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

### Iran: Long Live the Popular Uprising against the Mullah Regime!

### Unite with the popular insurrections in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria etc. to a single Intifada! Down with the US sanctions against Iran!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 18 November 2019

- A popular uprising against the tyrannical capitalist regime in Iran has begun. Information is currently limited since the regime has cut off the internet for most people. However, reports from Iran's state news agency IRNA or the semi-official Fars news agency show beyond any doubt that a mass rebellion is spreading throughout the country since 15 November. According to these reports, huge protests are taking place in more than 100 Iranian cities and towns (e.g. in Abadan, Ahvaz, Bandar Abbas, Behbahan, Birjand, Doroud, Gachsaran, Garmsar, Gorgan, Ilam, Isfahan, Karaj, Kerman, Khoramshahr, Mahshahr, Mashhad, Mehdishahr, Qazvin, Qom, Sanandaj, Shahroud, Sirjan, Shiraz, Shoshtar and Teheran). They often result in violent clashes with the police which are trying to repress the protests with utmost brutality. 100 banks have been torched and a number of police stations have been attacked. 1,000 protesters had been arrested and at least two people were killed (including a policeman).
- 2. The protests have been triggered by the regime's announcement that the price of petrol would be raised by 50% for the first 60 litres (16 gallons) and by 300% for anything above that each month. The measure was expected to bring in 300 trillion rials (\$2.55 billion) per annum, according to the head of the country's Planning and Budget

- Organisation, Mohammad Bagher Nobakht. About 60 million Iranians (i.e. <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the total population) in need would get payments ranging from 550,000 rials (\$4.68) for couples to slightly more than two million rials (\$17.46) for families with five members or more. Under the scheme, drivers with fuel cards will pay 15,000 rials (13 US cents) a litre for the first 60 litres of petrol bought each month, with each additional litre costing them 30,000 rials.
- 3. The price hikes are primarily an attempt of the capitalists to retain their profits in a period of crisis and decline of the capitalist system. This is why we have seen such developments in many countries all over the world in the past years and decades. As another Great Recession of the capitalist world economy has begun, we have seen similar price hikes in Ecuador, Chile, and Lebanon in the last weeks which have also triggered mass protests.
- 4. Naturally, this does not stop the Iranian dictatorship to blame "hooligans" and "foreign enemies" for the popular uprising. (The reactionary rulers in other countries affected by mass rebellions use the same methods of slander.) Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei denounced the protests and said: "All the centres of the world's wickedness against us have cheered" the street protests. President Hassan Rouhani warned that "anarchy and



### **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 Succees & 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

rioting" would not be tolerated. The regime certainly fears a similar or even more powerful unrest like that in late 2017, when 22 people were reported to have died during protests in 80 cities and towns over poor living standards. U.S. imperialism pretends to sympathize with the Iranian uprising. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stated hypocritically "I have a message for the people of Iran: The United States hears you. The United States supports you. The United States is with you." Obviously, this is nothing but hilarious cynicism, since the Trump Administration has imposed severe economic sanctions against Iran which largely affects ordinary people. And if the American imperialists would have any sympathy with people suffering from dictatorship and brutal repression, why do they support the Zionist state of Israel which commits the worst crimes against the Palestinian people, or the Saudi monarchy slaughtering the people in Yemen, or the barbarous Egypt regime of General Sisi – Trump's "favourite dictator" (direct quote)?! No, the U.S. is the enemy of the Iranian people and of all other oppressed people!

- 6. The Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT) unreservedly supports the popular uprising of the Iranian workers and poor. The popular struggle deserves the unconditional support of all socialists and democrats all over the world because it is a fully legitimate struggle against a capitalist dictatorship of thoroughly corrupt businessmen, reactionary generals and hypocritical mullahs.
- 7. Furthermore, the RCIT calls for solidarity with the uprising because of the arch-reactionary role of the Iranian state in Syria and Iraq. In Syria, General Soleimani and his shock troops of the *Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps* (IRGC) have played a crucial role in keeping the tyrannical regime of Assad in power which faces a revolutionary popular uprising since more than eight and half years. Similarly in Iraq, where IRGC-aligned militias are central in the brutal repression of the mass demonstrations which are rocking the country since several weeks.
- 8. Obviously, the immediate goal of the popular uprisings is the removal of the drastic price hikes. For this it is necessary to organize a *nation-wide*, *indefinite*, *general strike*. In order to continue and deepen the struggle, it is urgent that the masses organize themselves in *popular councils at work places*, *neighborhoods*, *universities and villages*. Likewise they need to build *self-defense committees* to fight against the police and army. However, the RCIT says that the struggle should be combined with the perspective of the *revolutionary overthrow of the regime* and its replacement by *workers and poor peasants government* based on popular committees of action.
- 9. The popular uprising in Iran is another important event of the revolutionary process in the Middle East the Great Arab Revolution which started in 2011. Furthermore, we welcome that Iran has joined the global wave of class struggles which are rocking the capitalist world order since some months. The RCIT says: the struggles in Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Haiti, Bolivia, Catalunya, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Egypt, Hong Kong all these popular uprisings for freedom and social justice must be united into a *single Intifada!* The RCIT calls for international solidarity based on the support for all these struggles of the workers and oppressed as well as on the anti-imperialist opposition against all Great Powers (U.S., China, EU,

Russia and Japan).

- 10. In order to advance the popular uprising in Iran as well as other countries, it is crucial that revolutionaries advocate a clear program of socialist revolution. The RCIT calls liberation fighters all over the world to unite in building *revolutionary parties* in combination with building a *Revolutionary World Party!* Join the RCIT in tackling this great task!
- \* For the immediate withdrawal of the price hikes!
- \* Build popular councils at work places, neighborhoods, universities and villages!
- \* Create self-defense committees!
- \* Organize a general strike! Victory to the popular uprising!
- \* For a workers and poor peasants government!
- \* End the imperialist sanctions against Iran!
- \* US Navy and allies out of the Persian Gulf!
- \* Unite the uprising in Iran with the second wave of the Arab Revolution! Long live the socialist world revolution!
- \* For a revolutionary party as part of a revolutionary world party!

International Bureau of the RCIT

\* \* \* \*

For the RCIT's analysis of Iran and the imperialist aggression we refer readers to our numerous articles and statements that are published on our website at: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/</a>

In particular we refer to:

Iraq: Victory to the Popular Insurrection against the Government of Abdel Mahdi! Build Popular Councils! For a Workers and Poor Peasants Government! 04 October 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iraq-victory-to-the-popular-insurrection-against-the-government-of-abdel-mahdi/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iraq-victory-to-the-popular-insurrection-against-the-government-of-abdel-mahdi/</a> Aramco Attack: Defeat the US/Saudi/Israeli Warmongers! Defend Iran against any imperialist aggression! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 16 September 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/aramco-attack-defeat-the-us-saudi-israeli-warmongers/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/aramco-attack-defeat-the-us-saudi-israeli-warmongers/</a>

Strait of Hormuz: Escalating Tensions between the US/UK and Iran. Drive the Great Powers out of the Middle East! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 22 July 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/escalating-tensions-between-the-us-uk-and-iran/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/escalating-tensions-between-the-us-uk-and-iran/</a>

Iran: Down with Trump's Sanctions and Military Threats! But no political support for the reactionary Mullah Regime in Teheran! 11 May 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/down-with-trump-s-sanctions-and-military-threats-against-iran/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/down-with-trump-s-sanctions-and-military-threats-against-iran/</a>

Warmongering in the Middle East: Down with all Imperialist Great Powers and Capitalist Dictatorships! 13 May 2018, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/joint-statement-warmongering-in-the-middle-east/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/</a>

For the Iranian Revolution! Down with the capitalist Mullah dictatorship! Down with Imperialism! For a working class revolution in Iran! Action Platform for Iran by the RCIT, February 2017, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iran-platform/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iran-platform/</a>

Michael Pröbsting: Are We Nearing a New "68 Moment"? A massive upsurge of global class struggle in the midst of a dramatic shift in the world situation 22 October 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-we-nearing-a-new-68-moment/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-we-nearing-a-new-68-moment/</a>

### The Revolution in Lebanon as Part of the International Uprising

By the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 29 October 2019

The revolution in Lebanon, that is taking place within a growing series of revolutionary uprisings around the world, is not only raising revolutionary demands, but also shows that the masses, when in struggle, are able to overcome the ethnic-religious sectarian divisions that the local ruling class is relying on.

The Lebanese regime is based on confessionalism (the proportional power sharing between the country's religious communities based on the French imperialists official census that was performed in 1932, that not only does not reflect the actual weight of the different religious groups today but also creates bloody conflicts). Today the revolutionary movement encompasses people from all the religious groups. The masses according to all reports understand the class nature of the Lebanese army - the officers are on the side of the ruling class while the simple soldiers' sympathy is with the protesting masses. What is needed is to split the army along class line. The simple soldiers will join the revolution if the revolutionary masses will prove to the soldiers that the revolution can win. For this it is necessary not only to form self-defense units of the workers and the poor, but to work within the army by forming revolutionary cells. To march forward it is also necessary to form a revolutionary constituent assembly for a democratic constitution that will replace the existing constitution that is based on the undemocratic sectarian confessionalism.

The revolution in Lebanon is not alone in the Middle East. The revolutionary struggle is developing in Iraq as well. The masses are in the streets in spite of the fact that the army killed at least 60 people over the weekend in Baghdad.

""We're here to bring down the whole government, to weed them all out!" one protester, with the Iraqi tricolour wrapped around his head, was quoted as saying by AFP news agency."We don't want a single one of them. Not [parliamentary speaker Mohammed] Halbousi, not [Prime Minister Adel] Abdul Mahdi. We want to bring down the regime," he added. Students could also be seen joining demonstrations in Baghdad, with activists saying a dozen schools and universities had decided to shut their doors and take part in the protests. Young girls in school uniform and rucksacks were seen trekking through streets littered with tear gas canisters. Nearly three-fifths of Iraq's 40 million people live on less than six dollars a day, World Bank figures show, despite the country housing the world's fifth-largest proven reserves of oil." (1)

The revolutionary struggle may ignite the revolution once again in Egypt and may spread to Jordan as well. In Egypt, the Al Sisi brutal regime is suppressing every protest by violence and arrests but when the masses will take to the streets again, his days will be numbered. We have also seen this year protests in North Africa that may become mass movement with the advance of the Arab revolution in Lebanon and Iraq.

The revolution in Lebanon is not limited to the Middle East, we see the uprising in Chile and the growing protest movement in Indonesia, Hong Kong and Catalonia. Thus the global relationship between the capitalist class and the working class peasants and poor is shifting in favor of the

working class and the masses.

We the communist revolutionaries in Israel (Occupied Palestine) are aware that only two major events can break a section of the Jews from Zionism. A serious military defeat for Israel and the victory of the Arab revolution. The two of them are possible. Netanyahu's strategy of a joined US-Israel-Saudi Arabia war has failed because the US as a declining empire is withdrawing from the region and in the case of a war between Israel and Iran, Israel alone may face multiple military fronts at the same time: Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran and Gaza. Israel does not have a defense system against Iranian precise missiles. A major war will cost many lives of Iranians and Israelis. Iran however will survive even if it will lose hundreds of thousands or even millions but Israel will not survive a loss of tens of thousands of citizens. Most Israelis will simply leave the country.

"We've been left all alone now," a high-ranking defense official admitted to Al-Monitor on condition of anonymity. "The strategic balance of power is shifting right before our eyes. The bad guys won, and the good guys are abandoning us. Now, Israel is left almost on its own to deal with the powerful Turkish-Russian-Iranian axis." (2)

In the short term, the Arab revolution in Lebanon is weakening Hezbollah that stands with Hariri government and it may delay a war between Iran and Israel, but a victorious Arab revolution in the region will weaken Israel, maybe even more than a military defeat as the sympathy of the Arab masses are with the Palestinians.

What is missing in the region and around the world is a working class revolutionary International that the RCIT is building.

FOR AN INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE TO REMOVE THE GOVERNMENT!

FOR A REVOLUTIONARY CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY!

FOR ARMED SELF DEFENSE IN IRAQ AND LEBANON! FOR A WORKERS GOVERNMENT!

FOR THE EXPROPRIATIONS OF THE BANKS AND OIL INDUSTRY UNDER WORKERS CONTROL!

FOR A WORKING CLASS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY!

#### **Footnotes**

1) Al Jazeera: Hundreds continue protests in Baghdad as death toll tops 60, <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/10/special-forces-baghdad-protest-death-toll-reaches-60-191027083312026.html">https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/10/special-forces-baghdad-protest-death-toll-reaches-60-191027083312026.html</a>

2) Ben Caspit: US policy changes leave Israel alone against Iran, Al Monitor, October 11, 2019

Other Articles of the RCIT on the Lebanese Revolution Lebanon: A Revolutionary Situation, Article by Yossi Schwartz, Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/world-wide/africa-and-middle-east/lebanon-a-revolutionary-situation/">https://www.thecommunists.net/world-wide/africa-and-middle-east/lebanon-a-revolutionary-situation/</a>

### Iraq: Rally against the Brutal Repression of the Iraqi Revolution

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 16 November 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

bout 100 migrants from Iraq and other Arab countries assembled in front of the Iranian embassy in Vienna (Austria). They denounced the brutal crackdown of the mass protests in Iraq in which pro-Iranian militias play a central role. They called for solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq which is fighting for freedom and social justice.

The rally was addressed by several male and female speakers from Iraq as well as by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT. Our comrade stated the RCIT's support for the popular uprising. He called for an end of the reactionary interference in Iraq by the Iranian Mullah

regime as well as by U.S. imperialism. He also emphasized the non-sectarian basis of the Iraqi Revolution. Michael Pröbsting also stressed the need for international solidarity on the basis of support for all liberation struggles.

See pictures of the rally and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-16-11-2019/">https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-16-11-2019/</a>

Our statement on the current popular uprising in Iraq can be read here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iraq-victory-to-the-popular-in-surrection-against-the-government-of-abdel-mahdi/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/iraq-victory-to-the-popular-in-surrection-against-the-government-of-abdel-mahdi/</a>



Rally in solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq (Vienna, 16.11.2019)

### **Books of the RCIT**

### Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.

A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz provides a critical analysis of numerous Zionist myths about the Jews as well as about the Palestinians. He demonstrates that the Zionist claim that Palestine is the historic homeland of the Jews lacks any serious basis.

Palestine and Zionism shows that the history of Zionism in the 20th century is a history of colonialism in the service of the Great Powers and directed against the native population – the Arabs.

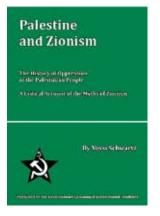
In Palestine and Zionism Yossi Schwartz deals with key events – the "Nakba" in 1948, the wars in 1956, 1967 and 1973, more recent events like the Lebanon War, etc. – which were decisive for the expulsion of most Palestinians from their homeland.

Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership by signing the Oslo Agreement in 1993.

In Palestine and Zionism Yossi Schwartz defends the right of national self-determination for the Palestinian people and outlines a socialist perspective. He emphasizes that the only solution is the right of millions of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and to replace the Zionist entity with one democratic state from the river to the sea – a *Free Red Palestine* with equal civil rights to the Arabs and the Israeli Jews.

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

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



### Iraq: Rally in Solidarity with the People's Uprising

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 10 November 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

bout 200 migrants – mostly from Iraq but also from Syria, Palestine, Lebanon and Afghanistan – demonstrated in the centre of Vienna (Austria). They stated their solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq. In the past few weeks, the tyrannical regime has killed at least 300 demonstrators! However, despite the brutal repression, the Iraqi people are continuing their demonstration for freedom and social justice!

The rally was addressed by speakers from Iraq, Syria and Palestine as well as by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT. Our comrade was asked to speak twice. He emphasized once more the solidarity of the RCIT with the popular uprising. He called for an end of the foreign occupation of Iraq by U.S. imperialism as well as by the Mullah regime of Iran. He also stressed that the current revolt in Iraq does not take place in isolation but is part of a global wave of popular uprising.

See pictures of the rally and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-10-11-2019/">https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-10-11-2019/</a>



Rally in solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq (Vienna, 10.11.2019)

### Iraq: Rally in Support of the Popular Uprising

Report (with Pictures and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 25 October 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT



Michael Pröbsting speaks at a rally in solidarity with the popular uprising in Iraq (Vienna, 16.11.2019)

bout 100 migrants – mostly from Iraq but also from Syria – demonstrated in front of the U.S. embassy in Vienna (Austria). They expressed their support for the popular uprising which is going on now for weeks. Demonstrators demanded the expulsion of the American as well as of the Iranian troops from Iraqi soil. They also denounced the brutal suppression of the popular upsurge. Until today more than 157 people have been killed, according to official statistics! And just today, at least another 30 demonstrators have been murdered by the regime!

The rally was also attended by a number of Syrian migrants which reflected that the struggle against the tyranny in Iraq and Syria is one and the same.

The rally was addressed by several Iraqi speakers as well as by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT. Our comrade was asked to speak twice. He stressed the solidarity of the RCIT with the popular uprising. He called for an end of the domination of Iraq by U.S. imperialism as well as by the Mullah regime of Iran. He also emphasized that the current revolt in Iraq is part of a global wave of popular uprising.

See pictures of the rally and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-25-10-2019/">https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/iraq-rally-in-support-of-the-popular-uprising-25-10-2019/</a>

#### Israel is in the Worst Crisis Ever

A Statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 25 November 2019

ast week the Attorney General Avichai Mandleblit's made a decision to indict Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for bribery, fraud and breach of trust.

Netanyahu the Bonapartist is not willing to step down and continues to act as the prime minister of Israel, even though he was unable to form a government even before the decision to charge him with corruption. In a speech he said that he won't let the lie win. That he will continue to lead Israel with devotion. He accused police and state prosecutors of an "attempted coup" against him.

The head of the other major bourgeois party "Blue and white" in a speech that was interrupted in Tel Aviv by supporters of Netanyahu said that he wants to form a Zionist government with the Likud but without Netanyahu. Meanwhile, there are signs that some leaders of the Likud like Gideon Sa'ar and Barkat are willing to replace Netanyahu as the leader of the Likud and as a Prime Minister. Whether they will be able to remove Netanyahu as their leader is a big question.

In the cabinet meeting on Sunday the "ministers of the Likud party did not comment on the charges against him and ignored reporters' questions about MK Gideon Sa'ar's call to challenge the premier in a party leadership primary." (\*)

If indeed "Blue and White" with the Likud and Avigdor Lieberman will form a government it will be another right wing coalition that will continue the same military political and social policies like the government of Netanyahu.

In the cabinet meeting Netanyahu focused on Iran and Gaza. He referred to the brutal repression of the demonstrators in Iran and called on other imperialist countries to help Israel to attack Iran. Thus the possibility of an Israeli war with Iran is more serious than ever.

In any way we look at it, Israel is a very serious crisis. A corrupted P.M. that accuses the police and the prosecution of a coup and he is ready to go to a major war because he sees himself as the state and a state that is ready to remove him not because of his crimes against the Palestinians, his racism or warmongering.

This brings to mind the case of the gangster Al Capone – a murderer drug dealer who was prosecuted in 1931 for tax evasion.

The ISL, the section of the RCIT in Israel (Occupied Pal-

estine), wants to bring down Netanyahu. At the same time we say no support what so ever to another Zionist racist coalition that will continue the same murdering policies.

Netanyahu has not come from nowhere. The Israeli state is based on theft and repression by the settler colonialists who have oppressed the native Palestinians from the very beginning. In such a state a corrupted Prime Minister is only natural. He is not the only corrupted Prime Minister of Israel that has been charged with corruption. So was Olmert and, let us not forget, the former president of Israel Katsav who on 30 December 2010 was convicted of two counts of rape and obstruction of justice. On 22 March 2011, Katsav was sentenced to seven years in prison.

It is true of course that not only in Israel the leading bourgeois politicians are unscrupulous.

The crisis in Israel is part of a global crisis of capitalism. However, while in other countries the masses are fighting for a better future in Israel there is no social political force that will struggle like in Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Chile, and Bolivia to mention only some known examples. Even the left Zionists are blind to the real nature of the Israeli state. They focused on Netanyahu who is only the reflection of the problem.

We can expect ever more violence by the supporters of Netanyahu while the left Zionists will be helpless.

The only way for the Israelis to escape the death trap that is Israel itself is by breaking completely with Zionism. Today the conditions are not ripe for such a break. Only a major military defeat for Israel or the success of the socialist revolution in the Arab countries and in Iran will force a section of the Israelis to break with Zionism.

We supported the Joined List in the elections as the only expression of the democratic voice. At the same time we are telling our brothers and sisters Palestinian citizens of Israel: The leaders of Hadash and Tibi made a huge mistake by their readiness to support from the outside a "Blue and White" government which is not very different from the Likud. Netanyahu is a bitter enemy but "Blue and White" is another enemy.

(\*) <a href="https://www.timesofisrael.com/pm-frets-about-security-makes-no-mention-of-legal-woes-at-cabinet-meeting/">https://www.timesofisrael.com/pm-frets-about-security-makes-no-mention-of-legal-woes-at-cabinet-meeting/</a>



### 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

### **Bolivia: Defeat the Right-Wing Coup!**

#### Build democratic popular assemblies and self-defense committees! For a broad anti-coup united front! But no political confidence in Morales!

Joint Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT) and the Partido Revolucionario de las y los Trabajadores (Costa Rica), 12 November 2019

- 1. Bolivia's President Evo Morales announced his resignation on 10 November after General Williams Kaliman, the head of the armed forces, called him to step down "to help restore peace and stability". The intervention of the army command takes place after weeks of violent mobilizations by the right-wing opposition against the defeat of the conservative candidate, former President Carlos Mesa at the recent elections.
- There can be no doubt about the class character of this event. This is a reactionary coup d'état by an alliance of conservative, Christian fundamentalist and semi-fascist forces as well as the tops of the army and the police. In other words, it is a coup which should bring power back to the traditional right-wing oligarchy centered in Santa Cruz. It is no accident that the leader of the protests, Luis Fernando Camacho, is called the "Bolivian Bolsonaro" given his similar views to the extreme right-wing Brazilian President. It is also characteristic that the right-wing mobilizations have gone hand in hand with racist attacks against the indigenous people who represent about 60% of the total population. ("Indians out of the university" read graffiti in front of La Paz's public university.) And, finally, it is also telling that U.S. imperialism and the most reactionary governments in Latin America - from Bolsonaro to Piñera – are hailing the coup as a victory for their cause.
- 3. There have been a number of progressive counter-mobilizations against the reactionary demonstrations which resulted in numerous street battles. However, they suffered a devastating blow when Juan Carlos Huarachi, reformist leader of the *Central Obrera Boliviana* the country's main trade union federation dropped support for the government and called Morales to step down "if that would help end recent violence."
- Our opposition against the reactionary coup must not be confused with any political support for or confidence in Morales and the Bolivarian leaders. Resembling the policy of the Chavista government in Venezuela, they failed to expropriate the traditional bourgeoisie or to purge the army and police of reactionary forces during their rule of the country for nearly 14 years. Instead they descended into corruption and implemented a state-capitalist policy which left large sectors of the economy in the hands of the traditional oligarchy. In the end, the coward resignation of Morales - without any serious fight against the coup plotters - reflects the rotten character of the Bolivarian leadership. Revolutionaries have correctly argued in the past that the MAS and the Bolivarian leadership must be challenged via mass mobilisations and self-organization of the rank and file workers and oppressed. However, the current mobilisations against Evo Morales have a completely reactionary character.
- 5. However, only traitors and ultra-left muddleheads can deny the chief task of the hour: to build a *broad united front* in order to defeat the right-wing coup! The current situation in Bolivia opened a power vacuum. Ir-

respective of deep political differences, revolutionaries in Bolivia must call all workers, poor peasant and indigenous mass organizations to join the struggle against the coup! They must demand from the reformist and populist leaders to support this struggle. The RCIT and the PRT consider it as urgent to organize self-defense committees and popular assemblies to coordinate the struggle against the coup. The tradition of self-organizing of the indigenous people, the miners in Bolivia and other parts of the working class and oppressed must be revived! The workers unions and peasant mass organizations must organize a general strike and street blockades to defeat the coup! Hence, we strongly welcome the call of the Federación de Juntas Vecinales of El Alto to "form self-defense committees, blockades, permanent and forceful mobilization" against the coup. We call all sectors in resistance to defend the cities of Cochabamba and El Alto, which are the main focus of the struggle against the coup. If they succeed, the reactionary advance in other regions can be defeated. A successful struggle against the coup can create the basis to take the power and to create an authentic workers, indigenous, peasant and popular govern-

We call to link the struggle against the coup in Bo-6. livia with the current global wave of class struggles. From Chile, Ecuador, Honduras and Haiti, to Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Algeria, Sudan and Syria to Catalunya and Hong Kong - one joint struggle against imperialism, dictatorship and reactionary forces, for freedom and social justice! The bankruptcy of the Morales government and the treachery of the COB leadership demonstrate once more the urgency to replace the existing bureaucratic leaderships in the mass organizations of the workers and oppressed - in Bolivia as well as globally. The RCIT and the PRT call revolutionaries in Bolivia and internationally to build an authentic revolutionary leadership, i.e. to build a Revolutionary World Party fighting for a socialist future! Unity! Struggle! Victory!

Partido Revolucionario de las y los Trabajadores (Costa Rica), <a href="http://prtcostarica.blogspot.com/">http://prtcostarica.blogspot.com/</a>

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria), <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net">www.thecommunists.net</a>

### Hong Kong / China: "...While Their Elders Cheer Them On"

### Prominent pro-Beijing pundit prepares public for bloody counter-revolution while admitting that people in Hong Kong support militant youth fighting in the streets

by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 16.11.2019

Tobody should be under any illusions: The Hong Kong Administration and its master – the Stalinist-capitalist regime in Beijing – prepare for a bloody counter-revolution.

A few days ago, 22-year old activist Chow Tsz-lok died from injuries he suffered during a protest on November 4. Police officers have started shooting demonstrators with live ammunition from close range – in fact they are trying to outright kill them as video clips confirm which have been circulated in the last days.

In addition, a 16-year-old girl was raped by four policemen at the Tsuen Wan police station on September 27. Prior to this, the naked body of Chan Yin-lam, a 15-year-old girl and activist, was found in the sea in Yau Tong on September 22.

In response tens of thousands of militant youth – the vanguard of the popular uprising which rocks Hong Kong since more than six months – have imposed a de-facto general strike in the 7.5 million city since 11 November. Schools and universities have been closed and highways are blocked. Young activists build barricades and stockpile makeshift weapons. They clash with the police all over the city. The slogan on the streets has changed from "Hong Kong people, rebel!" to "Hong Kong people, revenge!"

A centre of activity is the *Chinese University of Hong Kong* (CUHK) – a university which has a famous record of leading Hong Kong's student activism starting from the late 1960s. It was even renamed "rioters' university" on a Google map in June! It is characteristic for the class character of the popular uprising that, according to the political scientist Dr Ma Ngok, in the CHUK "students are mostly from the lower class and new development towns. They have a strong tradition of sympathising with the grass roots." This puts it in stark contrast to the *University of Hong Kong* in Pok Fu Lam which "has a colonial background and classes are taught in English. Most of its students are from top schools and are more elitist and pro-establishment." <sup>1</sup>

Global Times – the international English-language edition of People's Daily (the central organ of the ruling "Communist" Party of China) - briefly said on Twitter on 14 November that the Hong Kong government was expected to announce a curfew (it deleted the post after a short time). <sup>2</sup> While it is difficult to make predictions for the next days, the whole course of events points to a joint military crackdown of the Hong Kong police and the Chinese army in the very near future. This becomes also clear from the language of China's state media and prominent pro-Beijing pundits in Hong Kong. A few hours ago, Alex Lo, a wellknown conservative mouth piece of the Stalinist-capitalist regime, published an article with the title "Hong Kong breakdown can only mean a Beijing takeover". His commentary begins: "Sooner or later, people in the city will have to acknowledge mainland China is the only power that can rewrite our social contract, relaunch government and restore institu-

Lo prepares the public for a military takeover by Beijing

since Hong Kong's "key institutions start losing legitimacy in the eyes of the people ... we see vital institutions and their representatives lose public trust." This is the coded language of a pro-regime journalist expressing his frustration about the lack of popular support for Beijing's puppet administration of Carrie Lam.

In another gloomy article, published two days ago, Lo went even further. Titled "It's the end of Hong Kong as we know it", Lo wrote "despair has replaced reason as young people trash their own city while their elders cheer them on". <sup>4</sup>

Needless to say that Lo sharply denounces these "hooligans". But it is remarkable that even such a fanatic supporter of the reactionary regime in Beijing is forced to admit that the young militants fighting against the police are "cheered by the elders".

Indeed, the struggle for democratic rights and against the Stalinist-capitalist dictatorship is a thoroughly legitimate and progressive struggle. This is why the RCIT says that it deserves the full and unconditional support of all socialists and consistent democrats all over the world. <sup>5</sup>

Surely, the Chinese regime and its Stalinist friends around the globe denounce the popular uprising in Hong Kong as a "foreign conspiracy" which is supposedly "worse than the virus SARS". Demonstrating its reactionary and imperialist character, Beijing appeals to the West to jointly oppose the global wave of class struggles and to impose the "rule of law". <sup>6</sup>

Such reactionary nonsense is the characteristic slander which was used by the ruling class for thousands of years. Already the emperor Nero in 64 AD accused the Christians of starting the Great Fire of Rome.

What is certainly true is that the popular masses joining the global wave of class struggles and popular uprisings in the past few months lack a clear understanding of the challenges and tasks of the struggle. From Chile to Catalunya, from Iraq to Hong Kong, from Algeria to Idlib, people are fighting for democratic rights and social justice with various illusions in their mind. They fight for their rights without a socialist consciousness. Instead they carry illusions in various versions of liberalism, nationalism, Islamism or reformism. But this is hardly surprising. This is always the case when a period of mass struggle is beginning and new generations are making their own experiences. It is the task of a revolutionary party to help them drawing the right lessons and organizing them for the battles ahead. It is the goal of the RCIT to contribute to this task. <sup>7</sup>

The Chinese rulers will try to drown the popular uprising in Hong Kong in blood. The rulers in Iraq, Chile etc. have demonstrated in the past weeks that they share the same approach. The new phase of global class struggle will inevitably see many advances a well as setbacks. But what can be said for sure is that we experiencing historic moments.

In the past decades, people used to talk – often with admiration – about the "68 generation". There can be no doubt that in the future, history books will refer to the "2019 gen-

eration". These "Twenty-Nineteeners" will be admired for their dedication to the cause of freedom and justice. The heroic Hong Kong youth are one of their finest examples!

#### **Footnotes**

- 1 Jeffie Lam, Alvin Lum, Sum Lok-kei: Cooking up a storm: Hong Kong's radical protesters use Chinese University as kitchen, weapons factory, and training camp, South China Morning Post, 15 Nov, 2019, <a href="https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3037813/campus-kitchen-production-line-making-petrol-bombs-and">https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3037813/campus-kitchen-production-line-making-petrol-bombs-and</a>
- 2 Kate Lamb, Jessie Pang: Hong Kong students arm themselves for showdown amid talk of curfew, Reuters, November 14, 2019 <a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-hongkong-protests/hong-kong-students-arm-themselves-for-showdown-amid-talk-of-curfew-idUSKBN1XO06C">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-hongkong-protests/hong-kong-students-arm-themselves-for-showdown-amid-talk-of-curfew-idUSKBN1XO06C</a>
- 3 Alex Lo: Hong Kong breakdown can only mean a Beijing takeover, South China Morning Post, 16 Nov, 2019, <a href="https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3038008/hong-kong-breakdown-can-only-mean-beijing-takeover">https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3038008/hong-kong-breakdown-can-only-mean-beijing-takeover</a>
- 4 Alex Lo: What future? It's the end of Hong Kong as we know it, South China Morning Post, 14 Nov, 2019 <a href="https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3037787/what-future-its-end-hong-kong-we-know-it">https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3037787/what-future-its-end-hong-kong-we-know-it</a>
- 5 See e.g. the RCIT statements: China: Solidarity with the General Strike in Hong Kong! For an international solidarity movement as the Stalinist-Capitalist regime in Beijing prepares a brutal crackdown! 01 August 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/solidarity-with-the-general-strike-in-hong-kong/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/solidarity-with-the-general-strike-in-hong-kong/</a>; China: Long Live the Popular Uprising in Hong Kong! After protestors storm the parliament: general strike against the extradition bill and the Lam Administration! 03 July 2019,

https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/long-live-the-popular-uprising-in-hong-kong/; China: Mass Protests against Reactionary "Extradition Law" in Hong Kong. For an indefinite general strike to kill the bill and to bring down the Administration of Carrie Lam! 18 June 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-mass-protests-against-reactionary-extradition-law-in-hong-kong/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-mass-protests-against-reactionary-extradition-law-in-hong-kong/</a>

See on this e.g. the following recently published articles by Michael Pröbsting: Are Global Popular Uprisings Caused by "Foreign Conspiracies"? How the ruling classes around the world try to smear the mass revolts, 2 November 2019, https:// www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-global-popular-uprisings-caused-by-foreign-conspiracies/; Global Popular Uprisings: Beijing Calls West to Jointly Defend "the Rule of Law". Central organ of the ruling Stalinist party reiterates the regime's counter-revolutionary position, 30 October 2019, https:// www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/global-popular-uprisings-beijing-calls-west-to-jointly-defend-the-rule-of-law/; Beijing: Global Popular Uprising "Worse Than SARS". Leading Chinese diplomat hysterically denounces the mass protests in Hong Kong and around the world, 25 October 2019, https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/beijing-global-popular-uprising-worse-than-sars/

It would exceed the limits of this little article to list all relevant works of the RCIT on the various struggles which have been taking place around the world in the past few months. For the general background see the following essay by Michael Pröbsting: Are We Nearing a New "68 Moment"? A massive upsurge of global class struggle in the midst of a dramatic shift in the world situation, 22 October 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-we-nearing-a-new-68-moment/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/are-we-nearing-a-new-68-moment/</a>. This essay also includes links to numerous statements and articles on the recent popular struggles around the globe.



### **Publications of the RCIT**

# The China-India Conflict: Its Causes and Consequences

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

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

A RCIT Pamphlet, 36 pages, A4 Format

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

### Indian-Occupied Kashmir:

### European Right-Wing Extremists Go to Modi's Rescue

by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 29 October 2019

ccording to a report of *Al Jazeera* published yesterday, a delegation of 27 politicians drawn from 11 European countries will visit Indian-occupied Kashmir. (\*) This visit takes place without any involvement of EU institutions. It is, however, fully endorsed by the Indian government of the right-wing extremist Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In fact, it has been organized by New Delhi.

On the face of it, this seems to be spectacular news. As it is well-know, the Hindu-chauvinist government of India has revoked Article 370 of India's constitution on 5 August which removed some formal autonomy rights of the region. Since then, New Dehli has imposed de facto a state of emergency in the whole region. This has resulted in dramatic consequences for the Kashmiri people. They have only limited or none access to essential things for survival like food and medicine. They are cut off from nearly all forms of communication. Hundreds of thousands of Indian occupation soldiers and paramilitaries are patrolling the streets day and night. They constantly raid the homes of Kashmiris and have already arrested thousands of people. In other words, the tyrant Modi, has transformed Kashmir into a huge concentration camp!

Unsurprisingly, the Indian government is cutting off the province from any foreign visits so that the world does not learn about the dramatic living conditions of the population. Foreign journalists have been denied permission to cover the situation in Kashmir. Even US Congressman Chris Van Hollen was not allowed to visit Srinagar, the main city of Kashmir, earlier this month!

So why does New Dehli suddenly allow this delegation from Europe to visit Kashmir? The answer is very simple and, at the same time, highly characteristic. These European politicians are mainly coming from right-wing extremist parties like Le Pen's *Rassemblement National* in France. Clearly, the Indian right-wing extremist government has

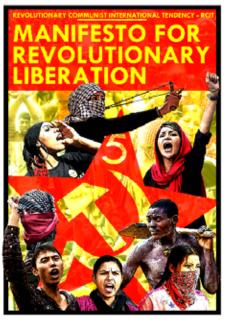
nothing to fear from their brothers and sisters in crime. Their visit only serves to whitewash the tyrannical regime of Modi and its brutal oppression of the Kashmiri people! As a matter of fact, Kashmir which has a Muslim majority population has been occupied by the Indian state since many decades. The people were never asked if they want to be part of India and, in fact, the huge majority wants to separate. The Kashmiri people have demonstrated their desire for independence by a long history of heroic resistance. They started a popular uprising in 1989 which the Indian army tried to smash without utmost brutality. Since then, nearly 100,000 Kashmiri Muslims have been killed and nearly 10,000 women have been gang raped by marauding bands of Indian soldiers. Currently, at least 800,000 Indian soldiers and police forces are deployed in Kashmir – an area that has a population of only 8 million Muslims. This means that there is almost one Indian soldier for every ten Kashmiri Muslim!

All socialists, all democrats, all righteous people around the world must support the struggle of the Kashmiri people for freedom. We repeat: Kashmir is our second Palestine! Their liberation is our liberation!

(\*) Al Jazeera: EU far-right MPs head to Kashmir in rare foreign visit, 2019-10-28, <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/10/eu-mps-visit-kashmir-foreign-visit-clamp-down-191028121735778.html">https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/10/eu-mps-visit-kashmir-foreign-visit-clamp-down-191028121735778.html</a>

\* \* \* >

We refer reader also to other articles and documents of the RCIT on this issue which are collected in a special subsection on our website: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/</a>



### Program of the RCIT

### **Manifesto for Revolutionary Liberation**

Adopted at the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

### India: Rally in Support of the Liberation Struggle in Kashmir

Report (with Pictures and Videos) from a Rally in Vienna on 26 October 2019, Austrian Section of the RCIT

bout 100 migrants from Pakistan and Kashmir held another rally in the center of Vienna (Austria) to demonstrate their support for the liberation struggle of the people in Kashmir. The rally was organized, again, by the *Pakistani Community Forum in Austria* – a federation of numerous migrant NGO's. It was attended, among others, by several ministers from the Pakistani province Azad Kashmir who are currently visiting Austria.

The rally was addressed by several representatives of the migrant community as well as by some ministers. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT was asked to give two speeches (one in German, the other in English). He stated our support for the Kashmiri people who are suffering from brutal repression by the Indian army. He also called for an international solidarity movement with the liberation struggle of the Kashmiri people.

See pictures of the rally and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/india-rally-in-support-of-the-liberation-struggle-of-the-kashmiri-people-26-10-2019/">https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/india-rally-in-support-of-the-liberation-struggle-of-the-kashmiri-people-26-10-2019/</a>



Rally in solidarity with the liberation struggle in Kashmir (Vienna, 26.10.2019)

### **RCIT Publications on Kashmir & India**

- \* "Azadi Kashmir": Marxists and the independence of Kashmir
- \* The Kashmir Question and the Indian Left Today
- \* India: A Prison House of Nations and Lower Castes
- \* India: A Peculiar Semi-Colony in the Role of a Regional Power

Written by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

Order them via our contact addresses



### India: Another Orgy of Hindutva Chauvinism

by Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, 11 November 2019

The recent verdict of India's Supreme Court represents another victory for the right-wing Modi government and its Hindutva chauvinist supporters. It paves the way for building a Hindu temple in the town of Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh state. It shall be built on exactly the same site where the famous Babri Masjid mosque – built in 1528/29 – stood until it was destroyed by Hindu chauvinists in December 1992. In the aftermath, they killed at least 2,000 people in anti-Muslim pogrom.

The decision of the Supreme Court represents is a devastating blow for the Muslim minority. It is nothing but another orgy of Hindutva chauvinism! Only three month ago, the Modi government revoked Article 370 of India's constitution which removed some formal autonomy rights of Kashmir – the only state with a Muslim majority. Since then, New Dehli has imposed de facto a state of emergency in the whole region which de facto transformed Kashmir into a huge concentration camp! <sup>1</sup>

It is urgent that all mass organizations of the workers, poor peasants, students and oppressed must denounce this reactionary decisions and mobilize for the rights of the Muslim minority. Our support for a secular state includes vigorous defence of the religious and cultural rights of minorities like the Muslims in this case.

While both issues – Kashmir's autonomy and the Ayodhya temple – have been long-time demands of the BJP and the Hindutva chauvinists, it is no coincidence that the Modi government implements them exactly in this political conjuncture. The main reason for this is that Indian capitalism is entering a period of economic crisis, as we already pointed out somewhere else. <sup>2</sup>

Growth of gross domestic product growth has plunged to a six-year low of 5% and most industries registering weak or negative growth. In addition, gross non-performing assets in the banking sector have seen nearly a four-fold increase in the five years since the Modi government came to power.<sup>3</sup>

Add to this, the dramatic social and ecological crisis in New Delhi where authorities had to declare a public health emergency recently. They were forced to close schools and all construction activity as air pollution in the city hit its worst level this year. An index measuring the level of a deadly air pollutant hit 484 on a scale of 500! <sup>4</sup>

Hence, the Modi government escalates its chauvinist at-

tacks against national and religious minorities in order to deflect attention from these pressing economic and ecological problems. This is a reactionary policy which is characteristic for all capitalist governments around the world!

The struggle for freedom of the Kashmiri people as well as for the religious rights of the Muslim minority in India must be part of the global struggle for freedom and justice. This is not an empty phrase but an actual demand of the hour when millions of people around the world are marching (and dying!) against tyranny and misery. From Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Algeria, Sudan and Syria to Chile, Ecuador, Honduras and Haiti, from Catalunya to Hong Kong – we must fight hands in hands against imperialism, dictatorship and reactionary forces, for freedom and social justice!

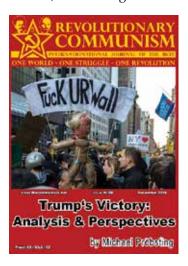
#### **Footnotes**

The RCIT has published numerous statements and articles on Kashmir. They are collected in a special sub-section on our website: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/</a> asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-liberation-struggle-in-kashmir/. Our statement on the latest escalation by the Indian Modi government can be read here: India: Defend the Kashmiri People against Modi's "Israel-Style" Attack! India's ultra-chauvinist BJP government abolishes decades-old autonomy rights of Muslim-majority province, 6 August 2019, https://www. thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/india-defend-the-kashmiripeople-against-modi-s-attack/; see also the following essays by Michael Pröbsting: The Kashmir Question and the Indian Left Today. Marxism, Stalinism and centrism on the national liberation struggle of the Kashmiri people, 26 September 2019, https:// www.thecommunists.net/theory/kashmir-question-and-indian-left-today/; Revolutionaries and the Slogan of "Azadi Kashmir". Should Marxists advocate the independence of Kashmir? 13 September 2019, https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/revolutionaries-and-the-slogan-of-azadi-kashmir/.

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4 Neha Dasgupta: New Delhi declares public emergency as pollution at year's worst, November 1, 2019, <a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-pollution/new-delhi-declares-public-emergency-as-pollution-at-years-worst-idUSKBN1XB3S1">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-pollution/new-delhi-declares-public-emergency-as-pollution-at-years-worst-idUSKBN1XB3S1</a>



### 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

### Nigeria: Down with the fraudulent proposed budget for 2020! It is the sharing formula of the national wealth amongst thieving barons of APC/PDP!

Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV), OAU, 14th October, 2019

It is pitiable that the university management has given scant response to the flood of last week at Ede road which claimed property of students and the lives of two persons. Flooding is a major problem which has bedeviled students residing in town from the onset of the accommodation policy. The more devastating one occurred in 2018, just weeks into the new session when students resumed to meet the heavy hand of the accommodation policy and it claimed scores of students valuables and rendered students homeless for days.

The menace of flooding is fast becoming a major contributor to the myriad of adverse conditions students are faced with at present. The walk way from Fajuyi bus stop to the entrance of Fajuyi hall is often waterlogged these days by the slightest shower of rain in such a manner that students find it difficult to use the walk way for fear of slipping or slumming. The T-junction at Fajuyi hall annex alongside major passages in academic area such as the one leading to ODLT I&II are likewise flooded.

In the same way, the management has given no tangible response to the plight of the Moremites who lost their room and property to the dastardly inferno that was caused by faulty electric connection in the room which the students had always reported to the hall management before then but received no feedback. It was the laxity of the hall management to take action concerning exposed wires coupled with the rule that only gas cylinders should be used that has resulted in the loss suffered by the students, yet no considerable action has been taken by the DSA to alleviate the suffering of those students. Rather our current management prides itself in fuming over plans to begin new white elephant projects in the media despite their failure to fulfill the promises they ceaselessly make to students since the inception of the accommodation policy like better welfarism for students due to decongestion of halls of residence; provision of ten thousand bedspcaes and the

reinstatement of the students' union. The resources, attention and time required for these fundamental necessities are rather diverted to projects which gulp millions of Federal government allocated funds like the Senate building currently in construction and the new plan to build an airstrip on the campus.

It seems as though the trait of misplacement of priorities is not only found amidst the crop of leaders that govern the school, it exists also amongst the Buhari led Nigerian government as the proposed 2020 budget indicates. The budget is a lucid description of the minuscule importance APC places on Nigerian students, more so, the Nigerian people. Of the close to 11 trillion naira budget only 2.45 trillion is budgeted for capital expenditure. About a third of the whole budget is allocated for the purpose of debt servicing. While the National Assembly gulps a whooping 125 billion naira; Education gets just 48 billion naira; health-46 billion naira; agriculture-80 billion naira; industry and infrastructure-40 billion naira.

What is worse is that of the 2.45 billion naira more than half will come from non-oil tax revenue of 1.81 billion naira. This means that president Buhari is not ready to give anything to the Nigerian people save the taxes he has ripped off from them through criminal hikes in bank charges, VAT and electricity tariffs. In retrospect, the amounts highlighted for public services for average Nigerians above do not add up to give 1.81 trillion naira of taxes and that means that the man from Daura is planning to use the remaining for phony projects and lip singing further pauperising the largest black population in the world.

He has also earmarked some funds for his equally decrepit predecessors such as ex-president Goodluck Jonathan, Olusegun Obasanjo and former head of state Ibrahim Babangida. That is why the NLC strike of October 16th must not be limited to the implementation of the 30, 000 minimum wage alone. We believe that this should represent



### RCIT Africa Program

### Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

Adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

the beginning of thorough and broad anti-government protests by the workers, students and popular masses with demands which reject completely the 2020 proposed budget and calls for the reversal in all proposed and imposed hikes in banking, the VAT system and for electricity tariffs. The bureaucracy of the Nigeria Labor Congress is corrupt and has compromised loyalties to the ruling class. Hence workers and the Nigerian people must give no trust to the Labour leadership. Workers, students and the popular masses must form committees of Action headed by delegates to keep the Labour leadership on their toes or even replace them.

For us, in the Vanguard, only a unitary struggle for democracy and economic amelioration can have an upper-hand over the lawless cult of brigands in Aso Rock. Labour, all civil societies and revolutionaries must join the struggle to preserve and bolster the vestiges of democracy left championed at this time by the Talk It Back movement of Omoyele Swore and the RevolutionNow movement headed by CORE. Students, workers and revolutionaries must unify the struggle for economic freedom with the struggle against the violation of human rights and the struggle of all marginalized peoples in Nigeria.

Students must not restrict their contribution to the struggle to their campuses alone rather synergies must be formed between all Nigerian campuses with workers' unions and popular movements such as the TIB and CORE, for the impending NLC strike has every potential to truncate the academic calendars while the hikes in power tariffs can serve as a pretext for school fee increments by the managements. Thus, students must in their number show solidarity with the OAU3 on October 16th at the Okefia

Magistrate court in Osogbo.

The TIB is becoming a platform of the Nigerian popular masses with great speed. However, revolutionaries must work to decentralize and redistribute the powers of the movement in order to turn it into a truly mass oriented and mass determined movement.

In any case the demands for a united front for change must include;

- The immediate release of Omoyele Sowore, Olawale Adebayo, and Agba Jalingo and all political prisoners. Drop the charges against OAU3 (Omoloye Stephen, Owoeye Olaoluwa, Olawale Owolabi), Osogbo5 and all persons arraigned in court for upholding democracy.
- The immediate implementation of the 30,000 naira minimum wage! The reversal of all hikes in the VAT, the bank transfer and deposit charges and the electricity tariffs.
- Reject the proposed 2020 budget!
- Fund education according to UNESCO recommendation!
- Reinstate Great Ife students' union and unions on all Nigerian campuses!
- Provide accommodation for the victims of the fire-incident in Moremi Hall!
- No to EFCC and SARS on Nigerian campuses. Only the democratic governing of universities through functioning unions can guarantee the safety and security of lives and property in the university community!

For a world revolutionary socialist party!

Signed: Branch secretary, Jimoh Oladipupo (Ideal)

### **Books of the RCIT**

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

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

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

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

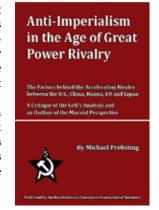
In Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry Michael Pröbsting critically discusses the analysis of modern imperialism by a number of left-wing parties (left social democrats, Stalinists, Trotskyists and others). He demon-

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

The author elaborates the approach of leading Marxist figures like Lenin, Trotsky and Luxemburg to the prob-

lems of Great Power rivalry and imperialist aggression against oppressed peoples. He outlines a Marxist program for the current period which is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future.

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



### French Stalinists Join the Bandwagon of Anti-Migrant Demagoguery

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24.09.2019

Our movement has always emphasized that Stalinism is essentially a nationalist trend which contains social-chauvinism as part of its political DNA. This thesis has been confirmed once more by a statement of Fabien Roussel during a TV interview for France 3 Nord on 23 September. Roussel is the National Secretary of the French Communist Party (PCF) since November 2018 and a member of the French parliament. The PCF is not only the historic party of Stalinism in France but also a key member of the Party of the European Left (PEL) – an alliance of social democratized (ex-)Stalinist parties in Europe to which, among others, the German Linkspartei as well as SYRIZA in Greece belong. 1 In his interview, Roussel said that: "Let's talk about immigration! I want to stop this immigration organized by the liberal treaties of Brussels which puts the wage earners, the workers in competition with each other. Let's talk about that! Let's talk about figures." 2

This is the classic language of anti-migrant racism which is usually employed by Le Pen, Salvini and Strache. As one can see, Roussel does not limit himself to denounce so-called "illegal immigration" – a standard theme among bourgeois politicians and trade union bureaucrats – but he also opposes legal immigration as it takes place under the EU treaties! Basically, the leader of the Stalinist party thinks that "there are too many foreigners in our country" – the core idea of classic racism.

As a matter of fact, migration has always existed – in the epoch of capitalism as well as before. The task of authentic communists – in contrast to such social-chauvinist caricatures of "communism" like the PCF/PEL – is to fight against the criminalization and discrimination of migrants, for open borders and for full equality in terms of wages, citizenship rights access to social and health service, use of native language in education etc. This is the way how to fight the bosses' attempts to create competition between

domestic and migrant workers! 3

It would be wrong to imagine that the racist burp of Roussel is a gaffe. It fact, this is Stalinism as it lives and breathes! The PCF itself has a historic tradition of antimigrant chauvinism. In December 1980, the PCF mayor of Vitry, a suburb of Paris, led a gang of 60 party members and supporters in a "direct action" to stop 300 immigrants from Mali being rehoused in Vitry. The gang turned off water, gas and electricity, and used a bulldozer to smash up the hostel. Then on the weekend of 10-11 January 1981, a big anti-immigration demonstration was organised in Vitry to support the mayor's action and the Party's immigration policy. Over 10,000 people attended. One of them was Georges Marchais, the General Secretary of the PCF. This anti-migrant policy was repeated by other PCF mayors. 4

There are numerous other examples of Stalinist chauvinism – inside and outside the *Party of the European Left*. We limit ourselves to refer only to two recent examples about which we have dealt in our publications. The Greek KKE recently made a public commitment to "annihilate any foreign intruder who dares to attack Greece" and to "defend the sovereign rights of Greece" against Turkey as well as against the Macedonian people. <sup>5</sup> Another outrageous example is the Stalinists' long-standing support for Serbia's claim to occupy and colonialize the people in Kosova. <sup>6</sup> In all these cases, the Stalinists combine a platonic commitment to "Marxism" and "internationalism" with a very concrete support for their capitalist chauvinism against migrants.

Other, far more horrific examples of Stalinist chauvinism have been the mass deportation of ethnic minorities like the Crimean Tatars and Chechens by Stalin's regime in the 1940s (resulting in the death of hundreds of thousands of people). An actual example is the barbarous mass incarceration of the Muslim Uyghurs by the Stalinist-capitalist

# The Rise of Russia as an Imperialist Great Power

- \* Russia as a Great Imperialist Power. The formation of Russian Monopoly Capital and its Empire
- \* Lenin's Theory of Imperialism and Russia's Rise as a Great Power

Two Pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

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dictatorship in China. 7

The PCF/PEL policy on migration is is a breach with the principles of proletarian internationalism and communism. Marxists have always defended the fundamental democratic right of migrants to enter other countries without restrictions. These are the ideas for which Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky fought for in the past and which the RCIT defends today. <sup>8</sup> The Communist International summarized such an approach in its "Theses on the Eastern Question," adopted at its Fourth Congress in 1922.

"In view of the coming danger, the Communist Parties of the imperialist countries – America, Japan, Britain, Australia and Canada – must not merely issue propaganda against the war, but must do everything possible to eliminate the factors that disorganise the workers' movement in their countries and make it easier for the capitalists to exploit national and racial antagonisms.

These factors are the immigration question and the question of cheap coloured labour.

Most of the coloured workers brought from China and India to work on the sugar plantations in the southern part of the Pacific are still recruited under the system of indentured labour. This fact has led to workers in the imperialist countries demanding the introduction of laws against immigration and coloured labour, both in America and Australia. These restrictive laws deepen the antagonism between coloured and white workers, which divides and weakens the unity of the workers' movement. The Communist Parties of America, Canada and Australia must conduct a vigorous campaign against restrictive immigration laws and must explain to the proletarian masses in these countries that such laws, by inflaming racial hatred, will re-

The capitalists are against restrictive laws in the interests of the free importation of cheap coloured labour and with it the lowering of the wages of white workers. The capitalists' intention to take the offensive can be properly dealt with in only one way—the immigrant workers must join the ranks of the existing trade unions of white workers. Simultaneously, the demand must be raised that the coloured workers' pay should be brought up to the same level as the white workers' pay. Such a move on the part of the Communist Parties will expose the intentions of the capitalists and at the same time graphically demonstrate to the coloured workers that the international proletariat has no racial prejudice." <sup>9</sup>

bound on them in the long run.

This is the approach of Marxists! In contrast, the racist statement of the PCF leader is a splendid example of "Communists" who trample underfoot the very idea of anti-racism and internationalism. It demonstrates once more what the RCIT has emphasized again and again: one must not judge political forces by their self-proclaimed ideologies. Rather, one must judge any regime or political force by their deeds, by their concrete positions in the class struggles as they take place concretely. And here, we see that these "communists" join the bandwagon of racism!

#### **Footnotes**

The RCIT has dealt critically with the "Party of the European Left" in numerous publications; see e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective (Part 3 and 4), RCIT Books, Vienna 2019, pp. 270-275, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-im-">https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-im-</a>

perialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/; 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, RCIT Books, Vienna 2013, pp. 337-340, https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/great-robbery-of-the-south/

2 « Parlons-en de l'immigration! Je suis pour stopper cette immigration organisée par les traités libéraux de Bruxelles qui met les salariés, les ouvriers en concurrence entre eux. Parlons de ça! Parlons chiffres ! », <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ds8LeWwcDu8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ds8LeWwcDu8</a>; see also Le n°1 du PCF souhaite stopper l'«immigration organisée par les traités libéraux de Bruxelles», 23 sept. 2019, <a href="https://francais.rt.com/france/66097-n1-pcf-souhaite-stopper-immigration-organisee-traites-liberaux-bruxelles">https://francais.rt.com/france/66097-n1-pcf-souhaite-stopper-immigration-organisee-traites-liberaux-bruxelles</a>

A summary of the RCIT's position on migration and our program of revolutionary equality can be read in chapter XXII ("Revolutionary Defeatism and the Struggle for Full Equality of Migrants") of the above mentioned book Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry.

See on this e.g. Kenan Malik: Aping populist attacks on migrants is not a winning strategy for the left, 11 March 2018, <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/mar/11/populist-attacks-migants-not-a-winning-strategy-for-the-left;">https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/mar/11/populist-attacks-migants-not-a-winning-strategy-for-the-left;</a> David Labica: Quand le PCF chassait les immigrés à Vitry et Montigny, 11.05.2019, <a href="https://www.revolutionpermanente.fr/Quand-le-PCF-chassait-les-immigres-a-Vitry-et-Montigny;">https://www.revolutionpermanente.fr/Quand-le-PCF-chassait-les-immigres-a-Vitry-et-Montigny;</a> Jacques Derogy: 1981 - Racisme: le bulldozer du P.C., publié le 03/07/2018, <a href="https://www.lexpress.fr/actualite/societe/1981-racisme-le-bulldoz-er-du-p-c\_2016587.html">https://www.lexpress.fr/actualite/societe/1981-racisme-le-bulldoz-er-du-p-c\_2016587.html</a>; AWL: When the "Morning Star" Backed Racist Gangsters, 9 May 2017, <a href="https://www.workersliberty.org/story/2008/06/18/ballad-communist-heroes-vitry">https://www.workersliberty.org/story/2008/06/18/ballad-communist-heroes-vitry</a>

5 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Stalinist Chauvinism: The Example of the Greek KKE. Is "Defending the Sovereign Rights of Greece" against Turkey and Macedonia Legitimate? Marxist Internationalism versus Bourgeois Social-Chauvinism, 12 November 2018, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/thegreek-kke-and-stalinist-chauvinism/">https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/thegreek-kke-and-stalinist-chauvinism/</a>

6 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Stalinists Support Serbian Expansionism against Kosovo Albanians. Another Example of the Flirt of Stalinist Parties with the Plague of Arch-Reactionary Chauvinism, 13 December 2018, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/stalinists-support-serbian-expansion-ism-against-kosovo-albanians/">https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/stalinists-support-serbian-expansion-ism-against-kosovo-albanians/</a>

7 See on this e.g. Michael Pröbsting: 37 Signatures Are Worth a Thousand Words. On a letter of 37 states, including Muslim countries, sent to the United Nations defending China's treatment of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang, 16 July 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/37-states-defend-china-s-treatment-of-uyghurs/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/37-states-defend-china-s-treatment-of-uyghurs/</a>; Michael Pröbsting: China: Defend the Muslim Uyghurs against Oppression! 18.10.2018, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-defend-the-muslim-uyghurs-against-oppression/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-defend-the-muslim-uyghurs-against-oppression/</a>

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9 Communist International: Theses on the Eastern Question, Fourth Congress of the Communist International, December 1922, in: Jane Degras: The Communist International 1919-1943. Documents. Volume I 1919-1922, pp. 391-392, <a href="http://marxists.org/history/international/comintern/4th-congress/eastern-question.htm">http://marxists.org/history/international/comintern/4th-congress/eastern-question.htm</a>

### "Worse than World War I"

### Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger warns that the Cold War between U.S. and China could get out of control

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 21.11.2019

In each class society, the ruling class entertains its politicians in order to govern as well as its professional ideologists in order to advocate its social formation. Sometimes, the ruling class generates quiet smart leaders who unify these two roles in a single person. For example, Caesar and Augustus were such figures at the height of the Roman Empire.

There exists also a number of smart representatives of the imperialist bourgeoisie today. It would be foolish to imagine that all bourgeois politicians are like Trump. If that would be the case capitalism would have imploded long time ago! No, there are still some bourgeois figures who served for some time in government and later became writers and strategist. Germany's former chancellor Helmut Schmidt or former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski are such examples.

Another example is former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger who has published a number of books about global developments and the geopolitical strategic options for American imperialism. Recently, Kissinger spoke at the *New Economy Forum* in Beijing which was organized by the *Bloomberg Media Group*. Other participants were Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan, Bill Gates and former U.S. Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson. Such events are not orientated to the popular masses – they are rather forums where leading figures of the capitalist class talk among themselves and where they feel free to express their worries.

Kissinger used the opportunity to call for a compromise between Washington and Beijing. He warned against the explosion of the rivalry between the two largest imperialist powers – the U.S. and China. He said that the U.S. and China were in the "foothills of a Cold War". Reflecting the increasing fears of the ruling classes around the globe, Kissinger emphasized: "So a discussion of our mutual purposes and an attempt to limit the impact of conflict seems to me essential. (...) If conflict is permitted to run unconstrained the outcome could be even worse than it was in Europe. World War 1 broke out because a relatively minor crisis could not be mastered." <sup>1</sup>

As we reported, the British *Guardian* recently expressed a similar fear: "There is something eerily reminiscent of the summer of 1914 about the state of US-China relations." <sup>2</sup> It is evident that leading representatives of the bourgeoisie increasingly panic about the collapse of the world order and the explosion of the tensions between the Great Powers!

For Marxists, these developments do not come as a surprise. In fact, we have predicted them for some time. The RCIT has outlined in various books, pamphlets and essays an analysis of the onset decline of U.S. imperialism, the rise of China as a new imperialist power, and the consequential, accelerating Great Power rivalry. <sup>3</sup>

As we have also pointed out, the current Global Trade War is not the highpoint of such inner-imperialist rivalry but rather the prelude to military conflicts. <sup>4</sup> Increasingly, the more intelligent representatives of the bourgeoisie are also recognizing this. Panic is about to spread.

Such panic is fully justified since it is not only the rivalry between the Great Powers which is accelerating. In recent months a wave of mass protests and popular uprising has spread around the globe. From Chile and Ecuador, Iraq, Lebanon and Algeria, to Catalunya and Hong Kong – to name only the most explosive ones – the workers, youth and oppressed are rising up on nearly all continents. <sup>5</sup> In addition, another Great Recession is shattering the capitalist world economy. <sup>6</sup> Combined with these developments is the domestic political crisis of key leaders of the counterrevolutionary offensive – first and foremost U.S. President Donald Trump. <sup>7</sup>

The task of the activists in the vanguard of the international working class movement is to politically prepare for the gigantic class battles ahead and organize themselves. The RCIT calls militants to join us in building a Revolutionary World Party! The Kissingers, Xi, Merkels, Macrons, and Putins have their well-armed and well-financed organized forces. It is us – the workers and oppressed – who lack program and party! This unfortunate situation must be overcome as soon as possible!

#### **Footnotes**

- 1 Kissinger Says U.S. and China in 'Foothills of a Cold War', Bloomberg News, 21. November 2019, <a href="https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-11-21/kissinger-says-u-s-and-china-in-foothills-of-a-cold-war?srnd=premium-europe">https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-11-21/kissinger-says-u-s-and-china-in-foothills-of-a-cold-war?srnd=premium-europe</a>
- 2 The Guardian view on the China-US trade wars: the global economy is at risk, 5 Aug 2019 <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/05/the-guardian-view-on-the-china-us-trade-wars-the-global-economy-is-at-risk">https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/05/the-guardian-view-on-the-china-us-trade-wars-the-global-economy-is-at-risk</a>
- See on this e.g. our recently published book by Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry. The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan. A Critique of the Left's Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective, RCIT Books, Vienna 2019. The book can be read online or downloaded for free here: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/">https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/anti-imperialism-in-the-age-of-great-power-rivalry/</a>. On the RCIT's analysis of China and Russia as emerging imperialist powers and the consequential accelerating Great Power rivalry see the literature mentioned in the special sub-section on our website: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/">https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/china-russia-as-imperialist-powers/</a>.
- The RCIT has published a series of articles analysing the Global Trade War. They are collected in a special sub-page on the RCIT's website: <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-global-trade-war/</a>
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- 6 See e.g. Michael Pröbsting: Another Great Recession of the Capitalist World Economy Has Begun. The economic crisis is an important factor in the current dramatic shift in the world situation, 19 October 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/another-great-recession-of-the-capitalist-world-economy-has-begun/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/another-great-recession-of-the-capitalist-world-economy-has-begun/</a>.
- See e.g. Michael Pröbsting: The Gang Leaders of Western Counterrevolution Are Faltering. Some observations on an interesting historic moment in the world situation, 25 September 2019, <a href="https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/the-gang-leaders-of-western-counterrevolution-are-faltering/">https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/the-gang-leaders-of-western-counterrevolution-are-faltering/</a>.