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Barbaric Murder of Kashoggi: Down with the House of Saud!

- * Brazil: Defeat Bolsonaro!
- * Brazil: Bolsonaro Supporters Attack
- * Brazil: Demonstrations against Fascism
- * Mexico: Campaign against NAICM
- * Nigeria: Fight for Minimum Living Wage!
- * Zambia: Student Dies during Protests
- * Afghanistan: Strike against Occupation
- * Trump withdraws from INF Treaty
- * Down With Israeli Attacks on Gaza!
- * Syria/Idlib: Unite against Sochi Deal!

English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 87, November 2018

Brazil: Vote Haddad – Defeat Bolsonaro!	p.3
Brazil: Supporters of Bolsonaro Attack and Kill Activist	p.5
Brazil: Mass Demonstrations in the Streets against Fascism	p.7
Mexico: Campaign against the Construction of the New International Airport	p.8
Nigeria: RSV stands with worker’s rank and file to demand a minimum of 66 thousand living wage	p.9
Zambia: Female Student Dies from Police Tear Gas during Protests	p.10
Afghanistan: A Successful Strike against the US Occupation	p.11
Trump threatens to withdraw from INF Treaty: No to a New Imperialist Arms Race!	p.12
The Barbaric Slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi	p.13
Kissing the Feet of the Saudi Chainsaw-Crown Prince	p.15
Down With the Israeli Attacks on Gaza!	p.17
Syria/Idlib: For a Broad Rejectionist United Front against the Sochi Surrender Deal!	p.18
RCIT: What We Stand For	p.23

Revolutionary Communism is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Nigeria, Zambia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen, 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 *Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance* (Nigeria), *Courant des Jeunes Penseurs Congolais* (Democratic Republic of Congo), the *Marxist Group ‘Class Politics’* (Russia) and *Smif Savaşı* (Turkey).

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Brazil: Vote Haddad – Defeat Bolsonaro!

The Challenge for the Working Class in the Second Round of Presidential Elections

Statement from the *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 13 October 2018

The Brazilian general elections held last Sunday, October 7, resulted in the ultra-reactionary right-wing candidate *Jair Bolsonaro*-PSL in first place and *Fernando Haddad*- PT in second place, forcing the second round for president to take place. Bolsonaro won 46 percent of the valid votes, only 4 percent below what it would be needed to win in the first round. The role of social networks, much more than traditional media, was decisive for this partial victory of Bolsonaro. In addition, four days before, the influential pastoral leaders of the various evangelical churches, Christian fundamentalists, abandoned the PSDB's traditional right candidate, *Geraldo Alckmin*, transferring millions of votes from this sector in favor of the PSL candidate.

Fernando Haddad, former mayor of São Paulo, was in second place, with 29% of valid votes, which corresponds to approximately 30 million votes. Considering that voting is mandatory in Brazil, abstention and invalid votes have reached a record 40 million votes. The character of the exception regime becomes clearer when, ten days before the election, the *Supreme Court* decided to cancel the votes of 3.5 million citizens, mainly in the northeastern region which is the main electoral base of the PT, because they supposedly didn't register their names in electronic electoral polls.

In summary, the candidate *Jair Bolsonaro* benefited from the absence, omission and cancellation of these voters who together accounted for 43 million voters. In fact, Bolsonaro obtained only about 30% of the total votes of the possible. The Congress (federal deputies and senators) now elected to take office in 2019 has a more conservative and reactionary character than the one elected in 2014 and which endorsed the coup d'état of 2016 that removed the

former president-elect *Dilma Rousseff* from-PT Workers' Party. Of those parties who lost most of the seats in the congress were, by great irony, the traditional right-wing parties that commanded national politics since the end of the military dictatorship: PSDB and PMDB elected only slightly more than half of what they achieved in 2014. The criminalization of the policy sponsored by the process allegedly against corruption the so-called "Lava Jato" (Car Wash) hit not only the Workers' party, but the rightists old guard politician also involved in the corruption investigations.

This space was occupied by new deputies and senators linked to the extreme right presidential candidate *Jair Bolsonaro*. In fact, the Social Liberal Party (PSL) of *Jair Bolsonaro*, composed of military, Christian fundamentalists, and reactionaries of every kind elected up to the closing of this article 52 new federal deputies and four senators from 16 states. This extreme right defends a deeply neoliberal economic agenda that will greatly increase attacks on the working class. In terms of comparison, the proposals announced by the Bolsonaro economic team point to worse than all the attacks on workers already made by President *Michel Temer* in the last two years. The only difference is that now these policies is combined with of racism, chauvinism, misogyny, anti-immigrant feelings, anti LGBTs, anti-indigenous peoples, etc.

As we reported in various articles bourgeois democracy in Brazil has been massively undermined. Behind the facade of a parliamentary system, there exists a disguised new military regime since February of that year which began with the military intervention in the city of Rio de Janeiro. The demoralized and unpopular government of *Michel*



Solidarity Rally in Mexico against Bolsonaro

Temer is now a government supervised by the military. Also the Supreme Court abandoned his appearance of "impartiality" and takes into account in its decisions the "suggestions" of the command of the army. This is so explicit that the new Supreme Court President *Dias Toffoli*, having taken office in September of that year, called as adviser a retired general *Fernando Azevedo e Silva*. He is an influential general in the military who has just left the Army Chief of Staff, the executive branch of the Army command.

Thus, even in the remote possibility that Fernando Haddad-PT manages to overcome his difficulties and wins this election, his governability will be highly weakened. Thus a new impeachment would not be ruled out. He would face distrust of the military headquarters, a hostile judiciary, an equally rampant conservative monopolized media, a widely opposed congress.

The great mistake of the Workers Party in those years was to rely only blindly on the electoral path and its rotten alliances with right-wing parties that led to some neoliberal policies such as Lula da Silva's pension reform in 2002, some privatizations, generous subsidies to landlords, millions of dollars to the media, including the media empire of Rede Globo de Televisão. All without exception turned against the PT by and removed it from the government. They brought to power through a coup d'état the Temer government which deepened the neoliberal economic policies much more than what would have been able in a government of the type of Popular Front under Lula or Rousseff.

For all this, we in the CCR reaffirm the need to have no illusions about the limited bourgeois democracy and the corrupt system parliamentary system. However, we unconditionally defend all democratic rights, whether against the coup-d'états, the military or the institutions. We combine this defense of democratic rights with the convening of a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly with delegates elected by the workers and popular sectors who can debate and build proposals to solve the great problems of the Brazilian people.

We also defend the cancellation of all the structural neo liberal reforms made by the reactionary putschist government of Michel Temer. Brazil's national wealth was 'stolen' by privatizations (*Petrobras; Eletrobras; Embraer;*) in

favor of the imperialists countries, included China. The labour reform destroyed historical worker's rights, the great landowners now have permission to destroy the forests, educational reform destroyed any chance to form a democratic and critical sense for our youth.

As we said in our last article on the presidential elections "In the past the CCR didn't call for critical support for Lula or Rousseff because their candidature always had a popular front character symbolized by the fact that the Vice President was from the PMDB, an open bourgeois party." We also said that "this time in presidential elections 2018 is different, since they have a vice-president of PCdoB, who is clearly a small bourgeois labor party". In such a situation, it is important that the revolutionaries call for the critical vote for PT candidate Fernando Haddad. We know Haddad is a reformist politician. But this election reflects a significant class polarization and the PT and its candidate reflect - in a reformist way - the aspirations of the working class and of all the anti-putschist segments of society. Revolutionaries need to patiently explain to workers why the reformist policy of the PT and its old alliances inevitably lead to failure and why a revolutionary program with a truly revolutionary party fighting for a workers' government in close alliance with the urban and rural poor, is the only way forward!

- * No to the criminalization of political demonstrations and the criminalization of social movements!
- * Immediate freedom to Lula da Silva!
- * Public safety is not the role of the Armed Forces! For the cancellation of federal military intervention in the state of Rio de Janeiro!
- * For the creation of action committees in factories, unions, neighborhoods, favelas and peripheral regions in defense of our rights and against the putschist government and against any military intervention! For committees of self-defense of the workers and poor in the neighborhoods and peripheries!
- * Down with the constitutional law that allows the army to intervene in political matters!
- * For the Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!
- * For a Government of the Workers in alliance with the Urban and Rural Poor!
- * For a revolutionary workers' party – a new World Party of the Socialist Revolution! For the Fifth International

REVOLUTIONARY LIBERATION - The RCIT's Monthly Journal

<p>www.thecomunists.net Issue No. 76 December 2017</p>	<p>www.thecomunists.net Issue No. 77 January 2018</p>	<p>www.thecomunists.net Issue No. 78 February 2018</p>	<p>www.thecomunists.net Issue No. 79 March 2018</p>
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Brazil: Supporters of Bolsonaro Attack and Kill Activist Create Defense Committees against Reactionary Forces!

Statement of the Corrente Comunista Revolucionária-CCR (Brazilian section of the RCIT), October 20, 2018

The opposition against Bolsonaro was sufficient reason why men and women became victims of violence

A mapping made by the investigator and journalist Haroldo Ceravolo of the news website UOL showed more than 50 cases of violence committed by supporters of presidential candidate *Jair Bolsonaro* (PSL) since the beginning of October. The number increased after the results of the first round in which the ultra-reactionary candidate came in first place with 46% and the Workers Party-PT candidate Fernando Haddad in second place with 29%.

Cases of violence for political reasons had been occurring since January of this year and they were growing. On September 24, the administrator of the group *Mulheres Unidas Contra Bolsonaro* (United Women against Bolsonaro) was attacked in Rio de Janeiro by two armed men.

The situation became more serious when the media announced the brutal death of the black militant and Capoeirista teacher *Moa del Katendê*, killed with 12 knives in Salvador, in the early morning on the following day after the election, after a discussion about the results of the polls. Capoeira is a martial art created and developed by black slaves and their descendants. Katendê had declared a vote for the PT. The perpetrator of the crime, *Paulo Sérgio Ferreira de Santana*, voter of Bolsonaro, confessed the political motivation in favor of his candidate to practice the crime. But the monopolized conservative media tried to hide the Bolsonaro factor and affirmed that the murder was “*due to political divergence*”, without explaining the real reasons.

But at the same time the social networks already clearly demonstrated that it was a murder inspired by the neo-fascist propaganda of violence of the ultra-reactionary candidate.

Another scandalous case occurred in the South region, city of Porto Alegre, when on the night of Monday 8, also the following day after the first round election, a 19-year-old woman, wearing a T-shirt with the words #EleNão! (Not Him)! and an LGBT flag in his backpack, was violently approached by three men. They questioned the reasons for wearing that t-shirt, which alluded to the movement of women against Bolsonaro. Then she was humiliated verbally and assaulted with blows. Two of the men held her, while the third, with a knife, drew on its ribs a swastika, symbol of Nazism.

A police report was registered the next day. The head delegate of the 1st Porto Alegre Police Station, *Paulo Jardim*, said that the suspects of committing aggression have not yet been identified and also said that the design was not an extremist symbol, using the following words: “*I went to look at the drawing that they did on her. It is a symbol of Buddhism, of harmony, of love, of peace and of fraternity, if you go to Google, you will see that there is a Buddhist symbol there. “This is the information,”* he said in an interview with the *BBC News Brazil*, immediately the organization *Brazilian Network of Progressive Buddhists* released a note about the delegate having associated the swastika marked on the body of a girl a symbol of harmony. A few hours before the indignant reactions against the delegate made him had

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.

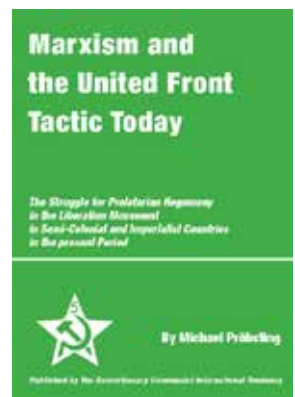
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which give an overview of its content.

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.



to retreat and to affirm that in fact it was a Nazi swastika.

In Rio de Janeiro, *Juliana Barbosa*, 41 years old, was the victim of blows to the head and neck, as well as kicks and blows to the body. The aggressors, four men, shouted that “*Bolsonaro is going to win in order to smash the fagots (homosexuals), those trash people have to die*”. Julyana tried to argue, asking for respect, but there was no room for dialogue.

A journalist from the *NE10* website was attacked and threatened with rape on Sunday 7, in the city of Recife, when she left the place where she had just voted. She was approached by two men who held her by the arm. One of them wore a black T-shirt with the photo of the presidential and the words “*President Bolsonaro*”. “Upon seeing his journalist’s credential, they claimed that he was “leftist” and also said “*when the captain (Bolsonaro) won, the entire press was going to die*.” One of them said: “*We are going to rape her, the other said that it was better to cut me off in every part of my body!*” said the journalist.

A young male architect was beaten in the city of Teresina (PI) for wearing a red t-shirt for having responded to the verbal aggressions of a group of Bolsonaro voters. According to witnesses, the aggressors shouted slogans, like “*You’re a communist!*”

The website <https://www.excelsior.com.mx/funcion/roger-waters-abucheado-por-criticar-a-bolsonaro-en-brasil/1270694> has reported that “*Rogers Waters of the rock group Pinky Floyd managed to divide the nearly 45,000 spectators who attended his concert at the Allianz Parque stadium in Sao Paulo in two and to show the polarization that exists in Brazil between the extreme right and the socialist Fernando Haddad, his rival in the second round of the presidential elections on October 28* “. Waters, known for his political activism, showed on a giant screen in which his concert was simultaneously broadcast at the stadium a list of world leaders he described as neo-fascists, in which he included the Brazilian far-right candidate, as well as the US president,

Donald Trump.

In the closing of that article on October 19, the news of the website <https://www.apostagem.com.br/2018/10/19/bolsonaristas-invadem-a-cnbb-ameacam-padres-e-gritam-histericos-contra-o-comunismo-assista/> affirming that “*Bolsonarist hysteria against*” communism “*that they judge threaten the country, reached a new level of madness*.” Adept of the “*Nazistupids*”, invaded the National Confederation of Catholics of Brazil-CNBB, in an event destined to the Catholic institution and, to the shouts, they accused the Catholic bishops and priests of communists.”

We as the CCR strongly repudiate the fascist aggressions committed by followers of the Bolsonaro candidate and blame him for promoting such fascist attacks. Likewise, we denounce the complicity of the authorities to investigate and punish the culprits of such despicable acts.

The only defense that the Brazilian people have against these fascist groups is to organize independently of the regime in *Popular Defense Committees* or *popular militias*. Let’s not let fascism grow! Let’s organize our own forces as workers, women, blacks, indigenous, of the lesbian&homosexual community! Let’s recover the experience of the Black Panthers in the US who organized themselves into militias to defend their communities against racism.

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

* *For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

* *For a Workers’ Government in partnership with the urban and rural poor*

* *#EleNã! Not him!*

* *Defeat Bolsonaro in the streets!*

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: Mass Demonstrations in the Streets against Fascism

Report of the *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária* (Section of the RCIT in Brazil), 30 September 2018

Thousands and thousands of people, organizers speak in almost one million across the country, mostly women, marched in the streets of Brazil on 29 September to protest against the presidential candidate *Jair Bolsonaro* (PSL). This was in practice a huge anti-fascist united front with the participation of various sectors of social movements, such as LGBTs, black movement, trade unionists, PT, MST, MTST, PSOL, PSTU, FRENTE BRASIL SEM MEDO (Brazil's Front Without Fear) and anti-fascists in general.

The ultra-reactionary Bolsonaro is increasingly repudiated by the female public because of his extremely conservative positions concerning the women, his hatred against blacks, LGBTs, and his anti-workers policies. The acts of this last Saturday, September 29 occurred in several capitals and also in countries like Portugal, Italy, Argentina, Germany and France.

The initial mobilization was initiated by the feminist

movement "*Mulheres Unidas Contra Bolsonaro*" (Women United Against Bolsonaro) and then joined by the social movements and spread through several Brazilian capitals. The slogan created in the twitter *#elenão* (#NotHIM) quickly became a symbol that united a large part of Brazilian society against the fascism represented by the presidential candidate.

This unified movement is of extreme importance with exactly one week remaining for the first round presidential elections in which the far-right candidate *Jair Bolsonaro* is technically tied in with 28.2% of the voting intentions and *Fernando Haddad* – Workers Party, with 25.2%. The traditional right-wing bourgeois parties such as PSDB have no more than 8 percent in the surveys.

The members of the *Corrente Comunista Revolucionária-CCR*, the national section of RCIT, attended the event in the city of São Paulo.



Solidarity Rally in Mexico against Bolsonaro



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

Mexico: Campaign against the Construction of the New International Airport

Appeal of Agrupación de Lucha Socialista (Mexican Section of the RCIT), 14 October 2018

Note of the Editorial Board: Below we publish a brief statement of Agrupación de Lucha Socialista, the Mexican Section of the RCIT, calling for international support for the popular struggle against the building of the New International Airport in Mexico City. Naturally, we fully support this call.

As Agrupación de Lucha Socialista (ALS) we constitute, jointly with the Colectivo Acción y Resistencia (CAR), brigades of youth, students and workers in the subway which is informing the people about the consequences of the construction of the New International Airport (NAICM).

The state has planed to build this capitalist megaproject in the east region of the Metropolitan Zone of México since

2001. However, it was forced to make a step back because of the combative resistance of the indigenous and peasants' communities defending their lands and natural resources.

We call the social movements and political organizations all around the world to join the campaign #YoPrefieroelLago and to express an international solidarity with the Mexican people (e.g. meetings at embassies, posters and pictures, statements, etc.). Our people is fighting for defend the life and the nature against the capitalist projects of dispossession and death!

On our webiste we publish some pictures from one of the campaign activities of the Mexican comrades.



Mexican comrades of ALS and CAR during a campaign activity against NAICM

Comunismo Revolucionario

Spanish-language Journal of the RCIT

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

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

Nigeria: RSV stands with worker's rank and file to demand a minimum of 66 thousand living wage

Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (Sympathizing Section of the RCIT), 18. October 2018

Nigerian Workers Should Not Settle For Another Slave Wage of #30,000

We Support their Demand for at least #66,000 as the National Minimum Wage

Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC)/United Labour Congress (ULC) and Trade Union Congress (TUC) Leadership Must not betray their long Starved Members

RSV will show Solidarities to Workers via Press Conferences and Mass Actions to ensure their Demands are fully met by the FGN

The Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV) vehemently opposes to the new development between the leadership of NLC, ULC and TUC and the Federal Government of Nigeria that the new National Minimum Wage should be between #24000 and #30,000. It is highly ridiculous.

For us, it is very possible for the FGN to honourably meet the demand of workers for at least #66,000 for the National Minimum Wage when the politicians in the National Assembly smile to the bank every month to cash out #13.5m as running cost minus other outrageous allowances and salaries. It is so disrespectful and treacherous for the FGN to shift the blame or the cause of the inflation on the toiling workers when the politicians are sky high paid for doing nothing.

We openly condemn and reject such a criminal development.

We still maintain our position that paying Nigerian workers as good as #100,000 for Minimum Wage is never too much and cannot incite any inflation. The problem of inflation is connected to the outrageous allowances and salaries earmarked for politicians who do nothing plus the overwhelming looting of the resources via privatisation and corruption in the whole system through many inflated projects. This argument that increasing Minimum Wage will cause inflation seriously stabs logic in the head as put up by the (mis)economic team of the Buhari led Federal government that increasing the Minimum Wage to a reasonable height would cause inflation. There has been for years inflation in the economy due to wanton maladministration in governance even when workers are to be paid #18,000 and most states in the country do not even pay. So how does increment in it has caused inflation? This is a criminal argument. Workers who are toiling with their

sweats and bloods deserve better pay and welfare. It's the looting and corruption in the system that has plunged the economy into recession.

It is so obvious that the Buhari/APC led government is not stopping at creating hard lives for the working people in Nigeria. For the 16 years of PDP rule, workers witnessed massive economic hardships via various anti people policies such as subsidy removal, Privatization, Deregulation of Downstream sector, devaluation of currency and other austere policies i.e half salaries and non payment of salaries and other earned allowances to workers chain and enslave them. These same policies are being re-orchestrated by the Buhari/APC led government. It must be rejected outright!

The leadership of NLC, ULC, TUC must know that it is a betrayal of the interest of their members if they allow the Federal government to succeed with this open and massive manslaughter of their members with just another slave Wage. It is very germane they ensure that the #66,000 is met because there is already addition to the inflation created by the ruling class.

Accepting #24, 000 or #30,000 is an outright betrayal on the NLC, ULC and TUC and a poison to the workers. It should be understood that this is a struggle for the liberation of the working people as a whole.

Conclusively, RSV will not stop in showing our solidarity to the working people against all these anti people policies targeted at them just as they are currently doing to Nigerian Students and we will also ensure victory with the students over the numerous untold attacks on them.

For us, it is a united struggle of the masses that can ensure victories and save us from this economic terrorism of this capitalist ruling class in Nigeria. We shall always do this at the barricades with them. NLC, ULC, TUC should begin to engage in massive press conferences and declare a day of mass actions where RSV and other civil society organizations will be there to ensure this important demand are conceded to by the Federal government of Nigeria.

For the victory of the working class all over the world!

Signed:

National Secretariat

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O Comunismo Revolucionário Portuguese-language Journal of the RCIT

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Zambia: Female Student Dies from Police Tear Gas during Protests

Report (with Pictures) from the RCIT Section in Zambia, 08 October 2018

University students of the Great East Road Campus in Lusaka, Zambia's capital, protested against the government's failure to pay them their meal and accommodation allowances. These allowances have been delayed since August. As part of their protest, the students blocked the Great East Road.

The police reacted with brute violence in the night of 4th and 5th October. Officers chased the students to their hostels and fired numerous tear gas canisters into the houses. As a result, one hostel block which houses female students caught fire. Vespers Shimuzhila, a female student, could not escape and died. Another female student was forced to jump from the third floor of the hostel and broke her legs.

Despite burning a hostel, police continued firing tear gas canisters at the students who gathered to rescue their colleagues who were still in the block.

This is not the first time (and certainly not the last time) that the police prove to be an instrument of the ruling class against the people. As long as the capitalist system exists, this can not be otherwise. Students must organize themselves and fight for their rights! They must not trust the PF government or any pseudo-opposition capitalist party! They need to build organized links with the working class and the oppressed so that they can become an irresistible force in the struggle for liberation!



Zambian student killed by the police: Vespers Shimuzhila

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



Afghanistan: A Successful Strike against the US Occupation

Major Attack by the Afghan Resistance against a High-Level Meeting of Afghan and U.S. Generals in Kandahar

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 19.10.2018

1. The Afghan Resistance succeeded yesterday in striking a severe blow against the occupation forces. In what experts characterize as “perhaps the most brazen attack since the US invaded the country in 2001”, a young mujahedeen of the resistance (“Abu Dujana”, see pictures below) managed to infiltrate the governor’s compound in Kandahar City. He attacked a high level meeting of senior Afghan and U.S. Generals and killed, among others, the infamous General Abdul Raziq, the Kandahar Governor Zalmai Wesa and Abdul Momin, the head of the province’s National Directorate of Security. The resistance fighter also succeeded in wounding three U.S. officials. It is unclear if General Austin Miller, the U.S. commander of imperialist occupation forces in Afghanistan (“Mission Resolute Support”), was wounded or not in the attack.

2. The killing of General Raziq is a particular important success for the liberation struggle since he was the most powerful man in southern Afghanistan and a key ally of the U.S. occupation forces. He was heavily involved in drug business – even General Vance, former commander of NATO-led forces, had to admit this. He was also notorious for torturing and killing opponents which caused even the United Nations to call for action against him.

3. This successful attack is a powerful demonstration of the cul-de-sac of the NATO occupation which began in 2001. After 17 years of occupation, bombardment and brutal suppression of popular resistance, the imperialist forces have still not succeeded in stabilizing their rule. In fact, they have to admit that they already lost control over a significant proportion of the country. As has been widely reported in the media recently, the U.S. command is forced to ask for negotiations with the resistance about a “political solution” (i.e. a face-saving way for the U.S. to withdraw their troops).

4. The NATO-led occupation forces currently encompass, according to official figures, more than 13,000 troops, most of which are US Army soldiers. However, Germany, Britain and Italy contribute also significant contingents. These troops are supported by more than 25,000 contractors (of which 2/3 are foreigners). “Mission Resolute Support” constitutes the most important ongoing military operation of Western imperialist forces. Hence, a severe

strike against the occupation forces and their local agents serves both the liberation struggle of the Afghan people as well as the cause of the global struggle against imperialism.

5. The RCIT unambiguously denounces the US occupation as a reactionary war of aggression. We consider the resistance struggle of the Afghan people – which includes an armed guerilla struggle – as a legitimate war of defense which deserves the unconditional support of all consistent democrats, anti-imperialists and socialists all over the world. Therefore we have supported the Afghan resistance against the imperialist aggression since the very beginning in October 2001.

6. At the same time, the RCIT confirms its political opposition against the reactionary program and ideology of the Taliban which currently constitute the dominant force among the guerilla movement. The task of Afghan socialists is to combine resistance against the occupation with an independent program fighting for a workers’ and poor peasants’ republic as part of a region-wide socialist federation.

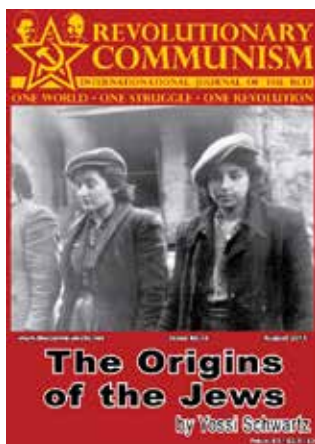
7. Shamefully, most so-called left-wing parties in Europe and North America (as well as reformist outfits like the *Awami Workers Party* in Pakistan) fail to show any support for the Afghan resistance struggle. Many of these cowardly Stalinists, left-reformists and pseudo-Trotskyists fail to side with the Syrian Revolution against the reactionary butcher Assad (a lackey of Russian imperialism), justifying this with their professed opposition against Western imperialism. However, at the same time they are incapable to lend support to the most important ongoing popular insurgency against the Western Great Powers. Such pseudo-left forces are totally useless for the struggle against imperialism!

8. The RCIT repeats its call to socialists around the world to unite in the struggle against the imperialist crusade of the U.S., Britain and other Western powers against the Afghan people.

** Victory to the popular insurgency of the Afghan people!*

** Defeat the imperialist crusaders!*

** For a workers and poor peasants republic as part of a region-wide socialist federation.*



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

Trump threatens to withdraw from INF Treaty: No to a New Imperialist Arms Race!

The Acceleration of Rivalry between the Great Powers Increases the Risks of World War III

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 25 October 2018

1. U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened to withdraw from a 31-year-old nuclear weapons agreement with Russia. The *Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces* (INF) Treaty, first signed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987, officially required the two powers to forgo all nuclear ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with a range of 500 to 5,500 km.

2. The background for this threat is the ongoing decline of U.S. imperialism and the rise of new imperialist powers – China and Russia. Beijing is challenging Washington's long-term global domination in economic as well as political fields. Moscow is also expanding its spheres of influence at the cost of the traditional hegemon (e.g. in the Middle East).

3. Likewise, the new Eastern powers have managed to strengthen their military arsenal. Russia has recently developed a new cruise missile system – the land-based, nuclear-capable Novator 9M729. Likewise did China develop the DF-26 intermediate-range ballistic missile, which has a maximum range of 4,000 km.

4. The accelerating rivalry between the Great Powers has resulted in an increasing number of conflicts, sanctions and trade war in the past years (e.g. Ukraine since 2014, Syria, Global Trade War since summer 2018, tensions in the South China Sea, etc.). Further escalations of the tensions between the Great Powers are inevitable.

5. The rationale behind Trump's move is to retain the military supremacy of the U.S. by further modernizing and expanding its nuclear arsenal. In particular, scrapping the INF treaty could pave the way for the U.S. to field easier-to-hide, road-mobile conventional missiles in places like Guam and Japan (directed against China) or in Central Europe (directed against Russia). Unsurprisingly, Russia and China are opposed to Trump's threat. Moscow already warned of "*military-technical*" retaliation in such a case. Likewise, the European Union also rejects Trump's plan. Maja Kocijancic, the EU's spokeswoman for foreign affairs and security policy, said: "*The world doesn't need a new arms race.*"

6. There can be no doubt that the demise of the INF treaty will provoke a new arms race. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) repeats its warning that the acceleration of rivalry between the Great Powers increases the risks of World War III. The decay of global capitalism inevitable increases the tensions between the Great Powers. Each one needs to expand its sphere of influence at the cost of its rival. This is how imperialism works – it cannot be otherwise.

7. The mass organizations of the working class and oppressed in West and East must mobilize against a new imperialist arms race. They must oppose all armaments programs of any Great Power by means of class struggle – mass demonstrations, strikes up to general strikes, etc.

Their representatives in parliament must vote, under any conditions, against all steps towards armament.

8. Furthermore, the RCIT calls the mass workers and popular organizations to fight for the expropriation and the nationalization of the arms industry under workers control. Instead of spending billions for conventional and nuclear weapons, the money should be used to finance public works programs under workers control.

9. The RCIT calls socialists to fight against forms of social-imperialism, i.e. against the open or disguised siding of social democratic, Stalinist or populist leaderships with one or the other Great Power. The interests of the workers and oppressed are opposed to the armament of *all* Great Powers – the U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan. None of them is "*the lesser evil*"! Hence, such an anti-war movement must be independent of any Great Power. In other words, it has to be based on an anti-imperialist program.

10. Furthermore, such a mass movement should oppose all wars, occupations and military adventures of any Great Power against the oppressed people of the South (e.g. Russia and the U.S. in Syria, the U.S. in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, and Russia in Chechnya). The RCIT unconditionally supports liberation movements fighting against such imperialist aggressions without lending support to their political programs.

11. The RCIT rejects all forms of pacifism. We warn against any illusions that international treaties could curb global armament. As we can see, such treaties are a piece of paper which can be either ignored or scrapped by the imperialist rulers of the world. The only guarantee for peace is the disempowerment of the monopoly capitalists and generals. Only if the workers and oppressed fight for a socialist revolution, only if they succeed in overthrowing the imperialist ruling classes around the world, only then can an era of peace open up.

International Secretariat of the RCIT

The Barbaric Slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi

A Commentary by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 13.10.2018

Unfortunately, there is almost certainty about the tragic fate of Jamal Khashoggi. He entered the Saudi embassy in Turkey on 2 October in order to get the necessary papers to marry his fiancée, Hatice Cengiz. He has not been seen since then. According to numerous accounts (including audio and video recordings), he was awaited by a 15-men assassination team which arrived from Riyadh on the same day in order to kill him. They detained, interrogated, tortured and finally brutally slaughtered him. Among the assassination team was a forensic expert who brought a bone saw to dismember Khashoggi's body after killing him. "It is like *Pulp Fiction*," a senior US official familiar with the investigation has been quoted as saying.

There is substantial evidence that this murder was ordered by Saudi Arabia's strong man himself, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. According to reports some of the 15 assassins were even drawn from Salman's personal bodyguard. (1)

Jamal Khashoggi was a very moderate critique of the Saudi regime. Living in the U.S. he wrote articles for the liberal *Washington Post* in which he expressed concerns about Saudi Arabia's war in Yemen or the arrest of women's rights activists. He supported more individual rights in his country but did not call for an overthrow of the autocratic monarchy which rules Saudi Arabia since its foundation. He supported the Syrian Revolution from its beginning in 2011.

No doubt, as revolutionaries and Marxists we adhere to a very different ideology than Khashoggi. However, we certainly share his desire for more democratic rights. Only a professional idiot and right-wing rabble-rouser like Don-

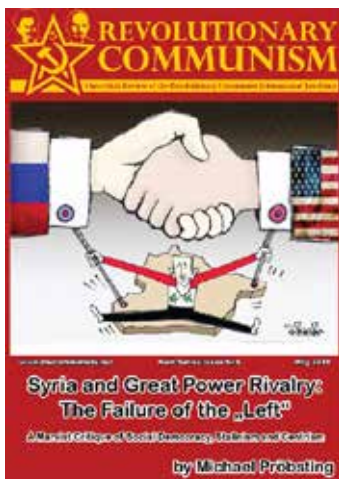
ald Trump Jr. could dare to link Khashoggi to "jihadists". (2)

We express our deepest condolences to Hatice Cengiz and his family and join millions of people around the world who condemn this barbaric homicide.

His brutal murder demonstrated that the Saudi monarchy can not tolerate even such a modest critic like Khashoggi. The ruling class in Riyadh is determined to liquidate each and every voice of criticism. It is doing so because its reign in fact is highly unstable. This class is thoroughly corrupt and lives a decadent life based on huge profits of its massive oilfields as well as the super-exploitation of the millions of migrants working as cheap labor force. Bin Salman and his tyrannical regime wage a barbaric war of aggression against the Yemeni people since 2015 which has resulted in the killing of thousands of civilians. (3) It has been the key supporter of General Sisi's military coup in Egypt in July 2013 which resulted in the killing of thousands of demonstrators. (4) Riyadh was also close to wage war against Qatar in June 2017 because the latter allows *Al Jazeera* to voice criticism against its corrupt reign. (5)

Characteristically, bin Salman is also "best friends forever" of Trump and his son-in-law, Jared Kushner ("We've put our man on top!" Trump told his friends according to Michael Wolff's book *Fire and Fury*). (6) The Saudi regime is also a loyal support of the Zionist Apartheid state. (7) At the same time, Riyadh is also making profitable deals with Russia and looks for reconciliation with the Assad tyranny. (8) In short, the Saudi regime is an arch-reactionary fortress ruled by an utterly corrupt and decadent elite serving the interests of the imperialist Great Powers.

The barbaric slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi demonstrates



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

once more the urgent need to bring down the Saudi regime of terror. Smashing this tyranny will aid the liberation struggles of the heroic peoples in Palestine, Yemen, and Syria. It will hit all autocratic rulers and, in particular, the mad man in the White House.

We might not be able to bring Khashoggi back to life. But his sacrifices will not be in vein if we support all efforts to bring down the tyranny of the Saud family and its imperialist masters in Washington.

Footnotes

(1) David Hearst: Trump and the boy king: Mohammed bin Salman's reign is over before it even began, 12 October 2018 <https://www.middleeasteye.net/columns/jamal-khashoggi-trump-mohammed-bin-salman-erdogan-1891059956>

(2) Carla Herreria: Donald Trump Jr. Peddles Tweet Linking Jamal Khashoggi To 'Jihadists', 13.10.2018, https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/donald-trump-jr-jamal-khashoggi-tweet-us_5bc14ddce4b0bd9ed55a59db

(3) The RCIT has published many articles on the Saudi War against the Yemeni people. They are collected here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>. Our latest article on this issue is: Michael Pröbsting: Western Hypocrisy and the Saudi War of Aggression against the Yemeni People, 10 April 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/western-hypocrisy-and-the-saudi-war-of-aggression-against-the-yemeni-people/>

(4) The RCIT has published numerous articles on Egypt under the military dictatorship of General Sisi. They are collected here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>. Our latest article on this issue is: Michael Pröbsting: EU

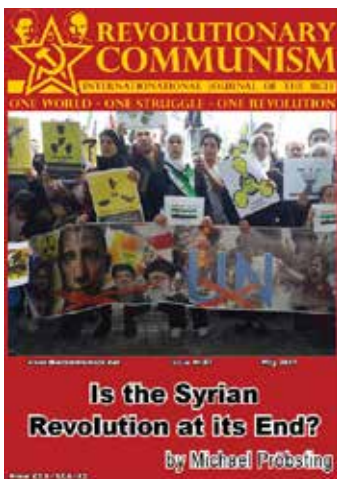
Leaders Praise Egypt's Military Dictatorship, 21.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/eu-leaders-praise-egypt-s-military-dictatorship/>

(5) See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Qatar-Gulf Crisis: Another Offensive of the Arab Counter-Revolution, 10 June 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/qatar-gulf-crisis/>

(6) On the RCIT's analysis of the Trump Administration see e.g. Michael Pröbsting: The Meaning, Consequences and Lessons of Trump's Victory, 24.November 2016, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/meaning-of-trump/>; Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings. Theses on the World Situation, the Perspectives for Class Struggle and the Tasks of Revolutionaries, RCIT Books, Vienna 2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/world-perspectives-2018/>

(7) The RCIT has published numerous articles on Israel and the Palestinian liberation struggle. They are collected here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/>. Our latest article on this issue is: Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine): Solidarity with Gaza! 18.07.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/solidarity-with-gaza/>

(8) The RCIT has published numerous articles on the Syrian Revolution. They are collected here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. Our latest article on this issue is: Michael Pröbsting: Syria: Who is Responsible for the Civilian Death Toll from March 2011 to September 2018? 10.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-who-is-responsible-for-the-civilian-death-toll-from-march-2011-to-september-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

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Kissing the Feet of the Saudi Chainsaw-Crown Prince

On the Shameful Response of the Kurdish YPG on the Killing of the Saudi Journalist Kashoggi

A Commentary by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 20.10.2018

Many so-called “left-wing” groups – both in the West and the East – praise the Kurdish YPG as a “progressive” or even “revolutionary” force in Syria. In contrast, the RCIT has always insisted that, while the YPG legitimately defended the Kurdish people against the reactionary terrorists of Daesh/ISIS, it has played, all in all, a shameful and reactionary role since the beginning of the Syrian Revolution in 2011.

In the first years of the Syrian Revolution they failed to unite the Kurdish masses with the Arab people rising up against the reactionary Assad tyranny. Instead, they collaborated with the regime. Since 2015 it has closely collaborated with US imperialism and, effectively, became the infantry of the Western Great Powers in Syria. In recent months, the YPG/SDF leadership again began negotiations with the Assad regime. (1)

As a result of their extreme opportunism, the Stalinist leadership of the YPG has become close allies of the Trump Administration and the tyrannical kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In exchange for military, political and financial aid, the YPG leadership serves the interests of these reactionary powers.

The YPG’s shameful role as prostitutes of the most reactionary powers has become evident again in the past weeks. As has been widely reported, the critical Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi has been brutally killed and

dismembered with a chainsaw after he entered the Saudi Arabia Consulate in Istanbul on 2 October. (2) While the whole world discussed and commented on this issue, the YPG remained silent. While the YPG-related news agency *Ajansa Nûçeyan a Firatê* (ANF) published numerous articles in this period not only on Kurdish affairs but also on other issues (including on non-Middle East countries like Sri Lanka, Bolivia, Columbia etc.), they didn’t utter a word on the murder of Khashoggi.

Finally, when the Trump Administration has come under so much pressure by an enraged global public that it demands from the Saudi Kingdom an “explanation”, the so-called “Rojava revolutionaries” finally managed to say a few words on this issue.

We reprint the YPG’s article, published on 19 October, in full in an appendix. As everyone can see, even now, when the Trump and the Saudis themselves have to admit that Khashoggi was murdered in the Saudi Consulate, even now, the YPG does not say a single critical word about the barbaric Saudi regime and its strong man, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman!

Why is the YPG kissing the feet of the Chainsaw-Crown Prince? The answer is very simple and vulgar: because the YPG is a close ally of Trump and MBS (as Mohammed bin Salman is often referred to) and because it receives financial aid from Riyadh. In exchange for the Saudi blood

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

money, the YPG leadership refrains from any critical comment on the barbaric murder of the Saudi journalist.

We are in no way surprised about such a slavish submission to the most reactionary powers as one can see from our past critical assessments of the YPG. But what will all the Stalinist, semi-Stalinist and pseudo-Trotskyist friends of the YPG say about such a shameful and scandalous behaviour?! Will they continue to defend these pathetic servants of Trump and the Saudi Kingdom!

What we can observe is a bizarre and disgusting chain of shameful subservience: the YPG leadership kisses the feet of Trump and MBS and the pseudo-left in West and East kisses the feet of the YPG!

Marxists have nothing to do with pro-imperialist mercenaries and political prostitutes of reactionary powers disguising as "socialists"! They dedicate their forces to build an authentic revolutionary party which supports the struggles of the workers and oppressed against all Great Powers and against all tyrants all over the world!

Footnotes

(1) We have dealt with the role of the YPG in many statements and articles on the Syrian Revolution. These articles are collected in a special section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. On the role of the Kurdish YPG/SDF as a U.S. proxy see e.g. RCIT: "We have 50,000 partners on the ground.", <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/revelations-of-u-s-general-on-washington-allies-in-syria/>

(2) The RCIT has published the following article on this tragic event: Michael Pröbsting: The Barbaric Slaughter of Jamal Khashoggi, 13.10.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/the-barbaric-slaughter-of-jamal-khashoggi/>

Appendix: Statement of YPG's News Agency

Pressure building over the Khashoggi incident

As claims that Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered in the consulate can't be hidden any more, the pressure is building on the Riyadh administration.

ANF, 19 Oct 2018, <https://anfenglishmobile.com/news/pressure-building-over-the-khashoggi-incident-30271>

Jamal Khashoggi entered the Saudi Arabia Consulate in Istanbul on October 2, and was never heard from again. The suspicions that Khashoggi was murdered in the consulate are all but certain at this point. The Saudi government hasn't made any statements to this end as of yet, but many countries and institutions are upping the pressure against them.

ATTENDEES WITHDRAWING FROM THE ECONOMY CONFERENCE

As the pressure builds over the Jamal Khashoggi incident, the number of countries and institutions withdrawing from the economy conference titled Invest in the Future Initiative to be held in Riyadh next week is on the rise.

The IMF, the World bank and many other institutions were to attend the conference at the presidential level, but have withdrawn. With this decision, several countries also withdrew from the conference.

TRUMP: IT IS CERTAIN THAT HE WAS KILLED, THERE WILL BE CONSEQUENCES

US President Donald Trump, after criticism that he didn't exert clear pressure since the Khashoggi incident broke out, said it was "most probably" certain that the opposition journalist was killed.

Trump stressed that the incident is "very bad", and that there will be consequences for the Saudi administration.

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.

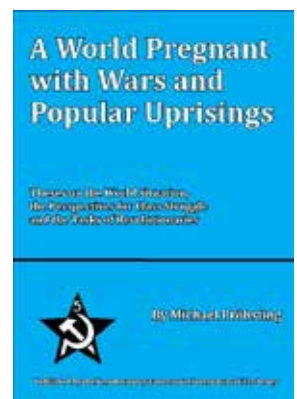
This book is a major contribution of our organization to keep the Marxists' analysis of the world situation and its accelerating contradictions updated. As we emphasize in the document, we consider it as crucial for revolutionaries to understand the nature and the inner dynamics of the current historic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



Down With the Israeli Attacks on Gaza!

End the Blockade on Gaza! For One Democratic Red State from the River to the Sea!

A Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 22.10.2018

A rocket launched by a small organization that opposes the attempts of Egypt to broker a ceasefire between Hamas and Israel hit a house in the southern Israeli city of Be'er Sheva during the early morning hours of 17 October, damaging it heavily.

The Israeli family was not hurt physically but was treated for shock. It was one of the first rockets fired in months from the Palestinian territory under Israel's devastating blockade and comes at a time of renewed tensions between Israel and Gaza. In response Israel launched an attack on Gaza from the air. Gaza's Health Ministry reportedly announced that a 25-year-old man, Naji Jamal a-Za'anin, was killed, and three were wounded in an airstrike on Beit Lahiya.

It comes a day after Avigdor Liberman Israel's defense minister said the time has come to deliver a "heavy blow" to Hamas after the Israeli army killed seven Palestinians on Friday, including two teenage boys, during demonstrations along Israel's separation fence. The demonstrators are the children of the Palestinians refugees, who were expelled by Israel in the ethnic cleansing of 1948, demanding to return to their stolen lands.

Israel is holding Hamas responsible for anything that happens in Gaza. According to this distorted logic, Hamas should attack and kill Israeli civilians every time a Palestinian is attacked by right wing Zionists.

Israel has blockaded Gaza for the last 11 years hoping that the economic sanctions it has imposed would lead to a popular revolt against Hamas. Instead, those measures coupled with the sanctions by the Palestinian Authority, have led to a Hamas-led popular uprising along the Fence in Gaza since March 30th.

Israel has responded by killing 200 people so far and injuring many thousands. The Palestinians reacted by burning tires and sending balloons that ignite the fields of the Israelis living near Gaza.

Hamas is willing to have a long term ceasefire with Israel in exchange for lifting the blockade, and it is in the inter-

est of the Palestinians and the Israelis who live near Gaza to have such a ceasefire. Nevertheless, the Israeli government, indifferent even to the suffering of its own people, is not ready to accept even minimal conditions.

The Israeli army is strong enough to reoccupy Gaza, but the price resulting from the loss of Israeli soldiers' lives is too high and risky for Netanyahu. The Israeli government is not ready to rescind all its border restrictions on Gaza – including the naval and air blockade that causes semi-starvation on a mass scale, lack of electricity and poor health care.

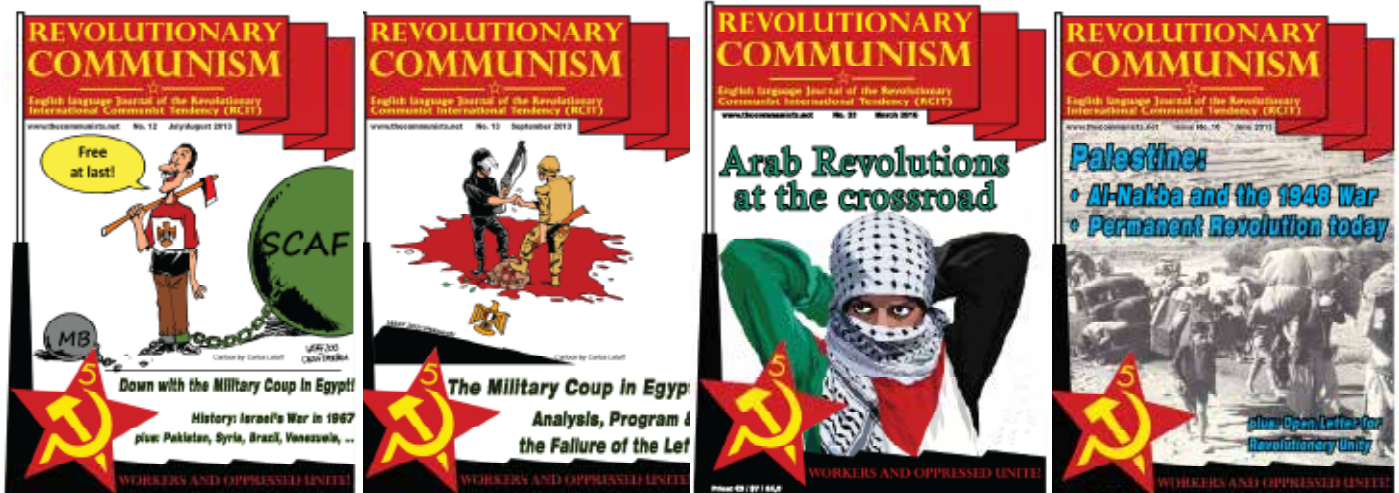
Israel demands that Hamas will disarm itself and of course Hamas is not ready to commit suicide. Thus it is most likely that the same situation will continue with many more Palestinians murdered by Israel and more arsonists in retaliation by the Palestinians, until a real solution will be imposed. This solution can be as result of successful Arab revolutions or a serious military defeat for Israel.

It is difficult to predict whether in the near future a new military round between Israel and Hamas will start again, Netanyahu wants to have new elections and a war will delay them, but if it will take place, our position is clear: *the interest of the International working class is to see the defeat of Israel. The blockade that turned Gaza into the largest Ghetto in history should be broken and the refugees have the right of return.*

The Zionist parties of the opposition to the government denounced the government from the right for failing to smash Hamas. This is typical of a settler colonialist society, where the only difference between the government and the opposition is merely tactical. They are united in their ambition to break the will of the Palestinians to free themselves for the horrors inflicted upon them by the Zionist state.

The only solution is a one democratic red state where the Palestinian refugees will be welcomed and the Israelis will be free from their role as oppressors of the Palestinians.

Publications of the RCIT on the Arab Revolution



Syria/Idlib: For a Broad Rejectionist United Front against the Sochi Surrender Deal!

Russia and the Assad Regime openly announce their plan to assault and occupy Idlib. Turkey helps them by pressurizing the liberation fighters to accept the Sochi Deal. Stand up against this treacherous deal before the Syrian Revolution is lost!

Article (with Map) by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 04.10.2018

The last days have proven, once more, the treacherous character of the Sochi Surrender Deal. At the beginning the rebels have been told that the 20 km-deep demilitarization zone will be half in rebel territory, half in Assadist-held territory. Now, Russia, insists that this zone will be exclusively applied within the rebel-held territories. There are very strong indications that Turkey is approving this. (1)

Hence, the Syrian rebels would lose their positions in north Latakia, Jisr al-Shughur, al-Ghab Plains (including Shashabo Mountain), Kafr Nabudah and Hbit until the northern outskirts of Khan Sheikhoun and Tamanah, all the way to the outskirts of Marrat al-Numan, Saraqib and the southern and western countryside of Aleppo. This is nearly half of the whole remaining liberated territory in the Greater Idlib region! (See the Map below)

As it is known Russia and the regime, with the agreement of Turkey, insist that those forces which, until now, have been the most consistent, hard-line factions in struggling against the tyranny would have to leave completely this zone. These forces include various petty-bourgeois Islamist movements like *Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham*, *Tanzim Hurras al Din*, *Ansar ad-Din* and the *Turkistan Islamic Party*. As

a matter of fact, Putin – in line with Assad and Rouhani – insists that these factions must be annihilated as they represent the most feared enemy of Russian imperialism as well as the regimes in Damascus and Teheran. (2)

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov made it very clear that imperialist Russia is determined to eliminate the “terrorists”, i.e. the intransigent factions among the liberation fighters. “For the fate of the Al-Nusra Front terrorists in Idlib after the signing of the Russian-Turkish agreement, there were a lot of information that they could be transferred to other hot spots like Afghanistan. (...) All this is unacceptable, terrorists to face two options, either to eliminate them or to prosecute them.” (3)

As a consequence many liberation fighters would have to retreat from this zone. Furthermore all heavy military vehicles (such as tanks, BMPs, etc.) have to be withdrawn from this area, while Assad’s army could maintain its current positions.

Furthermore, Russia insists that the highways Aleppo-Hama and Aleppo-Latakia shall be re-opened again under the joint supervision of Russia and Turkey. Likewise, Russian troops would be granted full access to the demilitarization zone for “inspection purposes”. (4) This would effectively mean that Russian imperialism (and hence Assad)

Books of the RCIT

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

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

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

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

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

The Great Robbery of the South

Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism



By Michael Pröbsting

Published by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

controls at least half of Idlib and the most important high-ways.

It is hardly surprising that the Assad regime is fully satisfied with the Sochi Surrender Deal. Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Walid Mualllem said in his speech at the 73rd United Nations General Assembly: "We welcomed the agreement on Idlib reached in Sochi on September 17." (5) The regime is praising the deal because it knows that it will lead to regaining control over Idlib which means nothing less than liquidating the Syrian Revolution. The Iranian regime is cheering too. In fact, as Putin said himself, "it could have been impossible without those agreements being negotiated with Syria's official government and also without Iran's support." (6)

Turkey Objectively Aids the Goals of Russian Imperialism

True, Turkey protests against this or that demand of Russian imperialism. (7) But only a fool can ignore the bitter reality: Turkey has supported the treacherous Astana process from the very beginning. When the Russians and Assad attacked and conquered Ghouta, northern Homs, or Deraa, Erdogan didn't lift a finger and continued its cooperation with Putin and Rouhani. Then Ankara declared HTS – the most important faction of the Syrian popular resistance – a "terrorist organization". It also has pressurized this organization to dissolve. (8)

Likewise, Turkey's secret service MIT works overtime to force HTS to agree to the expulsion of the foreign fighters in the ranks of the liberation forces. Ankara has also made clear that it is ready to use military force in order to expel the liberation fighters from the demilitarized zone. Since late April 2018, more than 330 liberation fighters have been assassinated in Idlib – the majority of them commanders and militants of HTS. It is a well-known secret that the Turkish MIT respectively its local agents are responsible for this tragedy. (9)

And, as we have noted above, Turkey accepts Russia's demand that the demilitarization zone will be exclusively applied within the rebel-held territories.

Russia and the Assad regime already announce openly that the Sochi Deal is only a "temporary solution" and that

they plan to attack and conquer Idlib soon. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov makes no attempt to hide that the Sochi Deal is only a tactical step "to eradicate the terrorist threat" which is the Russian formulation of finally defeating the Syrian Revolution. He said to the media: "As for the Russian-Turkish agreement on Idlib, it is aimed primarily at eradicating the terrorist threat. (...) This is certainly an intermediate step, because only a demilitarized zone is being created." (10)

Likewise, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov said that the Sochi Deal "is temporary because the goal is to liberate all Syrian territory from any presence of terrorists." He added that Idlib will experience the same fate as the rest of the de-escalation zones (i.e. that it will be conquered by the Assadist army). (11)

This means Turkey objective role now is to aid such a future assault by disarming, expelling and weakening the Syrian liberation forces so that later the Russian and Assadist forces will have an easy job of finally defeating them.

Only a fool can ignore the reality: Russia as an imperialist Great Power is the boss. Iran is an important regional power and acts as an important junior partner of Moscow. Assad mainly receives the orders from Moscow (and Teheran) and implements them. And the Turkish government evidently plays a secondary, subordinated role. It is vacillating between Russia, the European Union and the U.S. It tries to sell as expensive as possible its service as an order-preserving regional power in the Middle East in the interest of the imperialist powers. But irrespective of all maneuvering, Turkey will have to subordinate to one (or several) of these Great Powers.

Ankara's own interests are primarily to expand its regional influence, to put down the Kurdish minority and to attract financial aid and foreign investment in order to stabilize its rotten capitalist economy. The Syrian rebels are only pawns in Ankara's chess game. No one should have any illusions: the promises of Turkey to the Syrian rebels are worth nothing! Objectively, the role of Turkey is to "sell" the Sochi Surrender Deal to the rebels (by persuading, bribing and threatening) in order to make them comply.

Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

The image displays a collection of Arabic-language materials from the Revolutionary Communist Internationalist Tendency (RCIT). At the top, there are three horizontal banners with white text on a red background. The leftmost banner reads 'البيان الشيوعي الثوري' (The Revolutionary Communist Manifesto). The middle banner reads 'الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين' (Revolution and Counter-Revolution in the Arab World: A Test for the Revolutionaries). The rightmost banner reads 'كفاحها ضد القوى الامبريالية من أجل فيدرالية اشتراكية للشعوب' (Struggle against imperialist forces for a socialist federation of peoples). Below these banners is a collage. On the left, there is a red star with a hammer and sickle, and a portrait of a man. In the center, there is a photograph of a woman in a keffiyeh. On the right, there is a logo for 'ثورة AWRA REVOLUTION' and a portrait of a man. The bottom of the collage features a red banner with the text 'الشيوعي الثوري' (Revolutionary Communist) and a hammer and sickle symbol.

Protest and Resistance

Unfortunately, the National Liberation Front – a coalition of various FSA and other factions – has stated their agreement with the Sochi Deal. Nasr al-Akl of the FSA Second Army characterized Turkey's effort as "a great success", maintaining that Turkey remained the main supporter of Syrians who demand freedom. A leader of the *Nureddin Zengi Movement* (a key force which started the reactionary civil war in Idlib against HTS in spring this year), described the Turkish role as "wonderful". Idrees al-Raad of *Faylaq al-Sham* added: "The success of the Turkish role in the Astana process was crowned by the recent agreement in Sochi, which was reflected in a clear desire of the people of Idlib. The Turkish brothers are securing the region, protecting and restoring stability and providing basic services for the people." (12)

Such uncritical praise is not surprising as these FSA leaders are very close politically to Turkey and rely heavily on financial aid of Ankara.

However, not all rebels are capitulating to the Sochi Surrender Deal. *Hurras al Din* and *Ansar ad-Din* as well as some other groups have already publicly rejected the deal calling it a "great conspiracy." (13) However, these are rather small factions. (14) The most significant movement is the HTS: It seems that a major faction struggle has begun inside HTS between an opportunist wing which is prepared to give in to the Russian-Turkish threats and another, hard-line wing which strongly opposes this. There are rumours about arrests of several prominent HTS figures like Sheikh Abu Asem, Sheikh Asim al-Masri and Abu Hud al-Iglami who are known as opponents of the Sochi Deal by their inner-party rivals. But at the moment, it is not clear what exactly has been the background of these arrests. (15)

Sheikh Abu Muhammad Al-Maqdisi, an influential Salafist-Islamist scholar, who wields influence inside HTS, has repeatedly denounced the Astana process as well as the Sochi Deal. In a statement released on 27 September 2018, he wrote that the liberation fighters must not surrender the weapons, not agree to the demilitarization zone, not surrender the wanted fighters, not rely on Turkey and Erdoğan and not rely on "the factions of humiliation and treach-

ery". He called to renew the struggle against the Assad regime and Russia. (16)

Clearly, if the majority of the HTS leadership would comply with the Russian-Turkish ultimatum, accept the Sochi Surrender Deal and dissolve or even help in the expulsion of foreign fighters, this would be a huge betrayal to the Syrian Revolution and a major blow back. However, even in such a case it is extremely unlikely that all HTS forces would accept this. It is rather more likely that an oppositional wing of the organization would split and continue the struggle.

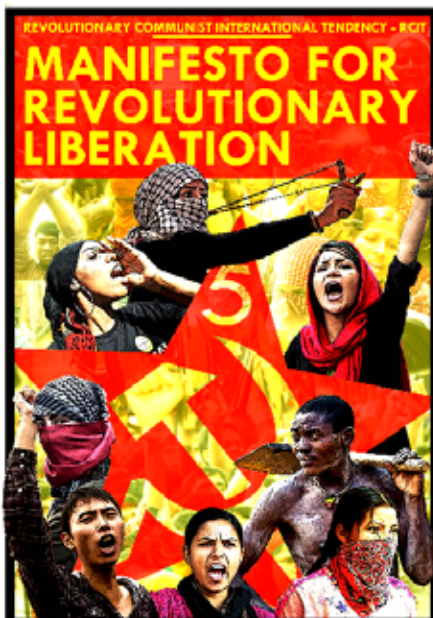
There have also been already some popular demonstrations against the Russian presence. Other factions have also expressed their opposition against some aspects of the Sochi Deal. Most importantly *Jaysh al-Ezzah*, an important FSA faction in north Hama which is not part of the NLF, began to protest, after initially agreeing to the Sochi Deal. (17) It has state that the demilitarization zones should be implemented evenly, that they reject "Russian occupation patrols on all of our liberated territory" in buffer zones and that they refuse to open roads until the regime releases all detainees. Its leader Jaysh al-Ezzah said: "We are against this deal, which eats into liberated (rebel-held) areas and bails out Bashar al-Assad." (18)

Even the NLF leadership rejected the presence of Russian forces on the demilitarized zone. Unfortunately, instead of fighting against the Russian, they said that they would rely on Turkey's promise of Russia not invading the liberated areas Syria. (19)

However, as long as these rebel factions are relying on Turkey and as long as they support the presence of the Turkish army in Idlib, their policy is in fact not one of continuing the liberation struggle but rather one of preparing the capitulation.

Organize the Resistance against the Sochi Surrender Deal!

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) has supported the Syrian Revolution from the very first day. We defended it as an authentic popular uprising of the Syrian workers and peasants against the capitalist Assad tyranny. (20) We have also warned from the begin-



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

ning about the treacherous character of the Astana process and, more recently, the Sochi Deal. (21)

No one should have any illusions: If the Sochi Surrender Deal is fully implemented, it will mean that the liberation forces will have lost half of Idlib as well as the control over the highways. It will most likely mean that many of the most intransigent fighters against Russia and Assad will have been expelled or killed and their organizations will have been dissolved or smashed. Idlib would be transformed into a Turkish colony or it would be attacked and conquered by Russia and Assad. In other words, the implementation of the Sochi deal would lead fast to the end of the glorious Syrian Revolution.

It is therefore crucial that all supporters of the Syrian Revolution – in Idlib as well as internationally – decisively reject the Sochi Surrender Deal. It is urgent to create a broad united front of all forces which reject the Sochi Surrender Deal. Most importantly, revolutionaries must launch a massive awareness campaign in order to explain to the Syrian people that they must not trust the Turkish government and its army. The security of Idlib must not be handed over to Turkey or those paid by it.

It is crucial to mobilize popular protest demonstrations against the Sochi deal and its consequences. We warn the brothers and sisters in the resistance not to rely exclusively on armed actions against the regime (which are of course completely legitimate). But first and foremost, one must stop the attempts to transform Idlib from a fortress of the Syrian Revolution into a colony of Turkey. If Idlib would

become a de-facto province (or rather a Gaza strip) controlled by the Turkish army, the struggle against the regime would be over as Ankara wants stable and fraternal relations with Moscow (and therefore with its puppet in Damascus too).

Brothers and sisters, it is not too late! This sell-out can still be stopped! We urge all factions of the liberation struggle to come out and to openly reject the deal between Putin and Erdoğan! Do not hand over any weapons! Do not voluntarily hand over any area to the Turkish-Russian troops! Continue the struggle against the regime and Russia!

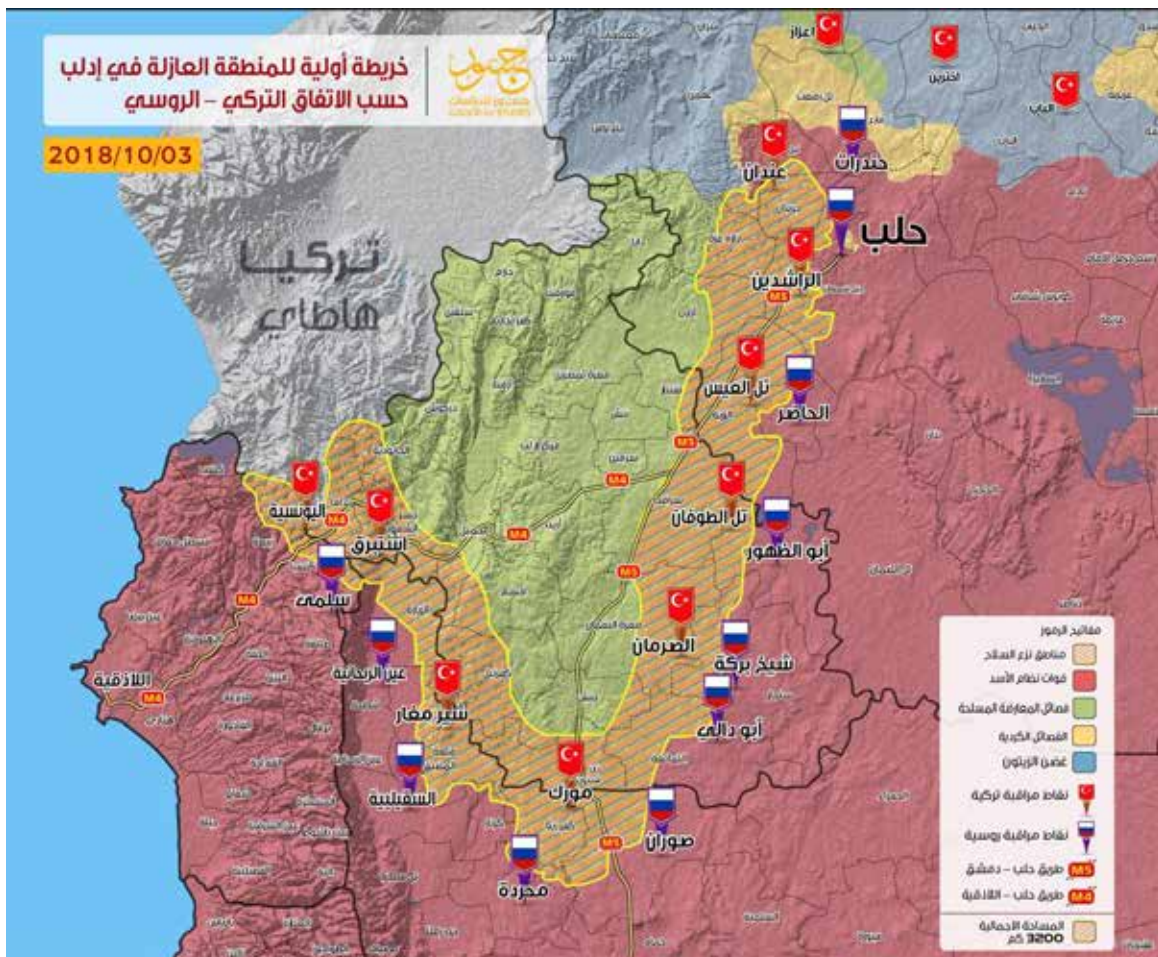
The RCIT repeats its call to the workers and popular mass organizations around the world to rally in support of the Syrian people!

- * *Down with the Sochi Surrender Deal!*
- * *Defend Idlib! Defeat the Assadist, Russian and Iranian forces!*
- * *Russian, Iranian, U.S. and Turkish troops – out of Syria!*
- * *For a single Intifada from Idlib to Jerusalem, Basra, Cairo and Teheran!*
- * *For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government!*
- * *Build a Revolutionary Workers Party – nationally and internationally!*

Footnotes

(1) This has been confirmed by Naji Mustafa, the spokesman of the pro-Turkish rebel alliance “National Front for Liberation” who stated that Turkish authorities told the opposition that the demilitarised zone would be limited to opposition-held areas. (Ömer Öz-kizilcik: The armed Syrian opposition reacts to Idlib ‘demilitarised zones’, 2 October, 2018 <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/in-depth/2018/10/2/the-armed-syrian-opposition-reacts-to-idlib-de->

Map: Idlib with the 20 km-deep Demilitarization Zone as agreed between Russia and Turkey



[militarised-zones](#))

(2) On the RCIT's analysis of Russia as an imperialist power see the literature mentioned in the special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/>. In particular we refer readers to Michael Pröbsting: Lenin's Theory of Imperialism and the Rise of Russia as a Great Power. On the Understanding and Misunderstanding of Today's Inter-Imperialist Rivalry in the Light of Lenin's Theory of Imperialism, August 2014, <http://www.thecommunists.net/theory/imperialism-theory-and-russia/>; Michael Pröbsting: Russia as a Great Imperialist Power. The formation of Russian Monopoly Capital and its Empire – A Reply to our Critics, 18 March 2014, Special Issue of Revolutionary Communism No. 21 (March 2014), <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/imperialist-russia/>.

(3) Lavrov puts Idlib militants in two inevitable options, Sep 29, 2018 <https://en.murason.com/2018/09/idlib-militants-lavrov-syria/>

(4) Has Erdogan betrayed Syrian rebels by concluding Idlib deal with Putin? Sep 30, 2018 <https://en.murason.com/2018/09/syrian-rebels-idlib-deal-erdogan-putin/>; see also Al Arabiya: Reports point to Turkish-Russian differences over Syria's Idlib deal, 29 September 2018 <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2018/09/29/Reports-of-Turkish-Russian-differences-over-Syria-s-Idlib-deal.html>; Ibrahim Hamidi: Russian-Turkish Dispute Over Idlib Agreement Explanation- Sources, 29 September, 2018, <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1410516/russian-turkish-dispute-over-idlib-agreement-explanation-sources>

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(7) Suleiman Al-Khalidi: Syrian rebels say Turkey promises no Russian patrols in Idlib zone, October 2, 2018, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-idlib/syrian-rebels-say-turkey-promises-no-russian-patrols-in-idlib-zone-idUSKCN1MC2D9>

(8) For our characterization of HTS see e.g. RCIT: Denounce the US terror listing of Syria's Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham! The Trump Administration delivers another blow to the Syrian Revolution. Continue the Solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Syrian people! 03.06.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/denounce-the-us-terror-listing-of-syria-s-hts/>; Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? 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, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/>; Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings, February 2018, Chapter V, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/worldperspectives-2018/chapter-v/>.

(9) Assassination targets a military leader in Hayyaat Tahrir al-Sham in the countryside of Idlib and another youth, raising the death toll to 326 since the escalation of these operations in late April, 01/10/2018 <http://www.syriahr.com/en/?p=103687>

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(11) Bogdanov: Agreement on Idlib is temporary measure, all Syrian territory must be liberated from terrorism, 28 September 2018 <https://www.sana.sy/en/?p=147799>; Reuters: Russia: Moves for demilitarization of Syria's Idlib underway, 28 September 2018 <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2018/09/28/Russia-Preparations-for-demilitarization-of-Syria-s-Idlib-are-underway.html>

(12) See on this e.g. Ömer Özkizilcik: The armed Syrian opposition

reacts to Idlib 'demilitarised zones', 2 October, 2018 <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2018/10/2/the-armed-syrian-opposition-reacts-to-idlib-demilitarised-zones>

(13) Middle East Monitor: Syrian Extremist Militias Reject Turkey-Russia Agreement, Will Attack Syrian Troops, 09/22/2018, <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20180921-syrian-armed-factions-reject-turkey-russia-idlib-deal/>, <https://www.juancole.com/2018/09/extremist-militias-agreement.html>

(14) Asharq Al-Awsat: Idlib: Assassinations Eliminate Opposers of Turkish-Russian Agreement, 25 September, 2018 <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1406686/idlib-assassinations-eliminate-opposers-turkish-russian-agreement>

(15) See e.g. <https://twitter.com/Anonymous2/status/1046509776014839808>; <https://twitter.com/AlKhali72189230/status/1046439625592573952>; <https://mobile.twitter.com/jorgechav49/status/1046484385523007489>; Split Within Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham Over Idlib Deconfliction Agreement – Report, 28.09.2018 <https://southfront.org/split-within-hayat-tahrir-al-sham-over-idlib-deconfliction-agreement/>

(16) <https://twitter.com/milietw/status/1045207936132423681>

(17) Bassem Mroue: Syrian rebel group won't abandon front lines in province, 2018-10-01, AP, <https://www.apnews.com/76393c28e1e44401b5a3e27a28ea4cb4>

(18) See e.g. Syria rebels deny withdrawing arms from north under deal, 30.09.2018, <https://www.afp.com/en/news/15/syria-rebels-deny-withdrawing-arms-north-under-deal-doc-19m31r3>; https://twitter.com/badly_xerored/status/1046452573237137408

(19) See e.g. <https://twitter.com/jorgechav49/status/1046516978419159040>

(20) See our numerous pamphlets, articles and statements which are collected in a special section of our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>. In particular we refer to Michael Pröbsting: Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified? 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, 5 April 2017, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/syrian-revolution-not-dead/>; of Michael Pröbsting: World Perspectives 2018: A World Pregnant with Wars and Popular Uprisings, February 2018, Chapter V, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/worldperspectives-2018/chapter-v/>

(21) For our analysis of the most recent developments in Idlib and the grave dangers for the Syrian Revolution caused by the treacherous Sochi Deal we refer to several articles of Michael Pröbsting published in the past weeks: Syria/Idlib: Down with the Sochi Surrender Deal! Brothers and Sisters in Idlib: Reject the Deal between Putin and Erdoğan! Do not Hand over Weapons! Turkey's Army is not your Ally! Continue the Struggle against the Regime and Russia! 18.09.2018 (6.30 UTC Time), <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/sochi-deal-on-idlib-is-surrender/>; Syria/Idlib: News Confirm that the Sochi Deal Means Surrender! An additional Analysis: What are the Assadist and Russian Plans behind the Sochi Deal? What has been the Reaction until now of the Rebel Leaders to the Sochi Deal? 18.09.2018 (19.30 UTC Time), <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-idlib-news-confirm-that-the-sochi-deal-means-surrender/>; Syria: Mass Rallies in Idlib against the Regime and Russia. Support the Undaunted Revolutionary People resisting against the Final Onslaught of Assad and imperialist Russia against the last Citadel of the Syrian Revolution! 15.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/mass-rallies-in-idlib-against-the-regime-and-russia/>; Erdoğan Offers "My Dear Friend" Putin to Disarm the Syrian Revolution. Mass demonstrations demand continuation of the struggle against the Assad tyranny as the counterrevolutionary forces prepare for a frontal assault on Idlib, 08.09.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/erdogan-offers-putin-to-disarm-the-syrian-revolution/>; Syria: Towards the Final Battle in Idlib. Assad, Russia, Iran and Turkey prepare for the final onslaught on the last Citadel of the Syrian Revolution, 04.08.2018, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/syria-towards-the-final-battle-in-idlib/>.

What the RCIT Stands for

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

