

International Newsletter

DEFEND MARXISM-LENINISM AND MAO ZEDONG THOUGHT

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The International Conference is a forum of Marxist-Leninist parties and organizations. Participation in the International Conference is based on the following main criteria:

- *Adherence to Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought and their creative application in the conduct of the class struggle in each country.*
- *Struggle against modern revisionism, and a positive attitude towards Stalin and Mao.*
- *Acceptance of the Rules of the Conference.*

The 4th Conference adopted the following principles on which the cooperation of the participating Marxist-Leninist organizations is based, which were amended and again adopted at the 9th Conference.

- *Independence and equality, mutual respect, mutual support and cooperation.*
- *Non-interference in internal affairs as well as in the bilateral or regional relations or any party or organization with other parties and organizations. Every organization is sovereign in its conclusions.*
- *Consensus and unanimity in decision-making.*
- *Achieve gradual unity step by step; principled debate and cooperation among parties/organizations and no public attack by any party/organization on another.*
- *Obligation of all participating organizations to prepare and conduct the 10th International Conference jointly in accordance with their possibilities.*
- *Financial independence and self-financing of the common work according to the possibilities.*

Call for the Support of the X. International Conference

of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations (ICMLPO)

The worldwide economic and financial crises targets in a real historical dimension the workers and peoples of the entire world on a special brutal way and challenges the international communist and worker movement in a new way. Therefore the *X. International Conference* has a very high importance for the future.

More than before it is very important to support the *International Conference* by donations and contributions to make the convening of the International Conference possible. For this reason I call as the treasurer of the IC upon all participants of the X. International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations and upon their responsibility's want to remember, that we discussed on the 7th IC, that the „question of finances is not a technical question but a ideological-political one in this manner, that each participant takes his responsibility for the success of the entire conference and for the unity of the Marxists-Leninist movement.“ (7. IC, Resolution 4, point 5).

From the responsibility for its own to the responsibility for all of us! In this manner all participants should go ahead in thinking about the question, how their contribution should look like. We don't want to act spontaneous, but we have to solve this task by a conscious act. This is the actual situation and the base for this urgent call. Let us be successful!

**Treasurer
of the X. International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations**

Januar 2010

“Let the Year 2010 be the Year of the New Foundation of a New Argentina!”

Portion of Otto Varga's allocution on the 42nd Anniversary of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Argentina (PCRA)

2009: A year of great fights.

2009 was a year of great fights and our Party left on them our combatant and revolutionary trademark. It was the year of the long demonstrations and camping of peasants, workers and people of Chaco, a great journey of struggle that is bonded to the establishment of the National Peasants Federation that is growing bigger and spreading thru different provinces of the country. There were very important agrarian fights, they are echoes of the agrarian rebellion on 2008, as the demonstration of the workers of Parana Metal, the streets blockades at Rosario of the attendants to the Congress of the Agrarian Federation in solidarity with Terrabussi's workers that was a fact that made history, and many other working class struggles. Later on we are going to talk about those struggles, because they were so many, and among them the struggle at Kraft-Terrabusi is the most important. On September 28th more than a hundred road and bridges blockades set the country at the edge of the social uprising, a wide movement of solidarity arose and the mobilization of the masses pointed at the road that has to be followed in order the economic crisis shall be paid by the ruling classes, the exploiters and not the exploited. It was a fight that has left its trace that is followed today by the colleges at Bosh among other.

Also this was a year of many demonstrations and road blockades made by the unemployed movement and retirees movements. It was a year of very valuable contributions from comrades of our Party to the national culture, some of them are here today, and they have made really important contributions to the enrichment of the Argentine culture.

Last year there were new youth and student's struggles, the 11th Congress of the RCP was held and the 9th Congress of the RCJ, too.

Terrabusi during two years was an example of youth struggle that put an end to the jobs thru agencies and the transformation of the workers hired temporarily into permanent workers. It was the only company that had a paper published by the young workers.

The 9th Congress of our Youth has been very important because it has taken experiences from those fights where the Revolutionary Communist Youth made part of.

It was a year where we have made some mistakes, many mistakes, and we realized the need to wage a rectification campaign that fights also against liberalism, and that is the pre-condition in order to rectify those mistakes and to assure that the Party can make the necessary turn towards working class movement with all its strength and to accomplish the recruitment and assimilation campaign of new comrades that we have launched. And we already have very good examples in some areas of the Youth and the Party.

Has the crisis been left behind?

2009 marked, ruling class not dare to say it, the setting back of the crisis. The Economist on December 26th said that “the apparent success”, they did not dare to say “the crisis is over”, as some say that is “thanks to China”, that is the engine of the Chinese economy. Of course, as one old saying said “Everything depends of the colour of the glass you are looking thru”, because today there are 1.200 million persons that have hunger in the world and the ruling classes do not want to say that they have difficulties to nourish them. This means that this huge mass of people everyday gets up each day without knowing if they are going to eat. There are more than 2000 million peoples that live with two dollars per day.

There is joy in the United States. In last December they have a minor number of unemployed than they expected to but there are more than 4.800.000 wage earners who have received their fire bonus and the unemployed subsidies. Of course that among those 4.800.000 we are not counting the 12 million of illegal migrants, most of them from Latin American countries who use to send money to their families and now many of them have to receive money from their families in order to eat every day. Thousands are sleeping on the streets. Of course, they do not talk about it.

The big banks are still on foot. There is joy

among capitalists. They are still on their feet thanks the state subsidies!! But on 2009 140 big banks collapse in the USA and there are a 100 more that are not doing very well. Few days ago Austria nationalized the HYPO Group, one of the biggest financial groups. Those persons who have good memory were scared because many of them remembered that the crisis of the 30's started with the collapse of an Austrian bank and this bank went into bankruptcy mainly for the loans they have granted to the Eastern European countries that had their economies ruined.

China became the engine, the big loaner of the USA. They say, that China came out of the crisis with a huge state help of near a trillion of dollars. But we can hear sometimes that some are worried about it and says "We are worried about China". Nobody knows very well what are going to do the 350 millions hungered peasants, or the huge mass of unemployed that the first wave of the crisis left. This is very important. Capitalism is stepping on the edge.

In Spain there are more than 3.900.000 unemployed, almost 4 millions. And there are millions in Greece, Portugal, and Ireland. Iceland that follows the Argentine path announced that they are not going to return the deposits to the collapsed banks; they applied a "Big corral", they learnt from us. Capitalism is stepping on the edge. Where Spain, Greece, Portugal, Turkey, Iceland and Ireland are going to go? There are problems also in France and Germany, so this means that the situation is difficult. At last we can say that 2010 will be a year of social gigantic struggles all over the world and we have to prepare our forces to cope those struggles.

The axe of the world move on

Last year we stated that the axe of the capitalist world was moving on. As in a moment of history moved to the Netherlands, then from the Netherlands to England, from England to USA, now is moving towards East. China already is the third economic power of the world along with Japan, soon will be more important than Japan. It is expected that on 2050 China will be the first economic power of the world. United States keep being the first military superpower that has troops in Asia, Africa, Latin America, its fleets at the Atlantic, Pacific and Mediterranean Oceans. Shall the axe of the world change without a war? Is the USA going to accept to have a secondary role in

world economy? This is one of the big questions that 2009 left for 2010 to answer and also to the following years. The Yankees' anquils are stacked in the wars at Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine. In Latin America we have a strong anti-American reformist trend. Russians, Chinese and Europeans want to have it for them. Since the English military invasions to Argentina on 1806 this situation repeats constantly, always. We had a sad example with Cuba that tied its destiny so closely to the Soviet Union that when the Soviet Union collapsed Cubans do not have even milk for their children, because they received it from the Soviet Union.

Along with this development in Latin America we have a huge mass pick. Very few words are said about this. Today, for example, the copper workers at Chuquibambilla in Chile are waging a big strike. There are struggles all over Latin America. Big fights in Brazil, some are known others not, because Lula is now the "example" of a "good governor". Very few things are published about the occupation of lands even with armed struggles in Brazil.

A government going down

In Argentina, with all the events going on about our Central Bank –we have a government that is going as a rolling stone. They have not reacted yet from the blow that the agrarian rebellion gave them.. The mask they used for the carnival was good but the carnival is getting to an end. We know, thru a friend of us, that when Duhalde had to choose Kirchner as candidate to the presidency, he said "I do not like to put Kirchner because along with him the oil men come" and they did. Pan American came, Repsol came, some other little companies, miners companies came, gambling came, fishers came and narco came. Nobody speaks of the last one. With Kirchner the narcos arrived and this is the cause why the law for radars is stuck at the Congress. We used to have an airline, Southern Winds, that was financed by Jaime (former secretary of transports)- very close to Kirchner- that transported for years cocaine from Tacna (Perú) to Córdoba and to Madrid, until the day a suitcase was caught. A "disgrace" as the one that Felisa Micelli (former Ministry of Economy) had when she forgot a bribe in the bathroom of her office, but as the psychologists say "nobody forgets the first bribe".

With Southern Winds a suitcase was caught and

the next day “by chance” a yacht sunk in Punta del Este and the biggest loading of two tons of cocaine was caught. And then we learnt thru the Coriere della Sera, that today there two big exits for cocaine to Europe: one is Colombia and the other is Argentina.

This thing about narcotrafic is very serious, because we have the problem of the ephedrine and people who traffic it put money on Cristina Kirchner campaign for president. We have to bear in mind that the Kirchner group, that we define as intermediary bourgeoisie are a very original intermediary bourgeoisie, they have their own net of business, they are in almost all business.

What business do you want to talk about? Land maybe? Friends of Kirchner have acquired 180 thousand of hectares with 35 thousand sheep to Benetton. These lands are going to increase their value because a big ditch is going to be built there and these lands are going to be floated. They say that in Santa Cruz province the estancia El Cóndor, that belongs to the Braun family, (historic landlords of Patagonia) was bought by Kirchner (thru Lazaro Baez), He is also in oil business and in gambling.

Few days ago, a very important trade union leader told to a comrade: “who do you think makes part of the Soya been pools in Argentina? The Kirchner couple”. And who do you think that has that big net of feed lots that starts in La Matanza and go toward west of Buenos Aires province? The Kirchner couple. An Elztain – that old front man of the revisionist Communist Party who used to lend an office in Puerto Madero to Kirchner when he went out of the presidency. So they are in all the businesses and at the same time many things has gone to foreign hands. National industry, for example. What is left of national industry? Including those big old monopolies.... Alpargatas is not in Argentine hands, neither Quilmes beer, nothing is left. Many of them have gone to Chilean or Brazilian hands and Gods knows who is behind them. Because, for example, the Brazilian of the Oderbrecht company came, that use to be the most important bank in South America of Soviet Union front men and they buy companies. The Camargo Correa came, and we know where their hard is buried, another soviet front man, they also have investments in Argentina.

And what is left? Nothing is left. Who is monopolizing the wool? Benetton. Fruit

production is taken mainly by Expofruit and other foreigners. And what about vintage? Big French, Italian, Spaniards and Russians caves. At the sugar business are the Yankees among others. So you take a look to Argentina and find a country that has foreigners in all its business. There have been left only some small groups of national bourgeoisie. For example we have here the comrades from Terrabusi that now belongs to Kraft Foods.

And now many think that the Bicentennial Fund is for paying the foreign debt. Even the president of the Central Bank had to protest. 6.500 million of dollars. It is a trap. Firstly they say that goes to pay the debt of the Paris Club that it what the Yankees call hideous debt.

When the Americans invaded Cuba by the end of the IXth century hey did not pay their foreign debt because it was a hideous product of colonialism. Then they occupied Iraq and did not paid the debt taken by Saddam Hussein because it was a hideous debt. Why will they pay the debt taken by a tyrant?

But we are going to pay our debt. They do no denounced even the debt taken by the dictatorship when they prepared the war against Chile and made a big business with war ships and submarines in Germany and other countries. And they call this fund they want to make with our currency reserves the Bicentennial Fund.

I say they are crooks!! Because that money was already in the Nation Budget they presented to the Congress. They are violating the constitution by taking that money out of the Central Bank in order to use the money of the budget in paying their election campaign at 2011. From the point of view of the nation, is a very bad situation.

Only a revolution can put an end to this situation

There are millions of unemployed. We do not really know the exact quantity. The Church says 13,9%. There are 900 thousand Youngers who do not study and do not work. AT Buenos Aires province, there are 400 thousand. More than 40% of informal worker, wages of hunger, deficit at the estate accounts. Only a revolution, comrades, can put an end to this situation. If we have more than 1.500.000 million of peoples piled up over the Riachuelo, living above the garbage in terrible conditions in many places. How are we going to put and end to this? Do you think that with the measures that some candidates to the presidency announced we are

going to advance a little? NO, we can't. Few days ago, a leader of Pino Solana's party told me –and he was right- that a land reform is needed because if we create a million of farms we can make that those who live in the slums of our city will be able to have a job, etc. But not all of them are going to go back to the countryside, because there are things that cannot go back. This means that we have to make an agrarian revolution but also an urban revolution. Our comrade from Santa Cruz says that at Rio Gallegos there are already two or three slums of people who comes from the north of the country. In Chaco, Rosario, Buenos Aires, there hundreds of them. Only a revolution can change this. The we can talk and say anything but without a democratic, agrarian, anti-imperialist revolution that will destroy all from the base, there is no way out from this situation. There are no partial ways out from this. We are stepping towards troubled times. 2010 is going to be the year of struggle. Very troubled times. The block of the ruling classes is broken. What this scandal with Redrado (president of the Central Bank) that we watch all day in TV represents? It represents that the bloc of the ruling classes is broken.

The Rural Society is against the government. The Association of the most powerful capitalists is thinking how to negotiate but they are in the other sidewalk. Clarin group (media most big monopoly) is in the opposite sidewalk. Urquía, most important producer of Soya bean oil and representative for the president coalition voted against resolution 125. Techint is in the opposition, it is the most important company of the stock exchange market of Argentina. The bloc of the ruling classes is broken: on one side we have the opposition and on the other the groups of the oilmen, miners, friends of Kirchner, so the problem is how far are the going to get.

Men of the government say that there will be struggles on the streets. They said so. How long are they going to stay? Are they getting to 2011? Because here, someone as Lilita Carrió is sawing the floor of the government a little bit everyday and she tries to have them getting to 2011 and there are other who do not want them to get to 2011 there is what the Kirchners call a "removing" coup d'etat. I do not think that the people are going to get better with this way out. If Macri (Chief of the government of Buenos Aires City) had the shame to say that for the

appointment of his chief of police was advised by the Mossad and the CIA, he is really a moron...

That is the "removing" coup d'etat... The candidate to the Ministry of Economy is González Fraga, president of the Central Bank with Menem. That is the one that sounds as candidate to Minister of Economy for Duhalde or some other. The other one is Lavagna: He was minister of Kirchner. The other one is Prat Gay, he was with Kirchner. And those are the politicians that are meant to change the country!!

Well, so we have the "removing" coup d'etat. We have always been anti- coups d'etat. But we have an independent political line. Almost everybody is talking about April 2010, maybe they are scared and we can get further, but the situation is very difficult.

Struggles are growing.

Then we have struggles. Oil workers, big fight until today. Chemistry workers in Bahia Blanca who has recovered their trade union. Health workers focused in Tucuman and Santiago del Estero, they have been fighting for months already. Food industry at Cordoba, in Salto, this besides Kraft food. General Motors, Massuh, Mahle, Paraná Metal. Rural worker at Rio Negro who have blockade the roads, in San Juan. Te producers in Misiones they are asking for a subsidy to be paid between their harvests as the sugar workers and lemon producers of Tucuman have. Struggles that were growing and will continue.

At the metal mechanic industry the struggle at Iveco and other companies, building workers, meat workers, chicken producers at Entre Rios. Frozen meat workers of Yaguané. The Metro workers. Rio Santiago shipyard. Buenos Aires port. Some said that Buenos Aires port has disappeared and in every demonstration we find a group of port workers that are fighting since several months ago. The struggle of the National Institute of Statistics and Census that has unmasked the government and the struggle at Bosch. WE expect they will honoured the agreement because it is a big triumph following the path of Terrabusi.

The public servers, teachers from Tierra del Fuego that have fought during the entire year, and to the rest of the country. IN Rosario, where they hold a plebiscite and voted more that 20 thousand in favor of holding the strike and very few against it. A strike at the end of the year.

Preparing the starting of the classes for next year.

Retirees have waged uncountable fights. We have to stressed the importance of this front because big fights of retirees are coming. More than 5.300.000 retirees earn half of a wage of poverty. The government has taken all the money of the retired people (that Anses has an operative deficit during last months). We cannot even think in increasing the pensions.

Unemployed now are going back to routes, because the government has same subsidies but only for those who are enlisted at the Peronist party. The factories recovered by their workers: Renacer is working and it is possible that they will be able to keep working. The struggle of the origin peoples that is a novelty in Argentina, they held their third encounter. The struggle of women who had their national encounter at Tucumán y the Houses of Women that are being established in several places. These have been the fruits of the Argentinazo in 2001. When in a barrio a rapist appears all the neighbors go and burn his house and the police do nothing because they burn their patrols. Then we have the battles of the youth, culture, for Malvinas, for the oil and for democratic freedom.

The year of the Bicentennial

Duhalde has said the *“the country is going toward a period of time where it will demand that they shall all go away.”* Why did he say so? Because all the poll made, even those ordered by the government, said so. “They should all go away”. This is arising again. This means that the masses are realizing that they are driven to an electoral parody. Take a look to the peasants fight. The Board of Linking (Mesa de Enlace), that instead of following in the roads decided to go for their requests to the Congress now are going to make a gathering in a theatre and they are going to ask the Ministry of Agriculture to speak in the theatre. But people realize that nothing can be achieved following that way.

That is the reason why 2010 is going to be a year of big struggles. Is the second centennial of May Revolution, it could be, we want it to be, the year of the second foundation of the new Argentina Patriotic forums are being created. A National patriotic forum with many

personalities has been created. An in the provinces also, you can see this picture of a newspaper from Salta that reads “ National Committee for the homage to May Revolution”. I have to make a correction to Rosa Luxemburg, who use to say that *“the revolution can not be made without the army, further more can not be made against the army.”* We should add neither can be made against all the army, at least we have to make with part of the army. You should have read the information in our newspaper of the Homage made in Tupiza (Bolivia) due to the Colloquium about the battle of Suipacha.

So comrades we have to be the promoters of the commemoration of the second centenary of May Revolution. More respect cultural aspects and among the students.

If it is possible we have to organize this event everywhere. We have enough experience to gathered in multisectorial in solidarity with Terrabusi and Bosch struggles and the other big fights. Because we know which is the path to national and social liberation for Argentina: the path that the Argentinazo showed to us, the path of the agrarian rebellion and the one followed by the great fight at Kraft Terrabusi.

With the industrial proletariat as the core we have to gather the widest social and political grouping of forces that will rise the political objectives corresponding to each moment.

We fight for this. We do not fight for a coup d’etat, but in this struggle between those who rules but are going down, and those who want to replace them, some are preparing a coup and some fascists are ambushed behind them. First of all, we have to fight for a way out in favour of the workers and the people thru the struggle that is the way that all the revolutions of the world had showed. There is no other way than the one of mass struggle, that leads us to a victorious insurrection of our people.

For all the above mentioned I ask you comrades to make a toast for a powerful **Revolutionary Communist Party** that will make possible a victorious democratic, agrarian, anti-imperialist revolution in its continuous way towards socialism.

Statement of the Communist Marxist-Leninist-Maoist Party of Bolivia on the Political Situation in the Country

January 2008

As the Anti-imperialist Revolutionary Alliance (ARA) has been repeating since time ago, fascist reaction located in Santa Cruz and its lackeys in Sucre, well financed and advised by the USA imperialism thru its embassy in La Paz and with the financial support of transnational companies they are carrying on a plot in order to liquidate the development of structural changes and to pave the way for a coup d'état or finally giving an attempt to the major crime: secession of national territory and the foundation of a "Camba Nation" with the addition of some "kollas" from Sucre.

We think this plot has already taken its first steps with the brutal putsch at Sucre and they will keep going on and on until they fulfill their purposes.

So, this is the main political problem about **power** that we have to face in a very serious way.

With these evil purposes, fascist-reactionary conspiracy has got an excuse: the issue of full capitality (1) claimed by Sucre. So, main points of this sinister plan are:

1. Destruction of the Constituent Assembly.

In the most moody way they have hindered the normal functioning of the Assembly. They have persecuted and attacked physically its members and lately they have tried to murder some of them who had to leave Sucre as it was territory taken by the enemy. Though, we think the issue of the Assembly has become a secondary matter regarding the subversive plot. Although the New Constitution should be approved "in general" and later on should be approved each article in particular.

To present the fascist hordes in Sucre as "brave defenders of democracy" to the world is the biggest fallacy ever proclaimed. Peasants from Sucre and from all over the country peacefully went to the city and keep vigilant around the Assembly. The fascist hordes provoked all the riots including the murder of a citizen by a "lost bullet" that was not shot either by the police or the Army, but we well know that was shot by someone, that as usual, the CIA always send to the riots in order to blame the government.

Last events at Sucre showed the real face of the criollo (2) fascism that with faded banners of provincial regionalism has aggressively mobilized Sucre population which no longer fights for capitality – so they say- but for "honor" and "moral". Regrettably, that population has been gained for a lost cause that has been useful to increase the influence of the reactionary right wing in their subversive purposes.

2. The second scenario of the plot is located in the Senate of the Republic that

systematically refuses to approve social and public benefit laws that the House of Representative sends to them. When they approved those laws they made modifications that completely change their original content and nature as it has happened in the case of the Mutún, Dignity bond, Law of investigation of fortunes and some others.

3. Concerning the international policy, it is obvious the tendency of the

fascist reaction in focusing their attacks on comrade Hugo Chávez who is the real supporter, in all sense, of the process and the government of Evo Morales. It is not a coincidence that the reactionaries make up all sort of lies on Hugo Chávez activities at the same time they try to present him as someone who is intervening in our national politics, when it is well known that the agency that always intervene but under covered is the CIA and USA imperialism. Something similar is going on in the relations that our National Government has started with Cuba and Iran, exercising its sovereignty and independence. This government is the only one in our national history that carries on an international policy of real independence, sovereignty and anti-imperialism.

4. The work of the reactionary mass media is very important in the articulation

of the plot. Mass medias as one voice magnify the job of the opposition, they grant big spaces in their newspapers and magazines to the speakers of the reactionary right wing, make up "aggressions" of the indigenous people, when they are the true victims of racism, exclusion and marginalization. Mass media have a great deal of responsibility for the increasing of a certain democratic "prestige" of the right wing and of gaining wide sectors of the population for the idea that the minorities are

democratic and the majorities are the dictatorship. That the indigenous people are the aggressors and racists and the reactionaries are innocent pigeons who struggle for “freedom”, “democracy” and “justice”.

5. On the other hand, they have also tried to create a panic atmosphere in popular economy, “the economic war”. As the oligarchs from Santa Cruz are owners of major food producer companies, they have encourage a general rising of prices to consumers and provoked a great concern in Bolivian homes and housewives. Thru direct purchases, the government has fulfilled the supply of those products at reasonable prices with the approval of the people.

6. Fascist reactionary right wing intends to confuse people pointing at the government and its speakers as “fascists”. The fascist(3) ustazi Branco Marincovich cannot speak about fascism because he descends from fascist Croatian and German emigrants who run away from the Soviet troops that liberated Yugoslavia in 1945. Finally, we declare our open and full support and we back the continuation of this process morally and physically. We will work to save and deepen the process until the goals of National and Social Liberation of the Bolivian peoples are

reached which is the highest revolutionary and anti-imperialist objective of the ARA.

As our 1st Political Statement claims: “We struggle for socialism, that means a real democracy, we fight against imperialism that is the enemy of the peoples, we struggle for a diverse and united Motherland, we struggle for a Multinational State”.

- **Pro-imperialist, secessionist and racist fascism will not pass !!!**
- **The left unites in defense of our Motherland !!**

(1) Sucre is the historical capital of Bolivia, La Paz is the place where the central government is located and the most important city in Bolivia. Sucre claims for a “full capitality” meaning they want to be the location of the central powers (among other requests)

(2) Criollo fascism: local fascism.

(3) Ustazi Branco Marincovich: Ustazi was a Croatian Nazi Group. Branco Marincovich: is one of the chiefs of the fascist Civilian Committees at Santa Cruz.

The Berlin Crisis Management is Like Sitting on a Powder Keg

**Interview with Stefan Engel,
Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD)**

23rd of December 2009

An eventful year is coming to an end - a good opportunity to take stock! Do you see great differences between the old and new government?

The Merkel/Westerwelle government has not yet changed of the policy of the grand coalition in essence. The government is continuing with the internationally coordinated crisis management. It is clear that up till now the ruling powers have succeeded in preventing an open collapse of the world financial system, in dampening the economic crisis and keeping open mass struggles against the repercussions of the crisis on the backs of the workers at a low. The masses have tolerated this crisis dampening policy with simmering anger. However, they suspect that sooner or later they must expect serious consequences for their living and working conditions.

The new governmental parties had declared unanimously before the national elections that the

world economic crisis had come to an end. After the elections, Chancellor Merkel suddenly explained that the worst of the crisis is still to come. These are new messages, which promise no good. Nevertheless the repercussions of the economic and financial crisis for the masses are being concealed. The economic crisis management is in a serious dilemma. For political reasons, attempts are being made to dampen the repercussions of the crisis for the national economy and the masses. At the same time, they want to create the preconditions to overcome the crisis quickly and to achieve a comprehensive growth of industrial production and of the gross national product (GNP). However, the more effective the measures for dampening the effects of the crisis are, the more unfavorable the conditions for quickly overcoming the world economic and financial crisis will become. The

Berlin crisis management is like sitting on a powder keg which can explode at anytime.

This sounds paradoxical!?

That may be! However, the effects of the overproduction crisis can at best be kept in suspense or offset temporarily. These laws mean that a production yielding maximum profits can get under way only at the expense of a gigantic destruction of capital, cuts of real wages and reduced production costs. Every measure of crisis dampening thus at the same time delays the process of the destruction of capital which has become necessary in the capitalist crisis. The crisis goes on and on.

What does that mean for the state policy?

The keeping-in-suspense of the manifestations of the crisis is combined with a gigantic state expenditure. The crisis management takes place on a speculative basis: It is based on the false assumption that one can achieve real economic growth by means of debts. However, this is a phantom! It rather entails the latent danger of the state measures developing the opposite effect. Debts are rising faster than the GNP. The stagnating economic growth, the further rise in mass unemployment and the growing absolute impoverishment of the masses, while at the same time the taxes and social contributions of the monopolies are being reduced, inevitably leads to a decline in the revenue from the taxation of the state. At the same time, interest payments will multiply, and these constitute the most rapidly growing factor of the state budget. If interests are financed by new debts, the amount of interest will grow faster and faster, combined with the tendency that latent state bankruptcy will be transformed into open state bankruptcy.

Is this actually a real danger?

Of course! We can already observe such a development in Greece presently, where only with the help of an international crisis management of the EU the open state bankruptcy can be held up(...).

Will this be the turning point that you have predicted?

At the moment, the turning point is to be understood more in a programmatic sense. The present CDU/CSU/FDP (Christian Democratic Union / Christian Social Union / Liberal Democratic Party) coalition comprises the readiness, as well as the intention of setting course for an open anti-people policy. However, the government is characterized by a very weak mass basis. If this anti-people policy would be pursued directly, the governmental parties could lose even more influence. That would mean that a strong

force as caretaker for the monopolies would be lacking. (...).

Does this crisis dampening policy also go for the political sphere?

The reactionary character of the government has become even much more obvious in the political sphere. It has launched an open campaign against so-called "left extremism", and also in the war against Afghanistan it is more and more prepared to wage an all-out war of annihilation for pushing through the interests of the imperialists. Both campaigns now result in an increase in protests and discontent. The former Minister of Defense Jung had to resign because of the massacre of Kundus and also the new Minister of Defense, zu Guttenberg, is on shaky grounds. Those in power are politically on the defensive. That is the worst possible starting position for the new caretaker of the monopolies.

Tell us about the termination of the bank accounts of the MLPD as well as of your personal bank account.

When my personal bank account at the Commerzbank was terminated without giving reasons, some friends recommended to me just to open another bank account discreetly. However, evading does not solve the problem. Above all, the tactics of the banks to conceal the political background of these terminations of the bank accounts would pay off in this way. Meanwhile it can hardly be covered up that these terminations are part of a **systematic illegal political boycott of federal banks against the MLPD**.

Thus after the termination of the personal account, all accounts of the MLPD were meanwhile also canceled by the Deutsche Bank, Volksbank, Commerzbank, Nationalbank and SEB have refused the opening of accounts by the MLPD or have terminated accounts that already existed. With this, not only the ability of the MLPD to conduct transactions is being massively attacked, but also the Marxist-Leninists are to be brought into disrepute or appear as being somehow dubious and untrustworthy. This is a form of the criminalization of the MLPD that must be taken seriously. At the same time, the formal explanations regarding the cancellations of the accounts reveal the political defensive of protagonists. Those in power are doing everything to maintain their policy of the isolation of the MLPD. To do this they have to keep the MLPD out of the public media. However, this could hardly be possible with an open political attack against the MLPD. But with the formal explanations they are in a dilemma to justify why the MLPD is being discriminated against,

politically persecuted and attack allegedly without a concrete cause. For this reason it is very important that we understand the political background of these terminations of accounts. Here a method of the so-called "fight against terrorism" is obviously being pursued, with which politically progressive forces have been criminalized with determination for several years. (...). ***Do you think that this conflict will remain concealed to the public?***

We will know how to prevent that! The fact that this conflict with the MLPD takes place in a situation of the general political intensification of contradictions is a two-edged sword for the ruling powers. (...)

Does this get a positive response in public?

Meanwhile there is already a whole file full of declarations of solidarity from various political directions, of course from the MLPD and people associated with it, from the Monday demonstrations, but also from members of the Left party, from circles of anarchists, the DKP (German Communist Party) and the trade union. We will do everything possible so that this attack will backfire on the new government and the entire bank association.

What do these intensified political measures signify for the development of the political crisis in Germany?

It is governed by law that every economic crisis is combined with a political crisis. Because of the international crisis management the **open** outbreak of the political crisis has been prevented up till now. With the actual further aggravation of the problems, scepticism and discontent among the masses have further intensified. The process of the detachment from the bourgeois parties, bourgeois parliamentarism and its institutions reached its temporary peak in the national elections. Social democracy has entered an existential crisis. The prevention of the open outbreak of the political crisis functions only as long as the petty bourgeois mode of thinking as the main instrument of deception has an effect on the masses. This effect again is linked to the continuation of the general crisis management and a noticeable relief for the masses. Thus those in power have to act extremely cautiously to avoid a lot of trouble in the situation of the relative calm in class struggle.

Obviously the parliamentary opposition in Berlin is not able to take advantage of the situation either

The SPD (Social Democratic Party) has not come out of the crisis even after the bogus selfcritical party congress and the enthronement of its new

party chairman Gabriel(...). As long as the trend to the left however exists and gains attraction they seemingly have to adapt themselves to it to avoid being isolated from the masses. Not only the SPD is in this dilemma, but also in part the CDU/CSU, which surprisingly talks about "turbo-capitalism" and which sometimes - as in the person of the leader of the Federal State of North Rhine Westphalia Ruetters or CDU-chief Roland Koch from Hessen - demonstratively takes sides with the workers. The Left party is already in a dilemma with its entry into the regional government of Brandenburg. On the one hand, it could benefit from the trend to the left, on the other hand, because of its participation in the government, it has to support anti-people policy itself. The masses of people will not tolerate this in the long run. When they no longer see a parliamentary alternative then they have to choose to become active themselves, to struggle and to turn to the socialist alternative of the MLPD.

The strike at Daimler in Sindelfingen somehow does not fit into the picture of the relative calm...

The independent strike from 2nd to 6th December at Daimler in Sindelfingen was the first big mass struggle in Germany against the consequences of the restructuring of the automotive industry in the world economic and financial crisis. The workers in the second largest German automobile plant did not tolerate the plan for the relocation of "their" C-model from Sindelfingen and staged independent strike and protest actions. The atmosphere was explosive and participants reported of an atmosphere like in a revolt. (...) At the same time the strike had an influence on the political situation in the entire region around Stuttgart: Apart from the struggles in Sindelfingen, work stoppages with protest rallies also took place in the Daimler plants in Stuttgart(...). At the same time various protests of active people's resistance took place in Stuttgart in connection with each other - against the war in Afghanistan and mainly against the project "Stuttgart 21", a project of the monopolies with dramatic financial but also environmental consequences. (...) Even at the soccer match of VfB Stuttgart against the VFL Bochum masses of people expressed their political views. They induced the president of the capitalists' federation BDA and chairman of the board of directors of VfB Stuttgart, Dieter Hundt, to make the following assessment: *"The rioting after the match is extremely alarming to me. ... The criticism was directed against many things. Against the bastards of millionaires, against the Daimler company, against the government,*

against the people at the top in general." ("Stuttgarter Zeitung", 8th of December 2009). Such explosive developments are also possible in principle in other regions in the coming time. We have to be prepared for surprising, fast and new developments and the leading of class struggle in the true sense. Here the automotive industry and in particular the supply industry are at the center: There the MLPD has great influence, there the far-reaching repercussions of the crisis are still to come and there the policy of class collaboration of the right works council leadership is called into question by the crisis of social democracy. In Germany alone we have to reckon with a cut of 240,000 jobs in the automotive industry. In 2009 there are world production capacities of 94 million vehicles, but expected sales of only 55 million vehicles. The battle for the redivision of the world market is being waged on the backs of the working class. I assume that here is the starting position for the transition to the workers' offensive.

Has the conduct of the trade union changed with the change of government? Before there were agreements with the government to keep quiet for years. Will this also be the case with the new Merkel/Westerwelle government, after there had been a massive mobilization against it before?

Up to now, there are few signs that the trade unions want to fight against the government. The entire crisis dampening policy has always been initiated and implemented in the concerted action of the employer's association, the right-wing trade union leadership and the government. (...) The other aspect of the policy of class collaboration is the presently more drastic action of the metal union leadership against the MLPD, e.g. by means of expulsions from trade unions of year-long, very active unionists in Essen who are classed as members of the MLPD. With this the metal union leadership is in complete contradiction to the concept of a general trade union of communists, social democrats, Christians etc. It was an essential conclusion from the division of the working-class movement and the painful experiences of Hitler fascism. It is scandalous how the unanimous mandate of the last metal union congress to finally abolish incompatibility rulings against the MLPD is turned into the opposite by the IGM-leadership. The metal union board, which is submissive to the SPD, should realize that only 25 percent of the trade union members voted for the SPD in the national elections and that these will not be especially pleased if anticommunist purges are now starting again. (...).

In the recent weeks it seems that the environmental movement has revived again significantly ...

For years the general public was given the impression that now in Copenhagen the urgently necessary steps to reduce CO2 would finally be taken – even to a greater extent after the election of Obama in the USA. The more sobering is the result. All the fuss in Copenhagen demonstrates the **total failure of imperialist ecologism**. This imperialist ecologism tries to use the environmental problem as a platform for the imperialist competition and power struggle. The failure of the initially ambitious goals in Copenhagen to stop the changes of the world climate shows the inability of the imperialist world system to solve the urgent problems of humanity. Already with the beginning of the world economic crisis and even more by the new government the already insufficient concessions concerning environmental issues have been canceled. Only a few years ago Angela Merkel presented herself as "climate chancellor". Now the new government has increased the operating lifetime of the nuclear power stations as one of its first official acts. Thus a criminal nuclear pollution of man and nature is being pursued in many countries of the world. It adheres to the scandalous policy of building further coal power stations. The focus on fossil energy sources is perpetuated. Renewable energies are only promoted in case German monopolies see chances in their struggle for world market leadership. (...) On this background it is remarkable how the international resistance against the climate catastrophe is forming. In the last weeks there were protest activities for climate protection, partly on a massive scale, in 108 countries of the world. In Copenhagen alone about 200,000 people participated in the mass protests. There are also growing confrontations of the leading imperialist countries with the neocolonially dependent countries. Those who are least responsible for the climate catastrophe jeopardizing humanity are at the same time most massively affected by the climate changes already occurring today. A number of groups of islands will disappear in the coming decades; entire areas, especially in the neocolonially dependent and oppressed countries, fall victim to the sea floods. The expansion of the deserts, the destruction of the rain forests – all this hits above all the population of those countries in which starvation is mostly raging. The presidents of Bolivia, Venezuela and the Maldives showed their solidarity with the demonstrators, a growing number of African countries demand that the CO2

pollution has to be reduced to the level it had 20 years ago. This demand justly addresses mainly the imperialist states, together with the demand for a compensation for the present destruction in these countries. The consciousness about the necessary struggle against the monopolies and their greed for profit, mainly responsible for the environmental crisis, has grown again. In the environmental movement the internationalist spirit has also clearly revived. Many even accredited NGO representatives were thrown out of the Copenhagen climate conference on 16 December, some even forcibly. Together with the escalation of state terror and the abolition of democratic rights, these show that the hitherto predominating lobbying strategy of petty-bourgeois ecologism suffered a severe setback. Copenhagen was an important lesson for the necessity of building an international resistance front against the monopolies' greed for profit.

The rebellious spirit among the youth revived clearly with the protests in the education sector. There must be reasons for this ...

The crisis dampening policy of the ruling powers is least successful among the youth (...). This could be a signal that the rebellious spirit is spreading again among the learning and studying youth after decades of a certain calm. The MLPD and REBELL are playing an active role in these struggles; they actively took part in demonstrations in at least 30 cities, organized open microphones, participated to a greater extent in directly organizing actions of struggle. At the same time there is still a significant amount of hostility towards organization in the protests. Sometimes anti-communist reservations are even being spread intentionally. Only if you are organized can you be successful; only if you are organized can you learn everything that is necessary for a successful rebellion against the ruling powers; only if you are organized can you find the backing which is necessary to oppose the social mainstream for a long time; only if they are organized can the youth lastingly become the practical avant-garde of the struggle.

Are there only students and pupils in the center of the present youth movement and which tasks does the MLPD see in it?

The rebellion of the youth does absolutely not only involve pupils and students, but also a number of struggles of the working-class youth against their not being employed after completing training in a company, like e.g. at Hoechst in Frankfurt. Organizing the rebellion of the youth is the main field of the Marxist-Leninist youth work, which means that the building up of REBELL has

to be more closely connected to the promotion of the rebellion of the youth. At the same time, it has to take the interests of the youth in the fields of sport and culture more into account and to promote the rebellion of the youth as a school of life of the proletarian mode of thinking. The criticism-self-criticism campaign on Marxist-Leninist youth work which was launched last year still has to be led to a full success. A lot of initiatives of the members and leading bodies of the party have been developed which, however, have not brought about sustainable changes in our youth work due to a certain lack of leadership of our responsible comrades. Especially the necessary reacquisition of our youth-political line has been neglected and a pragmatic tendency has even partly been strengthened. Therefore, the Central Committee decided to extend the criticism-self-criticism campaign and to concentrate an entire tactical main task on it at the beginning of 2010. Starting in January we also want to introduce a new type of youth pages in the "Red Flag" which are supposed to become a compass for the youth work of the party, *Rebell* and *Red Foxes*.

In another interview you talked about the building of an international coordination of revolutionary parties and organizations (ICOR). What has become of this project?

The three-year preparation in which almost 70 parties and organizations are participating has meanwhile resulted in a first significant success. After a common understanding on the significance and necessity of the creation of an international form of coordination and cooperation was first elaborated in a very intensive discussion, the phase of the concrete preparation of the world conference for the founding of ICOR could meanwhile be initiated. The revisionist degeneration of all former communist parties led to a low ebb of the Marxist-Leninist movement. With the founding of ICOR a significant step will be taken for overcoming the fragmentation of the international revolutionary and working-class movement and a suitable common form of organization for an new upswing in the struggle for genuine socialism under today's conditions will be found. The objective basis is the deepest world economic and financial crisis in the existence of capitalism. Of course, we have to theoretically assimilate and "think ahead" about the fundamentally new tasks that arise out of the reorganization of international production for us Marxist-Leninists. For this reason we work simultaneously on our theoretical organ
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(Revolutionary Way) on the *"Strategy and Tactics of the International Revolution"*, while at the same time we are participating in the practical process of the preparation of ICOR. As seldom the case before, this is interpenetrated with the close and manifold contacts to the parties and representatives of the worldwide Marxist-Leninist and working-class movement, whose manifold experiences and knowledge no single party can encompass alone. Already during the preparatory phase, the participants of ICOR have committed themselves to the common support of international projects. A first great test in this respect is the support for and participation in the preparation and organization of the World Women's Conference of rank-and-file women in Venezuela in 2011.

Is the World Women's Conference of rank-and-file women primarily an internationalist task?

The World Women's Conference is a great internationalist project having an *ueberparteilich* character (above party lines) which should represent the entire range of the militant and international women's movement. The idea of an international meeting of rank- and-file women is welcomed in Germany with great enthusiasm, and there are many initiatives for the preparation. However, in our party work we also recognize that this is often separated from winning new women and girls for the organizations of the militant women's movement like, for example, the *ueberparteilich* women's league courage, the strengthening of trade-union women's movement etc.. In the end, the success of an international highlight also depends on whether it represents a correspondingly strong basis in the individual countries. In our party work we set the goal to strengthen mainly the militant women's movement in Germany in these tasks, and from the midst of August we will focus on the promotion of the militant women's mass movement in connection with the support of the preparation of the Women's Political Counsel and the World Women's Conference. We are expressly setting ourselves this task for all fields of our systematic work among the rank and file. It has to be mentioned that an underestimation of the "women's issue" has gradually developed in the party after early successes. This refers to the tendency to underestimate the struggle for the liberation of women, the promotion of women, the support of the militant women's movement and mainly the study or new study of our political line regarding the women's issue. Again and again the responsibility for this work is being shifted to individuals or specialists, instead of being made

an integral part of the leadership work and work among the rank and file at all levels. In the book *"New Perspectives for the Liberation of Women"* we had qualified the significance of the militant women's movement, which can only be underlined in the present general social context: *"Since the militant women's movement relates to the changes in the entire life circumstances of the masses in capitalist society, it can also become the link between all progressive movements and the proletarian class struggle. ... The militant women's movement must get involved everywhere and give expression to the fact that there can be no social progress without struggling for the liberation of women."* (p.275-276) (...).

How do you assess the offensive for genuine socialism which the MLPD launched in the national elections now that some time has passed?

This offensive was an excellent common action of the entire party. We had to fight extraordinarily hard for this success. The entire offensive took place in a complicated transitional situation in which the trend to the left developed, the world economic crisis broke out, the unique international crisis management was initiated and also took effect. New tactics in the actions taken against the MLPD were also developed : Anticommunism was significantly intensified in the bourgeois mass media, as well as the direct attacks against the MLPD - while the MLPD was never mentioned by name. We were submitted to an almost one hundred percent media boycott, which was supposed to prove our "insignificance". With that, the ruling powers objectively supported the strengthening of the Left party as the lesser evil. Last but not least, we had to fight against a tendency of scepticism among the masses regarding all parties, which made our offensive temporarily more difficult. We had to assess the situation and to draw the correct conclusions. From the beginning of our offensive we discussed that we have to develop a polemic against the bourgeois political economy, against the bourgeois crisis management of the government, but also against the moving forces of the left reformist and reformist concepts and to attack anticommunism in an offensive manner. However, this fundamental line asserted itself only gradually. In connection with the shying back from the, in part, aggressive anticommunist smear campaign against our comrades, the view was partially held that success could be gained more rapidly if you conform to the general trend to the left or follow it uncritically. However, this trend also includes a strong left-reformist and

parliamentary direction, which in the end is directed against the revolutionary position of the MLPD. The task of the MLPD is to strengthen the revolutionary direction within the trend to the left! In the end, it finally realized this task magnificently. However, in the face of the new demands, problems arose when certain opportunist deep rooted attitudes were not overcome. This applies for instance to a habituation of restricting the work to militant trade unionism and of shrinking back from the systematic work of persuasion for genuine socialism. This opportunist direction found its open expression in "Rote Fahne" No. 36 which appeared in September with the headline *"Your ballot for the working class' offensive"*. Shortly after the excellent start of the election campaign in Hamburg, it objectively spread a counter-orientation to the offensive for genuine socialism. It almost completely ignored the election campaign of the MLPD. This was done to such an extent that the regional upbeat rallies and main rallies of the MLPD were not even announced. (...). This "Rote Fahne" was also directed against our personal election campaign by totally ignoring the leading representatives. Obviously, the smear campaign about the "cult of personality", which was launched against the MLPD and mainly my person by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution for years, has also latently had its effects, and this was an attempt "to counter it" in this way. In the offensive we could win masses of people convincingly exactly there where we attacked the anticommunist slogans in an offensive manner. The open debate within the party about this "Rote Fahne" enabled a fast unification and selfcritical rectification resulting in the fact that the offensive for genuine socialism could be intensified and concluded successfully. MLPD and REBELL went off "like a rocket". The last weeks of the election campaign were marked by such creativity, revolutionary spirit, variety of ideas and initiatives that it was not by chance that we won almost half of the 5,600 election supporters exactly in this phase. Once more the doctrine of the mode of thinking was a guarantee to cope with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking and develop a successful work in the face of strong opposition.

In the last interview you said that the task of the MLPD is "to secure the achievements of the offensive for genuine socialism". What has become of that?

After the success of our offensive, many comrades assumed that the offensive will continue, and that only the main focus will be

shifted. This notion ignores the laws of an offensive, which requires much energy. So much that it sometimes exceeds the normal capacity of the forces. On the other hand, every successful offensive wins new forces. However, these forces have first to be integrated into the "troops"; they have to learn and understand their principles and rules, find their place, identify themselves with the troops and feel at home, before they can become a real enforcement. For this reason the famous military scientist Clausewitz taught that firstly, the offensive should not be continued beyond a certain limit, but secondly, should to be brought to an end with the victory, in order to thirdly, secure the victory in the defense. We in the CC have therefore come to the conclusion that after the phase of the offensive, a temporary phase of defense has to follow in the party work. (...). It is exactly the **dialectical treatment of offensive and defensive in party building and class struggle which guarantees the unity of strategy and tactics. What are the plans of the MLPD for the near future?**

Primarily we have to do a lot of theoretical work. The work on REVOLUTIONÄRER WEG 32 on the strategy and tactics of the international revolution has to be concluded, as well as the work on the continuation of the doctrine of the mode of thinking. Within the organization, delegates' conferences on the local level and in the regional party organizations will soon take place. These will take stock with regard to the first test of the newly elected regional leaderships. The MLPD has to fight for a new quality of proletarian internationalism - that is the conclusion from the new developments and essential changes of the reorganization of the international production and the task of the preparation of the international revolution. (...) Mainly in 2010 and 2011, we have to reckon with "eruptions" like at the Daimler company in Sindelfingen happening more often, which we will use for the development of the workers' offensive, active people's resistance and the rebellion of the youth. These are the tactical preconditions for reaching a new strategic starting position in the struggle for genuine socialism. In 2009, the organization has fought valiantly in the face of strong opposition, and it will be well prepared for these tasks. I wish all comrades, friends, but also our companions in struggle of the international revolutionary and working-class movement a militant, successful new year! Thank you very much for the excellent cooperation!

Thank you very much for the interview, and we wish you and the MLPD a successful year 2010!

[The complete interview you can read on www.mlpd.de].

A Big Debate Within the Greek Left

Communist Organization of Greece

Statement Nr. 7/2009 (24/2/2009)

After the revolt of December in Greece, a big debate develops within the Greek Left concerning the attitude of the communists in front of the bourgeois governments. This heated discussion is part of a greater debate about the tasks, the strategy and the tactics of the left and communist forces in Greece. The polemical character of the debate is owed to the fact that, during December 2008, the split within the Greek Left became more wide: One part (KOE, the Radical Left Coalition/SYRIZA and the extra-parliamentarian left groups) supported the Revolt. Another part (mostly the Communist Party of Greece/KKE, as well as the right-wingers of the former “euro-communist” current) condemned the movement and labeled it as “violent acts of masked rioters of suspicious origin and of reactionary character”. Thus, indirectly but objectively, aligned themselves with the bourgeois-governmental block of “law and order”. Since January 2009 the debate became very acute, as the KKE leadership attacked repeatedly KOE and SYRIZA with statements and publications in its Press, slandering us as “supporters of the social-democratic PASOK” because of our slogan “Down with this government of murderers!”.



Despite the fact that this debate is unavoidably marked by the ongoing “civil war” within the Greek Left, we consider that it is of interest outside the boundaries of Greece as well. In reality, the issue is whether those claiming to be communists will use as an excuse the “ultimate goal” (the seizing of power by the working class) in order to limit their “action” in exercises of revolutionary verbalism – while at the same time they let the bourgeois governments undisturbed

and present themselves as “responsible” force. We are of the opinion that the reasoning used by the leaders of KKE (“we do not fight for the fall of the right-wing government because if it falls it will be replaced by the equally bad social-democratic PASOK”) is in reality attempting to hide their alignment with the camp of “law and order”, their fear of a mass movement that they do not control, and their refusal to struggle for the building of a popular front that will victoriously oppose the bourgeoisie and its political parties, the right-wing Nea Dimokratia and the social-democratic PASOK.

The leaders of KKE are feeling much safer as long as they remain self-isolated in their virtual world, receiving the congratulations and the grateful recognition by the government, the bourgeois Media and even the extreme right-wing party LAOS for their “responsible attitude”. Today they spend all their energy in the “left civil war”, attacking viciously the Radical Left, sparing the government and even justifying the murderous attacks against the revolted youth. Their actual tactics comes in high contrast with their distant and recent past, for which they have not proceeded to the slightest self-criticism: (a) in the '70s and early '80s they were the staunchest allies of the “socialist” PASOK, accusing the revolutionaries who struggled against social-democracy as “covert agents of the right-wing and of the secret services”; (b) in the late '80s they participated in the government formed by the right-wing party Nea Dimokratia, and immediately after in a “national unity government” together with both Nea Dimokratia and PASOK; (c) in the late '90s they were calling for the resignation of PASOK's government – and this was correct, but then also the “realistic” alternative would be the other bourgeois party, the right-wing Nea Dimokratia.

The leaders of KKE pretend today that they do not understand the dynamics that could be created by a united and radical popular movement, able to overthrow a reactionary government. They pretend to ignore the very realistic scenario (if the Left would act as a combative front and thus gain even bigger popular support) of the bourgeoisie been obliged to form a “big coalition” government by both Nea Dimokratia and PASOK – and the

possibilities that such a development would create for the communists and the popular movement. Instead, they continue the revolutionary verbalism while at the same time they put their forces in the service of the government (as they did in December, when, among other... heroic feats, they attempted to block the entrance of the universities in order to prevent the students to hold general assemblies and to continue the occupations...). And the icing on the cake – just to confirm that sometimes even the formalities are very revealing: No organization of the Radical Left was invited in the opening ceremony of KKE's 18th Congress. At the same time there were present and addressed the Congress two top-level delegations from the parties of Nea Dimokratia and of PASOK, as well as the (right-wing) president of the Greek Parliament. Apparently, the Radical Left deserves to be treated as main enemy, and not the bourgeois parties... The presence of the top-level bourgeois delegations and the... curfew on the Radical Left is indeed another marvelous result of the appeal to “wage war against the opinions supporting ‘the unity or the common action of the Left’, put forward by several intellectuals who, consciously or not, are selling the causes of the ‘progressive’ bourgeoisie and of opportunism” [KKE's daily organ “Rizospastis”, 18/1/2009]...



As the global capitalist crisis develops and deepens, the big bourgeoisie attempts to “answer” it by transferring its burden on the already extremely exploited, barbarously oppressed and increasingly impoverished popular masses. However, the peoples of the world are developing and radicalizing their resistance, as shown by the mass protests in Italy or France, for example, and by the revolts that break out from Greece to the

Baltic countries and from Iceland to the French colonies in the Caribbean.

Our peoples desperately need a Communist Left willing and able to orientate, lead and develop the new and increasingly radical revolts and resistances that are urgently necessary. Our peoples desperately need a Communist Left willing and able to organize victorious struggles, which will bring us more near to the overthrow of the imperialist-capitalist system. What they do not need, is a force that claims to be communist but does not believe in the possibility of popular victories, and instead prefers to patiently and “responsibly” wait for the Second Advent (which will bring socialism also in Greece, all the more without “riots” and “without breaking even one glass”, as Mrs Aleka Papariga, Secretary General of KKE, recently declared in the Greek Parliament – only to be enthusiastically applauded by the government supporters...)

[PS: For those who want to follow the development of the “Greek” debate, there are a lot of references in previous documents of KOE concerning the Revolt, translated into English and available in KOE's International Website: <http://international.koel.gr>



Stop the Stability Pact! European Workers Unite in Solidarity and Resistance!

Statement of the Communist Organization of Greece (KOE) 5th of March 2010

The KOE salutes the combative mass demonstrations that took place yesterday afternoon and today morning all over the country against the new measures adopted by the government of PASOK. These demonstrations must become the starting point of a great uprising of all the workers and of the whole people, obliging the government to pay dearly its effort to impose the barbaric measures imposed by Brussels. Today the Greek people, demonstrating in their dozens of thousands with such an impressive and militant way, send a clear message to the government: The new anti-people measures will go, or this government will go!

The Communist Organization of Greece condemns the coward attack of the special police forces against Manolis Glezos, the 87 years old Hero of our National Resistance against the Nazi Occupation, outside the entrance of the Parliament, which resulted to his injury and hospitalization in Intensive Care Unit. Seven decades after his legendary and symbolic blow against the Nazi Occupation (*), Manolis Glezos is aggressed by the political servants of Brussels and Berlin!

The Communist Organization of Greece also condemns the unprecedented attack of the special police forces against the Parliamentary Group of SYRIZA (Coalition of Radical Left) while the MPs were coming out of the Parliament with their own banner in order to meet the demonstrators. The out of limits behavior of the police forces corresponds very well to the equally out of limits economic and social suffocation imposed on the country by the government of PASOK.

The Communist Organization of Greece denounces the provocation set up in common by the parliamentary speaker of PASOK Christos Papoutsis and by Adonis Georgiadis, MP of the extreme right-wing party LAOS, who targeted KOE and SYRIZA as responsible for the attack of demonstrators against Yiannis Panagopoulos (president of the General Confederation of Labor).

This orchestrated attack against KOE and SYRIZA proves that the extreme right-wing LAOS supports the government of PASOK both in the Parliament (**) and in provocations.

It is very well known to all that KOE has a radically different political line than the one followed by the leadership of the General Confederation of Labor – especially today that the workers become the subjects of the wildest attack ever perpetrated by the ruling classes and their governments. But it is also equally very well known that KOE puts in practice this political line as the Left always did: massively and politically, in the working places and in society.

It is shameful that, the very day that PASOK and LAOS bury in the Parliament the conquests of a whole century, the same parties, these shameless representatives and puppets of Brussels, hasten to cover their huge responsibilities with such cheap tricks and provocations against KOE.

The Communist Organization of Greece calls to even bigger and more combative mobilizations. Today we gave a battle, but the struggle continues. Everyone to the streets, until the government's measures will be cancelled and until the EU Stability Pact will be abolished!

Athens, 5 March 2010

Communist Organization of Greece

(*) On May 30, 1941, Manolis Glezos and Apostolos Santas climbed on the Acropolis and tore down the Nazi Swastika, which had been there since April 27, 1941, when the Nazi forces had entered Athens. That was the first resistance act that took place in Greece, and probably among the very first ones in Europe. Manolis Glezos passed 16 years in prisons and in exile, persecuted by the reactionary post-war regimes of Greece.

(**) The new measures were approved today in the Parliament, under a "special urgent procedure" that lasted a few hours, with the votes of the MPs of PASOK (government party) and LAOS (extreme right-wing party).

International Financial Crisis: Causes and Consequences

CPI(ML), India

August 2009

In the Communist Manifesto Marx and Engels have explained that while the capitalist system was intensifying its efforts to recreate the world in its own image it is getting beset with periodic crises more and more. So long as the fundamental contradiction within the capitalist system, the one between increasing socialization of production and private appropriation of the products continues and intensifies, the crisis created by it also will continue and intensify. Marxism teaches that until the capitalist system is overthrown, and the fundamental contradiction within it is resolved by achieving the socialization of the ownership of production along with the socialization of production this perennial crisis of the capitalist system shall continue. The birth of finance capital and monopoly capitalism or capitalism reaching its highest form, imperialism, have instead of resolving this fundamental contradiction and the crisis it gives rise to have only intensified perennial crisis of this exploitative system, as instead of socialization of the ownership what was taking place was more and more monopolization. These crisis reached a peak in 1929-30 which caused the Great Depression compelling the imperialist countries to introduce Keynesian policies which included state intervention in the field of production, taking up of projects creating jobs and introduction of welfare policies for increasing the purchasing power of the people. Post World War II Developments This unprecedentedly severe crisis had played decisive role in the growth of fascist forces and in the outbreak of the Second World War, which for some years diluted the crisis that was cyclic. The post-War reconstruction works, replacing colonization with the neo colonial policies and introduction of more welfare policies along with the technological developments had created conditions favourable for the development of productive forces leading to a period of apparent crisis-free capitalism. But this was short-lived. By the beginning of the 1970s the imperialist financial crisis once again started taking serious forms. The much talked about phenomenon during the period was stagflation. It was to overcome this Thatcherism and Reaganomics were introduced spreading the neo-liberal policies. Finance Capital was led to take more vicious

forms of speculation. The market system was more internationalized through transforming the GATT in to the WTO-Imperialist globalization was imposed in all the neo-colonial countries. The public sector was increasingly demolished, the governments were asked to withdraw from the field of production and to launch liberalization-privatisation policies. All welfare policies were cut down or withdrawn. All these policies were linked with the US imperialist efforts to strengthen its global hegemony. Present Global Meltdown But the intensification of the cyclic crisis by 1970s went on repeating in the following decades and assumed unprecedented severe forms by August.

September 2008 starting with the collapse of a number of giant banks in the US. The imperialist think tanks and bourgeois economists have almost agreed that this is the most severe crisis so far experienced and it is difficult to come out of it unhurt. The way out they have proposed is the massive bail out plan for the very same banks and MNCs who are primarily responsible for the present crisis through intensification of speculation in all fields and promotion of monopolization unprecedented scale. It is estimated that US and other imperialist countries along with the large number of neo-colonial countries have spent much more than 3 trillion dollars already for these bailouts. Besides huge tax cuts and other subsidies are also allowed. At the same time unlike during the post -1930 crisis or post-War years, even a slowdown of the neo liberal policies or introduction of welfare policies are not stressed. Even when the working class and oppressed peoples constituting vast majority of the world population are those who are severely affected by the consequences of this global meltdown, the rulers of neither the imperialist countries nor the neo-colonies are helping them out. On the contrary, while price rise is cutting down their real wages, millions are thrown out of jobs. This difference in the approach of the ruling class during the post-War years and now is due to the changes that have taken place in the world situation now compared to that period. By the beginning of 1950s the socialist camp led by Soviet Union and China had become very

powerful. One third of the world population was in the socialist countries. National Liberation struggles were challenging the old and neo colonialists. Communist Parties were very powerful in large number of countries. All these factors compelled the US led imperialist camp to speed up the neo-colonialization to hoodwink the masses on the one hand and to resort to Keynesian and welfare policies on the other hand.

Present World Situation

But today the world situation has undergone vast changes. Beginning with the degeneration of Yugoslavia all the socialist countries have degenerated to capitalist path. Russia and China have become part of the imperialist world. National Liberation movements have weakened. And the Communist Parties pursuing revolutionary path still are weak. This weakening of the class struggle at national and international level has emboldened the imperialists and their lackeys, the comprador ruling classes in the neo colonies, to bail out the monopolies while intensifying the plunder of the world people, transferring the whole burden of this crisis to their shoulders. It is this possibility which emboldening the US administration and the rulers in other countries to arrogantly state that the ruling system shall overcome even the present most severe crisis also shortly. It is a fact that as a result of the present crisis of the imperialist financial system all the major contradictions in the world, between imperialism and oppressed masses and nations, between capital and labour, between imperialist and socialist forces and among the imperialist powers and monopoly groups have sharpened. The objective conditions for overthrowing the imperialist system and its lackeys have brightened. But the world proletariat and oppressed peoples, the national liberation movements and the socialist forces, are not in a position to utilize this favourable situation because the subjective forces of have become weaker. It is foolish to think that the imperialist system shall collapse because of these crises, even if their integrity become much more in coming decades. They have to be thrown out, demolished and replaced by the political power of the proletariat and oppressed peoples. It was emphasized by Marx and Engels in the Communist Manifesto concluding with the call "Workers of the world, Unite"

The Three Internationals They went ahead taking initiative to form the First International based on this call. When the lessons of the Paris Commune

called for reorganizing it, soon they reorganized it in to the Second International. When its leadership failed to correctly analyse imperialism and compromised with imperialist rulers of their own countries during First World War, it inevitably collapsed. Taking lessons from it, and analyzing imperialism as the monopoly stage of capitalism, the highest stage of capitalism, Lenin developed the general line of the proletarian world socialist revolution and reorganized Second International in to Third International or Communist International within a short span of five years. The victory of the October Revolution, formation of Soviet Union and coming into existence of the Communist International gave a great fillip to the international Communist Movement (ICM) leading to its strengthening by early 1950s as already mentioned. But why the ICM have suffered the severe setback, almost a crisis, during the last half a century in spite of many great leaps forward in between, why the Communist International dissolved in 1943 could not be reorganized so far in spite of the imperialist forces colluding more and more firmly against the world people continuously warranting more firm international unity of the proletarian revolutionary forces corresponding to the growth of the socialization and internationalization of production, emboldening the imperialist forces and their lackeys to boast that they shall overcome the present global financial crisis also calls for serious analysis.

US Imperialism launches Neocolonisation. When the Soviet Union was growing as a mighty socialist force with immense support from the world people, the crisis ridden imperialist forces were divided in to two sections: the fascist axis forces seeking a military way to destroy Soviet Union and achieve world domination, while the US led allied forces seeking an economic-political-military path for it. Though the latter tactically joined hands with Soviet Union to defeat the fascist axis, it had its own plans to destroy the socialist forces. Both imperialist sections had found Comintern, as an obstacle. The US-UK allies published the Atlantic Charter in 1941 as the first step towards evolving a post-War plan for world hegemony. In continuation to it US went for Brettenwood Agreement in 1944 as a blue print for post-War world. IMF-WB was launched for domination through control of finance capital and plans for GATT to control world trade. Besides military plans also were in the anvil. To weaken Soviet Union, which was under Nazi attack, the promised opening of the

second battlefield was delayed. It was a time when the Soviet Union had to correctly analyse the line of its tactical allies and fight the war more politically than ever. But Soviet leadership gave more emphasis to defending the fatherland and dissolved Comintern. Though its reorganization was promised, it was not taken up. The whole strategy of replacing colonial policy by more pernicious and heinous neo colonization by the US led forces was not correctly analysed and the strategy of the ICM to combat it was not developed. As a result, many compromises were made with the US led forces on the question of developing revolutionary initiative in Western Europe and Greece, on the formation of Israel and in the formulations of the UN Charter. On the whole there were serious shortcomings in recognizing the neocolonisation with its full gravity. Emergence of Soviet Revisionism This led to Crushchovite leadership of Soviet Union underestimating the imperialist threat and adopting a general line of peaceful co-existence and peaceful competition with imperialism and peaceful transformation to socialism, in effect abandoning the path of class struggle. These capitalist roaders degenerated Soviet Union to capitalist path, ultimately to its 1991 disintegration.

The same was the fate of the East-European countries, which had followed the Soviet revisionist path. The Communist Party of China (CPC) resisted Soviet revisionism and put forward a general line for the ICM in 1963. It also tried to expose neocolonisation policies of US-led imperialist forces. But as it was facing a fierce inner party struggle, as a result of which neither it took steps to develop understanding on imperialism and neo-colonisation further, nor to reorganize the Comintern based on 1963 General Line. The left adventurist line dominating its 1969 Ninth Congress led almost all the newly emerging Marxist-Leninist parties to sectarian line also. Soon after Maos death, based on the class collaborationist Three World Theory, utterly failing to understand the neo-colonial forms of attack by the imperialist forces, the CPC leadership also degenerated to capitalist path. Challenges before the Marxist-Leninists It was the failure to understand imperialism, which led to the collapse of Second International.

Only when Lenin could put forward a scientific approach to imperialism, October Revolution became successful, Comintern was formed and the ICM made great strides forward. Again it was

when the ICM failed to understand the new strategy and tactics advanced by US led imperialist forces through neocolonisation, it faced a severe setback reducing it to its present condition. It is quite unfortunate that many of the Marxist-Leninist forces are still refusing to give cognizance to this fact. It is in this situation, the US administration, other imperialist powers and the compradors in power in the neo-colonial countries are becoming arrogant enough to bail out the reactionary forces responsible for the present global meltdown and to impose the whole burden of the crisis over the world proletariat and oppressed peoples and nations. In order to fight this unprecedentedly grave challenge the Marxist-Leninist Parties at international level should firstly develop their understanding about the new strategy and tactics adopted by US led imperialist forces during the post-World War II period defeating all alien tendencies.

Along with this secondly they should utilize the platform of the ICMLPO to initiate discussion on the development of a General Line of the ICM according to concrete conditions of today, struggle for a polarization of the Marxist-Leninist forces uncompromisingly opposing both the right opportunist tendencies and left sectarian, anarchist tendencies, and take concrete steps towards reorganizing the Communist international according to concrete conditions and demands of today. The present imperialist meltdown a bound to intensify in coming years as the fundamental contradiction within the capitalist-imperialist system is becoming sharper with the ever increasing internationalization and socialization of production on the one hand and with the unprecedented monopolization and private appropriation of the resources of the world on the other.

As a result the contradiction of world proletariat, oppressed peoples and nations against imperialism and its lackeys and the urge for socialism are also bound to intensify.

Recognizing this the Marxist-Leninist forces at international level should take up both the two cardinal tasks mentioned above with renewed vigour. #

The Communist and the Social Movements

Ranjbaran, Iran

September 2009

During the implementation of the tenth round of presidential election in Iran, again the basis for the grooving justly protests of the people against the ruling regime was created. Regardless of whether some people by illusion about the nature of the factions of the ruling class in Islamic Republic, involved in election, or for the reason of opposing against the Khamenei/Ahmadi-Nejad faction, the participation of the people in the election, shows us the extend of the vast discontent of the different classes and stratum of the people under exploitation and oppression in Iran in relation to the existing ruling government which causes such uprising like the volcanic eruption. The youth and especially the girls fearless from death and prison confronted the Islamic Republic regime without having any distinct program of action in this confrontational opposition, beyond faction of Mousavi/Karroubi.

In order to perceive the essence of these protests, it is necessary to review the past people's movements in Iran. On July 9, 1999, the students protest against the total disregard of the people's democratic rights including the freedom of speech and press by the ruling Islamic Republic... after six days of heroic battle and protest of the students, turned in to bloodshed and ashes in the fire of collaboration of the faction of "reformism" under the leadership of Mohammad Khatami with the conservatives, hardliners and khamenei. Numbers of students were brutally killed. Hundreds of the students were arrested and went under torture, some of them lost their lives in the prison and eventually this movement was suppressed.

But, despite the defeat, this movement had brought certain achievements: First of all exposed the demagogical essence of "reformists" in power which are an inseparable part of the system of the ruling supreme power in Iran and secondly, the slogan of the movement such as "freedom of thought is not possible under religious rule!", "down with despotism!", "Down with Master Jurisconsult!" had shown that the student movements have entered a new stage of its struggles against the ruling system. This movement which until that time, was coccyx of

the ruling power, started cleaning up its illusions of the "instauration of democracy" within the frame work of the Islamic Republic system that is the diehard supporter of decadent capitalist system of exploitation and the vanguard section of this movement demanded to end the existence of this system. The growth of the left students and their tendency toward communism and their activism in the arena of the universities in Iran can be attributed and to some extent as the result of the protest movement.

Unfortunately, these achievements which were obtained by the price of the student's blood, torture and their imprisonment, and the lack of the absence of the vanguard leadership of the working class, did not convert to an effective weapon at the hand of supporting forces of the working class against the exploitation and oppression by capitalism and neither from the students nor from the entire supporters of the working class. Non common and seriously practical solution was taken in order to end the system of the supreme power, the exploitation and the class oppression in Iran.

In addition, this consciousness did not occur among the entire student movement in which "freedom" is not a separate category from the society's economic base in any society and under the conditions of the reign of global monopoly capitalist relations and its effect like (or such as) in Iran and in the era of moribund system of capitalism, arriving at freedom for the masses of the workers and the toilers with the continuity of the ruling capitalist relations which has reached to the limit of barbarism, is impossible. Although, the February revolution of 1979 which had the aim of "Independence, freedom and social justice", with the bourgeoisie takeover the power and under the guise of the Islamic Republic and Velayate-e faqih (Master Jurisconsult), were defeated in the sea of blood of the freedom loving people and the communists, was not materialized. Under the conditions of the absence of the powerful workers movement in Iran, the demand for arriving at the democratic freedom, only becomes a tool at the hand of the different factions of the ruling bourgeois class or the

bourgeois opposition and in this manner, the people whom are freedom and democratic rights lover becomes a means for this or that faction of the capitalists to reach the power.

After a lapse of 10 years from the defeat of the movement of July, 1999, one part of the students of Iran's universities again during the 10th round of the presidential elections had the same illusions about the reformist factions. The medieval oppressions and the widespread repressions by the hardliners, headed by Khamenei/Ahmadi-Nejad along with the excuse of the danger of foreign interference, was brought against the workers, toilers, women, students, writers, journalists, nationalities and the national - religious minorities residing in Iran, created the conditions for the "holly" alliance of the "reformists", even "reformists -foundmentalists" with the conservatives so, in this manner again under the cloak of the Islamic Republic and the Master Jurisconsult, raise the banner of bourgeois democracy for safeguarding the system. And in this manner, in their rivalry against the hardliner faction to gain the upper hand for jurisdiction and bring people to follow them.

A section of the students forgot that ten years ago the slogan of the "freedom of thought is not possible under religious rule" was introduced and experienced the treachery of the ruling "reformists". And this time, more than 50 student organizations in all over Iran under the guise of opposition to the dictatorship of Ahmadi-Nejad's government entered the stage of electing between the lesser evil of the two and gave a common statement throughout the country against him without clarifying that by not electing Ahmadi-Nejad, whether the doors of freedom will be opened for them and the masses of people or not? And by other faction from the ruling bourgeoisie that is the supporter of the Islamic Republic system!

The communists including Ranjbaran Party of Iran months before the start of the election activities warned the people that the elections in Iran has an anti democratic nature. The women as the half the population of the society, according to clearly stated constitution of the Islamic Republic, have no right to become a presidential candidate. In addition, the guardian council, with the weapon of "selective supervision" votes only to the qualification of the candidates from within their own circle and the rest of the candidates for the irrational reason of "lack of competence" would be rejected. Under such circumstance, actively "boycott of election" and isolating the regime in

the eyes of the Iranian people and the world, strengthens the working class and the toilers position in their struggle against the regime. While, the participation in the elections and keeping it going leads in to consolidation of the Islamic Republic and this or that faction coming to power.

While the boycotting of the elections by the opposition organizations was being intensified, the ruling elite of Iran in fear of isolation and infamy in the eyes of the public opinion in Iran and the world, started widespread preparations for the conduction of the tenth round "successful" presidential elections:

The two ruling factions, the supporters of the big private capitals under the leadership of Rafsanjani, Khatami, Moosavi and Karrubi which is internationally is prone to the imperialist west and the Khamenei-Ahmadi-Nejad faction, the supporters of bureaucratic and commercial capital which internationally portrays itself in the guise of defiance with the imperialists interference in the affair of Iran and the Middle East, with the tendency toward collaboration with China and Russia and having leniency toward Chavez tic tendency and the representative of the military-financial mafia, entered in to rivalry with each other in the arena of "exhibition of elections". The common point of these two factions was the defense of the Islamic Republic which went under a tremendous question mark by the rise of the wide spread protest movements of the workers, women, students, teachers and others and their segregation point was in such way that they were accusing each other of the eventual collapse of this system by such course they are following.

For the first time, the publicity of the elections by the two active factions in the elections were conducted in the an extensive dimensions and the television debates between the candidates and unmasking of each other, more than ever before exposed the decadent nature of the regime in the eyes of the public opinion. The conflict of interests between the two factions had reached to such intensified limits that they could not do anything else beside this.

In between all this, the imperialists perused all the precautionary measures for not being accused of taking advantage of the conditions for helping to outbreak the "velvet revolutions". But, considering the fact that Iran can (or is able to) play a major decisive role in the Middle East for or against the influence of the imperialists, they put all their means (or instruments) to work for

the Khamenei/Ahmadi-Nejgad faction not to be elected in this game of elections or, to become so weak that the condition for the influence among them and then bringing them to their knees before the imperialists become possible.

In this manner, the active forces on the stage of the Iran's elections were consisted of: The two rival factions of the Islamic Republic, the imperialists, the Iranian voters and including the Iranian opposition forces against the regime. From among these forces, the deciding forces were the Iranian people in which if they had a revolutionary leadership, they could change the election histrionics to a great forceful show of beating the two factions and the imperialists and also the regime's bourgeois opposition.

Although, the magnitude and the dimensions of the frauds in election and the replacement of the ballot boxes is not known but, this is a reality that because of the conservatives' publicity and the "reformists" and also the hardliners, a considerable part of deluded people participated and did not follow the active boycott of the election by the communists. The events and the aftermath of the election showed that the participation of the people in the election was not more than a mirage. This rationalization that the masses of people consciously voted for Moosavi in order to get rid of the ruling faction is a sign of incorrect perception of the pronouncers from the quality of the recent mass movement and a cover up of the people's illusion (or misgivings) in their struggle for changing the system.

Early announcement of the victory by Moosavi and Ahmadi-Nejgad on the day after June 12, 2009, the Election Day, showed that the two rivals had ample program from before for the election and they had the assumption of the certainty of winning the election. In fact, after the "clear" victory of Ahmadi-Nejgad, protests from the rival faction began. They talked about the election being a coup d'état and called upon the people for "undisruptive" protest and also the voters who were in illusion of changing the president by the incorrect tactic of voting for Moosavi, with or without the green sign- which the supporters of Moosavi chose for making themselves distinct from others- entered the streets with protests and resort to the slogan of "Moosavi, take back my vote" and "where is my vote".

With the start of the street protests and facing the repressive forces by the protestors, gradually the peoples protest movement being in the millions

which basically began from the middle and upper stratum of society and the youth had the active role in that, moved on the line of "disruptiveness" and became more political and the slogan of "down with dictator" and "down with Khamenei" especially, by the student demonstrators to the election frauds were started. But, the slogans of this protest movement were neither further up from the ten years before nor even were more advanced than the propounded slogans of the February 1979 revolution!

On the contrary, under the direction of the loosing faction and with copying patterns of the February 1979 revolution, the slogans of "God is great" on the roofs at nights were started and despite some slogans which were not common like, "down with Khamenei", or "down with the Islamic Republic", no revolutionary alternative in defense of strategic and tactical slogans relevant to the working class and the impoverished people were given.#

The Interpretation of the Nature of Current Crisis Decides Communist Parties' Activity (new) Communist Party, Italy, (n)PCI)

August 2009

It is very important, indeed it is essential that we correctly understand the nature of the current crisis. In the 11th of the *Theses on Feuerbach* (1845), Marx says: "The philosophers have only given different interpretations of the world. But the question is to transform it." On the other side, in the *Communist Party's Manifesto* (1848) Marx says that the Communists are distinguished from other proletarians because they have a more advanced understanding of the conditions, forms and results of the struggle between classes and on this basis they keep pushing it forward. The interpretation of the world is not the goal of us Communists. Our goal is the transformation of the world. But people need to represent to themselves, to have an idea of what they do. The socialist revolution is not something instinctive. Lenin strongly taught (*What to do?*) that the theory that guides the communist movement does not arise at all spontaneously from experience. It has to be elaborated by the Communists who, for this purpose, have to use the most sophisticated tools of knowledge that humanity has. The Communists took it to the working class that, for the position it occupies in capitalist society, is especially predisposed to assimilate and to take it as a guide for its actions. The practical communist movement can grow beyond a basic level only if it is guided by a revolutionary theory. Our efforts to transform the world, other things being equal, it is all the more effective the more just and advanced is our understanding of the world. Only with a fairly good understanding of the nature of the crisis which we are involved in, we can make the socialist revolution, and the second wave of the proletarian revolution will bring humanity to finally overcome capitalism, to build socialism all over the world on the way towards Communism. The interpretation we give to the world has a great importance for our political purposes. It influences our political activities, making it more or less effective. It is therefore necessary that we Communists take the time and attention needed to test and improve our understanding of the current crisis.

Even today many Communists interpret the current crisis by transposing in the present the interpretation that Marx gave of the crises of the

capitalist countries in the first part of the nineteenth century, as if the current crisis would be of the same kind of ten-year cyclical crises described by Marx, as if it would be like those with the only difference that now is global. This attitude is one of the manifestations of dogmatism that rages still in the communist movement and makes much of its activity fruitless and its action inconclusive. The cyclical crises described by Marx in the 1st book of *The Capital* are over. Already in 1886 preface to the English edition of the 1st book of *The Capital* Engels pointed out that the latest of the cyclical crises of capitalism, the latest crisis of the same nature of those described by Marx, occurred in 1867 and that since 1873 capitalist countries were instead entered into a long and painful depression which in 1886 they still did not see the end.

The cyclical crises belong to the era of pre-imperialist capitalism, when economic relations were characterized by free competition between many capitals. They were economic crises. They were determined by the anarchical proceeding of business and the solution of that crisis was coming from the same economic movement of capitalist society. The fall of the business also created the conditions for their resumption. Not by chance the crises were cyclical, and the cycle lasted about a decade. When the imperialist phase began, on one hand the capitalist societies equipped themselves with large-scale systems and organisms that attenuate the amplitude of cyclical fluctuations of business: the Antithetical Forms of Social unity, which Marx already described in the *Grundrisse*. On the other hand, the general crises of capitalism began. These are crises that have their basis in absolute overproduction of capital. Marx explains what this is in chapter 15 of the 3rd book of *The Capital*: the capitalists have accumulated too much capital and in the existing political context can no longer continue to accumulate and increase it all in value by producing goods. The political and social system must be disrupted and replaced by another. It is only by this political and cultural upheaval that the solution of the general crisis comes. The solution does not come either (?neither?) by the anarchist proceeding of business, or(?nor?) by the

economic measures governments and other social institutions could take. So the economic crisis becomes political and cultural.

The long depression mentioned by Engels in his preface of 1886 brought the major powers to divide the world among them and introduced the world in the imperialist phase of capitalism: the era in which economic relations are no longer characterized by free competition between many capitalists but by the dominance of monopolies in the production of goods and by the dominance of financial capital on the capital employed in the production of goods. It is the era in which capitalism has exhausted its civilizing role and became a parasite. The bourgeoisie in capitalist countries is politically allied and combined with the residual feudal forces (especially in Europe with the Catholic Church). In the political and cultural field it has become undemocratic, reactionary, militaristic and repressive. In the colonies it combined with the feudal forces and divided the world into imperialist countries and oppressed countries.

The very first real general crisis of the imperialist era took place in the first half of last century. It brought humanity to the two world wars and created the long revolutionary situation which covers the entire first part of last century. All around the world it was a period of instability of political regimes. In its ambit, it developed the first wave of world proletarian revolution that created the first socialist countries and spread communist movement all over the world.

One of the main reasons why the Communist movement did not succeed to establish socialism in the imperialist countries and then to put a definitive end to capitalism consists exactly in the inadequate understanding of the nature of the general crisis in progress and its economic foundations by the communist parties of the imperialist countries. Despite Lenin and Stalin's discoveries and teachings, substantially in the imperialist countries the parties of the Communist International remained anchored in the interpretation that Marx had given of the cyclical economic crises that the capitalist countries crossed in the first part of the nineteenth century. All the analyses of E.S. Varga, the greatest economist of the Communist International, remain in that ambit. They describe the fluctuations in the economic movement, not the long-term general phenomenon, still less the resulting political and cultural crisis and from which the resolution of the general crisis comes. The communist parties of the imperialist countries were not able then to carry out their work despite their large growth, the

heroism of millions of their members and their historic commitment to the successful struggle against fascism. The imperialist bourgeoisie managed to maintain the direction of the imperialist countries. Thanks to the turmoil produced by the two world wars and related social, political and cultural movements, it was able to start again the accumulation of capital and develop new large-scale commodity production for several decades (1945-1975). The thrust the first wave of proletarian revolution impressed to the progress of humanity diminished instead almost to extinction. Modern revisionism took the direction of the communist movement, corroded and disrupted it on a large scale, made the first socialist countries regress, brought them to ape the imperialist countries and depend on them, until they collapsed. The struggle the Communists led by Mao at the head of the Chinese Communist Party opposed to modern revisionism and its destructive work did not serve to arrest the decline of the communist movement. Anyway, in particular thanks to the Great Cultural Proletarian Revolution, it gave great teachings to all the Communists who were able to get them. Thanks to them the communist movement is born again all over the world, struggling against dogmatism and economism that still restrain its momentum and its rebirth.

The capitalist world has entered its second general crisis since the 70s of last century. Capitalism could not escape the absolute overproduction of capital: it is the limit to development, the limit inherent to capitalism itself. Capitalism is bound to bump into this limit. It took only thirty years after the Second World War for the bourgeoisie to find itself again [to face a general crisis, but in the new conditions created by the first wave of proletarian revolution and its decline. It had accumulated too much capital and can't continue to accumulate and increase it all in value producing goods and services in the political and social context created during the first general crisis.] having accumulated too much capital and not being able to continue to accumulate and increase it all in value producing goods, in the political and social context created during the first general crisis, but in the new conditions created by the first wave of proletarian revolution and its decline. The inclusion in the global imperialist system of most of the first socialist countries, particularly China and Russia, has partially changed the situation but has not fundamentally altered the course of events. For the first time, the environmental crisis added to the general crisis of capitalism and the two crises together determine

the objective conditions in which the rebirth of the communist movement develops and the second wave of proletarian revolution advances throughout the world. It will continue to advance, because mankind is a species provided with intelligence. During the millennia of its evolution from a state similar to that of other animal species to its current state, it has been able to solve all the problems of its survival. Today has the material, moral and intellectual means to overcome capitalism and establish socialism, and to end the devastation produced by capitalism and definitely improve the natural conditions of the Planet. Marxism-Leninism-Maoism is the revolutionary conception of the world that guides the rebirth of the communist movement. Only through this conception the communist parties can transform themselves and grow until they will be equal to the tasks they have to carry out.

A just and adequate understanding of the nature and causes of the new general crisis and of the conditions of its solution is essential to form communist parties adequate to the glorious tasks of this phase. So, it is essential a right analysis of the experience of the 160-years history of the communist movement and in particular of the experience of the first wave of proletarian revolution and of the first socialist countries. Marxism-Leninism-Maoism is this. That is why the fight for his assertion is the main aspect of proletarian internationalism. The main help that every communist party can give to others, is to contribute to the understanding, assimilation and assertion of the right theory of general crisis and the right analysis of the communist movement, so that each party could draw the right conclusions for constructing the socialist revolution in his country taking into account its particular characteristics, and so contributing to the common task of the world proletarian revolution.

One of the most important conclusions is that socialist revolution by its nature is not a popular uprising that breaks out and where the Communist Party, which was well prepared for the event, avails itself of the opportunity to seize the power and establish socialism. The socialist revolution is not an event that breaks out, as determined by the worsening economic and social conditions, by the suffering which the bourgeoisie imperialist constrains to the mass of the population, by the propaganda of the Communist parties and by the organization of the popular masses. Communists expecting the socialist revolution to break out will be disappointed again and again, today as they were in the past. Some will even draw reactionary conclusions: they will impute to masses'

backwardness and cowardice, to oppressed classes' nature what is mainly due to communist parties' backwardness. Already in 1895, in the Introduction to *Class Struggles in France from 1848 to 1850* Engels pointed out that, unlike the bourgeois revolution, the socialist revolution by its nature does not break out, but it must be built by the Communist Party. As Lenin and Stalin (*Principles of Leninism*) taught, by constructing large mass organizations of the working class and other classes of the masses, the Second International (1889-1914) contributed to the construction of the socialist revolution. But most of the parties that composed it were not guided by a correct conception of the world, particularly of the general crisis of capitalism, of the long lasting revolutionary situation it generates and of the nature of the socialist revolution. They expected that the socialist revolution broke out rather than build it step by step, year after year, as a revolutionary people's war that leads to the establishment of socialism in every country, and then, in combination with the other countries, to the world proletarian revolution. They instead assume as their sole or at least their main task the mobilization of the masses into struggles of demands, their cultural organization and their participation in the bourgeois political struggle, convinced that doing so they were preparing themselves to "seize the opportunity" of the revolution that would break out. In the imperialist countries the parties of the Communist International (1919-1943, but actually dissolved in 1956) have traced the same way, to a higher level of organization and international links. Many communist parties, especially in the imperialist countries, are still stagnant at this conception of their duties and that the very experience of the first wave of proletarian revolution has proved to be inadequate. Economism and dogmatism are the main restraint to the revival of the communist movement. In fact what the leaders do not understand, in their way the masses, especially the advanced workers, feel: in fact they do not join the efforts of dogmatic and economist new parties (even if these parties in all honesty claim themselves revolutionary, Marxist-Leninist and even Maoist) to follow the path that the experience has already shown to be bankrupt. In 2008, with the financial crisis began in the U.S., the second general crisis has entered its terminal phase. Even in the richest imperialist countries (in the U.S. and the EU) a growing number of workers, millions and millions are thrown into the street and add to the huge mass of hundreds of millions of workers in the oppressed

countries against which for decades the imperialist bourgeoisie has been leading an undeclared war of extermination on a large scale in every corner of the world. The imperialist states cannot afford to endlessly expand unemployment benefits and other social security cushions because their budget deficits, the loans they take out and their debts further disrupt monetary and financial system, whose instability and crashes they instead should remedy, because a stable financial and monetary system is the condition and the support of their whole world. Then the terminal phase may not extend for long.

Given the nature of the current crisis, it does not admit a way out done only of economic measures. It is not enough that the states should create conditions to suggest to the capitalists more profit in the production of goods rather than in financial speculation: this is the solution advocated by the moderate bourgeois right. Nor it is enough that the States distribute monetary income to the classes that will surely spend it for consumption: a solution supported by the bourgeois left and by the Communists who think that the current crisis is of the same kind of the cyclical crises of the nineteenth century and then apparently, denying evidence, believe also that the general crisis of the first part of last century has been resolved thanks to the Keynesian policies of the bourgeois state.

We can go out of the current crisis only by a political and cultural upheaval, creating a different social context. Basically in the next future there are two and only two ways out, in every single country and internationally.

Or the revolutionary mobilization of the popular masses led by the Communist parties equal to their tasks, namely, by parties who dare to think that the socialist revolution is possible and understand that it is Communists' task to built it campaign after campaign, as a protracted revolutionary people's war until the establishment of socialism.

Or the reactionary mobilization of the masses. In fact, also the imperialist bourgeoisie and other reactionary classes are looking for a way out of the current situation. They need it and have it unless we stop them in time. In short, for bourgeois groups determined to halt the revolutionary mobilization and to prevent the disappearance of their world, the only feasible and realistic way to end the crisis is to mobilize that part of the masses they are able to mobilize under their direction for throwing it against the rest of the masses and drag it all to plunder the rest of the world: the imperialist war. It would be the continuation by other means of the politics that

they lead today. The environmental crisis and the general crisis of capitalism combine to provide to the more far-sighted, more determined, more adventurous and more criminal bourgeois groups adequate excuses to mobilize masses against masses, countries against countries, a coalition against another.

The interpretation we give to the crisis is therefore a decisive factor. The (n) PCI (new Italian Communist Party) calls the Communists all around the world, but particularly those of the imperialist countries, to join a true conception of the current crisis and of our tasks.

Nicola P. member of the editorial staff of the magazine *La Voce del (nuovo)PCI*.

<http://www.nuovopci.it>

New communist league in Norway

Serve the People has at its annual conference 30th March 2009 decided to change their name from *Serve the People – a Marxist-Leninist Group (Tjen folket – ei marxist-leninistisk gruppe)* to *Serve the People – Communist League (Tjen folket – kommunistisk forbund)*.

The name change marks the development in the organisation, the spokesperson of the league, Henrik Ormåsen, states. Serve the People has experienced a solid growth since the Workers' Communist Party (AKP) decided to dissolve itself in April 2007. The party Red has not turned out as a success, and Serve the People and their youth league, Revolutionary Communist Youth (RKU), stand today as the only real alternative for communists in Norway. – The barricade between Serve the People and many revolutionaries has ben broken down over the last two years, Ormåsen continues. The name change marks the solid growth in our organisation. We have won more members and built new cells at several places in the country, and we continue to grow, in spite of a period with headwind for the left where others have given up. We call on everyone who experience that the capitalist system runs the world in the wrong direction to contact us and join the struggle for the creation of a fighting communist party. There is no communist party in Norway at present, but we work actively to build it, he finishes. For more information, contact *Serve the People* on post@tjen-folket.no or the league's spokesperson Henrik Ormåsen on phone + 47 48 18 14 92.#

****Remembrances of the First Quarter Storm of 1970****

The following article was first published in the January-February 1996 issue of Liberation International. We are publishing it January 2010 again to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the First Quarter Storm.

Antonio Zumel, Philippines

We observe this year the 100th anniversary of the 1886 Philippine Revolution against Spanish colonization, and the 26th anniversary of the First Quarter Storm of 1970. The two are interrelated, and are historic events to the Filipino people since both had to do and still have to do with our people continuing struggle for national independence and democracy. We honor the 1886 Revolution as the collective, united effort of our patriotic and democratic forebears in the Katipunan to rise up in arms to finally liberate our country from more than 300 years of Spanish colonial rule. With heads high, we do honor this historic event even if it was frustrated especially by the errors of the ilustrado leadership and by the deception, the aggression and the ferocity of US imperialism, which grabbed colonial control over our country and people. While we pay tribute to the bravery and dedication of the worker Andres Bonifacio, founder of the Katipunan, and of his comrades-in-arms, we, as today revolutionaries, study their experience and learn from the positive and negative lessons, even as we also learn from the more recent experiences of revolutionaries in other part of the world. The Katipunan Revolution of 1896 whose centenary we celebrate this year and the national democratic revolutionary struggle we are waging today have the same general objective: to achieve, safeguard and advance the national and democratic interests of the Filipino people. Having pointed that out, we must also underscore the fact that the 1896 Revolution had a bourgeois-democratic theoretical grounding. Our revolution of today is under the superior working class revolutionary theory which, in 1896, was still undergoing refinement especially in Russia. Even so, our revolutionary struggles today are a continuation of the unfinished revolution of 1896, with a clear socialist goal.

The First Quarter Storm of 1970, which belongs closer to my generation, is more directly connected with today new-democratic revolution being waged by the allied mass organizations in the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) which continue to fight for the national

and social emancipation of the Filipino people. Looking back through the last 26 years to the FQS of 1970, one harkens to a time of cerebral and physical ferment, a time of trepidation and courage, a time of study and education, a time for the heightening of political consciousness, a time to make crucial decisions affecting one a life, going full-time into revolutionary work.

I was a journalist at that time, having been trained to be an objective observer of the day-to-day life of our society. I should have appraised the events of the FQS with some degree of objectivity and impartiality, as my elders in news papering would like to say. But like many of the students, workers and peasants at that time, and like some journalists and other professionals as well, I, too, went through a process of political awakening. In my ensuing political conduct, I was not to be impartial. I was to be partial to the cause of the broad masses of our people. For me, it is difficult to think back, exclusively to the political events in the first three months of 1970 the FQS. Like others, I also tend to look back to political events, of say, the previous year, 1969, which after all, helped prepare for, and culminate in, the FQS (actually, according to Comrade Jose Maria Sison, I took a whole decade to prepare for the FQS); I also tend to look beyond the FQS to the political events of the rest of 1970, 1971 and up to 1972 (declaration of fascist martial law) which came as further development of the FQS. The scene is January 1970. The political circus that was the presidential election of November 1969 had just been held, and the reelectionist Marcos soundly beat his opponent, Sergio Osmena, Jr., a puppet of US imperialism as Marcos himself was. Did Marcos enjoy great popularity among the people? The answer is **NO!**

In fact, with the coming of 1970, Marcos and his US imperialist masters decreed a devaluation of the peso (from P3.90=US\$1, to P6=\$1) to increase the value of imperialist investments and property in the Philippines, and aggravate the livelihood of the people whose income was not being increased.

The drastic devaluation the us farther aggravated the economic and political crisis of the ruling system in the Philippines. That is why on Jan. 26, 1970, a large mass action of the youth and students in front of the Philippine Congress had a ready-made issue: they were there to confront Marcos on his state-of-the-nation address to Congress, and to expose him for his continuing subservience to US interests. The area in front of Congress was swollen by the student youth and worker youth of Kabataang Makabayan (Patriotic Youth-KM) when Marcos, after his message to Congress exited nearby. Suddenly, some people flung a big papier-mache figure of a crocodile symbolizing the corrupt big bureaucrats, and a papier-mache representation of a coffin symbolizing the death of national freedom, if my memory serves me right. Then all hell broke loose. With truncheons, policemen and military troops flailed every which way, hitting out at the radikal kabataan (radical youth) of KM. Many were hurt and many were arrested. Thus, a few days later, on Jan. 30, the youth and students of the KM and other national democratic organizations went out on the streets again, this time to demonstrate in front of Malacanang Palace to protest the brutal dispersal of the Jan. 26 rally.

This was a more indignant rally than the first one, with the youth and students standing their ground against the state armed goons truncheons, teargas, water cannons and gunfire. The rally lasted until the early-morning hours of Jan. 31, when the state goons had killed six of the demonstrators and injured several hundreds of others. To the marching youth, and to the people at large, this signaled the growing desperation of the ruling system against the rising masses. But undaunted by the mass killing of their six comrades, this gave the awakened youth the impetus to expand to the provinces and to stage more demonstrations on an expanding scale. This process went on until the end of March the Sigwa ng Unang Kwarto ng 1970, the FQS and beyond. The upsurge in the national democratic movement mass actions served to expose and oppose a rotting system where US imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism held sway. The movement also served to propagate the program of the national democratic movement which was meant to replace the old and decaying one. The mass movement was also a school to help prepare the cadres and mass activists in confronting the enemy. In that sense, each mass action was a learning process for the participants. In between those marches, there were as well informal studies on revolutionary

theory. This was undertaken individually or by discussion groups. Education was further undertaken by integrating with the worker and peasant masses. If memory serves me right, the reading materials, at that time, included fresh documents of the CPPs reestablishment which repudiated Lavaite revisionism; the CPPs Ang Bayan, Jose Maria Sisons Struggle for National Democracy, and Chairman Mao Zedong selected writings and the Red Book. Five Golden Rays, which inspired many people, came from Maos writings. Amado Guerrero *Philippine Society and Revolution* was being prepared for printing. The demonstrations had to increasingly confront the state forces of coercion, especially those assembled in the PC Metropolitan Command (Metrocom), who used the gun almost as frequently as truncheons, teargas and water cannons. Thus, one could all the more easily comprehend Lenins State and Revolution, and accept armed revolution as the answer. And in integrating with, say, the worker masses, living with them and struggling with them at the picket line, one could more easily see their sense of exploitation and oppression, and their receptivity to scientific socialism. The FQS was a time for courage. Increasingly confronting the enemy guns (as in the case of Jan. 30-31), one drew strength and guts from the synergy of the tens of thousands who were one comrades, and those cheering you on. One dared to do anything! (Makibaka! Huwag matakot!) (Fight on! Have no fear!) resounded over and over again on the streets. And to help educate the masses, and to put fear into the hearts of the enemy, (Ano ang sagot sa martial law?) (What is our response to martial law?), (Digmaan, digmaan, digmaang Bayan! (War, war, people's war!)).

In the expansion nationwide, there was now a proliferation of new mass organizations (MOs): Katipunan ng mga Samahang Manggagawa (Kasama) and Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Manggagawa (Pakmap), among the workers; the Malayang Kilusang ng Bagong Kababaihan (Makibaka), among the women; the Samahan ng Demokratikong Kabataan (SDK) and the Katipunan ng Kabataang Demokratiko (KKD), among the youth; the Kapisanan ng mga Gurong Makabayan (Kaguma), among the teachers; the Christians for National Liberation (CNL), among the clergy and church people; Panulat para sa Kaunlaran ng Sambayanan (PAKSA), among literary people; the Nagkakaisang Progresibong Artista-Arkitecto (NPAA), among artists and architects; the Sam han ng mga Progresibong

Propagandista (SPP), the League of Editors for a Democratic Society (LEADS) and the revived College Editors Guild of the Philippines (CEGP), among campus editors, and many others.

Expansion teams from these Mass organizations were spreading out among the various colleges and universities of Metro Manila and to the provinces. To coordinate and direct this growing number of allied organizations, there came the Movement for a Democratic Philippines (MDP). Elsewhere in Metro Manila, activists displayed resourcefulness by boarding buses and distributing manifestoes and statements to the passengers. Or, welcoming the invitation of enlightened teachers, they went from schoolroom to schoolroom to rally the students to the Red flag of struggle. Since it was the orientation of the youth and student movement to deploy prospective cadres and activists to integrate with the peasant masses, the youth who were now politically conscious and those who were getting (umiinit) in the urban areas were being deployed to the countryside. They went there to become political officers (Pos) of the newly formed squads and platoons of the New People's Army, and to organize the peasants.

In Manila at that time, it became common dialogue for a comrade to ask another about a missing comrade. The reply was, that he was already in [?]. This meant he had gone to the hills in the new expansion areas of Isabela, in Northeastern Luzon. Or later, to the other expansion areas in Southern Tagalog or Bicol, or farther south to the Visayas and Mindanao. As a result of the FQS, the National Press Club (NPC) of the Philippines, of which I was president, passed a resolution at its 1970 National Convention aligning the NPC in the movement for national independence and democracy. This was after my first term as president, where we took the progressive course of supporting the brothers Rizal and Quintin Yuyitung of the Chinese Commercial News who were persecuted and deported to Taiwan by the Marcos regime and its Kuomintang cohorts, and supporting the young staffers of the Dumaguete Times in the Visayas who were being held incommunicado by the regime. We also opened the door of the NPC to mass leaders and activists of the national democratic movement to acquaint them with the reporters covering the surging mass movement,

and to extend to them whatever physical protection the press club had at that time.

When I look back to the FQS of 1970, what stands out in my mind are the positive contributions that that period and its political activities contributed to the national democratic revolution as a whole. Among the things that I remember most was the spirit of learning that pervaded the mass activists, and their sense of courage. If we remember, the FQS was launched in the wake of the First Great Rectification Campaign, to repudiate the revisionism of the Lavaite renegades and to propagate the national-democratic line. Today, we are going through the Second Great Rectification Campaign, to repudiate revisionism, splittism, capitulationism and reformism of present-day revisionists. In the FQS, the call was for the political and theoretical education of the young and their deployment to the countryside.

Today, with the Second Great Rectification Campaign, there is a call for education on the rectification documents and on the varied levels of theoretical education, especially on Mao Zedong and our own rich experiences. I am happy to learn that it was in the ranks of the youth and students and workers as in the case of the FQS that the rectification campaign took root, and that it was the youth and the workers who took up the cudgels for the movement and its program, as against the deviations of the revisionists and splittists. I understand, too, that as in the FQS, it is again among the youth and students and the workers that the call is being heeded for the educated and politically conscious youth to integrate with the peasant masses in the countryside, instead of being kept in the urban areas for possible insurrectionist activities.

As this trend continues, and as we carry on the rest of our tasks at the present time, we keep faith with our forebears who launched the Katipunan Revolution of 1896, and we keep faith with present-day Filipinos, especially the thousands of comrades who are before, during and after the FQS willingly sacrificed their lives against the US-Marcos fascist dictatorship, the US-Aquino fascist regime and now the fascist regime of the US-Ramos clique, so that our children and our children's children will live in national freedom, democracy, peace, justice and prosperity.#

The Turkish Ruling Classes and their “Kurdish Plan”

TKP/ML, Turkey

January 2010

For a long time, the Kurdish question has been discussed in the Turkish public and this discussion still continues. The government became very over talkative by saying that the solution of the existing problems is the “**Kurdish plan**”. Very soon after this they started the first initiation of this plan and started using the expression “Kurdish Plan”, soon after they changed it into the expression “**democratic plan**” and after that they decided to call it the “**National Unity and Integrity Project**”.

Even in their expressions-let’s leave aside that by “solving” the problem the ruling classes don’t want to handle the question from a essential ground- they continue to even fear to remember the name of the question. Their tongue won’t allow saying that there is an unsolved “**Kurdish national question**”. They are not able to say that because of the pressure created by the struggle of the Kurds and the Kurdish national movement and the fact that they must make some retouches on the Kurdish question in order to have a successful mission in the region that was given to the ruling classes by their masters. They create the atmosphere that with this so called “solution” policies they will remove the reasons to apply to an armed movement and that they will “solve” the Kurdish question and “they will create a democratic environment in the Country”. On the other side, they perceive with a despotic, fascist understanding like the “Kurds” or the workers and toilers from the different nationalities “cannot insist anything on us”, “we don’t do this with the insisting of anybody”. “If we want to we can give some rights, if we don’t like we won’t, if necessary we will take them back”. These “solutions” walk similarly to the Turkish Army authority’s expressions “**until the last terrorist is killed we will continue this war**”. For this reason, it comes forward what they really aim with these so called “solutions”. After all, their class character hasn’t changed so that their wishes, mission, role and thoughts could change! From the beginning of the armed struggle of the PKK in 1984 until now, the issue of the Kurdish national question has always occupied the public. The struggle has always debated itself. The state has handled and debated this matter in its language as “banditry” and “terror”. Until 1989-

1990 let’s leave aside using terms like nation or “minority”; the existence of a people that speak the Kurdish language wasn’t even accepted. Naturally, it was prohibited to speak Kurdish or to draw any connection to the Kurdish nation. After that period for the first time it was “accepted” that there is a Kurdish language and that there are Kurdish speaking citizens. But they continued to not recognize any of their rights. In our country, on one side the armed struggle under the leadership of the PKK was growing, on the other side the armed struggle under a class basis waged by the TKP/ML and other revolutionary organizations was developing. With the impact of those struggles the struggle of the workers and toilers in the country was increasing too. Then in 1991 when the “Gulf war”/ or the “desert storm” was initiated by the imperialists under the leadership of the US and the forming of an autonomous administration in Iraq Kurdistan brought a whole new situation.



Police brutality are daily scenes in Turkey

This was a situation that the Turkish ruling classes didn’t want. Even through this the imperialist masters demanded Turkey to establish relations with Iraq Kurdistan. Whether because of the request of the imperialist masters or because of economic profits and political calculations; Turkey established relations with the Iraq Kurdistan administration. They figured that they can use the autonomous Kurdish administration in Iraq in order prevent the Kurds in Turkey from a probable alliance und support to the PKK and even to use them against the PKK and these calculations were, to a certain level, successful. In such a stage, the ruling class figured that more

national and class oppression might push the masses into the Kurdish national struggle and in order to prevent a possible bigger wave of support they recognized some fragments like “we accept the existence of the Kurds”, “they can speak Kurdish”, “they can make music in their mother tongue”, “they can write and publish papers in Kurdish”, “they can form their own associations”, but in every occasion they didn’t abstain from spreading oppression and terror. In the 90’s, the Kurdish armed movement was in the face of its historical rise and widespread period, the Turkish ruling classes didn’t see any choice and started to apply on strategies like **“domination over the region”, “special war”, “total war”**. They used all kinds of war tools including chemical weapons and attacked and killed thousands of people. Including districts like Lice, Sirtak, Cizre the state forces even held many cities under gunfire. Villages were bombed with war planes and helicopters, they were under tank fire, villages were burned and destroyed. About 3600 villages and arable fields were discharged and extradited. More than 3 million people were forced to exile and migration. Since 1990-91 including US imperialism the EU imperialists want to solve the question inside the system to relieve the Turkish ruling classes nationally and regionally. For this they have recommended some plans. Some “smart” lackey’s inside the ruling classes were thinking like their masters and started to begin to talk about some approaches and steps but as from the compradors Sakip Sabanci and from the politicians PM Trgut Ozal and commander of the TSK (Turkish Armed Forces) land forces E. Bitlis were killed through directly or indirectly methods, the plans weren’t finalized because of internal contradictions.

They continued with their old “oppress-solve” policies. In 1993, 1995 and 1999 when PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan was captured and with the presumption of the Imrali line to be organization; the imperialist masters directed to implement this but every time they came across the resistance and provocation of the central part of the ruling classes and had to withdraw from this plans. In concern of now, after they have made a crowd of murders ineffective through the “Ergenekon” operation and threatened some other they have started the so called “solution” policy plan. It can be seen that this “solution plan” policies of the AKP administrates in the axis of plan prepared by the deputy national committee director of the US External Policy Department **David L. Phillips** in October 2007 under the headline **“The disarming**

of the PKK, its dissolving and reintegration into society”. The US, Turkey, Iraq Kurt administration and in some extend PKK communication advances. But the ruling classes and state institutions are not on a common thought on this point, the central part of the ruling classes still insists against these policies. With their pressure and the pressure of an existing chauvinist structure and with their fear, they changed the “Kurdish plan” into the term **“national unity and integrity project”**.



From little age on children in Turkey-Kurdistan or in Kurdish districts are faced by the states operations

In 2003 with the US led Iraqi occupation and the settling of the autonomous region in Iraq Kurdistan, which exists since the “Gulf War”, made the Turkish ruling classes seriously feel uncomfortable. Considering themselves, the US has created relations with the Iraq Kurds and because of their means; certain distrust against their masters has been created. That is because they are afraid and curious that if Iraq Kurdistan with a population of 4-5 million Kurds can nationalize and this is supported by the imperialists’, tomorrow if there should be any dissonance between Turkey and the imperialists mainly the US, then they might nationalize the Kurds inside Turkey boundaries either separate or unite it with Iraq Kurdistan.

Besides these curiosities, if we look at today’s position in Iraq Kurdistan and the fact that they take 17,5 % of the oil and the increase of live standard (working, wages and the opportunity of education in mother tongue) continues to draw many people that live at the borders to go there. It has become an attraction center for the Kurds living in Turkey. Their national emotion’s, aspirations are going to advance the struggle. So

there will either be the radical separation as Turkey Kurdistan through armed struggle or a struggle to separate and become part of Iraq Kurdistan. The Turkish ruling classes fear in both ways to loose the wealth of the occupied and annexed Turkey Kurdistan. As they continue their national oppression the Turkish ruling classes will always be afraid.

As long as the oppression by the ruling nation is not removed by an act of violence and by not giving the right of self-determination to the Kurdish nation, they will always live in that fear. The continuing of national oppression, assimilation, massacres and fascist terror together with the class oppression by the ruling classes and dominating nation for hundreds of year and its increase in the last years has created unbearable live conditions. But war and oppression has opened the eyes of the people more. In the last years the parties of the Turkish ruling class don't get much support in Turkey Kurdistan, many of the parties don't get votes. In some places, they don't find anyone to open and look to the party bureaus. The religious Muslim parties are the luckiest ones amongst them! Generally in Turkey but also in Kurdistan the impact of religion is big. It can be understood why the ruling classes saw the need exactly for that reason to bring one of the religious party into power. In the last national and regional elections the DTP who addresses the potential of the Kurdish nation was able even through all the oppression, to increase one fourth ratio of their votes. In most part of Turkey Kurdistan's districts they were the main party and in some they got 60 and 80 % of the votes. This means that the DTP has gotten the mass support in those districts besides the army, police and villager protectors.

This is another fact that makes the ruling classes feel uncomfortable. In concern of the Turkish ruling classes the parties that they can gain the most support from are again the religious parties. A sector inside the center of the ruling classes, don't really prefer the AKP inside the government since it acts on religious motives but they could not prevent the high voting support from the people to the AKP during the last national elections to become a single ruling party. One reason for this is the support from the US and EU imperialists. A central part of the ruling classes namely those who have lost

their control over the army, bureaucracy and political power initiative and its blessings, don't trust their masters in concern of the Iraq Kurdistan position and they wanted (and still want) to get rid of the AKP government because of its over service for the necessities of the imperialists and its appropriate act for the US on its "Kurdish political plan" on Turkey. That's why they were hoping to organize the reactions of the masses over different bourgeois parties and with "republican meetings against fundamentalism". But they weren't successful.

They even defended the view that they could solve this via a coup d'état. But this time, the US and EU imperialists didn't want a coup, without their support the coup couldn't be a success. Then they tried through some retired personal of the national security institutions like MIT, JITEM and army and state controlled Para-militarist armed gangs to create through bombings and armed provocative actions an atmosphere which would finally lead to a coup. But also with this they weren't successful. About a year ago after the armed attack on the US embassy, the killing of a priest in Trabzon and the killing of 3-4 Christian missionaries in Malatya and preparations for an attempted murder against PM Erdogan with the wish of the imperialist masters and the submission of the army the buttons were pushed by the government to stop what is called and known as the "Ergenekon gang". Besides, in order to practice step by step the "Kurdish policies" that the US has prepared for many years and that was supported by EU imperialists, also had to restrain those responsible heads from previous periods that are violently resisting against those policies.

Some of them were imprisoned, (many of them were released because of health reports), some weren't arrested because it would had given harm to themselves if they would be arrested, some were given the role as "secret witness" (one of them was Muhsin Yazicioglu the BBP chairperson who died on a airplane crash, from the 70's on he was the organizer of the many massacres made by the MHP and other civil fascists, he accepted to be a "secret witness" in the Ergenekon case, and what a coincidence, he died in a airplane "accident" in spring 2009. US and EU imperialists (of course everyone according to their own calculations) prepare the

Turkish state for its role in their calculations from the Caucasus to the Middle East. That's the main purpose. Besides that, the energy pipeline called the **"Nabucco Project"** that is supposed to go through Turkey Kurdistan brings along a question of security. The imperialists and the Turkish ruling classes prepare according to those calculations. The gap of 15-30 years of distance of Iraq Kurdistan, its reflections and impact in Turkey Kurdistan and the consideration of a population increase leaves the Turkish ruling classes sleepless. In order to practice their policies to overcome those fears, the fascist state makes an internal cleaning or "order"



.Since the US and EU imperialists are pleased with the AKP power and find it appropriate to their profits and plans, they feel the need to take those under control who make different calculations.

That's why they have even touched those who were known as the "untouchables" until today. This doesn't mean that they aim to make the fascist army become ineffective, or to provide that they will charge those who are responsible for the massacres that have been made until today or that it want to totally unmask the continuity of the "teskilat-ı mahsusiye" (special intelligence agency during the Ottoman Empire) MIT and Jitem and its special organization "Ergenekon" or the crimes it has committed.

For two periods the ruling party AKP has talked about the "Kurdish question". Since about one year in order to get the support of the Kurds they try to make some moves. On one side they have started to broadcast a TV channel called "TRT SES" which supposedly speaks Kurdish but mainly broadcasts half Kurdish half Turkish. But those steps are actually to avert the most watched

Kurdish TV in Turkey Kurdistan which is broadcasted abroad **Roj TV** and the **TV channels in Iraq Kurdistan**.

With words like "Kurdish plan" they want to win the hearts and support of the Kurds. It was said that a research sector for Kurdish history and culture will be formed. They also say that they will get help from the Kurdish Universities in Iraq but even now it is clear that none of this is real. There are even promises that they will stop the hindrance of families that want to speak Kurdish when they visit their relatives in prison, that they can write their names in their mother tongue in the passports and that the prohibition law of some Kurdish letters will be dismissed.

On the other side, the military operations, bombings and repressions in Kurdish villages and cities continue. Children with the ages of 12-17 are being charged for decades because they have thrown stones during demonstrations. Attacks towards members of DTP and its buildings and attacks on houses and working places of Kurds and lynch attempts continue.

In concern of the Kurdish question, they claim that they have made a feverish and important work but it's all a farce. There are no concrete promises. Their main plan is it to distract the Kurdish movement, make them wait and pacify them. They know very well the experiences that a passive armed movement which is only dragged into a self defense period will decay, weaken its fighting reflexes and will dissolve or become part of the system.

On the other side it is liquidating the armed movement. That's the main aim. Their main aim is not to totally destroy the PKK, even if they would want to they couldn't. They also know that a movement that has so much deep roots inside the Kurdish masses cannot be destroyed.

For this reason, their aim is it to disarm them and provide a way to drag them into a struggle inside the system. The **"plans period"** of the Turkish ruling classes only serves the interest to bring the PKK into such a position.#

What the Elections Showed?

Ricardo Cohen

Partido Comunista Revolucionario (PCR), Uruguay

On 25th October, in the first return, although the FA obtained near 48%, the parliamentary majority and a position that made very difficult that it did not prevail in the second return, is important to indicate that it backed down near a 3% of the result of the 2004 elections, a backward movement that had major expression in Montevideo.

On the one hand, it is clear that the majority of the working class and people returned to vote to the FA, but in the 15,500 votes to the Popular Assembly, 15,200 null-pink one only- and in some thousands of the rest of null vote, white vote and something of the abstention, it was expressed its more advanced sector, which took a very important step, reflecting a new advance in consciousness, since it did not vote to the traditional right nor to the opportunism, which has experimented for the first time and by almost 5 years in a continuing and proimperialistic government, who in many subjects was aligned with the own yankees.

In this sector, the classist sectors of the union movement are expressed strongly (that were expressed in the fights, in the persistence of groupings and also in the 20% of the delegates in 9° Congress of the PIT-CNT), the combative students (that has grown in incidence and organization) and many young people that voted for first time, the more submerged pensioners, also the conscientious and patriotic intellectuals, agricultural employees and small farmers and producers.

In the voters of FA, there is also an ample sector, particularly of the working class, that is strongly critical to the government of Tabaré and the FA, but voted it, supporting especially to the MPP (that grew again) and to the revisionist PCU and their allies (that stayed) “like minor bad” or fair rejection (who also expresses a level of consciousness) to the so

reactionary candidacies, of the parties of the traditional right, like were those of Lacalle by the National Party (which backed down a 6% in relation to the year 2004) and Bordaberry (son of the dictator) by the Red Party (that grew from 10 to 17%).

On the other hand, the presidential candidacy of Mujica, that broke through in the intern election, generated the illusion in this sector, on the basis of its demagoguery, its guerrilla past and its frank style, of which with him it was possible a left turn in relation to the present government. In this, the great televising means and the massive propaganda played a role of great importance, which clearly also reflected the support of great capitals and imperialistic monopolies to the formula of the FA, that offers continuity together with assuring more social peace, that the one that can obtain the traditional right, by the weight of servile opportunism in the union and popular movement.

Another factor of great importance in this result and the one of November, was the economic growth, which reached 7% annual average during the first 4 years of the present government, based on the high international prices of the raw materials. This growth happened within the framework of a policy of deepening the dependency and delivery to imperialism and its monopolies, but that allowed the recovery of a part of the wages and employment which were lost during the crisis of the 2002.

This was complemented with a care attendance policy, with line of World Bank, towards more submerged popular sectors, which are afraid of losing what they have received, although it means little money and some basket, which do not remove them from the misery and do not offer them perspective of a worthy life, based on a stable job.

The Popular Assembly

The Popular Assembly, from April 2006, during three years and a half, has been regrouping combative, anti-imperialist forces and by the Socialism, and has been actor and impelling of fights of great importance, like that one historical mobilization of 15,000 people, against the visit of Bush and of the opportunistic government which invited him, of multiple internationalist actions and by the human rights and against impunity, and of “first of May” which were classist and independent of the government and trade union opportunism.

The Popular Assembly allowed the main expression of organized popular fight, in the electoral land. We did not achieve the objective to open a breach in the Parliament, but together with the comrade Helios Sarthou and our candidates Raul Rodriguez and Delia Villalba, we worked hard to obtain that political trench that could serve to the all the fight. For it, it was realised a great campaign, which in spite of counting on little means and against the current, obtained an ample diffusion of its denunciations to the system and the government of the FA, with bravery and being based on the facts, also of the anti-imperialist and popular program, the “40 Measures” (spread by tens of thousands) and the extension of its organization to the national scale.

With this, very good perspective were opened to become in an important tool to the service of the fights of our people, in all the lands in which this is expressed. In this fight our party had an important participation, in the different aspects of the same, standing out especially our groups of comrades of the JCR by its giant effort developed from the Youthful Front of the AP, in the accomplishment of tens of sacrificed days of guinea fowl and positioning of passacaglia, and the maintenance of the street posts in the University and places of Montevideo.

The Plebiscites

In addition, in this national election, where participated finally 90% of near 2.600.000 qualified, two plebiscites were realised, one by the Cancellation of the Law of Impunity, with the paper pink that did not surpass 48% and the

other by the epistolar vote that it only obtained 36%. On this last one, the diffusion was very poor, and perhaps it was not explained of the best way the need of allowing the expression of the fair right of our compatriots, who have been forced for political or economic reasons to go away to the outside.

The Impunity

The FA that had in this period of government the parliamentary majority to approve the cancellation of the shameful Law of Impunity, did not do it and above it used in opportunistic form and of rake to sectors with left profile, to make a handcuffed campaign, by the plebiscite for its cancellation, which in the end allowed him to retain electorate, while the sectors which lead Astori, Huidobro and others openly did not impel it. They obtained, that in the formal land this infamia became to legitimize, but they did not obtain it in the political land because the 1.100.000 uruguayan people that voted by “Yes to the Cancellation” (to not having paper by NO, and like it is logical to express those that did not vote by YES, the majority of the dominant classes) represent a popular support not only of great importance but also majority. This has generated conditions in order to impel with new determination, as it already comes doing to a certain extent, the direct fight of the people to force to the government and the Parliament to open a channel for the Truth and the Judgment and Punishment for the responsables of the crimes of the Facist Military Dictatorship and their accomplices.

The Voting by Ballot

Finally after a new and insuffrable stage of the electoral campaign, Sunday 29th November, in the Voting by ballot (second return) Mujica - Astori, candidates of the FA, with 1.197.638 votes, a 52.39% %, dominated to Lacalle - Larrañaga, of the National Party that obtained 994,510 votes, 43.51%. The white vote was of 53,100, 2.32% and annulled 40,710, 1.78%, which meant that added, they were a 4.10% (growing of the 2,8% of October).

The FA that it increased in this instance of 29th November, their voting in more than 90,000 votes with respect to the one of October, grew

in addition in the 19 departments to the country and won in 5, Montevideo, Canelones, Salto, Paysandú and Soriano. In a first analysis, it is well-known that some voters of the Red Party of October, did not vote by Lacalle in November and ended up voting to Mujica, like some voters of the National Party that in October voted to the lists of Larrañaga.

It was clear that Bordaberry called to vote it but that did not play strong in the campaign to protect of that form his recently obtained position. For that reason the sum of the votes of the traditional parties of October falls a 3% in November. The Independent Party that had a 2.5% in October gave freedom of action to their voters, and these were divided between the two formulas and the white and annulled vote.

The Popular Assembly correctly, after having lived the experience of this continuist and proimperialistic government of Tabaré and the FA, where Astori and Mujica were fundamental ministers in the economic policy, of strict payment and whitening of the external debt and of concentration and sale the land to foreign as never before, called to vote annulled. They appeared many votes with the papers of October or flyings of the AP, and it was noticed its incidence in the increase of more than 1% of the annulled vote and white, in spite of it, a sector of its voters of October, also voted to Mujica, in this way thinking of facing Lacalle and its policy, that basically has been continued by the present government, reason why we hope, basing us on the facts, the continuity of the continuism.

The Continuity of the Continuism

Mujica, Astori, the own Tabaré and the spokesmen of the FA, come already announcing from before the elections, that are going to continue with the economic and social policy, with great intensity make betrayed meetings and commitments with the sacrosanct “investors”,

word that conceals to the voracious imperialistic monopolies and the international usurious bank, that make great profits on the basis of the over-exploitation of the workers and the natural wealth of the country.

This government in addition, will have to face the effects of the international economic crisis that struck the national economy and was concealed this year, with more debt, investments in public work and increase of the fiscal deficit. In fact, apparently it is leaving the recession, taking the global numbers from the economy, but the industrial and exports fall have been important this year and it is necessary to see as it leaves that in the present conditions of the international economy and with the increasing exchange delay.

On the other hand the elections generated expectations in the popular sectors, of the field and the city, and attenuated the protest and the fights, but now it will see what are the promises of the opportunists.

They talk about State and Education Reform, that is finding the resistance of the workers.

For that reason: before the continuity of the continuism nothing of illusions, to persist in the way of the working and popular fight in a revolutionary perspective!

The Answer of the Workers and the Peoples to the Global Crisis of Capitalism **Revolutionary Organization of Labor, USA** **(formerly the Ray O. Light Group)**

[The following are excerpts from a paper presented at the International Seminar “Problems of the Revolution in Latin America” sponsored by the Marxist-Leninist Party of Ecuador and the Popular Democratic Movement of Ecuador in July, 2009.]

A New Great Depression on the Horizon

Over the past nine months, the world capitalist economic crisis has deepened everywhere. The international working class and the oppressed peoples of the world are facing a global economic crisis of enormous proportions. From China to the former USSR to the USA, and especially in the oppressed nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America, mass unemployment, homelessness, hunger and disease are on the rise. In the USA, November and December each saw over five hundred thousand new unemployed workers; and over six hundred thousand lost their jobs in each of the first three months of 2009. Though official figures for the past three months have not been quite as high, the number of workers still unemployed when they have exhausted their unemployment benefits has remained at an all time high. And the unemployment rate continues to rise, with even the “official” rate now approaching ten percent. The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) predicted in early April that unemployment in thirty industrial countries will rise from six percent last year to double digits this year.

Scientific socialism teaches us that the root cause of this global capitalist economic crisis lies in the very nature of the monopoly capitalist system. Under capitalism, the working class is systematically short-changed when we exchange our labor-power for the capitalist’s wage payment. In this way we produce surplus value (profit) for the capitalists. We cannot buy back the products that we make. Over time, the result is *capitalist overproduction*.

In the current imperialist stage of capitalism, characterized by the domination of finance capital, the fundamental contradiction between labor and capital is sometimes, in some places, moderated, while it is intensified elsewhere.

This system is based on the exploitation and super exploitation of the working class and the oppression of the peasantry around the world. The immense profits in a world economy already saturated with monopoly capitalist domination have led to increasingly desperate “investment opportunities” such as in various forms of financial debt. This even includes “securitizing securities,” as was done by AIG, the recipient of almost 200 billion U.S. dollars in bailout money thus far. The utter dominance of finance capital has ripped asunder virtually any connection between actual product values and monetary valuation. It has resulted in an unprecedented division of the world between “haves” and “have-nots” such that the global capitalist system is in paralysis.

International Capital’s Response to the Crisis

The primary response of the imperialist and other reactionary governments to the crisis has been to provide multi-billion dollar (euro, pound, yen) bailout giveaways to the wealthiest, greediest and most guilty ruling class bankers and businessmen, the very people most responsible for the depth of the crisis. This booty has been squeezed out of the sweat and blood of the working class in every country. Indeed, the amount of dollars, euro, etc. involved in the bailouts will still be coming out of the children and grandchildren of those of us in today’s working class, *if* we allow the system of monopoly capitalism and imperialism to survive. Every day, of course, the bourgeois media is singing a lullaby to the peoples of the world, and the working class in the first place, about how the capitalist economic crisis is almost over. New partial and distorted statistics (called “green shoots”) are constantly raised to “prove” this thesis. However, Rajat Nag, managing director of the Asian Development Bank, in an attempt to dispel “complacency in

India and China,” recently cited the following: “weak economic growth in Asia – estimated at 3-4 percent this year – would leave sixty million more people in poverty than would have been the case had the region maintained last year’s pace of 6.5 percent.” (“Asia warned of growing poverty,” *Financial Times*, 6-29-09)

President John Sweeney of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO) and the International Labor Organization (ILO), whose roles include helping to prevent the working class from toppling the capitalist system, are very worried. Sweeney admits that the “global economy continues to deteriorate at an unprecedented rate. Workers around the world ... are losing their jobs and incomes.” The ILO predicts that “unemployment in the G8 countries ... is likely to almost double over the next 18 months ... At the same time, more than 200 million workers could be pushed into extreme poverty, lifting the number of working poor to 1.4 billion.”

Global Working Class and Popular Resistance

In this setting, the international working class is being jolted into action; it is being shaken out of its slumber. And billions of toilers in the oppressed and dependent countries of the world are likewise becoming awakened to the need for struggle against monopoly capitalism and imperialism.

In February, March and April of this year, the working class of the French colonies of Guadeloupe and Martinique waged powerful strike struggles organized through their trade unions, spearheading their islands’ masses in their demand for economic relief from this global capitalist crisis. The general strikes on both these Caribbean islands, with overwhelming popular support, have succeeded in winning their immediate wage and price demands and demands for political, cultural and national rights, challenging the power relationship, up to, if not including, the question of national sovereignty vis-à-vis French imperialism. Their struggle has inspired a similar struggle with similar demands in the French island colony of La Réunion in the Indian Ocean on the other side of the world.

No doubt, too, the strong uprisings of the exploited and oppressed masses of Guadeloupe

and Martinique have helped provide inspiration to the increasingly independent stands of Latin American countries such as Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador in opposition to U.S. imperialism. The defeat of the Arena Party government in the March 2009 election in El Salvador also represents a resurgence of mass anti-imperialist sentiment among the workers in this Central American country, a center of revolutionary activity in decades past. For more than two decades, prior to this current victory, the Salvadoran working people had been living under the Arena party-led state of terror. Likewise, in Honduras, early this year, President Zelaya implemented a measure increasing the minimum wage by 60%, among other pro-people measures. In this setting, the Bolivarian Alternative of the Americas (ALBA) has been strengthened in its independent stance vis-à-vis U.S. imperialism.

At the same time, the French working class, inspired at least in part by their class brothers and sisters in Guadeloupe and Martinique, has undertaken massive and militant demonstrations within that important imperialist country, resisting the efforts of the French ruling class and the international capitalist class to put the burden of the crisis on their shoulders. This newly rediscovered militancy of French workers has been demonstrated in various extralegal actions aimed against a number of monopoly capitalist firms.

Likewise, also fueled by the economic crisis, the working people of Greece, along with the students, have staged massive protests against police brutality and in defense of popular education. The street demonstrations of the Greek masses have shaken the roots of the reactionary regime there.

The working class and popular militancy being exhibited in oppressed colonies and neo-colonies and major imperialist countries, as well as countries in between, is a reflection of *the mass disaffection with the world system of monopoly capitalism and imperialism*. Even without the existence of a viable alternative socialist camp at this time, the toiling masses’ fascination with global capitalism has been broken.

Conclusion

One hundred and fifty years ago, in the era of industrial capitalism, Karl Marx made the

profound observation that, *under capitalism*, in any class struggle confrontation between the workers and the capitalists, where the workers had more unity than the capitalists they made advances; where the capitalists maintained stronger unity than the workers, the working class was pushed back.

Over the past nine months or so, as a new world capitalist crisis has unfolded, the international working class has witnessed bottomless bailouts of U.S. and international banks and financial institutions based on *naked power relations*, such as observed by Marx in the pre-monopoly capitalist, pre-imperialist era, but *now on a national and global scale*. These bailouts, in particular, demonstrated that U.S. and international capital were largely united; the U.S. and international working class were not. This greater degree of unity of international capital relative to the unity of the international working class has been maintained in spite of the fact that, under the impetus of the global capitalist economic crisis, the drive toward protectionist measures is growing rapidly throughout the world. How is this possible?

In the first half of the twentieth century, the international communist movement, under Lenin-Stalin Bolshevik leadership and the Communist International, had been the pathfinder, trailblazer, organizer and leader of the international working class, the most advanced class in the struggle for world progress. For most of the past fifty years, by contrast, the international communist and workers movement has been led largely by collaborators with imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism. We should never forget that, after waging an unprecedentedly heroic struggle to drive U.S. imperialism out of Vietnam in the 1970's, tragically, the Vietnamese people had to face invading armies at the hands of their erstwhile friends and comrades from Kampuchea and China. This was in direct opposition to Che Guevara's righteous revolutionary call, in solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people, for "two, three, many Vietnams" aimed against U.S. imperialism. In the period since, even when engaged in bitter struggles against U.S.-led imperialism, national democratic revolutionary leadership in the oppressed nations and "communist" leadership in the socialist camp has been mostly bourgeois nationalist rather than proletarian

internationalist in character. Thus, rather than maintaining its *unity* in the struggle *against* imperialism and *for* socialism, the international working class has been pulled in many different directions.

Today, one reason why, globally, there are tremendous bourgeois democratic illusions about Obama (and thus about the nature of U.S. imperialism) is that there is no general line and no substantial international communist movement which has recognized and mobilized around the *resistance of the Iraqi and Afghani peoples to U.S.-led imperialism as the frontline of the proletarian struggle of this time*. Consequently, Obama's current bellicose and "Bush-like" role in relation to both Afghanistan and Iraq has *not* served to arm the international proletariat and the oppressed peoples to deal with the U.S. Empire "under new management."

Drawing upon the wisdom of the Soviet experience in the 1930's, as his economy blossomed while the capitalist world was in a state of collapse, Soviet economist Leontiev warned: "... capitalism will not go off the stage on its own initiative, it will not collapse automatically ... all the theories of the automatic collapse of capitalism only bring untold harm to the cause of the working class, lulling its will to the long persistent struggle which is necessary in order to triumph over the exploiters. No ... situation [exists] where the bourgeoisie can find absolutely no way out. Only a persistent struggle will decide the collapse of the capitalist system." (p.282)

To wage this persistent struggle, let us heed the words of Georgi Dimitroff, the outstanding leader of the Communist International and hero of the fight against Hitler and world fascism leading up to and during World War II: "... in history great revolutions have grown out of small movements for the defense of the elementary rights of the working class."

For those of us who have continued to uphold the banner of socialism, even as the Socialist Camp dissolved and disappeared, as well as new fighters in our ranks, the current world capitalist economic crisis provides a great opportunity and responsibility. We need to spread the truth about the superiority of the socialist system to a new generation of workers and oppressed peoples who are every day learning new bitter lessons about the

degradation and dead end character of capitalism in the twenty-first century. *The proletarian vanguard nationally and internationally has the task of leading the working class and the masses, through their own experience in the class and national struggles against international capital*, to learn or rediscover the Marxist truth: "We have nothing to lose but our chains! We have a world to win!" *On to the Socialist Future!*

Defend and Help the People of Haiti –

No to U.S. Troops!

Statement of the Revolutionary Organization of Labor, USA

January 18, 2010

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. It is currently occupied by UN troops and controlled by a puppet government installed after the U.S. military kidnapped democratically elected President Aristide in 2004. It now faces the tragedy of a catastrophic earthquake destroying its main population center, Port-au-Prince. The death toll will likely surpass 200,000 people with widespread deadly diseases to follow.

Haiti's infrastructure became collapsing tombs for hundreds of thousands of fathers, mothers, sons and daughters. Similar to the victims of Hurricane Katrina abandoned by the U.S. government, when "humanitarian aid" virtually never arrived, the Haitian people desperately wait for food, water and medicine from their U.S. imperialist puppet government. This is in stark contrast to its Caribbean neighbor Cuba, whose people have some real power over their government and society and therefore can plan for and take care of the people in the face of natural disasters.

Anger is growing on the Haitian streets about their government's and the United Nations' slow response to saving the lives of those buried under rubble and to provide basic necessities to the survivors. The U.S. government has pledged "humanitarian aid". The main "aid" is **10,000 U.S. troops** to "provide security" to the country to make sure the Haitian people do not overthrow their puppet government. News footage has already showed the arrival of machine gun-toting U.S. troops in full riot gear.

The US. Empire's unity of purpose is reflected in President Obama's appointment of former

Presidents Bush and Clinton to coordinate the "humanitarian" relief efforts in Haiti. This is the same George W. Bush that brutalized the mostly Afro-American victims of Hurricane Katrina and is the criminal murderer of more than a million people through the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan. And former President Clinton is the criminal murderer of some 500,000 Iraqi children with the ten year long economic blockade against Iraq.

Calls for humanitarian assistance are coming from all quarters. Certainly we support people of good will responding to such a human tragedy and through labor unions, community and faith-based organizations we encourage such international solidarity. However, all humanitarian relief, money, volunteers, medicine, food and water should be channeled to genuine Haitian peoples' organizations, militant trade unions such as the Autonomous Confederation of Haitian Workers, and the community organizations struggling for the return of the democratically elected Aristide government. It is the people of Haiti who should decide what is best for their country and how to best rebuild Haiti and recover from such catastrophic human suffering.

The people of Haiti have a deep history of struggle, becoming the first country to win independence from a European colonial power through a slave uprising in 1804. Yet, following the establishment of the first Black Republic in the Western Hemisphere, the colonialists and imperialists ultimately proved successful in plundering the land, resources and labor of Haiti for most of the last two centuries. In the mid-1980's the Haitian people rose up and drove out the U.S. backed brutal Duvalier dictatorship. President Aristide was first elected in 1991 on the tide of a popular peoples' movement. The growing anger and righteous indignation of the Haitian people is fully justified. Self-determination -- for the people of Haiti to take matters into their own hands, for the peasants to cooperatively own the land to feed the country and for a worker-peasant alliance to take the reigns of government to rebuild their land, houses and lives in freedom -- is the path through which a new world can be built from the ashes of the old!

All U.S. Troops Out of Haiti!

No to the Continuation of U.N. Occupation!

Relief Aid In the Hands of Haitian People's Organizations!

Self-Determination for Haiti!#