fascist black pirate parrot who was put there by the president.

Last Saturday, February 5th, protests of crowds against the assassination of Moïse took place in several capitals of the country. These protests gathered anti-racist Brazilian movements, social movements and leftist parties together with several immigrants from African countries, particularly from the Democratic Republic of Congo-RDC. This mobilization between Brazilian workers and immigrants is an important step of internationalist solidarity.

It is necessary to advance this struggle against racism with the struggles of all workers and oppressed people, which is the struggle against the capitalist system. The first crime committed against Moïse was not racism, it was a system that allows modern slavery with no rights or almost no labor rights, both for native-born Brazilians and for immigrants who came to the country in a socially fragile situation. The second crime was not paying even such low wages for the days worked, and the third was the murder itself with extreme cruelty. As long as there is capitalism there will be racism.

## The Rise of Russia as an Imperialist Great Power

*Three Pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)*

*Order the pamphlet via our contact address: [rcit@thecommunists.net](mailto:rcit@thecommunists.net)*

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> Workers International on a revolutionary program! Join the RCIT!

*No future without socialism!*

*No socialism without a revolution!*

*No revolution without a revolutionary party!*

