

REVOLUTIONARY

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF THE REVOLUTIONARY



LIBERATION

COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL TENDENCY



www.thecommunists.net

Issue Nr.81

May 2018

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Workers and Oppressed Unite!

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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 81, May 2018

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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 Zambia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria. The RCIT has fraternal relations with the *Economic Liberation Association* (Zambia), the *Alkebulan School of Black Studies* (Kenya), the *Marxist Group 'Class Politics'* (Russia) and *Sınıf Savaşı* (Turkey).

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May Day 2018: Greetings to All Revolutionaries

Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), Sınıf Savaşı (Turkey), and Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia)

On the occasion of May Day 2018, we send our warmest greetings to all revolutionaries around the world and to all militants fighting for the liberation of the working class and the oppressed.

In particular we wish to send our warmest regards to all political prisoners who are suffering state repression because of their engagement for social and democratic rights. In place of thousands we name the young Palestinian woman Ahed Tamimi, the Afro-American Mumia Abu Jamal, the Russian antifascists Viktor Filinkov and Igor Shishkin as well as the Catalans Jordi Sànchez and Jordi Cuixart.

We take note of

- * the decay of the global capitalist system;
- * the acceleration of the rivalry between the imperialist powers (US, EU, Russia, China, Japan);
- * the acceleration of the capitalist attacks against the democratic and social rights of working class and oppressed on all continents (e.g. Brazil, Honduras, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, India, France, Catalonia, U.S.);
- * the aggression of the Great Powers against the oppressed people (e.g. in Mali, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Chechnya, Afghanistan, etc.)

We resolutely declare our support for the heroic liberation struggles against the capitalist dictatorships and im-

perialist aggressors (e.g. Palestine, Syria, Yemen, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Afghanistan). We state that only an international socialist revolution will open the road to freedom, peace and wellbeing for all people.

At the same time we decry the desperate lack of revolutionary leadership. As a result, the liberation struggles are currently misled by reformist, populist, or Islamist forces.

Hence, in conclusion, we state – in general agreement with the document “*Six Points for a Platform of Revolutionary Unity Today*” (see attachment) – our determination to commit our forces to jointly build a new World Party of Socialist Revolution.

The undersigned organizations

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Zambia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria), www.thecommunists.net
 Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), <https://www.facebook.com/alkebulanschool/>
 Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), <https://m.facebook.com/pacrenaissance/?ref=bookmarks>
 Sınıf Savaşı (Turkey), <http://sinif-savasi.blogspot.com>
 Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), <https://mgkp.github.io/>



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

Appendix: Six Points for a Platform of Revolutionary Unity Today

A Proposal from the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), February 2018, www.thecommunists.net

We are living in a world of rapidly accelerating contradictions and sudden turns. As capitalism is decaying, the capitalist robbers try to raise their wealth by aggressively attacking the working class and the oppressed, by increasingly destroying the environment and, at the same time, by aggravating their rivalry against each other. The survival of humanity is endangered with the uncontrolled climate change and the accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers which creates the danger of an imperialist World War III. This is why we say that the alternative is "Socialism or Stone Age!"

This dramatic situation makes the organized struggle for socialism more necessary than ever. This means that the working class and the oppressed must have a party dedicated to the international struggle for a socialist future!

In our opinion, it is highly urgent that revolutionaries all over the world immediately start collaborating in laying the foundations for a principled unification, so that we drive forward the process of creating a new Revolutionary 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 *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) considers the following issues as such programmatic key-stones in the present political phase:

1) 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, anti-imperialist program on this issue – *proletarian internationalism* and *revolutionary defeatism*, i.e., the perspective of consistent struggle of the working class independent of and 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!*"

A similar approach is necessary when India enters into a conflict with imperialist China, as India – a non-imperialist regional power – acts under such circumstances as a proxy for US imperialism.

Those who fail to recognize the reactionary and imperialist character of these Great Powers will inevitable fail to take a consistent anti-imperialist, i.e. Marxist, line and will end up, consciously or unconsciously, supporting one or the other imperialist camp as a "lesser evil".

2) Consistent Struggle against Imperialism and for the Liberation of the Oppressed People

Revolutionaries stand for the *defeat* of imperialist states and their proxies 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 or the East Turkestanis/Uyghurs in China) as well as in wars abroad (e.g., North Korea, Afghanistan, Syria, Mali, Somalia). Such an approach is not only valid in the countries of the South but also in cases of national oppression and discrimination inside the old imperialist states (e.g. Blacks and Native Americans in the U.S.; Catalonia's struggle for independence against the imperialist Spanish State.)

Likewise, revolutionaries have to fight for *Open Borders* in the imperialist countries and for *full equality for national minorities and for migrants* (e.g. citizenship rights, language, equal wages).

Furthermore, revolutionaries refuse to lend support to one imperialist camp against another in any given conflict (e.g., Brexit vs. EU; Clinton vs. Trump).

Those who fail to support the popular struggles against oppression, referring to their bad leaderships as an excuse, desert the class struggle as it concretely takes place today and hence leave the camp of the working class and oppressed.

3) Continuing the Revolutionary Struggle in the Middle East and North Africa against Reactionary Dictatorships, Imperialism and Zionism

The mass popular uprisings in Palestine, Tunisia, Iran, Syria, Egypt, Yemen, Sudan 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. This is reflected in the ongoing popular resistance in Palestine, Syria, Yemen, Egypt, etc as well as its spreading to new countries like Tunisia, Iran, Sudan and Morocco. The Palestinian and international mass movement provoked by Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital opens a new chapter of the revolutionary struggle against the imperialist powers and against the Zionist Apartheid state and for the creation of a single Palestinian state from the river to the sea (a "*Free, Red Palestine*"). The spontaneous popular uprisings in Tunisia as well as in Iran against the capitalist regime show that the revolutionary wave in the Middle East might be revived and spreads even to non-Arab countries. 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 and nationalists).

Those "socialists" who have failed to support the Arab Revolution since 2011 or who declare it as already finished and defeated, prove to be socialists and democrats only in words but not in deeds.

Revolutionaries oppose any reactionary war between regional power (e.g. Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, etc.). They will determine their revolutionary tactics in any given war by analyzing the concrete character of the war and its political background as well as the role of imperialist powers (in particular the U.S., Russia, China) in it.

4) Revolutionary Struggle against Reactionary Attacks on Democratic Rights

Revolutionaries can only serve the interests of the working class and the oppressed if they are able to recognize the class enemy and to mobilize against it. Thus they must consistently fight against all reactionary dictatorships and corrupt and authoritarian pseudo-democracies (e.g. Syria, Togo, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe), against all forms of national and racial oppression (e.g. indigenous people in Latin America, Rohingya in Myanmar, African slaves in Libya), against all coup d'états (e.g. Egypt 2013, Thailand 2014, Brazil 2016) and against all authoritarian attacks (e.g. state of emergency in France since 2015).

All those who fail to recognize and to fight against these reactionary attacks but rather support them or take a neutral position, are traitors of the working class. Between them and us is a line of blood!

5) Application of the United Front Tactic in all Mass Struggles

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 (e.g., trade unions, mass organizations of the peasants and the urban poor, but also political parties like PT, CUT, MST in Brazil; CGT, CTA, FIT in Argentina; MORENA in Mexico; Islamists in Egypt; rebels in Syria; EFF in South Africa; SYRIZA in Greece before 2015, PODEMOS, Basque and Catalan nationalists in the Spanish State). Such an orientation must be combined with a consistent struggle against all forms of popular-frontism and petty-bourgeois popu-

lism, 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.

Those who fail to apply the united front tactic in such mass struggles, render their support for these struggles to an abstract statement without any concrete meaning.

6) Start Building a Revolutionary World Party Now!

The struggle for repelling the reactionary offensive of the ruling class and for the liberation of the working class and the oppressed can only succeed if it is combined with the struggle for the socialist revolution. This means nothing less than taking power by the working class and the oppressed and the overthrow and expropriation of the capitalist class so that the road towards socialism will be opened. History teaches us that all struggles of the masses for liberation will ultimately end in failure if they are not led by a revolutionary party. Such a party should organize the most politically conscious and dedicated fighters of the working class and oppressed, it must be free of any bureaucratic degeneration; and it must exist as an international party in order to avoid the dangers of national-centeredness.

Hence we call upon all organizations and activists 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.



Student protests in Zambia: Rally in student quarter in Lusaka (left), screen shot of comrade Ngombo Ngombo, leader of the student union and representative of the RCIT section, speaking on TV (right)

On Trump's attack on Syria

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (Section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine), 15.04.2018

Following Israel's new round of killing and injuring unarmed Palestinians in Gaza and its attack on base T4 in Syria, killing at least 8 Iranians, US President Donald Trump, together with the UK and France, struck the Syrian capital on Friday evening, allegedly in response to a suspected chemical attack on rebel-held Douma last Saturday.

The first few questions that come to mind are: why did the US, UK and France strike Syria? What were the targets? What was the damage? What are the results?

Why did the US, UK and France strike Syria?

Only an imbecile would believe that Trump, May and Macron were motivated by concern for Syrian lives. After all they all supported Assad's bloody crushing of the Syrian revolution. It is more likely that Trump has been building and consolidating allies for his future confrontations with Russia. This might also be an attempt to shift the public attention from his dealings with Russia that led to his victory in the presidential elections. In any case, the message of Trump is that Assad can kill as many Syrians as he wishes as long as he uses conventional weapons.

The Washington Post suggests: *"The real reason for the attack threats is probably this: Midterms are approaching, the Russia investigation is escalating and former FBI director James B. Comey's book is being released. Research shows that diversionary wars — wars started to distract the public from domestic unrest — are hard to start in democracies and rarely*

have the intended effect. Military operations in an already existing conflict are much easier to manipulate — and are not as risky as starting a war". (1)

What were the targets?

According to US imperialism *"The three targets hit included a scientific research center in the greater Damascus area used for research, development, production and testing of chemical weapons; a facility just west of Homs which is thought to be centre for sarin gas production and "precursor production equipment;" and a command post located near the first facility, said Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph Dunford."* (2)

US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who had urged caution in White House deliberations leading up to the strike, told reporters on Friday night that there were no more attacks planned unless Mr. Assad again uses gas on his own people. *"We confined it to the chemical weapons-type targets,"* Mr. Mattis said. *"We were not out to expand this; we were very precise and proportionate. But at the same time, it was a heavy strike."* (3)

However, if there were caches of already-produced chemical weapons in these facilities that were destroyed during the strike, they could have leaked and harm the nearby civilian population on a larger scale than Assad's reported attack on Douma.

We do believe that Assad used chemical weapon and not for the first time, but it is more than likely, that after he got

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018 - A World Pregnant With Wars And Popular Uprisings

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a new English-language book – WORLD PERSPECTIVES 2018: A WORLD PREGNANT WITH WARS AND POPULAR UPRISINGS. The book's subtitle is: Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries.

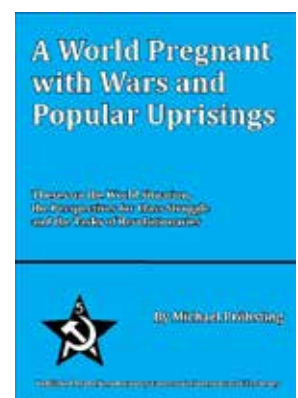
This book is a major contribution of our organization to keep the Marxists' analysis of the world situation and its accelerating contradictions updated. As we emphasize in the document, we consider it as crucial for revolutionaries to understand the nature and the inner dynamics of the current historic period. Without such an understanding it is impossible for socialists, indeed for all liberation fighters, to possess the necessary political compass on which they can base their program, strategy and tactics.

Since several years does the RCIT publish annual studies on the world situation in which it analysis its most important developments and changes. This book updates the Marxist analysis of the state of the world economy, of the relations between the Great Powers, of the struggle between the classes and the tactics of revolutionaries. We also deal in depth with new issues respectively extend our theoretical analysis on several questions. In particular we have deepened in this book,

among others, our understanding of the nature respectively the transitional character of the present world political phase, of the nature of different types of wars and the tactical conclusions arriving from this, of the complex nature of the conflicts in the Middle East, of the capitalist restoration in North Korea and, finally, we have elaborated a new proposal for an international platform for the unification of revolutionary forces in the present phase.

The book contains a preface, introduction and seven eight chapters plus an appendix (118 pages) and includes 23 figures, 9 tables and 2 maps. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2018/>



the warning that the US and its allies would bomb Syria, he moved the caches of already-produced chemical weapons to other locations. Thus, even if all or most missiles and bombs hit the targets, the damage has been only to some buildings and maybe a laboratory.

The Russian who promised to shoot down the missiles and even the ships, planes and the submarines used for the shooting stated that the damage was so little that it was not necessary to retaliate as most missiles were shot down by Assad's defense systems. The Russian military said Saturday that Syria's Soviet-made air defense systems downed 71 out of 103 cruise missiles launched by the United States and its allies, according to Tass, Russia's government news site.

Col. Gen. Sergei Rudskoi of the Russian military's General Staff said the strikes have not caused any casualties and Syrian military facilities targeted by the U.S., Britain and France have suffered only minor damage. (4)

Thus, the winners of this attack are Assad and Putin. Assad will receive more sophisticated Russian weapons like the S300 and S400 and Putin can present himself as a responsible politician, unlike the ruling classes of the US and its allies.

The real loser is Israel, that at a time the US is leaving the region, it can only build a weak alliance with Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan against the stronger alliance led by Iran backed by Russian imperialism. Ephraim Halevi, the former head of Mossad, in an interview on Israeli TV last Saturday, predicts a very heavy war in the north of Israel which will cost many Israeli lives. When he asked if Israel could be destroyed, he just said Israel cannot be destroyed without giving any reasons to support this

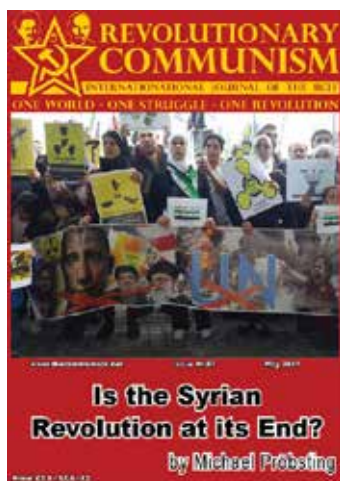
statement.

While we do not think that the conflict in Syria will lead to a third world war, the danger of third world war *is* growing, not only because of the situation in Syria, but because of the trade war between the US and China. The only force that can save humanity from the madness of the imperialist system and its leaders is a world socialist revolution.

In a case of a war between Israel and Syria, Iran and Hezbollah the interest of the working class and the oppressed is the revolutionary defeat of Israel with or without the backing of the US. In a case of a war between US and its European allies and others on one side and Russia on the other the *Internationalist Socialist League* and its international comrades in the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* will advocate revolutionary defeat for both imperialist sides.

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NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified?

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2017

An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution

Introduction * The Nature of the Local Coordination Councils in Syria * The Contradictory Nature of the Petty-Bourgeois Rebel Factions * A note on the adjectival juxtaposition of "progressive" to liberal democrats versus "reactionary" to Islamists * Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham and Other Islamist Militias * The Role of Religion in Democratic and National Liberation Struggles * Some Arguments on the Ongoing Progressive Character of the Syrian Revolution * Have the Rebels Become Agents of US Imperialism and Regional Powers? * On Foreign Powers' Support for Liberation Movements p* Lenin and Trotsky on Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference * What Did Lenin and Trotsky Say about Getting Support from Imperialists? * Imagining Two Different Scenarios of the Revolution's Success & Failure * A Period of Defeats and Retreats: What Are the Reasons? * Some Thoughts on the Future Prospects of the Arab Revolution * The Urgent Need for a Revolutionary Party * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Down with Imperialist Warmongering of All Great Powers!

**Syria attack, Protectionist Tariffs and Salisbury poisoning:
Against all imperialist diplomatic, economic and military aggression!**

In U.S., EU, Russia and China: The Main Enemy is at Home!

Support democratic and national liberation struggles of oppressed people!

Joint Statement of the RCIT and the Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), 13.04.2018

1. There has been a significant acceleration of tensions between the imperialist powers in the past days and weeks. On 4 March, a former Russian spy turned double agent for the British Secret Service MI6, Sergei Skripal, and his daughter Yulia, were poisoned in Salisbury on British soil. The British government accused Russia as responsible for this attack and soon most Western governments, including the U.S., joined in. As a result, 24 Western governments expelled more than 100 Russian diplomats. Russia retaliated by expelling Western diplomats. Furthermore, U.S. imperialism imposed sanctions against several oligarchs who are close to Russian President Putin. There are also talks about tightening economic sanctions which are already in place since the beginning of the civil war in the Ukraine in 2014.

2. In the same month, the U.S. Trump Administration enforced a 25% tariff on steel and a 10% tariff on aluminum imports. These protectionist tariffs are directed against imperialist rivals, including Europe and China. The latter have already threatened to retaliate.

3. More dramatically, the ongoing imperialist aggression of Russia as well as of the Western powers in Syria against liberation forces as well as against Daesh/ISIS could spill over into direct clashes between the Great Powers. Accusing the Assad regime of committing a chemical gas attack against the rebel-held enclave in Douma on 7 April, the U.S., the French and the British governments are threatening to launch military attacks against positions of the Syrian regime. In response, Russia, which is the most important ally of the Syrian dictator, threatens with retaliation.

4. This acceleration of inter-imperialist rivalry

demands a clear anti-imperialist, internationalist and pro-liberation position of the international workers movement. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and the *Marxist Group 'Class Politics'* (MGKP) call all revolutionaries to take a resolute stand on these latest developments. We condemn all those forces as opportunist and social-imperialist which, openly or hidden, side either with Western or with Eastern imperialism. U.S., EU, Russia or China – none of them is “*the lesser evil*” for the international working class and the oppressed people!

5. The RCIT and MGKP call for:

** Oppose all imperialist Great Powers – in West and East. Down with U.S., EU, Russian, and Chinese imperialism! The Main Enemy is at Home! For a socialist revolution of the working class and the oppressed to smash all imperialist states!*

** In West and East: No to diplomatic and economic sanctions and no to protectionist tariffs! These measures only serve the imperialist governments to instigate chauvinism and aim to bolster popular support at home!*

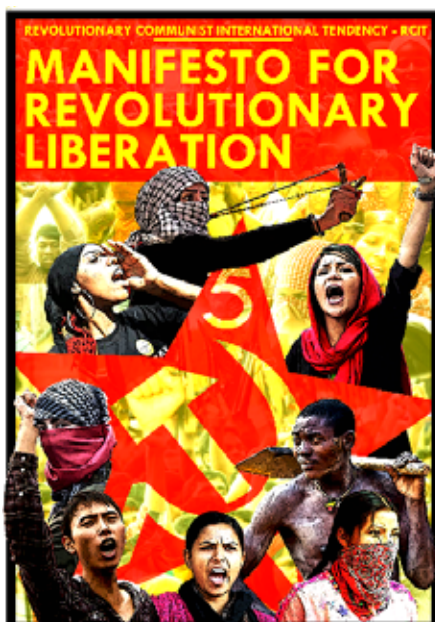
** Stop all imperialist attacks in Syria! Russian and U.S. troops and air forces – out of Syria! Close down all foreign military bases in Syria!*

** Down with the regimes in Syria, Iran and Turkey! No to the reactionary Saudi war against the Yemeni people!*

** Support the liberation struggle against the Assad regime! Victory to the resistance of the Afghan people against the U.S. occupation forces and their local marionettes!*

** Down with imperialist Israel! Victory for the Palestinian liberation struggle!*

** For a Socialist Federation of the Middle East! For a World Party of Socialist Revolution!*



NEW RCIT PROGRAM!

Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation

Adopted at the 1st World Congress of the RCIT in October 2016

Introduction * I. Decaying Capitalism * II. Today's Worldwide Historic Revolutionary Period * III. The Reactionary Offensive of the Ruling Class * IV. A Program for Socialist Revolution to Halt Humanity's Collapse into Barbarism * V. The Crisis of Leadership and the Construction of a Revolutionary World Party * VI. Work in Mass Organizations and the United Front Tactic * VII. The Semi-Colonial South * VIII. The Emerging Imperialist Great Powers of the East: China and Russia * IX. The Old Imperialist Great Powers: The EU, North America and Japan * X. Conclusion

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A5 Format

Syria: Another Chemical Attack Massacre by the Assad Regime!

**Support the Syrian Revolution! No to the Astana Conspiracy
of the Putin-Rouhani-Erdoğan Alliance! No to U.S., French or Israeli Attacks!**

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 09.04.2018

1. The barbaric Assad regime has carried out another chemical gas attack against the Syrian people. According to the *White Helmets* rescue workers, at least 70 people have been killed and hundreds injured in Douma, the last rebel-held stronghold near Syria's capital, Damascus. Most of the fatalities were women and children. (A number of shocking pictures of the victims can be viewed here https://www.qasioun-news.com/en/news/show/140257/A_Massacre_In_Douma_In_The_Eastern_Ghouta_By_Syrian_Regime_Bombing_With_Chemical_Weapons)

2. The regime carried out this mass murder when the negotiations with the rebels about surrender stuck. It is clear that the Assad regime is prepared to carry out monstrous slaughter in order to break the spirit of popular resistance and to facilitate its program of people's displacement. Since the beginning of the latest military offensive of the regime against the rebel enclave in Al-Ghouta, about 150,000 people have been displaced from this region.

3. This barbaric slaughter is just the latest in a series of chemical attacks against civilians which the Assad dictatorship has carried out in the past years. According to the *Ebaa Agency*, the regime has carried out 215 chemical and poison gas attacks until now. (See also the Infographics from Al Jazeera, United Nations and Ebaa Agency in the Appendix.) Given the numerical weakness of its own armed forces, a result of the popular hatred against Assad, the regime depends on massive and indiscriminate terror against the popular support base of the rebels. For this the Assad regime relies mainly on its own and the Russian air force as well as on Iranian militias.

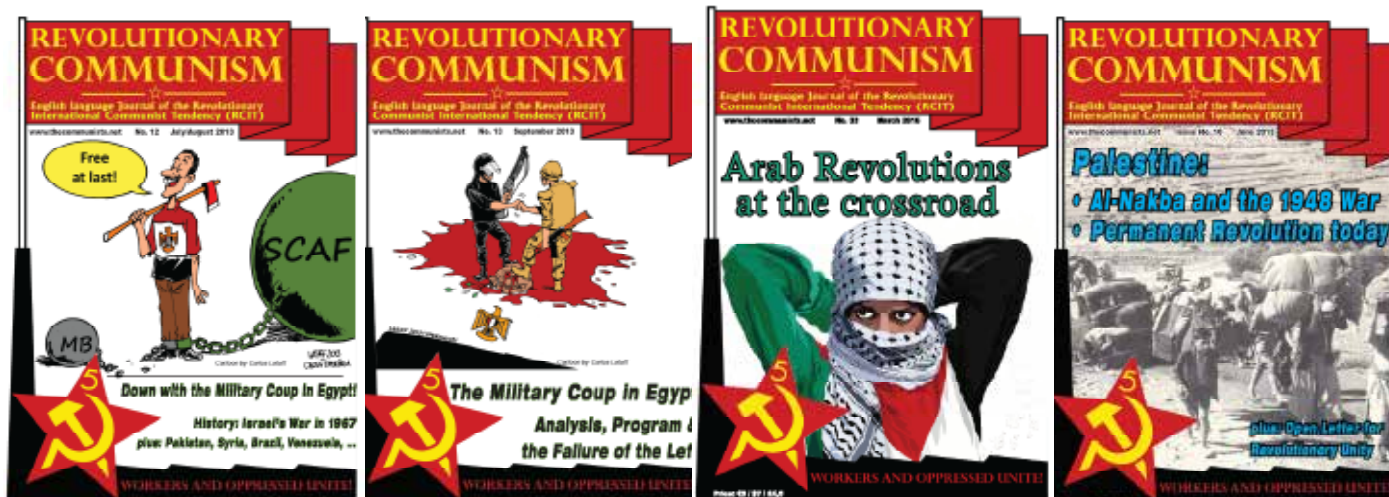
4. We are aware that the cynical supporters of Assad

and Putin will claim again that the chemical gas attack has been carried out not by regime forces but by "jihadist terrorists". This is of course a ridiculous mockery of truth. How can these idiots explain the fact that if the "jihadist terrorists" have such huge stocks of chemical weapons why do they always deploy them only against themselves and their popular supporters but never against their enemies – the Assadist forces?! As the Russian revolutionary leader Leon Trotsky once remarked, when faced with the Stalinist frame-ups and *Moscow Trials*: "*Even Slander Should Make Some Sense!*"

5. While the Western and Turkish media shed some crocodile tears about the victims in Douma, it is clear that no serious action against the Assad regime and its Russian master will follow. The US might fire a few missiles against an airport as they did one year ago after a similar chemical attack in Khan Sheikhoun. Erdoğan might organize a photograph opportunity for the media holding a baby in his arms. But their deeds speak louder than their words. The Western imperialist powers certainly resent the fact that their Russian rival has become the master of Syria with its puppet Assad. But they definitely prefer the pacification of the Syrian Revolution by keeping the barbaric regime in power compared to an ongoing liberation struggle with all the destabilizing consequences for the imperialist order in the region.

6. The Turkish Erdoğan regime presents itself as the champion of the Muslim people. But in fact, it works hand in hand with Putin and Rouhani in strangling the liberation forces (the treacherous *Astana negotiations*). Ankara has transformed and corrupted a number of ex-rebel

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groups into its mercenary forces (like various FSA groups, *Ahrar al-Sham*, *Nour al-Din al-Zenki* and probably now *Jaysh al-Islam* too). These forces have become Erdoğan's instrument to wage war against the Kurdish PYD/YPG (which has prostituted itself as foot soldiers for U.S. imperialism and which collaborates with the Assad regime). These ex-rebel mercenaries also help Ankara to occupy the North of Syria and to treacherously attack those rebel forces (like the petty-bourgeois Islamist *Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham*) which denounce the Astana conspiracy and which continue the liberation struggle against the Assad regime and its imperialist master. Contrary to the illusions of many Syrian brothers and sisters, the bitter truth is that the Turkish regime collaborates with Putin and Rouhani and helps the Assad regime to stay in power.

7. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) calls the international workers movement and popular organizations to intensify its support for the ongoing struggle of the Syrian liberation forces. We condemn the Stalinist and Bolivarian supporters of the Assad regime and its Russian imperialist master. We denounce all those who supported the Syrian Revolution in the past but who cowardly deserted the liberation fighters when they stand with their backs to the wall. We call all genuine supporters of the Syrian Revolution to join us in international support for the ongoing liberation struggle!

* *Down with the barbaric Assad regime! Support the Syrian Revolution!*

* *Send medical aid, material support, military aid and volunteers to the heroic Syrian people who are waging a liberation war since more than seven years in face of a military overpowering enemy!*

* *No to the Astana conspiracy of the Putin-Rouhani-Erdoğan Alliance!*

* *Drive all occupation forces – Russian, Iranian, Turkish and U.S. – out from Syria!*

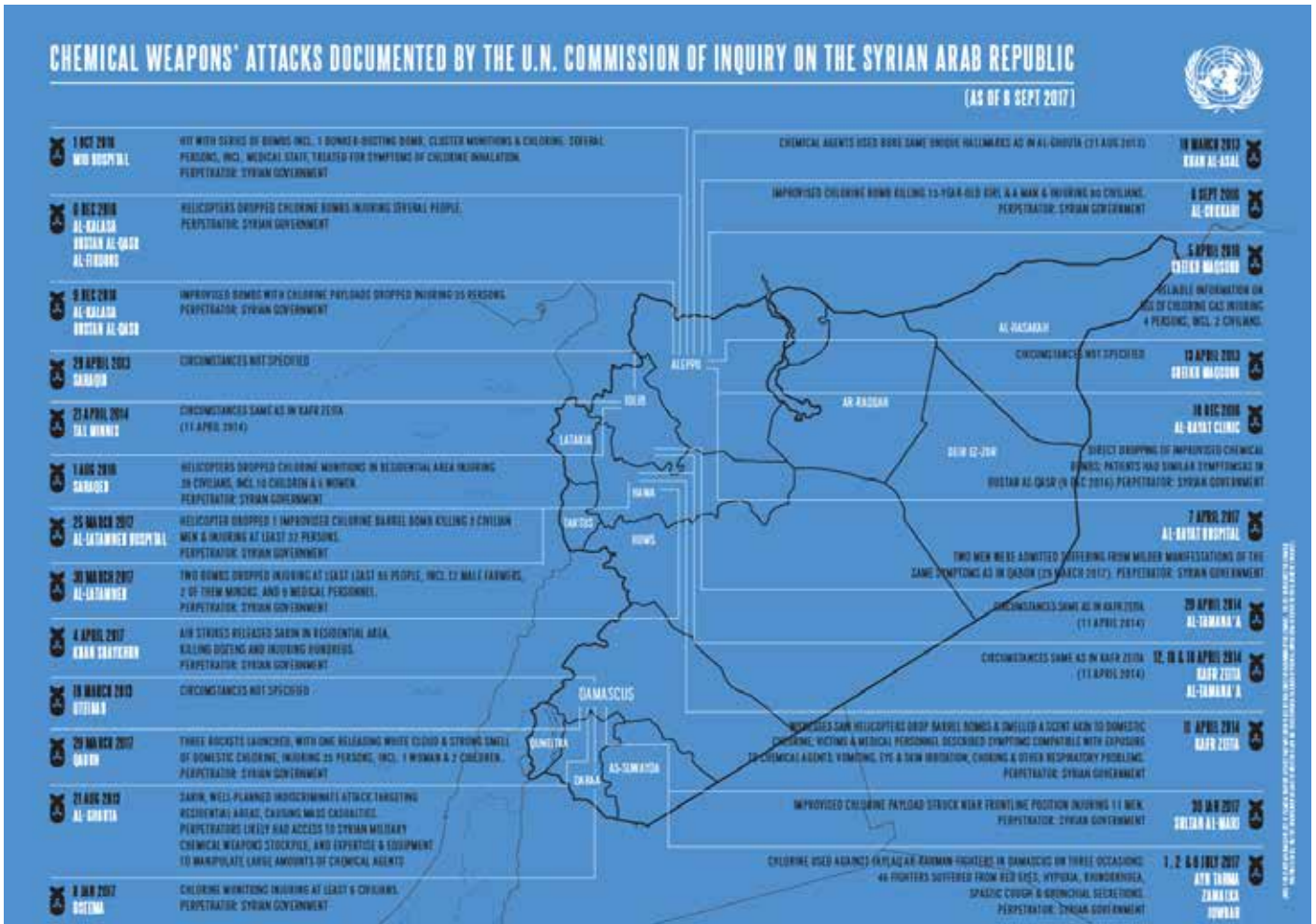
* *No to U.S., French or Israeli attacks against Syria!*

* *For a single Intifada from Tunis to Cairo, from Idlib to Jerusalem, from Sanaa to Teheran, from Tripolis to Istanbul! Long live the Palestinian liberation struggle against the Zionist state! Support the popular struggles against the reactionary Sisi dictatorship in Egypt! Victory to the Yemeni liberation struggle against the Saudi-led aggression! Down with the capitalist Rouhani regime in Iran!*

* *For a Workers and Poor Peasant Government! For a Socialist Federation of the Middle East! For a World Party of Socialist Revolution!*

International Secretariat of the RCIT

For the RCIT's analysis, reportage and perspectives of the Syrian Revolution, we refer readers to our numerous articles and documents which can be accessed at a special section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>



Syria: Rally against the Chemical Attack in Douma

Report (with Pictures and Video) from the Austrian Section of the RCIT, 11.04.2018

Today, about one hundred Syrian migrants hold a solemn vigil in the centre of Vienna. They expressed their protest about the barbaric chemical gas attack of the Assad regime against the Syrian people in Douma, a city near Damascus. (See pictures below)

The Austrian section of the RCIT participated in the rally. We will continue to support the Syrian Revolution together with the Syrian brothers and sisters.

Pictures of the rally and a video statement of Michael Pröbsting (the International Secretary of the RCIT) can be viewed here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rally-in-solidarity-with-douma-11-4-2018/>

The RCIT has published numerous articles and documents on the Syrian Revolution which can be read on the RCIT's website at <https://www.thecommunists.net/world-wide/africa-and-middle-east/>.



Vienna (Austria): Rally in Protest against the Assadist Attack on the Syrian People in Al-Ghouta, 11 April 2018



NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

*The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation
of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia –
A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism*

Introduction * The liberation struggle of the Syrian people against Assad retains its just character * Against all imperialist aggressors! * Old and new Great Powers * The Ex-Stalinist turned social democrats: “God save the United Nations” * The Stalinists (and some caricatures in Trotskyist camouflage): social-imperialist servants of Assad and Putin * The Morenoite LIT, UIT and FLTI: the heart on the right place but not their brains * CWI and FT: failure to understand the imperialist nature of China and Russia * CWI / SWP(UK) / FT: refusing to support the Syrian Revolution * Conclusion

Footnotes A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

The Zionist Murderers and the Palestinian Struggle for Freedom

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (Israel / Occupied Palestine), 07.04.2018

For the second consecutive Friday, tens of thousands of Palestinians demonstrated in Gaza, demanding the right of return of the Palestinians refugees to their lands. And once again, the Israeli army met this demand with shooting, killing and maiming.

On March 30, the Zionist army killed 16 Palestinians and injured 14,000. This Friday, they killed 8 and injured 1000 Palestinians. Was it not for the heavy black smoke caused by burning tires, the number of dead and maimed would have been higher. The Palestinian brave, unarmed, young men and women faced tanks, sharpshooters and regular army.

These soldiers were ordered to shoot anyone who approached the Israel's declared 500-meter buffer zone inside the fence - that has made Gaza the largest Ghetto in the history. Palestinian officials identified some of the people who were murdered as Osama Qdeih, 38, Majdi Ramadan Shbat, Hussein Madi, 16, Ibrahim Al-Ourr, 20, Sidqi Abu Outewi, Mohammed Hajj Saleh, 33, and Alaa al-Zamali, 17. The Gazan health ministry said 1,070 people were wounded, including 293 by live fire, and 25 of those were in a serious condition. Among those hurt were 12 women and 48 children, the ministry added.

Resorting to the regular smokescreen of big lies, or at least exaggerated pipe dreams, Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus accused Hamas of controlling the events around the border fence, sending people to riot as a cover to attempt to carry out terrorist attacks in Israel and plant improvised explosive devices. He argued that Israel was attempting to defend its land and soldiers from such Hamas incursions.[1] [2]

They Cannot Break the Fight for Freedom

Conricus' apologetics are nothing but a reflection of the way typical Zionists think. The political and military leaders of Israel assumed, first of all, that it was Hamas that coerced the Gazans into protest and fail to realize that this a movement which for a long time has been applying pressure on it from below. Secondly, they think that the killing of the unarmed youth will break the willpower of the Palestinians to fight for their freedom. On the other hand, self contradictory myths form the backbone of Zionist ideology. For example, just a week ago, Israelis commemorated the unsubstantiated folktale of Hebrew slaves being oppressed by the Egyptian monarchy, only to become stron-

ger: "But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel." (Exodus 1:12)

The Zionists are wrong as reactionaries are rarely able to perceive reality. The heroic struggle of the Palestinians will end only with the liberation from the Zionist oppression. While Israel's propaganda contends that the unarmed Palestinians who were murdered and maimed were terrorists, [3] it fails to mention the fact that its so called sovereign territory is actually lands robbed in 1947-8 from the Palestinians. The motto of Israel is "whatever lands we steal are ours as part of God's promise to the people of Israel." Such is the case, not only regarding the lands Israel stole in 1947-1948, but the lands Israel occupied during the 1967 war.

In 1947 the Zionists held less than 6% of the lands (see Table).

From its very inception the Zionist movement adopted two main myths. The first one, is that the European colonists who settled in Palestine are direct descendants of the ancient Israelites. Similar myths were held by South African Boers who claimed that they are the real children of Israel, coming to the promised land, escaping Pharaoh's army. Furthermore, when Hertzl tried to promote the Uganda Scheme (it was actually Kenya) for Zionist colonization; he referred to it as "new Israel". No doubt, if this plan was materialized, the Zionists would have suddenly discovered the remains of a Jewish temple and would have called the Mau Mau rebels terrorists.

The second myth is that Palestine was an empty land waiting for the Israelites to return. According to the pro-Zionist Joan Peters, in her book "From Time Immemorial," most of the growth of the Arab's population was in fact a result of illegal Arab immigration. Her figures are not accepted by most demographers and historians, including Zionist ones.

However, "Palestine was not an empty land when Zionist immigration began. The lowest estimates claim there were about 410,000 Arab Muslims and Christians in Palestine in 1893. A Zionist estimate claimed there were over 600,000 Arabs in Palestine in the 1890s. At this time, the number of Jewish immigrants to Palestine was still negligible by all accounts. It is unlikely that Palestinian immigration prior to this period was due to Zionist development. Though uncertainty exists concerning the precise numbers of Arabs living in the areas that later became Israel, it is very unlikely that the claims of Joan Peters that

Table: Distribution of Land and Population in Occupied Palestine, 1917 and 1947

	Population		Land Ownership (acres)	
	Arabs	Jewish	Arabs	Jewish
1917	738,000	59,00	6,512,060	162,500
	92%	8%	97.6%	2.4%
1947	1,200,000	500,000	6,296,112	378,448
	70%	30%	94.33%	5.67%

Source: Palestine remembered [4]

there were less than 100,000 Arabs living there are valid" [5]

If Palestine was not an empty land and its people were mostly Palestinian-Arab before 1947, the Zionists materialized their dreams of an empty land by emptying the country from its native Palestinians population. In 1948 Zionist forces took more than 78 percent of historic Palestine, ethnically cleansed and destroyed about 530 villages and cities, and killed about 15,000 Palestinians in a series of mass atrocities, including more than 70 massacres.

"The origins of the Palestinian refugee problem have been the subject of much argument since 1948. Most pro-Israelis claim that the Palestinian became refugees because their leaders ordered them to flee. This version of events was always denied by the Palestinians, who say that they fled in fear from the Zionist militia. No conclusive proof has been produced showing that Arab leaders did order Palestinians to flee. Historical archival research has found evidence of attacks on civilians, and looting." [6]

What is beyond the Zionist understanding is that these 70% of the people, who live in Gaza as refugees, coming from families who were expelled from their lands and their land was stolen through armed robbery, are saying "enough is enough". These people and especially the youth have had enough with the inhuman conditions forced upon them. They want a future and they reached the conclusion that dying in protest is better than living as if you're already dead. They have nothing to lose but their chains. The Israelis are rightly terrified of them because the young Palestinians are marching on the road to revolution. The Israeli army is killing them for the same reason the Romans crucified rebellious slaves led by Spartacus, or the Mexican counterrevolutionaries murdered Emiliano Zapata.

The Cynical Responses of the Imperialists and their Servants

Israel is able to carry out its criminal policy only because it is backed by the other imperialists while the Palestinians are not supported by the local rulers serving either the American imperialists, like Al-Sisi and Saudi Arabia, or Russian ones, like Assad.

"Firearms should only be used as a last resort, and unjustified recourse to their use may amount to willful killing of civilians, a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention," U.N. Human rights spokeswoman Elizabeth Throssell said.

Lofty words indeed, but these are empty as a shell when not followed by any attempt to bring to trial the Zionist criminals. Even verbal condemnations in the UN Security Council are blocked by the U.S. The right of return of the Palestinian refugees was recognized in resolution 194 already in 1948 but has the UN done anything to implement this resolution?

The corrupt PA authority is condemning the killing of the Gazans, yet these are empty words as it does not break with the so called security coordination with Israel against the Palestinians.

The Zionist Liberals and Stalinists, who support the two state illusion, are baffled as to why the Jewish Israeli masses support Netanyahu. The answer is very simple. Many Israelis support the idea of a new ethnic cleansing because they want to loot the Palestinian properties.

The plunder and looting of Palestinian homes, farms, plantations, banks, cars, ports, railroads, schools, hospitals, trucks, tractors, during 1948 war, were a crime committed not only by the state; but by common Israelis. For example, "From Lydda alone, the army took out 1,800 truckloads of property." Ben-Gurion himself was surprised by the

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice

Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of Organized Struggle for Bolshevism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *BUILDING THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE*. The book's subtitle is: *Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of organized Struggle for Bolshevism*. The book is in English-language. It contains four chapters on 148 pages and includes 42 pictures. 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.

A few months ago, our movement commemorated its 25th anniversary. In the summer of 1989 our predecessor organization, the League for a Revolutionary Communist International (LRCI) was founded as a democratic-centralist international tendency based on an elaborated program. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) continues the revolutionary tradition of the LRCI. Below we give an overview of our history, an evaluation of its achievements as well as mistakes, and a summary of the lessons for the struggles ahead. This book summarizes our theoretical and practical experience of the past

25 years.

In Chapter I we outline a summary of the Bolshevnik-Communists' theoretical conception of the role of the revolutionary party and its relation to the working class. In Chapter II we elaborate on the essential characteristics of revolutionary party respective of the pre-party organization. In Chapter III we deal with the history of our movement – the RCIT and its predecessor organization. Finally, in Chapter IV we outline the main lessons of our 25 years of organized struggle for building a Bolshevnik party and their meaning for our future work.

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/rcit-party-building/> ■

Building the Revolutionary Party in Theory and Practice

Looking Back and Ahead after 25 Years of organized Struggle for Bolshevism



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

large “mass robbery” of Palestinian properties by the citizens of the “Jewish state”. He said in a Cabinet meeting: *“The only thing that surprised me, and surprised me bitterly, was the discovery of such moral failings among us [Jews], which I had never suspected. I mean the mass robbery in which all parts of [the Jewish] population participated.”* [7]

Thus, what the liberals, whose roots are in the privileged classes of Israel, are actually saying is: “we robbed enough, let us not put those gains at risk,” while the less privileged supporters of the Zionist right wing say: “Wait, but what about us?”

Not only land and properties were taken. A lesser known aspect of the looting were books, manuscripts, personal papers, photographs and works of art. A short film *The Great Book Robbery*, made by Benny Brunner and Arjan El Fassed tells the story of the systematic looting in 1948 of tens of thousands of Palestinian books in a joint operation by the paramilitary Haganah – that later became the Israeli army – and the Israeli national library.

One Democratic State

The young Palestinian demonstrators want one democratic state as the Guardian observed:

“Israel has described the recent demonstrations on the Gaza frontier as “riots” and a ploy to “camouflage terror attacks” led by Hamas, a militant group founded on the idea that Israel has no right to exist. Yet Ahmad Abu Artema, who claims no Hamas affiliation, holds an ideology more often attributed to that of Israel’s president: he says he wants to see Palestinians and Israelis living in one country as equal citizens. “If you want my personal opinion, I don’t believe in liberation [of land in Israel]. I believe in ending the apartheid system in Israel like the end of the apartheid system in South Africa, and we live all in one democratic state,” Artema said in an interview in Gaza City. “I want to live with Israelis.” [8]

The struggle for one democratic state is indeed the way forward. However, the question is how do we get it? We have to look at South Africa and ask ourselves: Is it what we want? The black majority who struggled heroically against the apartheid system were betrayed by the ANC and the Communist Party. While the black majority are suffering from exploitation; leaders like Jacob Zuma who serve the capitalist class of mostly whites, has accumulated wealth and is facing trial for his corruption, The leadership of the ANC, like the Palestinian PA cannot be but corrupt while they serve the real masters of the land.

Moreover, the Zionist apartheid state will not accept the Palestinians as equal citizens. This one democratic state can be achieved only through a social revolution led by the working and Falaheen classes. This revolution must be part of a victorious Arab revolution. It will begin with simple democratic demands, but soon enough the revolutionary classes will find out that the privileged classes keep standing in the way, sabotaging any and all progress towards anything that would resemble a democracy.

Thus, in order to win, the democratic revolution would have no choice but to transform into a socialist revolution. Such lessons were, once again, taught and demonstrated to us by the great Egyptian and Syrian struggles that ended so far in defeat, in our view, only because they were not led by a working class revolutionary leadership, but by the privileged bourgeois classes and their middle class servants.

Mahmoud Darwish in his poem ID Card wrote:

*Write down:
I am an Arab
Robbed of my ancestors’ vineyards
And of the land cultivated
By me and all my children.
Nothing is left for us and my grandchildren
Except these rocks...
Will your government take them too, as reported?
Therefore,
Write at the top of page one:
I do not hate people,
I do not assault anyone,
But...if I get hungry,
I eat the flesh of my usurper.
Beware...beware...of my hunger,
And of my anger.*

For a Red Democratic Palestine from the River to the Sea!

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- [2] <https://tinyurl.com/ydgeylnb>
- [3] <https://tinyurl.com/y8abnsf4>
- [4] <http://www.palestineremembered.com/Acre/Palestine-Remembered/Story664.html>
- [5] <http://www.mideastweb.org/palpop.htm>
- [6] <https://tinyurl.com/yd7uxoyo>
- [7] Tom Segev 1949, *The First Israelis*, p. 69
- [8] <https://tinyurl.com/ybp4hoc6>



NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

From Sharpeville to Gaza - Apartheid and its Butchers Will Be Crushed!

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (Israel/occupied Palestine), 01/04/2018

On March 30, 30,000 -50,000 Palestinians from Gaza, demonstrated for their right to return to their country and lands, stolen by the Zionist state. During the ethnic cleansing during 1948-1947 Zionist forces removed 750,000 Palestinians and made them refugees. Survivors, their descendants and their supporters demonstrated in Gaza behind the fence that makes Gaza a Palestinian ghetto under siege.

A Journalist from Gaza, while being interviewed a day before by Israeli TV, said that the people of Gaza are tired of Hamas and the PA have incited the action. They do not want to live under siege.

The Zionist army responded by shooting live ammunition and tear gas. The result of this shooting was the killing of 17 Palestinians while 1,400 were injured, many of them by live bullets. Two Palestinians were killed by tank fire, the Gaza Health Ministry said. The Israeli military said the two were militants who had opened fire at troops across the border. [1]

Israel blames Hamas for the massacre committed by the Zionist apartheid state. According to Israel, two members of Hamas fired on the Israeli army. Yet no Israeli soldier was injured in any shape or form. Israel, as of yet, has not shown any videos showing Palestinians fighters shooting at the Zionist army.

There are videos that clearly show that Israel killed a young man while praying. [2]

The British Telegraph wrote: "The Israeli military has defended its handling of clashes in Gaza which left 16 Palestinians dead even as footage emerged appearing to show unarmed protesters being shot by Israeli snipers." [3]

Not only this, but according to Jerusalem Post "Families brought their children to the encampments just a few hundred meters (yards) from the Israeli security barrier with the Hamas Islamist-run enclave, and football fields were marked in the sand

and scout bands played. But as the day wore on, hundreds of Palestinian youths ignored calls from the organizers and the Israeli military to stay away from the frontier, where Israeli soldiers across the border kept watch from dirt mound embankments." [4]

The reason for the cold blooded killing is clear. Israel has ruled out any right of return. The return of the refugees may transform the Jewish majority into a minority. In 1948 Zionist forces had taken more than 78 percent of historic Palestine, ethnically cleansed and destroyed about 530 villages and cities, and killed about 15,000 Palestinians in a series of mass atrocities, including more than 70 massacres.

In the years that followed the establishment of Israel, the state extended its systematic ethnic cleansing. Though armistice agreements had been signed with Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon in 1949, the newly founded Israeli army committed a number of additional massacres and campaigns of forced displacement. For example, in 1950, the remaining 2,500 Palestinian residents of the city of Majdal were forced into the Gaza Strip, about 2,000 inhabitants of Beer el-Sabe were expelled to the West Bank, and some 2,000 residents of two northern villages were driven into Syria. [5]

58 years ago South African's Apartheid carried out a similar massacre in Sharpeville Transvaal, the ghetto for blacks. The police murdered black demonstrators against the pass system. 69 people were killed, including 8 women and 10 children, 180 injured, including 31 women and 19 children.

The SA Prime Minister told the Assembly that the crowd was in a riotous and aggressive mood and stoned the police. There is no evidence to support this. On the contrary, while the crowd was noisy and excitable, singing and occasionally shouting slogans it was not a hostile crowd.

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Their purpose was not to fight the police, but to show by their presence their hostility to the pass system, expecting that someone would make a statement about passes. Photos taken that morning show clearly that this was no crowd spoiling for a fight with the police. [6]

The massacre of the people of Gaza was carried out for the same reason. Israel's position is that Palestinian refugees should resettle in a future state in the West Bank and Gaza. However, while Israel is in existence such positions are but a pipe dream, as Israel actively destroys any hope for its realization by promoting Jewish-only settlements in the West Bank.

Friday's march in Gaza also coincided with the anniversary of *Land Day* when Israel killed six and wounded some 100 others.

There is an irony that the killing in cold blood of oppressed people took place at the Jewish Passover. This holiday symbolizes in the eyes of the Israeli Jews the time their ancestors were slaves, who were liberated by God inflicting many pains on Pharaoh and the Egyptians. At the same time most of them support and justify the oppression, including the killing of the Palestinians.

They say: "Do you know what could happen if the Palestinians were able to cross the fence, tens of thousands of Israelis would be killed". Exactly the same justification of the South African racists who defend the apartheid. Gidon Levi in *Haaretz* wrote: "The shooting on the Gaza border shows once again that the killing of Palestinians is accepted in Israel more lightly than the killing of mosquitoes." [7]

"It should be noted that the now-deleted tweet from the official @IDFSpokesperson account stated: "Yesterday we saw 30,000 people; we arrived prepared and with precise reinforcements. Nothing was carried out uncontrolled; everything was accurate and measured, and we know where every bullet landed."

Sarit Michaeli, B'Tselem's international advocacy officer, characterized the statement as meaning that the "Israeli army takes full responsibility for the killing of all unarmed protesters and the injuring of hundreds with live ammunition." The army's deletion of the tweet is hardly surprising. The admission that its killings of demonstrators were premeditated down to the

last bullet means it cannot deny responsibility for apparent war crimes, such as the lethal shooting of Abd al-Fattah Abd al-Nabi, 19, as he ran away from the Israel-Gaza boundary fence. Abd al-Nabi was reportedly shot in the head." [8]

This Zionist killing will continue as long as the Zionist state will continue to exist. Hypocritically, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called Friday for an independent investigation into deadly clashes in Gaza between Palestinians and Israeli troops, while Security Council members urged restraint on both sides.

Last year Guterres himself, acting under US pressure, suppressed a UN report that found Israel practices apartheid against Palestinians. Everyone who is familiar with the UN knows that the UN will not do anything to Israeli leaders as long as Israel serves the interest of the other imperialists. [9]

Jeremy Corbyn after 24 hours wrote: "The killing and wounding by Israeli forces of civilians demonstrating for Palestinian rights in Gaza is appalling. The UK Government must make its voice heard on the urgency of a genuine settlement for peace and justice."

The only solution would be a victorious revolutionary struggle led by the workers and the Fallahins. For this reason, we the ISL in Israel (occupied Palestine), the section of the RCIT, support the only possible solution which is Red democratic Palestine with civil equal rights for Palestinians and Israeli Jews, a state that will open the gates to the Palestinian refugees.

Footnotes:

[1] <https://theintercept.com/2018/03/30/israel-gaza-march-killed-protest/>

[2] <http://mondoweiss.net/2018/03/palestinians-walking-praying/>

[3] <https://tinyurl.com/y9yxv9d4>

[4] <https://tinyurl.com/y7g5ah93>

[5] <https://tinyurl.com/y85omnsl>

[6] <https://tinyurl.com/yc58k4zx>

[7] <https://tinyurl.com/y96sjfqs>

[8] see [1]

[9] see [1]



NEW RCIT AFRICA PROGRAM!

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Africa: Stop the Repression against Students!

Joint Statement of the RCIT, Alkebulan (Kenya), PACOR (Nigeria) and NRM (Nigeria), 4 April 2018

The state repression against Africa's students has dramatically increased in recent times. In Zambia, Nigeria, Kenya as well as other countries, the state has arrested university students whose only crime has been to defend their legitimate interests.

We take note that this development is not accidentally but is the result of the reactionary offensive of the ruling class in African countries. In many countries – in Africa but also in many other parts of the world – the elite are attacking democratic rights. These attacks are related to the crisis of capitalism and reflect the decay of this system. This demonstrates once more the urgent necessity for an international socialist revolution.

It is important not to remain silent in face of such repression against African students! We call for international solidarity of student, workers movement and popular organizations. Joint resistance in Africa can lay the foundation for building a joint Pan-African revolutionary socialist youth movement, capable of organizing solidarity

campaigns, not only in their respective countries but also on an international scale.

* *Stop repression against African students!*

* *No attacks against democratic rights!*

* *Forward to a Pan-African revolutionary socialist youth movement!*

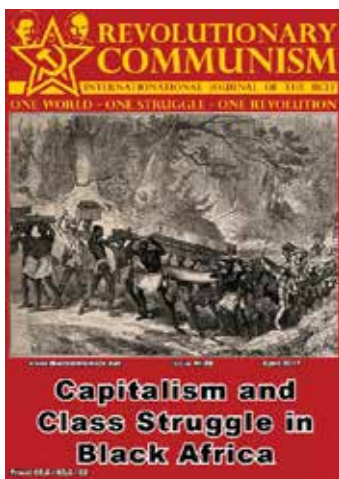
* *Down with capitalism! Forward to socialism!*

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Zambia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria), www.thecommunists.net

Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=Alkebulan%20School%20of%20Black%20Studies>

Pan-African Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), <https://m.facebook.com/pacrenaissance/?ref=bookmarks>

Naija Resistance Movement (Nigeria), www.naijaresistance.org



NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

Theses on Capitalism and Class Struggle in Black Africa

An Analysis of Imperialist Exploitation and Oppression and the Perspectives of the Liberation Struggle

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

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Kenya: Down with the Repression against the Students Union in Nairobi!

Report from the Alkebulan School of Black Studies (Kenya), 12 April 2018

The Kenyan student situation is at a critical moment in the country's history. Kenya risks going back to the era of the 1970s and 1980s where students' right to speak against the administration and against the state was curtailed. During this era (1970&80s) universities were under direct control of the state and government. Especially the University of Nairobi was a place where spies and the state machinery would be deployed to torture and suppress the voice of the students.

This era was also marked by the rise of Marxism among students and lectures who also were tortured, killed and discriminated upon.

The Kenyan government then sought to never repeat a situation like the 1970s where students were the voices of the society. The state lives in fear of popular rising in which students could play a critical role.

In the recent past, the state lives up to its promise to suppress the students' voice to speak. Fellow students in universities have been turned into spies against their fellow comrades (students). Naturally, this has instilled fear among the students. The state has enforced its own Vice-Chancellors who have become very powerful with the state supporting them. Punishments and harsh penalties have been enforced, for example expulsion of students, is very high. There are suspensions of 3-5 years for students

who try to question the school administrative ways.

A situation has now emerged at the University of Nairobi which highlights how the institution has served their self-interest. The institution last year banned the student union. This union serves the interest of the students and it is an independent union under student leadership. The representatives of the student union went to court and the matter is still in court.

But in the meantime the reactionary administration which is under the control of the state has come with a new trick to keep student silent and ineffective. The student union has now been changed into an association controlled by the Administration. The administration quickly scheduled the student election for 13th April. The administration collaborated with some students who are running for the leadership of the so-called association so as to get control of the student. At the same time fellow students seen to be talkative and interested in the welfare of the students have been barred.

We do not approve of the so called *University of Nairobi Student Association (UNSA)* which seeks to turn progressive students into slaves. We demand the return of the *University of Nairobi Student Organization!*

Books of the RCIT

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

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

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

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

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting argues that a correct understanding of the nature of imperialism as well as of the program of permanent revolution which includes the tactics of consistent anti-imperialism is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future. Order your copy NOW! \$20 / £13 / €15 plus p+p (21\$ for US and international, £9 for UK, €10 for Europe)

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*



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

Nigeria: Stop the Wave of Repression!

Report by Ifagunwa Ifamaberu (National Coordinator of the Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance, Nigeria), 23 April 2018

Editorial Note: Below we publish a report of comrade Ifagunwa Ifamaberu, the National Coordinator of the Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance in Nigeria, about the political situation in his country. The RCIT collaborates with the comrades of PACOR since last year. In this context we have published a number of joint statements.

The Nigerian state is an extreme primitive capitalist state like the condition is in most African countries. The state through its several apparatuses tries to suppress all sectors of the society to stop their ability to protest.

The universities, for example, have been hijacked by numerous neoliberal antics and tactics. There are several outbreaks of student protests, though spontaneous, across the country. (See on this: PACOR: Nigeria: Free the Arrested Students! <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/free-the-arrested-students-in-nigeria/>)

Despite enormous oil wealth, the minimum wage in Nigeria is below 60\$. This shocking reality exposes the neo-colonial character of the Nigerian state and the economy.

Another bourgeois election is some months away, 2019 precisely, and as expected a lot of politricks have been flying all around. Several bourgeois alliances and reconfiguration have been surfacing, the ruling elites are reassem-

bling. The Buhari-led government is an abysmal failure. But it has its own loyalists among a section of the masses.

The Nigerian state has been clamping down on all forms of reawakening amongst the masses. And this explains the numerous attacks the government has been putting up against the Shiite sect. Since 2016, Ibrahim Zakzaky, the leader of the sect, has been under the most illegal, unlawful arrest by the state. At a time he was paraded as a terrorist simply because his members aren't amongst the frequent northern loyalists in the country.

I think the issue yet again proves the supremacy of our class analysis that the backward situation the country is in now has nothing to do with the problems of ethnicism, religion, as often peddled by the ruling class. It is ultimately an illumination of the failure of the state. This which is much expected because of the absolute refusal of the state to democratically manage and distribute the enormous wealth the country is adorn with.

The only way forward is to unite the working class, youth and oppressed across ethnic and religious lines on the basis of a program of struggle against all social and democratic attacks by the ruling class. We fight for a mass working people's government armed with a socialist programme to put the enormous wealth of the country in the hands of the working people!

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.

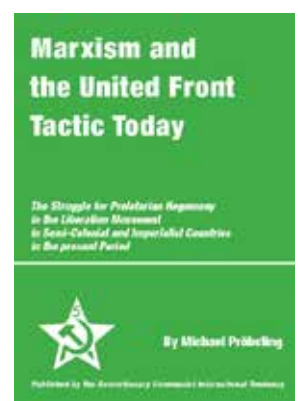
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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.



Ghana: Close Down the U.S. Military Base!

We condemn in strong words the United States of America Military Occupation of Ghana: We Say No to any Imperial Occupation in Afrika!!!

Joint Statement of PACOR (Nigeria) and the RCIT, 27th March, 2018

The *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria)* and the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT)* condemn the recent agreement that was reached between the government of the United States of America and the government of the Republic of Ghana. It is imperative to state that this agreement is not just counterproductive for the Ghanaian masses but it is also a threat to life and limb of the Afrikan people.

A leaked classified document on the 22nd of March, 2018 exposed an agreement approved by the Ghanaian government to grant an unrestricted access to a chunk of Ghanaian lands, military facilities and information to the United States Military since on the 8th of the same month and year. The basic pact reached in this agreement is that the United States Military now has the permit to establish a base in Ghana.

It will be recalled that since the 1980s, successive United States governments have been establishing military base camps across Afrika under the guise of the United States Afrikan Command (AFRICOM) primarily for the purpose of staging and deploying forces on the continent. The newly concluded agreement by the Ghanaian and the United States governments has just revealed yet again the neo-colonial, backward, pro-imperialists, pro-capitalists, nature and character of the puppets parading as Heads of States in Afrika.

The puppet in Ghana, Nana Akufo Addo signed this agreement without any core indication of what would be the gains of the Ghanaian masses. Outside from the fact that this government agreed to an unrestricted access of Ghanaian lands and seas to the United States Military, this government also accepted a tax exemption deal with the United States government. Quite bizarre in the agreement also is that the Nana Akufo Addo led anti-Afrikan masses government agreed to bear the cost for the procurement of the facilities needed for the success of the United States Military base in Ghana.

This agreement represents another step in undermining the achievements of the Afrikan liberation struggle. This struggle has led, among others, to the independence of Ghana and the creation of its first nationalist government led by Kwame Nkrumah and was instrumental to the flag

independence of several Afrikan countries in the 1960s.

In the spirit of the collective responsibility of the Afrikan masses at this material point in time, we therefore deemed it necessary to make the following demands:

1. We demand for the immediate repudiation of any agreement that had been hitherto reached between the United States and the Ghanaian governments on the establishment of a military base in Ghana. We are saying that the lands and seas of Ghana belongs to the people, no more no less.

2. We are also calling for immediate protests in Ghana and across the continent – beginning with demonstrations, strikes up to the occupation of all Ghanaian embassies across the continent and if possible beyond - until the Ghanaian government repudiates this obnoxious agreement.

3. We demand from the Ghanaian government to immediately begin the process of deploying the finances outlined for the building of the military base into funding public services like health, transport, education, and other sectors for the benefit of the Ghanaian masses.

4. We are also calling on the Ghanaian masses to immediately kick-start the process of deposing the Nana Akufo Addo led anti-Afrika, pro-capitalist government for the restoration of a genuine Afrikan workers and popular government based on a revolutionary socialist program.

5. In the same vein, our movement is calling for the mobilization of the Afrikan masses across the continent to earnestly begin the practical process of dismantling all United States military base camps and other foreign military base camps (e.g. British, French, Chinese) across the continent.

6. We are also calling on activists of the liberation movement to begin with the creation of Afrikan revolutionary socialist political parties across the continent for the purpose of deposing the puppets and pro-imperialists governments that pervades the continent.

7. We demand for all practical works and efforts against the re-colonization, re-enslavement of the Afrikan continent.

ALUTA CONTINUA!! VICTORIA ACERTA!! IZWE LETHU E'AFRIKA!! AMANDLA!!

O Comunismo Revolucionário

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Brazil: The Emergency Regime Advances!

The Army Generals put pressure on the Supreme Court to imprison Lula

Statement of the Corrente Comunista Revolucionária (CCR, Brazilian Section of the RCIT), 5 April 2018

The appeal of Lula's lawyers to the Supreme Court for a preventive Habeas Corpus was rejected by a small majority (6-5). In the days leading up to the appeal judgment at least seven army generals made public statements pressurizing the Supreme Court. The main TV network *Rede Globo* and other television networks and radios gave much space to report about the speeches of the putschist generals. The result was the advance of the emergency regime which came to power with the impeachment of President Dilma Rousseff in April 2016.

Who is the real target? Only Lula da Silva or the Working Class and the Social Movements?

The offensive of the military opens a new chapter in the advance of the putschist movement. It means that the military returns to a preponderant role. This has been encouraged by the politically weak President Temer when he authorized the military intervention in Rio de Janeiro.

Such a policy is strictly related to a central issue of the current national political struggle: the imprisonment of the former president and main leader of the national left Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Lula has a strong lead in all polls for the Presidential election in October 2018. But the target is not only the former president Lula who has lead in a reformist government, conciliatory with the bourgeoisie, in 2003-2011.

The target of the reactionary offensive is the whole of the Brazilian working class, the leftist parties and the social

movements. The leading circles of the bourgeoisie are determined to implement harsh neoliberal reforms which would actually destroy the political and social rights of the Brazilian working class. This also means that a successful offensive would also drastically reduce the space for reformist and conciliatory politicians and leaderships of mass organizations (e.g. PT, PCdoB, CUT, MST, PSOL) to reach compromises with the bourgeoisie.

But this reactionary offensive against the working class and its mass organizations inevitable provokes resistance. This is the reason why the financial bourgeoisie, supported by the imperialist powers, activated its instruments: the monopoly media with *Rede Globo* at its heart, the highly conservative and reactionary parliament, the Public Prosecutor's Office, and the Supreme Court. But this is not enough; they also had to call the army command back to having a role that they didn't have since 1985 when the military dictatorship ended.

The growing role of the Military 30 years after the end of the dictatorship

This is evident when, in a week, seven Generals of the Armed Forces threatened the Federal Supreme Court (STF), at the same time as the habeas corpus trial of former president Lula da Silva was to occur. These seven generals are only those who openly have revealed their positions; inside the High Command, the hegemonic opinion of these generals was in favor of the immediate imprison-

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) ■



ment of Lula. They sent a very clear message: if they (the Supreme Court) do not arrest Lula, there will be a military coup.

The crisis of bourgeois leadership is enormous and without solution in sight. The imperialist monopoly capital and the Brazilian big capitalists are determined to restructure Brazilian semi-colonial capitalism to recover the falling rate of profits around the world. For this, it needs favorable political conditions that do not exist at the moment.

Under these conditions, installing a regime of emergency becomes increasingly indispensable to the capitalists. Hence the danger of a military coup, which could even take a semi-fascist character, is gaining strength.

Unfortunately, this huge danger is met with complacency of the major left parties which still believe in the legality of bourgeois "democracy". They ignore the fact that such a coup could result in massive repression against the entire revolutionary left and mass movements as well as against these same reformist parties.

On the other side, if the working class and the oppressed succeed in organizing mass resistance against the putschists, this could provoke a pre-revolutionary situation with enormous opportunities for revolutionaries and the mass movement.

What do we defend?

We from the CCR urge the reformist and socialist parties, trade unions and popular organizations (e.g. PT, PCdoB, CUT, MST, PSOL) to immediately establish a mass united front in order to organize a massive struggle against the reactionary attacks. Let us overcome passivity and complacency NOW! We need the creation of action committees in factories, unions, neighborhoods, favelas and peripheral

regions to organize the masses and to democratically plan the struggle. We need a national congress of delegates of all parties and mass organizations as well as of the action committees in order to organize the struggle.

We also call for the creation of committees of self-defense which are essential to resist against fascist thugs and state repression.

Without having any illusion about the limitation of bourgeois democracy and the corrupt parliamentary system, we unconditionally defend all democratic rights against the military and institutional putschists. We combine such a defense of democratic rights with a call for a revolutionary constituent assembly which should discuss and elaborate a new constitution under the control of the working class and the oppressed.

We call all activists who agree with our analysis and strategy for the present important situation, to unite forces and to join us in our efforts to build a revolutionary party!

** No to the criminalization of political demonstrations and the criminalization of social movements!*

** Public safety is not the role of the Armed Forces! For the cancellation of federal military intervention in the state of Rio de Janeiro!*

** For the creation of action committees in factories, unions, neighborhoods, favelas and peripheral regions in defense of our rights and against the putschist government and against any military intervention! For committees of self-defense of the workers and poor in the neighborhoods and peripheries!*

** Down with the constitutional law that allows the army to intervene in political matters!*

** For the Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

** For a revolutionary workers' party – a new World Party of the Socialist Revolution! For the Fifth International!*

China's transformation into an imperialist power

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Thailand: Defeat the Military Dictatorship!

Organise the Workers and the Poor Peasants for the Revolutionary Overthrow!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, 28th March 2018

The military regime of Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has recently banned all political meetings in Thailand. This is an effort to stem the rising tide of opposition to the regime by human rights activists and protesters who want a general election for this year and who demand the return to a democratic government instead of military dictatorship. The *National Legislative Assembly* is striving to delay the elections as Prayut and the regime have promised.

“Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ordered security forces to closely monitor political groups which are currently launching campaigns to unseat the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) Lt Gen Sansern Kaewkamnerd, speaking Sunday, said he was quoting the response of Gen Prayut, who is head of the NCPO, to anti-military activists who have stated that they will stage a prolonged rally in May to oust the regime ahead of the fourth anniversary of the May 22, 2014 coup. On Saturday, in a bid to challenge the NCPO, the protesters broke through security barriers and gathered in front of the Royal Thai Army headquarters on Ratchadamnoen Avenue to demand that the election. Be held this year closely monitored by 600 police and security officers, around 400 activists had marched from Thammasat University’s Tha Prachan campus to the army headquarters, calling on the army to stop supporting the regime.” [1]

Prayut Chan-o-cha and his regime have banned all political parties in an effort to rule the country with an iron fist. The junta is in power since 2014 and is promising since then to lift the ban on democratic elections every year. In addition the Election Commission refuses to even register a broad number of political parties which means that these parties will have no right to stand at a general election. “All names and qualifications to be an official party depend on EC approval”. [2]

The current flurry of activity by several political parties in Thailand is because the *National Legislative Assembly*, controlled by Prayut and his cronies, have put the date of polls

for the election of MP’s back another 90 days with a possible general election in February 2019 instead of November 2018. The Political Party Act also demands that registered parties should have a minimum of 500 registered members and 1 million baht (more than £22,000) which is an absolute undemocratic hurdle.

The National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) is well known for oppressing democratic rights as the junta has shown since it took power. Furthermore, the oppression of the Muslim people in the South of Thailand - they make more than 80% of the population in three provinces but live in extreme poverty - has massively increased under the regime of the junta. The latter has cast itself as the protector of Buddhism, backing the reactionary mobilisations of ethnic Thai Buddhists against the Muslim population.

It is therefore more than cynical that the regime of Prayut Chan-o-cha stylizes itself to be the guardian of democracy. “I believe most people now understand well that Thailand is heading towards an election as planned in the country’s roadmap. The important mission of the NCPO, which stepped in to take on a caretaker role is now to do its utmost to get the country back to being a ‘complete democracy’,” Gen Prayut was quoted as saying.” [3]

The largest opposition force is the *Pheu Thai Party*. Former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and his sister Yingluck Shinawatra of the Pheu Thai party have recently been meeting with other party leaders in Hong Kong. Both Thaksin and Ying Luck refuse to return to Thailand because of the possibility of their arrest by the regime. The Pheu Thai party is a bourgeois populist party which held power before the military coup. They refused to call for mass protests against the coup d’état in 2014 in order to find a compromise with the traditional elite around the late king Bhumibol who supported the seizure of power by the junta.

The RCIT has previously commented on the role of the

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Pheu Thai party in 2014: "Thus the Pheu Thai Party is a bourgeois-populist party which represents a minority faction of the capitalist class but which, however, has to rely on the support of the workers and peasants in order to hold power. Nevertheless Thaksin and his party are despised by the elite because it is a party whose strength is based on the support of the masses of workers and peasants who have repeatedly intervened in the political life of Thailand during the last decade by militant mass mobilizations." [4]

We opposed the reactionary mobilisation in 2013 and 2014 by the so-called "Yellow Shirts" of the Democrat Party which provoked the coup d'état as well as we didn't give any political support to the submissive and demobilizing Pheu Thai Party. However, we defended the democratically elected government and the Pheu Thai Party against the coup d'état and called for mass mobilisations by the popular movement of the "Red Shirts". Irrespective of the treacherous failure of the Pheu Thai Party, they still retain support amongst the working class and the poor peasants in Thailand.

The RCIT believes that it is necessary to recruit the best elements of the working class and poor peasants away from the pro-capitalist policies of Thaksin and his sister Yingluck so that they build an independent workers party. To this end the RCIT puts forward the following demands to unite the workers and poor peasants in Thailand in a struggle to overthrow the reactionary regime of General Prayut-Chan-o-cha and to fight for a workers government based on the support of the rural and urban poor.

* For the Overthrow of the Prayut-Chan-o-cha regime! For a Constituent Assembly which must be controlled by the Workers and Poor Peasants!

* For the Right of Self-Determination for all the Muslim peoples living in Thailand! Support self-defense units of Muslim people to protect themselves against the reactionary attacks!

* For the Abolition of the Monarchy and the Establishment of a Republic!

* For the Expropriation and Nationalisation of Big Business without Compensation and under Workers Control! Nationalisation of all Banks and Fusion to One Central State Bank under Workers Control!

* For the Armed Seizure of Power by Workers and Poor Peasants Militias! For the Establishment of a Workers Government based on the Urban and Rural Poor!

The RCIT welcomes discussions on all these questions with revolutionaries and socialists in Thailand. Comrades in Thailand – lets fight together for the Fifth International, a new world party of the socialist revolution! Join the RCIT!

Footnotes

(1) <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/1434999/prayut-orders-close-watch-on-protesters>

(2) <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/1432571/another-anti-coup-activist-registers-a-party>

(3) <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/1434999/prayut-orders-close-watch-on-protesters>

(4) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/thailand-looming-coup-d-%C3%A9tat/>



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

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Defend Jeremy Corbyn and his Supporters against the recent Zionist and Blairite Witchhunt!

Reinstate Tony Greenstein, Ken Livingstone and other Anti-Zionists expelled from the Labour Party for Alleged Anti-Semitism!

Article by Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, April 2018

Jeremy Corbyn, the left reformist leader of the Labour party, has again been attacked for "Anti-Semitism" in the Labour party by pro-Zionist and right wing Blairites. This development is neither surprising nor can the accusation be characterized as anything else than slander by the right wing forces inside Labour. They are just determined to force Corbyn to resign and purge and expel most of his supporters. The bourgeois media supports this slander and has launched a concerted campaign against Corbyn. Their aim is to portray a Corbyn-led Labour Party as racist and unfit for office. "One of Labour's biggest private donors has said he no longer feels "any affinity or connection" with the party, and accuses its leadership of failing in its response to "the most blatant acts of antisemitism". As Labour struggles to quell a renewed outcry over the issue, Sir David Garrard, who has donated about £1.5m since 2003, said the party he had supported "no longer exists". Despite funding Labour under three leaders before Jeremy Corbyn's election to the post, he had now left the party, he revealed. He told the Observer that he had watched the current handling of the issue with "growing dismay and foreboding". [1].

At a time when Teresa May's government is in terminal crisis the right wing Blairites launch this witch-hunt on the eve of council elections, on May 3rd in London and in the Metropolitan districts of Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham. The Blairites want Corbyn and the Labour party defeated. They receive help by people like Jeremy Newmark, who is the chairperson of the *Jewish Labour Organisation*, an institution affiliated not only to the Labour Party but also to the Israeli Labour Party and the *World Zionist Organization*. The latter is well known for a practice of systematic stealing of Palestinian private land in order to give it to Israeli settlers, a story even covered by the Israeli newspaper Haaretz. [2].

Prominent Anti Zionists in Labour against the witch hunt including Tony Greenstein and Jackie Walker have signed a petition in support of Corbyn.

"As socialist members and Labour Party supporters, we are firm opponents of all forms of racism, fascism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and all other kinds of oppression. Many of us have been actively campaigning against them for many years, often alongside you, John McDonnell and other comrades.

We know anti-Semitism exists in society and needs to be combated. But we are seriously worried about the current climate in the Labour Party, where any criticism of the actions of the state of Israel is now immediately conflated with anti-Semitism. But anti-Zionism does not equal anti-Semitism.

What we are seeing is a cynical alliance between those who wish to deflect criticism of Israel and Zionism, and the right-wing in the Labour Party and the news media, who oppose your wider politics. They are thereby undermining genuine anti-racism and opposition to anti-Semitism. Their real target is you, because they oppose both your record of internationalism, in particular

your lifelong support for the rights of the Palestinians, and your commitment to socialism. That is what the few bitterly oppose: the many gaining power.

Yet we are witnessing the development of the opposite to open and frank debate. There is now a chilling culture of fear, self-censorship, of members afraid to openly ask questions and learn, particularly on social media. We have seen many good Corbyn-supporting comrades being thrown to the wolves of the Tory Party and their supporters in the mainstream media. They are publicly smeared as Holocaust deniers, anti-Semites, racists – and have no way of fighting back against such vile accusations. These types of smears have ruined lives. Labour's broken disciplinary procedure, that voices on all sides now accept is not fit for purpose, has actually resulted in suicides. As socialists we insist on our right to continue to publicly and sharply criticize the actions of a state that brutally oppresses Palestinians and black migrants. If we stop doing this, we stop being socialists". [3].

Only recently Corbyn attended an event hosted by a semi anarchist group called *Jewdas*. The group was founded in 2006 and was characterized by *The Jewish Chronicle* as a "Jewish diaspora group, known for its far-left anti-Zionism". *Jewdas* is known for its very satiric approach to various political questions and its mockery on Zionist ideas. In addition they have been active in anti-fascist protests and are well known both in the anarchist milieu of London as well by a number of progressive, radical youth with Jewish background. Corbyn visited *Jewdas* at the Passover Seder, a Jewish ritual feast which was also celebrated by the group. He was roundly criticized by Blairites and Zionists for participating at the social of *Jewdas*, which is slandered as not being "real Jewish" by the Zionists. [4].

"Jeremy Corbyn has been accused by his own MPs of acting "irresponsibly and dangerously" by attending an event hosted by a far-left Jewish group which called for the destruction of Israel and dismissed the anti-Semitism row engulfing the party as "faux-outrage".

The Labour leader was photographed at a Passover Seder hosted by Jewdas, a satirical group which describes itself as "radical" and is highly critical of mainstream Jewish organisations.

Last week Jewdas attacked the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Jewish Leadership Council's response to the Labour anti-Semitism scandal as "playing a dangerous game with people's lives". [5].

The witch-hunt against Corbyn coincided with the massacre against innocent and unarmed Palestinians by the Zionist Israeli state which was given less coverage by the bourgeois media in Britain compared to the witch hunt against Corbyn and his supporters. This is particularly disgusting given the fact that apartheid state Israel is mobilizing since week brutally against the legitim and democratic protests of the Palestinian people. Even the actress Natalie Portman, who has a dual American and Israeli citizenship,

has refused to participate at an event in Israel because she is opposed to the undemocratic and oppressive behaviour of Israel during the recent protests. Not to speak about a number of political activists, even from a left-Zionist background, who shared these criticism. However, not only is the Palestinian voice ignored by the British press, but even the liberal, more left Zionists are criticized if not slandered badly.

"On March 30, 30,000 -50,000 Palestinians from Gaza, demonstrated for their right to return to their country and lands, stolen by the Zionist state. During the ethnic cleansing during 1948-1947 Zionist forces removed 750,000 Palestinians and made them refugees. Survivors, their descendants and their supporters demonstrated in Gaza behind the fence that makes Gaza a Palestinian ghetto under siege

A Journalist from Gaza, while being interviewed a day before by Israeli TV, said that the people of Gaza are tired of Hamas and the PA have incited the action. They do not want to live under siege.

The Zionist army responded by shooting live ammunition and tear gas. The result of this shooting was the killing of 17 Palestinians while 1,400 were injured, many of them by live bullets. Two Palestinians were killed by tank fire, the Gaza Health Ministry said. The Israeli military said the two were militants who had opened fire at troops across the border. [6]

The RCIT in BRITAIN condemns unreservedly the witch-hunt against Corbyn and his supporters. We defend both Corbyn as well as all anti-Zionist activists who are attacked by the bourgeois media and the Blairites. This does not mean that we are uncritical to Corbyn who still panders and capitulates to the Blairites in the party and refuses to take actions against either the pro-Zionist forces or the Blairites themselves. Even the leader of Momentum (a pro Corbyn organization), Jon Lansmann, agrees with the witchhunters by saying that there is a problem in the Labour party's approach towards anti-Semitism displaying an open pro-Zionist position. *"Current examples of anti-Semitism within the Labour party are not only a problem of a few, extreme 'bad apples', but also of unconscious bias, which manifests itself in varied, nuanced and subtle ways and is more widespread in the Labour party than many of us had understood even a few months ago"*[7].

It is part of the exhausting repertoire of the Zionists to au-

tomatically denounce any criticism against Israel as anti-Semitism. The Zionist lobby in the Labour party has been very strong ever since the 1945 Labour led government has recognized the State of Israel in 1948. The Blairites together with the Zionists are determined to stamp out any opposition to the imperialist, racist and apartheid state of Israel and with this to get rid of the left wing in Labour.

THE RCIT IN BRITAIN calls for a UNITED ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT against all aspects of Zionism and Imperialism. We put forward the following demands to unite the working class and the oppressed against Imperialist interests inside and outside the Labour Party.

* Call on the National Executive of the Labour Party to reinstate all Labour Party members who have been suspended or expelled for criticizing the Israeli apartheid state respectively for arguing against Blairite positions.

* Abolish the Compliance Unit! Establish Labour Party Democracy.

* Expel all Pro-Zionist and Blairite Organizations in the Labour Party including Labour Friends of Israel, The Jewish Labour Movement, Progress and Labour First as being incompatible with Labour party democratic principles. This should be discussed and decided by a membership meeting of Labour activists.

* For a Free Democratic Palestine from the River to the Sea. Support the Intifada and the struggle for one, red, free PALESTINE.

Footnotes

1) <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/mar/31/labour-jewish-donor-michael-garrard-quits-party-antisemitism>

2) <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/editorial/wzos-land-theft-division-1.5465930>

3) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/campaigns/sign-this-open-letter-to-jeremy-corbyn-and-the-left-on-the-nec/>

4) <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/apr/03/jeremy-corbyn-passover-jewdas-good-news>

5) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/labour-mps-hit-out-at-irresponsible-corbyn-for-attending-seder-hosted-by-far-left-jewish-group/ar-AAvoirI?li=BB0PWjQ&ocid=SK2MDHP>

6) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/from-sharpeville-to-gaza-apartheid-and-its-butchers-will-be-crushed/>

7) <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/momentum-labour-has-major-anti-semitism-problem/ar-AAvo4eq?li=AAAnZ9Ug&ocid=SK2MDHP>

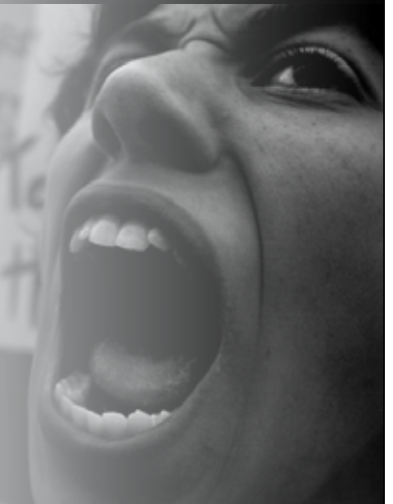
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What the RCIT Stands for

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

