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Peru: Defeat the reactionary Boluarte Regime!

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Workers and Oppressed Unite!

English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 142, February 2023

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Picture on the Cover: Clashes between police and protesters on 8.12.2022 in Peru (Source: Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022%E2%80%932023_Peruvian_protests#/media/File:December_2022_Peruvian_protests_December_8_clash.png)

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Report from a Socialist Soldier in the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Report with an Introduction of the Editorial Board, Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 14 January 2023

Below we republish a highly interesting report from a Ukrainian socialist who currently fights in the ranks of the *Armed Forces of Ukraine* (Збройні сили України, ZSU). The report has been originally published on the website of the comrades of “*Socialist Alternative*” in Russia (<https://socialist.news/world/ukraine/battle-for-bakhmut-through-socialist-soldier-eyes/>).

The report is highly interesting for several reasons. First, it presents a lively picture of the horrendous conditions at the frontline – in particular in the region of Bakhmut which is currently the focus of the acts of war. The comrade outlines the huge gap of moral between the soldiers of the Ukrainian and those serving in the Russian army. The formers are highly motivated since they know that they are fighting for the national liberation of their country. The Russian soldiers, in contrast, have a low fighting morale since they are aware that they serve as cannon fodder in a reactionary and imperialist war of aggression.

At the same time, the comrade points to the difficulties within the Ukrainian army, exacerbated by the reckless policy of the bourgeois Zelensky government.

Furthermore, the comrade elaborates an excellent program for a revolutionary war against Russian imperialism which, at the same time, strengthens the Ukrainian workers and rank-and-file soldiers in order to become an independent force and to fight for their own power, i.e. for a free, socialist Ukraine without occupation and without oligarchs. In particular, he emphasizes the importance of the creation of “*Radas*”, i.e. of councils of soldiers and workers in the army and in enterprises, in close cooperation with trade unions and families of the mobilized. Such *Radas* could be the first step towards workers and soldiers soviets.

The RCIT and our comrades of “*Socialist Tendency*” (the RCIT’s section in Russia) have always supported such a perspective and, hence, we strongly welcome such an elaborated program from a socialist soldier in the Ukraine resp. from the comrades of “*Socialist Alternative*”.¹

At this point we shall briefly point to the importance of political work in the spirit of revolutionary defeatism within the Russian army, something with which we have dealt somewhere else.²

Another noteworthy feature is the very fact that the comrades “*Socialist Alternative*”, i.e. a Russian organisation, publish such a report from an Ukrainian soldier who ad-

vocates the just character of his country’s war of national defence. This reflects both the revolutionary courage as well as the principled internationalist and anti-imperialist approach of these comrades.

It has been such a common basis which motivated our comrades in “*Socialist Tendency*”, the comrades of “*Socialist Alternative*” as well as former members of the Russian section of the IMT to hold a joint conference on 26 November last year. At this conference, comrades from these three organisations agreed to join forces in the struggle against Russian imperialism and in solidarity with the national liberation struggle.³

There is no doubt that these tasks will remain of highest importance in the foreseeable future. The comrades of the RCIT as well as of “*Socialist Alternative*” are fully committed to fulfil their obligations as revolutionaries and as anti-imperialists!

For the full report (in Russian language) see: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/report-from-socialist-soldier-in-ukrainian-army/>

Footnotes

1 We refer readers to a special page on our website where more than 150 RCIT documents on the Ukraine War and the current NATO-Russia conflict are compiled: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>. In particular we refer to the RCIT Manifesto: Ukraine War: A Turning Point of World Historic Significance. Socialists must combine the revolutionary defense of the Ukraine against Putin’s invasion with the internationalist struggle against Russian as well as NATO and EU imperialism, 1 March 2022, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/manifesto-ukraine-war-a-turning-point-of-world-historic-significance/>

2 RCIT Socialist Tendency (Russia): Ukraine War: On Spontaneous Protests of Soldiers of the Russian Army. Down with Putin’s imperialist war! Money for poor regions – not for killing the Ukrainian people! 3 November 2022, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/europe/ukraine-war-spontaneous-protests-of-soldiers-of-russian-army/>

3 See on this the report of this conference as well as the joint declaration, https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-anti-imperialist-initiative-of-revolutionary-socialists-in-russia/#anker_2 resp https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/joint-anti-imperialist-initiative-of-revolutionary-socialists-in-russia/#anker_6.



Website of “Socialist Tendency” (RCIT Section in Russia):
www.socialisttendency.com

Ukraine War and Inter-Imperialist Rivalry

Check out more than 150 documents of the RCIT in English as well as many other languages on a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/compilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>

Report on the Political Situation in Russia for January 2023

On the most important recent developments, prepared by members of the Socialist Tendency (RCIT Section in Russia), 21.1.2023

Preface by the Editorial Board: Below we publish another interesting report written by comrades from Социалистической Тенденцией (*Socialist Tendency*) in Russia. *Socialist Tendency* is the section of the RCIT in Russia. Other documents of our comrades in Russia can be read either on their website (www.socialisttendency.com, in Russian language) or at a special page on our website where all RCIT documents (in English and other languages) on the current NATO-Russia conflict are compiled: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/com-pilation-of-documents-on-nato-russia-conflict/>.

1. One of the most burning issues of today is the issue of conducting a “second wave” of mobilization. In the minds of the masses, this event seems almost inevitable. Such consciousness of ordinary citizens in the imminent start of a new mass conscription to the troops to be sent to the “Zone of the CBO”¹ is primarily associated with two things.

Firstly, with the high losses of Russian troops at the front, which can no longer be hidden from society and which need to be replenished with new “cannon fodder”. And secondly, with more and more frequent reports that another major offensive being prepared or even begun in recent days by Russia, which also requires masses of soldiers.

However, now, in contrast to the time of the “first wave” of mobilization, the state of shock among the population has practically passed. Instead, people are thinking about how to resist mobilization measures. Communities of relatives of the mobilized are spontaneously created, who are trying to return their fathers, sons, and brothers home. Human rights activists create instructions and recommendations for those who want to avoid being sent to the front or are going to escape from it on their own. Such cooperation is also connected with the fact that after a few months since the beginning of the “partial mobilization”, people come to realize where ex-

actly the newly recruited soldiers are sent and what consequences await them in the places of hostilities.

2. Next, we are interested in the question of what the attitude of Russians to the war is after 11 months. Briefly answering this question, it is necessary to point out that the masses, for the most part, do not understand the goals of waging war, what it is fought for, and what their friends and relatives are fighting for. While remaining loyal to the Putin regime that unleashed the war, people are not ready to make any sacrifices for the sake of its continuation. The masses are dominated by disappointment with the only thing they could be “proud of” in the Russian state until February 2022 — the armed forces.

3. Speaking about protests against the war in general and mobilization in particular, we can only say that there have been no mass demonstrations lately, especially in the first month of the new year 2023. However, this does not negate the fact that there are regular reports in the media and social networks about lone warrior who commit individual acts of desperation, whether it is an attack on representatives of officers in the army or in recruitment centers in cities.

4. The social consequences of the war and the sanctions are not critical at the moment. Basically, they are expressed in the facts that sanctioned goods are less available than before the war (since access depends on supplies from other countries), as well as in the strong price rise for such commodities. This includes automotive technology, electrical engineering and the like. Also, since the beginning of the war, prices for housing and real estate in general have risen sharply. Otherwise, with regard to food, essentials and everything that is completely produced in Russia, the situation here is only slightly worse than before February 2022.

Footnotes

1) CBO is the Russian abbreviation for the “Special Military Operation” as the war in the Ukraine is officially called by the Putin regime.



Publications of the RCIT

The Peculiar Features of Russian Imperialism

A Study of Russia's Monopolies, Capital Export and Super-Exploitation in the Light of Marxist Theory

By Michael Pröbsting, August 2021

Introduction * Another Denial of Russia's Imperialist Character * The Methodological Failure of our Critics * Russia's Economy: Dominated by Domestic, not Foreign, Monopolies * Capital Export and the Problem of “Round-Tripping” Foreign Direct Investments * “Phantom FDI”: No Russian Peculiarity but a Global Phenomenon * Russia's Leading Multinational Corporations and their Foreign Investments * Imperialist Super-Exploitation via Capital Export * Imperialist Super-Exploitation via Migration * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

Leader of Russian Mercenaries Admits the Popular Character of the Ukrainian Resistance which Fights “House to House”

By Juan Giglio, *Convergencia Socialista (Argentinean Section of the RCIT)*, 10.1.2023

On January 4th, Putin’s favorite mercenary Yevgeny Prigozhin visited the war front in the Donetsk area. There, this military leader, who organizes the so-called “Wagner” group, tried to explain the failure of his mercenaries, who have not been able to capture the city of Bakhmut, in eastern Ukraine, after months of intense fighting.

Prigozhin stated that this occurred because there was “a fortress in every house” in Bakhmut... It sometimes takes whole weeks to clear a house. (Infobae, January 4) In this way, he implied that the war, on the part of the Ukrainian side, was assumed as its own by the entire population, which resists the invasion of Russian imperialism, entrenching itself in its neighborhoods.

Going further with this characterization, the also nicknamed “Putin’s chef”, criticized the way in which the Russian Ministry of Defense reports on the war: They say: “the combined forces have advanced towards Artyomovsk and have broken through the defense”... What means “break the defense... break the defense of one house this morning, so you have to go break the defense of the next house, right? (Infobae, January 4)

The head of the mercenaries, who operate in various regions of the planet -such as Africa or Syria- ended the report reaffirming that Each home is a fortress... because: The boys fight to (defend) each home... To say that (there are) 500 (lines of defense) would probably not be a mistake, because every 10 meters there is a defense line... The fighters confirm that there is a Ukrainian defense line every 10 meters. (Infobae, January 4)

The statements by the head of the Wagner group support our analysis that the war, beyond the fact that it is waged

between two bourgeois factions, has the character of a national liberation war, since as Yevgeny Prigozhin maintains, the majority of the Ukrainian people, defend your country. This occurs not between two countries with similar characteristics, but between a semi-colony -Ukraine- and an imperialist power, Russia.

This reality is different in Russia, where thousands of recruits recently incorporated into the imperialist occupation forces continue to desert, refusing to fight, since they have not been won over by Great Russian chauvinism. For this reason, the morale of the Putinist troops does not compare with that of the Ukrainian soldiers, who fight in an exemplary manner and maintain the offensive, despite facing an immensely superior war machine!

Although behind this war of liberation lies another confrontation, which is the one carried out by the imperialist factions that support one or the other army, the main contradiction is the one that pushes the people to dig trenches in defense of their homeland, invaded by Russia. Unfortunately, there are still leftist parties that do not understand this basic question, which is why they directly or indirectly support Russian imperialism.

From the [Revolutionary Communist International Tendency](#) and *Convergencia Socialista* -its Argentine section- we will continue supporting the Ukrainian military camp, drawing lines with the imperialist forces of NATO and the bourgeois government of Zelensky. That is why we will continue to insist that the liberation of Ukraine will take place when its workers organize independently, in popular assemblies and militias, with the prospect of seizing power.

The Ukrainian War and Russian Imperialism (New Book in Korean Language)

The Korean section of the RCIT has published a new book titled *The Ukrainian War and Russian Imperialism*. The book has 358 pages and includes both articles written by our Korean comrades as well as translations of other RCIT documents.

At the following link, you can read the contents of the

book in English and Korean language as well as download the book as a PDF: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/book-the-ukrainian-war-and-russian-imperialism-in-korean-language/>

You can order the book from our comrades here: <https://blog.wrpukorea.org/2023/01/blog-post.html>



NEW RCIT PUBLICATION!

[단행본 책] 우크라이나 전쟁과 러시아 제국주의

The Ukrainian War and Russian Imperialism

Book published by the RCIT Section in South Korea

Download as PDF: <https://blog.wrpukorea.org/2023/01/blog-post.html>

Bourgeois Mainstream Press Reports:

“Police Seize on COVID-19 Tech to Expand Global Surveillance”

Another confirmation of the warning which Marxists issued already in spring 2020

By Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 22.12.2022

The Associated Press, one of the largest bourgeois mainstream news agencies in the world, has published a series of articles about the use of COVID technologies by the police. Providing examples from a number of countries on all continents, the journalists demonstrate that the capitalist state apparatus has utilised these technologies in order to expand the surveillance of the population.

“Now, from Beijing to Jerusalem to Hyderabad, India, and Perth, Australia, The Associated Press has found that authorities used these technologies and data to halt travel for activists and ordinary people, harass marginalized communities and link people’s health information to other surveillance and law enforcement tools. In some cases, data was shared with spy agencies. The issue has taken on fresh urgency almost three years into the pandemic as China’s ultra-strict zero-COVID policies recently ignited the sharpest public rebuke of the country’s authoritarian leadership since the pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square in 1989. For more than a year, AP journalists interviewed sources and pored over thousands of documents to trace how technologies marketed to ‘flatten the curve’ were put to other uses. Just as the balance between privacy and national security shifted after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, COVID-19 has given officials justification to embed tracking tools in society that have lasted long after lockdowns. ‘Any intervention that increases state power to monitor individuals has a long tail and is a ratcheting system,’ said John Scott-Railton, a senior researcher at the Toronto-based internet watchdog Citizen Lab. ‘Once you get it, is very unlikely it will ever go away.’”¹

Such a discovery is hardly surprising for Marxists! The RCIT had warned from the very beginning that the COVID policy of capitalist governments is not based “on health precautions but rather on political calculations.” In a statement published on 5 February 2020, we already emphasized: “the ruling classes in China as well as in many other countries exploit the hysteria in order to justify the vast expansion of surveillance and control of its population.”²

In our Manifesto, published a few weeks later on 21 March, we warned: “Such belligerent rhetoric is necessary to justify drastic measures of the capitalist state to impose a lockdown on millions of people and to massively increase the executive powers of the police and army. This is exactly what we are currently experiencing in China, Italy, France, Spain, Austria and now the whole of Europe. Similar developments have already begun in Latin America as well as the U.S. (...) With one stroke, “Big Brother” is here, openly and without any attempt by the capitalist state to conceal it. The massive surveillance techniques will soon be the new normal worldwide.”³

In the following months, the RCIT deepened its analysis of this process and characterized it as COVID Counterrevolution. We opposed this reactionary offensive from early February 2020 onwards and advocated a health-orientated socialist response to the pandemic⁴ in combination with a strategy of popular uprising in defence of social and democratic rights.⁵ Since then, we have analysed the expansion

of the surveillance of the population by the bourgeois state apparatus under the pretext of the pandemic in a number of works.⁶

The findings of the Associated Press (AP) are therefore not surprising in itself. What is rather interesting is that such a bourgeois mainstream news agency feels obliged to publish these facts. Basically, this fact reflects the crumbling of the capitalist phalanx which advanced the COVID Counterrevolution since spring 2020. However, given the mass protests against the authoritarian Lockdown and “Green Pass” policy of the ruling class – in Europe and other countries in the second half of 2021 and early 2022⁷ and in China a few weeks ago⁸ – the bourgeois was forced to beat a retreat. This has created space for critical journalists and scientists to report about the “dark side” of the official pandemic policy.

There is no doubt that the series of AP reports shows only the tip of the iceberg and that the extent of surveillance by the capitalist state apparatus around the world with technologies, which were officially introduced as tools against the pandemic, goes far beyond.

Nevertheless, the findings of this investigation is a kind of “official” confirmation of what the RCIT and other authentic Marxists have said from the very beginning: the COVID Counterrevolution opened a dangerous process of expansion of the chauvinist state bonapartism. Socialists need to build a broad united front of workers and popular organisations to combat all attacks on democratic rights.

To the opportunist left which supported the Lockdown and “Green Pass” policy of the ruling class since spring 2020, we say: how could you ignore all these anti-democratic developments for such a long time?! How is it possible that bourgeois mainstream journalists see better through the bonapartist character of the official COVID policy than you?! Will you recognise, at least by now (three years too late!) that the capitalist COVID policy has been reactionary and anti-democratic from the beginning? Will you, at least now, make a self-critical balance sheet of your policy in the last three years?

Footnotes

- 1 Garance Burke, Josef Federman, Huizhong Wu, Kru-tika Pathi and Rod McGuirk; Police seize on COVID-19 tech to expand global surveillance, Associated Press, 20.12.2022, <https://apnews.com/article/technology-police-government-surveillance-covid-19-3f3f348d176bc7152a8cb2dbab2e4cc4>; see also Huizhong Wu: Beijing human rights activist immobilized by COVID-19 app, December 20, 2022, <https://apnews.com/article/technology-health-beijing-covid-human-rights-adcefe4b4696aab-684f0b69175999005>; Rishabh R. Jain: Facial recognition wielded in India to enforce COVID policy, 20.12.2022, <https://apnews.com/article/technology-health-india-hyderabad-law-enforcement-9b5e249d7ef5cefd3c6dc74c2c4b5b84>; Rod McGuirk: Police in Australia co-opted COVID-19 apps to fight crime, 20.12.2022, <https://apnews.com/article/technology-health-australia-covid-western-cb97994f67654108f10235ba4508f937>
- 2 RCIT: 2019 Corona Virus: Oppose the Global Wave of

Chauvinist Hysteria! Workers and oppressed: Do not trust the ruling class and its media! 05.02.2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/2019-corona-virus-oppose-the-global-wave-of-chauvinist-hysteria/>

3 COVID-19: A Cover for a Major Global Counterrevolutionary Offensive. We are at a turning point in the world situation as the ruling classes provoke a war-like atmosphere in order to legitimize the build-up of chauvinist state-bonapartist regimes, 21 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-a-cover-for-a-major-global-counterrevolutionary-offensive/>

4 RCIT: A Revolutionary Action Program to fight COVID-19! Workers and Oppressed: Don't trust the State of the Rich and Powerful! Trust only Yourself! April 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/health-program-covid19/>; see also: ALS: A Marxist approach to the international mobilizations against the authoritarian health restrictions, February 2022, https://www.thecommunists.net/home/espa%C3%B1ol/una-aproximaci%C3%B3n-marxista-a-las-movilizaciones-internacionales-contra-las-restricciones-sanitarias-autoritarias/#anker_1

5 The RCIT has published more than 100 pamphlets, essays, articles and statements plus a book on the COVID Counterrevolution which are all compiled at a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-2019-corona-virus/>. In particular we refer readers to two RCIT Manifestos: COVID-19: A Cover for a Major Global Counterrevolutionary Offensive. We are at a turning point in the world situation as the ruling classes provoke a war-like atmosphere in order to legitimize the build-up of chauvinist state-bonapartist regimes, 21 March 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-19-a-cover-for-a-major-global-counterrevolutionary-offensive/>; "Green Pass" & Compulsory Vaccinations: A New Stage in the COVID Counterrevolution. Down with the chauvinist-bonapartist police & surveillance state – defend democratic rights! No to health policy in the service of the capitalist monopolies – expand the public health sector under workers and popular control! 29 July 2021, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/green-pass-compulsory-vaccinations-a-new-stage-in-the-cov->

[id-counterrevolution/](https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/collection-of-articles-on-the-2019-corona-virus/); In addition, we draw attention to our book by Michael Pröbsting: *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution: What It Is and How to Fight It. A Marxist analysis and strategy for the revolutionary struggle*, RCIT Books, April 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-covid-19-global-counterrevolution/>.

6 See e.g. the above-mentioned book by Michael Pröbsting: *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution: What It Is and How to Fight It*; see also a pamphlet by the same author: *The Police & Surveillance State in the Post-Lockdown Phase. A global review of the ruling class's plans of expanding the bonapartist state machinery amidst the COVID-19 crisis*, 21 May 2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/police-and-surveillance-state-in-post-lockdown-phase/>.

7 See on this e.g. Medina Gunić: *COVID Counterrevolution: They Declare Victory...and Retreat. Have We Won already? Britain, Denmark, Spain, Italy and many more loose at least some of their Bonapartist restrictions*, 05.02.2022, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/covid-counterrevolution-they-declare-victory-and-retreat/>

8 The RCIT has published the following documents on the recent mass protests in China: *Popular Rebellion against Lockdowns and "Zero COVID"*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-popular-rebellion-against-lockdowns-and-zero-covid/>; *Protests against "Zero COVID" in China: An Embarrassment for the Lockdown Left*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/global/china-protests-and-lockdown-left/>; *China Protests: The Anti-Lockdown Program of the University Students in Beijing*, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/china-protests-university-students-against-lockdowns/>; *Que el FITu y otros partidos de izquierda pongan en pie un Comité de Solidaridad con el pueblo chino que lucha contra la dictadura del PCCh*, <https://convergenciadecombate.blogspot.com/2022/12/que-el-fitu-y-otros-partidos-de.html>; *Defensores de cuarentenas y pases sanitarios apoyan la lucha de chinos contra cuarentenas ¿Doble vara o una realidad que liquidó sus argumentos?*, <https://convergenciadecombate.blogspot.com/2022/11/defensores-de-cuarentenas-y-pases.html>

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution*

What It Is and How to Fight It. A Marxist analysis and strategy for the revolutionary struggle

In *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution* Michael Pröbsting analyses the dramatic events in spring 2020 which have opened a new historic era. A triple crisis has shocked the world. The Third Depression has begun, characterized by a devastating economic slump of the capitalist world economy which is certainly no less dramatic than the crisis which started in 1929.

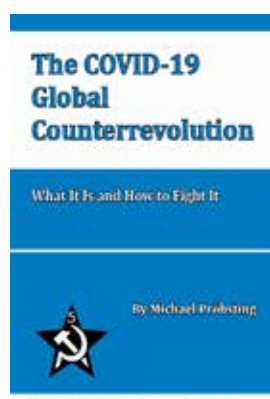
In addition, there is a wave of anti-democratic attacks of a scale which has not been seen in the imperialist countries since 1945. This has triggered a global turn towards Chauvinist State Bonapartism and the creation of a monstrous Leviathan-like state machinery.

And finally, the world faces COVID-19 – a pandemic which endangers many lives and which is exploited by the ruling classes in order to spread fear, to deflect attention from the capitalist causes of the economic crisis and to justify the turn towards chauvinist state bonapartism.

The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution also shows that large sectors of the reformist workers movement and the

so-called left fail to understand the meaning of this triple crisis. Similar to the situation in 1914 after the beginning of World War I we can observe a gigantic wave of opportunist capitulation by many self-proclaimed socialists as they support or at least do not denounce the global lockdown and the suppression of democratic rights which the ruling classes are imposing in the name of combat against the pandemic. *The COVID-19 Global Counterrevolution* offers a Marxist analysis of this historic crisis and elaborates a revolutionary perspective for the struggles ahead.

The book contains an introduction and 6 chapters plus an appendix (176 pages) and includes 5 figures and a diagram.



China after the Defeat of Zero Covid

Did the capitalist locomotive become Titanic?

By Damian Quevedo, *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentinean Section of the RCIT), 10.1.2023

The end of Xi Xin Ping's confinement policy implies for many analysts the possibility that China once again plays the role of locomotive that drags the world economy. This characterization has the defect of contemplating only one aspect of reality, which is the productive potential of the Asian giant.

However, there is another aspect that boycotts the possibility of the Asian power repositioning itself as the productive vanguard, which is the shrinking of the markets where it can place its merchandise. In this capitalist society, not only is it necessary for industries to manufacture a lot, but it is also essential that there are buyers.

In that framework, China's recovery may have an unintended consequence for its competitors: In much of the world it could manifest itself not in higher growth, but in higher inflation or interest rates. Central banks are already raising rates at a frenzy to fight inflation. If China's reopening increases price pressure to an uncomfortable degree, they will have to keep monetary policy tighter for longer. Commodity-importing countries, including much of the West, are most at risk of these shocks [1].

The other factor that will hinder the Chinese recovery is the defeat of the restrictions imposed by the dictatorship. A policy designed to regiment the labor movement, preparing it for war and for it to increase, in a qualitative way, its productivity, through the implementation of guidelines

even harsher than the current ones of labor flexibility.

The worker and popular rebellion that overthrew the confinements of the Communist Party hit one of the pillars of Chinese growth in recent decades, its cheap wages and extremely exploitative conditions. While these guidelines will continue to exist, they are not what local capitalists need to sustain the competitiveness of their products.

This reality is pushing several multinationals to set up camp in China, in order to relocate their factories to countries with a less conflictive labor movement. The great failure of Xi Xin Ping is not guaranteeing the continuity and deepening of the conditions that big companies had for a long time, to build fortunes by filling the world with their products!

The main dynamic, for the revolutionaries, is the one that the Chinese workers opened when they rebelled against the confinement. This rebellion in one of the main centers of world capitalism will push the working class of Asia and the rest of the world to fight like in China. We socialists must encourage this dynamic, putting ourselves at the forefront of these combats, which will be decisive in terms of the possibility of ending Capitalism and beginning to build a new society, of a Socialist nature.

[1] Infobae 01/07/2023

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 problems 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.

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

By Michael Pröbsting



Published by the Revolutionary Communist International (RCIT)

The New Extreme Right-Wing Government in Israel and the Arab Revolution

By Yossi Schwartz ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel (Occupied Palestine), 8.1.2023

It is clear to those who follow up the news from Israel that the new government led by Benjamin Netanyahu is the most right-wing government in the history of Israel. It is an extreme nationalist and racist government committed to the annexation of most of the West Bank and in support of open discrimination which means for example the right of doctors not to treat Arabs or members of the LGBT community. It intends to give itself the power to override, by a simple majority in the Knesset, any of the Court's objections to their laws, even if they violate the Basic Laws, which serve as Israel's elements of constitution. A full constitution is beyond the vision of the racist MK's. They also want to allow the appointment of judges according to the political majority of the moment, like in the United States. And similarly for the attorney general and the government's legal advisors.

The former government of Bennett and Lapid killed more Palestinians, many of them children, than by Netanyahu in any other year since 2015. This killing by Bennett-Lapid prepared the road for the return of Netanyahu and his partners from the extreme right.

Now we have the same crowd that supported Bennett and Lapid once again in the streets in support of democracy for the Jews: *"Around 30,000 people assembled at HaBimah Square, spilling out onto nearby streets. The protesters waved Israeli and LGBTQ+ pride flags, and raised banners against Prime Minister Netanyahu's government. The activists marched to the Tel Aviv Museum, where leaders gave speeches. A second march set out after the speeches"* [1]

They slammed Justice Minister Yariv Levin, who on Wednesday unveiled the government's long-promised overhaul of the judicial system that aims to weaken the Supreme Court.

Aaron Barak the former president of the Supreme Court said years ago that the role of the Supreme Court of Israel is to provide an umbrella to shield Israel from what is considered in other countries war crimes.

The anti-Netanyahu Black Flag movement said that *"the coup d'état will encounter a nation of Israel determined to guard our democracy – and [the reforms] will fail..."* The Saturday protest follows a rally in front of the home of Levin on Friday by hundreds of activists from the Darkenu civil society movement, who claimed that the High Court served as a "flak jacket" to protect IDF soldiers from being brought to the International Criminal Court. *"The Override Clause and Levin's moves to weaken the justice system would hurt IDF soldiers, and hurting our soldiers is a red line,"* Darkenu CEO and former Kulanu MK Rachel Azaria warned. *"We demand from Minister Yariv Levin not to abandon our soldiers to the Hague."* [2] This message was the main message of the demonstrators. In simple words let our soldiers kill the Palestinians. We want democracy for the Jews that Netanyahu and his partners are endangering.

The Similarity with the Rand General strike

This demonstration brings to mind the South African labor Party and the whites only trade unions that went on a general strike known as the Rand strike against the government to maintain their privileges in 1922. In December 1921 the mines, the electrical power stations (the Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power Company or VFP) and the engineering companies announced wage cuts and an end to piecework and underground contracts for white workers, from January. It was also widely held that the color bar, which guaranteed white workers their jobs on the mines, would be scrapped. All attempts by the Mine Workers Union and the South African Industrial Federation (SAIF) to secure arbitration were rejected by the Chamber of Mines, saying that no outside arbiter could judge the financial position of the mines. The workers responded by calling for a strike. On 31 December they set up an Augmented [strike] Executive, consisting of the executive of the SAIF and representatives from forty affiliated unions, under the chairmanship of Joe Thompson. The white coal miners came out on 2 January and, in one of their most myopic of moves, told black workers to stay out of the struggle. There was no call for solidarity action. Supervised by officials, the black workers. The revolt on the Rand was confined exclusively to whites. Despite the presence of Africans at some of the rallies they were not involved in the strikes or in the revolt that followed. Nor was there any appeal to black workers to join the strike, although some white miners condemned African workers for scabbing. Consequently, it can come as no surprise that there was no support from any black organization.

"The SALP, pusillanimous and blinkered by its belief in segregation, confined itself largely to parliamentary politicking. The white working class, intent on maintaining its privileges, used its organizational base in the trade unions to fight for its own sectional interests. The struggles they engaged in, against mine-owners, industrialists and public services, were bitter, but were circumscribed by remaining inside the arena of white settler society." [3]

"Through the 1920s and 1930s, at least, most members of the Communist Party averred that this was an outstanding example of the struggle between the ruling class and the workers, even though there were racist aspects that were deplorable. The Trotskyists did not dissent. The Spark, organ of the Workers Party of South Africa, carried an article on the strike, in November 1935, in which it described the struggle as one between classes, and commemorated the strike as one of the great events in working class history. Edward Roux, in his biography of S.P. Bunting, and one of the pioneer young communists who demanded that the party organize Africans in the early 1920s, was more critical of the communist position in 1922. Yet he also took the position that, wrong as some of the party had been, they had been correct in supporting the strike." [4]

Later on, the Stalinist party admitted that the strike was racist.

"The slogan 'For a White Africa' appeared everywhere during

the strike and, in retrospect; this stamped the events of 1922 as racist... The interpretation given to this slogan by many trade unionists, and by the CPSA, was related to the prevailing standard of living of whites, and the contrasting conditions under which blacks lived. With white miners earning seven to ten times more than blacks, their replacement would increase the mines' profitability considerably. It would also lower wage levels and reduce all standards of living. The position of the CPSA was spelt out in an editorial in the International of Friday 27 January 1922: "There is no ... future for the white workers under capitalism. Communism alone can make South Africa a white man's country, in the sense that Communism alone can secure to every worker – whatever his color – the full product of his labor. Only when that is secured will a White man be safe: only then can you begin to talk of a 'White South Africa'" [5]

"By using the slogan of the day, the writer of the editorial came close to endorsing the worst aspects of white supremacy. All the attempts to swing the argument against the capitalists ('the only real black man'!) used the same race prejudices that afflicted white society. Despite appeals to revolutionary events in Russia, and rational arguments against trying to hold onto an unreal status quo, the party's definition of a 'white South Africa' was fatally flawed." [6]

The right-wing government and the Arab revolution

While we the ISL oppose this extreme right-wing government, it is not a fascist government as the Stalinist claim. Were it a fascist, Odah and others would be attacked by the army and the police and sent to camps. Fascism's aim is to destroy the working-class movement, to atomize the workers. In Israel they do not need fascism because the Jewish working class is Zionist and does not show any solidarity with the Palestinian workers. As long as the Jewish working class and the poor and even the lower middle

class will remain Zionist, they would not be able to change society.

We have to understand that this extreme right government is moving Israel another step to its end. It will force the Arab local ruling class to break relations with Israel because of their fear of the masses and the Arab revolution. Most likely they will do it too late and the Arab revolution will end their rule.

The point today is not to embellish the middle-class movement that wants democracy for the Jews only as "Hadash" and "Socialist struggle" that adapt themselves to the middle-class protesters do, but to orient ourselves to the Palestinian struggle and prepare for the Arab Revolution.

The right centrist "Socialist struggle" has declared: "Netanyahu and his Likud partners tried yesterday to use the appointment of Amir Ohana as speaker of the Knesset, the first out-of-the-closet gay in the position, as a fig tree. But the appointment, of someone who has previously served as a minister in the Likud government, does not in the least change the fact that this is a ruling coalition that wants not only to perpetuate but to exacerbate discrimination against LGBT people, against women, against the Arab-Palestinian public, against asylum seekers and non-Jewish immigrants in all fields of life – from education, through housing to public transportation"

Pay attention to the order that put the Arab citizens of Israel after LGBT and after women and not one word on the Palestinian struggle in the West Bank and Gaza.

Endnotes:

[1] <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-726915>

[2] Ibid

[3] <https://www.marxists.org/history/etol/revhist/supplem/hirson/1922.html>

[4] Ibid

[5] Ibid

[6] Ibid

Books of the RCIT

Yossi Schwartz: The Zionist Wars

A History of the Zionist Movement and Imperialist Wars

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz gives an overview about the process of Zionist colonialization of Palestine as well as the resistance of the indigenous Arab population. He deals in detail with the popular struggles of the Palestinians against their expulsion by the Zionists. *The Zionist Wars* elaborates in detail the character of Israel's military campaigns in 1948 and the following decades which resulted in the expulsion of large parts of the Palestinian population. These wars were also crucial to implement the imperialist subjugation of the Arab countries.

However, as Yossi Schwartz elaborates, the Zionist state has passed its peak already some time ago which has been demonstrated by its failed military campaigns in Lebanon as well as in Gaza.

In *The Zionist Wars* the author also discusses in much detail the program of the communist movement on the Palestinian question. He shows the adaptation and finally capitulation of Stalinism to the Zionist project – culminating in massive arms shipments for the Israeli forces during the War of 1948.

In this book Yossi Schwartz elaborates the analyses and conclusions of Leon Trotsky and the Fourth International for the libera-

tion of Palestine. He also discusses the strength and weakness of his successors in dealing with the Zionist state and the Arab liberation struggle against it.

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz defends the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and outlines a socialist perspective.

The book contains an introduction and 20 chapters (136 pages) and includes 2 Tables and 4 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/the-zionist-wars/>

**THE
ZIONIST
WARS**

A HISTORY OF
THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT
and
Imperialist Wars

BOOK BY
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The killing of ill Palestinian Prisoners

By Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 22.12.2022

Palestinian prisoner and freedom fighter Nasser Abu Hmeid died in the morning of Tuesday, 20 December 2022 after falling into a coma. Abu Hmeid, 51, from Al-Amari refugee camp, passed away in Assaf Harofeh hospital, having been repeatedly denied release and return to his family even after his terminal cancer diagnosis and the severe deterioration of his health.

Yesterday the Zionist mass media were very happy to tell their readers that “Mass-murdering terrorist Nasser Abu Hmeid dies of cancer in Israeli custody” [1]

Then the Times of Israel tells its readers that Nasser Abu Hmeid was a founding member of Al-Aqsa Martyrs’ Brigade and was serving multiple life sentences for role in terror attacks that killed 7 Israelis; he also murdered 5 Palestinian collaborators. The newspaper does not say who are these Israelis, that he was involved in what Israel calls the lynching of the Israeli soldiers in Ramallah.

But a little digging reviles that they were Eliyahu Cohen, Binyamin and Talia Kahane, Gad Rejwan, Yosef Habi, Eli Dahan and Salim Baraka. Binyamin Kahane was the son of the notorious fascist Meir Kahane and his follower. Gad Rejwan was a far-right capitalist and the owner of “Bushakevitz” spice factory in the Atarot industrial area, located north of Jerusalem and on the outskirts of the West Bank town of Ramallah.

The Palestinians say that Nasser Abu Hmeid died in an occupation prison from medical negligence. After the tumor in his lungs was diagnosed in August 2021, he was returned back to Ashkelon prison and subjected to further treatment delays and only received chemotherapy after the cancer had already spread throughout his body. Even in September, when the occupation’s Assaf Harofeh hospital recommended he be released as he lived his last days, he was instead sent back to the notorious Ramle prison clinic and imprisoned until his last moment.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas said in a statement that Abu Hmeid was “martyred as a result of the policy of deliberate medical negligence” and held the Israeli occupation responsible. Abu Hmeid was diagnosed with an advanced stage of lung cancer in August 2021 after Israeli authorities delayed the provision of medical examinations and treatment, according to Palestinian prisoner rights groups. His family, prisoner groups and officials had since then launched a campaign calling on Israel to release him and warned that he was being exposed to “a slow death” through medical negligence. The family repeatedly said they wanted their son to die by their side. Back in September, following months of chemotherapy, the Assaf Harofeh hospital said in a medical report there was nothing more it could do to save his life. The hospital recommended that Abu Hmeid be released immediately and said he was “in his last days.” He was however sent back to the Ramla prison clinic and remained jailed. His body has not yet been released to Palestinian officials, who said they are following up on his file at the highest levels, so a funeral procession could be held.

“Israel will hold onto the body of Nasser Abu Hamid, one of the founders of Fatah’s al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, as part of efforts to negotiate a deal with Hamas, Defense Minister Benny Gantz

announced on Wednesday morning.” [2]

“Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network salutes the martyred prisoner Nasser Abu Hmeid and extends our condolences to the family and fellow strugglers of Abu Hmeid and the Palestinian people on this latest crime of the Zionist occupation. The occupier is solely responsible for the policy of medical neglect and the taking of Nasser Abu Hmeid’s life. He is the 233rd Palestinian prisoner, whose life has been taken inside the occupation prisons, including at least 74 due to the ongoing policy of medical neglect, negligence and abuse, and the refusal to provide early release or even family visits to suffering Palestinian prisoners. Abu Hmeid and his family put out a call to the people, one which we issue: to take to the streets, to confront the occupier, to stand with the prisoners’ cause and the liberation of Palestine” [3]

“The death of Nasser Abu Hmeid also brings another ongoing crime of the occupation to the forefront: the imprisonment of the bodies of Palestinian martyrs, dating from the “cemeteries of numbers” to the 11 bodies of martyrs currently held inside the occupation’s morgues as a form of collective punishment of the entire family and the Palestinian people. Families have been campaigning for the release of the bodies of their loved ones for years; now, the Abu Hmeid family has launched an open sit-in at the entrance to Al-Amari camp to demand the return of Nasser’s body as well as those of all the imprisoned martyrs’ bodies. The family declared that they will not receive condolences for his death until his body and that of all of the martyrs is returned to his family for a proper burial” [4]

“There are currently 60 Palestinian prisoners with severe disease such as cancer, including Walid Daqqa, the prominent Palestinian leader and thinker, whose diagnosis was recently corrected to myelofibrosis, after a lengthy period of delay, and over 600 Palestinian prisoners — out of over 4,750 held in occupation jails — diagnosed with some form of serious or degenerative illness” [5]

Nasser Abu Hmeid, a fighter in the Fateh movement, was born on 5 October 1972 in the Nuseirat refugee camp in Gaza, to a Palestinian family from the displaced village of al-Sawafir, forced from their homes in the Nakba in 1948. He spent a total of 33 years in occupation prisons and was a leader in the great popular Intifada of 1987 and then the Al-Aqsa Intifada beginning in 2000. He was arrested for the first time at 12 years old, was severely injured and wounded by bullets of the occupation on multiple instances.

As a leader in the armed struggle in Fateh, he was arrested for the last time in 2002 and sentenced to 7 life sentences and 50 years. Four of his brothers are also Palestinian prisoners: Nasr, Mohammed, Sharif and Islam; all of his brothers spent some time in occupation prisons, and one of his brothers, Abdel-Moneim, died in the struggle. The Abu Hmeid family home was demolished five times, and Nasser’s mother became a symbol of the prisoners’ families and their steadfastness. In 2021, he was diagnosed with lung cancer; since that time, he has been denied release on multiple occasions despite the severe deterioration of his health.

After the tumor in his lungs was diagnosed in August 2021, he was returned back to Ashkelon prison and sub-

jected to further treatment delays and only received chemotherapy after the cancer had already spread throughout his body. Even in September, when the occupation's Assaf Harofeh hospital recommended he be released as he lived his last days, he was instead sent back to the notorious Ramle prison clinic and imprisoned until his last moment.

The Palestinian prisoners' movement issued a statement: *"Our martyr, the leader Nasser, emerged from the arms of a struggling family of resistance fighters, which did not wait a day in offering its blood and energy to liberate our homeland from the destruction of the brutal, criminal occupier, which still fears Nasser as a martyr and has not dared to liberate his body after his soul was liberated from the oppression of the jailer... We bid farewell to the beloved Nasser, known on the streets of the homeland as a fighter and a struggler, who rose as a martyr as a result of medical negligence and his continued imprisonment without liberation. The time has come now to liberate our children from captivity at the hands of a criminal enemy practicing all kinds of torture and medical neglect for our children.... This policy of systematic killing has not and will not weaken our resolve for one day, and we will not stop our resistance inside and outside the prison but instead this increases our certainty of the correctness of the method and our goal..."* Despite the severity of his illness and the pain of his suffering, Nasser Abu Hmeid refused to submit himself to the occupation. He refused to allow his lawyers to submit a request for a pardon to the Israeli occupation military commander, declaring that the occupier had no right or legitimacy to pardon the occupied for resisting and seeking liberation" [6]

Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network underlines the full responsibility of the occupation and its backers, including the U.S., Canada, the British government and European governments, for these ongoing and systematic crimes against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian prisoners, including the policy of slow killing and medical neglect that today took the life of Nasser Abu Hmeid. His life of struggle, his refusal to break his princi-

ples in even the most severe of circumstances, and his call to stand with the Palestinian prisoners' movement must inspire us all to rededicate our efforts to obtain liberation for all Palestinian prisoners and for all of Palestine, from the river to the sea. [7]

A general strike started on Tuesday morning with stores, schools and businesses shut across the occupied West Bank to mourn Abu Hmaid's death, including Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus and Jenin.

As to the so-called lynching case when Palestinians masses killed two Israeli soldiers who entered Ramallah the Zionist state retaliated by attacking Ramallah and Gaza using helicopter gunships in escalation of hostilities in the region. Black columns of smoke rose from Gaza City, and plumes of smoke curled above Ramallah, where witnesses said a radio transmission building, near Arafat's office in the city, was hit. It was the toughest Israeli military operation against the Palestinians in two weeks of violence in which at least 96 were killed.

The ISL as part of the RCIT stands unconditionally on the side of the Palestinians in their fight against the Zionist oppression and calls to release the body of the freedom fighter of Nasser Abu Hmeid to his family. Release all political Palestinian prisoners!

Release the body of Nasser Abu Hmeid to his family!

Release all political prisoners!

For Palestine red and free from the river to the sea!

Endnotes:

[1] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/mass-murdering-terrorist-nasser-abu-hmeid-dies-of-cancer-in-israeli-custody/>

[2] <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-725432>

[3] <https://samidoun.net/2022/12/palestinian-prisoner-nasser-abu-hmeid-dies-in-occupation-prisons-in-latest-crime-of-medical-neglect/>

[4] *ibid* [5] *Ibid* [6] *Ibid* [7] *Ibid*

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.

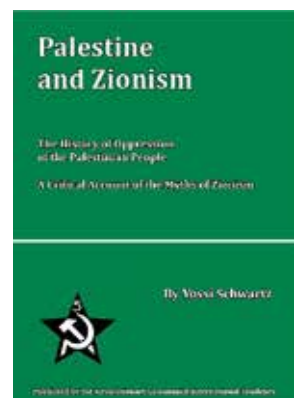
Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership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



Long live the Peruvian National Strike!

Out with Boluarte, the workers and the people must freely and democratically decide their future!

By Executive Committee of Convergencia Socialista (Argentinean Section of the RCIT), , 19.1.2023

Today began the national strike in Peru and the march on Lima, called "de los Cuatro Suyos", recalling the mobilization that confronted the government of Alberto Fujimori in 2000 in 2000. While all this is happening, the government of Dina Boluarte continues to repress and with his plan to call elections for the month of April next year, a proposal that is being rejected by the majority of the workers and the people, who want to resolve their future immediately.

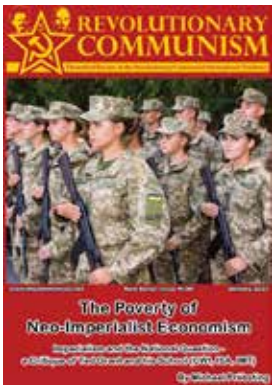
In this context, very advanced experiences of worker, peasant and popular organization began to develop, such as the Fight or Strike Committees, which are instituted as parallel organizations to the capitalist power, since where they work, nothing moves if these committees do not decide. Meanwhile, the protests are radicalizing, as in the province of Carabaya, where a mobilization has just burned down the headquarters of the Judiciary and then the Police Station.

We salute and strongly support the general strike and all the fighting actions that are taking place in Peru with the purpose of ending the Boluarte government. We stand in

solidarity with the massive proposal to demand and impose a Constituent Assembly, so that the people decide, not only who will govern it, but also and mainly, based on what "model" of the country they will have to do so.

The call for elections for this instance cannot and should not remain in the hands of Congress or any State institution, whose officials are declared and irreconcilable enemies of any democratic instance. It must be the organizations of the working class, the peasantry and the mobilized people - struggle committees, popular assemblies, self-defense pickets, etc. - that convene, organize, defend and guarantee its resolutions.

From our point of view, in order to resolve the economic, social and democratic demands of the mass movement, the workers, peasants and the people of Peru will have to kick out all the representatives of the bourgeoisie and take power into their hands. What is needed is a workers' and popular's government, which initiates the path of Socialism and fights for the construction of a Socialist Federation in the entire continent.



Publications of the RCIT

The Poverty of Neo-Imperialist Economism

Imperialism and the National Question -
a Critique of Ted Grant and his School (CWI, ISA, IMT)

By Michael Pröbsting, January 2023

Introduction * Part I. The Grantites' main flaws on imperialism and national oppression * 1. Confusion on imperialism and the class character of states * 2. Failure to recognise the nature of national oppression * 3. Refusal to support liberation struggles as they take place * Part II. The class basis and the theoretical tradition of Grantite revisionism * 4. Strategic orientation to the labour bureaucracy, Sanders, Chavez, etc. * 5. The Grantites' utopia: reforming the capitalist state and the peaceful, parliamentary road to socialism * 6. Are the police "workers in uniform"? * 7. Woods against Lenin's concept of revolutionary defeatism * 8. The Marxist theory of antagonistic contradictions and the inevitability of their violent explosion (and their gradualist distortion by Grantism) * 9. Excuse: Comparing imperialist economism in the past and present (Bukharin/Pjatakov/Radek versus Grant/Woods/Taaffe) * Part III. Some objections and Marxist answers * 10. Undermining the unity of the working class? * 11. "The workers would not understand this" * 12. "But the national question can not be solved under capitalism!" * 13. Are national liberation wars doomed to become "proxy wars" in the age of inter-imperialist Cold War? * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 28 pages, A4 Format

Brazil: How should Revolutionaries Act against the Bolsonarista Mobilization?

For the independent worker mobilization against Bolsonarismo and for the withdrawal of the repressive forces from the streets!

No political support for the Lula government!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency

(jointly adopted by the International Bureau and the Brazilian and Argentinean sections), 10 January 2023

1. On Sunday, 9 January, thousands of ex-President Jair Bolsonaro's supporters stormed Congress, the Supreme Court and presidential palace. This riot ended after a few hours as the police expelled them and arrested about 300 demonstrators. President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who had been inaugurated on 1 January, denounced the rioters "*fascists, fanatics*" and said they would be punished "*with the full force of law.*" He declared a federal security intervention in Brasilia which shall last until 31 January.

2. We do not consider this riot as an attempted coup d'état. A coup requires a serious attempt to take over the state apparatus, not the vandalising of some government building. In fact, this was a reactionary mobilisation of the most militant, (semi-)fascist sector of the Bolsonaro supporters. However, they did not have the support of Bolsonaro himself (he had cowardly fled the country two days before Lula's inauguration), of his party or of the armed forces. Without such support, this riot could not be more than a reactionary protest against the loss of the elections.

3. While this was not an attempted coup d'état, it was clearly a reactionary mobilisation which shows the existence of a militant and dangerous sectors of (semi-)fascist forces. The workers and popular organisations must understand this as a serious warning! However, in contrast to the reformists, we insist that the struggle against the right-wing threat must not be delegated to the capitalist state

and its armed forces. This is why the left must not support Lula's decision to militarise Brasilia. Strengthening the power of the armed forces of the capitalist state might hit the Bolsonaristas today but, surely, will hit the left-wing parties tomorrow! Instead, socialists should agitate for the trade unions, popular organizations and left-wing parties to mobilize in the streets and to smash the reactionary scum via direct action. At the same time, socialists need to prepare for attacks of the capitalist state apparatus by the current Lula government against the workers and popular movement which can take place pretty soon.

4. At the same time, we warn that left-wing forces must lend no trust in the Lula government. This is a government which rules the country in the interest of the monopolies and imperialist powers. There is no doubt that – similar to the Biden-Administration in the U.S. – the government will utilise the reactionary Bolsonarista riot to deflect from its own anti-popular policy. The left-wing forces must fight any semi-fascist mobilization, like the one that happened in Brasilia. However, we insist that in the coming period it will be those in power, i.e. the Lula government, which will carry out the political and economic attacks on the working class and which will command the armed forces. Any idea that those who command power and guns would be "a lesser evil" compared to the right-wing forces are thoroughly mistaken!



Publications of the RCIT

Is Türkiye a (Sub-)Imperialist Power?

The economic, political and military features of the Turkish state, its class character and the programmatic consequences for socialists.

A contribution to an ongoing debate amongst Marxists

By Michael Pröbsting, September 2022

Introduction * On the practical meaning of Marxist analysis of imperialism * A brief summary of the Marxist category of imperialism * "Sub-imperialism" vs "semi-colonial regional power": notes on two opposite conceptions * The dependent and semi-colonial character of Türkiye's economy * The Erdoğan government: a bonapartist regime combined with limited bourgeois-parliamentary democracy * Türkiye's role as a regional military power * Türkiye: An Advanced Capitalist Semi-Colony and a Semi-Colonial Regional Power * Marxist tactics in Türkiye's military interventions * On the anti-Muslim and anti-Turkish tradition of Great Russian chauvinism as well as of European Occidentalism * Conclusions * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

Argentina: Rallies in Solidarity with the Mass Protests in Iran and Peru

Two internationalist rallies of the left in Buenos Aires in front of the Iranian embassy and the Peruvian consulate

Report by Convergencia Socialista (RCIT Section in Argentina), 23.12.2022

Two important internationalist rallies organised by an alliance of leftist organization have taken place, one in front of the Iranian embassy and the other, at the Peruvian consulate in CABA. There, different organizations, among which was the *Convergencia Socialista* (RCIT Section in Argentina), repudiated the murderous regime of the Persian ayatollahs and the illegitimate government of Dina Boluarte.

Irrespective of political differences, the unity of action in

solidarity with the international workers' and popular struggles is a matter of principle that must be maintained and deepened with more acts and mobilizations of these characteristics.

At the Iranian embassy, Laura Márquez, from the student union of the Lomas institute 103, spoke for *Convergencia Socialista*, while at the Peruvian consulate, Juan Giglio, from the CS national leadership, spoke.



Speakers of *Convergencia Socialista* at the solidarity rallies in Buenos Aires: Laura Márquez (l.) and Juan Giglio (r.)



Publications of the RCIT

Ukraine: A Capitalist Semi-Colony

On the exploitation and deformation of Ukraine's economy
by imperialist monopolies and oligarchs since capitalist restoration in 1991

By Michael Pröbsting, January 2023

Introduction * I. The Marxist Theory of Imperialism and the Concept of Semi-Colonies * II. The Dead-End of Bureaucratic Stalinism * III. The Devastating Social & Economic Consequences of Capitalist Restoration * IV. The Semi-Colonial Deformation of Ukrainian Capitalism since 1991 (1. Oligarchs: the creation of a comprador bourgeoisie; 2. A semi-colonial supplier of raw materials for the capitalist world market; 3. Deep in the trap of foreign debt; 4. Foreign investment: the imperialist plunder of the Ukraine; 5. Migration: the Ukraine provides cheap labour force) * V. Ukraine: A Dependent Country Torn between Great Powers in East & West * VI. Russia's Push to Colonise the Ukraine since February 2022 and NATO's Efforts to Increase its Influence * VII. The Way Forward: From National Liberation to Social Revolution * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 28 pages, A4 Format

Britain: The Decay and Crisis of British Imperialism and Capitalism

The Sunak Government is preparing for Bonapartist Rule

By Laurence Humphries, RCIT Britain, 11 January 2023

Today, the 11th January 2023, industrial chaos continues in Britain with industrial action amongst ambulance workers in the GMB, UNITE and UNISON staging strikes at all the major hospitals in Britain. This will affect paramedics and other health professionals. Driving examiners, teachers in Scotland and bus drivers in Britain are also on strike. Rishi Sunak is preparing to introduce harsher anti-union laws against NHS workers, transport workers and others in the public sector, forcing at least 20% of the workforce to be at work. If workers ignore this law, trade unions and their leaders will be fined. Sunak and his reactionary Tory government are facing a huge crisis of imperialist rule, which is in general affecting all imperialist countries. This is the decay and crisis that Marxists predicted amongst them mostly famous Marx, Lenin, and Trotsky.

This inter-imperialist rivalry is driving inflation and the cost of living to unprecedented increases of costs for the masses and exploited sections of society. The government has instructed the employers, both in the NHS and rail networks, not to offer increased wages to workers who have been on 24-hour strikes. This is a deliberate policy by the ideal personification of the total national capital to create sharper confrontation between workers and the individual capitalist bosses.

“As ambulance workers get ready to strike again, another anxious plea has gone out from the NHS: only call 999 if you really have to. Wednesday’s walkout will affect most ambulance services in England and Wales. The advice is to call 999 if you are seriously ill or your condition is life-threatening. The action will involve thousands of staff, including paramedics, control room staff and support workers in a dispute over pay. Action by teachers in Scotland also continues, with secondary schools being affected on Wednesday”. [1]

Furthermore, bourgeois media states: *“New anti-trade union law could make it “impossible” for rail workers to carry out meaningful strike action, RMT leaders warned today. The rail union’s leader Mick Lynch told a rally outside Parliament on Wednesday that the government’s new Transport Strikes Bill amounted to a move to “conscript labour,” but pledged to fight the proposals “all the way.” “What we’re facing here in the middle of our dispute is a move by the government and the powers that be in this country to conscript labour,” he said. “[Workers] will be required on pain of dismissal ... to break their own dispute, despite going over the hurdles we’ve already got. So that is a step even further compared to what we’ve got now.”* [2]

And also: *“Rishi Sunak’s new anti-strike legislation to enforce “minimum service levels” in key public sectors including the NHS and schools has drawn a furious reaction from unions as the prime minister scrambles to get a grip on industrial disputes. The law, which the government plans to introduce in the coming weeks, will allow bosses in health, education, fire, ambulance, rail and nuclear commissioning to sue unions and sack employees if minimum levels are not met.”* [3]

As Karl Marx predicted in his writings with the tendency of the rate of profit to fall, exactly this is affecting all imperialist and capitalist nations at an accelerated tempo since 2008 and most recently since the end of 2019. In Britain, the situation is very acute with whole sections of workers pushing for increased pay, better working conditions and a decent standard of living. The RCIT has explained that the second slump of 2019 has driven the imperialists in a frantic battle to secure their profits and this has caused massive inflation rates with bankers trying to stabilise the situation.

Industrial Chaos leading to continued Strike Action

The crisis and decay of British capitalism is revealed with a huge cost of living increases amongst energy companies like BP and Shell, who have amassed huge profits of over 650 billion pounds(!). And yet, these energy companies continue to increase energy costs at the expense of ordinary workers and their families who are facing poverty to such a degree that it includes more and more homelessness. Both electricity, gas and water charges have leapt up and the government has now had to give handouts to minimize the looming of insurrection and revolutionary upheaval.

The COVID 19 Counter-Revolution and the Consequences

The COVID 19 counter-revolution successfully used lockdowns to keep people locked in their homes with no apparent medical supervision. The reason for the strategy of lockdowns and the other counterrevolutionary efforts by the ruling class was to control the masses in order to set a pre-emptive strike against any potential revolutionary upheaval taking place in Britain and elsewhere. *Black Lives Matter* and *Extinction Rebellion* were the only movements who still rallied for activities during these reactionary

Comunismo Revolucionario Spanish-language Journal of the RCIT

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lockdown times.

The RCIT at the time was one of the few tendencies in the working class to oppose the move towards Bonapartism and attacks on democratic rights under the pretext of a pandemic. In Britain, the pandemic was allowed to go unchecked and the NHS was allowed to disintegrate with many patients and health professionals dying. This was always a temporary measure, because the capitalist class realised that they had to reopen sectors so they could continue to exploit and maximise their profits. The pharmaceutical giants made a killing with vaccinations of all kinds forced on more than 5 billion of people worldwide, although the vaccines are not properly tested for their long-term side effects.

The Crisis of the Working-Class Leadership

The crisis of revolutionary leadership was famously explained by the Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky in the *Transitional Programme*. In Britain, Social democracy represented by the Labour Party is the twin half of the trade union bureaucracy; an apparatus which is used by the capitalist class as de facto agents in the working-class movement. The pro-capitalist leader of the Labour Party, Keir Starmer, is 20 points ahead in the opinion polls.

Bourgeois academics have predicted that he will win the 2024 General Election. The hatred of the masses against the Sunak government is very obvious. That is why through fixed term parliaments, he will not call a general election but rather hopes for an economic miracle around the corner saving his rule. Many capitalists including bankers are losing their belief in the Tories and know that Starmer would be a safe pair of hands for the ruling class. Starmer has consistently opposed strikes by workers engaged in

action, banned any Shadow minister of Labour with expulsion.

"Keir Starmer has repeatedly refused to support striking workers, including those working for the NHS as the main nurses' union prepares to ballot members on industrial action. In a round of regional radio interviews the Labour leader said he understood why strikes were taking place but repeated his opposition to standing with workers on picket lines. Pressed on whether he would back strikes, he said: "I don't want the strikes to go ahead. We want to be in government; in government you resolve issues." Asked by BBC Radio Sheffield whether he would join union members on the picket lines, Starmer said: "No, I don't think the job of the leader of the Labour party ... my job is to get Labour into government and to be the prime minister." [4]

The Role of Centrist in the current Disputes

Many of the centrist groups, including the Cliffite *Socialist Workers Party*, take a far too uncritical attitude to the bureaucrats organising the workers strikes like the RMT and ASLEF on the railways. They do also support the nurses in the RCN, who held two separate one-day strikes before Xmas, but the whole approach by these centrists is to take up a one-sided workerist respectively syndicalist position, advocating more and more strikes by individual trade unions. All of the trade union bureaucrats, from Mick Lynch in the RMT to the leaders in UNISON, the GMB, RCN and UNITE the Union, faithfully obey the anti-trade union laws by conducting ballots in accordance with the *Anti-Union Laws*, always announcing the one day they are going to go on strike. The weakness of the action is that every action is within the confines of capitalist law to a T. The penalty for disobeying these laws is sequestration of the unions' funds and bankruptcy for their officials.

Books of the RCIT

Michael Pröbsting: Greece - A Modern Semi-Colony

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

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

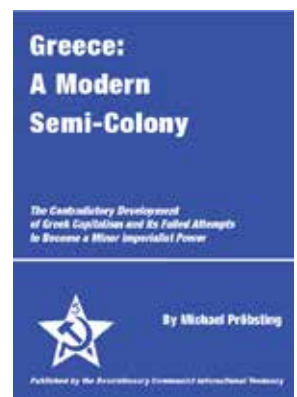
The following paragraphs are the back cover text of the book which gives an overview of its content.

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

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

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

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



These petty-minded bureaucrats are terrified of any action that could confiscate the material basis for their luxury homes, their expensive mobile phones, in short, they are terrified to risk their jobs as well paid officials accepted by the ruling class. There has been no coordination of these disputes. No demands for a general strike or even nationalisation of the railways. This shows the cowardly role of these 'Labour Lieutenants of Capital' as Lenin referred to them. Every dispute is a separate sectoral battle in that industry. The TUC has been absent in all these strike actions, not mentioning them at all.

The SWP's role is revealed through their various statements. *"Union leaders should coordinate where possible, but not delay escalating now. The Tories and bosses are pushing through an all-out assault on rail workers' pay, jobs, terms and conditions—and the right to strike. They hope to ride out the rail strikes, wearing down workers' morale. An all-out strike, with mass pickets and solidarity, has the power to shift the situation decisively. The new "minimum service level" rules will definitely cover "fire, ambulance and rail services". And "the government will consult on the adequate level of coverage for these sectors". They will consult and then ignore the responses if they don't like the answers, of course. In any case, the union leaders should refuse any talks with the government over these new anti-union laws. The Department for Business says in "health services, education, nuclear decommissioning, other transport services and border security, the government expects to continue to reach voluntary agreements". It "would only look to consult on minimum safety levels should these voluntary positions not be agreed."* [5].

No perspective by the SWP or any basic demands beyond

the minimum of economic slogans. The RCIT has consistently called for an indefinite general strike, including workers assemblies. We explained that an indefinite general strike that includes democratic demands will sooner or later lead to a violent confrontation with the oppression apparatus, i.e. the police and alike. We explained that as a result of this immanent threat, an indefinite general strike will pose the necessity of self-armed defence guards of workers. Ultimately, such a situation culminates in the struggle for power and if the working class is successful, to the overthrow of capitalism, also ending the rule of the servants of capitalism inside of the workers movement.

What the RCIT says

The RCIT in BRITAIN reiterates the transitional demands, elaborated by its international organisation, and adopted by the congress of its international membership. It is a matter of the greatest urgency that comrades in other tendencies and individual activists thoroughly study programmes and discuss strategies how to unite revolutionary forces based on sharp clarification of positions.

"Socialists need to recognise the extraordinary gap between the outrage of the masses about the dramatically rising living costs, on one hand, and the crisis of leadership. As a matter of fact, the official leadership of the trade unions and other workers organisations are extremely reluctant to organise defensive battles. At best, the bureaucrats limit themselves to organise one-day strikes or demonstrations.

However, it is evident that such limited protest activities can neither make the bosses accept a massive rise in payment nor can

Books of the RCIT

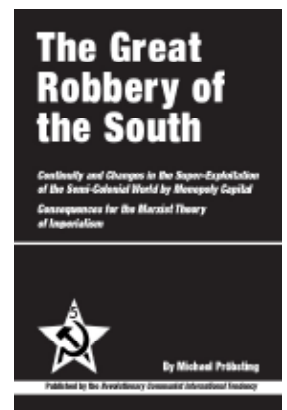
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

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

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

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

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



it force the capitalist governments to impose meaningful price caps. For this we need much more radical actions!

This is why socialists have to work towards the creation of committees of action in the workplaces and neighbourhoods. Such committees – which should integrate all activists as a first step and broader masses as a second step – can serve as pressure groups to force the bureaucrats to organise more radical actions than they are inclined to.

If the bureaucrats refuse to fight to the extent necessary (which can be taken for granted), such committees of action should take the struggle into their own hands. They should elect delegates and create a national coordination body.

However, as long as such committees do not exist or are not strong enough, socialists need to apply the united front tactic and call the existing leadership of the workers and popular organisations to organise the struggle against the deteriorating living conditions.”[6]

- * An Indefinite General Strike and a Struggle for Insurrection
- * Armed Defence Guards-committees of defence to protect the masses from police or fascist provocation
- * For revolutionary constituent assemblies
- * Nationalisation under workers control without compensation
- * Opposition to all Immigration controls no to chauvinism Islamophobia and Racism people of colour to practice their own religion and speak their own Language Open Borders Free movements of people
- * For a Workers Revolutionary Government –Join the RCIT

Footnotes

- 1) Strikes Update: How Wednesday 11 January’s walk-outs will affect you - BBC News, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-64220259>
- 2) New anti-trade union law could make it ‘impossible’ for rail workers to strike, RMT leaders warn | Morning Star (morningstaronline.co.uk), <https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/new-anti-trade-union-law-impossible-rail-workers-strike>
- 3) Union fury as Rishi Sunak unveils anti-strike laws for ‘minimum service levels’ | Industrial action | The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/jan/05/uk-ministers-announce-anti-strike-legislation#:~:text=The%20law%2C%20which%20the%20government,minimum%20levels%20are%20not%20met.>
- 4) Keir Starmer repeatedly refuses to back striking workers | Keir Starmer | The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2022/oct/06/keir-starmer-repeatedly-refuses-to-back-striking-workers>
- 5) ‘We need more strikes to win’ – train drivers say on picket lines (socialistworker.co.uk), <https://socialistworker.co.uk/news/we-need-more-strikes-to-win-train-drivers-say-on-picket-lines/>
- 6) Britain: Truss Government in Deep Crisis - RCIT - Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (thecommunists.net), <https://www.thecommunists.net/world-wide/europe/britain-truss-government-in-deep-crisis/>

Pamphlets on the EU and Brexit

- * **Marxism, EU and Brexit**
- * **The British Left and the EU-Referendum**
- * **The Reformist Pipe Dream of a “Socialist” European Union**

Written by Michael Pröbsting
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