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The Trump-Putin Summit: A Meeting of Two Robber Chiefs

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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 84, August 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, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria. Furthermore, the RCIT has fraternal relations with the *Alkebulan School of Black Studies* (Kenya), the *Pacesetters Movement* (Nigeria), the *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance* (Nigeria), *Courant des Jeunes Penseurs Congolais* (Democratic Republic of Congo), the *Marxist Group 'Class Politics'* (Russia) and *Sınıf Savaşı* (Turkey).

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The Trump-Putin Summit: A Meeting of Two Robber Chiefs

Workers and Oppressed: Fight Imperialism of East and West!

Joint Statement of the RCIT and the Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), 4 July 2018

1. The Trump-Putin Summit is highly symbolic for the present world situation. It is a meeting between Presidents who represent two of the most important imperialist powers on this planet. This summit reflects the profound turmoil of the world situation as it takes place against the backdrop of a looming global trade war as well as of wars, sanctions and military tensions in the Middle East, the Ukraine and Northeast Asia. In short, the summit is the result of the massive acceleration of the rivalry between the Great Powers. At the same time, it reflects an attempt of the American and Russian rulers to make deals and find compromises at the expense of the workers and oppressed people around the world.

2. Trump represents the still largest but declining Great Power which attempts to halt its demise by an increasingly aggressive policy characterized by militarism and chauvinism both at home and abroad. Putin represents one of the key imperialist challengers of the US hegemony. Based on an alliance with Chinese imperialism, Russia has been able to expand its sphere of influence in recent years (e.g. in the Middle East).

3. It is a meeting between representatives of reactionary and authoritarian regimes. Trump – a unique symbiosis of a corrupted billionaire and crooked politician – is pressing ahead with chauvinist attacks on migrants and military threats against Iran. Facing the threat of impeachment, he is desperately looking for domestic and foreign adventures. Putin – who is in power since more than 18 years and whose regime is much more consolidated – implements no less reactionary policy than his counterpart in the White House. The recent pension reform and the increase of VAT from 18% to 20% – which are massive attacks against the working people in Russia –, the slaughter of the Syrian people by Russian air force or the ongoing suppression of the Chechen people are testimony of this.

4. We don't know in advance if and which deals these robber barons will agree on. Most likely they will discuss about international sanctions as well as about their conflicting interests in Iran, Syria, the Ukraine and North Korea. But no one should have any illusions in deals agreed between Trump and Putin. Any agreement between these imperialist powers will take place at the expense of the workers and oppressed people around the world. The tragic fate of the Syrian people in the Southern region of Daraa is symbolic for this. When the treacherous FSA leadership of the Syrian rebels agreed to the creation of a so-called 'de-escalation zone' in June 2017 guaranteed by Russia, Jordan and the US, people illusionary hoped for peace and stability. One year later, the Great Powers are withdrawing their fake "guarantee" and Assad's army, with the support of the Russian air force, is advancing. More than 270,000 people have been displaced in this region since Assad's offensive began on 16 June.

5. The workers and oppressed people must not put trust in any imperialist regime! Our future is dark as long

as the world is dominated by Great Powers and as long as people suffer from the consequences of the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression. Only a world federation of socialist workers and peasants republics can ensure a peaceful future for humanity. Only consistent class struggle – independent of any Great Power and of any faction of the bourgeoisie – directed to the international socialist revolution can lead to liberation. Only the creation of a Revolutionary World Party can ensure the victory of the revolutionary struggle. This is what we are fighting for!

6. We denounce those bourgeois and petty-bourgeois organizations which claim to represent the working people in words but which adapt to one or another Great Power in their deeds! Instead, the workers and popular organizations around the world must fight for a socialist program. Such a program must include, among others:

** Workers and Oppressed: Fight Imperialism of East and West! Against all imperialist Great Powers – US, EU, China, Russia, and Japan! No to sanctions and global trade war! Oppose Great Power jingoism! The Main Enemy is at Home!*

** We welcome the mass protests in the U.S. which take place in solidarity with the migrants victimized by the racist Trump Administration!*

** We welcome the protests in Russia against pension reform! Freedom for Chechnya!*

** We send our greetings to the tens of thousands of demonstrators who will protest against Trump's visit in London on 13 July!*

** Solidarity with the liberation struggle of Syrian people against the Assad regime and its imperialist masters! All foreign powers – out of Syria!*

** No to pro-Western as well as pro-Eastern social-chauvinism! For international solidarity and joint cross-border struggle in defense of the interests of workers and oppressed! For the creation of a Revolutionary World Party!*

*Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Tunisia, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Brazil, Mexico, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Britain, Germany, and Austria), www.thecommunists.net
Marxist Group 'Class Politics' (Russia), <https://mgkp.github.io/>*

We refer readers also to other joint statement which we issued recently:

Global Trade War: No to Great Power Jingoism in West and East! Neither Imperialist Globalization nor Imperialist Protectionism! For International Solidarity and Joint Struggle of the Working Class and Oppressed People! <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-statement-on-the-looming-global-trade-war/>

Warmongering in the Middle East: Down with all Imperialist Great Powers and Capitalist Dictatorships! <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/>

Down with Imperialist Warmongering of All Great Powers! <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-down-with-imperialist-warmongering-of-all-great-powers/>

Iraq: Long Live the Popular Insurrection!

Bring Down the Government of Haider al-Abadi! Build Popular Councils! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 17 July 2018

1. A spontaneous popular insurrection is sweeping through southern Iraq since 8 July. Starting in Basra, the demonstrations, blockades and occupations have spread to Najaf, Zukkar, Meysan, Misan, Babel, Karbala, Hille and Baghdad. People are protesting against unemployment, the rising cost of living and a lack of basic services. Demonstrators have occupied offices of oil companies, blockaded streets, stormed Najaf's international airport and surrounded the governor's house in Nasiriyah. Protests were also directed against other local government and party headquarters as well as against buildings belonging to powerful sectarian Shiite militias. The struggle has escalated in recent days after police began to brutally suppress the demonstrations. So far nine demonstrators have been killed and more than 250 people (including 30 from the security personnel) injured. It seems that a pre-revolutionary situation has opened.

2. Recognizing the serious state of affairs, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi commissioned a delegation of five ministers to visit Basra city. This commission promised to raise the level of services for citizens and to create 10,000 jobs. As this didn't calm down the situation, Abadi flew to Basra from Brussels where he had attended the recent NATO summit. However, until now the government failed to pacify the insurrection. Quite the opposite, demonstrators stormed the hotel in Basra where the Prime Minister was residing and bodyguards had to evacuate Abadi in great haste!

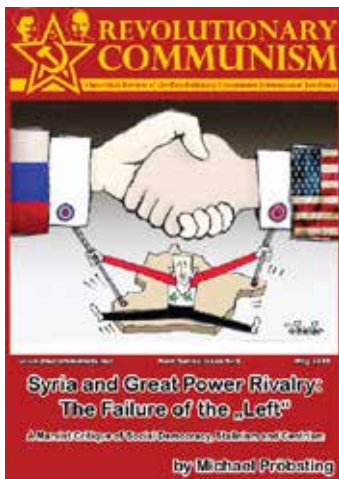
3. Abadi's Dawa party has dominated Iraqi politics since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that resulted

in the imperialist occupation of the country. However, the demonstrators do not only resent the domination of US imperialism, they also reject the interference of Iran. People are shouting slogans like "Iran, we don't want you anymore!" They also set fire to office buildings of the pro-US Islamic Dawa Party as well as the Iranian-backed Al-Badr Organisation, the Shia Supreme Islamic Council Party or the pro-iranian Kataib Hizbullah's office in Najaf.

4. The Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who leads a petty-bourgeois Islamist populist movement (and who played a leading role in two armed insurrections against the US occupation forces in 2004 and 2007), tries to politically exploit the protests by cautiously expressing his sympathies for the goals of the demonstrators. However, he also tries to pacify the protests by condemning "violence". Al-Sadr leads a coalition with the Stalinist "Communist" Party and other forces, which won a majority in May's parliamentary election on an anti-corruption platform.

5. After 15 years of American occupation and Iranian interference, corrupt governments and sectarian militias, the Iraqi people are living in desperate conditions. Large areas are still destroyed – first and foremost Mosul in the north – and many public services don't work properly or not at all. Officially, 10.8% of Iraqis are jobless, while youth unemployment is twice as high in a country where 60% of the population are less than 24 years old. This is just the latest example of the failure of imperialism as well as local capitalist elites.

6. There seem to be attempts of the protestors to organize themselves as they announced the establishment



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

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

of a *Demonstrators Council*. However, it is obvious that bourgeois tribal forces (like the Bani Tamim clan, one of Basra's largest tribes) use their influence in order to divert and pacify the insurrection. For example, a statement of the Council calls for the army to replace the elected officials. Such a move would represent a huge setback for the liberation struggle of the workers and oppressed in Iraq.

7. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly welcomes the popular insurrection. If successful, it could deliver a serious blow against the reactionary aggressions in the Middle East – both of US imperialism as well as of regional powers like Iran. It could create the precondition for the expulsion of foreign occupation forces as well as for the overthrow of the Iraqi comprador bourgeoisie. Hence, a successful insurrection could open the door for the creation of a workers and poor peasants' government.

8. The importance of the popular insurrection goes far beyond Iraq. Since the country is a key area for the regional machinations of US imperialism as well as for the regime in Teheran, these powers are directly affected by the mass protests. Furthermore, we have seen in the past few months the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people (e.g. the "*Great Return March*" in Gaza), the mass protests in Jordan and Iran, the ongoing desperate resistance of the Syrian liberation fighters against the bloody Assad regime and his reactionary masters in Moscow and Teheran, as well as the ongoing resistance of the Yemeni people against the Saudi-led aggression. In short, the Iraqi insurrection could drive forward the revitalization of the Arab Revolution which began in 2011 despite the many defeats and setbacks it faced in the last years.

9. As we have pointed out in numerous documents, the current situation in the Middle East is characterized the rapid acceleration of sharp contradictions. The region faces the unashamed aggression of imperialist Great Powers (Russia against the Syrian people, the U.S. against Iran) as well as of reactionary dictatorships (Assad in Syria, Sisi in Egypt, Khamenei/Rouhani in Iran, etc.). These developments clash with a number of important class struggles and liberations wars (Palestine, Syria, Jordan,

Yemen, Iran, Tunisia, etc.)

10. Socialists in Iraq should warn against any popular illusions in the al-Sadr movement or the misnamed "Communist" Party (which supported the U.S. invasion in 2003 and later became part of the U.S. imposed colonial administration). The RCIT also warns against putting any hopes in the Iraqi army. This army (as well as many militias) has been trained by the U.S. and Iran. It serves the interests of the ruling class but not the people.

11. Furthermore socialists should call for the formation of action committees in the workplaces, neighborhoods, schools and universities in order to organize the workers and oppressed. Such committees should direct the struggle. Socialists should call the trade unions and popular organizations to organize an indefinite general strike for their demands. The struggle should also aim for bringing down the government. Furthermore, the RCIT calls to link the Iraqi insurrections with the struggles of the brothers and sisters in Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Iran, etc. For a united Intifada in the whole Middle East!

12. Most importantly, socialists need to advance the construction of a revolutionary party nationally and internationally. Only such a party can give the necessary leadership for those struggles. Only such a party can transmit the socialist program to the masses. It is therefore the central task of all consistent revolutionary forces to focus on building such a party. The RCIT urges all revolutionaries in Iraq to fight together for the founding of such a party.

** Long live the insurrection of the Iraq people! Down with the government of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi!*

** For a public employment program under control of the workers and popular organization! Such a program could abolish unemployment and poverty and help reconstructing the country! It should be financed by expropriating the rich elite!*

** Organize an indefinite general strike! For the formation of action committees in the workplaces, neighborhoods, schools and universities!*

** For a workers and poor peasants government!*

** Link the popular insurrection in Iraq with the mass struggles in Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Iran, etc. For a united Intifada in the whole Middle East!*

PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT IN ARAB LANGUAGE

The image displays a collection of Arabic-language materials from the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT). At the top, a red banner features the headline "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين" (Revolution and counter-revolution in the Arab world: a test for revolutionaries). To the right is a logo for "الثورة" (Revolution) with "AWRA" and "REVOLUTION" text. Below these are several smaller images: a portrait of a woman wearing a headscarf, a portrait of a man, and a graphic with a hammer and sickle and a star containing the number 5. The overall theme is revolutionary politics in the Arab world.

Solidarity with Gaza!

Statement by the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 18.07.2018

1. The Internationalist Socialist League stands, unconditionally, with the Palestinian struggle for freedom against Zionist oppression.

2. Since March 30, Israel has killed more than 180 Palestinians and injured many thousands of Gazan protesters. These are war crime as the protesters were unarmed and no Israeli was in danger for his life.

3. The crime of the Palestinians in the eyes of the Zionists was the attempt of the Gazans under siege to leave the largest Ghetto in history and return to their lands, stolen by the Zionists in the ethnic cleansing of 1947-1948, in order to create a Zionist state with a Jewish majority.

4. The people of Gaza, in response to the cold blooded murder by the Israeli army, has been the sending of kites that burn large portion of the fields and the groves surrounding Gaza. The message is clear as was written on one of the balloons: *"If we were destined to live in misery, we will not suffer alone."*

5. While such actions are a reflection of despair and do not advance the liberation of Palestine, Israel's killings are responsible for them.

6. The escalation of last Saturday, July 14, is the result of the closing down of the Kerem Shalom passage, in order to create even more misery for the people of Gaza.

7. Ever since Hamas was elected by the Palestinians as their government, Israel has been acting to bring it down as part of its attempts to break the will of the Palestinians to struggle for their right to self determination.

8. The only reason that this time the tension was resolved by a cease fire agreement, rather than a full scale war by Israel against the Gazan population, is the decision of the Zionist politicians and of Trump's "peace plan" of breaking the ties between Hamas and Hezbollah in order to focus on Iran and its allies.

The plan is to bring down the regime in Iran and replace it with a regime loyal to US imperialism. While the regime in Tehran is extremely oppressive, only the people of Iran have the right to decide its fate. A government imposed on the Iranians, that will serve the US and Israel, will be even

worse than the current government.

9. In order to "sell" such this "Pax Americana" to the Israeli colonialist settlers, it was necessary for Israel to escalate the tension and later claim that Hamas' agreement to the cease fire is a direct result of blows inflicted upon it by Israel.

10. While we do not view the state of Israel and Hamas as equals, since the Palestinians are an oppressed nation fighting for their right to self-determination, it is clear that many Palestinians in Gaza do not support Hamas anymore.

Israel would of course claim that Hamas' dwindling support is a direct result of the Palestinian people holding it responsible for their misery at it its hands. However, the real reason is that it has not presented any plan or strategy to lead the struggle for Palestinian freedom to victory.

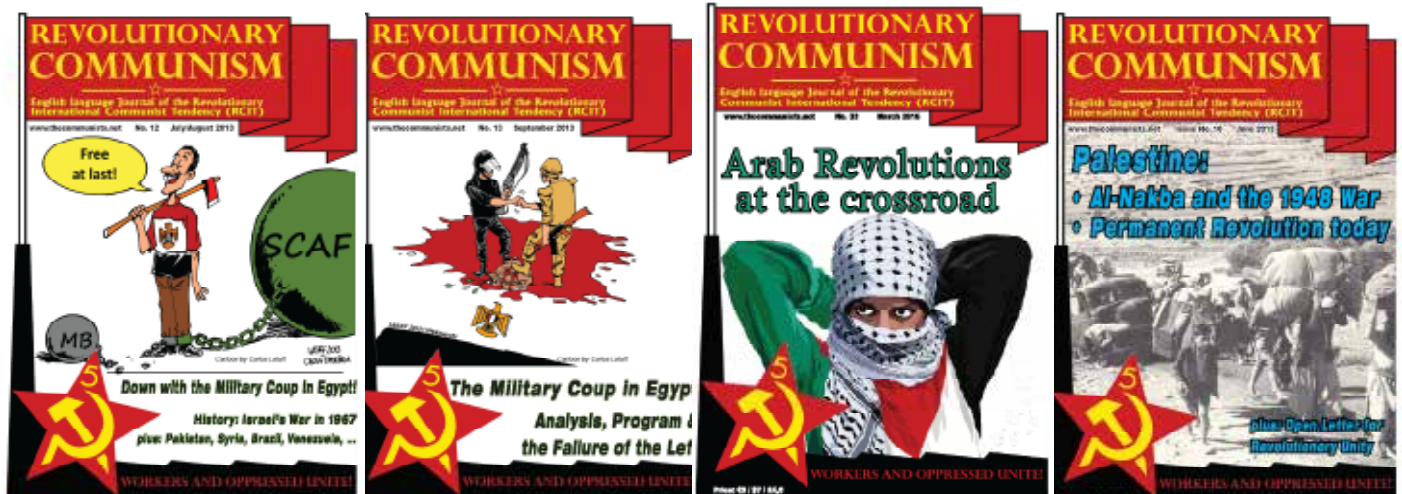
Nevertheless, it is the interest of the international working class to side with Hamas in any military clash with Israel, being an imperialist settler colonialist state - while opposing its politics of misleadership.

11. The only solution is a democratic Palestine from the river to the sea. This state will include the Palestinian refugees and guarantee the cultural and social rights of the Palestinian Arabs and the Israeli Jews from the river to the sea.

However, centuries upon centuries of class struggle have decisively proven that, in this epoch, the bourgeois and the privileged classes are either unwilling or unable (depending on concrete circumstances) to lead a successful struggle for neither democracy nor national liberation. Their class interest in keeping the working, peasant and oppressed classes, weak, divided, expropriated and exploited supercede both their national pride and any ideals of freedom or democracy they might claim to advocate.

Therefore, the only way to bring real freedom to the people of Palestine is for the working class, Fellaheen and oppressed classes to replace the ruling and privileged classes and establish the Free Socialist Palestine from the River to the Sea!

PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT ON THE ARAB REVOLUTION



Austria: Rally against Iranian President Rouhani

Report (with Pictures and Video) from the Austrian Section of the RCIT, 04.07.2018

Today, about more than hundred Syrian and Ahwazi migrants and refugees hold a protest rally in the centre of Vienna. The protest was caused by the visit of Iranian President Rouhani who met the Austrian right-wing government. According to news agencies Russia's and China's foreign ministers are also supposed to join the negotiations.

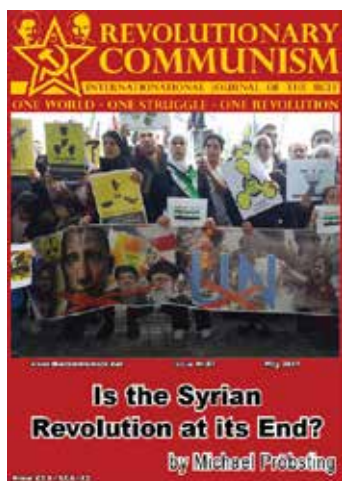
The demonstrators expressed their protest about the reactionary dictatorship in Iran. They condemned the regime's oppressive policy against the Arab minority inside Iran. They also condemned the regime's foreign policy of support for the genocidal regime of Assad in Syria.

The Austrian section of the RCIT was invited to participate in the rally. Comrade Michael Pröbsting, the International Secretary of the RCIT, was asked to address the rally (see the video of his speech below). He stated our solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Syrian people as well as of the Ahwazi people. He said that we are protesting against the Iranian regime but not against the Iranian people who rightly protested repeatedly against the regime in the past few months. Furthermore he made clear that we absolutely oppose any interference of US or Israeli imperialism.

Pictures of the rally and a video of the speech of Michael Pröbsting can be viewed here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/report-of-protest-against-visit-of-iran-s-rouhani/>



Rally against the visit of Iranian President Rouhani (Vienna, 4.7.2018)



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

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

Western Hypocrisy and the Saudi War of Aggression against the Yemeni People

by Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

A famous phrase, attributed to the Greek tragic dramatist Aeschylus, goes: “*In war, truth is the first casualty.*” The Saudi war of aggression against the Yemeni people and the Western hypocrisy is a prime example for this idiom.

As a socialist living in Europe I can not fail to point out the sheer hypocrisy of the Western Great Powers and their media. Just compare this: The Western media report about the war crimes committed by Assad’s army in Syria and condemn them in strong words. They do so because Assad is a close ally of Russia, a chief rival of the U.S. and European Great Powers.

However, you will rarely read about the barbaric war crimes committed by the Saudi and Emirate air force and their local allies. Since the Saudis started their aggression in March 2015, they killed at least 11,000 people, with the vast majority being innocent civilians. Meanwhile, untold millions have been displaced. Seven million Yemenis are facing famine and completely rely on food aid to survive. A fast spreading cholera epidemic is affecting at least 1 million people, including at least 600,000 children.

But where is the outcry in the Western media, where is the sharp condemnation of the Saudi regime?!

Or look at this: When the Yemeni resistance fired a few missiles against Saudi Arabia, the Western imperialist power called for meeting of the UN Security Council. Submissively, the council condemned the Houthis. The news agency Reuters reports: “*The United Nations Security Council on Wednesday condemned a barrage of missile attacks against Saudi Arabia by Yemen’s Houthi group and expressed grave concern at reports of violations of an U.N. arms embargo on Houthi leaders.*” (Reuters, 28.3.2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2018/03/28/world/middleeast/28reuters-yemen-security-missiles-un.html>)

But where are the Western Great Powers, where is the UN Security Council, when Saudi Arabia and the Emirates fires literally thousands of bombs and missiles against Sana’a and other cities?! Not a single word of condemnation!

Not only this. The Western Great Powers hardly conceal the fact that they support the Saudi war of aggression. U.S. President Trump, who could also be called “Donald Dumb”, boasts about the huge weapon deals he makes with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. U.S.

and Britain openly support the aggression with intelligence and logistic.

When Mohammed bin Salman tours the Western capitals he is welcomed as a “serious, modern statesman”. The Western rulers love him because they can make good business with him, because he supports their interests in the Middle East and because he hardly conceals his support for the Zionist state. When bin Salman visited New York, he even met several right-wing Zionist organisations like AIPAC. (See e.g. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/03/mbs-meets-aipac-anti-bds-leaders-visit-180329091244300.html>) In an interview he openly defended the right of the Israeli settler state to exist! (<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-prince-israel/saudi-crown-prince-says-israelis-have-right-to-their-own-land-idUSKCN1H91SQ>) No wonder, that the Western leaders love him!

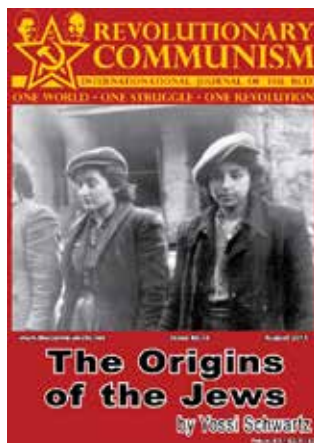
As the Saudi Crown Prince is a loyal guardian of the Western imperialist interests in the region, the U.S. and European leaders don’t create a scandal that the same man is responsible for the massacre against the Yemeni people, that he persecutes the religious minorities in Saudi Arabia and that he arrests, tortures and kills his opponents – including those in his own family! (See e.g. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/11/world/middleeast/saudi-arabia-corruption-mohammed-bin-salman.html>)

Yes, “*In war, truth is the first casualty.*” But it is the responsibility of socialists and all sincere fighters for liberation to defend the truth and to lend it our voice as loud as we can!

And there are various progressive forces who speak out the truth and who oppose the Saudi war of aggression! (See e.g. <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/yemen-after-the-death-of-saleh/>; <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/yemen-massacre/>)

Recently, progressive activists in Spain set an example of what should be done in all countries: they managed to kick out a Saudi ship which was loading weapons for the war against Yemen. (See <https://www.juancole.com/2018/04/spanish-activists-loading.html>)

No, the truth can not be silenced and neither can the struggle for justice!



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

Mauritius: End the US-UK Occupation of the Chagos Islands!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 08 June 2018

1. The Chagos Islands, an archipelago of 60 small islands in the Indian Ocean, are subjugated to colonial occupation since the end of the 18th century. First under French and later under British rule, its biggest island – Diego Garcia – has become home of one of the most important US naval and military bases in the Asia Pacific region. This island has been crucial for U.S. imperialism as a base of operation for various important military campaigns (e.g. the attack on Afghanistan in 2001 or on Iraq in 2003).

2. In order to allow the imperialist powers unlimited control over the islands, the native population was forcibly removed by the U.S. and Britain between 1968 and 1973. Expelled through intimidation or simply deported, many of the original Chagossians live today in Mauritius and the Seychelles. Their right to return, a key demand of the organizations representing Chagossians, has been denied by the imperialist powers until today.

3. Since decades progressive organizations in Mauritius like LALIT are campaigning for three, closely intertwined demands:

* Decolonization of the Chagos Islands which have been illegally split off from Mauritius by Britain at Independence in 1968;

* Closure of the US military base on one of the islands, Diego Garcia;

* The right of return of all Chagossians with proper reparations.

4. As a result of popular pressure and international support, the United Nations General Assembly voted in 2017, with a large majority, in favour of referring the territorial dispute between Mauritius and the UK to the International Court of Justice in order to clarify the legal status of the Chagos Islands archipelago in the Indian Ocean.

5. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) unreservedly supports the three demands of the anti-colonial movement in Mauritius – close down the imperialist military basis on Diego Garcia, return the Chagos Islands to Mauritius and for the right to return

for the Chagossians with proper reparations. We call organizations of the workers and popular movements around the world to fully support these legitimate demands of the Mauritian and Chagossian people.

6. The RCIT warns against any illusions in the United Nations or its International Court of Justice. The UN is nothing but an assembly of big and small gangsters. It is composed of representatives of the ruling class of the capitalist states with five imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., UK, France, China and Russia – wielding veto powers. Likewise, it would be wrong to view the UN's International Court of Justice as an authentic organ of justice. While the ICJ regularly conducts trial against (alleged or real) war criminals from poor countries, it never puts on trial the big war criminals from the Great Powers or Israel – those who are responsible for slaughtering the people in Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Syria or Yemen! Furthermore, even if the ICJ would decide against the UK, the latter would not be bound to the decision since, as a permanent members of the UN Security Council, it is able to veto enforcement of cases!

7. It is the duty of all workers and popular organizations in Africa, in South Asia and, in particular, in the Western imperialist metropolises themselves to mobilize for an immediate and unconditional end of the colonial occupation of the Chagos Islands.

8. Our unreserved support for the anti-colonial demands of the working people of Mauritius is an inseparable part of the RCIT's anti-imperialist and socialist program. The agonizing results of capitalist exploitation and imperialist oppression in Mauritius as well as in the whole of Africa can only be abolished if workers and poor peasant governments take power in order to overthrow capitalism and to open the road towards socialism.

9. Imperialism is a global system and, hence, can only be defeated on an international scale. The RCIT calls socialists in Mauritius and other countries to join us in our efforts to build a Revolutionary World Party fighting for the socialist liberation of the international working class and oppressed people.

REVOLUTIONARY LIBERATION - The RCIT's Monthly Journal

<p>www.thecommuists.net Issue No.76 December 2017</p>		<p>www.thecommuists.net Issue No.77 January 2018</p>		<p>www.thecommuists.net Issue No.78 February 2018</p>		<p>www.thecommuists.net Issue No.79 March 2018</p>			
<p>Kenya: Down with the pro-imperialist Kenyatta Regime!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Grassingbè Regime in Togo * Zambia: Still Not Free * Interview with Ghana's CPP * Interview with Ghana's CPP 		<p>Support the Liberation Struggle of the Palestinian People!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Meetings for the New Year of 2018 * references on Syria are a Charade * men after the Death of Saleh * War between Saudi Arabia and Iran? * EU and African Slaves in Libya * Unemployment in Zambia * Election in Catalonia 		<p>The Imperialists Enslave the African People - Then as Now!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Successful 2nd RCIT World Congress * MGKP (Russia) & RCIT collaborate * Syria: No to Turkey's Attack on Afrin! * Tunisia: Solidarity with the Protest! * Palestine: Free Ahd Tamimi NOW! 		<p>The Syrian Revolution is in mortal Danger!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Balfour's Declaration - Myths vs. Fac Six Points for Revolutionary Unity * Italy sends Soldiers to Niger * Class Warfare in Zambia * Liberia: American Puppet President! * UK: Carillon Crisis 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Palestine: PA collaborates with Israel * South Africa: Down with Ramaphosa! * Ethiopia: No to the State of Emergency * Liberia: 'Liberated' But Looted! * Brazil: Presidential Elections 2018 	
<p>Workers and Oppressed United! Price: €3 \$3.5 £2.75 and Oppressed United!</p>		<p>Workers and Oppressed United! Price: €3 \$3.5 £2.75 and Oppressed United!</p>		<p>Workers and Oppressed United! Price: €3 \$3.5 £2.75 and Oppressed United!</p>		<p>Workers and Oppressed United! Price: €3 \$3.5 £2.75 and Oppressed United!</p>			

Greetings from the RCIT to the PACOR Conference on the 2018 Afrikan Liberation Day

Dear comrades,
The International Secretariat of the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) sends you the warmest greetings to your conference! We congratulate the comrades of PACOR for organizing such an event!

The subject of your conference – building unity in the struggle against capitalism and neo-colonialism – is highly relevant today.

It is our firm belief that Afrika can only be liberated and united if the imperialist powers (U.S., Western Europe, China, Russia, etc.) are driven out of the continent and if the local capitalist elite are overthrown. This, in turn, can only be achieved if the working class and the oppressed

unite in the struggle for a socialist revolution. (This is the central theme of the RCIT's program "*Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa*")

Building a leadership for this struggle, i.e. a revolutionary party nationally and internationally, is the primary task of the RCIT and we look forward to work together with the Nigerian comrades hand in hand.

Comrades, we wish you all the best for your conference!
Forward to the socialist revolution in Nigeria, the African continent and the whole world!

Revolutionary Greetings,
International Secretariat of the RCIT

China's transformation into an imperialist power

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

By Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

Price: €3 / \$3,5 / £2 (plus delivery charges)

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

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



Haiti: Popular Uprising overthrows Pro-IMF Government!

Build Workers and Popular Councils! Down with the Regime of President Jovenel Moise! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 21 July 2018

1. A popular insurrection has brought down the Haiti's government of Prime Minister Jack Guy Lafontant. Lafontant was forced to resign on 14 July after days of violent mass protests. Workers and poor effectively controlled the main streets in the capital city of Port-au-Prince as well as in the northern city of Cap-Haïtien. Likewise the masses blockaded roads and brought public life to a standstill in other provincial towns in the north, on the central plateau, and in the south. At least seven people were killed and dozens of businesses looted or destroyed. In short, a revolutionary situation has opened in Haiti.

2. This popular uprising started after the government unveiled a proposal to eliminate fuel subsidies which in turn would have hiked fuel prices: 38% for gasoline, 47% for diesel and 51% for kerosene. This price increase would have had brutal consequences given the fact that the mass of the people is forced to cook with coal and kerosene because they have no access to gas supply. As a result of the revolt, the government was forced to withdraw this plan. However, the protests continued until the resignation of Prime Minister Lafontant.

3. The elimination of petroleum product subsidies has been one of the conditions of an agreement which the government signed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in February. Haiti faces a devastating debt

trap – a result of centuries of colonialism and imperialist domination. Today, the country is burdened with public debt of about US\$3 billion out of which \$1 billion represents internal debt and \$2 billion of external one. The IMF exploits this situation to enforce brutal austerity programs.

4. In Haiti's history, the imperialist masters could often rely on the aid of loyal local lackeys. The most prominent has been the notorious Duvalier clan with the murderous dictators "Papa Doc" and "Baby Doc". Today, Haiti is ruled by President Jovenel Moise – a corrupted business man who came to power by fraudulent elections in 2015 and 2016 which were largely boycotted by the population. Moise is a bourgeois lackey of the imperialist powers.

5. Moise's regime could not survive without the economic, political and military support of foreign capitalist powers. One pillar of this is the so-called *United Nations Stabilization Mission In Haiti* (MINUSTAH, recently renamed into MINUJUSTH). MINUSTAH began its occupation of Haiti in 2004 after the US-initiated coup d'état against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. MINUSTAH includes about 5,000 military and police forces, led by units of the Brazil army. This mission has always been a pro-imperialist force in order to safeguard the reactionary

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.

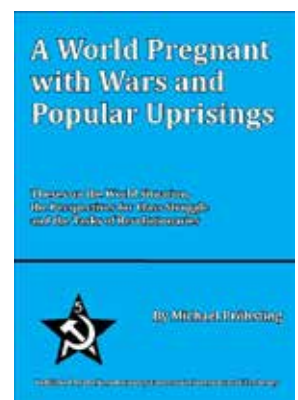
This book is a major contribution of our organization to keep the Marxists' analysis of the world situation and its accelerating contradictions updated. As we emphasize in the document, we consider it as crucial for revolutionaries to understand the nature and the inner dynamics of the current historic 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/>



rulers in Haiti. The MINUSTAH mission has received the support of various "progressive" governments like those of Brazil's Lula, Argentina's Kirchner or Bolivia's Morales which demonstrates once more the pro-imperialist character that these forces.

6. As a result of centuries of imperialist domination and capitalist exploitation, large section of Haiti's population lives in utter poverty population. Around 60% of Haiti's population lives on less than \$2 a day and are extremely vulnerable to increases in the price of goods and services. On the other hand, the richest 10% of Haitians receive 70% of the country's total income.

7. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly welcomes the popular insurrection of the workers and peasants in Haiti. It is another link in a chain of popular uprising which we have seen in the last 6 months around the globe and which might be the harbinger of a new world political phase of crisis, instability and revolutionary turmoil. Mass revolts in Nicaragua, in Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, Tunisia, Morocco, and in Iran demonstrate that the working class and the popular masses in an increasing number of countries are no longer prepared to accept capitalist exploitation and oppression!

8. It is of crucial importance that the workers and poor peasants in Haiti utilize the current crisis of the ruling class. The uprising which brought down the government of Lafontant was largely spontaneous. However, in order to get rid of the regime of President Jovenel Moise, the masses must organize themselves in workers and popular councils in the workplaces, neighborhoods, schools and universities. Such councils should direct the struggle and organize a general strike. In order to defend themselves against the repression apparatus, the councils should create popular militias.

9. Key demands of the struggle have to be the cancellation of foreign debt, the creation of a public employment program, the expropriation of the parasitic bourgeoisie and the nationalization of the key sectors of the economy under workers control. The struggle should also aim for bringing down the Moise regime and its replacement by a workers and poor peasants government. The program of the workers revolution in Haiti can build on the proud tradition of this country which was the place of the only successful slave uprising in modern history. Led by the ex-slave Toussaint L'Ouverture, Haiti's oppressed masses waged a liberation struggle from 1791 to 1804 which created a state which was both free from slavery, and ruled by non-whites and former captives.

10. Most importantly, socialists need to advance the construction of a revolutionary party nationally and internationally. Only such a party can give the necessary leadership for those struggles. Only such a party can transmit the socialist program to the masses. It is therefore the central task of all consistent revolutionary forces to focus on building such a party. The RCIT urges all revolutionaries in Haiti to fight together for the founding of such a party.

** Victory to the popular uprising of the workers and poor peasants in Haiti! Down with the regime of President Jovenel Moise!*

** Cancel all foreign debts!*

** For a public employment program under control of the workers and popular organization! Such a program could abolish unemployment and poverty and help reconstructing the country! It should be financed by expropriating the rich elite!*

** Organize an indefinite general strike! For the formation of workers and popular councils in the workplaces, neighborhoods, schools and universities!*

** For a workers and poor peasants government!*

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.

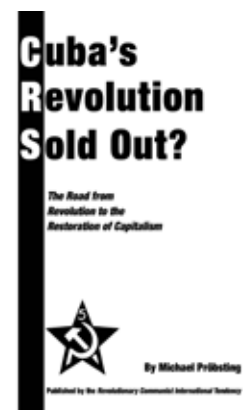
Cuba's Revolution Sold Out? describes in detail how a number of relatively recent political, economic, and social measures were

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) ■



Brazil: Portrait of an Emergency Regime

By Xavier Pedrosa, *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 11 July 2018

Last Sunday, July 8, the judge on duty in the court of the fourth region, Porto Alegre-Brazil, accepted the habeas corpus petition filed by the Workers' Party to free former President Lula. All this was within the rule of law. The judge who was on duty, Rogério Favreto, had no doubts about confirming and securing the habeas corpus, understanding that it was the right of the former president to seek his legal appeals (judicial resources) in freedom. All this was within the rules of the Brazilian constitution approved in 1988 after the end of military dictatorship.

However, nowadays in Brazil we are living in an emergency regime, which the all-powerful judge Sergio Moro, who, even though he is a judge of first instance, who has no more jurisdiction over Lula's conviction, interrupted his vacation in Portugal to send a message to delegates of the federal police in Curitiba warning them to not accept to release Lula. The detail is that Judge Favreto is superior hierarchical to Judge Moro, therefore, in addition to being on vacation, Moro had no authority to disobey a superior court order, or even giving orders to federal police in Curitiba.

Upon learning Moro's message Favreto did forward a second order by reinforcing the immediate need to comply with the habeas corpus in favor of Lula, immediately, he added in this second order that the higher instances of judiciary can not accept the insubordination of the all-powerful Judge Moro.

Another judge from the fourth region, Gebran Neto, who had convicted the former president in the second instance, entered in action saying that the federal police should not obey the habeas corpus and maintain Lula's arrest, but like judge Moro he was no more legally inside the case of judicial process of Lula da Silva.

Again, Judge Favreto points out that Neto had no authority to cancel the habeas corpus, so he sent a strong third order for releasing of the captive.

It was then that the all-powerful Globo television network convened the president of the court of the fourth region in Porto Alegre, Thompson Flores, to remove the authority of Judge Favreto and to cancel for the third time the habeas

corpus in defense of Lula.

It was a very hot Sunday in political affairs, a soap-opera that lasted from the early hours of the morning, catching the populace by surprise, both the progressive and conservative sectors, until nightfall, all accompanying it as if it were the world cup final of football.

But what was left wide open was the selective bias of most of the Brazilian judiciary. Judge Favreto did nothing that would contradict the Brazilian constitution by understanding that Lula was entitled to benefit from Habeas Corpus. But in the days of today, damn the constitution! The entire media and judicial system machine that installed the coup-d'état in 2016 to implement an emergency regime directed by and oriented to the United States would not let its main opponent be freed to win the presidential elections in October, and for this reason they definitely ripped the farce of democracy by tearing up the constitution in a process of a simple habeas corpus. But, of course, this is not a simple habeas corpus, this was for Lula da Silva, the man who has now almost 40% in survey's voting intention.

It was clear to those who had not yet realized that Judge Sergio Moro (a character mixture of Joseph MacCarthy and Savonarola) acts as a political agent with valuable help from the rest of the judiciary and the media in favor of the rightist party PSDB and of American imperialism, so he has no morality and impartiality to judge Lula da Silva. In the same situation was the rest of the court of the fourth region, except Judge Favreto.

In fact, in doing so, the judges were caught in a trap prepared by the Workers' Party. The following day the party obviously filed an appeal within the judiciary to explain why some judges who at that moment had nothing else related to the fulfillment of sentence of Lula da Silva interrupted their vacations or days off to prevent a simple habeas corpus.

Obviously the system doesn't care a shit. Lula will remain in prison, at least until the elections, but it has been much harder for the system to deny that Lula da Silva is a political prisoner of an emergency regime.

REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM - The RCIT's Theoretical Review

The image shows a collage of five covers of the journal 'Revolutionary Communism'. The top row consists of four covers, each with a red background and the title 'REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM' in yellow and white. The bottom row features a fifth cover on the right with a red background and the title 'Revolutionary Communism' in white.

- Cover 1 (December 2017):** Features a black and white photograph of a crowd. Title: 'Perspectives of Catalunya's Struggle for Independence'. Price: €4.95 / £3.5.
- Cover 2 (January 2018):** Features a black and white photograph of a crowd with a raised fist. Title: '1st Issue: Documents Congress of the RCIT'. Price: €4.95 / £3.5.
- Cover 3 (February 2018):** Features a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit and a woman. Title: '1st Pregnant with Wars pular Uprisings (Part 1)'. Price: €4.95 / £3.5.
- Cover 4 (March 2018):** Features a cartoon illustration of Donald Trump. Title: '1st Pregnant with Wars pular Uprisings (Part 2)'. Price: €4.95 / £3.5.
- Cover 5 (September 2018):** Features a red background with white text. Title: 'Revolutionary Communism'. Price: €4.95 / £3.5.

Some Thoughts on the Political Situation in Sri Lanka

Commentary by M. Thangavel, United Lankan Workers Party (Sri Lankan Section of the RCIT), 18 June 2018

When we look at the current situation in Sri Lanka and worldwide, I must say it is not possible to forget to talk about imperialism. Many countries, respectively the governments of these countries deny talking honestly about imperialism as such. It is very correct to say that all countries campaign according to the agenda of imperialists which means that some rule but most countries obey, including Sri Lanka. Certain countries in the world today which are darlings of the imperialists have also experiments with very destructive and refined missiles (like the imperialists do). It could be a rehearsal for the next world war. What the world and the mankind needs is not destructive missiles but peaceful unity. The destructive situations in the present world are developing in a tempo which is as high as never before. We, the poor people will have to face its destructive impact and we need to be the ones to beat it from different angles.

Imperialism and the NPOs

Everybody who was born on this earth should have the right to enjoy human rights, freedom and a peaceful life. But the proletariat and the oppressed find this credo confined only to words. It is a normal situation for people in "underdeveloped" (semi-colonial) countries to face lifethreatening situations, oppression and exploitation by imperialism very seriously. This is not a surprise. We live in a class society. We live in the last epoch, the most destructive and wardriven epoch of capitalism. Semi-colonial countries which want to act in favour of imperialist forces have to act according to capitalism and

the agenda of imperialist nationally and internationally. So far the capitalist puppet leaders like the bourgeois politicians in Sri Lanka have failed to provide regular and adequate solutions to issues faced by the working class and proletariat socially, economically and politically because their sole aim is exploitation and they have no other alternative.

Non-Profit Organisations, including the petty-bourgeois ones, criticize that no decisive steps have been taken by the so-called leaders in Sri Lanka and in other countries relevant for Sri Lanka to solve the countries problems like corruption, exploitation and racial war. However, the truth is that these organizations do not take side with us, the exploited and oppressed people but rather obey under the rule of imperialist logic. They criticize a system which is supported by them and which is also profitable for them. Money raised by NPOs for Sri Lanka is mainly concentrated in the hands of the NPOs and only very few percent of the funds will reach us poor people in Sri Lanka.

In addition even those petty-bourgeois politicians and political activists who honestly want to help the oppressed people, who travel to semi-colonial countries in order to help have a wrong understanding and with this a wrong method how to help. They ignore the necessity to kill the beast, to smash imperialism as such. They ignore the necessity to organize the armed uprising by the workers and oppressed. Instead of helping the poor in Sri Lanka and other semi-colonial countries they are confusing them. It is equal for a blind person who wants to direct another blind.

However, they know about things such as world bank

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.

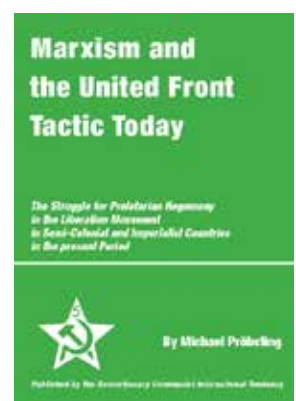
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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.



loans upon the blessings of imperialists, the rulers of world economy which made our country bankrupt. And it is hard to understand what the political leaders of Sri Lanka and the NPOs are trying to improve by having tours to Japan, China, Taiwan and Canada asking them to end the oppression over and over again. By today Sri Lanka has become the best “customer country”, one of the best countries to deal with imperialists which means one of the best countries to be economically exploited by imperialists. The consequence of this “success” of being such a great “customer country” means: Rocket-like rising prices of commodities, massive unemployment, weak educational system, salary anomalies respectively very small salaries, large gap between rich and poor and other things which affect mainly the workers and oppressed.

The money rules. One simple example for this is that in order to provide further education to a rural child who studies in a rural school in Sri Lanka, all the equipment such as desks, chairs should be provided to the school for free. However, the equipment costs money and will not be paid by the state. Maybe some NPOs will try to collect money to help the child, maybe not. In the end there will not be a school which can be visited by the child. The rural child will stay uneducated although officially Sri Lanka offers free education.

Racism and National Oppression

Furthermore, the racial issue respectively the national issue is a big thing in Sri Lanka. Oppressed minorities like the Tamil people have no fundamental rights, not even the right to use their mother tongue. It takes only few seconds to understand the consequences of national and racial oppression. The political leaders who came into power in

this country since the 1950s, all of them failed to provide a reasonable response to the Tamil people but rather opened the road to a brutal oppression of the Tamil people.

A good example to show how widespread general racism is in Sri Lanka, we just need to remember that recently 17 schools, 141 houses and 113 business places in one small town and additional 62 houses, 91 business places as well as vans and cars in another small town have been affected by racist attacks. Lorries, three wheelers and motor cycles have completely been burnt in a terrorist attack directed against Muslim people. This attack was done by a group of racists in Kandy area in March 2018. More than 300 families have been made homeless by the wave of anti-Muslim riots in Sri Lanka this year.

The racist activists have links to the government. Three members of parliament have connections with the racist lootings in Kandy Area. This was even reported in the media. However the media raised its voice to protect, not to attack the capitalist party leaders who were involved in the racist lootings.

We see it as our utmost duty to organize the workers, the poor, the Tamil people and the Muslim people like all other oppressed. If democracy would be a real thing, all of us would live in peaceful unity. However, the capitalist class society knows only democracy for the rich, for the imperialists and their lackeys. We fight not only against the capitalist governments but also against those opportunist leaders of the labour movement, the so-called left who are open towards racism and national oppression, who ignore the demands and needs of the Tamil people, the Muslim people and all other oppressed. The class struggle from the workers and oppressed against the capitalist rulers, against imperialism, the fight for socialism will let these “left” fall from their hot plate directly into the fire.

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 Bolshevik-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 Bolshevik 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

Thailand Four Years after the Coup

By Joseph Adams, Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 9 July 2018

It has been four years since the military dictatorship of Prayut Cha-o-cha overthrew the democratically elected government of Yingluck Shinawatra of the Thai Pheu party. There have been a number of protests and demonstrations by pro-democracy activists calling for elections to be held. Prayut Cha-o-cha himself promised that there would be a “return to democracy”, but it is obvious that the dictatorship is desperately trying to hold on to power. When demonstrators marched in front of government buildings the Thai military immediately arrested them and threw them into jail. The government keeps putting back the election and several commentators have asked when democracy will be restored. *“Thai anti-government protesters demanding general elections by November were blocked by police on the fourth anniversary of the military coup in the country. Some 3,000 police officers were deployed to prevent some 200 protesters, camping at Thammasat University in the capital, Bangkok, from marching to the Government House. The Government House and surrounding streets were declared a no-go zone. On May 22, 2014, a bloodless military coup toppled Thailand’s elected government”*. [1]

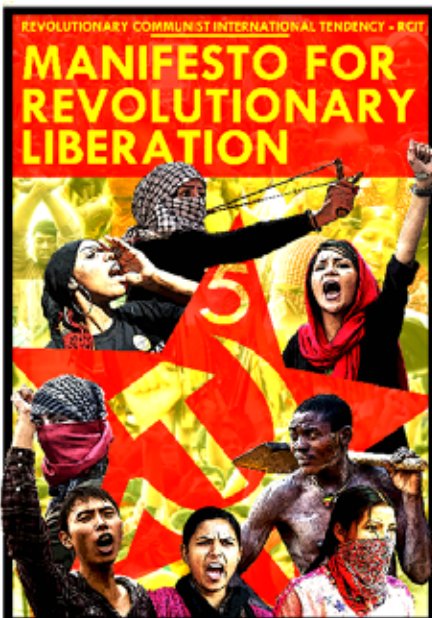
The government has sought to delay the election because it is determined to ensure further attacks on democratic rights and a continuation of oppressive and corrupt rule. Many of the government officials are mired in corruption but the pro-democracy movement continues to fight for a date for these elections. They are reflecting the movement of the masses, a desire for full democratic rights and an end to capitalist dictatorship. Most of the demonstrators remain unbowed and will continue to fight for a date for the elections. *“Pro-election leaders have promised to come back with another rally if the election is postponed again. Fifty pro-election activists led by Rangsiman Rome, Sirawith “Ja New” Seritiwat and Nuttaa Mahattana gathered in front of the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) on Thursday to show support for 47 other activists who were summoned by Nang Loeng police station to hear charges stemming from their protest... If the government does anything that will affect the*

elections they can be sure that we will come back stronger than ever. We have learned a lot from our previous encounters and our gatherings will grow”. [2]

The military dictatorship continues to rule the country with an iron fist similar to how Hun Sen the leader in Cambodia rules the country including the banning of meetings, arresting of members of opposition parties and ensuring that bourgeois democracy will not return to the country. Prayut Chan-o-cha has promised elections but his regime continually puts the date back in order that the regime will still be in power.

Thaksin Shinawatra and his sister Yingluck Shinawatra of the Thai Pheu government ruled the country before the coup in 2014. Now several members of their party have been arrested by the military. The most reactionary bourgeois elements in Thailand will do anything to prevent the Thai Pheu party, which is a bourgeois populist party, from gaining power respectively from winning the election. *“Political parties reiterated their concerns about the political activities ban which prevents them from holding primaries to screen MP candidates, which is constitutionally required ahead of the general election.”* [3]

As Al Jazeera has reported members of Thai Pheu party have been arrested. The “crime” of the Thai Pheu party is to criticise the current regime while having a significant influence in the country. The Thai Pheu party retained support from the masses and poor peasants and while in power tried to ameliorate the harsh economic conditions for workers and the urban poor. Based on their bourgeois character, their political program as well as their deeds were limited to the capitalist frame. However, their approach to implement social reforms created massive illusions in the party amongst the oppressed. The needs of imperialism required a change of government which in the end led to the military coup. *“Eight senior members of Thailand’s biggest political party, which ruled the country until a coup four years ago, have been charged for criticising the military government. Pheu Thai party members - Watana*



PROGRAM OF THE RCIT

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

Muangsook, Chaturon Chaisang and Chusak Sirinil - were all charged with sedition on Monday, after a news conference held last week at the party's headquarters in Bangkok, outlining what they believe are "failings" of the military government. During its news conference, which was broadcast live on Facebook, Pheu Thai party figures slammed the military for failing to restore democracy by repeatedly postponing the general elections - now set for February 2019". [4]

The RCIT has analysed the role of the bourgeois populist party Thai Pheu which governed Thailand before the military coup 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." [5]

The RCIT welcomes the campaign to force an election on the regime and the efforts of pro-democracy activists and protesters to make sure that Thailand again has free elections and democratic rights. However, bourgeois democracy will never solve the issues of poverty and can not even give full democratic rights. As long as capitalism and imperialism have a foothold in Thailand, exploitation and oppression will be the reality for the workers and the poor. The RCIT puts forward the following demands for uniting the masses, the working class and urban poor in a struggle to establish a *Revolutionary Workers and Poor Peasant Government*.

* *Overthrow the Prayut-Chan o cha Regime - For an indefinite General Strike!*

* *For a Democratic Constituent Assembly! Revolutionaries must put forward socialist proposals and argue in favor of a Workers and Poor Peasant Government based on Councils of the Workers and the Rural and Urban Poor!*

* *For armed defence guards of the workers and the oppressed masses to protect themselves from provocations and attacks from the police, the military and right wing forces!*

* *End the Imperialist Exploitation! Expropriate the multi-national corporations and put them under workers control! Abolish all debts without compensation! Summarize all banks into one State Bank under control of the workers!*

* *Only an armed insurrection led by the working class can end the military dictatorship and imperialist exploitation with a minimum number of lost lives! Only a Revolutionary Workers and Poor Peasant Government can open the road towards a future of Freedom, Equality and Peace, a future of Socialism!*

* *We call on all workers and poor to study the manifesto of the RCIT and to join the RCIT! Let us build together a new world party of the Socialist Revolution, a revolutionary 5th International!*

Footnotes

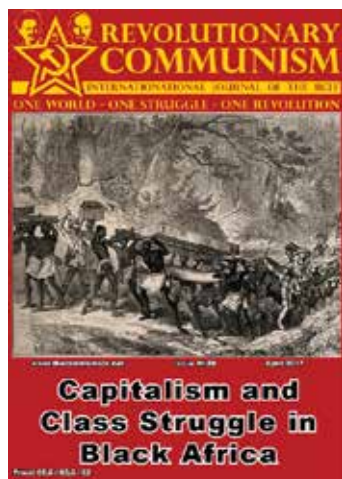
1) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/05/thai-police-block-pro-democracy-march-coup-anniversary-18052205541810.html>

2) <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/1480769/poll-protest-leaders-unbowed-by-police-charges>

3) <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/1492246/ regime-signals-election-could-be-delayed-until-may>

4) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/05/180521090633218.html>

5) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/thailand-defeat-the-military-dictatorship/>



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

Theses on Capitalism and Class Struggle in Black Africa

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

Introduction * Some Background Notes on Black Africa's Modern History: How Colonial Plunder and Oppression Blocked Independent Development * Popular Struggles against Colonialism Led to Formal Independence * Formal Independence as Disguised Imperialist Dependency * The Reactionary Role of White Settlers * Is Capitalist Black Africa Rising? * Africa in the Grip of Imperialism * China as a new Imperialist Great Power Challenging the Western Domination * The Working Class and the Oppressed * Rising Class Struggle * Key Lessons for a Revolutionary Strategy in Black Africa * Imperialist Domination and Authoritarian Regimes Remain in Place despite Formal Changes * Breaking the Capitalist Chain – The Program of Permanent Revolution * The Revolutionary Struggle against Imperialism * Imperialist Chauvinism and the Anti-Imperialist Patriotism of the Oppressed * The Independence of the Working Class and the Struggle against the Popular Front * The Struggle for Pan-African Unity * The Revolutionary World Party and its African Sections * Footnotes

Protest against Trump Visit to Britain

Report (with Pictures) by the RCIT Britain, 17 July 2018

U.S. President Trump arrived in Britain on 12 July and stayed away from London because of the mass opposition to his racist misogynist and Islamophobic views. The main demonstration in London West End was the biggest for some time numbering over a quarter of a million people marching.

Much of the march was in a carnival flavour with many placards denouncing Trump – “Dump Trump” was the most common. There were also many pacifists preaching “Love not Hate”.

As a true popular mass demonstration, it was composed of all ages – children, young people and older people. It was an outpouring of opposition and hatred of all that the misogynist Trump stands for with his reactionary political positions.

There were also many NGO’s represented and environmental groups representing concerns for Trump’s policy on the environment and climate change.

The trade unions were also represented. Many unions had with big delegations with huge balloons representing Unite, RMT, CWU and PCS and others. This showed the strength of the working class.

The main centrist groups – the SWP and the Socialist Party – were well organised with several marquees. The IMT and the AWL were also present. Their main slogans

were for a Corbyn-led Labour government and a general election now.

The police photographed thousands of people from their helicopter. It was reported that £10 million had been spent on recruiting police from all over the country.

The demonstration was held up for an hour and half in order that the police could photograph and identify people! This was a massive state inspired exercise – no doubt a practice run for future confrontations with the masses.

This march was international in flavour with many cultures represented including a separate bloc of Palestinians. Many other Arabs were present from Syria, Iraq, Egypt and other countries.

The march represented the emergence of a mass opposition to Trump and the neo-colonial policy of other imperialist countries. His intervention in British politics also caused a stir amongst ruling class circles in Britain and in Europe. The March eventually made its way to Trafalgar Square where the marchers were addressed by Jeremy Corbyn and other reformist leaders.

Supporters of the RCIT Britain participated in the demonstration. We sold a number of copies of our section’s Bulletins as well as of the RCIT’s international journals.



Demonstration against the visit of US President Trump (London 13.7.2018)



PUBLICATIONS OF THE RCIT

The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump’s Victory

By Michael Pröbsting, November 2016

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 40 pages, A4 Format

UK: Grenfell Tragedy One Year after the Fire

Teresa May Accepts Responsibility and Culpability for Grenfell Tragedy - For A Workers and Tenants Tribunal into the Cause of the Fire

By Joseph Adams, RCIT Britain, June 2018

A year after the tragedy at Grenfell Teresa May has accepted that she bears responsibility for failing to meet the tenants at Grenfell on the 14th June 2017 when the tragedy happened. Jeremy Corbyn immediately visited the site. In a statement in the *Evening Standard* May apologises for her inaction at the time. "What I did not do on that first visit was meet the residents and survivors who had escaped the blaze. But the residents of Grenfell Tower needed to know that those in power recognized and understood their despair. And I will always regret that by not meeting them that day, it seemed as though I didn't care". [1]

May appointed an official enquiry but this proved to be a whitewash and a cover up failing to invite the most important people, survivors and tenants from Grenfell, to give evidence.

A year after the tragedy the police have not arrested anybody for the murder of these 79 tenants who died in the fire. It was social murder orchestrated through social and ethnic cleansing by the wealthier tenants of Kensington and Chelsea who did not want to see social housing tower blocks. Cheap and combustible cladding was erected to hide the outside of the building. The police are now interviewing the London Fire Brigade and apportioning blame on them for the cause of the fire. Firefighters and the Fire Brigades Union are innocent of any wrongdoing in their advice to ask tenants to remain in their flats. They gave the advice based on the estimation of a fire in a building that

is built according to the regulations. Based on the information which the firefighters had their decisions were correct. This is just a blame culture to allow the real culprits to escape punishment. The police are direct agents of the state. Their role is to protect the state and its institutions and they will not prosecute directors responsible for erecting the cladding or the tenant management organization which managed Grenfell Tower on behalf of Kensington and Chelsea borough council. "London fire brigade and its senior officers are facing a police investigation over the "stay put" policy that resulted in Grenfell Tower residents being told to remain inside their homes as the tower block blazed, according to Scotland Yard. Detectives are attempting to establish whether the order could have breached health and safety law". [2]

The Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council is a Tory controlled authority with some prestigious houses as well as some very poor people living in the borough. It was a class divide between the very rich and the very poor. The Tories who managed Grenfell tower through a tenant management organization decided to hide Grenfell's seemingly social housing block from their rich supporters who felt it was unseemingly and ugly building to look at. So they had cladding erected over the building. They chose the cheapest material saving £5,000. That it was inflammable and combustible, did not matter to the management. "Material used in the cladding that covered the Grenfell Tower was the cheaper, more flammable version of the

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Greece - A Modern Semi-Colony

The Contradictory Development of Greek Capitalism, Its Failed Attempts to Become a Minor Imperialist Power, and Its Present Situation as an Advanced Semi-Colonial

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

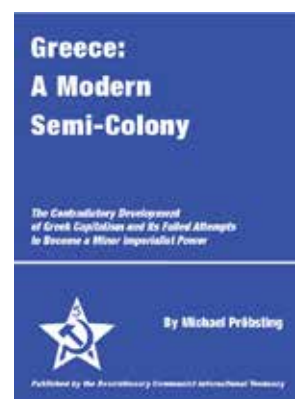
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which gives an overview of its content.

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

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

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

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



two available options, an investigation of the supply chain has confirmed. Omnis Exteriors manufactured the aluminum composite material (ACM) used in the cladding, a company director, John Cowley, confirmed to the Guardian. He also said Omnis had been asked to supply Reynobond PE cladding, which is £2 cheaper per square metre than the alternative Reynobond FR, which stands for "fire resistant" to the companies that worked on refurbishing Grenfell Tower". [3]

In fact the Tenant Management Organization has now washed its hands of the affair and handed the responsibility back to the council, no doubt trying to avoid prosecution for the deaths at Grenfell.

"The organization that managed Grenfell Tower and manages thousands of other properties across the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is temporarily handing back responsibility for them to the council, saying it can no longer guarantee to meet the standards expected by residents. In a letter sent to residents just before Christmas, Fay Edwards, chair of Kensington & Chelsea Tenant Management Organization (KCTMO), said: "The TMO board has reluctantly decided that it can no longer guarantee to fulfil its obligations with respect to the delivery of services contained in its contract with the council ... to a standard that residents should expect." [4]

It was a Labour government under Tony Blair that relaxed building regulation controls and allowed building companies to bypass very important health and safety regulations that may be responsible for tragedies like Grenfell occurring. In his drive to carry out capitalist policies very similar to the Tories, Blair hoped and wished to emulate himself as a savior for the ruling class. Boris Johnson, the present Foreign Secretary who was Mayor of London, cut and reduced the fighting capabilities of the London Fire Brigade, cutting services reducing staff and selling off fire engines which are essential in fighting fires.

Most of the tenants who died in the fire or survived it were from ethnic or migrant backgrounds. When their families travelled from abroad to attend memorial services or tried to say goodbye to their loved ones at funerals they were prevented from doing so by the unjust, racist, islamophobic terror- and immigration-laws by decisions of immigration officers who refused to issue them with a visa. Javid, the new Home Secretary, upheld the decisions showing how this unjust Tory regime acts without any sympathy or regard for families whose members died in the fire. *"Bereaved family members, prevented from paying tribute to their loved ones who died in Grenfell Tower in person because of visa issues, have told of their heartbreak. Karim Khaloufi, the younger brother of victim Khadija Khaloufi, 52, was unable to attend the public inquiry after suffering delays with his visa. And the husband of Fatemeh Afrasiabi, 59, missed the chance to pay tribute to his beloved wife or visit her grave because his immigration application was refused. Fatemeh Afrasiabi died with her sister Sakineh." [5]*

In a previous article on Grenfell Tower Fire, we as the RCIT put forward an analysis that is borne out by facts revealed a year later. *"Read the articles about the reasons for the Grenfell Tower fire. Read the explanations why, outrageously, highly flammable material was used during the building's refurbishment instead of investing £2 more per square meter for safe, inflammable material. Calculate that we're talking about £5,000 of extra cost that wasn't invested in a building housing 600 people, an expense that would have come to a little bit more than £8 per person (1). Read the statements of the fire fight-*

ers who warned, years ago, about the building's being unsafe as it had no working fire alarms and no sprinklers, infractions that were repeatedly ignored by officials. Examine the map of Kensington and Chelsea and locate where the most and the least deprived parts are, and you will discover that Grenfell Tower is situated in the poorest area not only of London but of the entire country". [6]. And furthermore, we stated: "The anger and the hate against all of those people who are directly or indirectly responsible for the cruel death of our brothers and sisters in the Grenfell Tower fire are exploding, as the protests in its wake have demonstrated. This is a very important step towards ending such tragedies for good, but it is only a very small first step on the path of doing so. Those guilty for the tragedy of the Grenfell Tower fire must be held accountable." [7]

The RCIT BRITAIN restates its position and puts forward the following transitional demands to unite the tenants and the working class and oppressed in a campaign to make those accountable who are guilty of this crime.

* A Tribunal to be organized by the Grenfell action committee and the Radical housing group to investigate the real reason for the fire and the punishment for those responsible (The KCTMO Management and the Directors of the Building Company that erected the cladding and knew it to be unsafe and inflammable).

* Open the Books-let the tenants see how much was spent on cladding and why no sprinklers or proper safety alarms were fitted in the years before the fire happened.

* Unoccupied houses and flats have to be immediately occupied. An action committee formed to protect tenants from fascist or police provocation must be organized.

* Stop the closure of Fire stations and support the local London Fire Brigades Union in its campaign to keep fire stations open! No to cuts and closures! Occupy fire stations which are threatened with closure!

* Social housing is a right that must be defended. We call on Jeremy Corbyn and Emma Dent Coad (Labour MP for Kensington and Chelsea) to support this campaign inside the Labour Party and throughout the trade union movement. However, we say: Do not rely on Corbyn and Dent Coad and don't believe blindly that they will fulfill this task. Instead organize a militant rank-and-file campaign in solidarity with the tenants, especially the migrants and their families, who suffered from the fire independent from the Labour leaders! All of us owe it to the families of the victims to organize such a solidarity campaign by any means!

Footnotes

(1) <https://www.standard.co.uk/comment/comment/i-made-mistakes-but-one-year-on-i-m-going-green-for-grenfell-writes-theresa-may-a3860046.html>

(2) <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/07/fire-brigade-faces-met-investigation-grenfell-stay-put-order>

(3) <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jun/16/manufacturer-of-cladding-on-grenfell-tower-identified-as-omnis-exteriors>

(4) <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/dec/26/grenfell-tower-management-company-hands-responsibility-back-to-council>

(5) <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/relatives-upset-that-visa-issues-prevented-them-paying-tribute-in-person/ar-AAy1lt1>

(6) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/grenfell-tower-fire/>

(7) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/grenfell-tower-fire/>

Livingstone Resigns from the Labour Party

A Warning to All Socialists inside the Labour Party

By Joseph Adams, 24 May 2018, RED LIBERATION

Ken Livingstone, who was suspended from the labour party for purported anti-Semitic comments he made in April 2016, has now resigned from the Labour Party. His reasons are that the right-wing and Zionist elements on the National Executive were preparing more attacks on him and Jeremy Corbyn.

"In a statement published on his website, Livingstone said: "I do not accept the allegation that I have brought the Labour Party into disrepute – nor that I am in any way guilty of anti-Semitism." Yet he goes on to say he acknowledges his "historical argument" – that Jewish people "collaborated" with Hitler, who supported "supported Zionism" when he first came to power – did cause "offence and upset in the Jewish community". [1]

Pro-Zionists in the Labour party have been conducting vicious witch-hunts against socialists in the Labour Party who dare to criticise the state of Israel. Livingstone who made comments about the collaboration of Zionism with the Nazis during the Second World War has been proven correct by historical fact. The evidence is available for all to see. Livingstone has a history of anti-racism and support for the Palestinians and has been singled out for his refusal to capitulate to Zionism in the Labour party and especially the Labour friends of Israel.

Corbyn has once again failed to defend Livingstone against the attacks of the Blairites and Zionists. Livingstone has decided, although ostensibly a Corbyn supporter, that it was Corbyn who was responsible for his suspension. It has now been revealed that Corbyn forced him to resign from the Labour party under pressure from Zionists who are delighted that Livingstone has gone.

"It is clear from reports such as John Rentoul in The Independent that Ken Livingstone's resignation was not voluntary but the result of pressure exerted by Jeremy Corbyn and his close associates. We refer in particular to Shami Chakrabarti's disgraceful attack on Livingstone on BBC's Sunday Politics (May 13), when she threatened she would quit the Labour front

bench if Livingstone was not expelled. Chakrabarti has not only ignored her own recommendations on natural justice and due process but she has also destroyed her own reputation, as a former Director of Liberty, for a belief in freedom of expression.

Nothing Livingstone was alleged to have done could in any way be described as anti-Semitic. His remark that "Hitler supported Zionism" is confirmed by a host of Holocaust historians. If he gave offence to supporters of Israel and Zionism it is because of the appalling record historically of Zionism when it comes to fighting real anti-Semites". [2]

"The collaboration of various Zionists with the Nazis is a fact which has already been established for a long time. Livingstone and Shah are not racist or Anti-Semitic. Both Shah and Livingstone are strong supporters of a Free Democratic Palestine. Livingstone while he was Leader of the Greater London Council supported the Palestine Liberation Organisation and on occasions invited PLO speakers in Britain to speak." [3]

The weakness of left reformism has shown that when the Blairites and Zionists launch attacks on Corbyn and his supporters, Corbyn fails to support them and buckles under the pressure. A number of left wing activists including Marc Wadsworth and Tony Greenstein have been expelled from the Labour party. Corbyn's supporters continue to be suspended or expelled by the Labour party bureaucratic machine controlled by the Blairites and Zionists. Corbyn with a majority on the National executive committee refuses to use that majority to curb the worst excesses of the right wing and remains a hostage to the pro-imperialists in the Labour party.

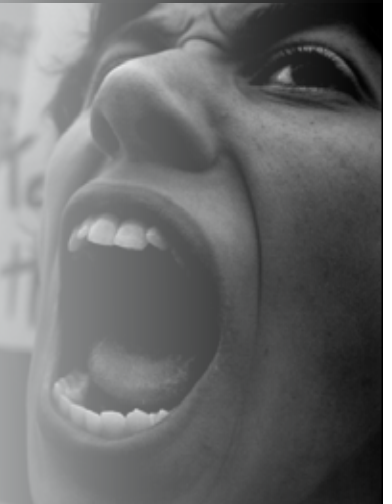
"The attack on Livingstone and the expulsions of Marc Wadsworth and Tony Greenstein were all part of the 'anti-Zionism equals anti-Semitism' witch-hunt. It is noticeable that when it came to laying charges the Labour Party avoided for legal reasons accusing people of anti-Semitism. Instead the catch all charge of 'bringing the party into disrepute' was used. Livingstone is the latest victim of a witch-hunt pursued by the

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Written by Michael Pröbsting
(International Secretary of the RCIT)

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pro-Israel lobby and the right-wing in the Labour Party." [4].

As RED LIBERATION No. 4 stated in its article on Livingstone's suspension, both McDonnell and Corbyn have once again conflated Anti-Semitism with Anti-Zionism.

"Unfortunately Corbyn and McDonnell have confused Anti-Semitism and Zionism and are capitulating to the right-wing elements in the Party. Corbyn now says he is going to conduct an inquiry into Anti-Semitism in the Party. Of course the pro Zionist elements in the party – the 'LABOUR FRIENDS OF ISRAEL' – are forcing Corbyn and others to instigate a witchhunt against pro-Palestinian elements in the party." [5]

RED LIBERATION fully supports the campaign by Labour against the Witch-hunt to reinstate all Labour party members like Wadsworth and Greenstein who have been expelled for Anti-Semitism. Wadsworth is a black activist who has campaigned on anti-racist issues, and Greenstein has fought Zionism in the Labour Party.

"This setback will only strengthen the resolve of Labour against the Witch-hunt activists. We fully understand the agenda of Labour Friends of Israel, the Jewish Labour Movement and Progress: to re-establish the politics and economics of neo-liberalism in the Labour Party. We call on Jeremy Corbyn, general secretary Jennie Formby and the National Executive Committee to finally put an end to this ongoing witch-hunt against the left in the party:

* LAW does not recognize the legitimacy of the expulsions/exclusions of party comrades on trumped up charges of "anti-Semitism" and will continue to organize with them to defeat the right.

* All those summarily expelled or suspended from membership without due process, or as part of the anti-Corbyn witch-hunt, should be immediately reinstated – and that includes Marc Wadsworth, Jackie Walker, Stan Keable, Tony Greenstein and Cyril Chilson." [6]

RED LIBERATION restates its position on the reactionary role of the Zionists and their erstwhile allies in Progress and Labour First. We call for:

* Abolish all Kangaroo Courts like the Compliance Unit and carry out the recommendations for transparent democracy in the Labour Party;

* Expel all Pro Zionist Organizations which includes Labour Friends of Israel and the Jewish Labour Movement. Remind the witch hunters that the leadership of the Labour party must support a DEMOCRATIC FREE PALESTINE.

* Full and unconditional solidarity with the Palestinian people! Lift the blockade against Gaza! Support the resistance of the people in Gaza! Boycott Israel!

Footnotes

- 1) <https://labourlist.org/2018/05/sadness-relief-anger-labour-reacts-to-livingstones-resignation/>
- 2) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/>
- 3) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/defend-shah-livingstone/>
- 4) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/>
- 5) <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/defend-shah-livingstone/>
- 6) <http://www.labouragainsthewitchhunt.org/>

Books of the RCIT

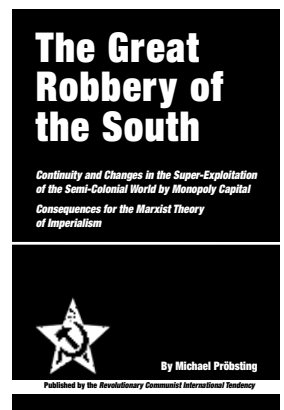
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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)



Austria: Mass Demonstration against 12 Hour Day

100.000 Workers march in Vienna against the Right-Wing Government

Report of RKO BEFREIUNG (Austrian Section of the RCIT), 02.07.2018

On 30 June, Vienna experienced a remarkable day: one of the largest workers demonstrations since many years took place when more than 100.000 people – mostly workers of all ages – marched through the streets in the inner city. They protested against the attack on the length of the normal working day.

The government – a coalition of the conservative party, the traditional party of the Austrian bourgeoisie, and the Freiheitliche Party, a right-wing, racist bourgeois-populist party – plans to push through a law which represents a massive attack on the rights of the working class. In essence the law would allow the capitalists to force workers to work for 12 hours a day and 60 hours a week at the same hourly wage rate. In other words, the workers could be forced to work for many more hours without having these additional hours better paid (as it was the case until now).

Furthermore, such a long working day increases the risks of job accidents. It also makes it much more difficult for working parents to organize child care.

The RKO BEFREIUNG (Austrian Section of the RCIT) calls the trade unions to organize mass protests, including an indefinite general strike to bring down this attack. We also call for the creation of action committees to organize the struggle democratically which is particularly necessary given the treacherous nature of the social democratic trade union leadership which wants to avoid a consistent struggle.

The Austrian Section of the RCIT participated in the demonstration with a lively and multinational contingent of young workers. (See pictures and video clips below) No doubt, the struggle will continue!



Contingent of the Austrian Section of the RCIT at the demonstration against the 12 Hour Day

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