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ONE WORLD - ONE STRUGGLE - ONE REVOLUTION



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Revolutionary Communism is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Turkey, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Zimbabwe, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria.

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Urgent Call for Unity and a Joint Struggle on a Revolutionary Platform

An Open Letter to All Authentic Revolutionaries for an International Conference on the 100th Anniversary of the October Revolution to Advance the Building of a Revolutionary World Party

Issued by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 09.01.2017

Comrades, Brothers and Sisters!
This is an urgent call to all authentic revolutionaries to unite so that we can advance the building of a leadership for the struggle against the reactionary offensive of the ruling class. The RCIT considers this task as the most important in the present period, demanding full dedication and seriousness of revolutionaries in countries around the world.

So let's talk about this task directly and without any diplomacy. To those who sympathize with the US's and Russia's so-called "war on terror" in the Middle East and Africa; to those who hail Assad's murderous conquest of Aleppo as a "victory"; to those who welcome the repression of the Egyptian military dictatorship against all opposition; to those who praise Tsipras and the SYRIZA leadership in Greece for their "realistic" government policy in implementing the EU-Memorandum – to those we suggest: do not continue to read our appeal, as it would only be a waste of your time!

But those among you who are determined to fight against the aggressions of *all* Great Powers in West and East; who are ready to defend the workers and oppressed against the imperialists and their local lackeys; who are ready to fight the bureaucracy inside the labor movement which is

strangling the resistance of our class – to you we say: consider our proposal seriously and let us join forces *now* in building a *Revolutionary World Party* which will advance the struggle against capitalism and imperialism and for a world-wide socialist revolution!

2017 is the 100th Anniversary of the October Revolution, the most important event in modern history as the workers and peasants led by the Bolshevik Party conquered power for the first time. However, this anniversary also reminds us – in stark contrast to 1917 – of the total absence of such a Bolshevik Party today!

We urgently call all authentic revolutionaries to unite, because the chief problem of the present period is not the lack of struggle and resistance of the workers and oppressed. The capitalist system is in decay and its economic, political and military contradictions are accelerating, as the RCIT has outlined in its latest *World Perspective* document. The deep crisis of the imperialist system is constantly provoking mass struggles and revolutions. However, the key issue is rather the *total lack of revolutionary leadership* and, hence, the dominance of the workers and popular organizations by Stalinist, social democratic, Castro-Chavistas, petty-bourgeois populists or Islamist forces. However, these *misleaderships* are either utterly corrupt and always



Contingent of the Austrian Section of the RCIT at a demonstration in solidarity with refugees on 26.11.2016

sell out the popular struggle in exchange for some posts and privileges; or they are honest and dedicated but combine individual heroism with a strategy which replaces the mass mobilization and organization for revolution with a self-defeating elitist and militarist conception. While one can say that the latter is the more honest version, it is nevertheless also a dead-end strategy.

Consequently, the decay of capitalism goes hand in hand with the deep crisis of the traditional mass organizations of the working class and the oppressed. We must tell the workers and oppressed the truth: as long they are led by such non-revolutionary forces, their struggle is *doomed* to end in a cul-de-sac or even outright counter-revolution.

The conclusion from this is *not* arrogant lecturing of the masses and passive abstention from their struggles. Only sectarians and traitors can reach such conclusions. One can only act as a revolutionary if he or she is *actively participating in the class battles* which our brothers and sisters are waging again and again against the rulers. Such participation in popular struggles is also necessary, in fact even more urgent, if the leadership of the masses is non-revolutionary. It is crucial to challenge the wrong leaderships consistently, something which can only be done from *within* the mass struggle but *never* from outside.

Authentic revolutionaries must *combine* such active participation in the popular struggles with *relentless propaganda and agitation for revolutionary tactics and slogans*, with a *consistent political fight against the bureaucrats and misleaders* and with *tireless efforts to organize the most consciousness and militant workers and oppressed in a revolutionary party* (or a pre-party nucleus, as a first step).

Because the political, economic and military nature of capitalism is invariably international and by necessity functions globally, the organization of the working class and their struggles can also only be *international*. Every limited, purely national effort to build a revolutionary party is doomed to degenerate both politically and organizationally. Authentic Marxists must tirelessly work to build a Revolutionary World Party or they are *failing* in their fundamental mission!

True, a new Revolutionary World Party – standing in the tradition of the first four Internationals and based on the teachings of the great revolutionaries Marx, Engels, Lenin, Luxemburg and Trotsky – cannot be established in a single stroke. Such an International must be politically tested in the struggles of the workers and oppressed. However, the *organizing of a nucleus* – irrespective of its current size – to build such a world party *can* and *must* start immediately. Waiting for others to do this job is a passive and cynical attitude – only *intervening and acting collectively on a national as well as international scale* is worthy of a revolutionary!

We urgently call upon all authentic revolutionaries to *immediately start coming together* and discussing a concrete platform for the class struggle and for advancing the building of a Revolutionary World Party. As a concrete first step in this direction, the RCIT proposes that, together with those interested, we jointly organize an *international conference in 2017* – the year of the 100th Anniversary of the October Revolution. Such a conference should lay the foundation for joint collective work towards the formation of a Revolutionary World Party.

Coming together for such a joint initiative for the international organizing of revolutionaries is only possible

on the basis of agreement on the key political questions of the current world class struggle. As we already stated in our *World Perspective* document, the RCIT considers the following issues as such programmatic keystones in the present political phase:

a) *Recognition of the accelerating rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the US, EU, Japan, Russia and China.* It is *only* possible to understand the driving dynamic of the present period of capitalist crisis and to take a correct position if one recognizes the imperialist character not only of the US, EU and Japan but also of the new emerging powers, Russia and China. Only on such a basis is it possible to arrive at the only correct program on this issue – *revolutionary defeatism*, i.e., the perspective of consistent struggle against all imperialist powers. This means that revolutionaries refuse to lend support to any Great Power in inter-imperialist conflicts under the slogan *“The main enemy is at home!”*

b) *A consistent struggle against imperialism.* Revolutionaries stand for the *defeat* of imperialist states in any conflict with forces representing oppressed people and for the *military victory* of the latter without, at the same time, giving any *political* support to the non-revolutionary leadership of the oppressed (e.g., petty-bourgeois Islamists, nationalists). This is true both in domestic conflicts (e.g., against an oppressed nation like the Chechen people in Russia) as well as in wars abroad (e.g., Afghanistan, Syria, Mali, Somalia). Likewise, revolutionaries have to fight for *Open Borders* in the imperialist countries and for *full equality for national minorities and for migrants*. Furthermore, revolutionaries refuse to lend support to one imperialist camp against another in any given conflict (e.g., Brexit vs. EU; Clinton vs. Trump).

c) *Continuing support for the Arab Revolution.* The mass popular uprisings in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen and other countries have been the most important and progressive class struggle development so far since the beginning of the new historic period in 2008. True, given the lack of a revolutionary leadership, the masses have suffered a number of terrible defeats – like the coup d'état of General al-Sisi in Egypt in July 2013, or the ongoing slaughter of the Syrian people at the hands of Assad and his foreign backers. However, the revolutionary process is continuing, and this is reflected in the ongoing popular resistance in Syria, Yemen, Egypt, Morocco etc. Authentic revolutionary forces must give unconditional support to these popular struggles against dictatorships and reactionary forces, without giving any political support to their non-revolutionary leaderships (e.g. petty-bourgeois Islamists).

d) *Participation in all mass struggles against austerity programs and against reactionary attacks on democratic rights.* Revolutionaries oppose *all* forms of sectarianism which refuses participation in mass struggles under the pretext of their non-revolutionary leaderships. Instead they apply the united front tactic in the struggles of the workers and peasants led by reformist or populist forces against austerity program (e.g., trade unions, mass organizations of the peasants and the urban poor, but also political parties like MORENA in Mexico, SYRIZA in Greece before 2015, PODEMOS in Spain) or against anti-democratic coups and dictatorships (PT, CUT, MST in Brazil; Islamists in Egypt; rebels in Syria). Such an orientation must be com-

bined with a consistent struggle against all forms of popular-frontism and petty-bourgeois populism, and for the breaking of workers and peasants away from these non-revolutionary leaderships and to advance the formation of an independent and revolutionary Workers' Party.

However, agreement on such a basis can only be the starting point for an intensive phase of common discussions and actions. It is important to develop a joint understanding of the Marxist theory and program which can also make controversial and even sharp discussions between the participating organizations necessary. Such a joint programmatic understanding has to be tested by implementing it in the practice via common activities.

Hence we call upon all organizations which honestly strive towards the creation of a new Revolutionary World Party to join forces on the basis of these programmatic keystones. Concretely, the RCIT proposes that revolutionaries constitute a *Joint Contact Committee* of all forces who agree in general with such an outlook. The task of such a committee would be to prepare politically and organizationally an *International Conference* in 2017. The goal of such a conference would be to discuss concrete steps to advance the formation of a Revolutionary World Party.

The RCIT contributes its fundamental documents for discussion among revolutionary militants – in particular its recently adopted programmatic *Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation*. However, we are equally ready to study and discuss documents from other organizations. We are convinced that authentic revolutionaries will be able to elaborate on the basis of such documents a joint platform for common work towards the building of a revolutionary world party.

We are aware that it is not always easy to create a joint international organization with forces coming from different traditions and experiences. Revolutionaries should not be frightened by the possibility of controversial discussions and the necessity to test out different position in the class struggle. However, a serious attitude to differences – i.e., an open frank discussion about them instead of diplomatically concealing them – is in the end the only honest and fruitful way to overcome them.

Likewise, it may well be the case that it is necessary to create, beforehand, interim stages in order to learn from each other and to systematically come closer. But it is in-

dispensable that we start such a process together now!

Comrades, we can only honor the legacy of the socialist October Revolution in 1917 if we collectively act in the spirit and on the basis of the programmatic and organizational lessons of the Bolsheviks. Let us join forces in tackling the historic mission of our generation with decisive determination: the creation of a Revolutionary World Party as the most important instrument of the working class in its struggle for liberation! Let us not lose time and waste energy; let us march forward – together - NOW!

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

We encourage organizations and activists who share the general outlook of this *Open Letter* to contact us and to send us their ideas and criticism so that we can discuss concrete steps towards joint discussion and collaboration: rcit@thecommunists.net

The RCIT is an international revolutionary organization which unites sections and activists in 13 countries on the basis of a joint program and the organizational principles of democratic centralism (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Turkey, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria).

For a more extensive overview of the RCIT's viewpoints we refer those who are interested to our website www.thecommunists.net. We want to draw particular attention to our *Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation. The Tasks of the Liberation Struggle against Decaying Capitalism (adopted by the 1st Congress of the RCIT in October 2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit-program-2016/>)* We are in a process of publishing this Manifesto in at least seven different languages in the coming weeks.

We also refer readers to the RCIT's latest World Perspective document: *World Perspectives 2017: The Struggle against the Reactionary Offensive in the Era of Trumpism. Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries (adopted on 18 December 2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2017/>)*

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Public Statement on the Fusion between RCIT and the Socialist League of Zimbabwe

Adopted by the International Secretariat of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT) and the Socialist League of Zimbabwe (SLZ), 3 February 2017

After several months of discussion and collaboration, both Socialist League of Zimbabwe and the RCIT have drawn a positive balance sheet of this process. We therefore have concluded that the basis has been achieved to fuse our organizations and that SLZ is to become the Zimbabwean section of the RCIT. The programmatic basis of the fusion is the revolutionary platform on Zimbabwe as well as the RCIT's Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation.

Organizing authentic revolutionary forces and building jointly the RCIT in Black Africa is a significant step forward given the importance of this continent for the international class struggle. Since Africa is the fastest growing continent in terms of population in general and the working class in particular, it is crucial for a revolutionary international tendency to build sections in these countries.

The fusion will help the RCIT to enrich its understanding of the class struggle of the African workers and oppressed against the imperialist Great Powers as well as the local ruling class. Likewise, it will help the comrades of the SLZ integrate their understanding of the class struggle in their own country into a broader, global perspective of the struggle against capitalism and imperialism.

Building the RCIT in Zimbabwe and Africa as well as all on other continents is our contribution to building a new World Revolutionary Party. Based on our programmatic documents and the Bolshevik methods of political work and organization building, we are optimistic as we march forward on the road for the liberation of the African and the world working class and oppressed masses!

We are fully aware of the responsibility which rests on the shoulders of each of us as Marxist revolutionaries. Capitalism will not automatically be replaced by socialism.

It can only be replaced by a working class insurrection in alliance with the poor peasants and the urban poor under the leadership of a revolutionary party. Such a party must be part of a world party because capitalism exists – and can only exist – as a global system. If we do not succeed in building a revolutionary party in time, petty-bourgeois nationalists and reformists will expropriate the revolution and create their own regime on the back of the popular masses. We saw this with Stalin in the USSR and Mao in China, with the FSLN in Nicaragua, the Ayatollahs in Iran, the ANC in South Africa, as well as in Zimbabwe after the workers and peasants heroically drove out Ian Smith and his racist white settler occupants.

We emphasize the importance of the "Urgent Call for Unity and a Joint Struggle on a Revolutionary Platform" which the RCIT published in early January of this year. In the present period of capitalist crisis, of accelerating rivalry between the imperialist powers, of a reactionary offensive of the ruling class but also of heroic struggles of the workers and oppressed, in such a period it is crucial for revolutionaries around the world to unite on the basis of a principled programmatic platform. Hence, we call authentic revolutionaries in all countries to study the RCIT's "Urgent Call" and to join forces with us in the historic liberation struggle of the working class and to build together with us a World Revolutionary Party – an international party determined to fight for the socialist revolution!

Forward to the socialist revolution in Zimbabwe, the African continent and throughout the entire whole world!

Join the RCIT! Forward with the building of the RCIT in Zimbabwe and revolutionary organizations all over Africa!

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Greetings for the New Year of 2017: Advance the Unity of Authentic Revolutionaries!

A Letter from the International Secretariat of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 31.12.2016

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters!
The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) sends its New Year greetings to all revolutionaries striving for the overthrow of global capitalism and who are dedicating their energies to building a world party for socialist revolution.

Likewise, we send our sincerest greetings to all those who are fighting against exploitation by bosses, reactionary dictatorships, and imperialist wars and occupation! We applaud the courageous struggle of all our brothers and sisters around the world who are fighting against the ruling classes:

- * The heroic defenders of fallen Aleppo and throughout all Syria who have struggled for so long against the killing machine of Assad, the theocratic regime in Iran, and the imperialism of Russia as well as against the western Great Powers and the conspiracies of their regional lackeys;

- * The militant youth in Egypt, who are resisting the bloody military dictatorship of General al-Sisi, as well as the heroic defenders of Yemen who are defending their country against the arch-reactionary Saudi-led forces;

- * The courageous Moroccan workers and youth who rose up after the murder of Mouhcine Fikri;

- * The Palestinian youth whose resistance cannot be stopped despite the murderous efforts of the Zionist regime; we also send our greetings to the courageous Palestinian Member of the Knesset Basel Ghattas, who has been arrested by the Israeli state;

- * The Afghan people who have been fighting without interruption against the imperialist occupation of their country since 2001;

- * The heroic sisters of our class who fight for their liberation and against Femizide, as we could see for example with the *#NiUnaMenos* Movement in Latin America;

- * The workers and youth in Brazil who first fought against the right-wing coup d'état and are now struggling against the lackey government of Temer;

- * The Venezuelan working class which is resisting the right-wing counterrevolution while defending its gains against the treacherous popular front government of Maduro;

- * The courageous youth of Mexico fighting against the kidnapping of the 43 students from Ayotzinapa, and the workers and poor peasants – many of them *indígenas* – who are forming their own *Policías Pomunitarios* to resist both the murderous drug cartels as well as the corrupt police;

- * The popular masses in Ethiopia who are resisting the murderous dictatorship of Hailemariam Desalegn;

- * The workers and youth in South Africa who are fighting against the corrupt and discredited Zuma government and who are in a dialog about the formation of a new Mass Workers' Party;

- * The workers and youth of Zimbabwe who are fighting against both the Mugabe dictatorship and imperialist sanctions;

- * The rural poor in Somalia who are resisting the occupation forces of AMISOM who are nothing but imperialist lackeys;

- * The women workers of the Bangladeshi textile industry who waged a heroic strike and who are now facing dis-

missal and persecution by the bosses;

- * The Indian workers who launched the largest general strike in the history of humanity in September 2016 with 180 million participating, as well as the heroic poor women of India who are fighting against a reactionary wave of rape and violence;

- * The Chinese workers and rural poor who are fighting in ever increasing numbers with strikes and protests against exploitation in the workplaces and against the lack of democratic rights (as the recent uprising in Wuhan underlined);

- * The indigenous and oppressed people who fight for their rights all over the world – like the *indígenas* in Latin America, the native Americans protesting against the oil pipeline in Dakota, the Amazigh, Tuareq and Saharawi people in Northern Africa, the Adivasi people in India, the Aborigines and Maori, as well as the people in occupied West-Papua for an United, Free Papua;

- * The courageous black, Latino and progressive white youth and workers fighting against the incoming reactionary Trump administration as well as against ongoing police violence in the US;

- * The workers and youth in France who fought bravely against the reactionary labor law;

- * The Greek workers and youth who are continuing their struggle against the *Third Memorandum* imposed by the EU-Troika, despite the betrayal of SYRIZA;

- * And the migrants and progressive European workers and youth who are resisting increasing racism and repression, who continue to support the refugees arriving in Europe, and who are standing up against the repulsive wave of Islamophobia.

We refer all those who are interested in a more detailed analysis of the current world situation to the RCIT's latest *World Perspectives* document recently published (*World Perspectives 2017: The Struggle against the Reactionary Offensive in the Era of Trumpism*, December 2016, <https://www.thecomunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2017/>)

Without minimizing the importance of all the other struggles around the globe, we want to draw particular attention to the tragic defeat of the Syrian people in Aleppo under the bombs of Putin's air force and the guns of Assad's mercenaries. This defeat has *not* ended the Syrian Revolution (as coward deserters, like the centrist L5I, erroneously claim), but it is without doubt a serious setback in the liberation struggle against the reactionary dictatorship of Assad which has slaughtered hundreds of thousands since 2011.

Of course, we can not exclude the possibility that the Syrian Revolution will end in the near future and that the Syrian people could be defeated by Assad and the imperialist powers. However it is incredible coward and politically wrong to prematurely draw such a balance on the basis of the recent fall of Aleppo. No authentic Marxist with a minimum of revolutionary spirit will abandon the barricades ahead of the masses and leave them alone to their fate!

The Syrian Revolution has highlighted the abyss which exists between authentic revolutionaries and those who misleadingly call themselves "socialists." It has shown that forces like Stalinism may claim to follow the path of Marx and Lenin, but in reality they are the rat-tail of the

imperialist regimes of Putin and Xi. The same is true of the Castro-Chavistas, who hail Simon Bolivar – the great Latin American bourgeois revolutionary of the 19th century – in words, but in their deeds bow to the emerging imperialist powers of Russia and China and their regional lackeys.

Likewise we witness how shameful “revolutionaries” who hail Trotsky in their theoretical writings (like the IMT of Alan Woods), slander the Syrian Revolution as a “jihadist-fascist adventure” in their political conclusions, thereby assisting the Assadist counter-revolution. No one has forgotten how such groups also deplorably supported the bloody military coup in Egypt in July 2013, as did the Cliffite IST and the Morenoite LIT-CI.

Unfortunately, there are also “socialists” who have for years failed to understand that the revolutionary struggle for working class power must be combined with consistent support for democratic liberation struggles against dictatorships, even when this is under the leadership of non-revolutionary forces – just as socialists *always* support a strike, even when it is led by backward trade union bureaucrats (like, for example, the PTS/FT-CI which has for years failed to support the Syrian Revolution).

The RCIT has supported the Arab Revolution from its beginning in early 2011. We reaffirm our support for the ongoing Syrian Revolution, despite the terrible defeat in Aleppo, along with our hostility towards all Great Powers and lesser, regional powers, who all share the desire to liquidate the Syrian Revolution. We urgently repeat that the workers and peasants must draw the lessons of past defeats in order to persevere and to revitalize the revolution. Among the most important lessons are:

* *No trust in and no collaboration with any Great Power!*

* *No to sectarianism! For multi-religious and multi-national unity in the struggle against the Assad dictatorship! For full national self-determination for all national and ethnic minorities!*

* *No trust in the official rebel leaderships!*

* *For the formation of popular councils and popular militias!*

* *The international workers movement must rally to support the Syrian Revolution! For a workers' solidarity aid campaign*

for the Syrian people – like that organized for the Bosnian people in 1992-95!

* *The international workers' movement must organize a campaign to boycott the regime of Bashar al-Assad and his capitalist friends! For workers' actions against the imperialist forces attacking the Syrian people!*

* *Open the borders for the Syrian Refugees!*

* *Most of all: For the building of a revolutionary party in Syria as part of a new revolutionary International!*

Comrades, we are living in a reactionary phase – the era of Trumpism. The coming year will be witness to a reactionary offensive by the ruling classes around the world. This is true for the US, the Arab world, Latin America, Europe as well as other countries. The monopoly capitalists will intensify their attacks on wages and labor rights as well as on democratic rights in general. They will accelerate their militarist aggression against semi-colonial peoples – in particular in the Middle East and Africa. We will also see an acceleration of the rivalry between the imperialist powers – the US, Russia, China, the EU and Japan.

These attacks will undoubtedly provoke crises and class struggles. The tragedy of our times is not the lack of a class struggle, but the fact that the working class and the oppressed are entering these struggles without the appropriate leadership. Instead, the masses are forced to wage their heroic struggle under the leadership of reformists, petty-bourgeois populists and Islamists. In short, the decisive problem today is the total lack of revolutionary leadership.

Hence, the most important task for the coming period is the building of a new revolutionary world party. Such a party must be founded around a revolutionary action program for the current world situation, one which is based on the method of Trotsky's *Transitional Program* of 1938. The RCIT has elaborated in its “*Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation*” its contribution to the debate of revolutionaries about such a program. (See <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit-program-2016/>)

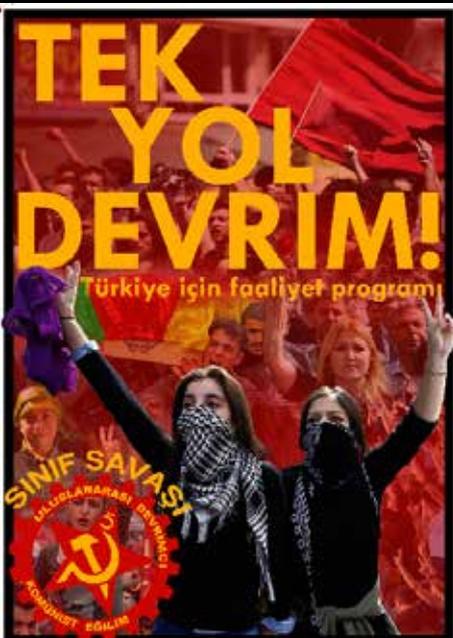
This *Manifesto* summarizes the RCIT's analysis of the present world situation, the position of revolutionaries in the most important class struggles today, and the crucial lessons for the upcoming battles.

We also wish to draw the attention of all serious revolutionaries to the recently published *World Perspectives 2017* document in which we elaborate our ideas and proposal for the construction of a new revolutionary world party in greater detail. Here, we only wish to repeat the conclusions of our proposal:

“In our opinion, revolutionaries all over the world should immediately start collaborating in laying the foundations for a principled unification, so that we drive forward the process of creating a new World Party with stronger forces. The starting point for the creation of such a party has to be agreement on the most important issues of the global class struggle. The RCIT considers the following issues as such programmatic keystones in the present political phase:

a) *Recognition of the accelerating rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the US, EU, Japan, Russia and China. It is only possible to understand the driving dynamic of the present period of capitalist crisis and to take a correct position if one recognizes the imperialist character not only of the US, EU and Japan but also of the new emerging powers, Russia and China. Only on such a basis is it possible to arrive at the only correct program on this issue – revolutionary defeatism, i.e., the perspective of consistent struggle against all imperialist powers. This means that revolutionaries refuse to lend support to any Great Power in inter-imperialist conflicts under the slogan “The main enemy is at home!”*

Action Program on Turkey in Turkish Language



b) *Consistent struggle against imperialism.* Revolutionaries stand for the *defeat* of imperialist states in any conflict with forces representing oppressed people and for the *military victory* of the latter without, at the same time, giving any *political support* to the non-revolutionary leadership of the oppressed (e.g., petty-bourgeois Islamists, nationalists). This is true both in domestic conflicts (e.g., against an oppressed nation like the Chechen people in Russia) as well as in wars abroad (e.g., Afghanistan, Syria, Mali, Somalia). Likewise, revolutionaries have to fight for *Open Borders* in the imperialist countries and for *full equality for national minorities and for migrants*. Furthermore, revolutionaries refuse to lend support to one imperialist camp against another in any given conflict (e.g., Brexit vs. EU; Clinton vs. Trump).

c) *Continuing support for the Arab Revolution.* The mass popular uprisings in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen and other countries have been the most important and progressive class struggle development so far since the beginning of the new historic period in 2008. True, given the lack of a revolutionary leadership, the masses have suffered a number of terrible defeats – like the coup d'état of General al-Sisi in Egypt in July 2013, or the ongoing slaughter of the Syrian people at the hands of Assad and his foreign backers. However, the revolutionary process is continuing, and this is reflected in the ongoing popular resistance in Syria, Yemen, Egypt, etc. Authentic revolutionary forces must give unconditional support to these popular struggles against dictatorships and reactionary forces, without giving any political support to their non-revolutionary leaderships (e.g., petty-bourgeois Islamists).

d) *Participation in all mass struggles against austerity programs and against reactionary attacks on democratic rights.* Revolutionaries oppose *all* forms of sectarianism which refuses participation in mass struggles under the pretext of their non-revolutionary leaderships. Instead they apply the united front tactic in the struggles of the workers and

peasants led by reformist or populist forces against austerity program (e.g., trade unions, mass organizations of the peasants and the urban poor, but also political parties like MORENA in Mexico, SYRIZA in Greece before 2015, PODEMOS in Spain) or against anti-democratic coups and dictatorships (PT, CUT, MST in Brazil; Islamists in Egypt; rebels in Syria). Such an orientation must be combined with a consistent struggle against all forms of popular-frontism and petty-bourgeois populism, and for the breaking of workers and peasants away from these non-revolutionary leaderships and to advance the formation of an independent and revolutionary Workers' Party.

Hence we call upon all organizations which honestly strive towards the creation of a new Revolutionary World Party to join forces on the basis of these programmatic keystones. Concretely, the RCIT proposes that revolutionaries constitute a *Joint Contact Committee* in order to politically prepare and organize an *International Conference* which will discuss concrete steps to advance the formation of a Revolutionary World Party. The RCIT is committed to serious discussions and the closest possible collaboration with all forces who share such an outlook. We will in the near future address revolutionaries around the world in an *Open Letter* on this issue."

We urge all comrades, brothers and sisters to study this document and to contact the RCIT so that we can jointly discuss steps towards closer collaboration in our mutual effort to build the most important instrument of the working class in its struggle for liberation: a new *World Party of Socialist Revolution!* Let us march forward!

Workers and Oppressed, Unite!

Forward in the creation of a new World Party of Socialist Revolution!

Forward in building the RCIT!

Revolutionary Greetings,
International Secretariat of the RCIT

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Marxism and the United Front Tactic Today

The Struggle for Proletarian Hegemony in the Liberation Movement and the United Front Tactic Today.

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – MARXISM AND THE UNITED FRONT TACTIC TODAY. The book's subtitle is: The Struggle for Proletarian Hegemony in the Liberation Movement and the United Front Tactic Today. On the Application of the Marxist United Front Tactic in Semi-Colonial and Imperialist Countries in the Present Period. It contains eight chapters plus an appendix (172 pages) and includes 9 tables and 5 figures. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

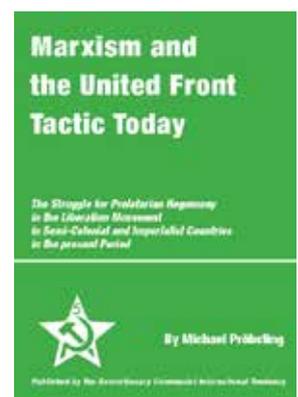
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

The united front tactic is a crucial instrument for revolutionaries under today's circumstances in which the mass organizations of the working class and the oppressed are dominated by social democratic, Stalinist and petty-bourgeois-populist forces.

The purpose of this document is both to summarize the main ideas of the Marxist united front tactic while at the same time explaining its development and modification which have become necessary due to political changes which have transpired in the

working class liberation movement since the tactic's original formulation.

In this book we initially summarize the main characteristics of the united front tactic and elaborate the approach of the Marxist classics to this issue. We then outline important social developments in the working class and the popular masses as well as in their political formations in recent decades. From there we will discuss how the united front tactic should be applied in light of a number of new developments (the rise of petty-bourgeois populist parties, the decline of the classic reformist parties, the role of national minorities and migrants in imperialist countries, etc.). The eight chapters of the book are accompanied by nine tables and five figures.



Austria: Right-Wing Party Opens Parliamentary Inquiry against the RCIT Section

**Biggest Opposition Party smears the Trotskyists
for alleged "Left-Wing Extremism", "Antisemitism" and "Radical Islamism"
and asks the Federal Ministry of the Interior to officially investigate them.**

Report from the RKO BEFREIUNG (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 29.01.2017

A group of parliamentary deputies of the Freiheitliche Party (FPÖ) around MP David Lasar has put forward an official inquiry in the Austrian parliament. (1) In this inquiry, the deputies of the FPÖ – an extreme right-wing party which got 20.5% at the last national election and is currently leading the polls – accuse the Austrian section of the RCIT as well as the leading organization of the Egypt migrants of "Left-Wing Extremism", "Antisemitism" and "Radical Islamism". (2) As a consequence, they ask the Federal Ministry of the Interior to officially investigate the two organizations.

The right-wing FPÖ justify its inquiry by referring to the anti-racist demonstration on 26 November 2016 and the role which the contingent of the Austrian section – together with our allied migrant organizations – played there. As we reported at that time, Muslim migrants which participated in our contingent – which was the largest at the demonstration and had many migrants from Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran and other countries in its ranks – were physically attacked by hard-core pro-Zionist people from the Black Bloc (so-called "Anti-Germans"). (3)

As concrete evidence for their smear these right-wing deputies refer to our pro-Palestinian slogans at the demonstration (like "Freedom for Palestine" or "Israel and US are mocking human rights"), to Arabic slogans directed against the Egypt military dictatorship (concretely Lasar is referring to the slogans "Down with the military dictatorship" and "The people want to overthrow the regime") as well as the use of the R4BIA symbol (in memory of the thousands who were killed demonstrating in Rabia square on the 14th August 2013).

The right-wing extremists of the FPÖ led by HC Strache are well known for their militant Islamophobic and anti-refugee hate campaign. They also call for an increase of monitoring and repression against revolutionary organizations as well as Muslim migrant forces. They have close relations to the Russian Putin regime and are also fanatical supporters of Israel.

David Lasar, the initiator of the parliamentary inquiry, is a prominent member of the party. He is the official contact person to the Israeli state and has built many links to extreme right-wing parties who are dominating the Israeli government. He is also a prominent member of the Zionist federation in Austria and tries to help his party in overcoming its historic image as an anti-Semitic party. It is symbolic for the reactionary character of the party as well as Lasar himself that in summer 2011 Lasar personally went to Libya during the popular uprising to meet – in a show of solidarity with the reactionary dictatorship – Gaddafi's son.

With the victory of Trump it is clear that extreme reactionary forces like the FPÖ in Austria feel encouraged to push for an increase in state repression against revolutionary organizations as well as Muslim migrant forces. This parliamentary inquiry is only the latest and most significant attack which the Austrian section of the RCIT

has experienced during the past few years. (4) We are not surprised by these attacks as we are raising our voice and are participating in many practical solidarity activities with various migrant organizations. It is a result of our unambiguous revolutionary opposition against imperialist wars and occupation as well as against racism and Islamophobia. These latest events will only strengthen our determination.

We call on all progressive forces to show their solidarity with us by protesting against the right wing parliamentary inquiry and to reject any legal measures by the Austrian state against the Austrian section of the RCIT as well as against the Egyptian migrant organization.

Footnotes:

(1) Anfrage des Abgeordneten David Lasar und weiterer Abgeordneter an den Bundesminister für Inneres betreffend Juristisches Nachspiel für Teilnehmerinnen an der Demonstration "Let them stay" auf der Mariahilferstraße, 11459/J vom 24.01.2017 (XXV.GP), http://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/XXV/I/11459/imfname_609705.pdf. Our first response has been the following press announcement: AVISO: Parlamentsanfrage von FPÖ-Lasar ist Verhöhnung der Opfer. FPÖ-Abgeordnete um David Lasar über die ägyptische Revolution, Israel und die Vorfälle auf der Demonstration für Asylrecht am 26. November 2016 (OTS), Presseaussendung von Michael Pröbsting (Sprecher der RKO BEFREIUNG) und Ibrahim Ali (Sprecher des Koordinationsrates der ägyptischen Gemeinde), 25.01.2017, http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20170126_OTS0004/aviso-parlamentsanfrage-von-fpoe-lasar-ist-verhoehnung-der-opfer

(2) The official name of the Egypt migrant organization is *Coordination Council of the Egyptian Community*.

(3) Austria: "Left-Wing" Zionists Attack Arab Migrants at Demonstration in Solidarity with Refugees! Report (with Pictures and Videos) from the anti-racist Demonstration on 26 November in Vienna by the Austrian Section of the RCIT, 27.11.2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/zionists-attack-rcit-austria/>

(4) See e.g. RCIT: Stop Judicial Prosecution for Solidarity with Palestine! A Call to the Austrian State to Drop Its Charges against Michael Pröbsting! <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/solidarity-proebsting/>; RKO: Austria: "Left-Wing" Zionists Attack Arab Migrants at Demonstration in Solidarity with Refugees! Report (with Pictures and Videos) from the anti-racist Demonstration on 26 November in Vienna by the Austrian Section of the RCIT, 27.11.2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/zionists-attack-rcit-austria/>; RKO: KPÖ schließt RKO aus und macht den Weg frei für Frauenschläger der Anti-Nationalen Szene. Wiederholter körperlicher Angriff auf Genossin Gunić am Volksstimmefest, Bericht der Revolutionär-Kommunistischen Organisation BEFREIUNG zum Volksstimmefest 2016, 05.09.2016, <https://www.rkob.net/wer-wir-sind-1/rkob-aktiv-bei-bericht-vs-fest-2016/>; Report on May Day 2016 in Austria: Joint Resistance against Racist Attacks. Forceful, militant, internationalist demonstration despite racist attacks, Report (with Pictures and Videos) on the multinational, internationalist demonstration in Vienna marking May Day 2016 organized by the Revolutionary Communist Organization LIBERATION, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/report-may-day-2016-in-austria/>; RCIT: Victory! The Charge against RKO Spokesperson and Palestine Solidarity Activist Johannes Wiener has been dropped! 10.1.2013, <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/solidarity-with-wiener-won/>

Statement of Solidarity

Protest against the Parliamentary Inquiry launched by the Right-Wing Opposition Party in Austria against the RCIT Section and the Egyptian Migrant Community!

Stop Prosecution for Solidarity with Palestine and for Opposition against the Military Dictatorship in Egypt!

We, the undersigned, are aware that a group of deputies of the Freiheitliche Partei, an extreme right-wing racist party led by HC Strache, has initiated a parliamentary inquiry against the Austrian section of the RCIT as well as against the leading organization of the Egyptian migrants in Austria. Referring to solidarity slogans chanted at an anti-racist demonstration in Vienna on the 26 November 2016, in support of Palestine as well as slogans which supported the resistance of the Egyptian people against the military dictatorship the parliamentary deputies of the Freiheitliche Partei have called for the Federal Ministry of the Interior to officially investigate these two organizations with the

view of taking legal steps against them. Irrespective of our perspectives about the future of the Palestinian as well as the Egyptian people's struggle for liberation, we protest against holding a parliamentary inquiry and we also oppose any state investigation and prosecution against these organizations.

Please send this short letter by email to the Austrian Parliament (medienservice@parlament.gv.at) as well as to the Austrian ministry of interior (pressestelle@bmi.gv.at). Please forward this email also to us: rcit@thecommunists.net

The list of the signatories can be viewed on our website.

Austria: Press Conference on the Right-Wing Campaign against the Austrian Section of the RCIT and the Egyptian Community

Report with Videos and Pictures by the RKO BEFREIUNG (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 2 February 2017

The Revolutionary Communist Organization LIBERATION (RKO BEFREIUNG, Austrian Section of the RCIT) and the Coordination Council of the Egyptian Community (KORAT) made a press conference on 31 January. Almedina Gunić (Spokesperson of the RKO BEFREIUNG), Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT) and Ibrahim Ali (President of the KORAT) answered questions of about a dozen Austrian and international journalists.

They denounced the slanderous accusations of the main right-wing party FPÖ in this country which has launched an official inquiry in the Austrian parliament. As we already reported, the FPÖ accuses in this inquiry

the Austrian section of the RCIT as well as the leading organization of the Egypt migrants of "Left-Wing Extremism", "Antisemitism" and "Radical Islamism". As a consequence, they ask the Federal Ministry of the Interior to officially investigate the two organizations.

The press conference was held in German, English and Arabic language.

You can view the complete press conference here:

English and Arabic: <https://www.youtube.com/shared?ci=qIBVTFdfhgo>

German: <https://www.youtube.com/shared?ci=mgYrwqglzm4>



Michael Pröbsting, Almedina Gunić and Ibrahim Ali (f.l.t.r.) at the Press Conference in Vienna on 31.01.2017

Let Us Turn the Trump Era into an Era of Consistent Revolutionary Struggle!

A call to join the 21 January's International Women's Demonstration against the Inauguration of US President Trump

Issued by the International Women's Secretariat of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 18.1.2017

On 21 January we will witness one of the largest international women's days of action in history, with more than one million women marching against the inauguration of the new US president, Donald Trump. There is no doubt about the importance of the protest or its exceptional character. The first full day in office of this openly racist, sexist, Islamophobic, imperialist billionaire has become a new 8 March – the historical international women's day.

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* calls upon all activists of the workers' movement and the organizations of the oppressed to join this important day of action and to support the international women's protest.

The initiative of the upcoming women protest emerged from the US. It will include all the other oppressed layers like migrants and Muslims, black people and Native Americans, youth and the LGBT communities in addition to others. Women represent a significant part in all oppressed layers. Therefore, the struggle against all other forms of oppression must be included in women's protests. The *International Women's Secretariat of the RCIT* applauds the opening of the Women's March on 21 January to all progressive men so they can take part in the preparations and participate in the protests.

Recently we have witnessed impressive movements of the oppressed in the US like the *Black Lives Matter Movement* and the fight of the Native Americans on the land of *Standing Rock*. The upcoming women's protest should

turn towards these movements, as well as towards the oppressed people in the semi-colonial countries who will suffer the most from the Trump Era. All revolutionaries should fight for the expansion of the protests and for the creation of a proletarian women's movement. All revolutionaries should struggle for a consistent and authentic revolutionary leadership in such a women's movement. This is not only the task of revolutionary women, but of their male comrades as well.

The revolutionary year of 1917 in Russia was initiated by the protest of the working class women on the 8 March (23 February according to the old, Julian calendar) which transformed international women's day into the February Revolution. The best way we today can honor this revolutionary tradition of our sisters exactly one century ago is by our actions in practice. May the vanguard role of the women in the February Revolution 1917 be revived today by a vanguard role of working class women and all oppressed!

The Women's March on the International Day of Action can become the starting point for the building of a *Revolutionary Working Class Women's Movement*. It can become the starting point of an international mass movement against the Trump administration as well as against imperialism in general. In this way it has the potential of transforming the Trump Era into an Era of consistent revolutionary struggle by the oppressed worldwide!

Let us march together – on the 21 January and beyond – for the liberation of all oppressed!



Militants of the Mexican Section of the RCIT at the demonstration against the inauguration of Trump in Mexico City on 21.01.2017

The Global Day of Action against Trump

Report on the World-Wide Mass Protests against the Inauguration of US President Donald Trump and the RCIT's Intervention

By the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 28.01.2017

The *Women's Marches* on 21 January marked the biggest global day of action for many years. (1) Nearly 5 million people demonstrated against the inauguration of US President Donald Trump. Naturally, the biggest contingent of demonstrators marched in the US itself, where according to estimations a combined total of 2 million people were on the streets in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, Seattle and many other cities. However, there were also numerous protests in Mexico, Canada, Europe and all other continents.

The mass size of the Anti-Trump protests reflect the alarming and mobilizing effects of the electoral victory of the most racist, sexist and militaristic US president of modern times. It also shows that Trump's victory is (correctly) seen by many people as the opening of a new era, as the RCIT analyzed in detail some time ago. (2)

Naturally, it would be wrong to ignore the weaknesses of this day of action. In many cases, the protests were organized by left-liberal or reformist forces. It will be crucial – as we stated in our call for this global day of action (3) – that socialist forces push for a consistent anti-imperialist and class struggle agenda. Nevertheless, the mass turnout on 21 January augers well for the coming mass struggles against the reactionary offensive of the ruling class.

The sections and activists of the RCIT joined the mass protests in various cities. In Mexico City the comrades of the Mexican section of the RCIT joined the march to the US embassy. (See the report with pictures and videos, including an interview a comrade gave to the media at the link below.) The comrades are emphasizing in their leaflets and speeches the necessity to link the protests against Trump and US imperialism with the current mass popular struggle against the so-called *gasolinazo* – the massive increase of energy prices which has provoked a popular uprising since early January. (4)

Likewise the Austrian comrades of the RCIT joined the march in Vienna as well as solidarity actions with the Arab Revolution organized by the Syria and the Egypt community on 20 and 22 January respectively. Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed the rally of the Egypt community and emphasized some lessons from the past years of struggles. (See the report with pictures and videos at the link below.) However, the march on 21 January also showed the political problems for the future struggle against the Trumpist wave of reaction. The demonstration was largely white and middle class in its social composition. Hardly any migrants or Muslims participated in the march (many American expatriates joined the demonstration but they can hardly be characterized as an oppressed layer in the Austria society). This composition reflected the fact that it was organized by popular front coalition involving various petty-bourgeois and bourgeois women's organizations, the Austrian branch of the US Democratic Party and the Austrian section of Cliffite IST tendency (which is led by the SWP in Britain). Such a col-

laboration of the official representatives of a US-imperialist party and pseudo-Trotskyists is scandalous! Likewise, Islamophobic sectors among the organizers (mainly from the Green Party's women organization) openly objected – and finally successfully prevented – having a Muslim woman speak from the platform! (The Austrian section will publish an article on this incident in the coming days.)

Comrades of the RCIT Britain participated in a particularly large march of about 100,000 people which completely stopped the traffic near the American Embassy in London! According to the comrades, this was one of the biggest marches since the anti-war mass demonstrations against the Iraq war in 2003/04. However, here too the demonstration was predominantly white and middle class in its social composition with very few migrants and people from the semi-colonial south present.

In Wadi Ara, comrades of the RCIT section in Israel / Occupied Palestine joined a demonstration of about 10,000 people. The demonstration was organized by the so-called Follow-Up Committee - the official leadership of 1948-Palestinians (i.e. those who are living inside the official borders of Israel). Not a single left-Zionist organization supported the demonstration. Hence nearly all of the participants were Palestinians.

In summary, the 21 January marked an important first global reaction to the reactionary Trump Era. It showed that the popular masses are ready to fight back. However, it also reflected the petty-bourgeois and reformist character of the present leadership of these struggles. It is the urgent task of revolutionaries to fight for the unification of authentic socialists on the basis of a platform which addresses the main questions of the global class struggle. This is the purpose of the RCIT's *Urgent Call* which we recently published and which we ask all revolutionaries to seriously discuss with us. (5)

Footnotes:

(1) The last big global day of action was on 15 February 2003 when 15-20 million people demonstrated against the impending attack of US imperialism against Iraq.

(2) See the RCIT's pamphlet by Michael Pröbsting: *The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory. On the Lessons of the US Presidential Election Outcome and the Perspectives for the Domestic and International Class Struggle*, 24.11.2016; Michael Pröbsting: *US Presidential Election: The Victory of Donald Trump is a Historical Turning Point*, 09.11.2016. On the global consequences of Trumps victory, see RCIT: *World Perspectives 2017: The Struggle against the Reactionary Offensive in the Era of Trumpism*, 18 December 2016

(3) International Women's Secretariat of the RCIT: *Let Us Turn the Trump Era into an Era of Consistent Revolutionary Struggle! A call to join the 21 January's International Women's Demonstration against the Inauguration of US President Trump*, 18th January 2017,

(4) See on this ALS: Mexico: *Socialist Perspectives for the Mass Protests against the Gasolinazo*. 11.01.2017

(5) RCIT: *Urgent Call for Unity and a Joint Struggle on a Revolutionary Platform. An Open Letter to All Authentic Revolutionaries for an International Conference on the 100th Anniversary of the October Revolution to Advance the Building of a Revolutionary World Party*, 09.01.2017

US Presidential Election: The Victory of Donald Trump is a Historical Turning Point

A first commentary by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT), 09.November 2016

Editor's Note: The following commentary is a first assessment of the consequences of the Donald Trump's victory in the US presidential election. As it was written only hours after the closing of the polls it does not claim to be a full and comprehensive analysis. We plan to provide such a document in the near future as the electoral statistics and the policy plans of the new Administration become public.

The electoral victory of Donald Trump in the US presidential election – combined with the renewed Republican majority both in the Senate as well as in the House of Representatives – is a political event of vast historical importance. This is *not* because Trump's policy will be qualitatively worse for the working class and oppressed than Hillary Clinton's policy would have been. Both politicians are representatives of the ruling class of the still most powerful imperialist power in the world, and as such they are both arch enemies of the proletariat and oppressed peoples of the US and around the globe. This is why we in the RCIT advocated that class conscious and progressive workers and youth give their vote to neither Trump nor Clinton (nor to any of the minor bourgeois candidates like Johnson or Stein).

No, the election of Trump is of crucial importance because it nearly guarantees accelerated political polarization and instability – both domestically in the US as well as abroad. Therefore, we believe that the outcome of this presidential election represents a historical event for the class struggle both within the US as well as internationally.

What are the reasons for this thesis of ours? They are to be found in the primary political differences between Trump and Clinton:

a) While Clinton stood for a *carefully masked offensive* against the working class and the oppressed, Trump stands for an *openly aggressive and provocative assault* against the popular masses. Despite his "pro-working class" rhetoric, Trump plans to reduce even more the taxes for corporations and to attack any remaining working class rights. Because of the decreased revenue from taxes, President-elect Trump, upon entering office, will have to cut the already very limited social programs, like health, education, and welfare, which will in particular impact the lower strata of the proletariat with their huge black and Latino segments.

This program of radical austerity will unavoidably provoke massive outrage and resistance. This is why Trump combines his social austerity and pro-corporation policy with a program of white-evangelical chauvinism and law-and-order Bonapartism. Hence "*Donald*" (*the Duck*, we should add) – an apt name for such a political clown – openly incites hatred and denigration for Latinos as well as the Muslims in his speeches. He makes no secret about his contempt for women. Trump's vice president, Mike Pence, is a Christian fundamentalist who wants to allow shops to refuse serving homosexuals. Thus, it is clear that this presidency will provoke Muslims, lesbians and gays, and many other minorities. While Bill Clinton and Obama masked social cuts and police repression with

phrases about equality and anti-racism, Trump openly advocates white-evangelical chauvinism, law-and-order and Bonapartist rule. Hence, the new administration will tremendously accelerate the oppression of the black and Latino communities by building a wall along the border with Mexico, undertake mass expulsion of "illegal" migrants, and extend the power of the US police forces and white gun owners in general.

Trump's slogan "*Make America great again*" means, first and foremost, enhancing the power of US corporations and reactionary white chauvinism.

The consequences of this are clear. Those of us who, in the early 2000s, experienced the transition from the presidency of Bill Clinton to that of George W. Bush – from a professional politician carefully masking his reactionary policies to a dullard and unwitting clown – will recall that the latter initiated wars and provoked a global wave of mass resistance for years. As Trump makes even Bush look like an egghead, we can safely assume that the former will again provoke popular resistance both in the US as well as around the globe.

b) Hillary Clinton stood for a *gradually modified alteration of US foreign policy* from that of Obama during the past 8 years. She advocated a more aggressive political stance against imperialist rivals like Russia and China in the context of world affairs like the civil wars in Syria and the Ukraine. However, at the same time she wanted to continue the decades-long economic policy of globalization and free trade.

By comparison, Trump represents a *radical change of US foreign policy*. His is a policy of relative or selective isolationism. "*Donald*" represents the growing sector of the ruling class which, from the declining power of US imperialism, has come to the conclusion that the US can no longer afford to play the role of the world's policeman. This faction of the monopoly bourgeoisie is *not* isolationist in the sense that it advocates a complete withdrawal of the US from world politics. Clearly, this is not possible in a modern world characterized by the thorough interconnection of politics and the economy of the US with global developments. However, the Trump administration will reduce the long-term political and military commitments of the US with other great powers. This is why Trump is inclined to cut deals with Putin on the Ukraine or Syria. This is, by the way, why Trump's victory hastens the danger for the liquidation of the Syrian Revolution by a reactionary deal between the Great Powers, as we have repeatedly warned in the past. Furthermore, this is why Trump wants to loosen the strategic commitment of the US to the NATO alliance, which binds it to the imperialist EU.

An additional factor for this could be Trumps' desire to reduce conflicts with the US's imperialist rivals in the international arena – at least initially – so that he can focus on consolidating his regime domestically, seeing as he can justifiably expect numerous domestic protests, as we have noted, but also conflicts within his own Republican party.

At the same time, it would be utterly foolish to believe

that Trump will be able to simply arrange a stable agreement with Putin or Xi. Trump's chauvinism – manifested in his plans for economic protectionism – will sooner or later lead to various conflicts with China and Russia. Naturally, this will lead to political and ultimately military conflicts with the US's rival eastern imperialists – contrary to the naïve belief of the pseudo-left "critical" (and not so critical) supporters of Putin and Xi in the Stalinist camp who advocated support for Trump.

One possible area for such a conflict is between Israel and Iran, where Trump has committed himself to support Netanyahu's opposition to the nuclear deal with Teheran. Trump's triumph could also encourage the Israeli government to launch another war on the Palestinian people in Gaza, as Israel's Minister of Defense Lieberman has already suggested in a recent interview with *Al Quds*. Other possible areas for imperialist aggression are the "War against Terrorism" in the Middle East or against North Korea in East Asia.

The likelihood for such foreign-policy adventures is increased by the fact that the Trump administration needs "terrorist" dangers and "foreign threats" in order to keep up its domestic agenda of chauvinism and Bonapartist law-and-order.

All these developments will have tremendous implications for all capitalist countries around the globe. In this context and point in time we can name just a few. For one, they will substantially increase protectionist tendencies among all imperialist powers. This will push the ruling class of Europe to accelerate its plans for the formation of a unified EU imperialist state apparatus in order to act more independently of the US. It will also strengthen chauvinist and Bonapartist tendencies in all countries where right-wing politicians will see in Trump a successful and popularly-supported model for their own regimes.

However, as we have already noted, these developments will also provoke mass protests and accelerate the global class struggle. The Trump administration will provoke the resistance of the black and Latino communities in the US. It will result in renewed and widespread hatred of US imperialism both among the peoples of Latin America as well as in the Islamic world. While Obama could, at least to a certain degree, pretend to create a global democratic consensus integrating ideologically some sectors of the bourgeoisie and the middle class in other parts of the world, dumb Donald is guaranteed to achieve just the opposite.

Elaborating all these analyses must of course not lead us to forget the enormous contradictions which will charac-

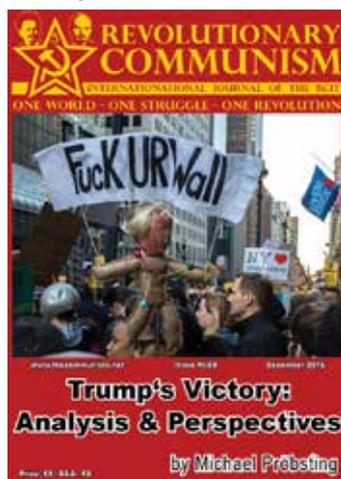
terize the Trump administration. Naturally "Donald" cannot govern alone, but will have to make compromises with the Republicans in the Senate and the Congress. As we know the Republican majority is less willing than Trump to support an isolationist policy. In fact, the Republican establishment distanced itself from Trump during the campaign. However, while such compromises may moderate this or that Trump policy, at the same time it is quite likely that, after Trump's triumph, a growing sector of the Republicans will rather adapt to Trumpism.

No one should confuse the outcome of the US presidential election with the authentic popular will of the American people. One must not forget that electoral participation is very low in the US, with only about half of the eligible voters bothering to go to the polls. Neither should it be forgotten that 11 million "illegal" migrants, as well as many millions of poor with previous felony convictions, *are* permitted to sell their labor power to the capitalists, but *are not allowed to vote*.

All socialists should be clear about one thing: Trump's victory is a declaration of war against the organized workers' movement, against the Afro-American, Latino and Muslim populations, and against the rights of women. Activists in the workers' movement and in the movements for the rights of blacks, Latinos and Muslims must respond to this declaration of war with a general mobilization and a call to arms. Comrades, these are the opening shots of a period of years of unlimited imperialist aggression as well as mass struggles against it!

Naturally, all the above are just some first thoughts. Events in the coming weeks and months will show more clearly the new relation of forces inside the American ruling class and its consequences for US domestic and foreign policy. We will cover these developments in future articles and statements.

Nevertheless, it is already quite obvious: our international struggle against Trump's war on the working class and oppressed of the US and around the world will not be a short struggle. Rather, it will be a long and difficult struggle. For this reason, it is incumbent that advanced workers and the oppressed develop a plan of struggle and get themselves organized. Therefore, the creation of a revolutionary world party with sections in the US and all other countries is more urgent than ever. The RCIT is determined to work together with revolutionaries around the globe in building such a party. Join forces with us in taking on this task!



NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

Israel Loves Donald Trump who Loves Israel but Dislikes Jews

By Yossi Schwartz (Member of the RCIT and Central-Israel Branch of Balad), 20.11.2016

As soon as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu learned of the victory of Donald Trump, he telephoned, tweeted, issued a statement and posted a video celebrating the victory, calling Trump "a true friend of Israel." Trump, on his part, invited Netanyahu to the U.S. to meet "at the first opportunity."

Netanyahu celebrated the victory of Trump as well as other leaders of the most reactionary forces in the US and the world. Ku Klux Klan (KKK) leader David Duke greeted Trump for his historical victory and so did Marine La Pen in France. She said that Trump's victory is good news for France. Her father, party founder Jean-Marie Le Pen, also congratulated Trump, "Today the United States, tomorrow France," he tweeted. He is known among other things for repeatedly stating his view that the Nazi gas chambers of World War II were a mere "detail" of history. (1)

Other Fascists like Freedom Party leader, Geert Wilders, of the Netherlands and Golden Dawn Party spokesman, Ilias Kasidiaris, of Greece joined the cheers. Vladimir Putin who helps Syrian President Assad to butcher the Syrian people was one of the first world leaders to congratulate Mr. Trump on his victory. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi was another authoritarian world leader to welcome Trump's presidency as he sees Trump's victory as a sign of support for his repressive regime that has killed and jailed many thousands of people suspected of belonging or supporting the Muslim Brotherhood or leftist democratic forces.

A Boost to Zionist Theft of Palestinian Land

The right wing Zionist parties that make up the Israeli government see the victory of Trump as a boost to their theft of Palestinian land and an end to the pressure to come to an agreement with the Palestinian Authority. It is time to expand the settlements in the entire West Bank, they say.

"It's unquestionably a new era. Now is the time to advance plans, to resume building and move ahead," Moti Yogeve (Habayit Hayehudi) said during a celebratory meeting in the Knesset." (2)

Habayit Hayehudi chairman and minister of education, Naftali Bennett, congratulated the president-elect and said, "Trump's victory is an opportunity for Israel to immediately retract the notion of a Palestinian state in the center of the country, which would hurt our security and just cause. This is the position of the President-elect, as written in his platform, and it should be our policy, plain and simple. ... The era of a Palestinian state is over." (3)

It was not a great surprise that the so called opposition leader, Isaac Herzog, head of the Zionist Union party, congratulated Trump in a Facebook post.

"American democracy today elected a leader who surprised the pundits, and showed that we are in an era of change and new direction. You did the unexpected, against all odds," Herzog wrote.

"I am convinced that the security and economic alliance between Israel, and our strongest ally the United States, will con-

tinue to strengthen under your presidency." (4)

According to the Prime Minister Office press release "Merav Michaeli, a Knesset member also with Zionist Union, lamented Trump's win, calling it a "sad day" when America elected a man who "carried a flag of hatred" toward the women and the vulnerable. Zehava Galon, the chief of the far left Meretz party, echoed Michaeli's lament, but said she believed that "democracy will survive the American presidency of Donald Trump." (5)

The Communist Party and its electoral front Hadash, that during the elections supported the Democratic imperialist party, now, after the victory of Trump, wrote on November 10th that the victory of Trump express the crisis of capitalism and of American imperialism. The right wing in the US and Europe is getting stronger. Trump's victory expresses the anger and frustration of the weak and even the middle class layers from the decay of the system. Clinton did not offer any political alternative in the internal relationships and expressed the continuation of the destructive imperialist interest in the region. Sanders, represented a social democratic line, but the blocking of this line left the voters with two bad alternatives and they voted for Trump. (6)

While we can agree with this conclusion, even though Sanders represented a liberal line, not a social democratic one, the question is why Hadash and the CPI during the election campaign called to vote Clinton when it seemed that she is going to win the election rather than fight for the formation of a Workers' Party based on the unions and especially black and other minority workers in total opposition to both parties of the class enemy.

Trump's Anti-Semitism

While the Zionist right and left mainstream parties welcome Trump's victory, the American Jews, most of them liberals, are terrified. During Trump's campaign anti-Muslim as well as Anti-Jewish signs were waved under his nose in Cincinnati. Trump said that he did not see them. Leaflets containing caricatures of George Soros, Haim Saban and Sheldon Adelson as the three wise monkeys were distributed at a press conference in Chicago, but he did not see them. "How many of you are Jews", he asked the reporters. "Tell me because we can always pull down your pants and see for ourselves", he said. (7)

The ultra Orthodox who supported Trump were driven with curses and shoved out from a meeting in Albany. In a meeting in El Paso he said that "Blooointment and Schoooooomer" were ganging up on Trump to prevent America being great again "because the New York establishment wants to suck us dry. The Jews don't give me money because they know I can't be bought. So they're doing everything they can to destroy me. We'll see how to deal with this thing once I'm in office, but I promise you, it won't be pleasant". (8)

Collaboration of Zionism with Anti-Semites in History

This will not be the first time in history that the Anti-Semites support the Zionists and the Zionists support the Anti-Semites. Theodor Herzl, wrote in his 1895 diary: "In Paris... I recognized the emptiness and futility of trying to "combat" anti-Semitism." He also wrote "It would be an excellent idea to call in respectable, accredited anti-Semites as liquidators of property. To the people they would vouch for the fact that we do not wish to bring about the impoverishment of the countries that we leave. At first they must not be given large fees for this; otherwise we shall spoil our instruments and make them despicable as stooges of the Jews. Later their fees will increase, and in the end we shall have only Gentile officials in the countries from which we have emigrated. The anti-Semites will become our most dependable friends, the anti-Semitic countries our allies". (9)

Balfour like his Prime Minister, Lloyd George, were Anti-Semites. Lloyd George once described his colleague Herbert Samuel as "a greedy, ambitious and grasping Jew with all the worst characteristics of his race." Balfour had been moved to tears by British Zionist leader Chaim Weizmann's recital of the ills done to the Jewish people. Nevertheless, he told Weizmann that he shared the "anti-Semitic postulates" of the virulent Cosima Wagner, who would become one of the first patrons of Adolf Hitler. In fact, the sole Jewish member of Lloyd George's government, Edwin Montagu, strongly opposed the Balfour Declaration because he thought it would encourage anti-Semites throughout the world to expel Jews from their countries. "Palestine will become the world's ghetto," he warned. (10)

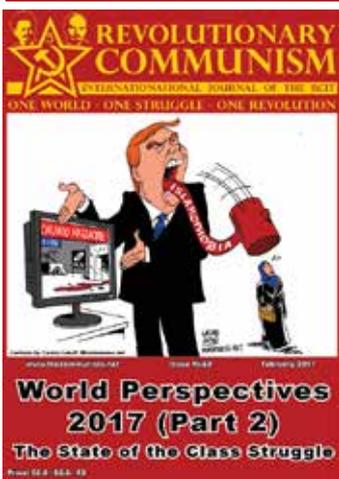
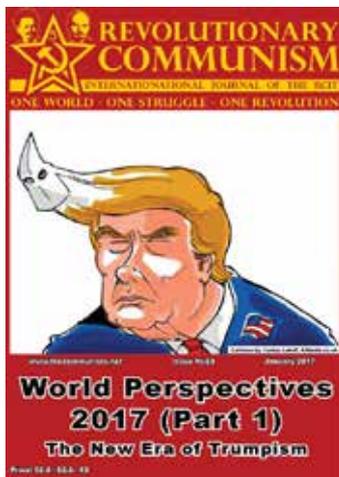
In the 1930s the Labor Zionists made the deal known as "The Transfer" with the Third Reich. The Nazis allowed

some rich Jews to be transported to Palestine with their 30 Million dollars. Large parts of it were in the form of German products and the Zionists were selling Nazi products in the Middle East.

For this reason the Zionists sabotages the Anti-Nazi-Boycott. Today the Zionists are forced to admit that indeed the Zionist and the Nazi collaborated economically and politically but they try to find excuses for it. For example we can read in *Encyclopedia Judaica* under the entry "Haavara":

"HAAVARA, a company for the transfer of Jewish property from Nazi Germany to Palestine. The Trust and Transfer Office Haavara Ltd., was established in Tel Aviv, following an agreement with the German government in August 1933, to facilitate the emigration of Jews to Palestine by allowing the transfer of their capital in the form of German export goods. The Haavara Agreement is an instance where the question of Jewish rights, Zionist needs and individual rescue were in deep tension. Jewish organizations outside of Germany had declared a boycott against German goods and hoped to delegitimize the Nazi regime. The Zionists saw this agreement as a way of attracting Jews to Palestine and thus rescuing them from the Nazi universe even if that meant cooperation with Hitler. For a time the Nazi program of making Germany Judenrein and the Zionist policy of seeking olim coincided." (11)

Yet what this apologetics piece still hides is the fact that because of this agreement the Zionists sabotage the international boycott of Nazi Germany. Alison Weir wrote on this question in the context of the attack of the *Anti-Defamation-League* on a flyer produced by *International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network*. The flyer was part of Auschwitz survivor speaking tour about Israel's treatment of Palestinians. Called "Never Again For Anyone," it was sponsored by a diverse array of eight national organizations and nine



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World Perspectives 2017: The Struggle against the Reactionary Offensive in the Era of Trumpism

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Published as two special issues of RevCom with altogether 56 pages, A4 Format

local ones, secular, Jewish and Muslim. Weir wrote:

"The flier's statements are accurate. There is detailed evidence that some Zionists collaborated with the Nazis, that Zionists sabotaged anti-Nazi boycotts, and that Zionists interfered with efforts to rescue victims of Nazi oppression. When facts first emerged in the 1950s about Zionist-Nazi collusion, it caused considerable scandal in Israel and led to the fall of the Israeli government of the time. A number of books are dedicated to this subject and it is discussed in numerous others, almost all by Jewish and/or Israeli authors. The topic inspired novels by well-known Israeli writers Amos Elon and Neil Gordon, was the subject of a 1987 British play, and was portrayed in a 1994 Israeli docudrama. Popular American playwright and fervent Zionist Ben Hecht wrote the first book on the subject, "Perfidy," relating the history of a Hungarian Zionist leader who arranged for his family and several hundred prominent Jews to escape while facilitating the movement of the rest of Hungarian Jews to Nazi concentration camps.

Hannah Arendt, in her 1960 book "Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report in the Banality of Evil," writes: "To a Jew this role of the Jewish leaders in the destruction of their own people is undoubtedly the darkest chapter of the whole dark story."

In "The Transfer Agreement: The Dramatic Story of the Pact between the Third Reich and Jewish Palestine" (containing an afterword by ADL head Abe Foxman), pro-Israel writer Edwin Black reports that in 1933 Zionist leaders concluded a secret pact with the Third Reich that transferred 60,000 Jews and \$100,000 to Palestine, Zionists promising in return that they would halt the worldwide boycott "that threatened to topple the Hitler regime in its first year."

Author-researcher Lenni Brenner wrote of Zionist-Nazi collusion in "Zionism in the Age of Dictators," of which the London Times stated: "Brenner is able to cite numerous cases where Zionists collaborated with anti-Semitic regimes, including Hitler's." Brenner's second book on the topic, "51 Documents, Zionist Collaboration with the Nazis," includes a 1940 letter from underground Zionist terrorist leader Avraham Stern proposing that Jewish militias would fight on Germany's side in exchange for Nazi help in creating an "historic Jewish state."

In "What Price Israel," American Council for Judaism member Alfred Lilienthal describes FDR's efforts to set up a program to rescue refugees, only to find Zionists sabotaging it. Roosevelt explained: "The Zionist movement knows that Palestine is, and will be for some time, a remittance society. They know that they can raise vast sums for Palestine by saying to donors, 'There is no other place this poor Jew can go.'"

In "The Seventh Million: The Israelis and the Holocaust," Israeli historian Tom Segev quotes Zionist leader and future Israeli Prime Minister David Ben Gurion: "If I knew that it was possible to save all the Jewish children of Germany by transporting them to England, but only half of them by transporting them to Palestine, I would choose the second." Segev writes that Ben-Gurion worried that 'the human conscience' might cause various countries to open their doors to Jewish refugees from Germany and saw this as a threat, warning: 'Zionism is in danger.'" (12)

The Israeli state had very close relations with the Argentinean Junta that killed Jews and sold it weapons. During the military rule of Pinochet in Chile, Israel had very close relations to the butcher who killed leftist Jews.

Reactionary politicians have differentiated many times between the "good Jews" – the Zionists – and the bad Jews – the progressive and revolutionary Jews. In 1920

Churchill wrote the Jews are divided into three groups: The national Jews who support the governments, the Zionists who want to have their own national project and the International Jews like Rosa Luxemburg and Trotsky. The first two are good and the third one very destructive. (13)

Fighting both against Zionism and Anti-Semitism!

The Zionists and the non-Jewish reactionaries have a common ground. The Anti-Semites want to drive the Jews out of the countries they have lived in for centuries and the Zionists want to gain from it by recruiting some of these Jews to serve in the army and settle in the 1967 occupied lands. For the Zionist a strong Anti-Semite wave in the USA will be seen as a blessing.

Thus the fight in the US against the wave of racism that Trump's victory is releasing will include the fight against Anti-Semitism and the Zionist state. In the 1950s and the 1960s many Jews participated in the anti racist struggle led by the black movement in the US. This alliance was broken after the 1967 war. This alliance is likely to be formed again and with other minorities. To be successful this struggle must be led by the working class and in particular the black working and on a program that will lead to the liberation of the working class and the masses of the poor and the oppressed from destructive capitalism. It was Lenin who said: *"For Humanity to survive imperialism must die"*.

Footnotes

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The China–Pakistan Economic Corridor is a Project of Chinese Imperialism for the Colonialization of Pakistan!

Joint Statement of the International Secretariat of the RCIT and the RWO (Pakistani Section of the RCIT), 22.1.2017

1. The so-called *China–Pakistan Economic Corridor* (CPEC) is a massive investment project which includes the construction of highways, railways, pipelines, etc currently under construction at a cost of \$54 billion. It is part of imperialist China’s major economic project called *One Belt, One Road* which shall serve Beijing’s plan to significantly expand its global economic sphere of influence. Its economic significance is clear from the fact that if all the planned projects will be implemented, their combined value would be equal to all foreign direct investment in Pakistan since 1970!

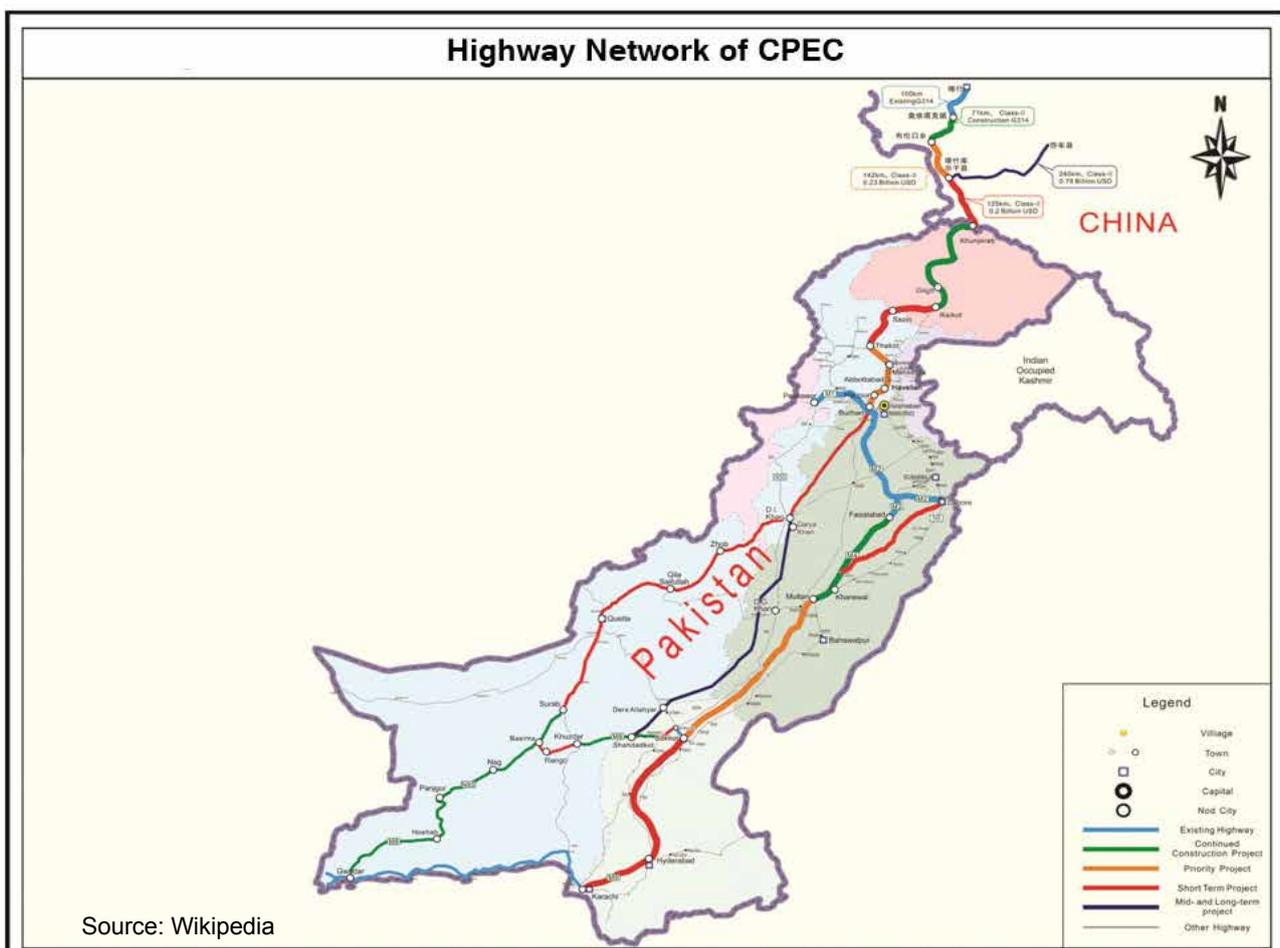
2. Among the most prominent projects of CPEC is the construction of highways and railways linking the city of Gwadar in Balochistan – a nationally oppressed region in southwestern Pakistan – with the city of Kashgar in East-Turkmenistan (called Xinjiang by China, a nationally oppressed region in northwestern China). Another important project is the construction of a network of pipelines to transport liquefied natural gas and oil.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and the *Revolutionary Workers Organization* (Pakistani Section of the RCIT) unconditionally oppose the CPEC as an expansionist project of Chinese imperialism. To make historic analogies, one can compare CPEC with initiatives of US imperialism in the past like the so-called

Marshall Plan in Europe after World War II or the so-called *Alliance for Progress* initiated by US President John F. Kennedy in 1961. Both projects were economic initiatives which primarily served the expansion of the sphere of influence of US imperialism.

4. The RCIT reaffirms its analysis of China as an emerging imperialist power. As we have noted in numerous documents, China – together with the US – is today home of the greatest number of globally active capitalist corporations as well as of the world’s super-rich elite. It is a leading foreign investor in, as well as a trading partner with, Pakistan and the whole Asian continent. Finally, China has become a leading military power – albeit still substantially behind the US. In short, China is a leading imperialist Great Power which challenges the global and regional hegemony of US imperialism. It is characteristic for the bankruptcy of various reformists and centrists that they are incapable of recognizing the imperialist character of China.

5. In particular we oppose those projects which serve – under the pretext of economic progress – the intensification of national subjugation of oppressed nations. This is particularly relevant for the oppressed Baloch people which constitutes more than 69% of the population in the southwestern province of Pakistan.



The Baloch people have underlined their wish for independence in four major armed insurgencies in 1948, 1958–59, 1962–63 and 1973–77 as well as in permanent mass protests and an ongoing guerilla struggle. It is hardly accidental that the leading forces of the national liberation struggle of the Baloch people – various petty-bourgeois nationalist parties and guerilla groups – oppose the CPEC project, seeing it as an instrument to intensify their own national oppression by the Pakistani state with the assistance of Beijing.

6. We reemphasize our unconditional support for the national liberation struggle of the Baloch people for independence and combine this with a socialist perspective calling for an *independent workers' and peasant republic of Balochistan*. Likewise, we repeat our support for the national liberation struggle of the Uyghur people who have been suppressed for many decades by the dominant Han people of China.

7. Of course, as Marxists we are not opposed to economic projects and investments as such. However we oppose the CPEC project since it primarily serves the interests of Chinese monopoly capital and the small Pakistani comprador bourgeoisie – and not the interest of the people of Pakistan and China. In particular, we oppose those projects which will directly increase the oppression of the Baloch and other national minorities.

8. The RCIT calls for the nationalization of all Chinese (as well as the US and other foreign imperialist) investments in Pakistan. These economic resources should be utilized for a plan under the control of the working class, the poor peasants and the national minorities, so that it serves their interests and not that of the capitalists.

9. We strongly condemn those reformists and centrists like the *Awami Workers Party* or the *Communist Party of Pakistan* which support the CPEC. They falsely present CPEC as a project of “*economic progress*” which supposedly serves the interests of the Pakistani people. In the 1940s and 1950s the social democratic bureaucracy in Europe – supporting the *Marshall Plan* – served as social-imperialist agents of Washington. Various “progressive” populists in Latin America played a similar role when they supported the *Alliance for Progress* in the 1960s. Today, the

AWP, the CPP and similar forces unmask themselves as pro-Chinese social-imperialists. All authentic socialists should break with these parties and join the revolutionary forces!

10. The interests of the Pakistani workers and oppressed as well as their Chinese brothers and sisters are not served by the economic projects of their bosses, but rather by their independent class struggle against these bosses and by their own mutual international solidarity. Only the overthrow of the ruling class and a socialist revolution will open the road to freedom and welfare for all oppressed!

Down with the CPEC!

Support for the national liberation struggle of the Baloch people in Pakistan as well as of the Uyghur people in China!

For a workers' and peasant government in Pakistan! For a workers' and peasant government in China!

Forward to the international class struggle!

For a federation of workers and peasants republics in South Asia as well throughout all Asia!

For our analysis of Pakistan we refer readers to the “Action Program for Socialist Revolution” issued by the Revolutionary Workers Organisation:

<https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/pakistan-action-program/>

For more articles on Pakistan see the Asia section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/>

For our analysis of China as an emerging imperialist country we refer readers to various documents:

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

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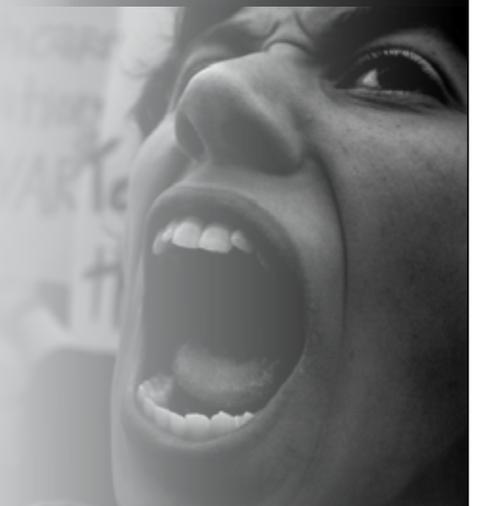
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Britain: Capitalist Crisis Deepens but Left-Reformism fails to Provide a Solution

By Dave Tate, RCIT Britain, 21.01.2017

For many workers, immigrants, Muslims and vulnerable women 2017 will be another harsh year with continuing attacks on wages, job losses, civil liberties, Islamophobia and further reductions in social provision. Early signs of these attacks have already been seen in the 140 redundancies at AEI cables in Birtley, just outside of Gateshead in the North East of England, job losses were also announced at Axon Energy Products Group in Gateshead which is part of the oil component industry. Not only in the North East but there have also been reports from Kirklees where the Labour run council is threatening to take legal action against social workers who are involved in a dispute with the council over workloads, pay and management bullying.

As if these cases are not bad enough there is also a threat from Labour run Sunderland City council to cut funding to Wearside Women in Need of some £586,000 from June 2017. If these cuts take place, then it would make Sunderland the first major city not to provide any refuges to women fleeing domestic violence. At risk are four refuges accommodating 173 women and 107 children as well as projects which give support to homeless people, those women forced into arranged marriages and people with mental health problems. The success of these schemes can be clearly seen in the drastic reduction of deaths related through domestic violence.

When Corbyn was elected Labour leader there was a huge up swell of support from young people, those who had been suffering years of austerity attacks that at least there was a political alternative that would somehow make workers lives better. Part of this alternative was the establishment of *Momentum* which was supposed to act as a bridge between those who wished to be active in supporting the Corbyn project but did not wish to be part of the Labour Party. Unfortunately, as the unremitting attacks against Corbyn continued, the mood from the leadership began to sour and that instead of being a plus *Momentum* was a handicap.

To tackle this perceived problem the leadership around Lansman, aided and abetted by journalists such as Owen Jones, decided to launch an electronic coup d'état and abolished at the click of a mouse all the democratic structures. Now all members of *Momentum* must be

Labour Party members if not then they will be expelled. While there has been some opposition to these Stalinist purges as to date, these have been ineffective and it looks like Lansman will succeed in making *Momentum* a Corbyn election tool.

Of course, simply blaming Corbyn and Macdonald for allowing this to happen do not get at the core reasons why they allow this to happen. The simple fact is that Corbyn is at heart a left reformist who sees fundamental change coming through parliament and that he will inevitably retreat if he sees the polls falling. Trotsky in the 1930's argued that revolutionaries cannot rely on left reformists to bring about fundamental change in times of economic crisis that the left reformists will inevitable become confused and paralysed. What is needed is patient arguing with all those who support Corbyn that a revolutionary struggle is needed which places working class self-activity informed by a Marxist perspective at the centre of all liberation struggles.

These cases are just the tip of an iceberg of human suffering brought on by the ongoing capitalist crisis and the related brutal strategy of austerity. In response to these attacks the Labour Party leadership under Corbyn instructs its councillors to remain within capitalist legality and not to set any illegal budgets. While Corbyn seems to be more concerned with keeping his right wing happy the trade union leaders are no better with job losses being greeted by sighs of regret but no organised resistance.

The RCIT Britain repeats that the crucial task in the coming period remains the construction of a revolutionary party as part of a new Workers International. Support us in contributing to this task!

For a summary of our program we refer readers to the platform of the British Supporters of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT): <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rcit-britain-platform/>

We also want to draw the attention of our readers to an Open Letter of our international organization – the “Urgent Call for Unity and a Joint Struggle on a Revolutionary Platform”: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/urgent-call-revolutionary-unity-1/>

LIBERATION

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After Corbyns' Re-Election: Fight against Austerity!

Corbyn wins a huge majority in the Labour Party leadership election, defeating the Pro-Austerity wing – let's use this victory to go further!

Statement of RED LIBERATION, 07.11.2016

On the 24th September 2016 Jeremy Corbyn was re-elected as leader of the Labour party by 61.8%, a bigger majority than when he was first elected as leader. This happened even despite a ferocious campaign by the Blairite Labour Party machine that used the capitalist courts to prevent Corbyn standing. They even disenfranchised nearly 130,000 new members of the party who had joined after January 18th and the following left-swing of the party. These disenfranchised members were likely to vote for Corbyn. Corbyns' challenger Owen Smith, the "unity" candidate, got 193,229 votes, or 38.2% of the vote. *"The turnout was 77.6%, with 506,438 members and supporters taking part. Corbyn won a majority over Smith in every category: members, registered supporters and trade union affiliates. He won the support of 59% of voting members (10 points higher than last year), 70% of registered supporters and 60% of affiliated supporters. This result constituted a ringing endorsement of Corbyn and a massive blow to Labour's right wing."* [1]

The bureaucratic purge continues

Despite of Corbyns' victory, the purge of party members continues with many facing expulsion (Auto-exclusion) and investigation by the Compliance Unit - a Kangaroo court - set up by the Blairite officials. Labour HQ has been trawling through social media mainly Twitter and Facebook of any member who has joined after January 18th desperately to find any pretext for an exclusion.

A Labour source has confirmed "a few thousand" votes have now been culled in the Party's second leadership "purge." Figures of either "tens of thousands" or "hundreds of thousands" are total figures and include post-January members. Members receiving letters suspending them from the Party have a right to appeal". [2]

The situation in Momentum

Momentum the organisation that was founded after Corbyn was elected in 2015 is now in a crisis. The self-appointed leadership of Momentum under Jon Lansman has a contemptuous attitude to the local groups that sprung up all over the country. Under political pressure from the Blairites it removed Jacki Walker the Vice-chair of Momentum because of her antizionist positions. The right wing of the party – mainly supporters of the Zionist state of Israel – engineered her removal with the help of Landsman and the *Alliance of Workers Liberty*, a pro Zionist and pro imperialist group active in the Labour party.

The national steering committee of Momentum, which has not been elected by the rank and file, has decided to cancel the national committee meeting, another imposed structure, which has caused uproar from the more left wing elements in Momentum. Matt Wrack, the Leader of the Fire Brigades Union and a left wing bureaucrat,

is proposing the National Committee meets against the wishes of Landsman and co. (we publish his statement below as an appendix). There is a strong possibility that Momentum could split. *RED LIBERATION* supports the move of Wrack and others as a way of clearing out capitulators like Landsman.

Corbyns' victory represents a left-swing of the organized workers

During the Election campaign *RED LIBERATION* gave critical support to Corbyn and McDonnell. They are both left reformists who are campaigning for a Labour Government on a mildly reformist program. However they represent a left-swing in the workers movement and it is necessary to break the illusions of progressive workers while testing their leaders in power. We wrote: *"Corbyn is a left reformist and that is his weakness. He has completely misunderstood the strength of the Blairites and their close relationship to the bourgeois and the ruling class. The ruling class after Brexit requires a compliant and stable Labour Party that will do their bidding. Corbyn foolishly believed that he could work with them, but before Brexit they were already planning a coup to remove him".* [3]

Corbyn in his re-election speech stated *"The slate has now been wiped clean"*. He continues to work with the Blairite right of the Party and has even appointed some of them to his shadow cabinet. The 172 Labour MPs who plotted a coup against Corbyn are still determined to get rid of him. They are just waiting for a suitable moment to try and move against him again.

The Blairite wing of the party are determined to steer the party back towards a pro-austerity, pro war and pro racist position once again. They despise the youth and working class who have joined the party because of Corbyn's anti-austerity and anti-war message. The Blairite wing want to make capitalism and imperialism in Britain safe again as it was during the Blair and Brown Governments.

The Lefts' attitude

The two main centrist parties in Britain, The *Socialist Party of England and Wales* (SPEW) and the *Socialist Workers Party* (SWP) remain outside the Labour party but insist that the Labour party is no longer a bourgeois workers party but a bourgeois capitalist party forgetting its intrinsic connection to the working class. Of course they still uncritically applaud the actions of Corbyn and support his reformist programme with one or two objections. They both even support a bourgeois Labour Government.

RED LIBERATION insists that the SPEW and the SWP are wrong to say that the British Labour party is no longer a bourgeois workers party. Our tendency in our analysis of the United Front insists that what is required under certain conditions, as it is currently the case in Britain, is patient

work inside the Labour party. What is important are the massed ranks of tens of thousands of militant workers and youth who have joined the Labour party recently.

"However with the successful campaign of the left reformist Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn in the summer of 2015 this decline has been turned around. Despite open hostility by the pro-Blairite party establishment .corbyn's campaign was based on an anti-austerity and anti-militaristic platform which created huge enthusiasm among young people". [4] "We would try to patiently convince the majority of the party to adopt a revolutionary perspective". [5] "Of course as we have indicated above no one should have any illusions about these new reformist or populist parties. Ultimately they will betray the working class and the oppressed either when they have the opportunity to enter a government or when they play the leading role in a mass struggle". [6]

It is therefore necessary to work inside the Labour party to win, recruit and build a revolutionary wing. Centrists always move between reformist and revolutionary positions but ultimately they will support a left reformist like Corbyn uncritically.

In the past, the SPEW which was called *Militant Tendency* in the 1970s and 1980s was part of the Labour party but their entryism was of an opportunist nature. They allowed genuine revolutionaries to be expelled while during the 1980's they provided a cover for the left reformists and peddled the illusion that the Labour party can be turned into a revolutionary party. Ultimately they were expelled when Blair took control of the party and was elected leader.

We have identified their wrong positions many times and showed how instead of taking a principled position on the united front both the SPEW and the SWP have adopted sectarian or opportunist positions or combined these opposites with each other.

"Labour's membership comeback demonstrates how wrong numerous centrists were when they declared in the early 1990's that the Labour party (and social democratic parties in general) are no longer bourgeois workers parties. We authentic Marxists have always rejected this assumption while at the same time, having also consistently denounced the opportunist adoption to Labour-entryism and never ending entryism as practiced by Ted Grant and Alan Wood's (Former members of the Militant)".[7].

The SPEW has recently decided to propose another way of joining the Labour Party. 60 members who were in the Militant tendency when it was part of the Labour Party have now applied to join the Labour Party again. This of course will be rejected by the party machine which is still Blairite in its composition. It was McNichol, General Secretary of the Labour party, who used the capitalist courts to prevent Corbyn being on the Ballot paper. When that failed he made sure that the majority of Corbyn supporters were refused admission and would not have a vote in the Election for leader.

Next steps to go forward

RED LIBERATION calls for unity amongst all those socialists who want an end to austerity, war and Imperialism. One step toward this can be achieved if Corbyn and Momentum lead a campaign to rid itself of the 172 Coup Plotters and the Blairites running Labour HQ and the regional offices. When the Blairites are removed it is will be more difficult for the Left reformist Corbyn and

Momentum to find an excuse to capitulate to ruling class.

** No to racism! Fight to form Anti-Racist Councils of action in defence of Migrants and against Islamophobia and fascist attacks*

** Elect Peoples Assemblies in every area of the Country with the right of recall.*

** Self-determination for the people of Scotland.*

** For a Referendum to unify Ireland into a 32 County Workers Republic*

** For a Workers Defence Guards to protect Communities from Fascist or racist attacks.*

Footnotes

1 <http://www.socialist.net/victory-for-corbyn-the-genie-is-now-out-of-the-bottle.htm>

2 <https://heavymetalpolitics.com/2016/08/27/labour-purge-appealing-works/>

3 <http://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/critical-support-for-corbyn/>

4 <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/book-united-front/chapter-4/>

5 <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/book-united-front/chapter-6/>

6 <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/book-united-front/chapter-6/>

7 <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/book-united-front/chapter-6/>

Appendix

"Over the past few days we have all been involved in discussions with Momentum members about the concerns which have arisen from the decisions of the Steering Committee to cancel the meeting of the NC due to take place on 5 November and to go ahead with a national conference with online voting of all members.

You will also know the consternation these decisions have caused and the response from London, Eastern, Northern and South East regions.

Below is an email sent yesterday (30 October) to the Steering Committee members from Matt Wrack who is a member of the National Committee and Steering Committee. We echo those observations and comments.

We are extremely concerned that we overcome this current difficult division that has arisen as quickly as possible. Therefore, we are proposing to convene a meeting of as many NC members as possible in Birmingham next Saturday 5 November to discuss the recent events and, most importantly, consider ways to overcome the resulting differences and to move forward together.

There is no desire or intention to create any separate or parallel organization within or in opposition to Momentum. We are all committed to building Momentum, as we are all doing at a local level. We simply want to address what we perceive to be a democratic deficit in its decision-making at the present time.

Please let us know if you can attend. If you can't, is there someone you can send in your place?

We will send out further information about the venue and starting time along with a provisional agenda as soon as we can.

In solidarity,

Matt Wrack, Delia Mattis (London NC delegate), Jill Mountford (London NC delegate), Nick Wrack (London NC delegate), John Pickard (Eastern NC delegate), Steve Battlemuch (East Midlands delegate), Michael Chessum (Member of national Steering Committee)

Austria: “Left-Wing” Zionists Attack Arab Migrants at Demonstration in Solidarity with Refugees!

Report (with Pictures and Videos) from the anti-racist Demonstration on 26 November in Vienna by the Austrian Section of the RCIT

About two thousand people demonstrated on 26 November in Vienna in solidarity with refugees and against racism. This was an important signal against the racist offensive both by the Austrian government as well as by the right-wing opposition one week before the presidential election where the right-wing candidate Norbert Hofer has a good chance to win.

The Austrian section of the RCIT joined the demonstration with a very lively and militant contingent of about 100 activists – the biggest of any political organization at the demonstration. (See the pictures and videos below.) In addition to the activists of our youth organization RED*REVOLUTION, many activists from the Syrian, Iraqi, Egyptian, Ahwazi Arab, Moroccan, Palestinian and other communities – with whom we have organized numerous activities in past years – participated in our contingent.

We shouted many slogans against the racist rabble-rousing, for the opening of the borders, and for solidarity with the Arab Revolution as well as with the Palestinian liberation struggle. Like in past demonstrations against racism, our contingent varied significantly from other left-wing groups not only because of its size and its militant

spirit. In contrast to all reformist and centrist groups, the RCIT in Austria stands in active solidarity with the liberation struggle in Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Palestine and other countries against the dictatorships and against imperialism. Furthermore, one could see yet once again that we are not merely white anti-racists who are only *in favor* of the rights for migrants and refugees; but that we actively fight *together with* migrants and refugees, and that we are building a multinational revolutionary organization. At the end of the demonstration Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, addressed the participants of our contingent and explained the necessity to continue the struggle for liberation.

The militant multi-national character of our contingent and our solidarity with the Arab Revolution as well as with the Palestinian liberation struggle aroused again profound hatred from a sector of demonstrators – the so-called “*anti-national Black Block*” people. These people – nearly all of them White Austrian middle-class people – combine some silly ultra-left phrases (their front banner read “*Communism instead of Austria*”) with fanatical support for the Zionist state of Israel and strong hatred against Muslim people.

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Greece - A Modern Semi-Colony

The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become

a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial Country with Specific Features

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – *GREECE: A MODERN SEMI-COLONY*. The book’s subtitle is: *The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial Country with Some Specific Features*. It contains six chapters (144 pages) and includes 12 tables, 35 figures and 4 maps. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

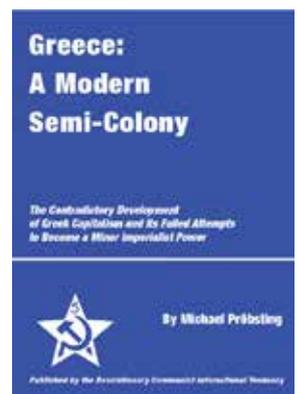
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which gives an overview of its content.

Greece is at the forefront both of the capitalist crisis in Europe as well as of the class struggle. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that what the Arab Revolution has been for the world in the past few years, Greece has been for Europe.

Subsequently, the question of the class character of Greece is of crucial importance both for the domestic as well as for the international workers movement: Is it an imperialist

state, a semi-colonial country or something else, and what are its specific features?

In Chapter I we outline a summary of the Marxists’ theoretical conception of imperialist respectively semi-colonial states. In Chapter II we give a brief historical overview of the development of Greek capitalism. In Chapter III we deal with Greece’s failed attempt to become a minor imperialist power. In Chapter IV we outline the historic crisis of Greek capitalism from 2008 until today. In Chapter V we elaborate the most important programmatic conclusions and in the last Chapter we present a summary in the form of theses. The book contains 12 Tables, 35 Figures and 4 Maps. ■



As a result, these dumb thugs slander all Muslim people as “Islamofascists” and denounce our Anti-Zionist stance as “Anti-Semitic”. These Zionists have close connections, among others, to the youth organization of the Communist Party and most reformist and centrist organization refuse to distance themselves clearly from this scum. As we have reported in past articles these people hold pro-Israel rallies during the Gaza Wars in the past years. (See e.g. <https://freegazafromhamas.wordpress.com/2012/11/17/kundgebung-solidaritat-mit-israel-befreit-gaza-von-der-hamas/>)

While these people did not dare to attack our contingent, they attacked a small group of Arab brothers when they briefly left our contingent. One of these brothers was violently thrown to the floor. This attack provoked the intervention of the police which – in the final part of the demonstration – created a cordon in front of our contingent so that as a result we became effectively isolated from the rest of the demonstration. This Zionist attack against our Arab brothers caused a lot of attention. The national state TV reported about the incident and about the Zionist slander against the Austrian section of the RCIT. (See <http://wien.orf.at/news/stories/2811311/>. A video with scenes shortly after the Zionist attack, published by a rather pro-Zionist source, can be viewed on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdyvIqLwFpI>)

This attack was not the first incident as these people already attacked (unsuccessfully) our May Day demonstration this year (see <http://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/report-may-day-2016-in-austria/>). At the annual fete of the Communist Party on 3 September, Almedina Gunić – leader of the Austrian section of the RCIT – was physically attacked by these “anti-national” Zionists. (See <http://www.rkob.net/wer-wir-sind-1/rkob-aktiv-bei/bericht-vs-fest-2016/>) All these incidents demonstrate once more the thoroughly

reactionary, racist and pro-imperialist character of the so-called “Anti-Nationals”. It is a scandal that Arab brothers and sisters who have been forced to flee from dictatorship and war and who face racist discrimination in Europe – that they have to face again racist attacks on a demonstration is supposed to demonstrate against racism!

While we believe that the organizers of the demonstration – a coalition of NGO’s, Stalinists and the centrist Cliffite group (“Linkswende”) – do not support such violent attacks (at least we hope that they will distance themselves in a public statement), they certainly have to share political responsibility for this incident. Several of these organizations have expelled the Austrian section of the RCIT from united fronts – and sometimes even tried to expel us from demonstrations – with the argument that our solidarity with Palestine equals “Anti-Semitism”. The Communist Party expelled the us from its annual fete this year because of our anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist positions. (See <http://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/cp-bars-rcit-from-festival/>) We will continue to appeal to these organizations to refute this reactionary attitude.

However, irrespective of the attitude of the reformists and centrists or the attacks of the dumb Zionists, the Austrian section of the RCIT will continue its revolutionary work and its collaboration with migrant brothers and sisters.

See numerous photos and video clips at the following link:

Pictures: <http://www.rkob.net/wer-wir-sind-1/rkob-aktiv-bei/let-them-stay-26-nov-2016/>

Videos: The daily paper “Kronen Zeitung, one of the biggest Austrian dailies, published a video about the demonstration. The contingent of the Austrian section of the RCIT can be viewed from minute 2.00 to 2.30 (<http://www.krone.at/oesterreich/fluechtlingsdemo-in-wien-chaos-auf-shoppingmeile-160-kräfte-vor-ort-story-541192>)



Contingent of the Austrian Section of the RCIT at a demonstration in solidarity with refugees on 26.11.2016

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? The Road from Revolution to the Restoration of Capitalism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new book. It's called *Cuba's Revolution Sold Out?*. The book's subtitle is: *The Road from Revolution to the Restoration of Capitalism*. The book is in English-language. It has 5 chapters plus an appendix, 108 pages and includes 19 Tables and Figures. The author of the book is *Michael Pröbsting* who is the International Secretary of the RCIT.

In *Cuba's Revolution Sold Out?* Michael Pröbsting analyses the character of the Cuban Revolution 1959-61, its bureaucratic degeneration, and the recent march of the Castro leadership towards capitalism.

The author demonstrates how the Cuban Revolution, despite the initial modest intentions of its leaders, was spurred forward to more radical policies by grass roots struggles of Cuban workers and peasants. In fact, the very abolishment of capitalism by the Cuban regime was no part of the original game plan of either Castro's Movimiento 26 de Julio or of the official Cuban communist party (PSP), but rather was a product of precisely such pressures from below.

Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? describes in detail how a number of relatively recent political, economic, and social measures were

purposely taken by the Cuban government to open the road back to capitalism. Pröbsting elaborates the key role of the world's new great imperialist power, China, in Cuba's state policy as exemplified in the June 2011 Sino-Cuban agreement for a first Five-Year Plan of cooperation between these two states.

Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? examines these developments from the viewpoint of Marxist theory, the nature of the ruling bureaucracy in Stalinist states, and the process of restoration of capitalism under such regimes.

In conclusion, the book proposes a socialist program for political and social revolution in Cuba to halt the advance of capitalism and to eradicate the country's bureaucratic dictatorship.

Price: 8 Euro / 12 US-Dollars /
7 British Pound
(plus delivery charges) ■



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

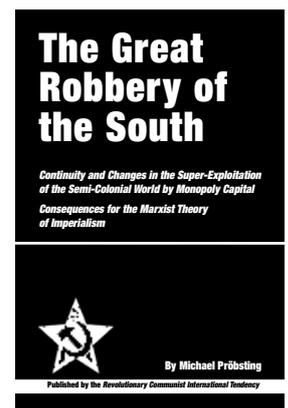
The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *THE GREAT ROBBERY OF THE SOUTH*. The book's subtitle is: *Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital*. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism. The book is in English-language.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

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

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

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting argues that a correct understanding of the nature of imperialism as well as of the program of permanent revolution which includes the tactics of consistent anti-imperialism is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future.

Order your copy NOW! \$20 / £13 / €15 plus p+p (21\$ for US and international, £9 for UK, €10 for Europe)



The Author: Michael Pröbsting is a revolutionary activist since 35 years. He is the author of many articles and pamphlets in German and English language. He published books or contributed to books on Rosa Luxemburg (1999), on the World Economy (2008), on Migration (2010) and the Arab Revolution (2011). In addition to *The Great Robbery of the South* and *Cuba's Revolution Sold Out?* he also published in 2014 the book *Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice. Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of Organized Struggle for Bolshevism*. He is the International Secretary of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency*.

What the RCIT Stands for

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) is a revolutionary combat organisation fighting for the liberation of the working class and all oppressed. It has national sections in a number of countries. The working class is composed of all those (and their families) who are forced to sell their labor 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, and exploitation are all part of everyday life under capitalism as are the imperialistic oppression of nations, the national oppression of migrants, 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 only this class has the collective power to bring down the ruling class and build a socialist society.

The revolution cannot proceed peacefully because a ruling class never has nor ever will voluntarily surrender its power. By necessity, therefore, the road to liberation includes armed rebellion and civil war against the capitalists.

The RCIT is fighting for the establishment of workers' and peasants' republics, where the oppressed organize themselves in councils democratically elected in rank-and-file meetings in factories, neighbourhoods, and schools. These councils, in turn, elect and control the government and all other state authorities, and always retain the right to recall them.

Authentic socialism and communism have nothing to do with the so-called "socialism" that ruled in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and which continues to do so in China and Cuba, for example. In these countries, the proletariat was and is dominated and oppressed by a privileged party bureaucracy.

Under capitalism, the RCIT supports all efforts to improve the living conditions of the workers and oppressed, while simultaneously striving to overthrow this system based on economic exploitation of the masses.

Towards these ends, we work from within the trade unions where we advocate class struggle, socialism, and workers' democracy. But trade unions and social democracy are controlled by a bureaucracy perniciously connected with the state and capital via status, high-paying jobs, and other privileges. Thus, the trade union bureaucracy is far from the interests and living conditions of

its members, based as it is on the top, privileged layers of the working class – a labor aristocracy which has no real interest in replacing capitalism. Therefore, the true struggle for the liberation of the working class, the toppling of capitalism and the establishment of socialism, must be based on the broad mass of the proletariat rather than their "representative" from the upper trade union strata.

We also 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. Towards this goal we struggle 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.

While the RCIT strives for unity of action with other organizations, we are acutely aware that the policies of social democrats and pseudo-revolutionary groups are dangerous, and ultimately represent an obstacle to the emancipation of the working class, peasants, and the otherwise oppressed.

In wars between imperialist states we take a revolutionary defeatist position: we do not support either side, but rather advocate the transformation of the war into a civil war against the ruling class in each of the warring states. In wars between imperialist powers (or their stooges) and a semi-colonial countries we stand for the defeat of the former and the victory of the oppressed countries.

As communists, we maintain that the struggle against national oppression and all types of social oppression (women, youth, sexual minorities etc.) *must* be led by the working class, because only the latter is capable of fomenting a revolutionary change in society. Therefore, we consistently support working class-based revolutionary movements of the socially oppressed, while opposing the leadership of petty-bourgeois forces (feminism, nationalism, Islamism, etc.), who ultimately dance to the tune of the capitalists, and strive to replace them with revolutionary communist leadership.

Only with a revolutionary party fighting as its leadership can the working class be victorious in its struggle for liberation. The establishment of such a party and the execution of a successful revolution, as it was demonstrated by the Bolsheviks in Russia under Lenin and Trotsky remain the models for revolutionary parties and revolutions in the 21st century.

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

No future without socialism!

No socialism without revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

