

International Workers Organizer

Collective for the Refoundation of the Fourth International
International Leninist Trotskyist Fraction
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New Epoch

44

October 1, 2024

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Letter from the FLTI to the
62nd International Anti-War
Assembly of revolutionary
Marxists in Japan

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New invasion to Lebanon by the State of Israel

One year of genocide by Zionism and imperialism against the Palestinian nation

INTERNATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE!

For the destruction of the
Zionist-fascist State of Israel!



1,900,000 displaced in Gaza.
The martyrdom of the Palestinian nation:
massacred and refugees in their own land



Lebanon bombarded by Zionism

AFRICA

Genocide, famine, capitalist slavery and imperialist plunder

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October 1, 2024

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BREAKING NEWS

The fascist troops of Zionism, upheld by US imperialism, are advancing with tanks and artillery to invade southern Lebanon



Tanks of the Zionist state's fascist army stationed in the border with Lebanon

The State of Israel and its counter-revolutionary offensive must be defeated!

Palestine, Lebanon and the entire Middle East must be the grave of Zionism and imperialism!

As we write this, the Zionist-fascist state of Israel, with airstrikes and bombings in southern Beirut, is deepening its war of demolition and extermination, which has spread from Gaza to the West Bank and now to southern Lebanon.

This would be the fourth Zionist invasion of Lebanon in the last 50 years. Nobody assures that the state of Israel will remain on the southern border, but quite the opposite.

It is not only Zionism that is directing the political and military operations already underway in southern Lebanon. The one who also commands this operation is the butcher Biden, a true Nazi who has declared that "humanity is safer without the leadership of Hezbollah alive."

What a paradox and cynicism: the greatest terrorists and organizers of the greatest genocides ever experienced by human civilization, talk about being the guarantors of the security of the planet. How cynical!

Today, Zionism is expanding its counter-revolutionary front. In a war of occupation, for now in southern Lebanon, it seeks

to finish dismantling the political and military apparatus of Hezbollah, the most important political party in that country.

The Hezbollah leadership, together with the Iranian theocracy, had been betting on a "peace plan" in Gaza in meetings and agreements with US imperialism and Zionism. Qatar, Russia and now China were also involved in these negotiations...

It has been a year since the terrible massacre in Gaza. Until now, while the Palestinian people are being massacred, the leadership of Hezbollah and the Iranian Ayatollahs have prevented the opening of all fronts of the war of liberation against the Zionist occupation troops. But the State of Israel, the armed wing of imperialism, does not forgive and has extended its battle front.

One year was given to Zionism, which never had any intention of negotiating, but rather the opposite: its aim was always to crush and ethnically cleanse Gaza and the West Bank. The dead are the exploited Palestinians.



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This allows Zionism to advance today and seek to expand its military radius of action because, despite the brutal genocide against the Palestinian masses, **it has not yet managed to impose itself either in Gaza or in the West Bank.** There, despite widespread famine, the massacre of more than 200,000 men, women and children, the demolition of cities, camps, hospitals and schools, and the expulsion of more than a million inhabitants of Gaza from their homes, the resistance has not given up and receives the support of the entire Palestinian people.

In the West Bank, every attempt by Zionism was repelled by the resistance, which is attacked by Netanyahu and Biden's troops, and from behind by the Palestinian Authority and the PLO.

The Palestinian people are imposing a mass civil war over the conventional method of warfare, as we have discussed in an extensive article in this newspaper. They are dispersed patrols that coordinate with each other and receive supplies from the same people to which they belong and defend.

The attack on Lebanon is because for a year now Zionism (which has dropped the same amount of explosives and bombs on Gaza as the US did during each year of World War II) has not been able to take the territory from the resistance. The confirmation of what we are saying here is the cynicism of Netanyahu, who claims that to win the war he has to remove the entire population from Gaza to isolate the resistance.

The Arab bourgeoisies such as Hezbollah and Iran's in particular, along with those of Qatar and Egypt, as we have been saying, betted on a "peace plan" with USA and gave Zionism time to carry out massacres in occupied Palestine, forcing the Palestinian masses to pay the high price of suffering a Holocaust at the hands of the Zionist offensive. The truth must be told and this is the truth. The Arab and Shiite bourgeoisies betted for negotiation; Zionism betted for total war and the massacre of the Palestinian people.

It was clear that by murdering high authorities of Hezbollah and even those of the Iranian theocracy and Hamas abroad, the State of Israel sought to establish order and limits for its "partners" at the negotiating table.

Let us be clear: after a year, only the brave Yemeni masses have entered into an total war against Zionism and imperialism,



Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, bombed by Zionism

giving a sound support to the Palestinian people...

And now... Zionism is going after everyone, dismantling Hezbollah's communications system from within, murdering Iranian military leaders as we have already said, and threatening to invade Lebanon.

From now on, any response will be a belated response with a dubious outcome if all the masses of the Maghreb and the Middle East and the international working class do not intervene and enter the processes of revolution.

The Arab bourgeoisies have proven to be cowardly before Zionism, though murderers and repressors against their own rebellious peoples, as we saw in the revolutionary uprising of the masses in the region in 2011 and in particular, with the bloody coup of Al Sisi in Egypt and the massacres by al-Assad, supported in the Iranian theocracy, Hezbollah and the counterrevolutionary troops of the butcher Putin, at the Syrian revolution.

After each "peace conference" and "ceasefire" by Egypt, Qatar, Iran, Russia and China, under US command, the genocide against the Palestinian people has only deepened.

Over the past year, dozens of "peace" meetings have been held, both in Qatar and in Egypt, and most recently in China, where under US command everyone demanded that Hamas be dissolved, to hand over the hostages, and that the PLO, a lackey of Zionism, take charge of Gaza and the West Bank, with Israeli state troops inside Gaza. This "peace plan" was nothing more than the "peace of the cemeteries" and the sur-

render of the resistance.

The "peace" meetings in China in the last period also prove what we are saying here. They took place after the death of Ismail Haniyeh, the president of Hamas, who was "strangely" killed, alone in a house in Tehran, a matter that the Iranian government has not yet explained. At that time, the Ayatollahs promised "the mother of all battles" against the state of Israel. And as is now clear, admitted even by sectors of the Iranian government itself, they let the assassination of the president of Hamas pass, in order to hold the "peace conference" in China. An infamy. They handed over the president of Hamas in exchange for a supposed "peace"... This is a true confession from the party involved. Of the "mother of all battles" against Zionism that Iran announced, there is not even a memory left. This is denounced by the vanguard of the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon and by the Iranian masses themselves who are taking to the streets today: You, the clerics of Iran, are responsible for the fact that the Zionist offensive has not had a response in accordance with the needs of the oppressed and massacred peoples of the Middle East!

There is the fascist al-Assad guarding the borders of the Golan Heights to the state of Israel, protected by Russia, which openly supports the plan of Zionism, just as China does, although like the bloodthirsty Biden, they tear their clothes for "peace" and call on Netanyahu "not to commit excesses" as they do all over the planet.

The problem with all of them is that the resistance did not accept either Qatar's plan yesterday, or that of Iran, China and Russia today.

But the Palestinian resistance has been encircled. Zionism does not forgive, and imperialism does even less so with its agents

when they are no longer useful: now it is about massacring in Lebanon and perhaps tomorrow in Iran. This is how the masses have to pay for the cowardice of the Arab bourgeoisie that yesterday joined USA to massacre the heroic Syrian revolution and created a river of blood among the oppressed masses of the Middle East. A tragedy.

As the anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist fighters in the U.S. proclaim: "Intifada! Revolution!"

As we are closing this note, Iran has launched a barrage of missiles on the state of Israel. The US has given the order to support the Zionist state, entering directly into its military defense.

This Iranian response, totally late, when Zionism has already set foot in Lebanon and the genocide is deepening in Gaza and the West Bank, **could be the beginning of a total war, if the Iranian, Iraqi and all the Maghreb and Middle East masses take it into their own hands, rising up in Egypt, Qatar, etc.**, against the Arab bourgeoisies who are partners of Zionism since they have already given it a free hand for a year to massacre the Palestinian people.

Otherwise, this barrage of missiles sent today by Iran and falling on the state of Israel, will be a bargaining chip for a new attempt at "negotiation" or "cease-fire", with the Islamic and Arab bourgeoisies having more authority before the masses to seek to impose the surrender of the heroic Palestinian resistance.

The Iranian, Qatari and Egyptian working class, as yesterday that of Tunisia, Algeria and Sudan, must take in their hands the coordination of a single Intifada in all the Maghreb and Middle East together with the Iraqi and Yemeni masses.

There are the oil wells of all the imperialist companies that plunder that region of the planet, starving its peoples.

The intervention of the working class, nationalizing without compensation the imperialist oil companies and banks, would be and definitely is the most powerful missile the masses have in their hands to defeat the offensive of Zionism and imperialism. As the pro-Palestinian fighters in the US say: "Intifada! Revolution!"

That is what the preparation of a revolutionary counter-offensive of the masses is all about: confronting Zionism with the method



09/27/24 - mobilization in the US against Netanyahu's speech at the UN: "Globalize the Intifada" "No votes for genocide. Resist for Palestine"

of the workers and peasants' revolution, a question that the Arab bourgeoisies, junior partners of the transnationals, are very far from desiring, since this would call into question their power and their partnerships with the imperialist banks and companies....

The struggle of the huge mass movement for Palestine and the destruction of the state of Israel is radicalizing all over the world

New sectors of the masses enter the fight in support of the Palestinian people, such as in India and Pakistan. As it could not be otherwise, they clash against the governments and regimes that have been looking the other way while the state of Israel massacres in Gaza and the West Bank.

In Spain, on September 27, trade union centers such as the CGT and Solidaridad Obrera called for a general strike in support of the Palestinian people. Picket lines were set up and a sector of workers adhered to this call. Important mobilizations took place in Madrid, Aragon, Bilbao, Barcelona, Valencia and other cities.

It is worth noting that CCOO, the trade union center of the Stalinist Communist Party, and the UGT of the imperialist NATO government of Sánchez and the Bourbons, did not support or call for this strike. Their lamentations for Palestine are "crocodile tears". These governments are the ones that supply from NATO to Zionism and U.S. imperialism, which has sent the Mediterranean fleet to the coasts of Gaza as a reinforcement for the state of Israel.

The Stalinist bureaucrats of the central trade union centers in France, Greece and around the world have refused to coordinate any centralized action that could hit imperialism where it hurts: its pockets and profits. That is what *paralyzing the war machine of imperialism and Zionism* is all about.

From the bowels of the Palestinian resistance, the trade unions of Gaza once again are making a call for the International General Strike after one year of resistance to the Zionist genocide, which we reproduce in this newspaper.

From Lebanon, the youth of the resistance -in a statement that we are also publishing, making our own and calling to reproduce worldwide- is also calling for an international general strike to stop the massacre of Zionism.

From the Collective for the Refoundation of the Fourth International / FLTI we make these two statements our own and call on all trade unions, workers', anti-imperialist and student movement organizations around the world to make them their own. The world working class must take them as its own, following in the footsteps of the American workers and youth, who are advancing the road to triumph: "*For an international intifada! Open the road to revolution!*".

The genocidal Biden, the Wall Street pirates, the murderer Netanyahu and the den of bandits of the UN met in New York surrounded by a huge anti-imperialist resistance of the workers and youth of the USA who have an enormous experience of combat inside the imperialist beast, as they demonstrated years ago against the Vietnam War and then against the invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan. In them there are

the advanced forces to stop the massacre of the Palestinian people!

The path to defeat the counterrevolutionary offensive of imperialism and the State of Israel is that of 2006, when the genocidal Zionist army broke its teeth and had to flee southern Lebanon because of the heroic national civil war of resistance of the exploited Palestinians and the Lebanese masses.

Palestine, Lebanon and the whole Middle East must be the grave of Zionism and imperialism!

Before it is too late: *World General Strike to stop the genocide of Zionism and the U.S. imperialism!*

The Palestinian trade unions have already made the call. Pro-Palestinian unions and workers in struggle in the U.S. have made it their own. Different trade union centers like CGT and Solidaridad Obrera of the Spanish State have already taken a



09/27/24: general strike in Spain in support of the Palestinian masses

step forward to conquer the International General Strike...

There is no time to lose. The setting up of an International Committee of trade unions and workers' organizations from all over the world to coordinate the struggle of the workers at world level is an imperious necessity; it is a matter of life and death. The forces to set up this International Committee are

already there. This is the road so that this October 7 and the whole month, the workers and oppressed peoples can lead great combats to paralyze the war machine of imperialism and Zionism and that the worker and peasant and free Palestinian nation succeeds, from the Jordan River to the Sea.

Editorial Committee of "The International Workers' Organizer".

One year of genocide by Zionism and imperialism against the Palestinian nation...

Calls for the International General Strike in support of the martyred Palestinian and Lebanese masses

September 11, 2024

Appeal from the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions on the occasion of a year of resistance to genocide



(excerpts)

Brothers and Sisters of trade and workers' unions in North America, Europe, and the rest of the world.

We write to you once again from Gaza as we approach the one-year mark since the start of this genocidal war (...)

This is the cruelest ethnic cleansing campaign we have experienced throughout the past 76 years of occupation; this unprecedented monstrous aggression of Israel has increased the torment of the Palestinians in Gaza through the demolition of homes over the heads of their inhabitants and the deprivation of

electricity, water, fuel, medicine, and necessary medical supplies due to the suffocating siege on the Strip for the seventeenth consecutive year. (...)

Despite all this, we heal our wounds and raise our voices in international forums, calling on the free world and the global labor movement to stand in a broad and pressing solidarity campaign with our people in Gaza. (...)

We, in the Federation of Palestinian Workers' Unions, amidst

the legendary resilience of our people and their rejection of displacement policies, continue to live on our land despite cases of internal displacement, fleeing inevitable death, where the percentage of displaced people has exceeded 80% of the population. These citizens have endured extremely harsh conditions in mobile tents for several months, far from civilian life, in severely inhumane conditions. Additionally, in the areas of Gaza and the north, which have long been subjected to forced starvation and the loss of most necessities, our people have chosen patience and endured suffering over abandoning their homes and original homeland.

From the heart of Gaza, on behalf of ourselves, the General Federation of Palestinian Workers' Unions, and all workers who have been forcibly unemployed since the onset of this brutal and destructive war, and in continuation of our communication with you to strengthen our resolve and express our gratitude for your support with us, we emphasize the following:

1) We appreciate your solidarity with us on International Workers' Day in response to our previous call. We would also like to congratulate the seven labor unions in the United States – the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA), the American Postal Workers Union (APWU), the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT), the National Education Association (NEA), the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the United Auto Workers (UAW), and the United Electrical Workers (UE) – representing more than 6 million workers for their courageous stance and public call on the Biden administration to cut off all military aid to Israel immediately.

2) We call on all unions to take similar courageous stands. Your efforts have made the movement for Palestine indispensable and demonstrated the power and importance of international labor solidarity. The call for a ceasefire is a reasonable, necessary, and courageous first step, but all union councils and local governments must supplement these calls.

3) We recognize that the thousands of bombs being dropped on our heads and the heads of our children are American-made. We call on all unions to elevate the level of their political pressure, strategies, and tactics to demand an immediate end to the ongoing genocide in Gaza. We call on you to follow the lead of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) in the U.S. by adopting resolutions supporting the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement and demanding that the Biden administration end all military aid to Israel.

4) We highly appreciate the role of the dock workers unions in Africa, Europe, and other ports in taking action to stop the flow of weapons and disrupt the financial networks that finance the bombing of our people. We ask you to refuse to deal with military shipments to Israel through all military ships and logistics companies, especially Maersk and ZIM.

5) We affirm that the essential goal of issuing this appeal is to mobilize your efforts and the efforts of all free people of the world to deepen the occupation's isolation and strengthen global solidarity with the struggle of our people, especially on the labor union front in the world as a whole, not just the United States.



July 2024. USA: mobilization to the Capitol rejecting the arrival of genocidal Netanyahu.

6) We emphasize that we do not bet at all on the occupation workers' union "Histadrut" to stop the aggression or compel the war criminal Netanyahu to stop the war. Still, instead, it comes in the context of internal disputes and the bias of this union in favor of the opposition regime, whose hands are also stained with the blood of our people and which considers itself more committed to the continuity of the occupation state.

Dear trade unionists and professionals in North America, Europe, and around the world,

Our appeal to you is not just words but a cry from the depths of wounds and pain, from under the rubble and from among the tears of orphaned, bereaved, and hungry children. We address your consciences to stand together in the face of this significant humanitarian disaster created by the occupation and its sponsors in the West, headed by the U.S., because *we believe that the world is not a place for neutrality in the face of injustice, but rather an arena for testing human values and moral principles.* Let your solidarity with us be a light in the darkness of bias, and let your courageous positions be the voice of truth in the face of falsehood. We, with our souls and bodies, continue to resist the death that is imposed on us, and we trust that you will continue to raise the banner of solidarity and struggle to stop the aggression and to live a dignified life for a freedom that is not negotiable and for a justice that does not bow to anyone.

Long live Palestine and its people... and victory for the working class!

Glory to the martyrs of the working class and all the martyrs of Palestine, humanity, and freedom.

Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions

Signatory:

Basheer Al-Sisi is a member of the General Secretariat of the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions - City of Gaza.

See full statement on our online newspaper:
www.fti-ci.org

From the USA, call by worker and student organizations to strikes and other actions for Palestine

September 23, 2024

An Injury to One is an Injury to All: We Won't Work for Genocide!

Call for mass labor action starting October 7, 2024

This past year, we have witnessed the Israeli regime genocide hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza, throughout greater Palestine, and now into Lebanon, using weapons provided by the US under a Democratic administration.

Despite the opposition of the vast majority of Democratic voters and millions of others, and as Israel expands its genocide into Lebanon, the Biden-Harris administration will not stop the genocide. With major union leaders unwilling to go beyond mere words, workers must use our greatest leverage—the ability to collectively withhold our labor, alongside other action—to respond to urgent Palestinian trade unions' appeals for solidarity.

We are workers from every sector whose labor is directly or indirectly implicated in this genocide. We call upon all workers—unionized and nonunionized—to heed this call. We draw inspiration from students taking material risks in their struggle to end their universities' complicity in genocide and settler colonialism. Across the country, Gaza Solidarity Encampments demanding divestment and an end to collaboration with Israeli academic institutions were violently repressed with thousands of students and academic workers arrested, some still facing charges. We must stand with students as they continue organizing against the genocide and its escalation into Lebanon despite heightened repression. Together we have the power to disrupt the genocide weapons supply chain ourselves.

Our working and learning conditions in the US are directly connected to the fate of Palestinians. Billions of our tax dollars and labor are sent by the US government to facilitate a genocide instead of supporting



Gaza devastated

universal healthcare, education, or housing while our most basic rights are under attack. We must apply economic pressure on the US-to-Israel pipeline. With Israel's economy in a tailspin, now is the time to divest from and demilitarize empire.

Consistent with the appeal from Palestinian trade unions to stop working for 15 minutes on October 7, we will begin a rolling mass mobilization of students and workers on October 7, which marks one year of Israel's intensified genocide in Palestine, building and escalating every two weeks:

- **October 7:** Student-Labor Day of Action for Gaza – withhold labor through strikes, sickouts, walkouts, pickets, rallies, and other actions to kick off *Week of Rage with National Students for Justice in Palestine*

- **October 21:** organize additional sectors to participate in and expand this mass action

- **November 4:** further expand and heighten the action, escalating to blockades of workplaces complicit in the genocide, inclu-

ding research labs, factories, and logistics that supply the Israeli military

We must also end all complicity with settler colonialism by demanding our colleges adopt BDS and our unions divest from Israel Bonds and break ties with Zionist organizations, like the racist Histadrut and genocide-supporting Jewish Labor Committee.

Take action with us and fight for a free Palestine from the river to the sea. Will you join us?

Issued by: UAW Labor for Palestine and Labor for Palestine National Network

Endorsed by: National Students for Justice in Palestine

Endorsements continue...

See all the endorsements on our online newspaper:
www.fti-ci.org

From Lebanon, call for an International General Strike against the fascist offensive of Zionism.

September 28, 2024

World Strike against the airstrikes (excerpts)

We come together under airstrikes, from Palestine to Lebanon to the world to collectively call you for urgent practice of general world strikes to stop the genocide and Zionist occupation of our lands and people. Organizing an effective general strike that has the power to exert pressure and disrupt the flow of genocidal capital only requires the participation of 7% of workers worldwide. Workers of the world, put the multi-scalar power of your labor resistance at work!

As our collective life cannot wait any longer, we plead you all to consider this call to strike to be effective immediately. For trade union organizations and groups who need to communicate in advance, we advise you to adhere to the consensus-based starting date of October 1st, 2024. Strike against the airstrikes. Strike against colonial systems of genocide. We collectively remind you that the genocide won't stop if we, the workers of the world, don't stop the world economy that makes it!

How many genocides do you need to bear witness to before you withdraw your non-vital work in protest? What a shame to be living and getting killed in a world where war is the most profitable industry. With billions of dollars in aid from the United States (just yesterday, the U.S. confirmed an additional \$8,7 bn aid package to Israel) and arms imports exports from/to the U.S., the U.K., Germany, Canada, the Netherlands, Australia, Italy, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden and Spain, the Zionist entity has killed at least 42,252 Palestinians, 16,500 of which are children, injured 95,921 and displaced 1.9 million Palestinians in Gaza. According to a study published in the scientific journal the Lancet in July 2024, the real death toll in Palestine could possibly be more than 186,000 martyrs. (...)



Zionist bombs south of Beirut, Lebanon

We call on anti-colonial student groups, trade unions and field/area-based collectives standing with Palestine against the genocide, located all around the world, to replicate and rearticulate our call with a focus on their fields of operation, activation and study. Our struggle for liberation extends from Palestine to Lebanon, to Sudan and Syria and all oppressed people in the world. Make use of the collective power of your labor resistance. Capitalism always produces genocide. We cannot work for this.

The least we can do is transmuting our labor to end the genocide in Gaza and all of Palestine and halt the regional expansion and global fortification of the Zionist Military Machine to liberate our world from Zionism, once and for all. There can be no business as usual during genocide. What will you do to take care of collective needs and public necessities as you strike?

People of the world, as we witness the earth that birthed us smothered by the rubble of our homes, we plead you not to fall trap to defeatism and mass distraction. Our struggle is long and persistent. Resistance fills us with an unquenchable trans-generational love. (...)

From South Africa, statement of the WIVL (Workers International Vanguard League)

**Defend the masses of Lebanon!
Defeat U.S. imperialism!**

**Unite to defeat imperialism in its
murderous attacks on the masses
of Lebanon and Gaza/West Bank**

See the full statement at www.fti-ci.org

See full statement on our online newspaper:
www.fti-ci.org

Statement by the Editorial Board of the International Workers' Organizer

September 18, 2024

The terrorist attack on Lebanon by US Imperialism and Zionism has deepened the war of extermination against the Palestinian nation

For the destruction of the Zionist-fascist State of Israel!

As the Palestinian unions are calling:

For an international general strike!

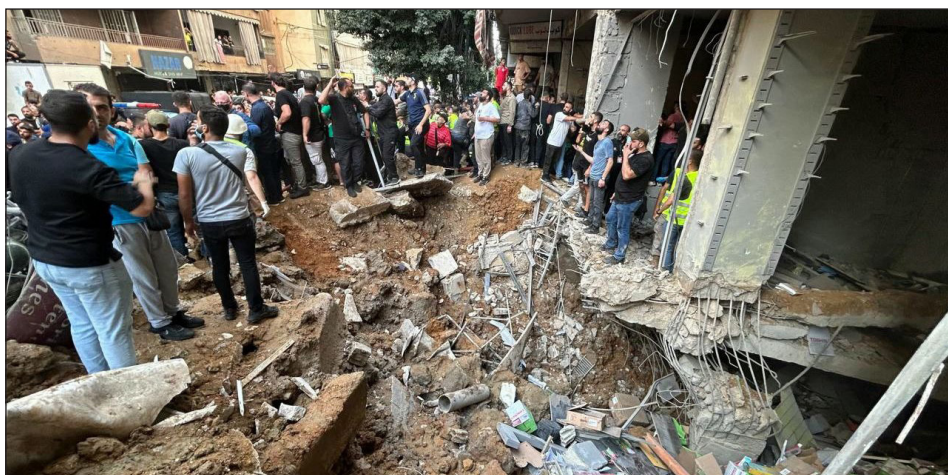
The indiscriminate attack by Zionism, blowing up the pagers and walkie-talkies of thousands of politicians and militants of the Palestinian cause in Lebanon and their families for the past two days, is a **large-scale terrorist action** with the killing of civilians indiscriminately. We are witnessing the continuation of the Zionist war of extermination in Gaza, this time in Lebanon.

The attack there has begun, not only with border skirmishes, but also with terrorist methods of cyberwarfare. For now, it is not the army of the State of Israel that is entering to invade Lebanon. They want to reduce or avoid their own casualties. That is why they are intimidating the people of Lebanon with a method of terror.

It is revealed that the State of Israel is a true terrorist state at the service of USA business and the imperialist oil companies throughout the region.

This cyberwarfare attack shows the fact that all high-tech advances are a by-product of the imperialist states' investment in the war industry. They want to prevent at any rate their soldiers from returning home in «black bags» and therefore increasingly promote terrorist acts of murder and sabotage from afar. But they cannot fully resolve this issue because the territories must be occupied with infantry and cavalry. That is why today, in Gaza, the fight is taking place in the form of a heroic civil war, fought by the resistance from beneath the rubble. This has prevented one of the most powerful armies on the planet from settling in that small territory.

The terrorist military methods of Zionism used in Lebanon are intended to further weaken Hezbollah and prevent any attack



Zionist attacks on Beirut, Lebanon

attempt to the State of Israel. They also prepare the ground for future invasions by Zionism in a full-scale war, which is already a total one.

But the resistance in Gaza has not given up. Its struggle has spread to the West Bank and received enormous support and solidarity from workers and oppressed peoples around the world.

While mourning its dead, which amount to + 29 according to the Lebanese press, along with more than 3,200 wounded and mutilated, Hezbollah still continues without declaring war or entering into open combat against Zionism, which it only threatens with short-range missiles that never reach their destination.

Hezbollah has not prepared the forces it controls for a siege warfare and direct intervention against the State of Israel, to fight alongside its siblings in Gaza and the West Bank. They, along with Assad, the Iranian theocracy and Russia (which has one of its most powerful military bases in Tartus, south of Syria), are in charge of encir-

cling the Palestinian people, so that all the masses of the region do not directly enter the fight.

They, the Arab and Muslim bourgeoisies, are part of the «peace summits» sponsored by the den of bandits of the UN and now organized by China and Russia. The role of these negotiating boards is to force Hamas and the resistance to surrender, to impose the «peace of the cemeteries», something that they have not yet achieved since the Palestinian masses do not abandon their fight. The joint forces of the Arab bourgeoisies, Putin and al-Xi Jinping are not there to make the heroic resistance succeed, but to make it surrender with the gun to the head of Zionism.

The people of Gaza are still waiting for the famous «large-scale counterattack» to the state of Israel that Iran promised when Ismail Haniyeh, the head of Hamas, was assassinated two months ago on Iranian territory. At the time he was murdered, Haniyeh had no official custody or any security measures, an issue that the Iranian theocracy has not yet explained.

The massacred people of Gaza are asking themselves: "Where are the Arab countries, as they do not show solidarity with us?" Almost a year of the counter-revolutionary war and martyrdom in Gaza, we must call things by their name. Too many lies have been told during the massacre of Zionism against the Palestinian nation.

The truth is that from Iran, Lebanon and Syria, the Shiite bourgeoisie, disguised as friends of Palestine, is fencing the resistance. After a year of massacre, with Gaza demolished and destroyed, this is already more than clear. They did not enter the war to fight side by side with the Palestinian masses. They have only made verbal threats and

sent a couple of missiles with advance notice. Meanwhile, from Egypt, Qatar, etc., the Sunni bourgeoisie openly supports Zionism.

Not to mention the sectors of the global left, whether Stalinists, or renegades to Marxism, who continue to clamor for the existence of "two states" in occupied Palestine, or supporting the Zionist "opposition" against Netanyahu, as if it were an ally of the Palestinian people, when it is nothing more than **the other hand of the executioner holding the same sword.**

Yemen is the only people who have entered the battle alongside their Palestinian brothers. But they are not alone: **the US**

working class has opened a new front of combat. In USA, the rebellious youth and the student movement have risen up, and now the Black movement is taking to the streets, while dozens of US unions are coordinating common actions of international struggle with the Palestinian unions, openly repudiating fascist Histadrut trade union and demanding its expulsion from all workers' organizations in the world.

Palestinian resistance fighters must know who their best allies are and who their enemies are; who ties their hands in their fight and isolates them, and who is fighting to break the siege around their heroic struggle.

The battle of Gaza and all of occupied Palestine is one of the last, but decisive, battles in the chain of revolutions that has shaken the entire Maghreb and the Middle East since 2011.

We insist, we are facing a decisive battle. Imperialism has released its gendarme, the State of Israel, out from its cage so that it can finally establish a counterrevolutionary order in the entire region, strategically crushing the uprisings of the Arab and Muslim masses in the Middle East.

If Zionism wins and imposes itself with massacres and fascism in Palestine and by invading Lebanon, imperialism will have re-established secure control of the oil routes (even what it failed to achieve with two invasions of Iraq), stabilizing its domination with the direct support of all the Arab bourgeoisies, of Egypt, Syria, Tunisia, Algeria, etc. and with the Iranian bourgeoisie surrendered to USA.

This action by the State of Israel is aimed at exterminating the heroic Palestin-

ian masses. Without this, there would be no imperialist "peace" in the region.

In the Middle East, the Yemeni nation continues to fight, after it could not be defeated by the invasion of 7 armies servile to USA under Saudi Arabia command. In Iraq, the masses were in a pre-insurrectionary state because they had just expelled US imperialism. In Lebanon, Zionism suffered a monumental defeat in the 2006 battle, which expelled the state of Israel troops while in recent years there have been huge mass mobilizations against the government chaired by Hezbollah, against the high cost of living, hunger and looting.

Now it is Zionism's turn to put things in order in the region. Russia and the butcher al-Assad have already done so

in Syria at everybody's expense. There is a bastion of counterrevolution.

The current Zionist offensive, which is almost a year old, follows the victory of the counterrevolution in Syria, where imperialism manager to contain the chain of revolutions starting in 2011 that had swept through North Africa and the Middle East.

This defeat strengthened Zionism as a direct agent of imperialism in the region. In the last years of partitioned and occupied Syria of the fascist- Assadist regime, a new invasion of Zionist settlers from all over the world arrived to the State of Israel, occupying new Palestinian lands and expelling entire families from their homes.

This is what explains October 7, 2023: this was a heroic defensive action by the Palestinian resistance against this new Nakba that Zionism had initiated in the Palestinian territory in the last 3 years. It was the left, subservient to Zionism and imperialism that condemned this action and sent its "condolences" to the fascist settlers who, since the age of 16, have been carrying rifles to kill Palestinians, even when they are having fun at electronic parties.

Imperialism has now once again brought out the State of Israel as its gendarme that had been unable to intervene directly during the mass offensive of 2011, when Tahrir Square in Cairo was taken; the oppressed Tunisians, Algerians and Yemenis were taking part in revolutionary actions; the workers



Gaza devastated by Zionism

and people of Bahrain rose up; in Benghazi, Libya, there was a fight against Gaddafi, the lackey of the City of London; the exploited of Sudan rose up; and the workers and people of Syria were in a revolutionary boiling, fighting only 30 blocks from al-Assad's government house in Damascus.

USA knew that if they had resorted to Zionism at that time to defeat this chain of revolutions, all the masses of the region would have united to crush it. The US preserved the State of Israel and used other agents and allies to defeat each revolutionary process. This is what it did through Russia, Turkey and with counterrevolutionary excrescences of the Arab and Muslim bourgeoisies. US imperialism itself was not able to intervene either, because it had just been defeated in its two invasions of Iraq.

Now, with the revolutions in the Maghreb and the Middle East contained, imperialism must definitively stabilize the region with the fascist boot of Zionism. That's because new rebellions threaten the stability of the Maghreb and the Middle East, where 80% of the energy that powers the world economy comes from.

Through the Israeli occupation state, which is nothing more than an US aircraft carrier on land, imperialism has launched a total counter-revolutionary war in the region. USA has armed Zionism to the teeth, while hypocritically "lamenting the death of civilians", as the butcher Biden does. These are "crocodile tears" to neutralize the hatred that the imperialist scoundrels of the Democratic Party, supported by the entire US establishment, has arisen in the US masses who are beginning to fight, as they did time ago in Vietnam, against the bosses of Zionism who are in the White House and the Pentagon.



2014. Palestinian refugee camp in Yarmouk, Syria.

There is no doubt that if the State of Israel succeeds in crushing the Palestinian nation, imperialism will also go after Iran, Hezbollah and the Shiite militias in southern Iraq, because this is how "Rome" pays back the subjects it is forced to use to quell the rebellion of the oppressed.

The battle for Gaza is where this class war is being defined. This is how it is perceived by the people of the West Bank who have begun to engage in decisive clashes against Zionism.

The "neutrality" that imperialism, its agents like the PLO and global Stalinism imposed on the Palestinian masses when more than 600,000 oppressed were massacred in Syria and all their cities were demolished, is now being paid for with tens of thousands of deaths and a genocide in Gaza and the West Bank. Imperialism centralized all its agents to stop the Syrian revolution that from Aleppo and Homs threatened to reach Damascus and Jerusalem directly.

These betrayals and backstabbing are now being paid for by the Palestinian masses. Not by those who actually betrayed, repressed or crushed the revolutionary processes in the Middle East.

The current massacre in Gaza and the West Bank, then, had several episodes. One of them was the crushing of the revolution in Egypt imposed by the military dictatorship of Al Sisi, to whom the "democratic" and "liberal" bourgeoisie of the "April 6 Movement" gave out power. This saved the southern border for Zionism, with the Rafah wall enclosing Gaza.

The ongoing massacre in Palestine also had another decisive episode, which was the genocide imposed by the counterrevolution of al-Assad and Putin in Syria. They not only crushed that revolution, but also massacred and razed Yarmouk (the camp where more than 250,000 Palestinians lived) in Damascus, while the traitors of the Stalinist and leftist currents worldwide applauded them.

U.S. imperialism openly recognizes having used al-Assad and Putin to massacre the Syrian people that were up-surging in revolution, and to prevent the mass offensive begun in 2011 from reaching Jerusalem

Today the people of Gaza are fighting alone in a heroic civil war, which has left more than 70 thousand dead and its cities reduced to rubble, while imperialism supplies Zionism with billions of dollars and high-tech weapons.

This was achieved through countless betrayals suffered by the revolutionary processes of Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Sudan, etc., where fierce counterrevolu-

tionary regimes were imposed, while the Ayatollahs have been cracking down the Iranian working class, which has sought the overthrow of the clerics for years, denouncing the latter "live like kings while the people live like beggars."

Trying to come close to understanding the events of the massacre in Gaza and the deepening expansionist policy of total war of Zionism, without understanding or hiding

that this battle is the decisive and final one, in which the heroic revolutionary processes that have been shaking that region for more than a decade will be defined, amounts to deceiving the masses. **It means hiding the fact that imperialism and Zionism are not coming to negotiate but to crush the oppressed in this final battle.**

When the fire of the Syrian revolution was dying out, the Islamophobic left-wing

currents and the social-imperialist parties looked the other way. They kept silent about the genocide. They applauded the victory of al-Assad and Putin as the "lesser evil" and all off them joined the "anti-terrorist front", accusing the revolutionary masses of Syria of being "ISIS", "barbarian peoples" and "NATO agents", when the US was the one who had organized the massacre.

They treated the exploited revolutionaries of Syria as "terrorists", as imperialism does today with Hamas and Hezbollah in Gaza and Lebanon as a justification for massacring the Palestinian people. In Syria, this farce was meant to support Putin and al-Assad who did the "dirty work" by means of a war of extermination and the partition of that nation, also with Turkey guarantee.

All these currents are concealing from the Palestinian people that the victory of the US and their agents in Syria was a crucial victory of counterrevolution to advance in the final war against Palestine. They have lied. They have deceived the masses in the Middle East and internationally and slandered a heroic revolution, which being already crushed allows Zionism to go all over occupied Palestine.

The imperialist bourgeoisie and its general staffs knew how to read the situation perfectly and to distinguish their enemy classes that were rising up in revolutionary actions in Syria. There, they focussed all their forces and all their agents capable of intervening: the Islamic guard of Iran, Hezbollah, the killer Putin, always ready to massacre, together with al-Assad... all off them under US command. Now that life has given its verdict, the spokesmen of imperialism and the bourgeoisie in the ranks of the workers' movement have a lot to explain... Certainly a whole lot,



The fascist al-Assad together with the butcher Putin



Syria: exploited massacred in Duma with chemical weapons by fascist al-Assad

because they are jointly responsible for the isolation that the masses of Gaza and the West Bank suffer today.

Everybody can read the precise inform that the former US Secretary of Defense for Middle East policy, Andrew Exum, told in a hearing before the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the US Congress.

In these public statements, he clearly states that the US "in 2015 spoke with the Russians to save al-Assad who was about to fall," according to this miserable murderer, at the hands of "terrorism"... Let us clarify that with the excuse of "terrorism" more than 600 thousand workers and exploited were murdered through a genocide in Syria and more than 100 thousand prisoners are rotting in the fascist dungeons of the jackal Al Assad.

Life has shown the great infamy and betrayal meant by the lies of the "Bolivarian" and "Islamic" bourgeoisies, the Stalinist currents, the social-imperialist parties and the chorus of ex-Trotskyists, who hung on to the "anti-terrorist front" recruited by US imperialism to massacre a great revolution and covered it up.

There was also no shortage of movements that told the Syrian masses that if they pressured enough the US imperialists to send them weapons, this revolution could succeed.

They were two sides of

the same coin that covered up the massacre that the US organized in Syria. We are not the only ones who say so; the US admits it with their former Defense Secretary, directly in charge of the American misdeeds in the Maghreb and the Middle East.

Why would al-Assad and Putin, who have a military base just a few miles from Gaza, attack Zionism now, if they saved the Golan Heights and crushed a revolution that threatened to reach Jerusalem?

In its statements, this US pirate tells the American Congress the truth, once the "silence of the cemeteries" has been imposed in Syria, and freely states that they also had made a pact with Al Qaeda so that in their territory they would control the partisans who were expelled from the different cities of Syria and taken to Idlib.

Thus, US imperialism, which did get their hands stained with blood, made its subjects do the "dirty work" that, on the other hand, the United States could not do because it was just coming from a phenomenal defeat in Iraq at the hands of the Iraqi masses and the American working class, who refused to go to die for the oil companies' business in the Middle East.

Today the veil has fallen and the curtain is drawn. The actors in the tragedy against the revolutionary processes in the Middle East are showing their true faces. These actors created the conditions for the Zionist monster to be launched by imperialism into a war of extermination against the Palestinian people and to impose order throughout the Maghreb and the Middle East.

Massive revolutionary uprisings in the Maghreb and the Middle East... And great betrayals

Today other “supporting actors” are also showing up and being exposed, but they are just as decisive as the main actors. They are the scoundrels of the old World Social Forum and the renegades of the Fourth International, openly subjected to Stalinism, who supported, together with the US, the massacre of al-Assad and Putin on the Syrian masses. They are stained with blood... There will be no forgetting, no forgiving.

They were the ones in charge of paralyzing and preventing the solidarity of the world masses with their brothers and sisters in Syria. They applauded the defeat of the revolution and made the murderer Putin, who does the “dirty work” for imperialism throughout the world, pass as an “anti-imperialist ally” of the masses.

A revolting Syria, with the masses taking Homs, Daraa, marching on Aleppo, would have been today the greatest revolutionary support for massacred Gaza... The traitors who prevented this have to be called traitors. That is what they are.

These currents also claimed the Kurdish YPG and the PKK, which, according to them, were fighting in Syria against the “terrorists” and imperialism... Today they are under the orders of the US and their military bases in northern Syria, guarding the oil pipelines for the imperialist oil companies. Not a single rifle, not a single militiaman to fight the masses of Gaza came out of the YPG and the traitors of the Kurdish Com-

munist Party. Do not hide. Show your faces.

Unfortunately, we were right... We are facing a tragedy. This is not the time for subjective praise, only for claiming that we told the truth and fought for it in the civil war, which all the lackeys of the bourgeoisie and imperialism reviled and hid from.

It is time to make such a betrayal to be paid expensively by its authors because it is the one that is being once more committed in Palestine. It is time for the Palestinian masses to recognize who prepared this counteroffensive of Zionism so that today they suffer a massacre like that of the Syrian revolution.

When the Palestinian masses in the West Bank enter the fight, they have already recognized that the PLO is an agent of Zionism, being the advance guard of the repression of the best fighters in that region of occupied Palestine.

As we stated previously, the exploited and martyred of Gaza have wondered: “where are the Arab bourgeoisies?” They deserve a fair answer. They deserve the truth so that they can distinguish who are their allies and who are their enemies.

The first task in a war is to recognize the enemy. That is the “Achilles heel” of the enormous and heroic resistance of the Palestinian people.

It is time for us to do justice for the massacre in Syria against the scoundrels of the “anti-terrorist front” of the world left

that made Putin and the executioners of the Syrian revolution appear as their allies.

All of them, all together, on October 7th, a year ago, sent “condolences” to the Zionists who were taken hostage or fell in the defensive struggle of the Palestinian resistance against the forces occupying their territory. Now, those who sent their condolences to the fascist Netanyahu must show their faces! Show your faces! **Explain why you denied the Palestinian people and their organizations the right to self-defense when facing the new counterrevolutionary Nakba that had already begun. Explain it.**

The day after October 7, a debate took place in Argentina between the five presidential candidates running for election. One of them was Milei, the current president, who was competing mainly with the Peronist candidate. Representatives of two minor bourgeois parties and the left of the FIT-U, with its candidate Myriam Bregman of the PTS, were also present. From the mouth of Milei, Netanyahu’s agent, and also from all the bourgeois politicians and the FIT-U itself, came the same condolences to the Zionist settlers, and the “condemnation” of the self-defense action of the Palestinian resistance... They have to explain it. They have sent condolences to Zionist counterrevolutionary forces that would make Hitler’s SS pale in comparison.

These currents condemned the action of October 7, calling it a “terrorist” one, though Hamas and Hezbollah are political parties with armed forces that defend their nation that has been occupied. We have profound political differences with these two currents, as is clear even in this note, but we recognize them as such and call for them to be recognized as belligerent forces and for arms and supplies to be sent to them so that they can recover their nation...

The reformist left was out of time: they had remained in the “anti-terrorist front” with which they justified the crushing of the Syrian revolution... and ended up hanging on Netanyahu. We do not forget. Show your faces. Now, it is your time to explain.

The Syrian war, then, was an episode of the civil war in the entire region that has not ended because today it is being defined



August 2011: mobilization in Hama during the beginnings of the Syrian revolution

today in Gaza and throughout occupied Palestine.

This is what the partisans still resisting al-Assad in Syria and the repression of al-Qaeda in the rearguard also need to recognize. In Idlib province, the al-Julani government has launched a fierce attack with mass arrests to prevent the Syrian masses from taking an independent course and marching off to fight alongside their siblings in Gaza and the West Bank.

The battlefield conditions must be recognized by the Yemeni masses who heroically give their lives for the Palestinian cause, the revolting Iraqi people, and decisively the workers and rebellious youth of the United States who have taken upon their shoulders the struggle for the victory of the Palestinian nation.

Today, the battle for Palestine is therefore being fought on two fronts: in Gaza, the West Bank and the Middle East, and in the US, which is the vanguard of the enormous international solidarity that is spreading around the world in support of the Palestinian masses. There, in the US, a new "Vietnam" is emerging, standing in the very belly of the imperialist beast.



2015: Putin bombs to drown the Syrian revolution in blood

For now, Iran and Hezbollah have prevented the opening of all combat fronts to help the masses of Gaza, the West Bank and now Lebanon... They have been promising the "mother of all battles", as the coward Saddam Hussein did, and they are only giving Zionism time to massacre.

There is no time to lose. It is the exploited masses of Lebanon, its anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist fighters who must take the resistance and the response to the war into their own hands.

Before it is too late: open the fronts! Break the siege of Gaza! Put an end to

the Arab bourgeoisies collaborationist with Zionism!

The exploited masses must take the war of national liberation into their own hands so as to leave no trace of the Zionist-fascist state of Israel and to conquer a free Palestine from the river to the sea, which would be a fulcrum for the Federation of Workers' and Peasants' Republics of the Maghreb and the Middle East, without imperialist pirates to plunder it or lackey bourgeoisies to enrich themselves in a sea of millions of hungry people who live with black gold under their feet.

The Israeli state's attack on Lebanon: a terrorist action and the spearhead of a total war of imperialism in the entire region

As we write this note, the handies of the custodies guarding the funerals of the Lebanese martyrs have just exploded, with a dead toll of 9 and hundreds wounded.

The cynicism of the Arab, and Shia unparticular bourgeoisies is remarkable. They are more afraid and terrified of the Palestinian masses in Lebanon entering with their weapons to break the siege of Gaza, than of the continued killing of tens and hundreds of their own people. They know that entering into an open offensive would mean the entry of millions of exploited people into the direct struggle alongside Gaza. The armed masses in independent actions would take over the banks and put all the funds to buy weapons and supplies for the resistance. They would put the land and the entire economy into production so that the hungry people of Gaza can feed themselves. They would leave the businessmen without food so that the Palestinian people can eat. Hence the bourgeoisie terror of the

masses entering into the civil war against Zionism and imperialism, in a generalized and independent way.

Setting up a Palestinian National Assembly and a joint War Command of the Palestinian trade unions, partisans, refugee and supply committees would put on the agenda not only the generalisation of civil war and revolution, but also the uprising of the masses in the region and internationally.

For a Palestinian National Assembly with delegations from the West Bank, Jordan and Palestinian fighters from Lebanon, to declare total war against the extermination war of Zionism and the US imperialists!

For the expropriation without compensation of the imperialist banks and oil companies that plunder the wealth of hungry peoples!

As we have argued throughout this note, we are facing THE battle; a decisive

battle that will define the fate of the masses in the entire Middle East and also of the international working class. **An imperialist victory in the region would be a hard blow that would strengthen the colonizing offensive of imperialism throughout the colonial and semi-colonial world. It would also strengthen it to deal hard blows to the working class of the metropolises.**

The battle for Gaza is therefore a battle of the entire world working class. The Palestinian trade unions have issued a new appeal repudiating the Histadrut and its latest marches. This courageous denunciation is the best **response to the counter-revolutionary mobilisations of Zionism, which mourns its dead and wants to recover its hostages, but celebrates the massacre in Gaza and applauds the imprisonment of more than 10,000 Palestinians tortured in the concentration camps of the State of Israel.**

The Zionist government has unleashed a new terrorist massacre in Lebanon. Neither the Histadrut nor the fascist settlers who call themselves “opponents of Netanyahu” have organised today a general strike or a funeral in honour of those fallen in Lebanon or those massacred in Gaza and the West Bank...

The State of Israel is attacking under the orders of US imperialism. The left, which covers Zionism with a “progressive” cloak, considers as “progressive” the marches in Tel Aviv demanding Netanyahu that after the genocide in Palestine, it is time to negotiate a ceasefire and exchange hostages. The Nazi-Zionists are fighting for their own people. They consider that they have already killed enough and that the conditions are now accurate to negotiate and recover the hostages, and in any case, to attack again afterwards. As we have already said, they are mourning their dead and celebrating the genocide of millions of Palestinians buried in mass graves in Gaza. They want the release of their hostages, but they want to keep the Zionist prisons where there are more than 10,000 Palestinian hostages well closed. Let the occupier mourn their dead while we mourn ours!

Resolving the matter of prisoners held captive in war is an inalienable right of an occupied nation subjected to genocide. The Palestinian nation has kept prisoners of war



Palestinian prisoners in Zionist concentration camps

in optimal living conditions, while Palestinian prisoners are massively harassed and mutilated and even their children tortured by Zionism. We insist, resolving this matter is a right of the resistance.

If there are any Jewish fighters who support the Palestinian cause, what they can do is to burn the flag of the occupiers, raise the Palestinian flag and switch sides to fight with their weapons alongside the resistance.

Histadrut, the employer-aligned trade union, which enslaves Palestinian workers in its factories, is fighting for their own people, but is once again supporting, cov-

ering up and promoting, as it did in 1948, the Nakba in order to further dispossess the Palestinians of their land.

Every class-conscious Jewish worker can only break with this fascist and pro-employers' union and enter into struggle within and alongside the Palestinian unions.

There will be no democracy or freedom until the State of Israel is destroyed. Everything else is a Zionist charade.

Only in this way will the different religions and ideologies of the people be able to coexist in peace in a free, secular, democratic and non-racist Palestine, without occupiers or usurpers of the land.

Today's terrorist attacks seek to create the conditions for a military attack on Lebanon along the entire Zionist line.

In Lebanon, Zionism “broke its teeth” in a mass civil war almost two decades ago. They have sworn revenge... They must guard the northern border of occupied Palestine to prevent the Palestinian masses of Lebanon, moved by the genocide and heroic resistance in Gaza, from rising up. The southern border is already covered by Al Sisi and the counter-revolutionary dictatorship of Egypt and its historic pact with the State of Israel.

Zionism and the US imperialists are forced to open and expand their fronts. In Jordan, King Abdallah II has imposed a counter-revolutionary military control on the Palestinian people in their territory. The attack on Lebanon is inevitable in order to finish surrounding Gaza, crushing the West Bank and exterminating the Palestinian nation. That is the US imperialists' plan.

The US State Department's alleged «compassion for the dead civilians» causes hatred and indignation. They only want to wash their bloody clothes in front of the American masses who are in a state of revolt against the genocide of Zionism and the US government in Gaza.

Palestinian trade unions and the struggling US trade unions are now in a position to coordinate widespread and centralized action at international level against the Zionist genocide.

As for us, we endorse and are publishing the statement of the Palestinian trade unions, and we will promote it so that it is adopted by all workers' and anti-imperialist organisations in the world.

The fight ahead is to paralyze the

counterrevolutionary war machine of imperialism and Zionism with the method of the working class: the international general strike.

The fight is for a free Palestine from the Jordan River to the Sea. It is for the Federation of Workers' and Peasants' Republics of the entire Maghreb and the Middle East.

The decisive battle is in Gaza and New York! Make way for the American working class! As the American workers shouted in 2008: Wall Street must be surrounded and besieged! The leaders of Zionism and all the murderous and plundering bandits of the planet are there.

Carlos Munzer and Milenka López,
for the Editorial Board of “The
International Workers Organizer”

JAPAN | 62nd International Anti-War Assembly

Letter from the Collective for the Refoundation of the Fourth International / FLTI (excerpts)

Fierce imperialist counter-offensive attacking the working class and national oppression wars

The masses haven't surrendered Workers fight, leaderships betray them

We publish excerpts of the letter sent on July 30th to the International Antiwar Assembly. In that letter, we anticipated the deepening of the Chinese crash, which announced a new blow of the world economic crisis that finally bursted out during August

Also, the reader will find here our position on the hot Ukrainian question. When this letter was written, Zelensky, under NATO's tutورشip, hadn't launched yet the military adventure in Russia taking over Kursk province. Imperialism uses the fair struggle for national liberation of Ukraine to harass Moscow while Putin advances over Ukrainian Donbass. This is what the US plan is about, and we will develop further more on this in a special supplement of "The International Workers Organizer".

The only way for the national liberation struggle to succeed is with a proletarian leadership of the war, to conquer a Soviet independent Ukraine able to defeat the invader troops; to break with imperialism and transform the oppressed nation in a stronghold of the European revolution in both sides of the continent, east and west.

July 30, 2024

To the 62nd International Anti-War Assembly

Comrades of the JRCL-RMF
Comrade Zengakuren
Comrades of the Antiwar Youth Committee,

Comrades,

We are sending you our revolutionary and internationalist greetings from the Collective for the Refoundation of the Fourth International / FLTI to your Anti-War International Assembly.

You will be gathered at a time when, under the leadership of the US imperialist bandits, Zionism, commanded by Biden and Netanyahu, is advancing in the OPERATION MASSACRE FINALE ON GAZA.

[...]

As the resistance proclaims, *Starve or die resisting!*

The people will not surrender. Free Palestine from the river to the sea!

Comrades,

It is necessary to break the siege of the Palestinian masses!

While they fight, day by day the cowardice of the native bourgeoisies of the region, both Arab and the Iranian theocracy, comes to light. They only seek the surrender of the resistance.

They brutally repress, as do the PLO and Fatah, the Palestinian masses of the West Bank who seek to enter into combat with their brothers in Gaza. They still keep under control the millions of Palestinian workers living in Lebanon. They act as a real fifth column of the heroic Palestinian resistance.

[...]

In the USA a huge movement of youth



Demonstration of the JRCL-RMF and the Zengakuren youth to the US embassy in Tokyo.

and workers is developing against the Zionist genocide of the Palestinian people. This struggle clashes openly with the government of the butcher Biden, who directs the operations of Zionism against the Palestinian masses. As in the 1970s against the Vietnam War or later against the US occupation of Iraq, the rebellious youth of the US have won the streets and together with the Black movement and the working class **have opened a new front of struggle of the Palestinian people in the very entrails of the imperialist beast.**

They surrounded the Capitol while the fascist Netanyahu was being cheered by the representatives of the financial oligarchy of Wall Street, both Republican and Democrat.

[...]

In these conditions, comrades, we propose a task that cannot be postponed:

Let us make our own the call of the Palestinian resistance and let the response to such genocide **not only be a day of struggle**, but let this day be a step to set up an **International Committee to coordinate and centralize all the solidarity with the Palestinian cause in the five continents!**

[...]

Comrades,

Well into the 21st century, it is abundantly clear that the epoch of crises, wars and revolutions is deepening day by day.

After the crash of 2008 and the successive rounds of the crisis that followed, the US is returning to the world market, where it had lost its undisputed hegemony. It does so by showing off its gunboats, throwing its crisis at the entire world, fighting inch by inch for its spheres of influence and by shooting.

From 2008, **the “great” Germany, France and the imperialist Maastricht began to control, with high tariffs and autarchy, the European market from Portugal to the Russian steppes.** Russia was supplying gas, energy and minerals to imperialist Europe and the latter was providing Moscow's industrial-military apparatus with high technology.

US imperialism was not able to enter Europe with Trump's trade war, but came back at it by stepping on it with NATO. They used Putin's invasion of an oppressed nation like Ukraine to cut off the flow of raw materials from Russia to imperialist Maas-



Demonstration in the U.S. against the genocide in Gaza

tricht and dislocated the division of labor and control of the European market by the Franco-German axis. This opened a huge crisis in the whole of Europe and particularly for the “great” Germany and its partner, French imperialism. Now, they are both placing a big share of their factory capacity, their state-of-the-art technology and financial capital to develop the war industry.

On its end, US imperialism, with NATO, have already placed themselves on the borders with Russia, while Putin insists, with his partition of Ukraine, on being the gendarme of the business of imperialism and the capitalists in the whole Eurasia. That is the role he has been fulfilling.

The successive rounds of the global crash have even hit “big” China. There, dozens of commercial banks have collapsed, the big construction companies have melted down and a true “real estate bubble” is in full expansion, like that of the US imperialism in 2008.

[...]

The world crash and its successive rounds have broken the balance and the division of labor in the world economy and policy and they have dislocated the international labour division. A huge political crisis of dispute has opened up for the zones of influence and of brutal imperialist counter-offensive against the world working class.

Comrades,

Bankrupt imperialism comes to define historically 1989 in its favor, seeking to colonize the former workers' states with an aggressive policy, while restarting a huge dispute in all areas of influence and for control of the branches of production.

[...]

The world market has shrunk. The crash has devoured millions of jobs. The population is growing demographically. The fight for the surplus becomes more acute. There is no longer a place for “independent” capitalist countries and as we see in the semi-colonies, the possibility of the national bourgeoisies to bargain their businesses with imperialism has come to an end. A true plan for the colonization of the semi-colonial world is underway.

If the working class does not prevent it, wars for new markets, and in particular for Russia and China, will be the order of the day. That is the inevitable tendency of rotting imperialist capitalism.

The tensions in Taiwan and South Korea, as well as the war in Ukraine, anticipate what we say here.

But, to go into higher counterrevolutionary offensives, **the imperialist bourgeoisies, and of USA in particular, must defeat their own working class and that of the colonial and semi-colonial world that they oppress.** The imperialist powers become a thousand times more aggressive.

The margins for class conciliation have ended. Reformism, an agent of imperialism, can no longer pass off the handouts it received yesterday as reforms. An era of “counter-reformism” has opened.

The possibility of the emergence of governments such as Trump in the US, Le Pen in France or Vox in Spain, are the indication that the establishment of the great imperialist powers has decided to take out the whip to deliver very harsh counterrevolutionary blows to its own working class.

This plan advances because the reformist parties of Stalinists and social-traitors betray the proletariat, placing it at the feet

of their executioners, whom they call “democratic”, “progressive” or “anti-imperialist”. It is the old and perfidious “popular front” policy of Stalinism in the 1930s, where the working class is subjected to the bourgeoisie and must abandon all its demands including the most important of them, which is the fight for power.

Thanks to these class collaboration fronts and their mermaid songs, mass offensives are disorganized so that big capital can later crush them with Bonapartism and fascism... One does not work without the other. They are two ends of the same rope that bourgeoisie uses to strangle revolutionary process.

[...]

Comrades,

The task of the reformist left during wars is to place the world working class in the trenches of its class enemy.

Yesterday we saw it in Syria, where these leaderships made a front with imperialism to “defeat terrorism.” Thus they supported the dog Bashar and the murderer Putin in their massacre of the Syrian revolutionary masses.

In Palestine they gave their condolences to Zionism when the resistance defended itself by taking hostage fascist settlers armed to the teeth who are usurping their land.

Now they have placed the enormous international solidarity with martyred Gaza at the feet of the Iranian theocracy and



Rally in Japan in solidarity with Palestine

the traitors of the PLO and Al Fatah in the West Bank.

In Ukraine, most of these currents present Putin as an “anti-imperialist fighter” who, according to them, would come to “put a limit on NATO,” thus justifying the invasion of “great” Russia into oppressed Ukraine.

These opportunists of Marxism deny that Ukraine is an oppressed nation, with centuries of oppression by the Tsars and then by Stalinism, which, like them, transformed great Russia into a “prison of nations”.

[...]

Comrades,

What the fight for the national liberation of an oppressed people needs in the first place is the unity of its working class. We know of the courageous pronouncement of unions, labor organizations and Marxist currents that fight in Ukraine.

Call by the JRCL-RMF to the 62nd International Anti-War Assembly



**Crush the Putin regimes' war
of aggression in Ukraine!**

**Denounce the Netanyahu
regime for genocide against
Palestinians in Gaza!**

See the call in our online newspaper:
www.fti-ci.org

It is necessary to insist a thousand and once that we need a program and a policy of the working class independent of Zelensky and the pro-USA government that in the middle of the war have torn away all economic, union, reunion and organization rights from the Ukrainian working class.

All this while the imperialist aid did not go beyond a few World War II tanks and missiles that only guarantee reaching the borders already established in the Donbass and Crimea by the Moscow bandits.

At the hands of NATO, the IMF and USA, Ukraine will not be independent nor will it defeat the invasion.

The unity of the working class from Kyiv to Donbass becomes decisive. In the territories controlled by Moscow, the workers of the big mines of Donetsk, Lugansk, Mariupol, etc., have been laid off by the thousands and brought to subhuman living conditions by the Russian oligarchs and their centurions in that occupied region.

The same thing happens with the workers of the Kyiv governed regions.

The task of uniting the demands of a single working class from the Donbass and Crimea to Kyiv, resuming the fight for the defeat of Moscow, the break with the IMF and the disavowing of a fraudulent foreign debt, would quickly lead to the fraternization of the workers of the whole Ukraine and to open trenches in the rearguard of the invading troops.

This would be a true electric shock for the workers and youth of Russia who are deserting in their thousands because they refuse to go to fight in Ukraine and, above all, it would be a hard blow to the union bureaucracies, social-imperialist parties and the Stalinism that controls the European working class, to demonstrate that it is these leaderships that are real servants of NATO since they defend the imperialist

governments of Maastricht, which are all NATO members.

Only the unity of the Ukrainian working class, with it and its organizations taking political, economic and military control of the war to expel the invaders and break with the IMF and the Europe of Maastricht, is the way to achieve the national liberation of Ukraine, unite the Ukrainian proletariat with the working class of the whole Europe and to be able to make real what the title of the declaration claim of the European Network for Solidarity with Ukraine proclaims: *"for a people's peace, not an imperial peace!"*.

Together with you we agree when this declaration states: *"we need a peace based on and supported by the interests of the people and workers of Ukraine and Russia"*.

Comrades,

**But the masses have not given up...
The working class fights. The leaderships betray it.**

As we saw, the heroic Palestinian resistance is bringing the American masses back to their feet.

Likewise, we have witnessed huge spontaneous uprisings and mass revolts against hunger, as happened in Sri Lanka and Iraq, and today in Kenya and Bangladesh, to name a few examples.

In **Latin America**, huge processes of uprisings of the working class and poor peasants developed from 2019-2020 onwards.

[...]

In the first decade of the 21st century with the World Social Forum and now with the so-called "Progressive International", which also includes the American left supporting Sanders and Biden "against Trump", imperialism managed to contain the different waves of mass struggle that shook the American continent.

[...]

The masses fought... The leaderships betrayed them... **The real crisis that exists is that of revolutionary leadership: the lack of revolutionary vanguard parties fighting for the socialist revolution and the internationalist unification of the workers of the American continent and at the international level.**



Ukraine: Mariupol children's hospital destroyed by Putin's bombs

The parties that claimed to be of revolutionary socialism and the Fourth International today march arm in arm with Stalinism, as they do with the alleged Cuban Stalinist "left", and have been left hanging to the bourgeois parliaments, the reactionary native bourgeoisies and the class collaboration fronts...

The last chapter of this history of the class struggle in the 21st century has not yet been written. The proletariat has not been taken out of the scene, in spite of the hard partial defeats imposed on it by the leaderships that betrayed it and created for it at the international level the worst conditions to fight.

Comrades,

We salute your Anti-War Assembly. We know of your hard struggle from Japan to defeat the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the genocide in Palestine and also your government, which is a direct ally of Anglo-US imperialism. We also know of your enormous struggle against Stalinism and other treacherous leaderships. Know that in that fight you can count on us. We are in the same trench and on the same barricade.

[...]

The struggle to regroup the internation-

alist forces of the world proletariat is the task of the moment.

We must set up an International Committee to organize the World General Strike to stop the massacre of the Palestinian people! For the destruction of the Zionist state of Israel! Free Palestine from the river to the sea with its capital in Jerusalem! For the United Socialist States of the Maghreb and the Middle East!

Let's regroup our forces to fight together for the whole Ukrainian (from Donbas to Kiev) working class to take the political and military leadership of the fight to expel Putin's invading troops and unite with the Russian and European working class to confront NATO and the imperialist Maastricht! For a working-class, Soviet and independent Ukraine! For the United Socialist States of Europe!

From Alaska to Tierra del Fuego, the struggle on the American continent is far from defeated. The youth and workers of the U.S. today are in the vanguard of the confrontation against the tyranny of Wall Street.

From black Africa to the martyred Chinese proletariat, the working class is one!

The alternative is clear: socialism or war.

Open the road to militant internationalism!
Long live the international
socialist revolution!

For the Collective for the Refoundation of the Fourth International / FLTI:

GMilenka López and Juan Sánchez (LSTI of Bolivia), Lourdes Fernández (POI-CI), Giovanni Alberotanza (Avanzata Proletaria), Abu Muad (The Truth of the Oppressed of Middle East), Raúl P. (LSTI of Perú), Cheo Navarro (Utopía la Palabra, Colombia), Claudia P. y Alejandro Flores (LOI-CI), James Sakala (WIL)

Carlos Munzer, Director of the Editorial Board of the newspaper
"The International Workers Organizer"

SOUTH AFRICA: 12 years after the Marikana massacre

August 16, 2024

The miners' struggle of 2012-2014 opened a phase of general strikes and revolutionary offensives of the South African labor movement

Interview with James S., leader of the WIL of Zimbabwe, and Carlos Munzer, co-author of the book *Marxism and the Black Question*

Interviewer: Florencia Cerrillos

International Workers Organizer (IWO): 12 years have passed since the murder of 34 miners at the hands of AngloAmerican hitmen and gunmen. The workers of South Africa are still crying out for justice.

Carlos Munzer (CM): Indeed, the one responsible of carrying out this massacre is currently the president of South Africa. Today, August 16, is a day of mourning and pain for the entire black working class. In 2012, 34 miners were murdered by transnational corporations led by Anglo American and London Mining Company (Lonmin). To do this, they used police hitmen and gunmen paid by the Stalinist union bureaucracy of the COSATU trade union and the government of the African National Congress (ANC).

The huge battles of 2012-2014 by the South African mining movement became the vanguard of a mass offensive that caused the overfall of the hated President Zuma years later and left the infamous regime of the ANC and Stalinism, supported by the union bureaucracy, in serious crisis.

Millions of workers had entered the struggle in those years. Drawing lessons from this period from 2012 to 2018-2019, marked by great offensive class combats of the South African proletariat, deserves the full attention of the international revolutionary movement. "New" mediations and directions had to emerge that deceived the masses so that they did not overthrow the pro-imperialist regime of the ANC and the black bourgeoisie, supported by the bureaucracy of the unions and Stalinism.

The fight for the trial and punishment of



2012. Marikana Strike

all the murderers of Marikana, the demand for a salary of 12,500 rand, the expulsion and expropriation without compensation of the transnational corporations that plunder South Africa, continue to be a pending task...

IWO: James, was the demand for a salary of 12,500 rand, which was equivalent to the cost of the market basket, what sparked the Marikana struggle?

James S. (JS): Yes. To conquer it there was a wave of strikes developed for 3 years, one of the bravest of the South African proletariat. The combat of the Marikana miners is a milestone even in the class struggle at the continental level and opened an acute process of radicalization of broad layers of the proletariat.

In 2012, I was in Marikana after the massacre of the comrades to bring solidarity with a delegation of Zimbabwean workers to coordinate and extend that struggle to Southern Africa. I met with miners' delegates and learned about the terrible living conditions they suffer. Many of the workers sleep in shacks and cardboard huts that surround the platinum mines.

During all these years we were with them in the enormous mass mobilizations that they carried out on August 16 in the place where the 34 comrades were murdered. This fight and its martyrs will never be forgotten.

The Marikana combat was followed and supported by advanced workers from all over the continent. It was one of the most radicalized fights of the working class in South Africa.

IWO: What do you mean?

JS: The thing is, in order to go out and fight for their demands, the Marikana workers had to break with the pro-government union, which was a true appendage of the company and the government. The miners set up a huge strike committee with grass-roots delegates and assemblies. Their demand was jobs and a decent salary. The economic struggle jumped into a political struggle: it clashed with the government. What's more, it was one of the largest anti-imperialist struggles in South Africa in years, where Anglo American, the Anglo-US pirates who for decades and decades have been plundering the oppressed peoples of Africa and their enormous wealth, were confronted. One of the greatest slogans of the struggle was: *"12,500 rands or pack your bags and leave the country."*

IWO: At that time, ANC Zuma government was in power.

CM: Yes. And with the ANC the old Stalinist Communist Party of South Africa was co-governing, which with Mandela had guaranteed a peaceful solution and "reconciliation" to the white repressors and slavers of Apartheid, saving them from the revolutionary process of the '80s that defeated that infamous regime.

The ANC have continued and acted as guarantor of the looting of the enormous mineral wealth of South Africa such as platinum (as in Marikana), gold, copper, etc., while with this "reconciliation" pact the white murderers of the Apartheid they were freed and taking the main positions of the officers and generalship of the Pretoria army, which acts as a true gendarme of the business of imperialism throughout the region.

Zuma was part of a new bourgeoisie that made its fortune as "black" managers of the imperialist plunder and that emerged in a sea of black slave workers.

Let's not forget that Africa is a continent disputed by imperialist and transnational powers because it has an enormous source of raw materials, not only minerals of all kinds, including uranium and coltan, but also hydrocarbons, cocoa, rubber, etc. This contrasts with the extreme poverty and brutal exploitation suffered by the workers on the continent.

To give just one example, the cocoa extracted by Cargill, world's largest cereal company and food producer, is looted from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Camer-



Brutal exploitation of children in DRC's cobalt mines

oon. Cargill is the owner of those nations. They occupied their lands at gunpoint, with paramilitaries and the bayonets of their sepoys. In these nations, millions of children harvest the cocoa with which large transnational corporations produce the 800 billion tons of chocolate consumed around the world. Furthermore, in Congo more than 100 thousand children lift coltan and cobalt for Canadian, English and USA mining companies... There, it is lived a state of exploitation and plundering of child labor, unseen in times of slavery, where the slave was expected to grow and strengthen until adolescence to make him produce and to last longer alive at the service of the slave owner.

"In order to go out and fight for their demands, the Marikana workers had to break with the pro-government union, which was a true appendage of the company and the government"

JS: In South Africa, in the platinum mining belt, thousands of workers, in the worst working conditions and misery, even without housing, extract the minerals that fatten the pockets of the transnational corporations of the Anglo-US pirates.

And this must be said because an arrogant white worker aristocracy, a tiny minority of privileged workers of the imperialist powers, which is the basis of the union bureaucracies and the social-imperialist parties of the central countries, looks at blacks workers with disdain and contempt, who are coming to their countries looking for bread and a bed to sleep in, escaping

the martyrdom of hunger and slavery. But those who arrive there are the true owners evicted from their lands by the transnationals and the bankers of the imperial centers.

The harshness and thrust of that enormous Marikana struggle was the outbreak of years of oppression, subjugation and wage slavery of South Africa and the entire continent.

IWO: The black continent has been one of the most plundered on the planet for centuries

CM: Sure. At its early years, capitalism subsumed the slave mode of production and took black workers to work on the large plantations of Brazil or the cotton lands of the USA, from where it supplied raw materials for the looms of the English capitalists when the Industrial Revolution began at the end of the 18th century and beginning of the 19th century. That was the slave route.

But the black proletariat in Africa and in the world have never stopped fighting. Even in North Africa, in the Maghreb, Arab workers were, as happened in Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, the advance guard of the revolutionary uprisings that converged with the uprisings of the masses of the Middle East against imperialism and their puppets governments in 2011.

The black proletariat waged enormous battles, not only in South Africa. The working class and the poor peasants were the ones who gave their lives for the independence of their nations in the last century throughout the African continent. These battles were expropriated by the lackey black bourgeoisie, left by white imperialist masters to maintain order in their colonies and semi-colonies. That process culminated in the late '80s.

Lately, we have seen the great struggles in Mali and Chad that were part of the mass fight against the theft of uranium,

which powers France's nuclear apparatus. Recently in Kenya, a huge revolutionary mass uprising attacked the citadel of power, against the anti-worker laws that the IMF is trying to impose.

The South African proletariat was another vanguard sector of the combat in this 21st century. The South African workers who had faced Apartheid quickly clashed with the great black bourgeoisie that expropriated that fight.

IWO: *In the book "Marxism and the Black Question", which you wrote and compiled with historical materials from the FLTI, it is stated that it was Stalinism in all its variants, pro-Moscow or pro-Maoist, the one that allowed the black bourgeoisie expropriates that anti-colonial and anti-imperialist combat of the masses of Africa.*

CM: That is the role that Stalinism played. In South Africa they were part and founders of the ANC. Thus arose in the mid-90s that government led by Mandela, made up of a black proto-bourgeoisie and Stalinism, which with the fall of Apartheid saved the large properties of imperialism from the proletarian revolution and imposed itself as manager of their businesses, diverting the revolutionary struggle of the masses that shook Africa and the entire world in the 70s and 80s.

The unions, like COSATU, were within the ANC. They functioned as an appendix

of the regime and the governments in power and were completely nationalized since that movement had to once again tightly control the working class so that it did not advance to the socialist revolution.

The damage done by Stalinism to the working class of South Africa and the entire continent is the same damage that was caused with the yield to imperialism of the USSR and China in '89, or as we see now in Cuba with the capitalist restoration.

In Africa, as well as in Central America in the 1980s, Stalinism carried out its last "dirty jobs" at the service of imperialism before handing over the workers' states.

"The government of the ANC led by Mandela, composed by a black proto-bourgeoisie and Stalinism, with the saved the large properties of imperialism from the proletarian revolution when Apartheid fell"

This process had already started. Let us not forget that in the mid-1970s Portuguese imperialism had been defeated in Africa militarily. It fled its colonies and it was the "bourgeois Stalinist" governments that maintained private property there and guaranteed imperialist plunder, while the revolution began in Portugal, which was openly betrayed by the Communist Party of that country.

JS: We must insist on what we propose here about how the ANC government emerged, supported by Stalinism in South Africa; it was the product of a great betrayal of the revolution, since the enormous struggle of the Marikana miners and all the mines of platinum, faced that regime of traitors and the millionaire black bourgeoisie that maintained the businesses of imperialism throughout the region.

Large parts of the bourgeoisie and world imperialism make a monument to Mandela, who saved them with his regime of "reconciliation" with that murderous white bourgeoisie of Apartheid.

What I am telling you is very important and knowing it is essential to deeply understand what happened in Marikana. The official union that was in the mines was the NUM (National Union of Mineworkers), of which Ramaphosa himself had been a leader, who later ended up being manager of the Lonmin mine, which the Marikana workers faced in their strikes in 2012-2014, and he was the one who sent the police and the strikebreaking gunmen to crack down the miners in full force.

IWO: *From what you say, the Marikana struggle was a qualitative breaking point between the working class and the ANC government and imperialism.*

CM: Sure. That is the qualitative fact, which opened a true pre-revolutionary situation of radicalization of the masses and crisis at the heights.



Marxism and the Black Question

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IWO: But the immediate result of those big strikes, what was it?

JS: From a financial point of view, the salary of 12,500 rand that was claimed was not achieved. Today because of inflation, it should be 15,000 rand. The misery continues. Slight raises were achieved. Today workers' average salary is 4,600 rand.

It is clear that the 2012 strike and the return to combat in 2013 by the Marikana workers did not achieve their objective, but they left a great lesson when their comrades shouted: "We want 12,500 rand or we will kill the management." That is to say, the working class knew, it sensed that it had to take the mine of imperialism into its hands to achieve its conquests. This was one of the great revolutionary milestones of the continent's proletariat in recent years.

That fight threatened to sweep away the regime. Its deepening would have opened the way to achieve the conquests that were claimed.

The thing is that, in their uprising, the majority of the South African working class revolted against the regime and a process of rupture with the traitors of COSATU and the ANC began. **In this period, we experienced a great independent mass action. The struggle expanded to the industrial proletariat, which urged some of its unions into combat, such as the NUMSA of metalworkers, which took up that fight and began what we Marxists define as a proletarian rise.**

IWO: In international leftist circles there is an attempt to forget the heroic strike of thousands of platinum workers that began in Marikana in 2012

JS: We see it today on this 12th anniversary of the massacre and in the tributes that the miners pay every year to their fallen comrades. In all the ones I participated in, I never saw any movement there that claims to be of revolutionary socialism, not to mention the Communist Party, which is seen as one of the biggest traitors of the South African proletariat.

The thing is that many currents of Stalinism and the renegades of Trotskyism want to keep that heroic fight of the Marikana miners under the rug because it was an **example of struggle with workers' democracy, strike committees and even self-defense committees.**



Marikana miners strike: "R12,500 or pack your bags and leave the country"

Ultimately, what they also want to hide is the massive rupture of the workers' base with its bureaucratic leadership of the NUM union, as I told you before, and that the AMCU (Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union) had emerged, which expressed to the committee strike and the democratic body of delegates, representative of the vast majority of miners.

Let's not forget that 12 thousand workers worked in Marikana and with their struggle they united with tens and tens of thousands of platinum miners in the region, as happened in 2014 when they all went on strike.

"The heroic fight of the Marikana miners was an example of struggle with workers' democracy, strike committees and even self-defense committees"

The Marikana combat leaves a great lesson and learning for the international labor movement. Many wonder how thousands of workers were able to endure 5 months of strike in 2014.

This struggle took me back to the great strikes of the English miners when Thatcher closed the coal mines in the mid-1980s. In England, the struggle was sustained because the unions had a large strike fund accumulated by union dues and paid 50% of the salary to all strikers, an issue that surprises many workers when we tell them that this is why union dues exist for and that's how they should be used.

Those 5 months of struggle in Marikana were sustained, first of all, by the hero-

ism of the workers and the strike fund and the solidarity they received, but essentially, because workers from Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique, Namibia and several other neighboring countries throughout Africa worked in that mine. The workers took turns to be on the strike, while others returned to their countries for 30 days to feed with their families. **It was one of the strikes with the greatest creativity and international fraternization of the workers. A true example for the world working class.**

IWO: From what you say, I understand that if the Marikana strike did not succeed in its economic objectives, it did manage to open the process in the South African proletariat.

JS: I already stated how this struggle was the breaking point of a process of revolutionary offensive by the workers against the regime and that openly clashed with the Stalinist union bureaucracy of COSATU.

What emerged in Marikana was an alternative organization to the bureaucracy. The workers remained mourning for their dead after the 2012 strike. But their spirit was not broken. In May 2013, they went out to fight again after hitmen and the government executed one of their leaders, Mawethu Steven.

That day the workers refused to go down to the underground galleries of the mine and their second offensive began. Steven had been murdered in a local bar while watching a football game. He had openly confronted the NUM bureaucracy and had acquired great popularity among all his comrades. He was a leader of the

AMCU. The cowardly management of Lonmin had him killed, while the anti-worker Apartheid judges summoned him to testify before the Commission of Inquiry into the Marikana massacre.

Hatred once again swept through the mines of South Africa. Everyone: managers, judges, police, were responsible for this new murder. The Anglo-US employers tried at all costs to push back the new organization conquered by the strike of the year before.

IWO: Are these struggles the ones that anticipated the general combat of 2014?

CM: The outburst of the mining movement was in 2014. The workers could no longer tolerate the working conditions in the mine. They demanded justice for their martyrs. And their battle cry was, as James said: *“R12,500 salary or pack your bags and leave the country.”*

The 2014 strike spread across South Africa's platinum belt, paralyzing Anglo



Massacre of miners in Marikana

American Platinum (Amplats), Impala Platinum and Lonmin Platinum, the three largest looters of the minerals and natural wealth of martyred Africa.

The economic struggle quickly became political and was generalized to the entire South African labor movement.

Zuma's government was truly hated by the entire working class and each of its struggles weakened it more and more.

I wanted to point out that this mass offensive caused a historic crisis in the ANC and would subsequently open a huge crisis at the top in the years to come.

2018-2019: new mediations of Stalinism emerge to divide the open mass revolutionary offensive in South Africa

IWO: What you have been defining is that the miners' struggles opened a process where the working class broke away with the ANC.

CM: Yes, and a huge radicalization process also took place, which lasted for years. The mining struggle awakened another key sector of the South African proletariat, as James said: the metal workers of automotive and metalworking industry of the NUMSA union, which also emerged in a break away with COSATU and the ANC in 2013-2014. This union accused the ANC of being responsible with Ramaphosa for the murder of the 34 Marikana miners and of being a totally anti-worker government and servant of imperialism.

The mining union AMCU and the metalworking union NUMSA were milestones in this radicalization process. Broad layers of the working class were turning to the left. They broke at an angle of 180° with the ANC, COSATU and Stalinism. A pre-revolutionary situation had been already open.

This mass offensive imposed the early fall of the Zuma government in 2018,

against which the workers had organized a huge general strike in 2017. Those years were the highest point of the crisis of those at the top and of the tendency towards independent actions of masses of those below. Students, broad swaths of the working class, the unemployed in the towns entered the fight...

JS: I would like to point that, after the Marikana strike, this process had a huge impact on the countries of the region.

In Zimbabwe, there was a wave of great worker and student struggles with mobilizations, strikes and street clashes. This radicalization process openly collided with the ZANU-PF (Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front) regime and threatened to overthrow Mugabe's government. An enormous political crisis was opening in the heights. This agent of imperialism and the IMF was about to fall into the hands of the masses.

This motivated a sector of the government and the bourgeois party MDC (Movement for Democratic Change), which posed as “opposition” and “democratic,” to support a military coup that put Mnangag-

wa in power, who then called elections. He formed a cabinet with the military supported by the MDC and the union bureaucracy of the ZCTU trade union, which acted as a true front of class collaboration.

The MDC posed as an “opposition”. Currents such as the ISO (International Socialist Organization) of Zimbabwe, a sibling group of the former Trotskyists of the English SWP, covered it on the left and ended up calling to vote for that bourgeois party in the elections.

In Zimbabwe, the “pro-Moscow” Stalinist party does not exist. ZANU-PF, which was the national liberation movement of the former Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) in the '70s, was linked to China, it was pro-Maoist. The ISO is the one that plays the role of Stalinism in Zimbabwe, while in South Africa it supported the different “left” fractions of the Communist Party with which they tried to contain the masses in their revolutionary offensive from 2012 to 2018.

This is how the “socialists” of the City of London acted: subjecting the workers to the “democratic” bourgeoisies and covering Stalinism's back... They are parties,

governments and regimes; most of them are deeply dictatorial and guarantors of the application of the worst IMF plans for the financial plundering of African countries and the looting of transnational corporations of the continent's wealth.

IWO: *Based on what you say James, the revolutionary unity of the heart of the industrial proletariat of South Africa was at the top of agenda.*

JS: I already told you. Not only of South Africa, but of the region. But in South Africa in particular, a pre-revolutionary situation had already emerged, as Carlos defined.

The bourgeoisie and Anglo-US imperialism had to look in South Africa for new mediations to contain this rise. The general strike of October 2017 had dragged along the vast majority of the working class and the exploited masses. The old Stalinist unions had completely lost control of the labor movement. The beginning of the combat in Marikana meant the beginning of the political crisis of the ANC and the Zuma government.

CM: This was what later caused the fall of that government in February 2018. The crisis of the ANC and the independent actions of the working class opened at that time an enormous political crisis in the heights.

This crisis was quickly closed: the bourgeoisie handed over Zuma's head and the Congress appointed Ramaphosa, the Lonmin manager who had massacred in Marikana, as interim president until the 2019 elections. This infuriated the working class, but at the same time, due to the actions of new mediations set up by the regime, divided the mass offensive.

Before the fall of Zuma, the bourgeoisie could not continue resorting to gunmen and scabs who only added gasoline to the fire of the exploited's revolutionary. What they needed was to throw water to it. Unfortunately, the "new" leadership of the unions, such as that of NUMSA, led the struggle to pressure Parliament so that it would seem as if had removed Zuma, and not as it really was: the product of a revolutionary action by the workers.

This policy of the NUMSA leadership weakened the front of struggle of the exploited. Thus a new crisis of leadership of the rising proletariat opened. "New" neo-Stalinist leaderships, breaking away with the old Communist Party, mounted on the radical-



2017. Mass combat in South Africa: "Zuma must fall".

ized masses to prevent them from openly clashing with the bourgeois state and advancing towards the revolution.

IWO: *So new mediations were set up to divert and disorganize this revolutionary offensive?*

CM: Exactly. During the general strike of October 2017, the Communist Party and the official COSATU bureaucracy openly proposed, with a clear reactionary position, that Zuma had to leave and Ramaphosa govern by mandate of Congress.

Meanwhile, the leadership of the NUMSA union laid the rug for the bourgeoisie to resolve its crisis through Parliament which, as I told you, named Ramaphosa president. We witnessed an infamous trap to divert the revolutionary rise that called into question the direct overthrow of the government and the regime as a whole.

Unfortunately, the Marikana AMCU was not part of the strike because the workers thought that if Zuma left, Ramaphosa, the murderer of Lonmin, would be voted in, but its leadership also prevented it from being an alternative and disputing the leadership of the general strike.

The leaderships of the combative workers' organizations that the proletariat had set up, divided their ranks. As we saw, either supporting the "peaceful fall of Zuma and the assumption of Ramaphosa via parliament" or refusing to intervene in the strike to dispute the leadership with a revolutionary program. The AMCU had already won it in the previous battles of the platinum miners: 12,500 rand for everyone, expelling imperialism, strike committees and direct democracy.

IWO: *Was this guaranteed by the new leaderships that emerged?*

CM: There was a conscious and planned action by the state to divide the workers' offensive. "New leaderships" were placed at the head of both NUMSA and AMCU, but these came from the depths of South African Stalinism and the ANC. Two wings of the Communist Party broke away with it and "turned left" to contain the masses.

One of them was led by Malema, former leader of the South African Communist Youth. This current proclaims itself as "black nationalist" and proclaims the fight for "black power." He led the fight and the claim to the ANC for compensation to the widows of Marikana, taking this demand to bourgeois justice. Year after year he promised that with "black power we could end the exploitation of Anglo American," but not by expropriating its mines without compensation and under workers' control. That is, after an apparent "anti-imperialist" speech, he diluted the truly anti-imperialist and revolutionary program that expressed the radicalization of the heroic platinum miners in South Africa. And with the demand of "black power" he separated the Marikana miners from the rest of the working class that was breaking with the ANC.

This was the current that aborted the fight for "black power", which could only be achieved by setting up throughout South Africa factory committees of combative unions, of rebellious students, of delegations of the populations that demand basic services to live with dignity and fighting to dissolve the murderous police, with the workers' militia and the soldiers' commit-

tees. It is that only mass self-organization body fighting to take power are the ones that can guarantee a Black Workers and Peasants Republic, which is a point of support for the Federation of Black and Socialist Republics of Africa.

All this was a coldly calculated deception by Stalinism, imperialism and the ANC government.

IWO: *What role did the NUMSA leadership play then, because you said that it brought the workers' rise to the feet of Parliament so that Zuma's fall could be cushioned?*

CM: The leadership of NUMSA also emerged from the bowels of Stalinism. It was a wing of the COSATU bureaucracy that dressed itself as "leftist", "combative" and even "revolutionary".

In 2013-2014, when it broke away with COSATU, this leadership called for the creation of a "revolutionary workers' party" in South Africa. Let us not forget that NUMSA and SAFTU, the federation of unions that also broke with the official trade union, organize 800,000 industrial workers in South Africa.

The emergence of this process, which the working class base filled with combative content and open radicalization, as we have seen, was diverted by its leadership, ultimately, to play a role as the "left wing" of the ANC regime.

To do so, the NUMSA leadership was forced to put itself at the head of the struggles and the workers' offensive of the industrial proletariat and metalworking in particular, which did not cease, as expressed in the general strike of 2018. The NUMSA leadership place itself at the head of the masses to leave the streets and subject them to the 2019 electoral trap, in which Ramaphosa was victorious, who was legitimized.

To develop this policy, the neo-Stalinist leadership of this union had to show a "leftist" and "revolutionary" face and clothing...

JS: The thing is that NUMSA's project of setting up a "new revolutionary party" was not credible only with the "left wings" of Stalinism. To legitimize their policy, they needed the renegades of Trotskyism.

This is why, the NUMSA leaders participated in various international congresses of the self-proclaimed "Trotskyists", where they went to wash their faces and dirty clothes. These former Trotskyist currents



2019. Founding of the SRWP in South Africa: speakers with Fidel Castro's T-shirts and Chavista berets

dressed in "rrred" that Stalinist left leadership that the South African bourgeoisie knew how to use very well to impose the trap and the diversion of the pre-revolutionary situation. It is striking to see everyone looking the other way now.

"The SRWP was founded solely by the members of the NUMSA leadership with its reformist program... They wanted to reissue the scam of the "Bolivarian revolution" in South Africa, just at a time when the Castro brothers had finished handing over Cuba to capitalist restoration"

For example, the NUMSA leadership participated in congresses of the Conlutas trade union of Brazil, which is led by PSTU and LIT-CI. They also taken to meetings of Labor Notes of USA, by the same Conlutas. There they were received as "heroes" of the metalworking workers of South Africa.

This NUMSA leadership that "turned left" channeled the struggle of the auto and metal workers, but at the same time, took it to a dead end; they diverted it.

In January 2018, the NUMSA leadership proclaimed the founding of that party as a "Socialist Revolutionary Workers Party" (SRWP) and in April 2019 they held a congress and founded it. All the currents that are to the left of Stalinism entered there, such as the ISO and all the groups coming from former English Trotskyism. The CWG, a very small group from New

Zealand, applauded its founding, saying that a new "labor party" had to be created (as they want to do in all countries in the world, that is, a reformist party).

A revolutionary current coming from a merger with the FLTI wanted to make its experience and also joined the SRWP, as is the case of the WIVL of South Africa. They entered that party believing that with it they were going to advance to establish a revolutionary party. Nothing could be further from that.

The SRWP was founded. Only the cadres and leadership of NUMSA participated in that congress. They had made sure all those years that the constitution of that party and its program were not discussed by hundreds of thousands of vanguard workers.

The SRWP was founded solely by the members of the NUMSA leadership with its reformist program. Its axis was to "confront Ramaphosa" by demanding the "Freedom Charter", which was Mandela's call to establish the regime of "reconciliation" with the white fascists of Apartheid that we talked about before. They covered that program with "socialist" phraseology. That is to say, the NUMSA leaders proclaimed an "ultra-red" program without breaking with the ANC or with Mandela's "reconciliation" program.

Workers must know that this leadership, which had just participated in congresses of trade unions led by the "Trotskyists", imposed that to join that party you had to vindicate Castro-Stalinism and Chavism. **They wanted to reissue the scam of the "Bolivarian revolution" in South Africa, just at a time when the Castro brothers had finished handing over Cuba to capitalist restoration.** It was a stab in the back; a huge betrayal.

CM: The leaders of NUMSA dressed in the clothing of Castroism, which ultimately was a very important instrument with which the bourgeoisie tried to subdue the revolutionary black labor movement, which felt part and sibling of the Cuban revolution in South Africa, all of Africa and mainly in USA. This time they did it also incorporating the figure of Chavism.

There is already history of this betrayal. In Latin America we saw Castro in the 70s proclaiming the "peaceful path to socialism" in Chile or at the beginning of the 21st century, with the scam of the "Bolivarian revolution", strangling the enormous anti-imperialist struggles of the masses at the feet of the native bourgeoisies.

The founding congress of the SRWP was a political scam on the workers. We cannot forget that in the '70s, Castroism and its "militias" played a key role in covering the enormous political crisis left by the expulsion of Portuguese imperialism by the revolutionary masses of Angola and Guinea-Bissau. In those countries, the Stalinist movements found themselves in power and used it to defend capitalists' private property.

Castroism protected Rockefeller's oil wells in Angola so that they would not be expropriated by armed workers in their anti-imperialist struggle against the Portuguese occupation. Castroism played a detrimental role throughout Africa, as they did in South Africa by openly supporting the ANC and Mandela in the '70s and '80s. This time, legitimizing the SRWP which, as a neo-Stalinist variant, was part, together with Malema, of the abortion of the revolutionary process that was getting underway in South Africa.

British Trotskyism, which has relative weight in African countries, in Zimbabwe and South Africa in particular, played a very important role in legitimizing this



2020. Black movement leads the fight against Trump in the US

Stalinist maneuver, as they are also doing it today by openly supporting the ANC.

I'm talking about a current like the ISO. Comrade James has already told us the experience of Zimbabwe, where the ISO played the role of Stalinism in setting up opposition fronts with the bourgeoisie that they call "democratic", such as the MDC, which was nothing other than the "democratic" agent of the imperialist transnationals that plunder that nation.

In South Africa, they supported this process of backing Stalinism and directly the ANC. As we denounced in our book *Marxism and the Black Question*, the ISO stated that "democracy and democratic freedoms were achieved in South Africa with the ANC government." This is a vile lie. The democratic conquests were achieved with the slave masses of Apartheid fighting in the streets and defeating that opprobrium regime. These democratic freedoms were lost as we have seen in the Marikana massacre and in the fascist pogroms against immigrant workers, precisely because the ANC prevented the victory of the socialist revolution in the '80s, when the Communist Party handed power to the black bourgeoisie.

IWO: In USA, the ISO was directly dissolved to support the billionaire Sanders and the political scammer Ocasio-Cortez of the "democratic socialists" of the imperialist Democratic Party, so that they would lead the entire left wing of the working class to support Biden "against Trump."

JS: Yes, this is what we are talking about. And the workers of England and the entire world must know it, as well as the sinister role played by the "left" Stalinist currents that march into single parties with the renegades of Trotskyism.

That happened in Cuba, with Frank García Hernández of the Communist Party, who revindicates the figure of Trotsky, but who is not part of or leads any struggle of the workers facing capitalist restoration on the island. Yes, even Putin's itinerant ambassador, Darya Mitina, was taken to "anti-imperialist" congresses with the former Trotskyists of Greece.

Workers must be aware of the sinister role these unified parties play with Stalinism, drawing lessons from South Africa.

The black working class, a key fraction of the world proletariat

IWO: What is the current situation of the South African working class?

JS: There is a national-socialist vision in the reformist currents that see the working class as only a national class, when it is essentially an international class. And the black proletariat is a fraction of the world working class, the most exploited, but also the one that has fought the most internationally.

When we talk about the struggle of the working class in Africa we are discussing the situation of the black working class worldwide, one of the most punished by the capitalist system.

In USA, the black labor movement played a key role in the struggles of the US proletariat since the beginning. It was the advance guard of the fight against imperialism within the US, first of all, for its conquests as a brutally oppressed black nation within that

imperialist power. They were also the vanguard of the fight against the Vietnam War.

The black movement was key in the fight for the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq and Afghanistan and then openly confronting white supremacists and leading the fight of all US workers against the Trump government, who was left seriously in crisis after the murder of George Floyd. We account for all this in our book *Marxism and the Black Question*.

Let us not forget that in US, "Black Lives Matter" emerged in 2013, in protest of the acquittal of the police officer who had murdered young black man Trayvon Martin in 2012. This movement regained enormous weight in 2020, when it led the fight for the trial and punishment of George Floyd's murderers.

The black labor movement did not stop fighting in the 20th century or in the 21st century, as part of the global working class anywhere in the world. They revolted in Haiti. They have been part of the Arab workers of the French proletariat with the so-called "Black Vests" who, revolted for the rights of immigrants in Europe and taking to the streets of Paris, raised the cry of "Fear has changed sides".

IWO: There are millions of migrants on the planet. A large part of them, along with Arab and Latin American workers, are black workers.

CM: Indeed. There are 260 million migrants. Many of them from black Africa die crossing the Mediterranean. In imperialist Europe, they are used as disposable labor. They do not get to Europe for a walk, but because the cynical imperialist bourgeoisie opens the borders to them when it needs them to raise the crops and do the worst jobs. Then, when they want to get rid of them, they let them sink into the Mediterranean by the hundreds of thousands.

Nothing different from what is happening on the US border with Latin American workers. A few days ago, I read that Trump announced that his first measure, if he wins the elections, will be to expel a million immigrants. This is nothing new: it's what Biden is doing, even with fascist white gunmen from southern states closing the border against caravans of hungry

migrants from Central and South America trying to get there.

In 2005, there was a major hurricane in USA. New Orleans was almost demolished. Chicano and black workers were the ones who rebuilt it. A major construction workers' strike broke out there. The black workers joined the Latin American workers when the latter greeted him, calling him to a common struggle "from one slave to another..."

"Yesterday, the labor aristocracy and bureaucracy of the unions and the Labor Party raised the slogan 'British jobs for British workers' (...) Today, we see that the imperialist bourgeoisie treats the British proletariat just as it treats the immigrants"

IWO: I was reading the note from comrade Peter from England, after the enormous mass marches through Palestine of the English proletariat and youth, in which the working class came out to confront the fascist "anti-immigrant" movement.

CM: Big capital launched fascist gangs in England under the excuse of migrant to crush them and break the unity of the working class. Yesterday, the aristocracy and the workers' bureaucracy of the unions and the Labor Party had raised the slogan of "British jobs for British workers." Even Brexit was supported by the upper layers of the British working class. Today, we can see how the imperialist bourgeoisie treats the British proletariat the same as immigrants, ripping off all their conquests one by one.

Huge layers of the English working class are defending immigrants in the streets. With them, they have marched in recent months in support of the Palestinian masses, martyred with a true genocide of Zionism in Gaza, which is spreading to the West Bank.

We had already seen in South Africa one of the largest mobilization processes in the world in support of Palestine. The black South African worker hates Zionism, like yesterday the regime of the white bourgeoisie of Apartheid, which had them in true concentration camps called Bantustans. The black worker had to show a document or passport to go to work. It is the same thing that happens today in Palestine occupied by the Zionist-fascist state of Israel.

This explains why South Africa is one of the vanguard sectors in solidarity with the Palestinian people. Apartheid was defeated by long enormous revolutionary struggle of the masses, expropriated by the black bourgeoisie and Stalinism. Today, we are witnessing the ANC trying to capitalize and divert this fight against the Zionist massacre in Gaza, in the international courts of The Hague, with "condemnations" from the UN, etc., which have not stopped even one of the missiles with which the Zionism massacres the Palestinian people daily and destroys their cities, hospitals, homes and schools.

IWO: You were saying that the black working class is a fraction of the world working class that fights all over the planet.

CM: That's right. Union bureaucracies, labor aristocracies and reformist left are the ones who break the coordination and desynchronize their struggle and separate the black working class from the entire world proletariat, treating them as second-class workers.

Note that there is a paradox: the black working class, like the one of southern Africa, produces an enormous percentage, if not the majority, of the raw materials with which the world capitalist system functions, such as minerals, hydrocarbons, etc.

In the '30s, Trotsky said that the black worker in USA never allowed himself to be enslaved. He was always a rebel wherever he was.

Coordinating this fraction of the working class is a decisive step towards rebuilding the unity of the world proletariat that Stalinism and the union bureaucracies have destroyed.



"Black Vests" immigrant workers in France

In the heat of the combat of the black proletariat in South Africa, there are Revolutionary Trotskyist being built

IWO: *Our international current arises and has a very important affluent in its constitution in the workers of Africa.*

JS: We consider this a key issue. Our experience and approach to the FLTI is an enormous lesson in internationalist combat. Our action in these events and drawing these lessons, which are expressed in our historical materials and in the book *Marxism and the Black Question*, was decisive in achieving a revolutionary program.

Our development and evolution were complex, difficult. We came from a breakup of the ISO of Zimbabwe, which was totally revolutionary since we denounced that this party was an appendage of the MDC. We emerged with a program against submission to the "popular front", while the comrades of the WIVL from South Africa were looking for an international alternative to develop their fight on the continent, they turned to the left and were also part of the founding of the FLTI.

We arrived in Africa also joining a process of radicalization in countries like Mozambique. Let's not forget that in 2009 a great revolutionary process took place in Madagascar; it was almost a classic revolution.

IWO: *What do you take from this experience that our current made in Africa?*

JS: First of all, we broke our isolation and linked ourselves to revolutionary vanguard phenomena from deep Africa and the black working class. This international construction offensive was part of our intervention in open civil war processes such as Libya and Syria. With them, we reached the Pacific and we still maintain a policy of international action bloc with the comrades of the JRCL-RMF of Japan.

The currents that liquidated the Fourth International seek to ensure that this highly contradictory process of our construction, but fierce and internationalist, be unknown to the new generations. But that's not going to happen.

The entry of all the groups that call themselves Trotskyists in Africa into the SRWP, the Stalinist and Castro-Chavist party in South Africa, decisively anticipat-



James S. at the Marikana miners' strike

ed the liquidation, not only politically, but also organizationally, of the currents that claim to be revolutionary Marxism. ISO is the outpost of this process, as we saw in Zimbabwe, South Africa, USA and also in England itself, where they were located as the left faction of the Labor Party, led at that time by Corbyn.

"In Africa, the entry of all the groups that claim to be Trotskyists into the SRWP, the Stalinist and Castro-Chavist party in South Africa, decisively anticipated the liquidation, not only politically, but also organizationally, of the currents that claim to be revolutionary Marxists"

But at the same time this enormous pressure meant a crisis in our ranks, which we managed to overcome by selecting our forces, under the lessons of the conquered Trotskyist program.

Fighting against these pressures, we founded our revolutionary core, anchored in an international faction that at every step counterbalanced and kept alive Trotskyism of the countries of South Africa.

We did not give an inch defending the strategic interests of the black proletariat internationally, as part of the world working class.

The entry of all the Trotskyist groups into the South African SRWP was also a great pressure. There is no doubt that the crisis of the Fourth International continues to be a limit to establishing vanguard revolutionary parties. Hence, the fight for its refoundation is a key issue to do so without betraying or capitulating.

CM: Notice that to enter the founding congress of the SRWP, you had to wear a red t-shirt with the faces of Castro and Chávez and swear allegiance to the "Bolivarian revolution." As James says, this put enormous pressure on the revolutionary movement that was taking its first steps in Africa. Obviously, that is what finally happened.

This policy of joining the SRWP separated us from our WIVL comrades in South Africa, despite the enormous agreements we held and still hold. The same with the CWG that called to openly enter.

Today the balance is clear: all this was a setup and a maneuver by Stalinism to disorganize a mass revolutionary offensive. The CWG is silent on this. Not so the comrades of WIVL, who are drawing lessons from that experience.

Just to get an idea, our comrades from Zimbabwe went to the founding congress of the SRWP to fight for the NUMSA workers to define the program and policy of that party. They went to fight a great battle with the internationalist program for the South African revolution. They did not go with Castro or Chávez t-shirts, but rather

those of the Fourth International. Of course, at the entrance they could enter wage this battle. Only those currents that submitted to the rules of the new left-wing bureaucracy of NUMSA and paid homage to Castro-Chavism entered there.

JS: This experience of building the SRWP culminates with the total separation of this party from the metalworking workers, which causes a strong electoral defeat, but also demoralization at the base of the union.

Ultimately, Malema from Marikana and this neo-Stalinist party turned out to be an abortion, for now, of the rupture of the South African working class with the ANC and of the fight to conquer a revolutionary labor movement and an internationalist party of the proletariat of South Africa that leads them to seize power.

This was a huge frustration just like Mandela was in the '80s. But in this case, the last word has not been said. The ANC is hated by the masses, but if the working class does not provide a way out, the reaction of the bloodthirsty and lackey black bourgeoisies, together with imperialism, will once again drown the African labor movement in blood, as they did yesterday with the miners of Marikana.

IWO: As happens throughout the semi-colonial world, due to the imperialist crisis, the dispute over sources of raw materials has been exacerbated.

CM: This in Africa occurs multiplied by a thousand due to the degree of wealth of minerals and other raw materials that are essential for the development of all branches of production of the imperialist monopolies worldwide.

Imperialism advances, as it always did in Africa, crushing the nations and peoples it oppresses. The fight for sources of raw materials is based on counter-revolutionary wars, on true genocides like in Congo, on sinister regimes like that of Apartheid before or those of the old French colonies in Sub-Saharan Africa. Uranium and coltan are extracted from these countries, and gold, platinum, diamonds and much more are looted from the countries of South Africa.

But the masses of black Africa have not given up. We have seen them recently in Kenya. There was no country where the proletariat have not entered into open revolutionary offensives, which



June 2024. Mass revolutionary uprising in Kenya

were betrayed and diverted, or crushed by counterrevolution.

Time is running short to set up revolutionary internationalist vanguard parties. The leadership crisis deepens. The African continent shows that the time of crisis, wars and revolutions is becoming more acute and that the alternative of socialism or barbarism is an immediate alternative, despite and against reformism, which proclaims that workers, applying pressure on bourgeois parliaments and in blocs with what they call "progressive bourgeoisies" or "anti-imperialists", can raise their living standard, without the victory of revolution.

In Africa, two theories and two strategies continue to openly confront each other: on one hand, the miserable program of submission to the bourgeoisie of "two-stage revolution" and fronts of class collaboration. On the other hand, the theory and strategy of Trotskyism of struggle for the socialist revolution as an immediate task. Only by fighting for it will the proletariat be able to achieve here or there partial demands, which will be lost if it does not take power.

The black labor movement and its most advanced and most insightful layers are a decisive battalion for the fight for the refoundation of the Fourth International

IWO: I have read a summary statement of this process from the WIVL comrades of South Africa that was published as part of the International Correspondence to the VII Congress of the FLTI.

CM: That note is very important. They broke away with the SRWP by making a self-critical public summary of their intervention there.

IWO: That's very progressive

CM: I have not seen any current that claims to be revolutionary Marxism publicly raise before the masses any of the terrible adaptations, capitulations and betrayals that they committed.

JS: I know what the WIVL comrades say, which is highly auspicious. In that statement they state: "*We made a mistake by putting our trust in NUMSA leaders to create an environment for the real building of a revolutionary workers party. However, from the start the structures were bureaucratic and suppressed workers voices. (...) It seems that the aim of the NUMSA leaders was to pacify and neutralise the radical base of the union with talk of revolution. In this they played an important support role for imperialism to help curb and neutralise a key section of the revolutionary Left in the working class, centrally in NUMSA itself. (...) As WIVL we accept blame too for having stayed in the SRWP for so long.*"

CM: That's a big step forward. Now that struggle and those lessons have to rise to the end in achieving an active internationalist policy to refound the Fourth International. From a national vision it is not possible to understand the actions of the treacherous leaderships that are centralized at the international level.

With our WIVL comrades, we have promoted, at key moments, the fight in solidarity with the Palestinian masses, for the destruction of the state of Israel and against US imperialism that commands Zionism.

The struggle to establish an international general staff that draws revolutionary lessons to make it easier for the working class

to identify its enemies, especially when they dress in "irred", is a decisive task and is the best tribute we can pay today from the FLTI, and the revolutionary groups in Africa that make up their ranks, to the Marikana miners.

They did everything to win and they still fight for trial and punishment of all the murderers of their comrades and for a salary of 12,500 rands, which is a revolutionary demand of the entire workers' movement in black Africa, which will only be conquered by expelling imperialism and recovering the land, in a Federation of Black Workers and Socialist Republics.

IWO: Would you like to add anything?

JS: I take advantage of this report to denounce that a process of persecution of labor activism has begun in Zimbabwe, where workers at every step threaten with harsh combats, such as miners and teachers, the student uprising, etc. We have to be with them. They are one of the most exploited fractions of the proletariat in Africa. Promoting a campaign for the freedom of Zimbabwe's political prisoners and the trial and punishment of the murderers of the Marikana miners is the top-priority task.

Before finishing, I would like to mention that August 20 sets a new anniversary of the assassination of Leon Trotsky at the hands of a Stalinist agent. From the African continent, WIL pays tribute to the comrade, founder of the Fourth International. We know of the enormous struggle that the founders of our world party gave to stand up the black proletariat, particularly in USA.

Our assassinated leader worked hard enough to ensure that our party in USA, the SWP, in the 1930s dedicated enormous forces to work in the black movement.

Trotsky affirmed that the claim and black nationalism in USA is nothing more than the natural excess of desire for equality. And that is totally and absolutely progressive. But also, he also affirmed that white American chauvinism is the expression of racial domination and is essentially reactionary. The nationalist tendencies of blacks openly confront the capitalist system that imposes racism and contempt on the black movement to generate a cheap and slave labor force.

I wanted to pay tribute to Comrade León Trotsky, knowing that this task of fighting for a revolutionary leadership of the black



South African Trotskyist Militants in 1934

working class worldwide is inseparable from the fight to refound the Bolshevik-Leninist party, the Fourth International.

The banners have to be clear. We fight under the clean flags of the Fourth International to give back to the black proletariat of Africa the leadership it deserves.

"I would like to mention that August 20 sets a new anniversary of the assassination of Leon Trotsky at the hands of a Stalinist agent. From the African continent, WIL pays tribute to the comrade, founder of the Fourth International"

CM: For our part, we express our commitment to the fight for the refoundation of the Fourth International at a time when the former Trotskyists have consummated their entry or fusion with the Stalinist currents and the class collaboration fronts throughout the planet.

JS: That experience was already lived here and the workers of South Africa, Zimbabwe and the entire continent are paying dearly for it.

The founding of the SRWP by Stalinists and renegades of Trotskyism, who aborted the pre-revolutionary situation in South Africa, occurred in the same year in which the "leftist" wings of Stalinism and the liquidators of the Fourth International met in Havana to "claim the figure of Trotsky", while they betrayed his legacy and his program in South Africa, Latin America, USA and internationally.

Here they saved ANC from the hatred of the masses and in Cuba they gave a "democratic" halo to Stalinism that had just restored capitalism in the island.

As South Africa demonstrates and the experience of Bolshevism demonstrated, between Trotskyism and Stalinism there is a river of blood. Those murdered in Marikana by Anglo American and the strikebreaking gunmen of the ANC and the Stalinist bureaucracy are part of that blood.

IWO: The book "Marxism and the Black Question" is sold out. Are you preparing a new edition?

CM: The Rudolph Klement Publishing House is working on a second edition of it, updating its presentation. We are working on it.

IWO: I think this interview could be part of this new edition.

CM: The Trotskyist comrades in Africa will have the last word on what you propose. The thing is that this work, like our books on Syria, have not been written from comfortable desks, but rather intervening in the heart of the live combats of the civil war processes in which our current has proudly participated, such as Marikana and the struggles from South Africa, in the Middle East, on the First Lines of Colombia and Chile, against the coup in Peru...

So, there goes then our tribute to Marikana's comrade on this 12th anniversary of the massacre. The victory of the socialist revolution in Africa and internationally will avenge them and remember them as martyrs of the world proletariat. •

SOUTHERN AFRICA

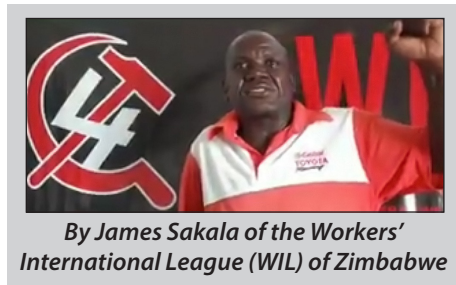
September 20, 2024

The government wants to alleviate the food crisis by sacrificing elephants

Phenomenal famine in Zimbabwe

For the working class and the poor people to eat...

Imperialism must be expropriated and its lackey Mnangagwa government defeated!



By James Sakala of the Workers' International League (WIL) of Zimbabwe

In Zimbabwe, 7,500,000 inhabitants -half the population-, are suffering from a phenomenal famine situation. The Mnangagwa government, fearing a revolt of the hungry that is about to break out, approved the sacrifice of 200 elephants to turn them food for our totally malnourished population, following the experience of neighboring Namibia, which has already slaughtered elephants for human consumption. They plan to dry the meat, package it and deliver it to communities suffering food shortages. The slaughter of these mammals, the first to be carried out in the country since 1988, will take place in the districts of Hwange, Mbire, Tsholotsho and Chiredzi. This is how these imperialist lackeys are trying to appease the famine we are suffering: they want to give us elephant meat! What scoundrels!

Zimbabwe is one of the poorest countries on the planet. For years we have been enduring brutal inflation, with rates over 500% in recent years and since March this year the price increase has been 55%, one of the highest levels in months. Our standard of living is very low, unemployment reaches 75% of the population. That is why about 4 to 7 million workers emigrate to neighbouring countries, especially South Africa, in search of work, to be able to put food on the table for our families.

We are told that this famine has been caused by a major drought that is ravaging Africa due to the El Niño phenomenon, which has destroyed crops throughout southern Africa. Although it is certainly the worst drought

in 40 years, which effectively is deepening the terrible poverty throughout the continent, this is not the fundamental cause, since already in 2021 the World Bank had warned that the number of Zimbabweans living in extreme poverty exceeded 40% of its population. The public debt with the IMF was 19,9 billion dollars in 2021, that is 59.77% of its gross domestic product. (<https://datosmacro.expansion/paises/grupos/FMI>)

Zimbabwe is strangled, bled by the IMF and plundered by transnationals, while great natural wealth is concentrated in its soil

In Zimbabwe, as in the rest of the African continent, the real cause of the population's starvation is not the weather factor, but the plundering of imperialism, which is taking out and away all of Zimbabwe's wealth -gold, asbestos, chromium, vanadium, palladium, lithium, nickel, copper, iron and coal- leaving scorched earth and misery for the exploited masses. With these resources and wealth that imperialism is stealing from us, the environmental damage that had been foreseen years ago could have been avoided, or even funds could

have been saved for the entire population to eat, despite the drought. Imperialism is voracious in its plundering and even more so today, when its brutal colonizing offensive is deepening throughout the semi-colonial world, since in order to get out of the economic crisis, it needs to take over the sources of raw materials and enslaved labor force, multiplying the plundering of wealth by a thousand. Only in this way can imperialism get out of its crisis, first of all by placing it on the shoulders of the workers and oppressed peoples of the world.

On the arable lands that had been expropriated from the whites, the black bourgeoisie did not invest a cent, so productivity was not maintained and they had to sell them off to give them back to the whites and the transnationals of the agricultural business, which of course did not invest and did not make these lands productive for the people to eat.

Such is the plundering and disinvestment of natural resources that water is running out and there is no longer enough electricity, and there are no funds to buy it, so the power cuts are longer and longer every time, nearly 17 hours a day now.

The thesis is affirmed that at one pole the



Children scavenging for leftover food in Harare

wealth of a small handful of exploiters accumulates, and at the opposite pole the great majority of the working people and the poor peasants suffer a great famine... which they will now alleviate with elephant meat!

This is what this rotten capitalist system offers to its exploited class and the poor people. It unloads its crisis on the masses, so that they pay for it, even attacking them with wars such as in Ukraine, Palestine, where the inhabitants of Gaza, who heroically resist the genocide of the fascist Zionist State of the occupier, have no water, medicine or food and have to feed with weeds!

For the working class and the poor people to be able to live, imperialism must die

We, the Zimbabwean workers are faced with an ironclad alternative: either we fight to defeat this system with a victorious revolution or we are assured of a path to barbarism, which we are already suffering to a large extent. Because today, faced with this catastrophe that threatens the entire working class and the poor peoples of the world, *"to force the capitalists to make serious concessions, it is necessary to break their will, and this can only be achieved through a revolutionary offensive."* (**Whither France?** "Immediate demands and struggles for power." L. Trotsky)

Therefore, our battle cry and that of all the exploited of the African continent will be that in order to be able to eat:

-We must expel imperialism from Zimbabwe and from the entire African continent!

-NO REPAYMENT OF THE FOREIGN DEBT! There they are the funds to be able to immediately import food, so that the working class and poor peasants can eat decently.

-We must expropriate, without compensation and under workers' control, all the transnationals that left scorched earth in the country and in the entire African continent and that continue to plunder it until it is exhausted. Let the gold, platinum, diamonds, lithium, and land return to our hands, those of the working class and the poor peasants, the true owners of these riches.

-We must expropriate all the mines that are in the hands of the transnationals that plunder the natural resources of Zimbabwe as well as those of Chinese capital that steal lithium and all the minerals to maintain



Elephants in Hwange National Park

the production of the imperialist transnationals based in Chinese territory and exploit us without respecting any labor law.

-Nationalization of the Banks, there we will have the necessary funds to be able to give cheap credits to the poor peasants so that they can buy seeds, fertilizers, and thus be able to produce food for the entire region.

-Let us expropriate all the property both of the white bourgeoisie and the black bourgeoisie, expropriators of our revolutions.

-Freedom for all those imprisoned for fighting!

Dissolution of all repressive forces! Self-defense committees of workers united with informal workers and the unemployed! For Committees of common soldiers so that weapons pass into the hands of the working class and the poor people!

To fight and win we need true fighting organizations, without bureaucrats

To carry out this fight we have to recover the Zimbabwe Trade Union Confederation (ZCTU) from the hands of the collaborationist bureaucracy. In 2018, they brought us to our knees at the feet of the bourgeois opposition, calling on workers to vote for the bosses' parties like Chamisa's MDC, and in 2023 they told us again that by voting for the bourgeois opposition of this recycled MDC, which is the Citizens' Coalition for Change (CCC), led by Chamisa himself, workers would live better... Pure Lies! We must regain the independence of the working class to fight for our interests, imposing the breakup of the ZCTU with the bourgeoisie! Enough is

enough! Out with the bureaucrats at the service of the bosses!

Let's re-group our ranks to build a combative, anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist working class pole, to throw out the bureaucracy and take back the ZCTU and be able to defeat imperialism that plunders our wealth and its lackey Mnangagwa, too.

To confront the redoubled plundering by transnational corporations, and prepare a decisive battle against this dictatorial government, servant of imperialism, jailer of the fighters: Let's hold assemblies in all establishments, mines, factories, elect delegates and set up a National Workers Congress to raise these demands, with delegates mandated by these assemblies, who may be recallable at any time by their bases.

For this reason, we call on the ISO, a movement that claims to be of the working class, to break with its policy that called for a vote for the MDC in 2018 and subordinated to the bureaucracy of the ZCTU, which it demands to lead the struggle, and refuses to organize the workers to break with these rotten collaborators. How can we fight for the interests of the working class and have it define its policy and have class independence without organizations capable of fighting without bureaucrats and without bosses?

We already have allies on the continent; they are our siblings in Kenya, Niger, Somalia, Senegal, South Africa. We are one class, we face the same enemy and it is the same fight throughout the subcontinent of central and southern Africa against imperialism and its servants! Let's unify these struggles.

For a revolutionary provisional government of workers and poor peasants!

For a Federation of Black, Worker and Socialist Republics throughout Southern Africa! •

BOLIVIA

September 27, 2024

The different bourgeois gangs in the MAS party are disputing between Arce and Morales over who will manage the business of imperialism and the capitalists from 2025 onwards. In the meantime, it is the poor people who bear the brunt of the crisis...

Yesterday the Media Luna oligarchy with Añez; today the MAS government and Morales himself: they all seek to deepen the submission of Bolivia to the imperialist banks

The Arce government of the MAS is making life unbearable for the working class and the people

**Enough of inflation, hunger, rate hikes and surrender of the nation!
We must stop the attack of the people-executioners !**

We must recover the COB for the working class from the hands of the collaborationist bureaucracy serving the government enemy of the people.

Different sectors of the workers such as the COD of Chuquisaca and the teachers, poor peasants, the FEJUVE of El Alto, among others, have entered into struggle and call to confront the high cost of living and the government of hunger and surrender.

The workers and peasants' organizations must break all subordination to the bourgeois gangs that are fighting for the plunder of the nation's wealth!

For a National Congress of grassroots delegates with a mandate from the COR, the COD, the Miners Federation, the teachers, the factory workers and all the workers of Bolivia!!

Out with Huarachi!

For a revolutionary leadership of the COB!

We must impose a revolutionary solution for workers and peasants to the crisis imposed by the capitalists and imperialist plunder!!

Nationalization without compensation and under workers' control of hydrocarbons and mining!

To win bread, we must nationalize the land of the oligarchy!

We must end with the usurious debt to the world banks!!

Enough of repression!

Dissolution of the repressive forces!

Trial and punishment of all the generals of the Banzerista army, coup-plotters and murderers of Senkata and Sacaba!

Rifle, shrapnel, Bolivia will not be silent!

Provisional revolutionary government of workers and peasants!!

Out with the Gringos!

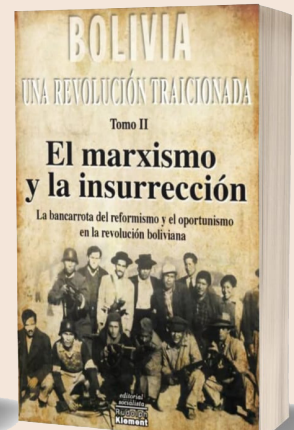
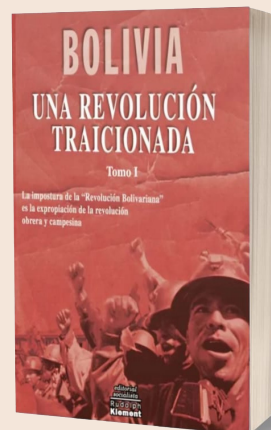
Liga Socialista de los Trabajadores Internacionalistas (LSTI)
(Socialist League of Internationalist Workers) of Bolivia



The Departamental Central of Workers from Chuquisaca and its affiliated sectors march against the increase of the family basket of basic goods

Bolivia: A revolution betrayed

(Spanish version)



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From back cover

Argentina:

**No more Milei!
Down with this capitalist autocracy!**

**We need to unite and coordinate
all those who are fighting!**

Facing the fierce attack by those above, the state workers are going on strike against the layoffs. Aeronautical workers face Aerolíneas Argentinas privatizations and are fighting for a living wage.

After the deans and principals had sold out university budget and workers' salaries to Milei, professors and university workers went

back to fight to defend state-run education and they are demonstrating together with the students.

Pensioners keep fighting. So do hospital workers as in the Garrahan.

The tire workers (SUTNA) are fighting for the reincorporation of the laid-off workers and for a better wage agreement while a branch of the UOM (metalworkers) is announcing a strike for a wage rise after Secretary General Furlan bureaucracy had sold out salary and jobs for all metalworkers

Let capitalist who sold our nation pay for the crisis!

**Down with the work flexibility agreed between the
great bosses and the union bureaucrat traitors!**

Work for all! Reduced working hours without wage reduction, furloughs or layoffs! Minimum monthly wage of AR\$ 1,500,000! Mobile pensions for senior citizens at 82% of the active workers' wages! Everyone under collective agreement! More money for state-run education and healthcare budgets!

WORKERS AND STUDENTS UNITE!

Self-organization of workers and the poor people!

GENERAL STRIKE NOW!



Argentina 2001. Popular Assemblies

To get all our demands...

Out with the IMF
and let's expropriate
the expropriators of the people

We need to fight like in the Cordobazo and 2001

Make way for an Argentinazo!

For the working class to live,
the rotten capitalist imperialist system has to die!

PALESTINE

**Milei is Netanyahu and Biden's partner in their massacre
and extermination in Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon**

**We need to defeat the extermination war of imperialism
and Zionism over the Palestinian nation!**

For the destruction of the Zionist-Fascist State of Israel!

As the Palestine unions are calling for:

An international general strike!

**Let's stand up by the working class and the rebel youth
of US facing the butcher Biden government,
in support of the Palestine people**

Palestine free from the Jordan River to the sea, with its capital in Jerusalem!



Palestinian displaced in Gaza

Starvation wages, massive theft to pensioners, high cost of living and wild rise of utility bills, millions of unemployed workers starving, massive layoffs and furloughs, enslaving work flexibility, destruction of healthcare and state-run education...

The big capitalists grouped in the AEA (Argentine Business Association), the IMF, the US imperialists and the government

Have turned the life of Argentine workers and people into hell

The bosses' Congress, a true notary for BlackRock and the US embassy has given this government, which has a parliament minority, everything it needed to apply the colonial and worker enslaving plan.

The PRO, the UCR, and the former Fernandez government's PJ (which had set the pre-conditions for today's brutal attack) gave quorum or lent representatives to vote giving Milei superpowers with the Bases law, the Urgency Decree (DNU), and even to veto the pensions Law that the same Congress had previously sanctioned.

Milei impersonates as a "king" and shields the regime with Bullrich repressive protocol

This infamous government, guarded by the US embassy and a bunch of capitalist parasites, is protected by the reactionary constitution of 1853 guaranteeing monarchy powers to Milei who can rule on decrees and can veto any law.



Milei in Wall Street

Should a slightly progressive law dare to be passed in favor of the people, the constitution also gives the supreme court of justice the power to veto it.

This rotten democracy for the rich is seated in the totalitarian constitution of 1853/1994!

We cannot take this any longer!

**No more Milei! Down with this capitalist autocracy!
Everyone of them must go away,
not even one should remain!**

Let's stop fighting divided!

We need to prepare a mass offensive!



The CGT bureaucracy together with Milei's Labor Secretary

The Union bureaucracy has sold out the collective agreements and every workers conquest.

The capitalists and their government have attacked us for months and the bureaucrats are away on trips abroad.

They have betrayed every fight, divided the worker ranks and now guarantee working flexibility in each factory or establishment, leaving millions of unregistered, self-contracted or unemployed workers alone, out of the unions

After having embraced with the government, they now maintain the truce so that Milei can keep attacking us, while they look the other way and leave the pensioners and the unemployed, etc., on their own.

With these leaderships, the attack of the powerful cannot be stopped!

No more collaborationist union bureaucracy