



Sunflower Convoy: Socialists Bring Aid to the Ukraine!

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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 133, May 2022

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Picture on the Cover: Activists of the Sunflower Convoy transport Aid from Vienna to Lviv

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

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Sri Lanka: Organize the Mass Struggle to Bring Down the Rajapakshe Regime!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 3 April 2022

1. The reactionary regime of the Rajapaksa clan – with Gotabaya being President and Mahinda being Prime Minister – has imposed a state of emergency in Sri Lanka in order to smash a spontaneous mass uprising. The government has ordered troops to reinforce the police “to discourage any unrest.” Since a few days, the island is rocked by spontaneous mass protests including thousands of people besieging the residence of the President.

2. These protests are a response against the dramatic consequences of the economic crisis for the popular masses. Prices of essential commodities – including oil and gas – have massively increased and households experience regular and long-lasting power cuts. Several people have died from exhaustion while waiting in long queues for food.

3. The dramatic economic crisis is the result of a combination of causes. As a capitalist semi-colony, Sri Lanka faces super-exploitation by imperialist corporations, banks and global institutions. The country’s debts have massively increased in the past decade – from \$19.5 billion (2009) to more than \$56 billion (2019). As a result, its external debt stock was the equivalent 69% of the Gross National Income and 285% of its exports income in the years 2019. Among the most important imperialist creditors are the IMF as well as China.

4. Since then, the situation has worsened even more – mainly for two reasons. First, the Great Depression of the capitalist world economy began in autumn 2019. And, secondly, the Second Slump at the end of last year and, more recently, the Ukraine War and the economic warfare between the imperialist powers have dramatically affected Sri Lanka’s economy. Its foreign-exchange reserves have fallen from \$7.6 billion in 2019 to \$2.3 billion in October 2021. At the beginning of this year, its useable reserves fell

below US\$1 billion. The government is therefore unable to repay the \$6.9 billion owed in 2022. As a result of the economic crisis, more than half a million people have fallen below the poverty line in the past two years, according to the World Bank.

5. The mass protests have a very spontaneous character. People are demanding the downfall of the regime. A famous slogan is “Gotabaya go home!” referring to the fact that the President did live for many years in the U.S. Hence, people speak about the “GotaGoHome” movement.

6. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and its comrades in Sri Lanka support the spontaneous mass movement. If the regime does not succeed in putting down these protests, they could soon open a (pre-) revolutionary crisis. Given the deep political and economic crisis of the capitalist world order, we are convinced that the explosive developments in Sri Lanka are a harbinger of revolutionary upheavals in other countries.

7. At the moment, the most important task in Sri Lanka is to transform the spontaneous protests into an organized uprising. For this it is urgent that the masses organize themselves in action committees and popular councils based in workplaces, neighbourhoods and villages. Representatives of such committees should form a national delegate body in order to lead the struggle. Activists within the splintered trade union movement should call for a national unified coordination so that the unions can jointly fight against the government.

8. The RCIT considers it as most important to transform the protests into a real “hartal” – a national general strike combined with an uprising to finish off the reactionary Rajapaksa regime.

9. Socialists in Sri Lanka should work towards winning the movement for an Action Program which would



Participants at a protest rally in Sri Lanka, 2.4.2022

include the following demands.

* For massive wage increase in order to fight the consequences of high inflation.

* For a sliding scale of wages, i.e. an automatic rise in wages in relation to the increase in price of consumer goods.

* Fight inflation by imposing price control, supervised by committees on prices, made up of delegates from workers and poor peasants movement.

* Non-payment of debts! Cancel all debts!

* Nationalise the key industries and banks under workers con-

trol! Expropriate all imperialist corporations!

* For the unconditional right of national self-determination of the Tamil people, including the right to separate and to form their independent state!

* Down with the Rajapaksa regime! For a workers and poor peasants government based on popular councils and militias!

10. The RCIT calls all activists who agree with such a platform to join forces and to advance the construction of a revolutionary party!

The Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka

Report by Prasad, Correspondent of the RCIT, 2 April 2022

The island nation is struggling to pay for essential imports after a 70 percent drop in foreign exchange reserves.

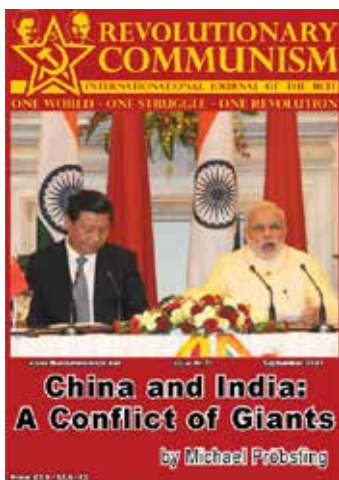
People are still gathering in large numbers holding placards and shouting slogans and demanding that the government provide immediate solutions to the fuel shortage, power crisis, gas shortage, and soaring commodity prices in the country.

Meanwhile Police in Sri Lanka have announced a 36-hour curfew ahead of planned mass anti-government protests against worsening shortages of food, fuel and medicine in

the South Asian island nation.

The curfew will go into effect at dusk on Saturday and be lifted on Monday morning, police said a day after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa imposed a state of emergency giving authorities sweeping powers in the wake of mass protests against the unprecedented economic crisis.

The imposition of such a curfew is likely to provoke further public outcry of the country's citizens uniting non-partisanly tomorrow (April 3) to launch a massive campaign.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A4 Format

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

For the Fraternalization of Russian and Ukrainian Soldiers!

Yossi Schwartz ISL RCIT section in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 18.04.2022

According to the Ukrainian Intelligence Directorate, the (GUR) growing number of Russian soldiers refuse to serve in the military amid the imperialist invasion of Ukraine. This refusal has been observed specifically in the 150th Motorized Rifle Division of the 8th Army of the Southern Military District. The report claimed that in several units 60%-70% of all soldiers are refusing to serve.

If a soldier did go with their unit as they went into Ukraine but refused to take part in the fighting, the Russian military would note in their file that they “evaded military service and combat missions.”

This has become a real problem for the Russian army, with commanders and officers of the Federal Security Service (FSB) urging refusing soldiers to reconsider. The GUR claims that they go so far as to threaten to kill the relatives of refusing soldiers.

In late March, a report surfaced of a Russian general who was killed by his own soldiers due to the “boiling discontent among Russian forces deployed in and around Ukraine.”

During the war of Vietnam American soldiers made a deal with the Vietcong. The American soldiers will not patrol and the Vietcong fighters will not kill the American unit. If the American soldiers were forced to patrol in many cases they returned without the dead officer. This practice was known as frag-ging – the deliberate killing of a superior officer or non-commissioned officer (NCO). The word was coined by U.S. military personnel during the Vietnam War, when such killings were most often attempted with a fragmentation grenade. Sometimes making it appear as though the killing was accidental or during combat with the enemy.

During the 1905 revolution in Russia the Russian battleship became famous when the crew rebelled against the officers in June the mutiny later was used by Sergei Eisenstein’s 1925 silent film Battleship Potemkin. One of the famous incidents of the October Revolution in Russia took place on the cruiser Aurora, which reportedly fired the first shot, signaling the beginning of the attack on the Winter Palace.

Trotsky in his account of the February revolution 1917 wrote:

“Meanwhile disarmament of the Pharaohs becomes a universal slogan. The police are fierce, implacable, hated and hating foes. To win them over is out of the question. Beat them up and kill them. It is different with the soldiers: the crowd makes every

effort to avoid hostile encounters with them; on the contrary, seeks ways to dispose them in its favor, convince, attract, fraternize, and merge them in it. In spite of the auspicious rumors about the Cossacks, perhaps slightly exaggerated, the crowd’s attitude toward the mounted men remains cautious. A horseman sits high above the crowd; his soul is separated from the soul of the demonstrator by the four legs of his beast. A figure at which one must gaze from below always seems more significant, more threatening. The infantry are beside one on the pavement – closer, more accessible. The masses try to get near them, look into their eyes, and surround them with their hot breath. A great role is played by women workers in the relationship between workers and soldiers. They go up to the cordons more boldly than men, take hold of the rifles, beseech, and almost command: “Put down your bayonets – join us.” The soldiers are excited, ashamed, exchange anxious glances, waver; someone makes up his mind first, and the bayonets rise guiltily above the shoulders of the advancing crowd. The barrier is opened; a joyous and grateful “Hurrah!” shakes the air. The soldiers are surrounded. Everywhere arguments, reproaches, appeals – the revolution makes another forward step” [i]

That is why it is a criminal act to kill Russian soldier’s prisoners of war.

“Soldiers fighting for Ukraine appear to shoot Russian prisoners of war outside a village west of Kyiv in a video posted online. The footage was originally shared on social media app Telegram. The New York Times said it had verified the video and the BBC said it had confirmed the location north of the town of Dmytrivka and found satellite images showing bodies on the ground. In the video, at least three men in camouflage, including one with a head wound and his hands tied behind his back, can be seen lying dead next to a fourth man, who is breathing heavily with a jacket covering his head” [ii]

Down with Russian-US-NATO imperialism!

Victory for the Ukraine army!

No political support for Zelensky’s regime!

For revolutionary solidarity between the Russian and Ukrainian soldiers!

Endnotes

[i] Leon Trotsky: The History of the Russian Revolution Volume One: The Overthrow of Tzarism Chapter 7 Five Days (February 23-27, 1917)

[ii] <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/apr/07/video-appears-to-show-ukrainian-soldiers-shooting-russian-prisoners-of-war>

The Ukraine War and the NATO-Russia Conflict

See all RCIT documents on our website:

www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict

Sunflower Convoy: Socialists Bring Aid to the Ukraine -

Report by Correspondents of International Workers Aid and

Report from the 1st Sunflower Convoy (2-4 April)

The Sunflower Convoy has first arrived in Poland - but it could not pass border control to Ukraine in the night from 2 April to 3 April. On this website we will not present any details. However, we will soon have a public meeting with more concrete reports on the experience. After driving with back in the middle of the night under heavy snow fall, the activists of the Sunflower Convoy took a rest from their 24 hours on the road.

After re-arranging the transporters, the Sunflower Convoy tried again to enter Ukraine in the morning of the 3 April - this time with success! The donations were brought to a ware house, organized by the Lviv branch of *Social Movement* (Ukraine).

The night was spent in Lviv, discussing and meeting activists. On the morning of 4 April, an important meeting took place with the brothers and sisters from the *Crimean Tartar Community* in Ukraine. The result of the meeting will be presented soon.

After a long drive, the Sunflower Convoy came back to Vienna after midnight. We thank all activists on this project - especially all donaters, our patient and competent drivers and our friends from Social Movement!

Special Thanks belong to the *Ichkeria Kulturverein*, who not only donated for the convoy but also helped us with an amazing driver (and activist) - our brother Ibragim!

New Website of International Workers Aid: www.workers-aid.net



Pictures from the 1st Sunflower Convoy.

Below: Medina Gunić with activists from "Social Movement" (r.) and from the Organization of Crimean Tatars (l.)

An International Solidarity Campaign Initiated by the RCIT

the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), April 2022, www.workers-aid.net

Report from the 2nd Sunflower Convoy (15-17 April)

The Sunflower Convoy is back again! We arrived in the night of 17 to 18 April 2022. This was our second travel to Ukraine with humanitarian aid. Again, it is a joint campaign with the Chechen Community in Austria - Kulturverein ICHKERIA.

This time around, the controls at the border were difficult and not willing to let us enter Ukraine. For several hours negotiations and discussions were necessary before we could finally pass border control in the night from 15 to 16 April. In addition, it was more stressful as re-entering the country with the Halal food is forbidden in Poland. We could therefore not drive back to spend the night in Poland and to try it again the night day (like we did successfully with the first convoy), at least not without destroying a big amount of the donated food. Surprisingly, the situation

turned and we could pass - but it was already in the mid of curfew, i.e. it was forbidden to be on the street except for crucial infrastructure.

Thanks to the Crimean Tartaran Community, we were safely escorted from the border to the city Lviv as they provided us with volunteers and documents to pass all military checkpoints and police controls. We brought the donations to the warehouse of the Crimean Tartaran Community on Saturday around noon. It was very much appreciated by our brothers and sisters.

We thank all people who supported the second convoy! Special thanks to Maksym from Social Movement (Ukraine) who met with us in Lviv.

Long live international solidarity!



Pictures from the 2nd Sunflower Convoy.

Medina Gunić and Chechen activists with representatives of Organization of Crimean Tatars

Sinking the “Moscow” Cruiser: A Significant Blow to Russian Military Prestige

Naohong (shelthey), Russian Supporter of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 15.04.2022

Several sources reported that during the night of 14 April, the Russian Black Sea flagship, cruiser “Moscow”, has sunken after receiving a strike from Ukrainian forces. [1] The ship has sunken after using a quite sophisticated approach when several drones harassed cruiser to distract its air defenses and develop a blow from anti-cruiser missile Neptune. Neptune is a modified version of Soviet era Kh-35 rocket with improved range, control system, and smaller size. It was accepted and first rockets were delivered quite recently in 2021.

The strike against the “Moscow” was initially concealed by Russian propaganda as an incident of exploding munition. Later, the Kremlin had to admit that initial claims by the Ukrainian government that the ship was sunken, were indeed true. [2] Nevertheless, it was still refused to acknowledge fact that it was due attack from UA forces and not due munition explosion.

This is a significant event for several reasons:

1. It demonstrated that Russian forces rely on quite old and outdated technical base which can be tricked and blown by modern and quite cheap equipment. Indeed, using drones in combination with several rockets is less resources consuming comparing to the loss of a whole cruiser!

2. It shows that in modern warfare it is important not only of the numbers and strength of firepower but also the ability to apply distracting and mobile elements. Several cases have demonstrated – like the heroic resistance of the Palestine people, by the Houthis against the Saudi invasion and now the strike of UA forces against the “Moscow” – that

such a combination of drones and relatively small rockets systems can deliver a bloody nose to powers with significant larger modern equipment or numbers.

3. Moreover, this event also demonstrated that imperialist powers and military forces are paper tiger. While imperialists armies are still having numbers and equipment, these can be outmaneuvered by organized forces and mobile warfare, blowing hits to the modern military beasts.

Comrades, while UA forces suffered setbacks – both tactical and strategical – during the current crisis, they still demonstrate that oppressed nations can resist against imperialist powers not only with their spirit but also by using means they can find. Understanding current war shows need to combine tactics common for guerilla warfare where drones (even made from civilian models) can be used to distract, spy, attacks or perform combine efforts to blow imperialist strategic units with using small units.

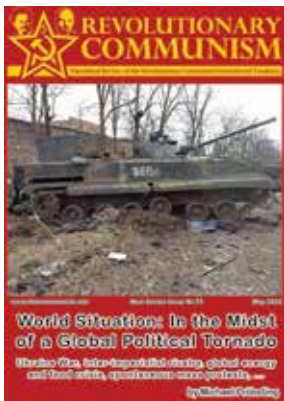
Moreover, it is essential to raise demand to send weapons to oppressed nations facing threat from imperialist force. As such we call for sending weaponry in Ukraine including drone system like Turkish Bayraktar TB2 to deliver more and more blows against the imperialist enemy – like the sinking of the Russian cruiser “Moscow”!

For victory of the Ukrainian masses!

For sending weapons to the Ukrainian resistance!

[1] <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/apr/14/russia-moskva-cruiser-sunk-stormy-seas-defense-ministry>

[2] <https://www.fontanka.ru/2022/04/14/71258285/>



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

World Situation: In the Midst of a Global Political Tornado

Notes on global developments characterized by the Ukraine War, inter-imperialist rivalry, global energy and food crisis as well as spontaneous mass protests

by Michael Pröbsting, April 2022

Introduction * On the Causes and the Nature of the Ukraine War * The patriotic resistance of the Ukrainian people which Putin didn't expect * Continuity and transformation of the bonapartist Putin regime * On the dramatic acceleration of inter-imperialist rivalry * A massive shift in the foreign policy of U.S. imperialism * Challenges of EU imperialism * Cracks in the capitalist world economy * Russia's resilience against Western sanctions * Who blinks first? * The threat to the global financial order dominated by the US-Dollar * At the beginning of a new global wave of mass uprisings * The crisis of revolutionary leadership and the struggle against social-imperialism, social-pacifism and imperialist economism * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

On the War Crimes in Ukraine

Yossi Schwartz ISL, RCIT section in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 04.04.2022

Massive evidence of Russian war crimes in areas the Russian army withdrew from around Kyiv has surfaced. The videos are graphic and horrid, and the stories being told by survivors paint a picture of Russian forces committing sexual assaults and shooting civilians. Videos show bodies in places like Bucha near Kyiv. *“Dozens of corpses were found in the streets of Bucha, outside of Kyiv, shortly after Ukraine retook the town from Russian forces, AFP News Agency reported Saturday night. Mayor Anatoly Fedoruk told AFP in a phone call that the streets of Bucha were “littered with corpses” and that 280 bodies have been collected and buried in mass graves since the location was retaken by the Ukrainian military.”* [i]

On 29.3.22 according to the UN at least 1,100 civilians have been killed in a month of fighting in Ukraine, a senior UN humanitarian official told the Security Council on Tuesday, stressing that the conflict *“shows no signs of abating.”* [ii]

By March 31, according to statistics based on information provided by the government of the Ukraine there were 1232 cases of deaths and 1932 were injured. [iii] According to the general prosecutor of the Ukraine from 3.4.22 they found 410 bodies following the retreat of the Russian army from Kiev. [iv] The UN has said more than 1,300 people, including 64 children, have been killed and 2,017 injured in the country. It believes that the actual figures are *“considerably higher”*. [v] By March 26 Ukraine says Russia’s war killed 136 children so far. [vi] Overall, 4.1 million people have so far fled Ukraine to neighboring countries, the UN said [vii]. Which is about 10% of the population. By April 4, the number of Ukrainian refugees was more than 4.2 million. [viii]

If this is true and we tend to believe this information Putin is responsible for war crimes. Yet very few people are aware of the fact that in Syria Assad and the Russian imperialism have killed more than 600,000 Syrians and there are more around 7 million Syrian refugees. At least 350,209 people have been killed in 10 years of war in Syria, the UN says in its first official death toll since 2014. Its human rights chief cautioned the figure is *“certainly an undercount of the actual number of killings”*. A leading but unofficial UK-based monitoring group recently put the death toll at over 606,000. [ix]

About 6.8 million Syrians are refugees and asylum-seekers, and another 6.7 million people are displaced within Syria. This means 13.5 million Syrians in total are forcibly displaced, more than half of the country’s population. Nearly 11.1 million people in Syria need humanitarian assistance. And about half of the people affected by the Syrian refugee crisis are children. [x]

Imperialist hypocrisy is limitless. The Kremlin has categorically rejected accusations that Russian forces were responsible for killing civilians in Bucha, suggesting images of corpses lining the streets were *“fakes”*.

The Zionist Foreign Minister Yair Lapid on Sunday evening became the most senior Israeli official to react to the shocking scenes of civilian carnage from the Kyiv suburb of Bucha, saying in a tweet that *“it is impossible to remain indifferent in the face of the horrific images from the city*

of Bucha near Kiev, from after the Russian army left”. He added: *“Intentionally harming a civilian population is a war crime and I strongly condemn it.”* [xi]

Lapid has firsthand knowledge about war crimes.

In July 2014, Lapid was the Minister of Finance in Netanyahu’s government. This government ordered the Israel army to launch an aerial operation against the Gaza Strip. This special operation, termed *“Operation Protective Edge”* killed 2,251 Palestinians, including 1,462 civilians. [xii] Of the Palestinian fatalities, 551 were children and 299 women. [xiii]

11,231 Palestinians were injured including 3,436 children and 3,540 women, 10 percent of whom suffer permanent disability. More than 1,500 Palestinian children were orphaned, 142 Palestinian families had three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 742 fatalities, 18 thousand housing units were destroyed in whole or part 73 medical facilities and many ambulances were damaged.

While Lapid denounced Russia, Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman, refused to condemn Russia for war crimes, taking a neutral stance.

“We all condemn war crimes,” Liberman told Army Radio in response to a question about the massacre. *“There are mutual accusations here – Ukraine blames Russia and Russia blames Ukraine.”* Rather than condemn one side, Liberman said, *“we need to understand there is a bloody war there and we need to maintain Israel’s moral position and, at the same time, our interests.”* He referred of course to Israel bombing Syria in coordination with Russia.

Of course, anyone who will say that the Zionists’ crimes are as bad or worse than the Russian’s crimes in the Ukraine will be accused by the Zionists as Anti-Semite. Nevertheless, the United Nations Human Rights Council approved four pro-Palestinian resolutions, including a call for a limited arms embargo against the Zionist in its 49th session. Out of the four resolutions the *“accountability”* resolution which spoke of the arms embargo is considered to be the most serious it was approved by the UNHRC in a 37-3 vote, with seven abstentions. The three countries that stood with Israel were: Brazil, Malawi, and the United States, which rejoined the council as a voting member this year in order to protect Israel. All the European Union countries on the council supported the text, including France and Germany.

It urged *“all states to refrain from transferring arms when... they assess that there is a clear risk that such arms might be used to commit or facilitate serious violations or abuses of international human rights law or serious violations of international humanitarian law.”* [xiv]

At the same time Israel has denounced the UN’s appointment of Italian legal expert Francesca Albanese to the post of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories, arguing that in the past she has compared the Palestinian Nakba to the Holocaust in World War II. The author of the book *Palestinian Refugees in International Law*, Albanese has also spoken in videos posted on YouTube of her support of the Palestinian Right of Return to sovereign Israel.

"Just as tragic, terrible, unspeakable, is the tragedy that befell the Jewish people in the [Holocaust], so for the Palestinians, the Nakba represents the crumbling of the connective tissue of a people," Albanese said in the video in which her words were translated into English Albanese – in that same video – said Israel's "occupation" of the Palestinian people was not a war between states, but a "colonial project that has turned into apartheid" [xv]

She did not say that in 1947-8 the Zionists killed 6 million Palestinians. Nor did she say that the Zionists used gas chambers to kill the Palestinians. She referred to the genocide of the Palestinians. She referred to the fact that to create the State of Israel, Zionist forces attacked major Palestinian cities and destroyed some 530 villages. Approximately 13,000 Palestinians were killed in 1948, with more than 750,000 expelled from their homes and becoming refugees – the climax of the Zionist movement's ethnic cleansing of Palestine. Today, the refugees and their descendants number more than seven million. Many still languish in refugee camps in neighboring Arab countries, waiting to return to their homeland.

War Minister of Israel Benny Gantz said on Monday:

"We will continue to act everywhere in the Middle East where we need to act," Gantz told Kan Radio when asked whether Foreign Minister Yair Lapid's condemnation will impact coordination with Russia in Syria" [xvi]

None of those responsible for the crimes against the Palestinians will stand a trial. The International Court of Justice in Hage is toothless against the imperialist rulers and it uses its authority only against local rulers of semi colonies that disobeyed the rulers of the imperialist states. For this

reason, not only the governments of Israel have not been punished for their crimes but Putin will not be punished by the court of Justice.

The only way to get rid of these mass murderers is the working class and poor socialist revolution.

Down with all the war criminals: Russia, US-NATO!

Victory to the Ukrainian people – No political support for the Ukrainian government!

Endnotes:

[i] <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-703059>

[ii] <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/03/1115042>

[iii] <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1293492/ukraine-war-casualties/>

[iv] <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/europe/.premium.HIGHLIGHT-LIVE-1.10715727>

[v] <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/4/3/ukraines-president-calls-civilian-killings-by-russia-genocide>

[vi] <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-says-russias-war-kills-136-children-so-far-2022-03-26/>

[vii] <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

[viii] <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

[ix] <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-58664859>

[x] <https://www.worldvision.org/refugees-news-stories/syrian-refugee-crisis-facts>

[xi] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/lapid-says-scenes-from-ukraines-bucha-horrific-targeting-civilians-a-war-crime/>

[xii] UN Human Rights Commission Report Summary, para 20.

[xviii] Ibid., para 20

[xiv] <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-703093>

[xv] <https://m.jpost.com/israel-news/article-703115/amp>

[xvi] <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-703149>

Books of the RCIT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry

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



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International of Teachers

Japan: Stalinist JCP Supports Western Sanctions against Russia

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24 March 2022

In the last years, we have repeatedly pointed out that the *Japanese Communist Party* (JCP) is a Stalinist force which advocates bourgeois patriotism. In its official program, it calls for “recovering Japan’s genuine independence”. It also defends Tokyo’s territorial claims on various islands which put Japan in conflict with China, Russia and South Korea. Consequently, the JCP has repeatedly supported Japan – a major imperialist power – against other states like China, North Korea, Russia and the U.S.¹

In response to the current Ukraine War and the escalating tensions between NATO and Russia, the JCP has, once more, stated its social-patriotic support for its imperialist “motherland”.² Furthermore, the Stalinists advocate that Japan cancels economic cooperation with Russia and, effectively, joins the sanctions which Western powers have imposed against Moscow.

This becomes evident from the following excerpts from a statement of the JCP’s Chair Shii Kazuo which he delivered at a press conference, and which have been published by the JCP itself.

“Japanese Communist Party Chair Shii Kazuo at a press conference in the Diet building on March 10 said that the government should cancel the “8-item economic cooperation plan” which former Prime Minister Abe Shinzo agreed upon with Russian President Vladimir Putin in 2016. (...) It will only encourage Russian control and will undermine Japan’s sovereignty over its territory. (...) Shii also said that his statement also warned of a possibility that Japan’s economic cooperation with Russia, when the European Union is imposing economic sanctions against Russia following the annexation of Crimea by Russia, will hamper the international effort of sanctions against Russia. (...) On the following day, commenting on the fiscal 2022 budget which incorporates government projects which will increase investment in Russia, JCP Policy Commission Chair Tamura Tomoko said to the press that Japan should reconsider the economic cooperation plan with Russia. Noting that the EU and the U.S. are tightening economic sanctions against Russia, she said, “Japan should also show to the world its clear opposition to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine by abandoning the Japan-Russia economic cooperation plan.”³

The policy of the JCP has a name – social-imperialism. They advocate support for its own imperialist bourgeoisie against its rivals – like China, the U.S. or South Korea – or even against small semi-colonial countries like North Korea.

Authentic socialists in Japan must oppose the imperialist bourgeoisie at home as well as all others. They need to fight against the bourgeois influence of social-imperialism within the workers movement – a dangerous current represented by the JCP.

The RCIT and all consistent socialists oppose *all* imperialist Great Powers. The U.S., China, the EU, Russia, Japan, or smaller imperialist states – *all* these powers are enemies of the international working class and the oppressed peoples! Socialists must not view any of these – Moscow, Beijing, Washington, Brussels or Tokyo – as a “lesser evil”. The task of revolutionaries is to unite the workers and oppressed in the struggle against all these powers and to work towards defeating them so that humanity can face a socialist future without exploitation and oppression!

Endnotes

1 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Japan: Stalinist Patriots against “China’s Hegemonism”. The Japanese Communist Party and the inter-imperialist Cold War, 7 October 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/japan-stalinist-patriots-against-china-s-hegemonism/>; see also by the same author Dogfight among Social-Imperialists. A telling attack on the Chinese regime by the Japanese Communist Party, 14 February 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/dogfight-among-social-imperialists-japanese-vs-chinese-communist-party/>; No to chauvinist war-mongering by Japanese and Chinese imperialism! 23.9.2012, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/no-war-between-china-and-japan/>; we have also dealt with the JCP in 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/> (pp. 276-281).

2 We refer readers to a special page on our website where more than 40 RCIT documents on the current NATO-Russia conflict and the Ukraine War are compiled: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>. A summary of our position can be read in the RCIT Manifesto: Ukraine War: A Turning Point of World Historic Significance. Socialists must combine the revolutionary defense of the Ukraine against Putin’s invasion with the internationalist struggle against Russian as well as NATO and EU imperialism, 1 March 2022, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/manifesto-ukraine-war-a-turning-point-of-world-historic-significance/>.

3 JCP demands cancellation of ‘Japan-Russia economic cooperation plan’, March 11 & 12, 2022, <https://www.japan-press.co.jp/modules/news/index.php?id=14009>

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

Nigeria: For Popular Militias & General Strike to End Terrorism!

Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV) Nigerian Section of the RCIT, 2 April, 2022

The terrorist attacks in Kaduna now seem to occur on a daily basis.¹ This is a telling indication of the abysmal crisis that the Nigerian system is thrown into as Kaduna state is the seat of the major military facilities and installations of the Federal government. Any pedestrian military tactician can guess with pristine accuracy that seizing Kaduna state is a crucial step to crippling the defenses of the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja) which is tantamount to taking over the country.

As with other disturbing developments the ruling class is unmoved. It is not considering any change in policy neither is it making any serious efforts to pacify the masses. Transport fares have peaked with fuel prices in the last months adding to other factors which compound inflation in the price of necessities like bread, water, egg and utilities. Diesel which is particularly important for powering generators in industries now sells at more than double the price it did last year. Combined with rising energy prices due to incessant collapses in the Federal power grid, produces a staggering increase in the price of services.²

The agonizing hellscape that is the Nigerian living as expected has induced wailing amongst the masses but this has not yet incited social unrest. However given the trajectory of things, a civil explosion is inevitable, in fact, around the corner, one may say. But the question is why? Why is this social unrest not already happening. Why is it taking so long in the presence of an abysmal drop in living standards and a phenomenal rise in terror attacks. While one may be tempted to answer this question by wrongly connoting that the people have some confidence in the 2023 elections as the moment of destiny like many upper middle class and labour aristocrats do. In reality the cause for this delay is far from the general elections.

Given the escalation of the systemic crisis, the ruling class must consolidate its rule. At the same time it must also strengthen its core against other peripheral factions of its class. That is, the deterioration of the system gives the ruling class only one option; force the Nigerian masses to make bricks without straw and attack the oppressed with scorpions no longer whips. The northern and main faction of the ruling class can only answer the question of terrorism with more terrorism since they are afraid of losing their base which is no longer interested in any democratic project.

Unlike pre-election 2015, no member of the northern ruling class is ready to venture into opposition politics as the stakes are too high to shake an all ready fragile house of cards. The same goes for their southern counterparts they too are not willing to mount any serious opposition but their position as the underdogs forces them to seek more power. They do this while also increasing the burden on the masses like their northern masters. That is why the Lagos state government is hell-bent on resuming tolling at the EndSARS bus stop (Lekki Tollgate), where dozens of protesters were massacred in 2020, just to fund the presidential campaign of former governor of Lagos state and god father of nearly all south western politicians, Bola Ahmed Tinubu.³

Whether they belong to APC or PDP is immaterial. The

real divide is between the northern hegemony and their subordinates in the south. The emergence of Muhammadu Buhari as president marked a new phase in the consolidation of the ruling class and its transformation into a chauvinist state Bonapartist entity. That is why it has a northern face because the north dominates. That is why many key positions have been replaced by northerners. This is not just a display of the chauvinism of the most backward sections of even the northern ruling class but a reflection of the global capitalist crises that is incompatible with even bourgeois democracy or federalism. This is consistent with the diagnosis of the RCIT that the current phase of capitalist decay is the beginning of the end of Neo-liberal capitalism as we know it.

Of course, this is the same as the decline in the Western powers especially the US which parades itself as the defender of "democracy" and the rise of China and Russia who are better suited for the current period because they are ruled by political dictatorships. Many left-wing activists and so called socialists have their senses of discernment deadened by years of centrism. They cannot understand the dialectical unity of the political, economic and national questions in the Nigerian case. A northern dominated or non-federalist regime means little or no resistance from the labour movement and civil society organisations both of which hang on to the coat tails of the ruling class. Hence the major factor in the delay is the conformity of the labour bureaucracy, middle class and CSOs to a ruling class which is in itself operating under some kind of strict martial law.

That is why the influencers and activists who were so vibrant during the ENDSARS protests have become heralds for this or that prospective candidate from APC and PDP. Some of them even present themselves as candidates in these parties, whereas in 2015 a new party could be formed. These petty bourgeois oriented milieu even call for an Igbo presidency. Even though they cannot bring themselves to terms with the fact that their Igbo candidates, Peter Obi and Kingsley Moghalu are servants of the northern power brokers, this is yet another manifestation of the dialectical unity of the economic, political and national situation.

If Peter Obi and Bola Ahmed Tinubu should emerge after party primaries (which is increasingly unlikely) as flag bearers of PDP and APC respectively. Or if one of them by chance becomes victorious in the 2023 elections as president there's still a barrage of possible events that can prevent them from occupying Aso Rock just the same way M K O Abiola was denied ascendancy to the seat of the president even after winning the general elections in 1993.

A coup orchestrated by the northern elite is one of these possible events. We have warned already in our recent statement on the epidemic of coups on the African continent that:

"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 elec-

tions. 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."⁴

Although a terrorist takeover or handover, if you like, already seems to be underway so we can add the jettisoning of next year's general elections to those events. Under no circumstance is the return of the traitors and lackeys of northern hegemony to the movements of the southern ethnic nationalities for self-determination permissible. They must be excommunicated and ostracized from the fighting bodies of oppressed southern nationalities.

In the advent of a civil war, revolutionaries must not stay neutral but must call for the defeat of the Nigerian forces and the liberation of the southern ethnic nationalities. This is without giving any political support to their reactionary leaderships. We reiterate our support for the boycott of the elections and all groups who advocate for this on the basis of increased autonomy or self-determination for the southern and middle belt nationalities.

For us these groups are the objectively revolutionary forces as their position is synonymous to solving all the problems of Nigerian society in the here and now rather than treacherously banking on some future elections that will bring illusive change.

** Northern workers and masses must follow the example of their southern brothers and sisters by forming armed self-defence militias in villages, communities, schools, workplaces and major roads to destroy ISWAP, Boko Haram, Bandits and other unofficial forces of the Fulani hegemon! These armed militia must be independent of police, military and other state forces. In fact, it is necessary to defend the people against terrorists in uniform!*

** Increase agitation amongst low-ranking soldiers and military officers to bring them to the side of the revolutionary masses! Revolutionaries must oppose military coups and sustain their independent forces should one occur!*

** Support the struggle of the southern ethnic nationalities for independence! Fight for the democratisation of IPOB, ESN and*

other fighting organisations of oppressed nationalities! No political support for any member or government of APC & PDP whether Southern or northern!

** For an indefinite general strike to bring down the Buhari regime! Kick out Wabba and the other congenital lackeys of the ruling class from the Labour movement! Compensation for the family of the late Dr Chinelo and every person lost to terrorism!*

** No to tolling at ENDSARS bus stop (Lekki Toll Gate)! For the Erection of New Oil Refineries Under Public Control! Expropriate Without Compensation the Transnational Oil Corporations! Nationalise the power and energy sector under democratic control of the workers and masses!*

** The only way to end terrorism is to end the neo-colonial construct called Nigeria! For a Socialist Federation of Biafra and Oduduwa Republics as a step to achieving the Federation of West African Socialist Republics!*

1. <https://punchng.com/ominous-terrorist-attack-on-kaduna-airport/>; <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/520477-terrorists-attack-abuja-kaduna-train-in-northern-nigeria-live-updates.html> <https://www.icirnigeria.org/terrorists-invade-kaduna-communities-in-fresh-attacks/> <https://punchng.com/two-killed-11-abducted-as-terrorists-invade-kaduna-community/>
2. <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2022/03/31/hospitals-shut-down-over-high-cost-of-diesel/> <https://punchng.com/manufacturers-lament-as-diesel-hits-n720-per-litre/>; <https://dailytrust.com/businesses-struggle-for-survival-as-diesel-price-soars> <https://guardian.ng/opinion/that-incessant-collapse-of-national-grid/> <https://www.esi-africa.com/industry-sectors/asset-maintenance/the-grid-collapse-conundrum-in-nigeria-ensuring-consistent-energy/>
3. <https://guardian.ng/news/lcc-resumes-tolling-on-lekki-toll-gate-amid-resistance/> <https://punchng.com/lekki-toll-gate-breakdown-of-law-wont-be-tolerated-police-warn-against-protest/>
4. <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/why-are-the-coups-happening-in-africa/>



RCIT AFRICA PROGRAM

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

Adopted at the 2nd World Congress of the RCIT in November 2017

Introduction * Foreign Exploiters – Out of Africa! * The Wealth to Those Who Create It! Economic Freedom Now! * Down with the Capitalist Dictatorships and Corrupt Pseudo-Democracies! * Organize the Workers and Oppressed for the Mass Struggle! * For a Government of Workers and Poor Peasants! For a Socialist Revolution! * For Pan-African Unity! For the United Socialist States of Africa! * For a United Front of Struggle! Overcome the Crisis of Leadership – Build a Revolutionary Party Nationally and Internationally! * Appendix

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Down with the Zionist Hooligans!

ISL Statement, the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 20.04.2022

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society reported that at least 50 Palestinian civilians were injured this Tuesday when Zionist soldiers fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at them to secure a march of 20,000 super nationalist Zionists in a provocative activity in an area the settlers call Homesh, an illegal settlement by the standards of the Zionist government, south of the northern West Bank city of Nablus.

Among the marchers are senior ultra nationalist politicians, including Religious Zionism party head Bezalel Smotrich, Ben Gevir and Yamina MK Idit Silman, who was coalition whip until aligning with the opposition earlier this month.

The march passed through Palestinian villages where residents of the villages confronted the soldiers and settlers. The Provocative march was held despite the fact that the army had warned the organizers that it would not be able to secure the event. However, the organizers reached an agreement with the Zionist army that to defend the ultra-nationalists, it will fire tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets on the Palestinians.

This provocative ultra-nationalist march sheds light on the question of the Zionist state terror in Al Aqsa Mosques. While the right-wing Zionist government of Bennett-Meretz claims that the Palestinians attacked with stones the innocent police force and Jews praying at the Western Wall, Jordan a very close ally of the Zionist state has exposed the Zionist provocations.

Jordanian Prime Minister Bisher Al-Khasawneh stated that he *"praises every Palestinian and Jordanian Islamic Wakf [religious trust] worker who stands tall like a turret and those who throw rocks at the pro-Zionists who are defiling al-Aqsa Mosque while under the security of the Israeli occupation government."* [i]

In response the Zionist Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said: *"Israel is doing everything so that everyone can always celebrate their holidays safely – Jews, Muslims and Christians,"* Bennett said. *"We expect everyone not to join the lies and certainly not to encourage violence against Jews."* [ii]

So, who is lying, Bennett or Bisher Al-Khasawneh? *"On April 7, 2022 the So-called Jewish Temple Mount groups called for organizing mass stormings of Al-Aqsa Mosque during the Jewish Passover holiday in mid-April and to offer animal sacrifices in its courtyards."*

These calls came as dozens of right-wing Israelis stormed the courtyards of Al-Aqsa Mosque on April 7, 2022, through the Mughrabi Gate, while under the protection of occupation forces" [iii]

On April 18, the Zionist daily Jerusalem Post published a picture showing *"security forces stand guard as religious Jews visit the Temple Mount."* (Credit: JAMAL AWAD/FLASH90)" [iv]

"There is a long-standing agreement whereby Muslims worship at Al-Aqsa – Islam's third holiest site – while Jews worship at the nearby Western Wall. In a statement in favor of the police ban on Friday, Israel's Public Security Minister Omer Bar-Lev had warned that a change in the status quo would "endanger the public peace". [v]

However in the real world outside of the Zionist

lies: *"Israeli government allowing Jews to pray at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, stoking fears of shifting the revered site's status quo, NYT reported : In a story published on Tuesday, the Times said Rabbi Yehudah Glick made "little effort to hide his prayers" and was even live streaming them. Since 1967, Jordan and Israel agreed that the Waqf, or the Islamic trust, would have control over matters inside the compound, while Israel would control external security. Non-Muslims would be allowed onto the site during visiting hours, but would not be allowed to pray there"* [vi]

Not only the PM of Jordan denounced the Zionist police attack on Al Aqsa so did the Palestinian Authority and Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan who said on Sunday *he had told his Palestinian counterpart Mahmoud Abbas that he condemned Israeli "intervention on worshippers" at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque and threats to its "status or spirit"* [vii]. So did Bahrain, UAE and Morocco condemn Israel's 'storming of al-Aqsa Mosque'. *"United Arab Emirates and Bahrain's foreign ministries on Saturday condemned Israeli police for Friday's clashes with rioters at Jerusalem's flashpoint Temple Mount site, which they described as a "storming" of the Islamic shrine This blatant attack and systematic provocation during the holy month of Ramadan... will stoke hatred and extremism and undermine chances to revive the peace process in the region,"* Morocco's Foreign Ministry said in a statement" [viii]

Even Ra'am led by Mansur Abbas was forced to denounce the attack on Al Aqsa.

All of these figures and states are allies of Israel. They denounce Israel because they are afraid of the masses in the Islamic countries.

"Attacking Al Aqsa is not sufficient for the Zionists who want nothing less than a pogrom against the Palestinians. Right-wing hooligans "The Old City Youth organizations" and other right-wing groups plan to march with Zionist flags around the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem on Wednesday afternoon, despite lacking police approval for the event They told the Zionist police we march and you protect us and most likely the police will protect these provocateurs and the Zionist government will say that the Palestinians are the terrorists."

So, Bennett and his government are lying. They have no problem lying, as these lies are spread by Biden's government that protects Israel and its war crimes. The last evidence is the Seder celebrated by Vice President Kamala Harris for serving wine from an Israeli settlement at her official Passover Seder on Monday. [ix]

Now, look who came in her defense:

"Like many of us, this past weekend Vice President Kamala Harris and her husband Doug Emhoff held a Passover seder at their home. Unfortunately, at their Seder they unknowingly served wine produced in a West Bank settlement. A spokesperson for Harris quickly clarified that this was 'in no way intended to be an expression of policy,'" Hadar Susskind, President and CEO of Americans for Peace Now wrote in the email." [x]

"Harris is a known Hard supporter of the Zionist state: US Vice President Kamala Harris's office was engaged in damage control Thursday after she did not push back against a university student who accused Israel of "ethnic genocide. Two Jewish groups said Harris's aides had reached out to assure them of the vice president's pro-Israel bona fides and POLITICO reported

that Democratic Rep. Ted Deutch, who is Jewish and a vocal Israel advocate in Congress, received a similar call. Democratic Majority for Israel, a centrist group seeking to bolster support for Israel in the Democratic Party, said in a statement, "We were pleased Vice President Harris's senior staff reached out to us today to confirm what we already knew: Her 'commitment to Israel's security is unwavering,' and she 'strongly disagrees with the George Mason student's characterization of Israel.'" [xi]

The state department issued a statement saying "The United States expressed its "deep concern" over the Friday morning violence at the al-Aqsa Mosque compound, where hundreds of Palestinian worshippers clashed with Israeli police in scenes akin to those that prefaced last May's Gaza war. "We call on all sides to exercise restraint, avoid provocative actions and rhetoric, and preserve the historic status quo on the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount, We urge Palestinian and Israeli officials to work cooperatively to lower tensions and ensure the safety of everyone," the statement continued. "The State Department is closely following developments and will continue to be in close contact with senior Israeli and Palestinian officials to seek to deescalate tensions" [xii]

This statement is like saying after an attack, that the US is against violence on both sides.

The Zionists have the "Hutzpah" to call the Palestinians terrorists when a few Palestinians use individual terror while the Settlers and the Zionist army and police are the ones who use massive state terror not only in East Jerusa-

lem including the Al Aqsa but, in the West Bank and Gaza. Down with the Zionist apartheid state from the river to the sea! For a Palestine red and free from the river to the sea! Break all connections between Arab and Muslim states and Israel!

Endnotes:

[i] <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-704505>

[ii] <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-704505>

[iii] <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20220407-right-wing-israelis-call-to-storm-al-aqsa-on-passover-offer-animals-sacrifices/>

[iv] Ibid

[v] <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/10/8/israeli-judge-upholds-ban-on-jewish-prayer-at-al-aqsa-compound>

[vi] <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/8/24/israel-quietly-allows-jews-to-pray-in-al-aqsa-compound-report>

[vii] <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkeys-erdogan-says-he-condemns-israeli-intervention-al-aqsa-mosque-2022-04-17/>

[viii] <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1650126156-bahrain-condemns-israel-s-storming-of-al-aqsa-mosque>

[ix] <https://www.jpost.com/american-politics/article-704528>

[x] <https://www.jpost.com/american-politics/article-704528>

[xi] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/vp-aides-assure-jewish-groups-shes-pro-israel-after-unrefuted-genocide-remark/>

[xii] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-deeply-concerned-by-jerusalem-violence-urges-care-for-temple-mount-status-quo/>

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.

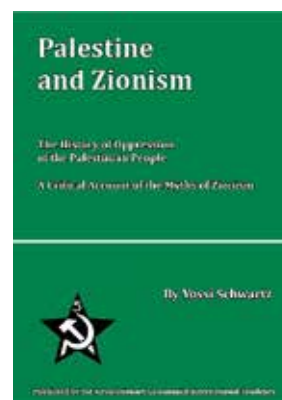
A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz provides a critical analysis of numerous Zionist myths about the Jews as well as about the Palestinians. He demonstrates that the Zionist claim that Palestine is the historic homeland of the Jews lacks any serious basis. *Palestine and Zionism* shows that the history of Zionism in the 20th century is a history of colonialism in the service of the Great Powers and directed against the native population – the Arabs. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz deals with key events – the "Nakba" in 1948, the wars in 1956, 1967 and 1973, more recent events like the Lebanon War, etc. – which were decisive for the expulsion of most Palestinians from their homeland. Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership by signing the Oslo Agreement in 1993. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz defends the right of national self-determination for the Palestinian people and outlines

a socialist perspective. He emphasizes that the only solution is the right of millions of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and to replace the Zionist entity with one democratic state from the river to the sea – a *Free Red Palestine* with equal civil rights to the Arabs and the Israeli Jews.

The book contains an introduction and 7 chapters (112 pages) and includes 7 Tables and 3 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

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



Down with Israel's state terrorism!

Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 17.04.2022

According to the Palestinian presidency on Friday very early in the morning a large force of the heavily-armed Zionist police entered Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and broke into the Al-Qibli prayer hall, a 1,000-year-old domed building, beating Palestinian worshippers in the main prayer hall inside the mosque, forcing them to lie face down. Images of worshippers tied up and lying on al-Aqsa's carpeted prayer hall during the second Friday of Ramadan quickly went viral. Some footage circulated online showed Israeli forces beating the detainees. The Police fired tear gas into the hall, smashed some of its windows and detained 400 people.

They used batons and tear gas to violently disperse hundreds of worshipers who gathered at the holy site before dawn for prayers and cleared the mosque's courtyards. Police were seen beating journalists, women and elderly people. [i]

The Palestinian Red Crescent said that its medics provided treatment to over 153 people, including journalists and medics, mostly with upper-body injuries, and transferred some 30 others to nearby hospitals. [ii]

This event brings to mind 2021 Ramadan clashes when Israeli settlers took over Palestinian property in Sheikh Jarrah and the police encroached upon the mosque compound, culminating in I led to rocket attacks on Israel from the besieged Gaza Strip, and an 11-day war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza itself. The conflict led to the deaths of at least 232 Palestinians, including 65 children, and 12 Israelis, including two children.

During the 2021 Ramadan month, Jerusalem saw protests and night-time confrontations between Israeli police and Palestinian worshipers, with tensions mounting over the police decision to ban people from sitting on the stairs outside Bab al-Amoud under the guise of implementing the coronavirus restrictions, and its decision to disconnect the power supply to the call to prayer at the mosque. [iii]

According to WAFA news on the same Friday April 15, 2022 Dozens of Palestinians were injured as the Zionist armed forces attacked and dispersed several Palestinian protests across the 1967 occupied West Bank. In Qalqilia province, north of the West Bank, at least three Palestinians were injured by Zionist army during the weekly protest against Israeli settlement construction in the village of Kafr Qaddum. [iv]

PA Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Palestinian Authority (PA) Riyad al-Maliki said that the brutal storming by the Israeli occupation forces and police into Al-Aqsa Mosque on the second Friday of the holy month of Ramadan was the latest in Israel's attempts "to Israelize and Judaize Jerusalem and abuse its Christian and Islamic sanctities, especially the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque."

"The Israeli occupation authorities are exploiting the double international standards to perpetuate their occupation of Jerusalem to completely separate it from its Palestinian sphere," said the Foreign Minister. "The Israeli government is exporting its crises to the Palestinian arena at the expense of the rights of our people." [v]

While the Palestinian Authority PA denounces the Zionist assault the Palestinian people demand that the PA end

the collaboration with the Zionist security forces against the Palestinians. The illusion of a two state solution is dissipating and the number of Palestinians who demand a free democratic state from the river to the sea is growing.

On Sunday morning protesting Palestinians threw stones at three buses that were on route to the Western Wall. Clashes broke out between Palestinians and Zionist security forces in front of the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court (East Jerusalem) on Saturday night, after the Zionist Police had decided not to release those detained at al-Aqsa on Friday.

In Nazareth within pre 1967 occupation, Palestinian citizens of Israel clashed with police during a demonstration about Friday's clashes at al-Aqsa. At least 20 arrests were reported by Palestinian media. Video from the scene showed rioters burning large fires in the middle of a street in the city. [vi]

The assault on Al-Aqsa Mosque creates tension within the Bennett-Meretz government.

"The leader of the Islamist Ra'am party said Friday that he had informed his coalition partners that violent clashes on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem were a "red line" that could further harm Israel's unstable government. "The continued harm to Al-Aqsa is a red line for us, including in the context of coalition stability," Mansour Abbas said in an interview on Radio Al-Shams. "In the case of Al-Aqsa, there are no political considerations," he added, referring to the holy site by the name of the mosque Ra'am MK Mazen Ghnaim later threatened to quit the coalition "if the actions of the security forces at the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque aren't halted immediately." "A government that acts this way... has no right to exist," he said in a statement addressed to Bennett." [vii]

But these are no more than empty words. Ra'am leader Mansour Abbas reassured the Zionists that his party has no interest in bringing down the government. *"Asked what would happen between the Ra'am Party and the rest of the governing coalition should the clashes continue, Abbas reassured the public that Ra'am has no interest in bringing down the government, despite MK Mazen Ghnaim's warning to Bennett in a letter on Friday that he would pull out of the coalition if police activity on the Temple Mount does not cease. "We have a historic opportunity [as part of the coalition] and we want to use it for good, of course for the Arab sector, but also for the good of Israel's population in general, and we are doing that,... I think Odeh made a mistake with his words," Abbas said. "They didn't do any good for anyone. Arab police officers aren't about to sit at home and throw away their guns. Let's be careful, let's choose our words carefully. We need to get through this tense period of time."*

We choose our words very carefully and tell Mansour Abbas that you are a traitor to the oppressed Palestinians. You are not the first Palestinian traitor, during the Arab revolt 1936-9 against British colonial rule and Jewish settlement, there were the pro-British, anti-rebel Palestinian militia "peace bands," associated with the Palestinian Nashashibi family and raised with British and Jewish military and financial assistance, and with support from the British Consul in Damascus, Gilbert MacKereth. They were part of the British methods of imperial pacification

using “loyalist” force against the anti-imperialist rebels.

Clearly this reactionary Zionist government has declared a war against the Palestinians People.

Would the Zionist state terror lead to the same clashes like last year or even to a popular Intifada? It is too early to know but if they will take place let us hope they will be a boost to a new Arab revolution against the reactionary Arab rulers that collaborate with US and Israel, the Arab masses are very aware of the hypocrisy of Western imperialism and their support to the Ukraine fighting Russian imperialism invasion of Ukraine while the struggle for national liberation of the Palestinians is called terrorism. In any case in a new war of Israel against the Palestinians the interest of the international working class is to stand with the Palestinians against the Zionist imperialist settler colonialist state.

In the revolutionary process the first phase will be the struggle for a secular democratic state that we fully support. However, to win against the Zionist apartheid impe-

rialist state this struggle within the same historical process must lead to a socialist revolution as part of the Arab revolution that will form the socialist federation of the Middle East. This is the strategy of the permanent revolution in Palestine. The failure of the previous Arab revolution, or as it is sometimes called the Arab spring, proves this theory and strategy in the negative. Lacking a revolutionary socialist leadership, the democratic revolution failed.

Down with the Zionist state terror!

For a Palestine red and free from the river to the sea!

Endnotes:

[i] <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/128817>

[ii] Ibid

[iii] Ibid

[iv] <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/128820>

[v] <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/128818>

[vi] <https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/article-704366>

[vii] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/raam-warns-temple-mount-violence-threatens-teetering-coalition-pm-holds-assessment/>

Rally on the 11th Anniversary of the Syrian Revolution 2011

Report (with Photos and Videos) from a Rally in Vienna on 20 March 2022, Austrian Section of the RCIT

Several hundred Syrian migrants demonstrated in the centre of Vienna on 20 March to commemorate the 11th anniversary of the Syrian Revolution. Despite all the setbacks and defeats, the heroic Syrian people continues to resist against the bloody onslaught of the Assad tyranny and its Russian masters.

The rally was addressed by several Syrian brothers and sisters as well as by our comrades Medina Gunić and Michael Pröbsting, both leading members of the RCIT. In their speeches, our comrades denounced the brutal dictatorship of Assad as well as the merciless bombardment of the Russian Air Force. They stated the unconditional sol-

idarity of the RCIT with the Syrian Revolution. They also called to support the resistance of the Ukrainian people against Putin's invasion. At the end of the rally, comrades of the Austrian section of the RCIT sold more than 30 copies of the latest issue of THAWRA - the RCIT's Arab-language paper.

See photos and video clips of the speeches of Medina Gunić and Michael Pröbsting here: <https://www.thecomunists.net/rcit/rally-on-11th-anniversary-of-syrian-revolution-20-3-2022/>

See also the report by INFOGRAT: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=544838740305438>



Rally in solidarity with the Syrian Revolution 2011 (Vienna, 20.3.2022) Medina Gunić (l.) and Michael Pröbsting (r.)

Down with the summit of the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, Egypt, US and the Zionist counterparts

Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 29.03.2022

On Sunday, foreign ministers of the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, Egypt American and the Zionist counterparts met at the Sde Boker farm in southern Israel, where Israel's first Prime Minister Ben Gurion who was responsible for the Nakba, lived.

In the last years, a number of Arab autocrats, threatened by the Arab Spring, normalized relations with Israel under American pressure ignoring the oppressed conquered Palestinians, in open betrayal. The aim of this summit is to form a military alliance against Iran and its allies and against the people of Western sub-Sahara led in their struggle for independence from Morocco by the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic Polisario Front.

Like the Ukrainian people who are gambits in the new cold war between, Western and Eastern imperialists, so are the Palestinians and the Sahrawi people who have the right to their own state respectively.

This summit is founded on the rejection of a possible new nuclear accord between American imperialism and Iran. Israeli Prime Minister Bennett has announced that this accord does not oblige Israel that will act to sabotage Iran's nuclear program, and will fight to curtail Iran's influence in Lebanon, Syria, Yemen and the Hamas.

Even the rotten Palestinian authority denounced the summit.

"Israel is taking advantage of Arabs' fear of Iran to divert attention from its actions on the ground and "liquidate" the Palestinian issue, the Palestinian Authority said Sunday in an implicit reference to the Negev Summit. The PA and other Palestinian groups also expressed concern over the apparent emergence of an Arab-Israeli military alliance in the Middle East. But while the PA refrained from criticizing the four Arab countries participating in the summit – the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco and Egypt – several Palestinian groups, including Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, strongly condemned the gathering, dubbing it a "summit of shame." [1]

This is the background to the guerrilla action in Hadera when two Palestinian citizens of Israel supporters of the Islamic State (IS) shot two border policemen and were shot dead by Zionist police officers who happened to be at a restaurant nearby.

"They were slated to dine on slow-cooked lamb from Golan

Heights and Jerusalem artichoke soup while they listened to Arab Israeli singer Valerie Hamate perform "Hallelujah" in English, Arabic, and Hebrew. All the good vibes came to a sudden end at 8:30 pm, when two Islamic State supporters from Umm al-Farm opened fire on a main street in Had era, killing two police officers and wounding several more Israelis. The musical performance was canceled, and there was no reception in front of the cameras for US Secretary of State Antony Blinken when he arrived well after 10 pm" [2]

Israel that does not differentiate between guerrilla action against the repressive armed body of the state apparatus and terror aimed against uninvolved civilians as happened in Beersheba. a day before claims of course that it was a terrorist act.

While we oppose the killing of uninvolved civilians as it used by the Zionist state to further attack the Palestinians, we do not have any tear for the death of the two border guards in Hadera. Oppressed people have the right to fight with weapons against the oppressors.

The US Secretary Antony Blinken who praises the brave Ukrainians fighting the occupying Russian army also wrote in his twitter:

"We condemn today's terrorist attack in Hadera, Israel. Such senseless acts of violence and murder have no place in society. We stand with our Israeli partners and send our condolences to the families of the victims"

The government of Israel already announced that it will build 10 new Jewish cities south of Beersheba in areas the Bedouins of the Negev claim, and the fascist Ben Gevir is organizing a far-right armed militia with the blessing of the Mayor of Beersheba. and the Israeli government where the Islamist United Arab List (Ra'am) that won votes of the Bedouins of the Negev is a partner.

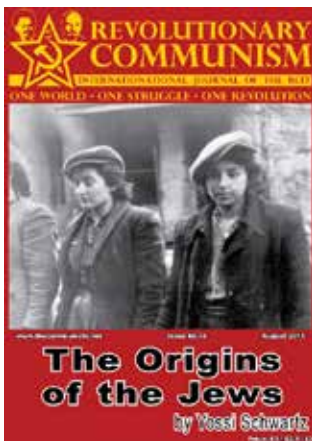
Down with Russian, US and NATO imperialism!

Victory for the Ukrainians' and the Palestinians' struggle for Freedom!

Endnotes:

[1] <https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/article-702460>

[2] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/with-hadera-attack-mood-and-attention-quickly-shifts-at-negev-summit/>



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

Costa Rica: Stop the Persecution of Carlos Andrés Pérez!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 20 March 2022

The comrades of the *Movimiento de Trabajadores y Campesinos* (MTC, Movement of Workers and Peasants) in Costa Rica and other organizations are fighting for the acquittal of Carlos Andrés Pérez Sánchez. Comrade Sánchez is a 28-year-old worker and trade unionist Carlos Andrés Pérez Sánchez at the Costa Rican Oil Refinery (RECOPE) who has been unlawfully accused of alleged crimes that never occurred. The real reason for his persecution by the capitalist state is the fact that he is a working-class fighter.

The MTC and other organizations have issued a petition, addressed to the court, which states, among others, the following:

“Carlos Andrés has been the victim of media, administrative, judicial and political persecution for exercising fundamental rights, such as the right to exercise free thought, freedom of

assembly, expression and demonstration. Carlos Andrés did not commit any alleged crime, so article 311 of the Penal Code must be applied.

Criminalizing the right to social protest is characteristic of repressive political systems, of dictatorial regimes that oppose democracies and the exercise of human rights. From the Costa Rican Association of Human Rights, the National Housing Block, the Confederation and Peasants, in the democratic exercise of the fundamental rights of a state of law, we deliver the request for dismissal...”

The Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its sections in Latin America stand in solidarity with this just struggle!

*Stop the persecution of Carlos Andrés Pérez!
Long live international solidarity!*

International Bureau of the RCIT

Costa Rica: The Worker Carlos Andrés Pérez Has Been Sentenced!

Statement of the Executive Committee of the Movimiento de Trabajadores y Campesinos (Costa Rica), 22.3.2022

The Limón courts have just sentenced fellow worker Carlos Andrés Pérez to 5 months in prison. However, he will not go to jail because he had already discounted those 5 months when he was in prison. Moreover:

-He must pay 15 million colones in compensation to Recope.

-He must pay 3 million additionally in court costs.

This ruling will be appealed to higher courts and the possibility of taking the case to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is also being analyzed.

The MTC reiterates its solidarity with comrade Carlos Andrés and we will redouble our support.



Rally in solidarity with Carlos Andrés Pérez, in front of the court

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

