The International Communist Party

Newspaper of the International Communist Party

WHAT DISTINGUISHES OUR PARTY - The line running from Marx to Lenin to the foundation of the Third International and the birth of the Communist Party of Italy in Leghorn (Livorno) 1921, and from there to the struggle of the Italian Communist Left against the degeneration in Moscow and to the rejection of popular fronts and coalition of resistance groups - The tough work of restoring the revolutionary doctrine and the party organ, in contact with the working class, outside the realm of personal politics and electoralist manoevrings

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Wall St.'s Trade War is Nothing New

Finance, Currency, and Trade in the Conflict Between Dueling Imperialisms

U.S. stock markets indexes all crashing 15- 20% year to date. Within two days S loss, exceeding a two-day loss of \$3.3 tril-"it's a great time to buy!" and blamed the tionism to subordinate the developing situation on "a little problem" in the bonds German and Japanese imperialism. market where some got "a little out of line", the ruling class's Commander in U.S. industries, moves to introduce pro-Chief called for his fellow suits on Wall tectionism began in 1962 with limits im- Finance Against the Rising St. to rally and fall back in line on the posed on imports of cotton textiles from march towards future super profits derived from a coordinated assault, squeezing out in the 1968 presidential election cam- Imperialisms the competition while using manipulative paign, Nixon promised further limits on market strategies & trade maneuvers imports of textiles that competed with dobacked by militaristic brigandry to maintain global financial dominance. As the liberals scream about the harm done to the "economy", they only worry about losing their share in the loot! For the middle idea that a lower foreign exchange value classes and the various parasitic appendages dependent upon the super profits of US imperialism, they see only madness as they are expropriated by the with European countries to limit their exbig bourgeoisie and cut out of the fascistic corporatist body like a cancer. Regardless, as more and more are forced to join imports even further. In fear of importing the ranks of the proletariat kicking and U.S. inflation, Germany "voluntarily" screaming, they give sparks to the future re-energizing of the live wire of the class struggle.

Behind the tariff and the resulting stock market chaos is a larger strategy to apply economic pressure to force foreign countries into coming to the table around Japan and West Germany as countries a future "multilateral" currency accord whose currencies should be revalued. Not aimed at restructuring the international only did the United States have growing monetary order and alliance system by trade deficits with both countries, but Jamore directly subordinating countries panese exports threatened powerful dowithin the U.S. orbit to its financial interest and militarist domination. The plan electronics and the Germans iron and called the "Mar-a-Lago Accord", aims at securing the domination of U.S. finance the manner in which trade was conducted capital and reviving U.S. industrial manufacturing by devaluating the dollar while tiveness of the two export economies. A re-establishing a new crypto currency or dollar devaluation would also help with new gold standard, tying U.S. security the growing government deficit as U.S. guarantees directly to the holding of long Treasury Debt is paid back in the USD. term U.S. debts under a more direct cenlaybook of US fir ance capital ung dominate and subordinate the various sub-The "trade war" and its tariffs are merely one tool in the larger arsenal of the United States bourgeois and its dominant financial cartel who attempt to retain their global dominance and contain the emerging rival imperialism of China. As the capitalist system across the world faces increasing stagnation, lack of an ability to grow as a result of enlarging debts with GDP's not keeping pace, we can clearly see in these maneuvers the desperate ploys of a decaying and petrifying capitalist rotten corpse will prove to be fertile grounds for the communist revolution that is inevitably to come.

On April 2, 2025 the Trump Admin- German and Japanese industry rose to The post-1970s era saw a stronger con- desbank in Germany wanted to stop U.S. imperialism began to spread its tenistration announced its "Liberation Day" contest U.S. export supremacy by the late centration in services, retail, and wholetariff scheme. The plan introduced a flat 1960's the United States was no longer the rate 10% tariff on foreign imports and totally dominant economic power it had higher retaliatory tariff on a selection of been in the previous two decades. When countries, especially China. In the days the U.S. economy turned over for the first son Hayden Stone. This merger was part following the announcement, Wall Street's time in the post-war era from running an of a series that led to the creation of must support the dollar or face major conexcitatory Trump bubble burst, with the export surplus to a trade deficit, fears began to pulsate throughout the ranks of the formation into the world's fourth largest U.S. industrial monopolists as they real- investment bank. Its collapse would later & P 500 companies logged a \$5-trillion ized their status was in jeopardy. It instigate the 2008 global financial crisis wouldn't be long until the slogans of "free and the subsequent "Great Recession" lion in March 2020. As Trump announced trade" were forgotten in pursuit of protec-

> To reverse the competitiveness of Japan. As part of the 'Southern strategy mestically produced goods in the South. The Nixon administration focused heavily on export promotion as a vehicle for industrial growth and job creation. The of the dollar could bolster domestic industries was widely discussed. In 1969, the United States negotiated export restraints ports of iron and steel products. Congress was soon overrun with proposals to limit agreed to unhitch from the dollar and appreciate its currency in 1969; however, lapan refused. In 1970, congress imposed quotas on imported clothing and footwear from Japan. Amid this one sided trade war, the United States additionally focused on mestic industries in textiles and steel. A revaluation of the currency due to in dollars would devastate the competi-

Amid this discussion in the U.S., tralized control of the U.S. Treasury De-partment. Behind the plans of the against the "unfair" U.S. monetary and the CCP under Mao on Japan to coerce so-called Mar-a-Lago-Accord is a long trade policy grew, amid fears of a U.S. de- submission of its protectorate "allies" fault on its debts. More and and how it has marshalled its forces to to turn in their dollars for gold, only deepening the concerns about the treasuries imperialisms within the capitalist world. ability to pay back all reserve dollars. By 1970 the U.S. held under 16% of international reserves. The first six months of 1971, assets for \$22 billion fled the U.S. In May 1971, a study completed by the Treasury Department concluded that a foreign exchange crisis was inevitable as the dollar was overvalued by 10% to 15%. The Treasury stated that the U.S. should 'take advantage of the present crisis to achieve (i) a lasting improvement in the balance-of-payments position of the United States, (ii) a more equitable sharworld order in it's imperialist stage, whose ing of the responsibilities for world security and economic progress, and (iii) a basic reform of the international monetary system'. The memo put forward 'the following measures as negotiating leverage: (i) suspension of gold convertibility; (ii) imposition of trade restrictions; (iii) diplomatic and financial intervention to frustrate foreign activities which interfere with the attainment of our objectives; and (iv) reduction of the US military presence in Europe and Japan. It is from this exact same play book that U.S. imperialism would take notes in 1985 and again today in 2025. We are reminded of what we said into rebuilding Europe. With the estab- in issues 19-21 of "Il Programma Comunista" (The Communist Program) of 1917, we described the monetary crisis that had Fund, the U.S. bourgeoisie consolidated erupted at the time: "In the whirlwind of currency and faltering bourgeois idols, the collapse of the capitalist system looms on

sale and particularly in the financial sector. A number of large banks consolidated in 1974 following the crash, forming Shear-Shearson Lehman Brothers, and its trans-

Rise of the Petrodollar & Fortification of U.S. Corpse of the Old

By the spring of 1973 all the major currencies had been unfixed from the dollar and the markets continued with high volatility The economic situation was exacerbated with the United States backing Israel in the Yom Kippur War. The subsequent OPEC oil embargo in October led to a massive inflationary spike across the world. European countries began to run up large deficits to afford increased energy prices which ultimately resulted in the collapse of their finance markets. The 1976 Pound Sterling crisis led to the humiliation of Britain who went "cap in hand" to the IMF for a loan after the failure of their currency which had formerly been the world's reserve currency until British imperialism had nearly bankrupted itself in the course of the World Wars. The instability of global finance after the ending of the Bretton-Woods system would begin to calm as the crashing European industries and currencies left the stronger U.S. finance and its industrial monopolies the last standing amid the bloodbath of its own creation. It's financial domination and position as the world reserve currency further consolidated through the initiation of the petrodollar recycling system with OPEC and then enforced upon Europe though continued threats of reneging on NATO "security guarantees" and implementing tariff and currency manipulation policies, the U.S. using the fear of unleashing the Russian bear on Europe, it's Israeli attack dog in the Middle East and

The system was established in 1973

buying dollars and let the D-mark float higher, considering potentially diversifying reserves away from dollars. The U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and President Jimmy Carter sent a memo that Germany for a century had enjoyed consistently ris-Shock 1979–1982, the Fed raised interest atively stable. As the emerging tech in-Treasury Secretary Donald Regan demanded that European central banks hold onto their dollar and treasury reserves. Europe was warned that failure to cooperate could lead to U.S. disengagement from NATO commitments, trade restrictions or tariffs, currency war dynamics.

The subsequent demand for dollars to ay for energy and the stable demand for U.S. treasuries as a comparatively safe haven investment, guaranteed by the U.S. military's constant threats to destabilize The Plaza Accord & The the world and thus the other countries currencies, led to a situation whereby in the year 2000, 70% of all foreign exchange Japanese Industry reserves were held in dollars. Thus through forcing purchase of US bonds and holding of dollar reserves the U.S. was able to ensure that the sun didn't set on the U.S. empire. With the threat of the rising industrial monopolies transforming into their own contending finance capitals supplanted by being forced into the petrodollar system, the return to an upward value of the dollar was once again more beneficial for U.S. finance capital.

Just as the new petroleum world order was taking shape, the 1972 visit be-tween Nixon and Mao foreshadowed Nixon pulling out of Vietnam and abandoning the U.S. proxy state in South Vietnam in favor of the new friend China against the old foe of Moscow, just as they threatened to abandon the European bourgeoisie to the forces of Soviet imperialism, the Japanese bourgeoisie with no military sat in fear of Mao. Thus began the process of establishing trade relations between the U.S. and China and by the late 1980's U.S. corporations would begin offshoring production to the cheap Chinese labor markets and by 1988 Chinese exports to the U.S. totaled \$40 billion. As

tacles into the belly of China, amid the high inflation and rising interest rates from the Fed, an all out attack was orchestrated against the American worker who ing wages and standards of living always sequences for NATO cooperation and U.S. historically large when compared to the German trade relations. U.S. officials rest of the world since colonial times. As warned of political instability in NATO if high wage factory jobs began to disappear economic coordination failed. The Bun- in the 1980's-1990's cheap imports from desbank resumed dollar purchases, despite East Asia, encouraged by a strong dollar domestic opposition. During the Volcker ensured standards of living remained relrates to nearly 20% to combat inflation. dustries began to develop they would extract super profits from Chinese proletarians as the children of U.S. workers were flocked into colleges under the promise of obtaining high wage jobs at the costs of accruing more private debts, only today to find these jobs too disappearing, but before we investigate the so called "Mar-A-Lago" accord we must understand the Plaza Accord.

Financial Entombment of

From 1980 to 1985, the dollar had appreciated by about 50% against the currencies of the next four biggest economies at the time. The high dollar price brought in high yields for U.S. finance but threatened its industrial monopolies who at the time were still dependent on U.S. labor for its manufacturers. By the mid-1980's German industry continued to find difficulty in competing on international markets, much of its shipbuilding, part of its steel and most of its photographic production to cheaper competition in the United States, & Japan. However, Japanese industry began to aggressively climb out of its relative slump and moved into exports of higher production value commodities. As high quality and cheap Japanese automobiles began flooding international and domestic markets the U.S. industrial monopolies once again felt threatened.

An alliance of manufacturers and farmers responded with a concerted campaign requesting protection against foreign competition. Major players included grain exporters, the U.S. automotive in-dustry, heavy American manufacturers

May Day 2025 Leaflet

The End of Bretton Woods and the Gold Standard

With the desolation of all the rival world imperialisms and the mass slaughter of the European and Japanese proletariat at the end of the second world war, U.S. financial capital and its industrial monopolies exported their vast surplus lishment of the Bretton Woods system and the creation of the International Monetary its financial domination of the world. Through Bretton Woods, the associated countries' currencies were directly tethered to the U.S. dollar which was guaranteed by direct convertibility at a fixed rate of gold bullion set by the United States Treasury who at the time controlled two U.S. as the sole industrial power and the prevailing "workshop of the world" it entered into a period of enforcing its free trade policies to obtain open markets to serve as outlets to profitably unload its exploding industrial surplus.

After the war most of the Western European and Japanese industrial monopolies' capital were able to quickly recover. Benefited by the desolation of their respective proletarian defense organizations they quickly recovered themselves and by the 1950's their growth surpassed pre-war levels. As the European industries and their associated imperialism began to revive, throughout the 1950s Washington's sustained increased deficit spending to finance loans, aid, and troops for allied regimes, printing vast amounts of monies to finance it's imperial domination eventually leading to a glut of dollars in circulation. For decades the U.S. kept the price original nominal level within eighteen of gold pegged at \$35 an ounce; however. as the deficit spending increased, and trade grew among the other states including the development of foreign currency markets, the bourgeoisie began to recognize the dollar as overpriced. Hungry to regain their former imperial independence, the Japanese and Europeans began bucking out from under the U.S. finance by pulling

In August of 1971, France sent a warship into harbor at New York, retrieving dollar reserves for gold. Days later Nixon unilaterally imposed 90-day wage and thirds of the world's gold supply. With the price controls, and a 10% tariff on all imports. Most significantly he officially ended the gold standard by announcing the dollars would no longer be convertible into gold, effectively ending the Bretton Woods system by effecting a U.S. default on its debts by torpedoing the currency while making away with what the rest of the world thought was it's gold safely locked away in Fort Knox.

the horizon.'

As a result, the U.S. dollar plummeted by a third which additionally gave rise to enormous speculation against the dollar with the Mark and Yen appreciating significantly. By January 1973 the stock market had the largest crash since the Great Depression with the DOW Jones industrial Average losing 45% of its value, the London Stock Exchange's FT 30, which lost 73% of its value during the crash. Although West Germany's market was the fastest to recover, returning to the months, it did not return to the same real level until June 1985.

The United Kingdom did not return to the same market level until May 1987, whilst the United States did not see the same level in real terms until August 1993. over twenty years after the 1973-74 crash began. Following the 1973-1975 recession, the United States experienced a sigtheir gold from the Treasury reserves. As nificant wave of corporate consolidation.

when Nixon sent Kissinger to negotiate a deal with the Saudis' to end the oil embargo. Amid the U.S. menacing invasion and the Saudi threats of a salt the earth strategy to burn its own oil fields amid the ongoing Yom Kippur War. The Saudis agreed with Kissinger instead to become a dependent economic protectorate of U.S. imperialism to avoid the mutually assured destruction of their state on the one side and global oil production on the other. The deal guaranteed that the Saudis would only sell oil in U.S. dollars and in return they would receive military equipment, training and a "security guarantee" provided by the same United States military who had just threatened invasion. Critically, the deal also established that Saudi oil export surplus could only be reinvested in U.S. denominated assets, U.S. treasury bonds.

With the U.S. as the biggest purchaser of oil it created a "recycling" system whereby oil which was bought in dollars would then have its surplus reinvested into American bond debt purchases. The bonds bought with dollars would provide a stable interest return to the oil producers, while giving to the U.S. the lionshare of the actual surplus in the forms of dollars. The U.S. government could then use those dollars to fund itself, often funneling it right back into U.S. corporations hands through government contracts. So long as the U.S. continued to pay it's interest while maintaining its protectionist racket "security guarantees" and successfully using its military to terrorize the inferior imperialisms into submission. it could continue to balloon it's debts while delivering super-profits to U.S. corporations, thus never really having any interest in actually "paying off" it's national debt, but every interest in defaulting periodically when possible and necessary. As the backward Arab monarchy fearing its own revolutions at home unable to stand up to U.S. military might contented themselves with their new pensions under it's imperial umbrella, the deal was quickly followed by other OPEC countries. although they did not all get the same security guarantees as the mountain of corpses left by U.S. interventionism in the region has demonstrated. As all countries in the world imported oil from OPEC, all foreign banks now needed dollars to purchase them, this became a major pillar in reserving the status of the U.S. as the global reserve currency.

The. U.S. effort to devalue the dollar 1971, also forced countries to make a choice: either hold dollars (which could decline in value), reinvest those dollars in U.S. assets, like bonds, which offered a set interest rate return rate or attempt to establish a currency alternative to the dollar and risk facing U.S. military aggression. When Japan began considering a shift into gold or Deutsche marks by late 1973 U.S Treasury officials told Japan that failure to support the dollar would be seen as hostile, potentially resulting in trade retaliation or military friction. By 1978 Bun-

The following leaflet was prepared for distribution at May Day demonstrations throughout the world.

THE CAPITALIST ORDER PREPARES FOR WAR BETWEEN NATIONS; THE PROLETARIAT MUST PREPARE FOR WAR BETWEEN CLASSES!; ONLY REVOLUTIONARY DEFEATISM OF THE WORKING CLASS CAN STOP IM-PERIALIST WAR; DOWN WITH NATIONALISM, LONG LIVE WORKING-CLASS INTERNATIONALISM

Ominous clouds are gathering over vast areas of the world, while in others, the storm of war has already been raging for some time. In the world, dominated by the laws of capital, 56 conflicts of varying size and intensity are taking place, involving 90 countries: from Ukraine to Palestine, from Congo to Yemen, from Myanmar to Sudan.

The world economy stagnates, overwhelmed by the overproduction of goods, and any attempt to restore its momentum runs up against the irreconcilable contradictions of this now anti-historic production system.

The abandonment of free trade, which has characterized the past decades, and the return to protectionism and economic nationalism, are further proof that the regime of capital is outliving itself. On the one hand, protectionism will further increase the exploitation of the proletariat, and on the other it will intensify the struggle for the division of markets.

The trade war between imperialisms is a preview of open war, as happened in both world wars of the last century, the first of which was stopped throughout Europe by the victory of the proletarian revolution of October 1917 in Russia, a shining historical example of how the war machine of capital can be broken.

The United States, the world's leading economic and military power, is reacting to the crisis with protectionism and threatening to deploy its enormous war machine to contain its global rival, China. The People's Republic of China - the world's second most powerful capitalist nation, usurping the title of socialist, as the Stalinist USSR once did - continues with ever greater difficulty, in a context of general economic crisis, its industrial and military growth, keeping a low profile to gain positions at a commercial and diplomatic level, while preparing for confrontation also on the military level.

In an attempt to get out of the industrial recession, the European imperialists rearm, under the pretext of responding to the Russian threat, but their rearmament will be directed primarily against the proletariat, who are called upon today to make sacrifices and tomorrow to go to the front to defend the interests of their masters.

A united Europe – impossible under capitalism – will be torn apart by a Third Imperialist World War, as occurred in the First and Second, with the various nation states siding with either the American or Chinese imperialists.

The worldwide arms race will require the mobilization of huge resources, taking away from hospitals, schools, wages and pensions. In South Korea the bourgeoisie are working to introduce a 64-hour work week, while some countries are already considering reintroducing compulsory military service; Poland intends to conscript the entire male population for periods of military training.

The working class cannot fight decisively and uncompromisingly to defend its living and working conditions without challenging the national economy, which is nothing more than capitalism. This battle must be fought not only in every country but within the union movement, which today is mostly dominated by unions subservient to national bourgeois interests. Workers must struggle against the openly bourgeois or opportunist leadership within the unions, who have historically been complicit in the march of workers for the defense of their fatherland, and will continue the same tradition when the mass graves of tomorrows Third Imperialist War will be dug and filled with the corpses of the proletariat. In the United States the president of the United Auto Workers union - has hailed the protectionist tariffs that increase the prices of goods as a victory for the working class. In Italy, the secretary general of the Italian General Confederation of Labor led a demonstration in favor of European rearmament, in other words, the slaughter of proletarians.

A real struggle for significant wage increases, for better and safer working conditions, for the reduction of working hours also becomes a struggle against rearmament spending, the only true opposition to the militarization of the economy and society - effectively preparing the proletariat for the revolutionary struggle for communism with the authentic Marxist tradition, represented by the international class party as its instrument of emancipation.

The impersonal historical force and necessity of communism, a new form of production that is already mature and pressing in the belly of the capitalist monster, will once again present itself as the only true possible alternative: either bourgeois war for the preservation of this system of production or international communist revolution.

TODAY AS WAS TRUE YESTERDAY, WAR ON WAR THE ENEMY OF THE WORKING CLASS IS IN ITS OWN COUNTRY PROLETARIANS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

like Caterpillar Inc., as well as high-tech companies including IBM and Motorola supreme but it has now recognized it is in and by 1985, Congress began considering an existential crisis and must quickly improtectionist tariffs and import restrictions. Despite Reagan's "free trade" policies which would begin to see U.S. manufacturing first really start to move abroad, after his inauguration he implemented various quota agreements limiting and restricting Japanese imports. The negative prospect of further trade restrictions from congress moved the White House to begin efforts to devalue the dollar relative to other currencies for the first time since Nixon. Thus the Plaza Accord began to take shape when the U.S. twisted the arm nese enterprises have begun to flood interof France, West Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, to appreciate their currencies in respect to the U.S. dollar. WIth little choice given the strong position of U.S. imperialism the countries all acquiesced to the demands. Subsequently, the dollar dropped by 50% in relation to the Yen and 40% in relation to the Mark.

The maneuver ultimately culminated in the decimation of Japanese industry which still has not recovered to this day. As the Yen appreciated, Japanese exports dramatically fell irreversibly damaging their industry which was booming off of exports to the West. The Bank of Japan attempted to resolve the crisis by reducing interest rates and injecting fiscal stimulus; however, the lower rates led to an artificial real estate and financial bubble which burst by 1994 with massive slew of bankruptcies, bank defaults and a real estate crash which resulted in what is called the "lost decade". Thus Nikkei 225, the stock index of major Japanese companies peaked in 1994, three decades after the crash it still has not returned to the same level. During the same period of time, the US stock index returned 1,000%.

Thus with Japan cut down to size, the U.S. retained its sole hegemonic status into the 2010's with major production and capital shifts to China only exploding in the early 2000's relative to previous decades. It is only by the mid 2010's that the United States began truly reappraising it's "most preferred" trade status with China in recognition it had developed into a rival contending imperialism while capitalists willingly sacrificed the health of their ... ignored the health of their industrial monopwhile racking in massive olies super-profits from the established world trade and financial order in the previous decades. Thus, the U.S. has been trying for years to get China to agree to another Plaza Accord and appreciate the Yuan; however, time has shown that it is unlikely that China will voluntarily appreciate their currency after the economic slaughter of Japan.

The Rise of Chinese Imperialism

Since the late 1970s the Chinese bourgeois developed itself while taking a subordinate role under world imperialism, serving as its middle man who could do the dirty work of disciplining and exploiting cheap Chinese labor while global finance capital extracted super-profits. As these manufactures continued to develop into larger industrial monopolies Chinese finance began to develop itself and transform into an export finance capital. As such, it had likewise needed an enlarging military to unload its surpluses into and to defend and guarantee its own debts that it sells to developing countries. As such China has only recently emerged as a contending rival imperialism and the prevailing trade war policies has nothing to do with returning jobs to the United Stated or trillion in assets. Likewise, the Chinese "getting a fair deal" to benefit the working stock market cap is approximately 10-12% class, but everything to do with the rival- of the world's value whereas the United ries of the two contending blocks of finan- States is among 24% and 50%. cial capital who must carve up the world

plement similar Nixon era and Plaza Accord like policies or go the way of English finance capital. As of 2020, 50-60% of Chinese manufactured exports continued to be tied to U.S. brands such as Apple as subcontractors: however, over the decades China has developed its own cohort of billionaires out of its manufactures who have established competing independent brands and electronic marketplaces such as TEMU who rival U.S. corporations such as Amazon in their own rights. These Chinational markets with increasingly high quality, high value, commodities at cheaper prices. Within the last five years the number of such independent Chinese companies' share of the total exports has doubled, now at 28% of total Chinese exports. Thus as the capital from Chinese manufacturing and its real estate sector has accumulated it has slowly begun to develop its own independent global enterprises, getting out from under the monopoly of U.S. finance in which its manufactures had been dependent on for access to foreign markets. Correspondingly it has begun to develop its own finance capital which has begun to increasingly export its surplus onto global markets competing with the dominant U.S. bloc, forming the basis of the present inter-imperialist rivalry between the two powers

Over the last twenty years the Chinese finance sector has become the largest in the world. In 1995 the Chinese government passed the Commercial Banking Law which sanctioned independent banks and established the Peoples Bank of China as a national reserve. The "Big Four" stateowned commercial banks are the Bank of China, the China Construction Bank, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, and the Agricultural Bank of China, all of which are among the top ten largest banks in the world as of 2018. China's financial sector is now the largest in the world, with approximately \$58 trillion in assets, equating to about 300% of GDP by the end of 2023. Measured in total assets, its size surpassed that of the US banking system in 2010, and all euro area banks combined in the last quarter of 2016. Since 2017, China has become the world's largest official creditor, surpassing the World Bank, IMF and 22-member Paris Club combined, although the vast majority of its investments, 97% remain tied up within China itself, it has started to export a growing amount of finance capital across the world. The big four Chinese banks are publicly traded, however the Chinese government retains majority shares and a single foreign investor cannot hold more than 10% of the bank's total equity with total foreign ownership capped at 25%

The entrance of Chinese export financial capital as a major competitor to U.S. finance capital across the world is now seriously threatening U.S. dominance. As Chinese industry has increasingly moved into higher value products such as tech and automobiles out competing the United States in foreign markets across the world. and despite it's large domestic finance industry that has grown out of its industrial explosion, the one area where China remains significantly behind is in regards to its competitiveness on the global financial markets. China's share of global equity markets remains 10-12% whereas the United States retains 45-50%, pension, insurance asset managers 3-4 trillion, where as through BlackRock, Vanguard, State Street control in the U.S. control ~\$20+

Between 2000 and 2010 Chinese fi-

Though still regulated, these openings were victories for U.S. finance, as they hoped to siphon Chinese household savings into Wall Street-linked products. By 2020 as a result of the growing financial challenges, China agreed to treaties with the U.S. which further opened up their finance markets. U.S. firms were allowed 100% ownership in areas like Asset management (e.g., BlackRock), Securities firms (e.g., JPMorgan), Insurance (e.g., AIG, MetLife). Today BlackRock, Goldman Sachs, and JP Morgan have gained increasing access to Chinese capital markets post-2018, managing billions in Chinese assets.

Today, China's banks are still grappling with the prolonged turmoil in the property sector. In a bid to stabilize wobbly regional banks, Chinese provinces injected a record \$31bn of capital last year through special-purpose bonds. Several other signs suggest the potential for a banking crisis in China. According to Bloomberg "China's first bank loan contraction in nearly two decades has fanned fears the world's No. 2 economy is careening toward a "balance sheet recession" as Japan did decades ago. A plunge in new corporate borrowing combined with households preferring to repay debt saw bank loans shrink last month for the first time since July 2005. That deepened China's years-long battle with weak credit demand, as a property slump spurs caution on buying homes and expanding investment. Determination among consumers and businesses to pay down debt following real estate collapse is seen as a hallmark of Japan's stumble into decades of deflation in the 1990s.

Further evidence of Chinese desperation is seen with the 16 January 2025, the People's Bank of China and four other major regulators in China jointly issued an opinion outlining 20 new policies to further open up the financial sector creating designated pilot free trade zones mostly completely open to U.S. finance in major cities and provinces. Whilst there are still considerable uncertainties about the details and implementation timeframe, the opinion accelerates China's protectionist walls around its finance sector getting battered down by the still dominant position of U.S. finance capital.

The End of the Era of the *Petro-Dollar*

By the mid 2010's the dominant position of U.S. finance capital and its industrial monopolies began to come under threat for a number of reasons. The shift of the United States from the world's largest importer of oil to a net oil exporter weakened the economic ties between it and the Saudis, combined with the rise of China as the largest importer of Middle Eastern oil, the break of Russia, one of the leading oil producing nations in the world with the international finance system dominated by the U.S. jeopardized the hegemony of the petrodollar system as new international finance systems began to be constructed.

After the 2014 Russian invasion of Crimea and subsequent U.S. sanctions, Russia began for the first time shifting away from the sale of oil in dollars. Large oil contracts were denominated in Yuan or Euros. Subsequently Russia began developing systems to bypass Western-controlled financial networks. SPFS (System for Transfer of Financial Messages): A domestic alternative to SWIFT, launched by the Central Bank of Russia in 2014. MIR Card System: A domestic payment card system to replace Visa and Mastercard, in case of sanctions. Russia signed currency swap lines with key trading partners, China that same year Ruble-yuan swap

U.S. finance capital continues to reign surance and asset management sectors. worsens the GDP problem, leading to in-velopers post-2020 planted the seeds of evitable default and potential explosion of war. Thus, the U.S. and China both prepare for war as they prepare for financial defaults.

United States were forced to rescue themselves from the 2008 financial crisis, after the collapse of the subprime mortgage markets and the investment banking firm Lehman Brothers, would make another worldwide financial crisis inevitable. After 2008 there was a large increase in global corporate debt which rose from 34% of gross world product in 2009 to 92% in 2019. By 2019, global debt was 50% higher than during the 2008 financial crisis. This created a situation where any significant economic downturn would make it so that companies with high levels of debt ran the risk of default. The overaccumulation of capital led to bubbles in real estate, tech, and corporate bonds with no profitable outlet. By 2017 global growth was said to have peaked when the following year industrial output experienced a sustained decline, leading the IMF to state that by 2019 the world economy was already going through a "synchro-nized slow down" despite low interest rates, raising fears of a "debt bomb" whenever the next economic crisis inevitably flared up. Thus all the signs of a major economic crisis were already there.

In 2018 the first Trump administration would announce its first round of tariffs and trade barriers on China. The tariffs disproportionately targeted sectors aligned with the CCP's Made in China 2025 industrial policy: semiconductors, robotics, aerospace, biotech, etc. The goal was not fair trade but strategic suppression of Chinese development in high-value production. Despite nationalist rhetoric, U.S. imperialism used tariffs as leverage to force China to open its markets to give greater access for U.S. finance to continue its extraction of super profits and beat back the developing strength of Chinese finance. It aimed at loosening restrictions on foreign ownership of banks and insurance firms & strengthening IP enforcement to protect U.S. monopolies. The tariffs helped create a manufactured crisis to justify industrial subsidies such as Biden's CHIPS Act, national security-based export bans (on semiconductors, AI), and direct state intervention in capital flows and supply chains. The tariffs hastened a slowdown in global trade and manufacturing. Slower trade reduced industrial profits and choked off demand for investment. Capital increasingly flowed into speculative and fictitious forms (real estate, stocks, corporate bonds) leading to asset bubbles and unstable financial structures.

The Repo market panic in September 2019 would be the first tremor as the U.S. interbank lending system seized up, forcing the Federal Reserve to inject hundreds billions in liquidity months before COVID. The pandemic did not cause the crisis in any fundamental sense; rather, it served as a catalyst and smokescreen, allowing the ruling class to shift blame, justify running up massive debts and finance the further consolidation of the large corporate financial monopolies, all while pacifying working-class mobilization through fear, confusion, and emergency politics. The 2020 crash would be the worst since the Great Depression with major indices dropping 20 to 30% in late February and March. Following the crash, global stock markets plummeted, demand collapsed, and millions of small businesses and workers were devastated. Yet, almost immediately, the largest corporations bounced back with some reaching record profits by the end of the same year. This wasn't a recovery driven by production, further crash Chinese finance and indusinnovation, or rising demand, it was a try which is still dependent on U.S. exstate-engineered transfer of wealth and ports and thirsty for equity to avoid a power to monopoly capital with the tech giants, Amazon, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Facebook (Meta) becoming even more dominant in every sector. Tens of thousands of small and medium-sized retailers closed permanently with Walmart. Target, Home Depot, and others expanded market share, Asset managers like Black-Rock and Vanguard expanded ownership stakes in virtually every major firm. The injection of hundreds of billions of dollars, combined with Trump's tariffs would work to crash the value of the dollar in 2020 by 10-20% and ultimately setting the stage for the current Chinese financial and housing crisis, just as was done against Japan in 1985. As Nixon had waited for the crisis situation to develop in the 1970's to force their policies on their haughty European and Japanese protectorates, the U.S. bourgeois would do the same even if their hand may had been forced to apply some measures of capital injection to prevent a run on the banks, COVID served as a convenient cover for a dollar devaluation + tariff strategy. Within a few days of the crash in March the Federal Reserve dropped interest rates to zero while initiating a \$700 billion quantitative easing. The influx of cash led to a heating up economy and eventually a large-scale inflation which likewise led to an uptick in workers' leverage and thus a proliferation of strikes. Stocks began to recover their prices and the GDP for most major economies had either returned to or exceeded pre-pandemic levels by April. China's lockdown policy also allowed more state intervention in the organization of the supply chain to mitigate the impacts of the financial crisis. By the second quarter of 2020, Chinese factories were largely back online while U.S. and European industries remained shuttered and higher demand for medical supplies ensured that large profits continued to float into the country. Strict Chinese lockdown rules allowed capital to redirect output to global markets without overheating domestic demand and maintain increased labor discipline under the guise of pandemic management, reducing labor militancy and wage pressure in the short term. By 2020, China's GDP contracted by 6.8% year-over-year, the first officially reported decline since 1976. Industrial production fell by 13.5%, and retail sales dropped by 20.5%, as lockdowns paralyzed the domestic economy. The state turned to its default stimulus mechanism: infrastructure spending and construction. As Western economies locked down. global demand for Chinese medical goods surged. China's trade surplus hit a record high, fueling a recovery in industrial output. As capital fled the U.S. dollar and flooded into China's relatively stable financial system, the renminbi appreciated by over 6% against the dollar by the end of 2020. The People's Bank of China intervened in FX markets, cutting reserve requirements and indirectly purchasing which are critical for imperialism and its dollars to stem the rise, utilizing the same methods used by Japan in the 1970's and clining GDP. Eventually more interest is 1980's to combat their currency apprecia- earth minerals like Germanium, Gallium,

the Evergrande crisis in 2021–2023, when the firm defaulted on \$300 billion in liabilities. As prices and sales collapsed in 2021-2023, the effects rippled into bank-The methods by which China and the ing, household wealth, and local governments. The stimulus created overcapacity in housing, infrastructure, and industrial capital, a classical feature of capitalist crisis.

The collapse of Evergrande in 2021 triggered a liquidity crisis, leading to defaults by over 50 developers and causing a sharp decline in property sales. Newly built home sales fell by 6% in 2023, reverting to levels not seen since 2016. Home prices have plunged about 30%, resulting in the destruction of approximately \$18 trillion in household wealth. Foreign direct investment into China has seen a significant decline, with a 94% drop in the second guarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2021. It's unclear where indebted local governments can obtain funding, beyond the relatively small amounts the People's Bank of China can funnel in via state banks. Chinese cities have already racked up about \$15 trillion in debt, much of it hidden in housing, having borrowed heavily in recent years to cover the cost of pandemic-related spending and infrastructure projects. This means that China is increasingly desperate for foreign capital to stave off it's growing debt crisis which risks to collapse its' finance and banking industry. Thus we can understand that the current trade war policies are intend to increase pressure on Chinese capital by damaging it's industrial profits, further exasperating the current crisis to force a further opening up of Chinese finance to U.S. capitals penetration.

The Mar-A-Lago Accord and The Gold Rush

The Mar-A-Lago Accord is a pro-posed policy document outlining the broader strategy for U.S. imperialism to follow over the coming years created by Stephen Miran who is the current White House chair of the Council of Economic Advisers & supported by Scott Bessent the current Secretary of the Treasury. The plan in essence builds from the previous tactics of U.S. imperialism implemented since the end of Bretton Woods. It is a strategic move on the part of U.S. capital to do to Chinese industry what it had done to German and Japanese in the late 20th century; however, given the relative power of the U.S. it will no longer be able to coerce these governments into acquiescing to such a "voluntary agreement" without a fight as it had in the previous century. Thus as it works to penetrate the Chinese finance industry it is leveraging towards a nuclear option, which if not executed properly risks devastating the U.S. bourgeois, it outlines a desperate gambit to hold on to global economic hegemony which is to unfold in stages broadly correspond to the opening moves of the current administration, which takes periodic economic crashes as necessary collateral damage

The Mar-A-Lago Accord calls for a world wide devaluation of the dollar via the appreciation of other world currencies, as occurred under Nixon when he removed the U.S. off the Gold Standard and then again under the 1985 Plaza Accord, only this time it would involve the U.S. dollar repinning itself to gold or cryptocurrency while also controlling which countries would be allowed and not allowed to hold USD as reserves thanks to the assistance of new electronic surveillance technologies. The aim is simple, to goods by cutting China completely out of accessing dollars, while preserving its status as the global medium of trade. For the conquest of the increasingly indebted Chinese imperialism by increasingly indebted U.S. imperialism they must once again essentially default on their loans, while leveraging military might to force the other world imperialism to go along with deepening financial subordination as the U.S. financial conglomerates continue their consolidation and gobbling up of the world Despite the movement toward dedollarization in Russia, the process has only actually made initial inroads in the rest of the world and even within the bloc of Chinese imperialisms dependents. The US still comprises about 50-60% of global foreign reserves, no other currency currently is a viable replacement; however, talks in the BRICS of an alternate currency has U.S. imperialism scared. In recognition of the growing challenge to the dollar as the world reserve currency as a result of the decline of the petrodollar recycling system the plan seeks to retain the dominant role of the dollar U.S. financial capital by leveraging U.S. military power to move countries onto untradable 100 year bonds to essentially buy U.S. military protection. To gain leverage and force other countries to accept this arrangement, the plan calls for the rolling out of a period of harsh tariffs combined with high interest rates to taper inflation. Likewise, it also calls on the Treasury secretary to begin charging a minimum 1% tax on interest payouts to foreign governments who hold existing U.S. treasurers to be varied punitively based on the country's compliance with U.S. policies. This combined with threats of removal of U.S. security forces across the world are to be leveraged to gain agreement on currency revaluations and "voluntary" bond exchanges to the 100 year bonds alongside negotiations for a return to lower tariffs. With the death of the petrodollar system, the U.S. bourgeois's look back to leveraging its gold assets to first devalue the currency to its advantage and at a turn of a coin maintain its staying power as a global reserve currency. A revaluation of the price of gold by the U.S. Treasury Department which maintains it pegged to Bretton Woods era levels, would help it undermine the developing turn to other currency systems. BRICS nations taken as a whole officially hold 5,700 tonnes of gold reserves which is 16% of the globally mined gold reserves and have drastically increased the gold reserves over the last few years. Goldman Sachs has reported that China has apparently bought 10X more gold than officially declared. Assuming the BRICS countries declare a gold-backed digital currency, with lower transaction cost and exchange issues it could generate billions of dollars of profits for the BRICS bourgeoisie. To add to this China holds 80% of the world's rare

between themselves to continue to accu- nance capital's outward Foreign Direct In- worth \$24.5 billion, Turkey, India, and mulate or die.

China developed into the global center of low-cost industrial production after it began to open its markets in the late 1970's to the 1990's, exploding in the 2000's. International corporations and financial institutions often through foreign direct investment (FDI) gained access to cheap chinese labor markets where the vast majority of the population was still trapped in the poverty of agricultural peasant life. Initially, Transnational corporations invested in Special Economic Zones. where Chinese workers toiled in sweatshop conditions, often for less than 5% of the wages of U.S. workers in similar industries. As corporations moved manufacturing to China, the value generated by hyper-exploited labor was realized in the imperialist cores by selling goods at much higher prices than they could on domestic Chinese markets. This created super profits for the big retailers and tech firms operating as commercial financiers while the small bourgeois manufacturers in China capitalist system ever increasing towards received much smaller profit shares at the cataclysm as the global overproduction lowest rates possible. Still both bour- crisis pushes the two blocks of financial geoisies benefited from the hyper ex- capital into imperialist war in a desperate ploitation of the Chinese workers which attempt to continue profit accumulation. likewise enabled the undercutting of the leverage of western workers labor and the flatlining of wages over the next half century. State-suppressed labor organizing, Wall of Chinese with strikes and independent unions crushed by the CCP, ensured reliable returns.

Even though foreigners were not allowed to directly own majority shares of manufacturers or corporations in key industries, the surplus was still funneled back into the hands of U.S. financial capital in a number of ways. While the low end manufacturing and assembly was done in China by subcontractors, U.S. companies like Apple, Nike, and Walmart designed, marketed, and controlled the brand and retail selling it in the United States and Europe, accruing the lion's share of the profits and forcing the numerous competing small manufactures into deals where they would only receive the smallest cut possible. Second, U.S. firms maintained monopoly control over the intellectual property, patents, software, and branding. Chinese firms that wanted access to markets or technology were often forced into ioint ventures, which transferred profits upward. U.S. firms licensed the technology and captured royalties and licensing fees. The Chinese state often enforced these contracts. With the vuan undervalued for much of the period, profits repatriated to the U.S. were effectively magnified. These super profits led to the explosion of U.S. corporations such as Walmart and Apple which became the first company ever to surpass \$3 trillion in market value. Additionally, the Chinese state to secure advantages for its exports also recycled its trade surpluses into U.S. Treasury securities, effectively loaning its surplus back to the U.S. government at low interest just as the OPEC countries and Europeans had.

vestment increased from \$0.9 billion to others followed. These allowed energy and \$68.8 billion, growing from only \$12 billion after a rapid post 2008 crisis growth fueled by speculative investment in its real estate sector. Chinese finance capital then underwent a period of significant consolidation leading to a rapid increase in export finance capital and by 2016 it peaked at \$196.1 billion including large deals in the U.S. and Europe. As of the second quarter of 2017 mainland Chinese banks' cross-border claims amounted to \$970 billion, ranking eighth overall globally and exceeding those of traditional financial centres such as Switzerland and Luxembourg, or countries hosting large international banking groups such as Spain and Italy. As the Chinese finance industry has rapidly expanded and begun pouring its surplus onto world markets China has slowly transformed into a contending rival imperialism of the United States. However, the rapid development of Chinese imperialism has also led the world

U.S. Finance and the Great Protectionism

U.S. finance capital has for years worked to break down the walls of Chinese protectionism around its emerging financial system. Historically, China has imposed restrictions on foreign equity ownership, especially in sensitive sectors like banking, telecommunications, media, and heavy industry. The U.S. government made China's 2001 entry into the World Trade Organization contingent on ending protectionism throughout its economy, including finance. This required China to allow foreign banks to operate in China. permit joint ventures in insurance, securities, and asset management. The objective was to open the Chinese financial market to U.S. firms like JPMorgan, Citi, and Goldman Sachs under the narrative of 'global integration," but with the motive of capital penetration. The U.S. China Strategic & Economic Dialogues from 2006–2016 held annually under the Bush and Obama administrations demanded greater foreign ownership rights in Chinese banks and funds, exchange rate liberalization in regards to the Yuan to the advantage of the USD. Presented as "dialogue." but in material terms a tool of imperialist economic diplomacy to discipline and integrate China into global finance dominated by U.S. capital.

Until the late 2010s, foreign firms could generally only own up to 49% of joint ventures in key industries. Full foreign ownership was restricted to limited sectors like export manufacturing or tech outsourcing zones. By the late 2010s, U.S. firms like BlackRock, Goldman Sachs, and JPMorgan began entering China's in-

commodity trade to bypass the dollar.

Despite U.S. financial sanctions that were believed would crush the Russian economy, the Russian's chugged along by selling oil to India and China, switching its reserves to Euro, Yuan and Gold, reducing its holdings of U.S. Treasuries to near zero by 2020. By April 2024 Russia announced that its trade with China had almost completely moved away from using the U.S. dollar. The International Monetary Fund found that in 125 economies, the median usage of renminbi in cross-border payments with China increased from 0% in 2014 to 20% in 2021; for a quarter of these economies, renminbi (petroyuan) usage has risen to 70%. In 2023, one-fifth of global oil trade was settled in non-dollar currencies. And Saudi Arabia's deepening energy ties with China have led to long-term oil-trading contracts denominated in renminbi. In 2022, the dollar's share of global reserves fell ten times faster than over the previous two decades, to 58%, from 73% in 2001.

Thus the movements began to signal a major challenge to the passive dollar recycling system and a move to multi currency maneuvering with Chinese finance imperialism leading the charge of the rebellious sub-imperialisms peeling off of the U.S. orbit. The first export of Saudi oil conducted in Yuan to China in 2018 ended the decades long international agreements to only conduct the sale of oil in dollars, as Iran soon disallowed all sales of oil in dollars. If more countries were to conduct purchases of oil in other currencies it risks dollar dominance over the long term. This reality, combined with the meteoric rise of Chinese export finance capital by 2016 facilitated some of the first skirmishes between Chinese finance and the U.S. for global dominance.

The collapse of the petrodollar system combined with the creation of a competitive U.S. oil monopoly directly under the control of U.S. finance and not dependent on an Arab sub-imperialism has significantly shifted the strategic position of U.S. finance capital as it now positions to contain and snuff out the emerging imperialist bloc centered around China through a complex set of maneuvers of divide and conquer. Nonetheless the tools utilized by U.S. imperialism today are no different from those it has employed over nearly a century of its imperial hegemony.

The 2020 Financial Crisis and the First Trade War

With the progressive decline of the petrodollar system which underwrote U.S. financial domination, the United States would begin to implement its trade war strategies in 2018 in a repeat of the same methods of the past. Enlarging debts profit accumulation face the wall of detaken on to keep selling debts which only tion. The massive credit expansion to de- Lithium etc and Russia is the warehouse to agriculture. However the balance of gold power is still skewed in favour of the G7 countries, which together hold 17,500 tonnes or 49% of the total global reserves. The revaluation of American gold reserves to market levels could also substantially increase the value of gold internationally thereby closing the window of opportunity demand the return of bargaining tables, but for BRICS countries to build their gold re- prepare for the return of the generalized serves which they were able to do at suppressed prices until recently.

Thus we are seeing a global scramble in Thus we are seeing a global scramble in **Toward the General** trol of raw minerals and gold as the financial blocs hurriedly build their reserve hordes to ensure their monetary systems Class Union dominance over global trade, amid an intensifying arms race and active war be-tween the sub-imperialisms of the two from the domination of capital and the states already breaking out all over the prevailing counter-revolutionary forces, world. For U.S. finance they continue to seek the full domination of the world under Trump, even if he claimed just like bourgeoisies-as well as their bloody con-Nixon to be executing his policies in the frontations- are continuing to push the name of ending the empire and averting world war. For the clever bourgeoisie who seek to manipulate the various levers of the economy apply more and less leverage here and there to get the desired outcome their economic system continues to steam forward in one cataclysmic direction.

the U.S. Are Also **Meant to Repress The** Working Class

In the context of the wave of persecution, detention, and deportation of migrants carried out by the US government, a clear pattern of selective political repression has begun to emerge against labor leaders and activists who promote the release of detained migrants, and even activists who have opposed the massacre of Palestinians. Just as the media has reported on the suspension of visas, detention, and deportation of foreign students who have expressed solidarity with the Palestinians (e.g., Mahmoud Khalil and Rumeysa Ozturk), the anti-migrant wave has also been used to arrest union leaders, including Alfredo "Lelo" Juárez, a union leader for agricultural workers who is currently imprisoned at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center in Tacoma. Also detained in Tacoma is Lewelyn Dixon, a laboratory technician at the University of Washington and member of the SEIU 925 union, who has a permanent residence card and has been living in the United States for 50 years

ICE is harassing and intimidating people without presenting warrants. In doing so, it is joining forces with the Border Patrol and thus acting jointly as part of the repressive apparatus of the bourgeois state.

On March 27, the Washington State Labor Council, which represents all Washington unions, organized a demonstration in front of the detention center in Tacoma, alist capitalism can only worsen and demanding the release of Alfredo Juárez and Lewelyn Dixon.

What is at stake is the maintenance and deepening of the super-exploitation of agricultural workers, migrant or not, subjected to long hours and job instability in temporary contracts. We will also find the same situation among construction workers and workers in general. This offensive of exploitation against the working class can only be stopped through unity, grassorganization, and mobilization roots against the capitalist bosses and the government. Workers must build a combative, class-based union movement that breaks all(national union density sitting under bers based on race, nationality, occupation, or any other artificial excuse used to divide the working class. The working class is one and fights for the same demands throughout the world. And this movement of struggle must ignore the calls of Democrats, Republicans, and all the politicians who seek votes to get into the bourgeois parliament. Only the resumption of the class struggle of the workers, with revolutionary leadership, will lay the foundations for the true emancipation from capitalist barbarism.

of commodities from metals to fossil fuel gaining amid the massive cuts to the cap- plight. The hard lessons from the represitalist states bureaucracy and the sion of the bourgeois politicians, as well expropriation of the middle classes are all as the collaboration and outright sabotage part of the deepening crisis of capital from the misleaders of the regime unions, which will one day obliterate the last vestiges of the parasitic labor aristocracy and riculum within the "schools of class strugreturn the masses to the grounds of the class struggle. The federal worker must not strike and the class union.

Strike, Towards the

the course of global capitalism and the increased consolidation of the international proletariat into a renewed combative urgency. All around the globe, workers are calling for and wielding the mighty general strike. From Argentina, Greece, Belgium, Morocco and beyond, the international proletariat is beginning to remember how to move its muscles in response to capital's increasing pressure.

Attacks on Migrants in throughout the history of the prote-tariat's struggle, general strikes in which workers organized through various unions collectively withhold their labor-power in order to overwhelm the bourgeois repressive apparatus and force concessions by paralyzing the reproductive cycle of capital in a number of industries appear like great battles within the tapestry of capitalist epoch that now hang in empty halls of the militant American Labor movement.

One notable general strike for the 8 hour workday (still just a wish for the number of American workers who must work two or more jobs or extended overtime to pay living expenses and feed their families) is of course the famous 1886 Chicago strike that brought out hundreds of thousands of striking workers together in song and solidarity, only to be remembered for its bloody end as the Haymarket Affair. This event cemented the first of May as what is known as "International Workers' Day." Born out of a bloody struggle for a reduction in the working day, it has served as a unifying point for workers around the world to reflect on their class history and celebrate the hard earned and necessary gains of the working class as well as look forward towards the demands vet won.

That is why as we approach this May Day, 139 years after the Haymarket Affair, we must recognize that conditions for the international proletariat are still indeed poor, that the global workers' movement is still incredibly weak, and that at this very moment proletarians are being slaughtered in the violent tremors that are mere previews for the great imperialist wars to come.

The overproduction crises of imperiworsen, resolving to continuously consolidate into fascistic and social-democratic ends that are but desperate measures for the bourgeoisies to defend their home markets and their dwindling rates of profit. subordinating the laboring masses through either open tyranny of the bourgeois state or obscured through the treacherous veil 'democracy.

With the slow recovery of the class union movement, workers in the US are still largely organized through the regime unions, who are completely subordinate to the interests of capital, if organized at workers are extremely limited in exercising broad actions across various industries for their common demands and defending themselves against the bourgeoisie. This deficiency in class coordination is especially apparent with the recent boycotts and "economic blackouts", which leverage no force against the bourgeoisie, do not forward any collective demands of the class, and therefore cannot "win" anything in particular. It will not be "selective consumerism" that will free the proletariat from capitalism but the abolition of commodity production in general! In order for workers to defend themselves from the ever increasing exploitation of the bourgeoisie, the coordination of general strikes can exert pressure where it hurts the capitalists the most: their profits.

are fundamental courses in the long curgle", but even these basic legal defensive strikes that abide by the bourgeoisie's rules are in the process of being dismantled.

In July of 2023, the US Supreme Court made a decisive rule in the case of Glacier Northwest, Inc. v. International Brotherhood of Teamsters, that unions can be held liable for "intentionally causing economic harm to employers." Against the mighty boss who holds their entire livelihood in their hands, the proletariat, who must sell their labor-power like piecemeal slavery well beyond the necessary means for their reproduction to line the pockets of the slave master, mustn't dare turn the tables and in turn hurt the robber baron!

We see the continual attempts of fascistic incorporation of the trade unions into the larger body of the bourgeois state, increasingly making the necessary economic defense organizations for the workers into appendages of the bourgeois political parties, suggesting to workers that your power to improve your conditions is found with the ballot!" for the very same parties that the oppressive boss also votes for

If workers are to have any hope in achieving better conditions, it can only be backed by the genuine use of economic coercion, not by the endorsements of this bourgeois politician over that one, only through withholding that precious laborpower that all of bourgeois enterprise rests dearly upon.

Who Can Wield It?

Following the "stand-up" strikes in 2028, Shawn Fain and the United Auto Workers (UAW) are calling for all American unions to align their contracts to expire simultaneously on May 1st 2028. International Workers' Day, alongside the expiration of the UAW contracts of the Big Three carmakers that came out of these strikes. The exact nature of how this supposed "general strike" is being organized, who is organizing it, what are the demands, are all largely a mystery. So far some unions have passed supportive resolutions towards this call such as the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) and American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and the American Postal Workers Union (APWU); however, the opportunist UAW leadership has refused to commit any serious resources or union staff to making it a real-

The seemingly renewed combativity of the union leaders in working towards the return of the general strike comes at a time when the bourgeoisie, under Trump's leadership, has begun sweeping attacks on unionized workers; including removing bargaining rights" from federal workers, including the thousands of Transportation Security Administration (TSA) workers organized through the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), with the stroke of a pen, claiming that they pose a "threat to national security."

The AFGE leadership has responded that they will hold mass "protests" across the country to demand a stop to the "biggest attack on the labor movement in history", emphasizing again the erroneous need for "democracy" to save the working class from "undemocratic" attacks. Having already long revealed itself as a pitfall for the working class, democracy, as a nebulous field of inter-class cooperation, is always and tirelessly at work undermining the conquest of the proletariat. A por- revolutionary minority. Well, a truly deterwith any differentiation among its mem-10%), and because of this, American tion of the bourgeoisie are in fact ardent mined minority of the working class, a misupporters of both unions and "union nority that is Communist, that wishes to democracy" if it means that the worker can act that has a programme and wishes to negotiate insignificant economic demands organize the struggle of the masses, is prewithout forming a revolutionary class political consciousness. There are no legal means to defend Proletarian Revolution. 1920) these workers, what they need is the collective action and support of a class union to decisively apprehend the critical moto gain what was so easily taken from them and also to push for more. In 2018, when teachers in West Virginia organized through the American Federation of Teachers(AFT) and National Education Association(NEA) were met with pathetic wage increases by way of the traditional "legal" method, they defied the state law and their union bureaucrats and held a historic strike, despite official leaderships condemnations, that amounted to improvements of their conditions. The strike itself was a momentous achievement, demonstrating that rank-and-file workers can indeed organize mass strikes despite being against innumerable "legal" odds in the modern era. In a recent article by the Richmond Virginia Caucus of Rank-and-file Educators (VCORE) titled "When Federal education funding stops, so does our labor", the call for a general strike of educators was made: "now more than ever, we need the leaders of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the National Education Association (NEA) to jointly call for a general strike of K12 public education workers, whether unionized or not.' Only a mass, all-industry strike can effectively forward the demands of the teachers and the militant section of teachers understand this. This is true for the broader range of interests for the working class wishing to achieve specific demands that are unique to the class as a whole such as wages, hours, and conditions. Without class unionism, workers are not only divided by craft, industry, and geographical region, they also hold little power against their common oppressors, fighting every uphill battle against the bourgeoisie as a mere fraction against a powerful whole. Especially important is the elevation of the national worker struggle to the realm of international solidarity of all workers, rejecting the defense of "one's own national economy" over another's; However, the so-called "most progressive" of the business unions, like the United Auto Workers under the leadership of Shawn Fain, openly supports Trump's protectionist tariffs as "good for American labor." Going on to defend not only the tragedy that was the mass slaughter of proletariats in the second imperialist World War which he openly celebrates the history of UAW role in building the "anti-fascist" bombers for, but also the exploitation of laborpower from the workers at home used to fuel the war economy, suggesting that a tragedy such as an imperialist world war is actually an economic boon for the of the union seems to continuously doom American proletariat: "People forget about the arsenal of democracy and how excess capacity in this country was used to support the war effort and delivered a victory in World War II for America." (Shawn Fain on CNN. April 3.

hood of Teamsters, who have asked the calist hostility to the necessary political bourgeoisie to enact tariffs on Mexican struggle, the union begins to treat itself as beer imports to protect American beer in- a "revolutionary" political placeholder, bedustries, also ask "would you trust China coming not only at odds with the class with aircraft repairs? United Airlines Party as a counter-revolutionary organizadoes", harkening back to the IBT's long history of conservative and McCarthyist nationalism, playing into the "anti-communist" tropes of the American bourgeoisie against their Chinese imperialist rivals and pitting exploited workers of one ical ends. nation against exploited workers of another.

There is absolutely nothing for the proletariat to gain by defending the interest of their national bourgeoisie. In 1976, our party wrote:

'A class-based trade union policy must defend neither that nor the other aspect of the bourgeois economy because its aim is the emancipation of the working class, the abolition of the wage-labour system. What then should be the direction of a truly proletarian trade union? It is quickly said: the workers must not take on any sacrifice, and if their refusal to do so will be the ruin of the capitalist economy, then ruin it is." (La via del sindacato di classe. Il Partito Communista, n. 25 1976)

The trade union leaders, being incapable of wielding internationalism as a principle above the defense of their national economy, are also incapable of wielding the "general strike" in any meaningful direction beyond collaborative that need to organize. bourgeois reforms and are infinitely absent of any "revolutionary" potential.

However, as a step towards uniting industries into collectively organized action through what is still the main organizational bodies in the US, the trade unions, the militant minority of class unionists in all bodies of struggle, who need to form their own international coordinations outside of the regime union leadership, is further aided in their efforts. These formations must struggle to steer the general strike continuously in the direction of winning common demands for the international class and away from the collaborative abysses of the business-union boss-linked leadership.

Who Is Worthy?

Although the general strike as a tactical maneuver has established itself as a powerful weapon in the class arsenal, it has also given rise to the error that the general strike itself is to be considered such a "revolutionary action" that it can allow unions to stand-in for the class political party.

The "Syndicalists" or "workerists" organizations, forgoing the class party, instead defend the "intuition of the workers" who, by using direct action to advance their practical demands through their union activity, hold the only necessary step towards class liberation, assuming the individual consciousness of the independent workers will carry on the upheaval of class society frictionless against the prevailing forces of counter-revolution. To them, only the great "general strike to end all general strikes" is needed to break the chokehold of the bourgeoisie and the flower of socialism will begin to bloom within the shell of the old society. Our party replies:

With the general strike alone, with the tactic of folded arms, the working class cannot achieve victory over the bourgeoisie. The proletariat must take on the armed uprising. Whoever understands that will also have to grasp that an organized political party is necessary and that forms workers' unions are not sufficient.

The revolutionary syndicalists often talk about the great role of the determined cisely the Communist Party."(Theses on the Role of the Communist Party in the The important tasks that are required ments of capitalism in its death throes, cannot be improvised from a group of likeminded "radicals" within the union struggle, but can only be grasped from the collective organism of the class party engaged in practical and theoretical application of the scientific communist programme. The historical syndicalist tendency in the American labor movement generally finds its home in the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), which in its earliest origins, operated primarily as a class organization determined to organize workers by the (novel at the time) concept of "industrial unionism" as opposed to what they saw as the divisive separation of craft unionism used by the American Federation of Labor (AFL). In their famous constitutional preamble they outline the diverging interests of the working class from the employing class and call for far more radical goals than the AFL, such as the "abolition of the wage-system" and the end of capitalism. As a reflexive reaction against the shameless collaboration between the AFL and the American capitalists, coupled with the revisionism of the reformist socialist parties of the Second International, the IWW pushed heavily in favor of "union democracy" instead of regime-union bureaucracy and strictly shed any political aspirations in order to pursue a strategy of winning practical demands for the working class while maintaining a political plurality of membership. The IWW became renowned for its ability to organize massive strikes in a range of industries; not by using guerilla war tactics like that of the mine workers in the later Coal Wars, but on the fundamental level of withholding labor en masse to disrupt the circuit of capital. The call for "general strike" became a rallying the point for the IWW, as shown by the 1911 pamphlet of the same name by notable wobbly and socialist Bill Haywood, which outlines the effectiveness of the general strike as "an effective weapon of the working class". The IWW developed malleable tactics for deploying concise, effective strikes, knowing that the financial burden and eventual repression of the bourgeoisie would break any indefinite "siege", and that success relies not necessarily on the length of the strike but on its precision to win demands. While the modern IWW does not formally identify as an exclusively "syndicalist" organization, the struggle to either 'give" or "abolish" the political character it from two sides. On one hand, it's plagued by the rot of leftist inter-class opportunism that constantly seeks to utilize the class organizational structure to advocate for popular mass-activism (and as we know: "all activist psalms end in electoral glory") or on

Similarly, the International Brother- the other hand, by following strict syndition, but sacrifices the basic function of economic defense for workers in order to uphold a singular tendential strain within the IWW tradition over effective, centralized organizing to achieve its alleged rad-

> Today, having been essentially replaced by the rise of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), the IWW still lives on with a quiet national presence and now organizes mostly small shops, fast food restaurants, and into decentralized local "branches" of labor activists that do not operate on any serious industrial level. The union, because of its more "radical" origins, naturally draws in the more combative and militant minded workers at periods where the necessity of well organized class defense becomes obvious, showing slight inflations or deflations in membership that correspond with the regular intervals of crises in the capitalist economy, which has always been a historical phenomenon of the organization. Ultimately, the weaknesses of the union eventually force some local branches that struggle to have significant influence on the mass of workers to de-charter due to lack of membership, when surely there is no lack of workers

> It must be said that the organization of small shops to be able to mobilize a strike, as seen with the recent Urban Ore workers strike in the city of Berkeley, CA., still offer some level of organization to the various sectors of workers who otherwise would have few paths to organize themselves against the petty-bourgeois small business owners, bringing more workers into the broader organized class struggle and the IWWs promotion of general strikes towards class solidarity ends and their overall criticism of the "legal" path of bargaining through the NLRB still exist within the scattered vernacular of the modern IWW propaganda and offer at least a rhetorical alternative to the conservative AFL-CIO unions who still worship the NLRB as sacred doctrine, but the distance between words and action is immeasurable. Some IWW unions have even started including "No-strike Clauses" in their contracts, a tragedy that surely turns the old wobblies in their graves- showing that even the supposed "radical" unions are susceptible to basic economism without the direction of the communist programme.

As long as the syndicalist mentality prevails instead of the leadership of the class Party, as long as the tradition of "decentralization" among the IWW locals remains instead of a strong centralized class union that connects them with the militant trade unionists, the "One Big Union" will remain a minority of radical dreamers incapable of being a serious class force and is incapable of leading the working class to victory over the bourgeoisie, despite all its noble efforts.

Only the Class Union and the Communist Party

As we workers approach International Workers' Day, we celebrate not our wageslavery, but prepare for our future. As much as May Day has become a historic symbol of the proletarian struggle, it is more importantly a continuous call for action, a continuous reminder that we workers have vet to wrestle ourselves from the chains of capital.

As long as there is capitalist domination, as long as there is a proletariat, communism remains not just a possibility, but a necessity for the end to the imperialist wars, the emancipation of the working class, and continuance of the species.

The Carcass of **Collective Bargaining**

In March 2025, President Donald Trump issued an executive order that effectively revoked collective bargaining for a significant portion of the federal workforce. Claiming "national security concerns" and invoking a seldom-used provision of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, the order targeted agencies including the Departments of Defense, Justice, State, Veterans Affairs, Health and Human Services, and the Environmental Protection Agency. This action impacted approximately one million workers or 67% of federal employees and 75% of unionized federal workers. This is largest assault on the established unions since the breaking of the 1981 Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization strike by the Reagan Administration, which culminated in their decertification and opened a period of mass membership declines across the unions from which they still have not recovered. Thus, the recent decree by the Trump administration abolishing the socalled "collective bargaining rights" for most federal workers has been met with cries of outrage from the boss-linked leadership within the unions and the legalist champions of the capitalist state's "fairness." But the Marxist party knows collective bargaining is but a weapon of the bourgeoisie, an instrument forged in the counter-revolutionary furnace of class collaboration. The National Labor Relations Board, like its counterparts in every capitalist country, exists not to empower the proletariat but to domesticate it, to enshrine its subjugation within the sterile confines of legality and procedure. The "right to bargain" is the right to negotiate the terms of exploitation, never its abolition.

The Trump decree does not represent a break with democracy, but its fulfillment. For when capital no longer requires the mask of conciliation, it discards it without ceremony. The illusion of neutrality is cast aside, and the state reaffirms itself as the executive committee of the ruling class. The mis-leaders of labor weep not because exploitation has deepened which they accept but because their privileged role as mediators has been threatened.

It is not for the communists to defend collective bargaining, nor the unions which enforce it. It is for the party to expose their function, to unmask the lie that the working class can secure dignity and peaceful co-existence through negotiation with its enemy. The obliteration of collective bar-

An Idle Sword in the Stone

America has not seen a true general strike since the 50.000 worker Oakland General Strike of 1946, largely due to the creation of the infamous Taft- Hartley Act enacted by the consolidated American bourgeoisie coming out of the second great imperialist war in a necessary effort to quell class tensions during the wave of strikes of 1945-1946. Having codified the 'appropriate" means to workers' struggle within the limits of their legal apparatus with the creation of the NLRB earlier in the 30s, the bourgeoisie realized that solidarity strikes and wildcat strikes were far too disruptive for labor peace and decidedly revoked the "privilege" at their leisure.

A far cry from the general strikes of vesterday, American workers today are now fighting to remove ridiculous antiworker "No-strike Clauses" from their contracts that continue to reduce the struggle for the rank-and-file to mere business arrangements between the boss-linked, business union leadership and the company exploiters. Being that all profit is the expropriated surplus-value of the exploited worker, withholding labor-power via a strike is the proletariat's only actual coercive force they can leverage against the capitalists, most other actions surmounting to the equivalent of faith in the benevolence of the capitalists through unfavorable legal means.

The strikes of today are now relegated to conditional responses to Unfair Labor Practices(per NLRB rules) or in the periods between the old sacred contract and the new sacred contract for often little real gains, with many picket lines being hollow "protests" that aim to appeal to bourgeois political representatives or the heartstrings of the bosses, rather than militant strikes that really disrupt production and the circulation of capital in meaningful wavs.

These strikes are still very noble and useful in their own basic way, as workers are still able to win small concessions like Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) and at the very least damper the rapid diminishing of wages compared to the vast majority of unorganized workers who suffer as lone individuals in their shared class

The prevailing conditions in the course of global capitalism, the horrors of imperialist wars and the growing economic demands weighing on the working class will bring decisive quantitative changes in the class struggle, but we maintain that there is no "mechanical process" that automatically connects the workers with their purely economic impulses to the necessary level of political struggle, or that the revolution can be "improvised on the barricades." Without adopting the communist programme, workers can only develop to a level of trade union consciousness which severely limits the field of class struggle to the bourgeois rules of order and only works to strengthen the bourgeois ideology among them.

The tasks at hand for building towards the general strike are still immense, and despite the calls from the opportunist business union leaders for the "return of the general strike" to be disposed of for their bourgeois reforms, the American proletariat must continuously work to wield such an action effectively for their immediate economic demands, but also organize towards the permanent end for the need of such demands, which requires an eventual violent struggle against the bourgeoisie guided by the leadership of the class party.

Workers! – Only the class union can effectively wield the general strike to fight for the international proletariat; by generalizing our struggle amongst the working people of all countries, by continuing uniting the majority of workers organized through the conservative trade unions with the minority of workers in the small "radical" unions into centralized, coordinated efforts, around definite economic demands that are fought with coordinated mass ac-

This is how the divisions of craft, industry, and nation can be overcome and the true general strike can become a reality-a true general strike that shakes off the parasitic collaborationists and opportunists, annihilates the national interests of the respective national bourgeoisies.

Only the Communist Party is the worthy champion of the proletariat, has studied the internal laws and contradictions of capitalism and its inevitable catastrophes, and is the only organization that can raise the hard limit of the trade-union struggle to the level of class political struggle and usher in the era of proletarian dictatorship.

Artificial Intelligence

We are witnessing the production and use of "smart" weapons systems, drones that seek out and kill civilians.

We already see translators, technical support workers and call center workers left without work due to the introduction of automatic programs capable of replacing part of their work.

Much tougher struggles are needed on the field of class battle, of manual workers and even intellectuals, who are awakening to this threat.

The Party must also be updated on the role of the most modern technology in the perpetuation of the bourgeois regime.

Let Us be Clear With Words

Marx already taught us that science and intelligence are embodied in machines, the effective custodians of the ingenuity and work of past generations, an impersonal social heritage. Intelligence (which means "seeing inside") is always artificial. Only the petty bourgeois, the intellectual, believes in and claims his own, indefinable, individual intelligence. Because he tries to make a commodity out of it and make a living from it. So let's welcome artificial intelligence to take away from the bourgeois even this illusory boast of self-sufficiency

It is an old story. Since the invention of writing we have done without tales to the young from old men of particularly good and rich memories. Since Pythagoras hung his Table on the wall, it was no longer necessary for anyone to remember that seven times eight equals fifty-six.

In a commercial titillation to individualism they called them Personal Computers: then it was discovered that not connected to the network they were useless. Intelligence is in the network.

There is no intelligence above classes. The intelligence of the working class is the Communist Party. Which is a group, disciplined to a purpose, a doctrine and an action, that goes beyond individuals, and that gathers the Communists of yesterday and today around the same historical program. Revolutionary intelligence arises from the historical need of Communism and is kept in the pages of our texts.

If any automatic sieve can help our hatred and contempt for this dying society and our passion for Communism to find more quickly in our vast library some precious dialectical shot to keep the theoretical bastions of the Party firm, welcome! The old mole, even in the field of data processing, always digs for the revolution.

Even the bourgeois will look for their quotes in their texts. Will a propaganda article soon be needed for the next war or for a chauvinist or racist campaign? They will ask artificial intelligence. But revolutions are not decided by propaganda. Otherwise there would never have been any in history, since the class in power has always had, with the monopoly of its class intelligence, today also artificial, infinite and much more pervasive means of indoctrination and falsification.

The Old Monopolistic Capitalism

The technology sector, where companies like NVIDIA are currently making record profits thanks to the boom in socalled artificial intelligence, has long been dominated by monopolistic companies. But what some today call "techno-feudalism" is neither a new nor pre-bourgeois phenomenon.

For some time now, gigantic monopolies, especially American and Chinese, have been making disproportionate profits by imposing their tools, operating systems and applications, for the execution of intellectual work and calculations in general. Similar monopolies have also formed in the production of microprocessors.

These products are used by companies as fixed capital, or for personal consumption, paying a license for the use of an application or a fee for access to a cloud server and, tomorrow, to "artificial intelligence'

A high concentration has been achieved in advertising collection and mail order sales, with devastating consequences

a general economic and historical one.

decades following the Second World War and up to the crisis of 1975 was not ensured by the spread of the use and sale of and coordinated strikes against the bosses cars, for example; on the contrary, the recovery was based on the reconstructions made necessary after the destruction of the war, which allowed, after a difficult having traced the leadership of the Comdecade, also the expansion of internal consumption. Since then the crisis has in this class war for communism. dragged on and has not precipitated not because of the "computer revolution" but ism will no longer exist, with the working because of the opening of the Asian markets. Today, these too are saturated.

True production is material. The demandability of the price of a good, of an that brotherly humanity will be able to on this herculean task, and the species will immaterial commodity such as information technology, which does not have its own market value, understood as an average price for its social reproduction, depends only on the force that protects its **Temporary** monopoly. This is subject to the alternating events of relations between States and between groups of States, diplomatic and military weight.

How come Pythagoras, and his heirs, don't get paid by everyone who looks up at his Table? It is possible then that all this publicity that is being made about artificial intelligence will finally reveal itself to be just a bubble and at a certain point it will end up bursting, as it did with the Dot-

Remember the huge post-war invest-ments in the "space race", which also had military implications: not a single dollar was made. Today billionaires would like to go on a tourist trip to Mars: if only it were true!

Dead Labor

Artificial intelligence, like all forms of automation used by capital since time immemorial, is "dead labor" incarnate. Man has worked to create these machines, subsequently these same machines, with the assistance of new workers or sometimes almost without any assistance, except for maintenance, carry out the jobs that had been done by artisans or more specialized workers.

This technical automation, although initially expensive to produce and develop, has great and revolutionary effects: it increases the productivity of labor; by requiring production on a larger scale it contributes to crises of overproduction; dead labor, exceeding living labor in value, induces a decrease in the rate of profit. It is a dynamic that culminates in the block of accumulation, which capital tries to resolve by increasing the rate of exploitation and, finally, through imperialist wars.

Capitalism does not enter into crisis because it lacks "intelligence"; it is the maximum capitalist intelligence, the one that best informs its development - in productivity, production, trade, etc. - that at the same time most quickly leads to the accumulation of contradictions that condemn it to explode. If artificial intelligence can do better than capitalists for capitalism, this will inevitably come closer to its ruin and, finally, communism.

How it Works

Computer programs have long been used to perform all sorts of functions, including complex ones that were previfaster than this one: calculators, programs that process large masses of numbers, and even playing chess!

But by artificial intelligence in partic-

support its slaves will drive the working ie soil, the air we breathe, water systems, higher wages, better conditions. However, effects and overthrow it worldwide. This ever engulfing economy. Since these inwill be possible when workers' solidarity and their puppets, the most effective class weapons against the implacable depravity of capitalism, are revived. We can then, munist Party, go further and lead the fight

A future is expected in which capitalclass victorious throughout the world. We will then be able to employ these techniques, and the new extraordinary ones create, for the good and development of the human species.

Civilisation Forever Chemicals

Year over year scientists continue to unearth various treasures from not only humans but the natural world's colored past. The physical remains of different organisms, long forgotten objects that range from painted vases to primitive tools, and periodically scientists even discover the remnants of our past social life. Roads, villages, cemeteries, and locations where humans practiced agriculture. Through these discoveries our species gets further access to worlds that may have been up to this point totally isolated from our collective memory. We are able to glean information on how our ancestors lived, related, and molded the world around them through their physical labor. Physical labor being a necessary part of the species existence is an unbroken link that connects modern man to his most ancient progenitors. These discoveries aren't solely important because they scratch an intellectual itch or our knowledge for our lost past. They are also a testament to the fact that our contemporary mode of production is not a universal or an eternal part of human societies no matter how much our dim witted enemies suggest otherwise. In tens of thousands of years what will these future scientists unearth from our current society? At the very minimum they are bound to find an abundance of chemical pollutants that our current crop of geniuses have dubbed "Forever Chemicals'

PFAS aka Forever Chemicals - Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances are synthetic chemical compounds that first appeared on the world market in 1938 with the invention of Teflon. PFAS are useful compounds that can make specific goods more resistant to heat, water, oil, and grease. They are used in the production of ommodities across a plethora of different industries. These products range from food packaging to furniture, and even in personal cosmetics. They are in some form, involved in practically every industry across the globe. The utility of these chemicals is outshined though, by both their negative effect on human health but also their amazing ability to bioaccumulate.

Research since the 1970s has shown that PFAS over a certain threshold have a negative impact upon our bodies functioning. That includes higher rates of different cancers, lower fertility, and developmenously exclusive to the human mind, much tal defects in children amongst a myriad of other ill effects. One could imagine that in a "rational" society when these negative effects were found, persons would move mountains and rivers to stop the ular we mean the large-scale linguistic production of such an evident problem. models (LLMs) currently in use, which Global capitalist society, and its con-are able to process human language in a stituents, is not a "rational" one though. Or very similar way to how automatic sen- at the very least its number one raison tence completion works, finding the most d'être is to accumulate, and at any social cost. If it can be profited upon no matter the deleterious effects it is accepted. The tempts to maximize profit and ignore the booming tobacco, alcohol, and drug trade is a wonderful example of this. While nificant part of global chemical production, they are still a profitable and useful one. The estimated profit margin sits at cial web ignores the reality of harm done to both man and nature. This is happening day after day in our current world, and it has been a byproduct of capitalism since dent: "Newton ate the apple" could put its very inception. For an example of the former let us give a quotation from Engels in his work on the Condition of the Working Class in England. "Heaps of garbage and ashes lie in all directions, and the foul liquids emptied before the doors gather in stinking pools. Here live the poorest of the poor, the worst of prostitution indiscriminately huddled together, the majority Irish, or of Irish extraction, and those who have not vet sunk Furthermore, more and more texts in in the whirlpool of moral ruin which surrounds them, sinking daily deeper, losing daily more and more of their power to resist the demoralising influence of want, filth, and evil surroundings. The conditions these workers found themselves within may have primarily been alleviated within the West but is still an everyday reality for the proletariat in the slums of Africa, and Asia. For an example of the latter, ignoring the chemical pollution we are writing about in this very article. We need only reference the fact that since the 1970s the effect of capitalist production on the global climate has been quietly accepted by segments of the bourgeoisie. There is a very large contingent who wish to downplay or ignore these facts so as to prevent the interference of state actors in limiting their ability to accumulate freely. There is even a part of the bourgeoisie who knows that global temperatures are rising, and that this crisis will lead to crop failure, heat deaths, and masses of refugees but in the face of this exclaims this moment is going to be for the "Cooling" industry a profitable one! "Morgan Stanley's climate forecast was tucked into a mundane research report on the future of air conditioning stocks, which it provided to clients on March 17. A 3 degree warming scenario, the analysts determined, could more than double the growth rate of the \$235 billion cooling market every year, from 3 percent to 7 percent until 2030."

gredients in our capitalist system are molecularly very stable they can accumulate readily over time. Of course, like all other physical matter there is a move towards deterioration but the effects on water supplies, food chains, and even the human body will be with us for a long while. Especially so with a society that is producing these and other pollutants that has no ability to seriously root them out. The estimated cost for the removal of PFAS from soil alone is in the trillions. Capitalist society is totally unable to take only be able to seriously redress the damage done to ourselves and our planet when we have smashed private property, and subjected technology and production to the life plan of the species - Communism. Communism, a world historic movement arising from the very foundations of this crumbling society is "the real movement to abolish the present state of things". This movement is the only answer to the question of how humans can in an ever more effective way resolve the contradiction between man's existence and nature.

This communism, as fully developed naturalism, equals humanism, and as fully developed humanism equals naturalism; it is the genuine resolution of the conflict between man and nature and between man and man

To give the devil his due, there has been some push within the EU, and the USA to ban these chemicals but they have a dip in sales for a month of strike- has far either targeted specific ones (which are readily replaced by a similar compound that isn't banned) or there has been an inability to seriously vank them out of the contracts that win minor wage increases supply chain. We will see if PFAs will go the way of CFCs, leaded gasoline, or asbestos but tension between health, and profit will only cease when a revolutionary wave breaks the dam that is class so-

There is practically no place on Earth that is untouched with this pollution. PFAS have been found in the Arctic with the belief that migrating birds that are preyed upon are the culprit. Even if the polar bears ice caps aren't melting, they would still be infected with the toxic waste of capital.

From the Arctic to Minneapolis and Malaysia no one or no thing is safe from the "externalities" created by capital. Notwithstanding the fact that even with issues that affect all classes, the international proletariat takes the brunt of damage. From the workers that manufacture the chemicals to the ones who work in landfills where all our great works go to rot. Proletarians are the segment of humanity that are poisoned by these toxins more than their compatriots working on Wall Street, or at the local law firm. The workers who cannot afford to buy organic vegetables or "humanely" raised meat, or enough wages to purchase water filters that purify whatever filth comes out of their tap.

the pharmaceutical realm, and "green" technology. There are actual hard questions that have to be answered in our attempt to reproduce our existence as a species. We will have to use, produce, and consume things that do have a negative effect on the species health under a non class society. The issue at hand is that with the anarchy of capitalist production, it can not only not ask these questions on any serious terrain, its very nature doesn't allow it to answer them because the sole motivating force is profit

This issue of social vs monetary cost is one that will be done away with in our future society. Under a centralized and rational mode of production humans will forgo the system that puts everything and cost to the species. The rationality of the capitalist mode of production has it not only undermining itself within the process of production by being compelled to do away with its very source of profit - variable capital. It also has no issue with pillaging and polluting the world it exists upon in its unquenchable thirst for more. The communist struggle is the only hope for a future for an environment worth living in. A struggle that's existence is born out of the antagonisms within class society, and reaches its apex with a mass revolutionary movement and the International Communist Party at the helm. Only with the destruction of capitalist society, and the destruction of all classes as a social relationship will the "workers" of the future be able to breathe easily.

The productive euphoria of the class to organize against its dehumanizing and the animals we consume to fuel our the union decided to abide by Chilean labor law that tells workers that after 30 days they either "must" accept the last offer from the company, or postpone their strike for 18 months. Resolving to continue the strike in the form of a 'hunger strike'', they relinquished their actual strike power. Of course, the company did not offer a contract that was remotely close to the demands of the workers and the fight was lost.

Similarly, the recent strike comes just shy of the hard 30 day line in the sand made by the Chilean bourgeoisie and the union voted to pass a contract that fell quite short of a major win for the workers.

Compared to the poor leadership of Starbucks Workers United (SBWU), who can only muster up short, disconnected strikes that last a single day like the strikes of last December, a 30 day national strike that shut down over half of the stores in the country is certainly a more powerful action from the Chilean baristas.

However, the same issue remains for the two unions: playing the unfavorable game of the purely "legal" union struggle. In the case of SBWU, who have yet to win a contract, and are not even utilizing the full limits of the bourgeois NLRB; reducing their strikes to meaningless symbolic protests that appeal to strictly legal means to win the needed wage increases for the workers.

In the case of Sindicato Starbucks, the boss- knowing they ultimately have the last say on the contract as long as they take more of an advantage over the poor workers who barely survive during a normal working week; forced to accept that are greatly surpassed by inflation and are therefore actual decreases

The only way forward for Starbucks workers to win economic concessions from the capitalists, is to join in building towards the class union and to mobilize towards national and international general strikes. The legal labor apparatuses, while offering supposed "rights" to workers, more realistically outline the boundaries of bourgeois subordination and are not designed to improve the lives of workers as much as they are to encourage peaceful wage-slavery.

Corporate giants like Starbucks only understand economic coercion, they are indifferent to the moral objections of a hunger strike as they regularly starve their employees worldwide through miserable wages. The Sindicato Starbucks has made great successes in organizing the Starbucks and fast-food workers of Chile, but their struggle for better conditions are lost without the militancy and support of the class union. If all baristas, organized nationally and internationally, were to strike for their common demands, both Sindicato Starbucks and SBWU could really put pressure on the company.

These chemicals do have a use within Greece: Workers Take to the Streets AAgainst the Massacres of **Capital and For Generalized Wage** Increases

On February 28th a general strike was held throughout Greece on the second anniversary of the 2023 Tempi railway disaster, in which 57 people lost their lives in a head-on collision between a goods train and a passenger train packed with young people returning from a short vacation.

During the strike, huge

for the petty mercantile bourgeoisie.

Thanks to their monopolistic control of the markets, large companies such as Google, Amazon, etc. are able to set the prices of their services well above the cost of production. These large conglomerates can buy any competitor thanks to their enormous financial resources. The strength of this monopoly capital even allows them to operate for a certain period without profit, in order to crush their competitors. Before the end of the last century, all hardware and software production in European countries was eliminated.

So it is only rent from a monopoly. Monopolies that have been created, and are maintained against competitors, through the energetic protection of large imperial states. In the price of their software products, the majority is rent, almost no new surplus value.

This income is subtracted from the surplus value produced in all other countries of the world. An enormous flow of wealth that, for example, from Europe arrives in the United States under the heading of "services". Also to "solve" this dispute, the capitalists are preparing for world war.

Moreover, every monopoly is not absolute and unlimited. Around new scientific discoveries and new inventions, an economic war is fought between monopolies, old and new, within nations and between opposing blocs. For example, the announcement of the new Chinese application DeepSeek caused the US stock markets to collapse as soon as investors realized the fragility of the advantage that they thought the US maintained over its imperial competitors in China

Taiwan has become a strategic semiconductor hub, but China is ramping up its capabilities in the sector, ironically spurred by the embargo imposed during the Biden administration.

In capitalism, not even technological progress brings peace. Instead, the global ramification of technological monopolies serves as an instrument of imperialist domination, and vice versa. Information technology services are an integral part of national and military infrastructures, while artificial intelligence is increasingly used in warfare. These technologies extend the influence of the main imperialist blocs in the contest between the productions of greatest strategic interest: energy sources and generation, semiconductors, as well as the personnel of technicians and scientists trained to build and maintain these systems.

Will AI Save Capitalism?

Capitalists trust in artificial intelligence to stop, if not reverse, the decline of the rate of profit, especially in the old national industrialisms. They dream of a new "computer revolution" and talk about investing colossal sums in the sector, 500 billion dollars in the United States alone.

But the decline, or recovery, of capitalism is not a strictly technical fact nor of a particular sector of production, but rather

probable series of words that follow a given one. It took decades of study and experimentation to get to the LLM stage.

An important advance was the invention of "transformers", procedures that, PFAs in an economic sense are not a siginstead of guessing the next word to propose one at a time, identify the important parts of the sentence, which are translated as a whole. The mathematical tool is the around 16%, and the percentage they 'neural networks", which are based on the make up of global chemical production is calculation of the frequency of association only .5%. Due to the necessity of a ROI between words: for "apple"-"tree" we give (as the primary goal) imposed on enter-90, for "apple"-"Newton" 5, for example. prises within capitalist production our so-Obviously the combinations are a huge number, so very powerful computers are needed

The possibilities for errors are evi-'intelligence" into crisis.

Then there is the much bigger problem of the reliability of the texts from which one copies. What appears statistically in Big Data, in the vast archives generated by users, influenced by fashions and the dominant ideology - is not necessarily true. As far as we are concerned, the paid workers with thieves and the victims truth, and the Revolution, lies, on the contrary, in doubt, in paradox, in the denial of the obvious.

online archives will not be produced by scholars but by incompetents, if not by artificial intelligence itself, which can 'short-circuit" models by making them collapse on themselves, producing truly absurd results.

The Competition of Machines

The future will likely involve the use of language analysis to provide more reliable systems for tasks currently performed by men, who would be laid off. This type of automation will still lead to a reduction in wages, even for those involved in intellectual activities. It is already a reality that the recognition of copyright for one's work is denied. The Hollywood screenwriters' union fought to protect itself in 2023 and obtained some protections, but most of the workers affected by these applications are not members of a union. And many unions do not even seek protections in their contracts, having lost any class character.

Historically, workers have resisted the push of automation to de-skill and devalue labor. The Luddites were an embryonic form of this resistance. Today we say: let capital apply its innovations, but workers will still fight to maintain their living conditions.

Turning the World Upside Down

Today, artificial intelligence already replaces the most repetitive jobs and is of assistance for some intellectual activities, but its applications are limited by the capitalist mode of production, which prevents any technique from being used rationally and for the benefit of all humanity.

The growing inability of capitalism to

What lucky profiteers. As we rush further into ecological devastation we are glad the bourgeoisie has something to look forward to.

Continuing the above on bioaccumulation, bioaccumulation is the term used to describe the process by which PFAS (amongst other compounds) become saturated in the "natural world". This accumulation can take place in the Earth itself

FOR THE CLASS UNION Starbucks Workers Strikes in Chile

After 25 days, Chilean Starbucks workers (organized through Sindicato Starbucks) have ended their national strike against the US corporate giant, which has spread its tentacles into Latin America through the corporate shareholder, Alsea, that secures the interests of American fastfood industries from Mexico where its one of the largest foodservice providers.

It is approximated that 60 percent of Starbucks workers, across 170 different locations, participated in this historic strike. At its high point, workers were able to shut down 100 stores a day. The workers demanded higher wages, better conditions, and further protections against gender and LGBTO+ biases and discriminations.

Sindicato Starbucks, founded in 2009. is the first unionized Starbucks in South America and one of the first in the world, seeing a huge boom in membership during the COVID 19 crisis and now represents over half of all Starbucks employees in A Model Anti-Proletarian Chile.

Facing relentless union-busting from Starbucks, they have fought for 16 years for better conditions and increases on their pitiful wages, winning some gains, but not enough to meet their basic needs as made evident by the demands of the recent

The workers note that even a single cup of the cheapest coffee sold at their store among the countless that they produce on any average day cost more than what a worker makes for an hour in wages, reflecting the most obvious exploitation of their labor-power for the company's massive profits.

The recent 25 day strike comes 14 years after Sindicato Starbucks held the first ever strike against Starbucks in 2011 that lasted 30 days. Workers were demanding the very same things then:

demonstrations took place in the main Greek cities, Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras, mobilizing hundreds of thousands of people. It is said that around one and a half million people participated throughout Greece, out of a population of only 11 million!

This huge participation was due to various reasons. Undoubtedly there is anger at what happened in Tempi, which was a massacre waiting to happen, caused by the lack of the most basic safety equipment and the increasingly onerous working conditions imposed on crews which had been reduced to a minimum. Despite complaints from the unions, the private company that manages the railways, an Italian company called Hellenic Train, has blatantly persisted in its policy of achieving maximum profit by cutting back on safety; a policy that is also being followed in Italy, Great Britain and other European countries.

Anger against the government is growing because it is increasingly evident that it is obstructing the search for those responsible, which may extend far beyond and be much more serious than it appeared in the days immediately following the disaster. The victims' relatives have ascertained that the government and Hellenic Train are collaborating to hide the real cause of the fire. It is very likely that the huge blaze that followed the impact was caused by the presence of undeclared explosive substances on the freight train, perhaps xylene. Xylene and similar substances are much cheaper than gasoline and are used to adulterate fuel, a profitable business for mafia organizations in league with the political and business world.

But it wasn't just the anger at the massacre and the lack of justice that drove hundreds of thousands of workers onto the streets. The general strike was seen as an opportunity to express their desire to fight against the employers and the State, against low wages, against precarious and insecure working conditions, against pensions that are too low, and against a health system that doesn't work and forces the proletariat to go without care.

Democracy

Greece is a "model" European capitalism, their country of reference, and small enough to be used as a "laboratory experiment". During the debt crisis, the employers mercilessly blackmailed workers into either accepting jobs with extremely exploitative conditions or remaining unemployed. And that didn't change after the government budget crisis ended. In Greece young proletarians continue to work 40 or 50 hours a week for a salary of 700 or 800 euros, while the cost of living is almost the same as in countries where salaries are double or triple that amount. Retirees, who have seen their pensions cut by 40% from one day to the next, continue to get by on starvation pensions whereas, for Europe,

the economy is recovering and the country X-ray of the crisis (2023-2025) is getting its finances back in order!

The Greek state, during these times when everyone is crying "to arms, to arms!" and all governments are pushing to transform car and tractor factories into ones producing tanks and fighter planes has confirmed that it is a model to follow While in other European countries military service has been abolished, in Greece it has always remained, with the defense of the country from the danger of aggressive Turkey given as an excuse.

And military spending, even in the darkest period for the state budget, has always been maintained at 3.5-4% of GDP while that of Italy, a country that is certainly not pacifist, is at 1.5%.

In this situation of extreme social stratification, where a small number of middle class people, businessmen, of General Strikes, But With politicians, matiosi and the whole apparatus that serves and defends them, the Aim of Legitimizing the live in luxury while the great majority of the proletariat and the impoverished lower and middle classes struggle to get by, it is the populist parties of the opposition and the government that, by diverting the anger of the masses towards the objectives the other classes, prevent the independent organization of the proletarian class, both on an economic and political level

Certainly the huge demonstrations that have invaded the cities of Greece are something to be appreciated. They show that the Greek proletariat has not bowed its head and is willing to fight to improve its living and working conditions, but the power of the bourgeoisie remains firm betraval of the union leadership, despite even if the right-wing government is faltering. The bourgeoisie is well aware that in order to hang on to power, the government and even the political class confederations approved 15% cuts to can be changed: the important thing is that the State, that is the machinery of power, the police, the army, the judiciary remain under its control.

The KKE, the "party of struggle and government" consents to this game, just as the PCI once did in Italy.

But theirs is a dirty game. You can't engage in an all-out struggle to defend the *Complacent Votes in an* proletariat by occupying seats in bourgeois parliaments. Proletarian power is not conquered bit by bit, in stages, by the Burgeoisie's Class penetrating like rats into the cracks of the system. The proletariat will achieve its emancipation by means of the revolutionary overthrow of the bourgeois order, its state and all of its organs of repression and for the management of its power.

The problem of security is not solved by transferring Hellenic Train to the public sector without compensation, even if "with the control of the workers and the company". These are all empty words. Under the present regime, the fact that a company is publicly owned rather than privately owned does not provide the proletariat with any guarantees, nor can there be "control" of company management by the workers. Only when political power is in the hands of the proletariat will it be able to exercise its control over all social and productive activities.

The slogan that resonated in the demonstrations: "Either their profits or our lives" we can make it our own, in fact it is ours and ours alone because it affirms that Mitzotakis this regime, not the government or the European Commission, but THE CAPITALIST REGIME that pervades all the states in the world and which is based on the pursuit of profit at any cost, is now not only the enemy of the proletariat but of the human species.

For this reason it is necessary that the seriously undertake the path of

	Indicator	2023	2024	2025
S	Indicator Inflation	211%	292%	98.2
0	Minimum Wage	320	260	265
σ	Basket Basic Necess.	600	780	950
g	Sources: INDEC, CEPA	L. ot	hers.	
.0	Currency Used: USD			
S,	Note: 2025 data is f	rom A	oril	

"It should therefore come as no surprise that education and healthcare workers say: "My children ask me why dinner is bread and mate. I don't know how to explain to them that my salary is worth less than a year ago.'

Trade Unions, the Resistance that Never Was: Demagogic Announcements Worsening Conditions

The 12 general strikes in 2024 were neither general nor did they affect the functioning of businesses. Disputes between the CGT and the CTAA (both pro-employer) divided workers into isolated actions. The leaders of the regime's unions, while signing agreements the top, held back street protests. Workers' concentrations were only used to negotiate with the government on how to implement the economic adjustment. In April, they called a "national strike" that excluded key transport and energy sectors and was yet another example of the the discontent and willingness to fight in the streets and workplaces.

regime's trade union The pensions and accepted labor flexibility in exchange for crumbs for the trade union bureaucracies.

The Parliamentary Left: Inflammatory Speeches But Iranian Worker Institution at the Service of Dictatorship

Last December, the FIT-U (with much propaganda and agitation in the trade union movement) did not vote against the labor reform that facilitates layoffs. It did not even present initiatives to increase wages and improve working conditions in lithium mining companies, which in 2024 achieved a profit of 82.6% (\$1.2 billion). Even from the base of the parliamentary left-wing parties, activists protested: "In the assemblies, they talk about revolution, but in Parliament, they just tweet their indignation," or "they call us to fight, but in Parliament, they make deals with the right." The collaboration with the bourgeois regime is so dirty that the theatrical poses of the opposition can no longer fool even their own grassroots activists.

Parliamentarism is once again confirmed not only as a useless tool for the era of imperialism, but as a real betraval of the working class, as well as of the revolution. The parties that animate the Argentine parliament (and in all countries) are there, as a minority and as a majority, only to give political support to the class rule of the bourgeoisie and to promote its business and the exploitation of the workers.

In Argentina, the cycle of economic revolutionary preparation that shuns foolish rebellious aspirations and instead

effectiveness was blunted by government and the State of Israel also served to keep Zone in Antep went on strike demanding and boss linked union leaders, notably the CGSLB/ACLVB administration, which sided with the government, limiting the strike's impact by agreeing to negotiation of seeking an 'external enemy'. The Iranian with the government and limiting the strike action to 24 hours, while the government mobilized riot police against the workers.

While this strike could have posed a serious challenge to the government's agenda, union leaders ensured it remained contained, framing demands in broad economic terms rather than pushing for indefinite coordinated strikes and crafting clear economic demands and functioning like a proper defensive organization should, or even going on the offensive with the power of the strike.

The bourgeois groups like Voka dismissed the strike as "irresponsible," and mayors were pressured to keep industrial areas operational. The coalition refused to concede in 24 hours with De Wever making clear that austerity policies would not be reversed. Yet, the strike shows clear discontent and willingness to strike from workers, with blockades in retail sectors and mass transport disruptions signaling growing opposition to further immiseration of the working class in preparation for the next global war. Since leadership is union playing collaborationist role with the capitalist class it is clear that workers must seize Raisi, who died in mysterious control of the unions and form independent decision making bodies on the shop floor of their workplaces along with coordination organizations inside or outside the established regime union confederations, depending on the possibilities afforded to them in Belgium, to steer the unions and and to coordinate indefinite strike action with clear strong economic demands that are actually able to hurt and cripple the operation of the businesses, the government and military production for enough time and loss of profits that the bosses have to acquiesce.

Struggles

In Iran, there has been a strong resurgence of the workers' struggle against the bourgeois regime of the ayatollahs. The temporary truce that followed the harsh repression of the workers' struggles in 2019-20 seems to be coming to an end.

A first strike took place in August, involving nurses protesting against terrible working conditions, wages, safety at work, reduced working hours and overtime, and the right to strike. Their average wage is around \$220, close to the minimum wage. The strike follows the death of a 32-yearold nurse in a hospital in Fars province, caused by overwork. This sparked protests, which then spread to the provinces of Arak, Mashhad, and Yasuj, with demonstrations across the region supported by the transport union and students, especially medical students. The deep crisis, as revealed by the union, is causing between 150 and 200 nurses to emigrate every month (11,500 healthcare workers have left Iran in the last two years), with serious consequences for the care of workers and the unemployed.

Pensioners then mobilized nationwide with large protests in Ahvaz, Shus, Isfahan, and Qaemshahr. In Ilam, they demanded that pensions be adjusted to the cost of living, which has been decimated by high inflation in the country. In Kerman and Shiraz, they protested against the nonpayment of severance pay. In many of these demonstrations, the slogan "No more crisis, debt, adjustment, social explosion, wars, our tables are empty" rang out. In vanguard elements of the proletariat and political control by opportunist parties the bazaars of Tehran, some shopkeepers and treacherous trade union federations closed their shops, intimidated by the strength of the movement, and the closures

Iranian workers under control by distracting them from the class struggle with the tried and tested bourgeois tactic and Israeli bourgeoisies are complicit in the war, in the use of deadly means, in extending the war to Lebanon, Yemen, and Syria, hoping for a temporary weakening of the class struggle at home.

In July, the elections for the new Iranian president saw the lowest turnout in the history of the Islamic Republic, below 40% in the first round and $\hat{4}9\%$ in the second. In a very precarious and discontented situation, the bourgeoisie deemed it appropriate to present a "reformist" to give the illusion of change, a government "open to dialogue" with the West, also with a view to renegotiating the sanctions that have afflicted the country since the US withdrew from the nuclear agreement in 2018. There are concerns about the stability of the domestic front, which has been compromised by the economic crisis and, abroad, by the fall of Hezbollah allies in Lebanon, the decadelong Assad regime in Syria, and the downsizing of the Houthis in Yemen, which are destabilizing and changing the balance of power and alliances in the Middle East.

president, The new Pezeshkian, who succeeded Ebrahim circumstances in a plane crash in May 2024, has decided to temporarily suspend a new 'hijab and chastity' law that was due to come into force in December. The law would have required women over the age of 9 to wear a head covering to hide all their hair and would have increased penalties for offenders to include imprisonment. The postponement demonstrates the government's fear of renewed social protest and its weakened position.

Iranian forces commander Hossein Salami believes that Iran could be the next target, after Syria, both in terms of bombing and a coup. "Foreign forces have pounced on a lone gazelle like hungry wolves, and if an army does not remain united, the whole country falls into chaos. The Iranian bourgeoisie fears an attack on nuclear sites, which the United States could order the servant state of Israel to carry out, and losing their influence in Iraq, after Syria, as demonstrated by the visit of US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken to Iraqi Prime Minister Al-Sudani. To make matters worse, France, Germany, and Great Britain, signatories to the 2015 nuclear agreement, considering the international war scenario, have stated that they could "if necessary" propose to the UN to reactivate previous sanctions.

The economic crisis

These foreign policy factors are exacerbating the economic crisis in the country, which has been dragging on for over a decade.

However, Iran remains the world's third largest oil reserve (13.3% of the total) and second largest gas reserve (16.2% of the global total). Although sanctions have hit the economy hard, it still has the possibility of circumventing them through its trade links with China, which accounts for 90% of its hydrocarbon exports, worth \$35 billion. China therefore has an interest in stabilizing the situation in the Middle East. However, almost all exports pass through the Strait of Hormuz, where Western navies are present.

In this scenario, if the country's economy maintains GDP growth of 4.7% compared to 4% in the previous year, and a debt-to-GDP ratio of 30%, Iran will be the country with the lowest growth in the Middle East between 2005 and 2025. In fact, per capita GDP has fallen by 45% compared to 2012: while in 2005 it was not far from that of Turkey, today it is well below it; even Egypt, which is more populous and poorer in natural resources, and despite also being in the throes of a crisis, has come very close to it. But what makes the situation explosive is inflation, which has risen from 31.2% to 34.5%. The rial closed 2024 at an all-time low of 821,500 to the dollar, down 40% since the beginning of the year; on January 23, 2025, the exchange rate was already at 840,000; today it is at 900,000! Low wages and soaring prices have led to a severe crisis in domestic demand. Added to this is the paradox of the 'energy crisis': despite producing and exporting gas and oil, Iran is unable to meet its domestic demand for cubic meters of gas, electricity, and gasoline. The government has called on families to reduce the temperature in their homes by 2 degrees, and in December there was a partial lockdown with schools and public buildings closed. The energy crisis has had an impact on industrial production, which accounts for 44.6% of GDP, including petrochemicals, textiles, food, steel, and motor vehicles. Industrial plants are estimated to have operated at 41% of their capacity, with disastrous consequences given that 30% of the working population is employed in the sector. It is a complex picture. But it is certain that the bourgeoisie in Iran is not sleeping peacefully. No bourgeoisie in the world can sleep peacefully. Capitalism continues to accelerate the fractures and crises that will lead the working class to take up the struggle for its own survival. Its great task is to overthrow a regime that can no longer guarantee stability and peace for anyone.

a raise to the minimum wage they were receiving

Strikes began in early February at Yalçın Kardeşler Weaving, Şireci Tekstil, Çelikaslan Tekstil, Ufuk Carpet, Özkaplan Carpet, Kaplanser Carpet, Bulut Tekstil, Has Sag, Grand Carpet and Sırma Carpet and spread to most of the Başpınar Organized Industrial Zone within a few weeks. Ufuk Carpet workers ended their resistance with a 40 percent raise after one day of resistance. The resistance at Özkaplan Carpet ended in exactly 2 hours with a 45 percent raise. During this time, there was a great solidarity between workers from different factories; Yalçın Kardeşler and Sireci workers said the words that would scare the entire bourgeois class during their visit to Celikaslan workers: "There are attempts to divide us, let's not play this game". Of course, the bourgeoisie, which has all the repressive apparatus at its disposal, to no one's surprise, imposed a ban on demonstrations in Gaziantep.

As if that wasn't enough, they arrested Mehmet Türkmen, the chairman of BIRTEK-SEN, on charges of "violation of freedom to work" and "incitement to commit a crime". "Violation of freedom to work"? It is not the "freedom" to work that is violated, but your "freedom" to exploit Masoud workers! And the "crime" incited is the worker demanding a living wage! We are not going to give lectures on how the capitalist economy should be organized, nor are we going to criticize the law in all countries as if it were not bourgeois law, taking refuge in bogus concepts of "rights", "justice", etc. Oppression is part of the normal functioning of the capitalist economy and bourgeois law.

Despite all these repressions and bans, the workers of Has Sag ended the struggle with gains such as the reinstatement of dismissed workers and compensation. Grand Carpet and Yalçın Kardeşler workers fought shoulder to shoulder without giving in to gendarme and police repression. Grand Carpet workers ended the struggle with a raise, while the strike at Yalçın Kardeşler continues. The union movement is still spreading. On March 4, Durkar Carpet and Sebat Carpet started resistance. On March 6, Bellatex Carpet workers stopped work and Eviza Carpet, Durkar Carpet and Sebat Carpet workers ended the struggle with gains such as layoffs or raises. On March 7, Gür Thread and Alka Polyester workers started resistance

The resistance in Baspınar has again demonstrated the importance of this industrial zone for the trade union movement in Turkey. Since the 2000s, Baspinar has witnessed important labor struggles. We invite our readers to read about these struggles in the study titled "The Last Forty Years of Class Struggle in Turkey: An Overview from 1980 to 2020". From the moment it appeared on the stage of history, the working class in Başpınar has repeatedly realized that "it has nothing to lose but its chains"; as the arrested union leader Mehmet Türkmen said, after all, prison is not so different from the factory.

Municipal Strikes

While some of the municipal workers' strikes that began in November 2024 in Istanbul's Maltepe, Kartal and Ataşehir districts and in January 2025 in Izmir have ended, new waves of strikes have begun in parallel.

Izmir, the metropolitan In municipality workers went on strike following the news of a 1.6 billion lira cut from the Bank of Provinces and a cut in salaries by the municipality. On January 8, a meeting of workers of IZENERJI and IZELMAN, two companies operated by the municipality, in front of the DİSK building turned into a march after threats by mayor Cemil Tugay. After the talks held by DISK during the day, DISK called for salaries to be paid and the strike ended with a win. In February, subcontracted toilet cleaning workers employed by the Izmir metropolitan municipality were fired from their jobs due to the struggle for their rights that started in January. The actions of the subcontracted cleaning workers had started with the demand for the right to work. At the end of February, after a month of struggle, they reached an agreement with the municipality administration on their demands and suspended their action. According to the statement made by the workers, they will return to work in March with their gains. In March, tobacco workers joined the strike wave started by municipal workers in Izmir. Sunel and Oriental tobacco workers organized in Branch No. 7 of the Tekgıda-İş Union, affiliated to the Türk-İş regime trade union confederation, went on strike. The workers went on strike in 3 different factories after failing to get what they wanted from the collective bargaining agreement negotiations, and a total of nearly 1700 workers went on strike for their rights. The workers stated that the salaries they receive do not cover the increasing cost of living, that the bosses' proposals are far from reality and that they responded to the situation with workers' solidarity. In Istanbul, Beşiktaş was added to the municipal workers' strike that started on the Anatolian side (Ataşehir, Maltepe and Kadıköy), organized in DISK. According to reports, late payment of salaries have become a chronic problem in the municipality in the last month and a half. However, the municipality is hiding behind the arrest of Beşiktaş mayor Rıza Akpolat on corruption charges and the "assassination of reputation" discourse they have created with this arrest. Workers organized around the European Side No. 1 of DİSK Genel-İş will go on strike as of March 15 if no agreement is reached. workers in Beşiktaş However. Municipality's cleaning, parks and gardens, veterinary and public works departments have walked off the job independently of the union because the payment of their salaries has been delayed for months. Upon the workers' decision to strike, the CHP-affiliated Beşiktaş Municipality decided to fire the workers and appealed to the CHP-affiliated neighboring Beyoğlu Municipality to break the strike. The cleaning workers were also angry with the European Side Branch No. 1 of Genel-İş, one of the most collaborationist member unions of DİSK, because the retroactive payments of the contract signed in November were pushed back to May 2025 without asking the workers. Parallel to these movements. electricity infrastructure workers are also Last month, under the leadership of continuing their protests. After more than two months of inconclusive negotiations

is based on the day to day work of creating workers' unions which are truly independent of the bourgeois parties, which includes the KKE, the PASOK and also the swarm of little groups of the socalled "left". The unions we are talking about are those that propose to defend the interests of the workers, aiming above all to unify the proletariat in the daily struggle of its members to defend their living and working conditions, overcoming divisions of work sector, work place, locality, nationality, religion and race. It is also a question of reconnecting with the tradition of left revolutionary Communism; with the International Communist Party. This work will pave the way for the social emancipation of the proletarian class by means of the seizure of political power and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Strikes in Argentina

under Javier Milei's Today, government, Argentina appears to be the broken showcase of Latin American neoliberalism. The media celebrate macroeconomic indicators but cannot hide the social catastrophe: 55% poverty, wages that do not cover the basic basket (950 dollars), and unemployment that has risen to 8.1%. The economic crisis Argentina is facing is an expression of the global crisis of capitalism. But policies of tax cuts and public spending cuts have further deteriorated the living conditions of the working class.

The myth of economic recovery figures that make headlines but do not fill plates

Among the "successes" proclaimed by the bourgeois press are the record trade surplus (\$1.2 billion in 2024) and the "control" of inflation (98.2% in April 2025 compared to 292% in April 2024). But this has also led to a free fall in wages, with purchasing power falling by 22% since 2023. Sixty-five percent of workers earn less than \$500 a month, while the cost of the basic basket exceeds \$950. Despite a symbolic improvement in the minimum wage (\$265), it is the lowest in Latin America.

The results of the economic adjustment shock are also reflected in unemployment, which reached 8.1% in April (compared to 5.5% in 2023), with 42,000 public sector layoffs since 2024. Industry is operating at 58% of its capacity, limiting job creation. Services, which account for 60% of employment, have lost 20% of jobs. And, as a result of the agreements with the IMF, we can only expect a further increase in unemployment.

Another important factor is the trend in public debt, which reached \$466.8 billion in 2024, with negative net reserves of \$12 billion. This April, the granting of a new \$13 billion loan by the IMF imposes further cuts in health and education and consolidates the vicious circle of debt, austerity, and poverty.

governments and the bosses A workers' assembly in Salta in April declared: "The only general strike that matters is the one that paralyzes the country and defeats the regime." Workers can break the cycle of betrayal and opportunism and become a powerful force capable of stopping the anti-worker policies of the Argentine government. The challenge is to multiply the struggles, bringing them together in a general strike to the bitter end and without minimum services, and to advance in the unity of action of the trade union movement to make the leap forward in the rebirth of real class-based unions. All this must be done independently of the current trade union confederations and federations, distancing ourselves from the directly linked to those of 2019-20. At that opportunist left parties and their parliamentarism, and against calls to defend the homeland and the national economy.

Brussels Strike

As wages stagnate and living costs

surge, general strikes are becoming a

global rallying cry against. General strikes

have been erupting and restarting almost

simultaneously in places like Greece,

Belgium and Nepal. Unions and union

confederations are playing out their role

as defensive organizations capable of

coordinated actions in attempts to claw

back some of the lost wages for workers,

but they are also, at the same time barely

putting up any fight and limiting the

effectiveness of the actions by limiting

their time duration, collaborating with the

business class and its state and dissipating

the energies of the workers, while essential

services and livable wages are

increasingly out of reach as militarization

is increasing and profit rates are falling in

preparation for the next global capitalist

crisis and global imperialist wars looming

was temporarily paralyzed by a

nationwide general strike, as millions of

workers protested the government's

austerity measures, demanding better

wages and social protections. Schools

closed, hospitals operated on an

emergency-only basis, and public transport including rail, buses, and flights

billion from pensions and healthcare,

restrictions, suppress wages, and push

nearly 20% of the population into poverty

while expanding military spending by €4

billion (\$4.2 billion) to €8.6 billion by

workers walk out in protest against

austerity measures imposed by Prime

Minister Bart De Wever's coalition, with

The general strike saw millions of

Despite the strike's massive scale, its

greater

The government's plans to slash €5.4

unemployment

On March 31, 2025, Belgium capital

in the near future.

was largely suspended.

introduce

industrial sectors.

2028

Other waves of protests broke out among oil workers at the Ofoq Company in the Yadavaran oil field and in front of the Agh Dere Meshkinshahr mine, where

spread to key markets in other cities.

there were arrests, at the Fair Jam refinery, and at the Gasaran Oil and Gas Company. In the municipality of Tabas, workers protested against not receiving three months' wages and two months' overtime from the municipality. There were also protests for better safety and living conditions by road workers in Sod Fars. Finally, returning to the health sector, nurses at Ghadi Hospital in Tehran protested against not receiving their wages for the last three months.

These proletarian struggles are time, demonstrations began against the 50% to 200% increase in fuel prices and the resulting high inflation of 35%, with a 60% devaluation of the rial against the dollar. The government was forced to grant subsidies to 60 million citizens, but this failed to quell the uprising, which was only finally brought under control with a bloodbath. Violent clashes with security forces left around 1,500 protesters dead. According to Amnesty International, police fired from rooftops, helicopters, and at close range with machine guns. However, the death toll is believed to be higher, as the police removed and hid the bodies. The families of the victims were threatened to prevent them from speaking to the media.

Workers reacted to the harsh repression by storming 731 government banks, including the central bank. 50 military bases, and nine Islamic religious centers, and by toppling statues of leader Khamenei. Meanwhile, internet access was blocked nationwide, isolating the country from its neighbors where other protests were taking place, in Iraq and Lebanon. The clashes in 2020 were the most violent since 1979, more so than those that occurred during the women's protests in 2022.

In Tehran, a series of demonstrations began in September 2022 and ended in 2023, triggered by the killing of Masha Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman who was arrested and killed by the morality police for violating the hijab law. The demonstrations spread to Kurdistan.

These protests, which had already begun a few years earlier, were mainly carried out by women and students. Although, in addition to the issue of the veil and women's freedom, they also concerned the poor conditions of urban and rural workers, they mainly affected the middle classes in the cities, and were therefore interclassist in nature. Despite this, they were subjected to harsh repression, with thousands of arrests and killings of demonstrators deemed 'enemies of God', including minors beaten to death in front of their classmates.

The outbreak of war between Hamas

The working class will take up the struggle, first nationally and then internationally, against its class enemy and its governments, led by its own international communist party.

The bourgeoisie is dragging humanity into the abyss of destruction. We are working to ensure that we are not unprepared when we reach this crossroads of history.

Current Trade Union Struggles in Turkey

The workers' struggles in Turkey, which gained momentum as of the last quarter of 2024, continue into 2025, spreading to other lines of work, cities and regions. The advancing economic crisis is driving workers to resistance in order to make a living!

Strike Fever Burning Başpınar

BIRTEK-SEN, workers in dozens of factories in the Başpınar Organized Industrial between ISPER.AŞ and DİSK Enerji-Sen,

close to 100,000 of them marching in Brussels and having the effect of shutting down schools, hospitals, transport, and Foreign policy

called for a province-wide strike. The union's primary demand was to increase the "handout" wages imposed by the municipality. On February 28, the union made a press statement in front of the municipal ISKI General Directorate and announced that they once again rejected the misery wage.

There are also reactions from Adana's Seyhan Municipality about the workers' unpaid wages. The Seyhan Municipality did not comply with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement it signed and paid the salaries, which should have been 55 thousand liras, as 35 thousand liras. In response to the underpayment of salaries, workers of Seyhan Municipality held a press statement on February 25 organized by DİSK Genel-İş.

In February, another call against the rising cost of living and capital's austerity policies came from Egitim-Sen, the teachers union. Eğitim-Sen made a statement on its official Twitter account and shared its union demands:

Reduce the indirect tax rate on essential consumption items of working people to zero!

- All payments, including additional supplementary payments, should be added to the base salary!

- Abolish the interview for public sector jobs

Cayırhan Miners Resistance

On November 20, 2024, 500 miners in Çayırhan, a town near Ankara, locked themselves in the mine against the privatization decision. Bourgeois law is incapable of defending workers' rights. During the privatization process, the tender specifications did not include any clause that protects workers' rights; on top of that, it was demanded that the lodgings where the workers stay be vacated within 4 months. This caused a reaction among the workers.

The workers went underground with a steel will and determination; above ground, their protests received widespread support. The bourgeois state, which has nothing to fear more than the workers uniting and supporting each other, had its skirts on fire. The gendarme barricaded the workers who wanted to enter the mine. The workers decided to wait in front of the barricade until they entered the mine. Talih Kocabiyik, branch president of the Turkish Mine Workers Union affiliated to Türk-İş, said "it is a very profitable enterprise, that is probably why it is being privatized", but no explanation was given about the privatization decision.

The de facto strike launched by the workers partially yielded results within 10 days. The Privatization Administration decided to postpone the tender until March 4. The workers then took action again, chanting "Don't postpone, don't cheat, cancel the sale"

In spite of everything, the workers managed to change the terms of the tender and won the right to employ 2050 minimum staff for 5 years and the right to live in the lodging house for one year even if the worker is dismissed.

Tender applications ended on March 4, 2025 at 18.00. Workers stated that they will keep their tents in the area in order to be prepared for situations that may cause them difficulties.

Maden-İş Çayırhan Branch President the last day of bidding for 104 days. We have not received the results yet. As you our friends out. The struggle will continue here at the mouth of the mine. Our tent will continue here until the tender process takes a clear shape. In case we don't like it or in case it will put us in difficulty, our tent will remain here until Friday, provided that we are always ready in any way. We expect a clear announcement by Friday. Our struggle is not over, our struggle continues. While Çayırhan workers are determinedly fighting for their rights, they are also expressing a nationalist reaction in favor of nationalization. Therefore, through the regime union Türkiye Maden İş, nationalist left and right opposition bourgeois parties that advocate partial state ownership against privatization have tried to intervene in the process. At this point, it should be emphasized again that under capitalism, state ownership and private ownership are essentially a legal distinction that does not change the nature of the enterprise and does not eliminate the relationship of exploitation.

the Istanbul branch of DISK Energi-Sen this situation by gathering in front of the national borders, thus colliding with their company headquarters in Kavacık, competitors. Istanbul. At every opportunity the workers The United States, as the world's have been and are showing that they are largest capitalist system, is the most determined in their struggle. The regime vulnerable to the economic crisis because unions and some bourgeois left parties quickly "jumped in" to the protests in its global dominance. Today, the United order to mislead the workers with bourgeois democratic rhetoric and to the bill on to their "allies". They are divert them from their path.

workers are calling out from the fields of resistance:

2 years, but enough is enough. We have assistance), reducing it to its essence as a worked overtime without taking leave, carrying heavy loads. This brand, which grew with our sweat, now condemns us to starvation. We know that this situation is not only happening to us. It can happen to national capitalism, would bring world all Yum Brands employees around the world. So we call out to Yum Brands workers all over the world. Wake up, stand up for your rights, don't be silent! If we act together, we can make our voices heard. Let's put a stop to this injustice by standing shoulder to shoulder together, let's make our voices heard all over the world."

The biggest weapon of the working class against international companies like Yum Brands is international strikes and resistance. Companies that try to achieve their growth targets by declaring History repeats itself: the protectionism of bankruptcy and shifting their capital from all states preceded World War II. The new one country to another seem to cover their moving costs with the unpaid wages of one of tears and blood for the American workers. Workers can protect themselves from this predatory global capitalism by protecting their self-organization, their unions. Forcing the unions to build international links and spread strikes and resistance to many enterprises will increase the workers' chances of winning.

Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant

The Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant, which is being built in Mersin through the cooperation of Russian and Turkish capital, is an opportunity for national capital to achieve the glory of the go into debt up to its neck to produce "national economy" and a concentration camp for the working class.

Akkuyu has a total of 4 pressurized water reactors and the foundations for all four have been laid. While units 1 and 2 are under construction, construction of cells 3 and 4 has been halted by Rosatom and workers are being fired.

dismissals and unpaid salaries! The workers in nationalist ideology. bosses' arbitrariness is so precious that they leave 500 workers unemployed and reactionary, but also impossible —as don't need to give a reason. Not to mention the unpaid salaries since bourgeois states will never renounce their December 22nd!

"If so many workers were to be laid off in a short time, why were they hired? We are already crawling in shacks. We imperialisms: of the 800 billion euro have no money and no right to work humanely. All we get is three pennies. We billion euro should be allocated to national sleep in filthy places, food with filth in it armies. Nationalism-which today is is put in front of us. What for? We already called "sovereignty"-is only the other work almost for free. And this treatment side of the ideological lie of the European is really shameful." They add, "This is not Union. The "multipolar" Europe of a construction site, it's like a Nazi camp!"

production is carried out to maximize Conflict, as already occurred in the two Maximizing profit means profit. exploiting surplus value as much as the pressure of the same economic and possible, that is, cutting workers' wages and making profit by cheapening even the European Union to arm itself today. The said that they will remain on watch until the tender process is finalized: "Today was the tender to the finalized of the same to the same believe me if I told them. I even sent some as warmongering as the pro-EU parties videos to those who didn't come to dinner and Trump are today. know, nearly 50 of our friends have been that day. There is a shortage of food. The underground for two days. We did not take other day, used condoms were found in the is that of the working class united across social force that opposes Israeli imperialist all. the risk because of the health risk, we took yogurt at dinner. What kind of national borders, refusing to shed its blood policy. ilousness is t cruni working conditions, the workers began a exploited and oppressed by their own work stoppage. The reaction of the national bourgeoisie or that of another of the working class to oppose the war by bourgeoisie's bloody stick, the state, to the country. But it is certainly preferable to work stoppage is not surprising: sending fight their own social war, with powerful gendarmes. Wherever there is a worker who seeks their rights, the bourgeois against any bourgeoisie in power, national political order either forces them to cooperate with the state and puts them hundreds of thousands on the front lines through legal barriers or, like the Akkuyu workers, tries to silence them. This is the battlefields, and under bombardment. reality of the rights, justice and law that the hypocritical bourgeois society treats us to

The United States, as the world's it is increasingly difficult for it to maintain States bourgeoisie must cut costs and pass revoking "humanitarian aid", which was The protests are still going on and once a useful instrument of international corruption. They are forced to strip the state apparatus of all "superfluous" "We have kept silent and endured for resources (education, healthcare, social machine for oppressing the working class.

The policy being imposed today in the United States is not "isolationism", which, although in the interests of this peace. It is, instead, a different kind of shifting of US forces, concentrating them in the Indo-Pacific, a theater of primary strategic interest, to the detriment of the Atlantic and Europe. It serves to prepare for war against emerging Chinese imperialism, in a new division of world markets

The imposition of tariffs on imports capitalism, but hurts competitors more is a desperate policy, an economic-trade war that prepares for war with weapons. "golden age" promised by Trump will be working class, sacrificed to save the bourgeoisie's profits and social privilege, in preparation for war.

But it won't be the bourgeois regimes competing with the US that will save the global working class from the Third Imperialist War. A peaceful multipolar world under capitalism is just another lie.

Driven by the crisis, and increasingly unable to sell other goods, the bourgeoisie of all countries is throwing itself into the war industry. The drive toward rearmament is accelerating. The European Union, after decades of forcing workers to tighten their belts under the pretext of reducing debt, now claims to be willing to weapons! Beyond false ideological interest in investing enormous sums in war production to alleviate the crisis and prepare for war. For this reason, they all have a common interest in leading workers to war, convincing them that the enemy is not capitalism, starting with their own Akkuyu workers have to cope with bourgeois regime, but an "enemy" poor working conditions, arbitrary alliance. To this end, it is essential to instill

The European Union is not only Lenin asserted as early as 1915—because national interests. There is no such thing as European imperialism, but rather an alliance between certain European rearmament plan over four years, 650 nstruction site, it's like a Nazi camp!" "sovereignty" will be sucked into the large sections of the population are In the capitalist mode of production, vortex of the Third World Imperialist fighting against their respective world conflicts of the 20th century, under political determinants that are pushing the

in defense of the homeland For worke Unable to endure these inhumane it makes no difference whether they are strikes, up to the point of revolution, or foreign, rather than to die by the of the war between capitalist states, on the The authentic Communist Party desires and promotes the military defeat of its own bourgeois state in the imperialist war because it puts an end to the carnage of war, because proletarian defeatism on the home front, with strikes in factories and among soldiers, infects and united uniformed workers across the front lines, because military defeat weakens its own bourgeoisie and favors the revolution. To prevent or halt imperialist war, the Israel working class must be organized. This means organizing itself into strong classbased unions that unify workers' struggles in increasingly broad and powerful strikes aimed at defending wages and reducing the pace and length of the workday. These basic demands of the proletariat are in themselves unpatriotic because they damage national capitalism and its competitiveness. Defending your economic interests today through union struggle means already being on the path that will lead you to defend your political interests tomorrow, opposing militarism and the war of the bourgeoisie. We can expect the official trade union federations of all countries, aligning themselves with their bourgeois bosses in each country, raising the anti-proletarian banners of nationalism and multipolar capitalism, to lead the workers to the slaughterhouse of inter-imperialist world war and the bourgeois dispute over territories and borders. Combative trade unionism, to rebuild the strength of the working-class trade union movement and free workers from the control of the regime's unions, must act unitedly in struggles across all categories, to strengthen and unify them, and to promote the struggle against war for the international unity of workers. - Solidarity among workers of all countries!

The proletarian and disinherited meeting confirms and feeds our sought after by both Hamas and the Israeli bourgeois state.

The demonstrations began last Tuesday, March 26th, in the north of the Strip, in Beit Lahia, one of the towns most devastated by the war, with a few hundred participants. The following day they grew in size and spread not only to Jabilya also in the north - but also to the Shejaiya and Zeitoun neighborhoods of Gaza City, respectively to the east and southwest of the city, and to the Nuseirat refugee camp, in the center of the Strip. Only three days later, on Thursday, did they decrease in intensity.

One of the most significant aspects, besides the slogans against Hamas and for an end to the war, is that not even a Palestinian flag was waved, only some white flags.

The proletariat of Gaza, who defied the ferocious repression to take to the streets, shows that their support for Hamas and the war is only propaganda.

In the report on the war in Gaza and the Middle East at the general meeting last which also partially harms American January, in this issue published in full, we wrote "now that the Israeli bombs are temporarily no longer raining down, it will not be easy for Hamas to maintain control over 2 million 300 thousand people, in the conditions to which the war has reduced them'

This prediction has been confirmed: peace has been restored after 15 months of massacres, but when the bombings started again thousands of workers said "enough is enough" and preferred to risk dying at the hands of Hamas rather than die under the bombs.

The funeral of a young man, whose family members accuse Hamas militants of having tortured and killed him in response to his participation in the demonstrations of the previous days, became a small procession, and 6 other Palestinians were allegedly executed on charges of collaboration.

On the other side of the conflict, in Israel, the end of the truce, which lasted only two months, has given new strength to the anti-war movement, and there are oppositions, all bourgeois states share an once again tens of thousands of demonstrators protesting against the Netanyahu government.

The words of an article published on March 27th in Haaretz are worth sharing: These protests are not only courageous. They are deeply moving. They represent the real victims of this war: alongside the Israeli hostages and the victims of the massacre, these are the civilians whose suffering has gone unheard. They also challenge Israel's extremist government directly: any continued attacks on civilians who are calling for peace will expose the bourgeois party that organized it. fact that this is not self-defense.

Again in Haaretz, March 28: "The Israeli Defense Forces warn that a crisis is developing in the reserves due to plans to intensify fighting in the Strip (...) Dozens of reservists announce that they will not report for duty (...) struggle to report for further calls not only for political reasons, but also because they are simply tired."

In fact, on both sides of the war front. governments and against the continuation of the conflict.

The demonstrations in Gaza can only strengthen those in Israel, because they weaken the Israeli warmongering propaganda that wants all Palestinians to be Hamas supporters. The breaking of the leaden cloak of the bourgeois regime in Gaza can only favor the growth of The only force that can prevent war awareness that even in Israel there is a

two movements are in fact allies

masses of Gaza did indeed mobilize, but enthusiasm as communists who realize against the war, which was wanted and their communist sentiment in the party of communism. The work, the exchange of advice and guidance, our ability to carry out this activity overcoming linguistic and geographical divisions, continues to improve, making us more and more an international (communist) party in fact, operationally, as well as in ambition.

Interventions in the Unions and on the Streets

For March 8th, the comrades working on women's issues prepared the party's international manifesto, translated it into 10 languages. For International Women's Day, comrades in Pennsylvania and Illinois distributed Party leaflets, the latter at an event organized by a local coalition of labor unions. Papers were distributed in Chicago while militants intervened in a march condemning the actions of U.S. imperialism in Gaza. In Virginia Party militants intervened with our press in large demonstrations against the new bourgeois administration organized by opportunists groups but that attracted many beyond it. Additionally the paper was distributed at multiple events opposing the forced mass deportations of immigrant laborers happening in the US in Oregon.

Party militants continue work in the Class Struggle Action Network where an online event putting forward the necessity for generalized strike action and class unionism featuring union militants from across the world will be held on April 27th. One Party militant in the National Education Association (NEA) recently put forward a resolution at a state level regional assembly for organizing the 3 million unionists to join the potential May Day 2028 General strike was narrowly defeated by a vote of 242 to 244 delegates representing 44,000 union members. In March and April, Comrades distributed our press at the statewide indefinite nurses strike in Oregon that lasted 40+ days. Comrades distributed our press at the Build a Fighting NALC (BFN) postal national day of action in New Mexico and in Oregon.

In Italy, comrades distributed the leaflet in Rome and Genoa at two demonstrations in March and April against the rearmament and war: one organized by the USB grassroots union, the other organized by a bourgeois party that in Italy now poses as a pacifist, with a large turnout, around 50 thousand demonstrators; this second demonstration attracted a participation that went far beyond that of the members of the

Our Mourning -Raimondo

Raimondo said that we should not talk about him personally but only remind everyone of the great cause for which he dedicated his life, unfortunately cut short too soon

In fact, Raimondo has been a militant, since he was very young, and ever since then, in the party of international communism, in our party.

Obeying his desire, therefore, we do not recall here his uncommon qualities, of sensitivity, the lively intelligence in his eves and the patient smile, of someone who knows how to understand men and situations, before intervening with affectionate firmness, respectful towards

This is another lesson he leaves us. You can't talk about a communist without

KFC and Pizza Hut

Following the end of the agreement between Yum Brands and Iş Gıda, mass layoffs of workers have begun. While Ilkem Şahin, who has investments in many *Struggle of the working* sectors, says that he is bankrupt due to a debt of 7.7 billion, someone should remind Görkem Şahin that he said "I will not go bankrupt even if the state goes bankrupt". The company did not pay the last two months' salaries of its employees and "threw its workers out on the street" when the concordat was declared.

KFC workers believe that the layoffs were planned in advance. As the company was preparing to declare bankruptcy, the boss attempted to evade the workers rights by putting his assets in his wife's name and attempting to divorce her. Even though it was known that a concordat would be declared, workers were kept working until the last day. They did not receive their salaries, they were not released from insurance on time, so that they would have to waive their right to compensation if they wanted to take another job.

This is the essence of the bourgeois judicial mechanism! Ilkem Sahin is able to use the law to get away with mass layoffs by making workers work until the last day of their employment, and thus profit from it! After creating this mass victimization of workers (our so-called debt-ridden bourgeoisie!) buys a yacht for 50 million TL. They are blatantly making fun of the victimization of workers. The bourgeois state apparatus is one of the partners in this crime. Its laws protect the bourgeoisie and victimize the working class. Why don't these incidents reach the ears of those in the palaces? The bourgeois law and state have shown how meticulous they are in sending gendarme and police forces to workers' struggles. But when it comes to the workers (not surprisingly) it ignores the injustice!

The workers showed their reaction to

It is only through the existence of class unions and a class party that workers can be liberated from the capitalist order!

THE **IMPERIALIST** WAR **Capitalism needs war**

Only the revolutionary class can oppose it

Trump's miserable statements, which European leaders are following, expose some of the lies and illusions propagated for decades by the bourgeoisies around the world, and by their right-wing and "leftwing" parties, to hide the ferocity of the world of capital, which now brings only death and destruction.

- International law is a fiction; it is the right of the strongest.

crazier than those who came before him. He merely reveals the true face of capitalism: this is the anonymous monster that threatens humanity! It's not Trump who holds power, but the industrialfinancial complex, in the hands of the bourgeois class, which uses the machinery of the state to defend its interests. This is true for the United States and for all states government they disguise themselves from "democracy" with: to false socialism, like that of China, or Venezuela,

The bourgeoisie itself cannot "decide" anything because its policy is imposed on the economic crisis of overproduction in global capitalism. All national capitalisms and industrial sectors are under attack and overwhelmed by decades of overcapacity: Europe, the United States, China, and all the smaller but by shouting "Hamas out", and asking bourgeoisies must flood the world with for the end of the war. goods they cannot sell within their

Against all Fatherlands!

- Class war against imperialist war!

Proletarian Defeatism in Gaza

The proletarians of Gaza took to the streets by the thousands in what were the first mass demonstrations since October 7,2023

And they didn't do it by chanting for the war against Israel, for the Axis of the Resistance, aiming for martyrdom for a "Palestine free from the Jordan to the sea",

What is needed is a political party whose program includes the vital necessity fighting its own bourgeois regime, united with the workers of other countries. This is the party of international communism, necessary for the international union of the working class.

In every country, the trade union movement must be guided by the principle of an uncompromising struggle to defend the living conditions of the workers, without taking on the task of defending the economy of national capitalism and in the future, defending it militarily.

The propaganda of the bourgeoisie that supports Hamas, not being able to deny the demonstrations, has minimized their size and claimed they were provoked by opposing parties that collaborate with

Opportunism throughout the world endorsed and spread this has warmongering anti-proletarian propaganda - as it has done throughout the conflict.

An example of the opportunist arguments used to defend Hamas and support the continuation of the imperialist war, presented as "revolutionary", is the article published by the political group that directs the SI Cobas grassroots union in Italy, which reads: "In the last year, Hamas has recruited about 15,000 new fighters, rebuilding part of its military and administrative infrastructure and maintaining firm control over the Gaza Strip. This level of organization and support would not be possible without significant support from the local population." What is clearly missing is the fact that in the Gaza Strip, joining the Hamas military apparatus is almost the only way to feed one's family.

If the demonstrations were promoted by anti-Hamas parties, the fact that thousands of people participated means that the demands – out with Hamas and an end to the war – are shared by the majority of the population. On the other hand, there is no reason why the bourgeois parties opposed to Hamas shouldn't promote such demonstrations.

In reality, all the Palestinian bourgeois parties have an interest in preventing the proletariat from mobilizing. Even in the event of Hamas being removed from power, the proletariat would find itself fighting for its living conditions.

This is to the chagrin of all the opportunists who describe the conflict between Hamas and Israel as a "revolutionary war" of the Palestinian masses instead of a war between opposing imperialist fronts - Israel, USA and European imperialists against Hamas, Iran, Qatar, China.

LIFE OF THE PARTY

Alongside our regular sectional meetings in April the Party held its interim international organizational meeting

talking about communism. And Raimondo in particular can be remembered truly, fully, faithfully, only within his, and our, need for communism.

It is individualism that mortifies and deforms the individual. Raimondo told us do not speak of me, because by speaking only of him we would have betrayed him.

We overcome personalization not to deny the individual but to exalt him, to free him in a strengthened and dense network of relationships. A man is made by his relationships with others. He cannot be defined otherwise.

Raimondo lived, realized and satisfied that need for relationships with all men and things in the world. And a communist is a communist always, in all the concrete, daily events of life. Not only in dreams or in an aspiration or, worse, in nostalgia, a regret, or just a ritual.

And this is possible because a communist sees what others cannot see, blinded by the smoke bombs of this society and deafened by the inappropriate screams of the monkeys with which they represent all the bloodthirsty states of the world

Every man, more or less consciously. feels the need for what he knows can and should be an indistinct better world, and suffers from the abuses on the majority of humanity, which he calls injustices, imposed for the selfish interests of a tiny minority, and from the absurdities, wastes, sufferings, mourning and massacres that are imposed on them. Religions suffocate this need by sending it back to an otherworldly world.

But in this increasingly tormented earthly world the communist sees and feels that communism is already there. It is not the will of the communists but capitalism itself that progressively demolishes all its material and ideal presuppositions and foundations. All our real life is materially ready for communism, even if men cannot know it and only dream. But man dreams as much as he can dream, what is already within reach

We will not say that Raimondo did not have time to see communism. Instead, he saw it. And he saw it completely because he fought for communism together with his companions.

Because of his great tranquility, Raimondo has never shown impatience, which is a weakness of individualism. What we have not been able to understand and do, those who come after us will do. And if not here, they will start in other countries and continents. Communists are never in a hurry.

This patient preparation, carried out according to a plan and continuity of practical attitudes, day after day, year after year, generation of militants one after the other, is it not already communism? The negation of envy, disorder, the contingent and the expedients of capital?

Of course this is not enough to console us. Life has these wounds. That network that closely connected Raimondo to all of us has been torn, and we all suffer

necessity: capitalism and peace are incompatible.

- In capitalism, war is an economic Trump is no smarter, stupider, or

in the world: all are bourgeois regimes against the working class. They are so regardless of the ideology and form of to the theocracy of the ayatollahs in Iran,

or the "Jewish State" in Israel.

and feel great pain. We must now re-tie that network, made of affections and forces from the conflict in Gaza are the memories, to pass on his life lessons to the young and to those who will come.

General Meeting

General Party Meeting 25-26 January 2025 [**RG151**]

Capitalism in mortal crisis that shows its ferocious face of national egoisms, exterminations and destructions is opposed the revolutionary Program of Communism

We held our international general meeting on January 25th and 26th, with a broad representation of all our groups in attendance. It was held via teleconference. Where we have territorial sections we assist you from the same location. As usual we have provided a complete translation of all the interventions and reports in our three current languages, Italian, English and Spanish. The meeting opened with a report from the centre which took stock of the development of the party's tasks over the past year.

Part of these functions is the defense of the organic nature of the internal relationships between militants. This module which is not simply organizational but of communist sentiments and collaboration, in already given excellent proof in its effective application for at least six decades now, allowing the small party to carry out admirably the tasks that the external situation assigns to it, to the extent possible: from the defense of the program and of Marxist science to the firm search for contact with the working class and its battles, from which, ultimately, we derive our reason for being and, in a historical integral, all our strength and certainty.

With the spread of our minimal organization outside of Italy we have been able to happily verify that those organic modules are naturally applicable to young comrades and distant sections, who recognize them as appropriate and well allow for harmony and common work. We can already see in this the confirmation of our prediction of the functioning of the future reborn communist party well rooted in the world working class.

A unity of movement resulting from a close impersonal, collaborative and nonconflictual work between comrades and groups. We do not rely on individuals, not even those who are possibly more competent and expert, but on the effort of elaboration of a collective body that seeks in the doctrine and in the past the way to the future. A search, a continuous theoretical and experiential refinement, as if today's communists and all those who preceded us were sitting at the same table.

The party is also the result of its own lessons. The living party is always reborn "more equal" to itself, confirmed and strengthened in its convictions. Not with a license to innovate, that the doctrine was established once and for all at its birth, on the contrary, always more faithful and conscious of what we have always been. Other tests await the party, in these times of approaching the catastrophe of capitalism, which will renew its desperate communism, and against the communists. Not for this reason will we adopt in the party the methods of our enemies.

Today it is enough for us to give tinuity to the studies in the various to the party and to the class in propaganda and in publication in the press, as well as to continue our always difficult and very demanding serious battle in the unions and among the workers' struggles. The current minimal growth of the organization calls us to new commitments and new work, in a comprehensive vision of the party's needs and activities. The new comrades who arrive are encouraged trained and the life of the party requires. As Lenin writes, a true centralization of the party, not a formal one, requires maximum decentralization, harmonious the distribution of its various responsibilities. These are the reports heard in the two sessions of the meeting: The grueling proxy war in Syria has already been published in the previous issue of this newspaper. We immediately provide here some brief summaries for the use of readers, referring the full publication to our mag "Comunismo" and "Communism" magazines

pro-Iranian militias in Iraq and the Houthis in Yemen. Indeed, after the fall of Assad in Syria on December 8, Israel launched a wave of bombings against the military facilities of the Syrian Arab Army (SAA), the regular Syrian army, almost completely destroying all of its air, anti-

aircraft and naval forces. The fall of Assad has favored Turkish imperialism, which with the Syrian National Army – financed, supplied and trained by Ankara – acts in the Northwest of Syria fighting the Kurdish forces of the Democratic Union Party (PYD), the Syrian branch of the PKK, who lead the Syrian Democratic Forces, a Sunni Arab minority. The Kurds control the area east of the Euphrates, the richest in oil and agricultural products, and limited parts in the North. The Syrian Kurds had a nonhostile relationship with the Assad regime, which granted them substantial autonomy.

The strengthening of Turkish imperialism in Syria has led the PYD leadership to seek an alliance with the Israeli regime. It is worth noting how little questions of principle are worth to bourgeois regimes and parties, which they use to justify their wars. The Israeli regime and in the first months of January. The denounces Kurdish national oppression national currency continues to devalue and while perpetuating Palestinian oppression inflation continues to grow. If the regime in a sea of blood. At the same time, Kurdish nationalist parties ally themselves with the two imperialisms - the US and Israel - primarily responsible for a national enemy" that supports its internal front Ukraine is posing to all the General Staffs oppression identical to that which they have suffered. On the other hand, there is Palestinians and the Israelis, the nationalist accordance with our usual repugnance for no solidarity between oppressed national and warmongering parties would weaken. everything that smacks of bourgeois - has minorities, even if they are so geographically close. From the moment can be considered winners, because the that national struggles no longer have any real loser is the proletariat, of Gaza, of progressive historical function, nationalist Israel and of the entire Middle East. A parties become only puppets of the imperial powers.

ideological bourgeois The justifications are worthless. The United on one or both sides of the front, is only a States considers the PKK a terrorist organization, but not the PYD, the Syrian branch of the same party, supported by the United States and the European Union as a terrorist organization but, through Ukrainian military aid, they were supported by the United States, finally recognized in power by all Western countries. Russian imperialism had to necessary to the communist militia and evacuate from Syria a large part of its armed forces - land, air and naval - and probably also the naval bases of Tartus and Chmejmim air base. For Moscow, the loss of these bases in Syria would represent a that, when, due to material determinations. hard blow, losing for it a logistical- it will inevitably reconnect with its party operational hub in the Eastern overcoming 100 years of counter- and ideological, but tomorrow soc Mediterranean, which was needed for the revolution, will be the death for all the war political, has brought all humanity. Russian imperialist projection towards machines of capital.

> The reaction to the setbacks suffered by Iran and Russia was the signing on January 17 of a "comprehensive strategic partnership treaty" between the two countries. However, Israel enjoyed almost unlimited access to Syrian airspace coordinated with the Russian command.

> In Gaza, however, the outcome cannot be said to be equally in favor of Israel. Although about 20,000 militants from Hamas and other Palestinian nationalist parties have died in the 15 months of fighting and their military strength has been greatly reduced, the Israeli government's proclaimed goal of destroying Hamas and preventing it from maintaining power in the Gaza Strip has not been achieved.

Hamas said in the days following the truce that the deployment of its militiamen attacks against the revolution and against and police was intended to "prevent a power vacuum and chaos, to ensure public order despite the devastation" and that it "managed to restore all police stations in the Strip to normal operation." On Thursday, January 23, the Hamas Interior fields of investigation, their presentation Ministry announced that its men were facing attacks on food trucks by "criminal gangs." It is likely that they are criminal groups, but also the starving population. This puts at risk the gains of Hamas and its control over the population. Now that the İsraeli bombs are temporarily no longer raining down, it will not be easy for Hamas to maintain control over 2.3 million people, in the conditions to which the war has reduced them. We helped to tackle every topic and task that must believe the reports that Hamas continues to recruit many young people and very young people, full of hatred and anger for the massacres and destruction carried out by Israel. But there is no doubt that among the population there is also discontent towards Hamas that dragged Gazans into a ruinous war. the Furthermore, being a militiaman provides a source of income in a destroyed economy. Hamas' show of force is therefore not only directed against Israel but also against the proletariat and the dispossessed of Gaza, to warn them that any uprising will be responded to with lead from those well-dressed and armed policemen and militiamen. Even for the Israeli bourgeois state, on the one hand, having signed a truce with Hamas means admitting that it has not achieved the proclaimed objective of the war, on the other hand it allows it to maintain a state of emergency within the country, of impending war, necessary to control the Israeli working class. The sold-out Israeli bourgeoisie propagates the lie that all Palestinians are with Hamas, just as, on the other side, the Palestinian bourgeois parties inculcate the idea that all Israeli workers consent to the extermination of the Palestinians and that therefore there can be no proletarian solidarity above the front. Therefore, the objective of destroying Hamas, in addition to being very difficult to achieve, is not even desirable for the Israeli bourgeoisie. The roots of Hamas are the funding of the regional powers that support it and the dispossessed and Palestinian subproletarians who enlist in its militias. To destroy Hamas, bombings from the sky Lebanon largely destroyed and with are not enough and more men on the equally heavy blows inflicted along the ground would be needed. This is not sustainable for an army armed to the teeth, thanks to donations from US imperialism, but which already shows signs of crisis, being able to count on a population of only 8 million Israeli Jewish citizens, with a daily drip of victims. Even if militarily annihilated, Hamas' Not even a week later, the advance of lifeblood would spawn a similar party. Then there is the demographic question. A "Greater Israel" that includes the West Bank and Gaza would have a population that is 50% Arab-Palestinian. Capitalism in its youthful and progressive phase would aspire to overcome ethnic and religious divisions in the nation, with economic growth and with radical positive structural reforms. Capitalism in its senile, to the flight from Syria of the pro-Iranian imperialist phase, closes itself in racism, in the oppression of minorities. In Israel, in the "Jewish State". For the "Palestinian question" therefore the bourgeois Israeli

The only things left to distract Israeli state has no solution. On the other hand, the proclamations for the "destruction of Israel" by Hamas serve to keep Israeli workers terrified and to seek protection in their state, which will lead them to massacre.

This is why Israel has supported Hamas financially for years and more recently accepted that Qatar would increase its funding. This is why today it rejects any plan to entrust political control to the Palestinian National Authority, which holds it in the West Bank: because saying "no" to the PA in Gaza is 'solution" that capitalism has to offer to the Israeli and Palestinian proletariat is a general conflict, a third world war. In it, it will be possible, through ethnic cleansing and genocide, to capitalistically "resolve" imperialist front that would emerge victorious.

In any case, it would be the proletariat that would be defeated once again, on both sides of the front, united even in defeat because its condition is unique. In Iran, strikes multiplied at the end of the year of the ayatollahs were to fall under the blows of the working class fighting the Israeli bourgeois regime, the "external

It is true that both sides of this war truce desired and decided by the bourgeois forces that wanted the war, not determined by the rebellion of the proletarian masses pause while waiting for the resumption of the conflict. But it is also true that all a long time to come. bourgeoisies and their states are economic and social crisis of capitalism that advances and deepens every day, and that they cannot avoid. They are all historically already defeated because to save themselves they have nothing to offer but death and destruction, the devastation of Gaza and the rest of the world. The proletariat, defeated in every conflict that begins and is consumed to the end, is the problem that capitalism cannot solve and

The Grueling Massacre in Ukraine

The slow advance of Russian troops continued both on the southern front of Donetsk and in the Kursk region of Russia. The four regions of Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhia and Kherson annexed by Russia with the referendums called in September 2022 are not yet fully under Russian military control, apart from Luhansk. They are included, together with Crimea, in the territorial claims that Moscow has always set as a precondition for negotiating an agreement.

In Donetsk, a powerful defense system built over years must be conquered meter by meter. The Russian strategy seems to be to force the Ukrainians to mass troops at certain points on the front where they can be hit by aircraft or artillery. On the diplomatic front, Russia the Chinese economy. The impoverished does not seem interested in quickly peasantry represented the largest force in reaching a ceasefire. The situation of the thousands of desertions, uncertainty about class. The Congress argued that China was military supplies, a shortage of in a transitional stage between feudalism ammunition and a minimal air force, opens the way to new successes for Moscow, which must justify to the proletariat the tens of thousands of deaths and economic damage caused by this conflict Russia also demands demilitarization of what remains of the interpretation towards a "revolution by Ukrainian state and an assurance that Ukraine will remain outside of NATO. The recent strategic agreement with strengthened Iran has Russia's international position, although the military alliance has precise limits and does not go so far as to foresee that if one of the two signatories is attacked by a third state the other is obliged to intervene. During the election campaign, Trump, in contrast to the prevailing "isolationist" ideas about abandoning Kiev to its fate, had his national security adviser state that the new administration would push Ukraine to "lower the mobilization age to 18 to attract hundreds of thousands of new troops," thus continuing the war "to the last Ukrainian." The leaders of the European Union and NATO insist on their decision to help party that was more focused on promoting Kiev "until victory" with the reconquest of the territories currently occupied by Russia. They even intend to continue supporting Ukraine even if the United States were to stop doing so. "If we do nothing, Russia could attack us," the Congress of the Communist International warmongers representing the European Union shout in chorus, to mask their common interest in the profits of the arms industries. Currently, the United States revolutionary movement, in particular over supplies 70% of the weapons to the European NATO states. There is also an agreement with NATO leaders for member states to increase spending on weapons to 5% of GDP, which would be more than double the current level. There are even threats of risky unilateral decisions to send military contingents from some NATO countries to fight in Ukraine. hand, risk being cut out of any peace negotiations because the US president has already announced that he is ready to get rid of them and deal directly with Putin, without giving the European states, as always, a say in the matter. On the other hand, the famous sanctions against Russia are bringing the European industrial apparatus to its knees rather than the Russian economy, which has found other buyers on the world market. Of course, there is no single position among the 27 states of the Union that pursue different and even contrasting policies. France has adopted a hard-line military response, recently calling for the direct involvement of the Atlantic Alliance in the conflict, and has lifted restrictions on the use of its SCALP cruise missiles to strike Russian territory. Poland also hoped for direct involvement in the conflict and has been undertaking a bold rearmament would lead to the advocacy of a "left

South Korea, and plans to allocate 4.7% of its state budget to defense next year. The German government, now out of office. has taken an intermediate position, sending significant military aid to Kiev but preventing the use of its long-range Taurus missiles inside Russia. Italy continues to send weapons and aid to Kiev but has always declared itself decidedly against sending troops to Ukrainian territory. The United Kingdom declares itself ready for a direct confrontation with Moscow and authorizes the use of cruise missiles equivalent to saying "yes" to Hamas. The against Russia. The new Labour government, in perfect continuity with the previous Conservative one, has signed a "one hundred year collaboration" pact with the Ukrainian government that would even include the possibility of installing this age-old conflict, either with "Greater military bases in the country. But military Israel" or with "free Palestine from the circles point out that Her Majesty's Armed Jordan to the sea," according to the Forces have never been so weak since the Napoleonic era.

In these power games the Ukrainian state has no role, it depends entirely on its Washington. 'protectors" in This subservience to the government of the 'beggar" Zelensky, as Trump called him, is proven by the role of the Kiev secret services in supporting the advance of the rebels who overthrew the Assad regime in Syria, alongside the United States that protected and supported them.

The numerical consistency of the armies is a problem that the war in would disappear. Both among the of Europe. Professional armies, composed of tens of thousands of specialists, are not suited to fighting the war that is being prepared. It will be necessary to mobilize hundreds of thousands, millions of proletarians to be deployed as cannon fodder. Many states are already preparing to reintroduce compulsory military service

What is emerging, therefore, despite the propaganda talk about the possibility of peace, is a prolongation of this war for

The proletarians of Ukraine and USA. The HTS was also defined by the intrinsically weak, threatened by the Russia, already tested by years of war, subjected to the iron heel of corrupt and warmongering governments, could rebel against a new demand to shed their blood and impose on the States their peace, the only possible one, overthrowing the regime of capital as the Russian proletariat did in October 1917. Only the proletariat fighting for communism will be able to put an end to the state of permanent war, misery and hunger, uncertainty and terror of tomorrow into which the capitalist regime, in full crisis, not only economic and ideological, but tomorrow social and

Origins of the Communist Party of China

8. Submission to the Kuomintang

The Second Congress of the Communist Party of China (PCC) was held in Shanghai in July 1922 with nine delegates representing the 123 party members. The documents of the Congress analyzed the political and international situation of China, with a focus on imperialism and the fight against foreign aggression. It emphasized the internal division of China, characterized by the presence of warlords and civil war, which prevented the unity of the country.

A comprador bourgeoisie acted as an intermediary between foreign capital and the revolution, but it could only be Ukrainian armed forces, hit by tens of achieved in alliance with the working and capitalism, and that the Chinese bourgeoisie should fight against feudalism, with the proletariat allying with the peasantry to lead the revolution. However, the documents lacked a clear vision regarding the role of social classes in the the revolution, leaving open a possible stages", like that theorized in Russia by the Mensheviks. The PCdC decided to join other revolutionary forces, including the Kuomintang, but trying to maintain the independence of the proletariat. A "Democratic Alliance" was also proposed that would unite various groups, but the initiative did not find approval from the Kuomintang and was abandoned. Work in the labor movement remained the main goal of the PCdC, which sought to promote the independent organization of the working class. Furthermore, internal disagreements emerged over party centralization, with a pro-democracy tendency led by Li Hanjun opposing the centralized vision of the PCdC. Li advocated a less centralized communism among intellectuals, a vision that was supported by Maring because of his openness to the Kuomintang. The Second Congress of the PCdC in 1922 accepted the directives of the Second regarding the national and colonial question, but divisions persisted over the tactics to be adopted towards the nationalcooperation with the Kuomintang (KMT). Although Maring's proposal to form an "internal bloc" with the KMT was not adopted by the Congress, Maring obtained a green light from the Executive Committee of the Comintern (ECCI) for his line, which included the transfer of the PCdC headquarters to Canton and close cooperation with the KMT. The ECCI approved some of Maring's The European states, on the other recommendations, directing the Chinese Communists to work closely with him in Canton, where the KMT had strong influence. Although there was no official statement justifying the Communists' entry into the KMT, the ECCI provided guidelines regarding the KMT as a revolutionary organization, with the aim of supporting its "proletarian wing" and educating future ideologically independent members towards the CdC. The ECCI instructions, while not explicitly endorsing Maring's line, reflected an ambiguous and opportunist approach, assuming that the PCdC had yet to be formed and that the Communists should support a wing of the KMT deemed to represent the "proletarian elements" The ECCI produced Instructions for the ECCI Representative in Southern China, which set out the line to be adopted by the Chinese Communists. This approach plan for several years now, with major wing" within the Chinese bourgeois party,

purchases from the United States and a position that would, in time, have negative implications for the revolution in China.

In mid-1922, the Communist International ordered the Chinese Communists to "organize Communist groups in the KMT," a proposal similar to Maring's that was quickly rejected by the CdC. To overcome internal opposition, Maring convened the Hangzhou Plenum on August 28–30, 1922, where, using the authority of the International, he succeeded in gaining the CdC's consent to the tactic of joining the KMT. This meeting marked the beginning of closer cooperation between the CdC and the KMT, with the Communists forming an "internal bloc" in the Nationalist Party.

The decision of the PCdC to join the KMT marked an important turning point: the Communists renounced their political and organizational independence and submitted to the discipline of the KMT. This process culminated in the Third Congress of the PCdC, when the Communists would finally hand over the leadership of the national revolution to the KMT. However, many Chinese Communists, such as Zhang Guotao and Cai Hesen, were opposed to this line, instead supporting the centrality of the workers' movement. But, despite the resistance, discipline prevailed in the International, and the PCdC leaders, although opposed, accepted the imposed line. Only the Secretariat of Labor continued to oppose it.

Opposition to Maring's policies was strong in the party and even detested by members of the Central Executive Committee. In order to strengthen his position, Maring suggested expanding it by adding members who were favorable to his line, such as Li Hanjun and Li Dazhao, representatives of the nationalist right. Thus, despite the resistance, the leadership of the CdC gradually moved towards a position favorable to joining the KMT

Joining the KMT marked the beginning of a cooperation that would see the Communists participate in the reorganization of the Nationalist Party. Meanwhile, at the Fourth Congress of the International, possible Soviet military support was being discussed. The Chinese delegate Lin-Yen-Chin spoke of a "united front" with the KMT, with the idea that the Communists would join the party individually to strengthen revolutionary influence.

This tactic of infiltration into the KMT, supported by the International and Maring, was fundamentally flawed, based on the illusion of being able to wrest influence from the Nationalists. Radek in his speech criticized the optimism of the Chinese delegates and emphasized the weakness of the revolutionary movement in China. He considered the situation still far from being favorable to socialism or a Soviet republic, and suggested that the task of the Communists was to focus on organizing the working class and establishing alliances with the revolutionary bourgeois forces to fight imperialism. Radek did not directly support Maring's tactics, but the reality of the PCdC entering the KMT at the individual level of militants condemned

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The Imperialist War in the Middle East: Today's Vanquished -**Tomorrow's Winners**

The report to the meeting denounced how already at the end of January the truce was proving fragile. The Israeli state, a long arm of the US war machine, fought on seven fronts: in Gaza, in Lebanon against Hezbollah, in Syria and Iraq against pro-Iranian militias, against the Houthis in Yemen, against Iran, and finally against the armed groups of Hamas and the IPJ in the West Bank.

In this broad framework, the war fought in these 15 months by Israel has been a success. Hezbollah, militarily much more powerful than Hamas, has been greatly weakened, with a considerable part of its leadership physically eliminated, with its logistical structures in southern Beqa' Valley and in the Shiite neighborhoods of Beirut. This forced Hezbollah into a truce on November 27, with Israel's right to strike Hezbollah if they do not retreat north of the Litani River, a right which Israel has exercised with near-daily targeted bombings.

the Sunni militias organized by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) began in Syria, conquering Aleppo on December 2 and taking Damascus on December 8, deposing the Assads in power since 1971. This led to the breaking of the so-called "Shiite corridor", which from Iran passed through Iraq and Syria to Lebanon, supplying Hezbollah with weapons, and militias, who retreated to Iraq. This was a second heavy blow to the Iranian regime and its ambitions in the region.

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bourgeoisie; it would, in practice, impose the submission of the Communist Party and the Chinese proletariat to the bourgeoisie.

The International, with its "Theses on the Eastern Question", promoted the tactic Bolshevism from the Menshevik current. Under the pretext of the emergency of an "anti-imperialist united front", but without considering the problems of such an alliance in China. The Fourth Congress of the International and the Communist Party of Italy reaffirmed the need for ideological clarity and a strong for Latin America and the Caribbean organizational structure, but in China the penetration of the Communists into the endangered the political KMT independence and effectiveness of the proletarian movement.

In January 1923, the Fourth Congress of the International formalized its position on China, favoring cooperation between the CdC and the KMT. The resolution emphasized that the KMT was the only revolutionary force in China, expressed by the democratic bourgeoisie, the petty bourgeoisie, the intellectuals and the workers. Since the labor movement was still weak, the CdC should collaborate with the KMT in the fight against imperialism.

This alliance with the KMT marked a change from the previous criticisms made by the International regarding the Chinese bourgeoisie. The policy led to the subordination of the PCdC to the KMT bourgeoisie, abandoning the independence of the proletarian movement as indicated in previous Congresses.

In January 1923, the International and the PCdC aligned themselves with Sun Yat-sen, the head of the KMT, who was seeking Soviet support, while accepting that China was not ready for communism. This Menshevik policy denied the adoption of a radical socialist revolution, opting for an alliance with the bourgeoisie.

In February 1923, after the repression of the railway workers' strikes, the PCdC, despite having a strong influence on the working class, found itself tied to the KMT. The Third Congress of the PCdC, held in June, confirmed this alliance with the KMT as central to the national revolution, abandoning any attempt at political autonomy. This compromise with the bourgeoisie would lead to the defeat of the working class in the repression of 1927

At the Third Congress of the CCP, many members, including Mao Zedong, gave up on the possibility of an autonomous revolution. The dispute over centralism within the CCP was resolved by adopting measures to strengthen the party center. As a result, some right-wing members, such as Li Hanjun, left the CCP to join the KMT.

However, relations with the KMT remained controversial. Many members of the CdC were opposed to the tactic of entryism, but Maring defended it by arguing that the CdC should focus on the national revolution, joining the nationalist movement and complementing the strength of the KMT. He justified this alliance with his assessment of China's economic and social backwardness, combined with the weakness of the CdC.

The Third Congress of the PCdC did not completely resolve the issue. While it recognized the need to influence the KMT, on the other hand it criticized its military tactics, which brought it closer to the militarists and imperialists, considered incompatible with a national revolution. The PCdC should therefore have aroused a left wing within the KMT, composed of workers and peasants, to orient it towards a more revolutionary policy.

In November 1923, resistance within the CCP continued. Zhang Guotao rejected the idea that the KMT was the only revolutionary movement and argued that the Chinese bourgeoisie was still too dependent on the imperialists While recognizing the need to work within the KMT, Zhang argued that the CCP should maintain an independent position, continuing to organize workers and develop an autonomous struggle, avoiding the labor movement being subordinated to the KMT. Zhang Guotao criticized the KMT as not only a false nationalist party, but also lacking in real organization, in fact its first Congress took place in 1924 Some members of the CdC, including Chen Duxiu, were unwilling to hand over the leading role of the revolution to the KMT and believed it was important to maintain the political independence of the CdC. However, despite internal opposition, the leadership of the PCdC confirmed the line of the Third Congress, supporting the participation of the Communists in the reorganization of the KMT. In November 1923, the Executive of the PCdC ratified the decision to consider the KMT as the central force of the revolution in China, with the Communists having to integrate into its sections. The resolution left no doubt about the path taken: all the work of the Communist Party was to be conducted within the Kuomintang, now considered the central force of the revolution in China. The reorganization and development of the Kuomintang had become the main tasks of the Communist Party. The resolution issued precise directives: Communists, while remaining members of the PCdC were to join KMT branches in centers where they were already present or to create KMT branches themselves where there were none; the program dictated by the KMT leadership was to be followed; and the correction of the KMT's political tendencies was to be carried out "in accordance with the nationalist principle embodied in the Three Principles of the People." In December 1923, the PCdC issued a circular requiring the participation of Communists in the KMT Congress, which was to be held in January 1924. This approach was accompanied by a theoretical reworking that emphasized the revolutionary role of the bourgeoisie in leading the national revolution. Mao Zedong, just elected to the Central Committee, supported this position, theorizing that the merchants (part of the bourgeoisie) would be the most motivated to fight against the militarists and the imperialists, because of their economic interests. Thus, theorizing a preeminent role for the commercial bourgeoisie, the classical position of Menshevism was taken, which leaves the leadership of the revolution in backward countries to the national bourgeoisie. This interpretation of the revolutionary development in backward countries, according to which the imperialist yoke would have made the national bourgeoisie of the colonial and semi-colonial countries more revolutionary than the Russian antifeudal bourgeoisie, in subsequent formulations will be the same with which the degenerate International will justify all the directives imposed on the Chinese

the Communist Party to work for the communists, which will lead to the tragic China, while Lenin had already clarified have been approved, justified for the fight that impossible as a revolution of the terrorizing the working class, with union bourgeoisie", definitively separating leaders persecuted, imprisoned and killed.

Class Struggles in Latin America

Although the Economic Commission estimates the average annual growth rate of the countries in the region at 1% between 2015 and 2024 and forecasts growth of over 2% in 2025 and a downward trend in inflation, workers population have been added. remain highly exploited, with a sharp decline in real wages (as well as pensions), with 46.7% of the workforce employed in informal jobs. Governments are faced with the need to reduce the tax burden and are considering cutting payrolls and privatizing centralized state enterprises and services.

Every bourgeois government, along with the parties, parliamentarians and trade union clowns, tries to delude the working class that the recovery of business and enterprises will bring them prosperity. But the prosperity of national economies will not necessarily translate into improved wages, working conditions and the working environment. Any economic plan of the bourgeois governments of the region will be based on increasing the rate of exploitation of the working class.

Governments will implement growth, incentives for capital accumulation and attraction of foreign investment, accompanied unemployment and a sustained decline in real wages. More and more, traitorous union leaderships and opportunist parties will find it difficult to contain workers' struggles and channel discontent into the electoral circus. Conditions that will require the strengthening and extension of the terror and repression of the bourgeois state

The struggles are distorted by the influence of the petty bourgeoisie and the labor aristocracy. The regime unions and opportunist parties that influence the labor movement and control its economic organizations play a fundamental role in the demobilization, disorganization and division of the union movement. The workers' demands are mixed with those of the bourgeoisie or petty bourgeoisie: national sovereignty, against the privatization of state enterprises, for credit to small and medium-sized enterprises, etc

However, some workers have taken up the struggle either by breaking the control of union leaderships or by forcing them to take the lead in strikes and mobilizations. Workers have demanded wage increases, payment of arrears, and defense of their living conditions and working environment.

These struggles have been defeated or have achieved poor results. But they represent an anticipation of the resumption of the class struggle. From these episodes a new trade union leadership of the class has not emerged, nor have there been contacts between these movements and the revolutionary party. We must evaluate this reality of the workers' movement neither with idealism nor with voluntarism, but as confirmation of how the capital-labor contradiction emerges and imposes itself despite the control of opportunism and betrayal in the trade union movement.

We have seen the unity of the workers at the base, the decision to strike indefinitely and without minimum assemblies services. with and organizations at the base, the demands for and economic situation of the workers, or in healthcare by reducing the number wage increases and related to the social rejecting the treacherous positions of the of patients per nurse. union leaders. movements cannot be overcome without pesos. This covers only 52% of the basic a contact of the union movement with the needs of a single worker and 35.6% of direction of the communists. Hence the importance of persevering in revolutionary propaganda. The following are to be highlighted at the beginning of this 2025: Since November 22, meat industry workers in Uruguay have been fighting with several actions to break the stalemate in collective bargaining over wages and working conditions. This movement has crossed borders, receiving the support of the National Confederation of Food Workers of Brazil and other trade unions in the region. The meat industry, one of the most important economic sectors in Uruguay, employs thousands of workers and has a significant impact on the country's exports. However, working and wage conditions in the sector have been the subject of recurring tensions. Workers are demanding wage improvements in line with the rising cost of living and the implementation of measures to guarantee decent working conditions and safety in production processes. Many of the sector's employees receive wages that barely exceed the legal minimum, despite having to work long hours and conditions that pose health risks. It remains to be seen to what extent international solidarity will materialize, starting with that of Brazilian workers in the same industry. In Argentina, the parliamentary representation of the so-called "Frente de Izquierda", an electoral coalition between various opportunist parties, has presented a bill for the nationalization of the railway system "under the control, management and administration of workers' and users' organizations". Yet another nefarious influence of opportunism that seeks to distract workers' struggles from the demands and confrontation with the bosses. The path of "struggle" presented by the Left Front (and all the opportunists in the region) is that of betrayal, of polyclassism, of parliamentarism, of electoralism, to keep the workers movement impotent in the face of the offensive of the capitalists and their governments. In 2024 there were 35,000 layoffs in the public sector and the devaluation of the currency continued. The Milei government no longer consults the official unions, but they continue to support the bourgeoisie in the exploitation of workers and any critical reaction is only a pantomime that excludes the workers' struggle. In October 2024, the purchasing power of the minimum wage was almost 40% lower than in November 2019 and 54% lower than in the same month in 2015. This is a decline in wages that precedes Milei's management since the bourgeoisie still does its business by increasing the exploitation of the working class

communists, which will lead to the tragic In El Salvador, since March 2022, 33 defeat of the proletarian revolution in extensions of the "emergency regime" "the bourgeois revolution is against criminal gangs, but also useful for regime, the government has cancelled collective agreements and prohibited strikes

> In agreement with the International Monetary Fund, 19 public bodies have been eliminated, spending has been cut, layoffs have been made and paychecks have been cut in the public sector, especially in health care and education. New taxes and cuts in subsidies for the

In the countries of the region, the 48hour working week prevails.

In Venezuela, since the 2012 labor law was enacted, the week has been set at 40 hours, with 2 consecutive days of rest. With exceptions for some sectors, in addition to allowing extensions of the day for "justified" reasons.

In Mexico, there is a "40-Hour Front." There, the week is 48 hours. The proposal to reduce it to 40 hours is part of "100 government commitments" included in the electoral campaign of the current president.

The maximum legal work week in Colombia has been set at 46 hours from July 15, 2024; on July 16, 2025, it will be reduced to 44 hours and from July 16, 2026, to 42, over six days a week. However, there are known cases in which Colombian employers take advantage of this to reduce wages. Chile is expected to reach 40 hours per week starting April 26, 2028

In Brazil, a petition to the National Congress in September calling for an end to the 6x1 working schedule, six days of work for one day of rest, received nearly 3 million signatures. The 6x1 shift is widespread in commerce and services. Of the approximately 55 million workers. about two-thirds work a 40-hour week. 2,824 reais, \$455, and 42 percent earn less than 2,100 reais.

But the National Congress has already buried or rejected at least 9 proposals on reducing working hours in Brazil. Most of the changes to the legislation on working hours have favored the bosses. In 2017, a reform established that overtime be compensated with an equal number of hours of rest within six months, which companies often do not respect. Under the previous rules, workers received a 50% supplement for overtime, which rose to 100% on weekends.

The Lula government did not express itself against the 6x1 in order not to alienate the workers. The claim is not supported by the mobilization of the unions but by public opinion and electoral interests.

The proposal to reduce the work week in Central and South American countries is part of the bourgeoisie's calculations, which solves the need for extended working hours through overtime. In fact, popular Thomas Sankara came to reprethe reduction of working hours is accompanied by its greater flexibility. Furthermore, the majority of the working class is now precarious or underemployed and for them no rules are applied. In Brazil, for example, Uber drivers and food and package deliverers are not classified as employees but as "micro-entrepreneurs", without rights or Social Security

The movement will have to take up the demand for a significant reduction in ploitative relations with France. working hours, without reducing wages intensity. For example, in education by reducing the number of students per class

The Independence of the Sahel States on **Trial**

At this meeting, the comrade presented the second part of the report that continued the research on the events that have affected Burkina Faso and the surrounding Sahel region in recent years, characterized by strong political instability in the former French colonial territories, what is now commonly known as Françafrique. For the summary of the first part, we refer to the report of the September meeting in issue 431 of this journal.

The history of the region has been described. The territory now occupied by the State of Burkina Faso was part of the larger Mossi Empire from the 12th to the 15th century, whose largest kingdom was all its military presence by September. that of Ouagadougou.

In 1896, after years of fierce resistance by the indigenous peoples of the Mossi kingdoms, France, in the course of its inglorious European colonization, defeated the Kingdom of Ouagadougou and made the surrounding territories a French define many of the borders still in force today, including that of Burkina Faso.

During the First World War, the metropolis resorted to the conscription of its colonial subjects, destabilizing local communities.

Scourged by years of forced labor and heavy taxes, the different ethnic groups united in a revolt, which began in late 1915 in present-day Mali, Volta, and Burkina Faso. They fought valiantly, routing the French army with guerrilla tactics. The colonizers ultimately prevailed using only the most infamous methods. The anticolonial resistance of 1915-16 left a legacy that would foreshadow and influence the anti-colonial revolutions of the peoples of black Africa after the Second World War.

In 1919, the French formally estab-Eighty-two percent of workers in lished Upper Volta as a colony, which becommerce and services earn less than came a labor pool for neighboring French colonies, especially for cocoa plantations in Côte d'Ivoire. A labor migration that still exists today.

France attempted to use the Upper Volta for cotton cultivation. As usual, monoculture production disrupted the primitive local communist economy. Corvée labor was imposed on the population in the construction of railways and on plantations.

The region is still severely underdeveloped today, after decades of colonial and then imperialist exploitation, and Burkina Faso is still one of the poorest nations in Africa. The French eventually divided the colony into the states of Mali, Niger, and Ivory Coast.

Anti-colonial agitation only grew. In 1958, the colony became an autonomous republic but within the French Community, a colonial legacy in which France sought to maintain its sphere of influence.

Upper Volta achieved independence in 1960. After a series of coups d'état the sent the revolutionary and anti-imperialist bourgeois nationalism that tended to free the country from France and to seek real economic sovereignty in Upper Volta, renamed Burkina Faso. But the emancipation movement was ultimately betraved: Blaise Campaoré would govern for the next 25 years supported by democratic France and the West.

Even today, Burkina Faso has not class-based trade union managed to free itself from the legacy of its colonial history and its evident ex-

Coming to the current situation, the and without increasing overtime and work report described the demographic and economic makeup of the country. Burkina Faso's productive activity is centered on

surgencies, the dramatic increase in food prices, and widespread social instability. By 2023, over 2 million Burkinabe were internally displaced and nearly 150,000 had sought refuge in neighboring coun-

Farmers in northern Burkina Faso have found themselves caught between Islamist violence and army reprisals. The compulsory enlistment of union members in the army, as denounced by the Unité d'Action Syndicale (UAS), reflects the regime's desperate need to bolster the military ranks.

The Sahel states have expelled all traces of anything French, in the wake of anti-Western sentiment, dormant but present throughout West Africa. Niger has extended this expulsion to the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) and has ordered the United States to evacuate

Senegal, Ivory Coast and Chad have recently wanted to free themselves of all Western military presence, especially French.

But what, moreover, characterizes all the Sahel states is the growing cooperation with Russia, China and Turkey, imperiprotectorate. In 1898, the Anglo-French alisms that seek to expand their influence Convention was signed, which came to in Africa. These three states have mainly provided military support.

In 2023, Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso formed the Alliance of Sahel States (AES), aimed at strengthening security cooperation against Islamist groups. One of the first actions taken by the Sahelian states was to withdraw from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The AES has "irrevocably" cut ties with ECOWAS, a structure it rightly sees only as a mouthpiece for the West.

In July 2024, the Alliance transformed into the Confederation of Sahel States, with the express goal of further strengthening mutual economic and political ties. The Confederation's ambition is to create a common currency and collaboration in sectors such as agriculture, water and energy, in a broader strategy to achieve "economic sovereignty". However, as history has shown, true economic independence for these nations - if they remain disparate and not united in a true pan-African bloc - is impossible within the framework of capitalism, inserted into the global system dominated by more powerful imperialisms.

Popular support for the junta, particularly among the proletariat and petty bourgeoisie, is largely the result of the regime's nationalist and "anti-imperialist" rhetoric. However, this support is fragile and depends on the junta's ability to deliver on its promises of security and stability.

Burkina Faso has begun to nationalize mines to better exploit its natural resources, especially gold. The government has acquired two mines for about \$80 million and seized 500 kilos of gold for "public necessity." Most gold mines, however, are still foreign-owned, British, Canadian, Chinese, and Indian. We'll see if the Burkinabe bourgeoisie not only barks but also bites

(End of report in the next issue)

International Press of the Party

EL PARTIDO COMUNISTA IN-TERNACIONAL N. 43 - marzo 2025

- El capitalismo necesita la guerra – 8 de marzo: con la clase trabajadora, contra el patriarcado

¿Oligarquía en los EE.UU.? Brics: No habrá un mundo multipolar que cure las heridas del capitalismo

DEL ARCHIVIO DE LA IZQUIERDA

For the year 2025, the minimum wage The political inadequacies of these in Colombia has been set at 1,423,500 what a family of four requires. But the minimum wage only applies to 9.9% of the economically active population: 10 million workers do not even receive that.

In Venezuela, on January 10, Nicolás Maduro was sworn in as president for a new term (2025-2031), with a strong media and military-police deployment and with the arrest of both right-wing and left-wing parties. opportunist Announcements of arrests of "terrorists" and CIA agents abound. All the political and media tension that surrounded the election results of July 28, 2024 and the re-election of Nicolás Maduro reflects an inter-bourgeois struggle, which in turn is an expression of inter-imperialist struggles for control of Venezuela's raw materials, oil and gas. Both the political factions in government and those that oppose it represent bourgeois and imperialist interests in the division of the cake.

Paradoxically, while the Biden administration was offering an increase in the reward to \$25 million each for information leading to the capture of was hanging over Osama Bin Laden) and was issuing visa restrictions for around 2,000 Chavistas, at the same time the White House was reaching an agreement with the Venezuelan government on the oil and gas business and was not revoking the licenses of American oil companies operating in Venezuela.

Both political factions in Venezuela protect the profits of the bourgeoisie and imperialism. Both will use the policemilitary-judicial apparatus to repress and crush workers' struggles. Both seek to align workers on their side, in a polarization between bourgeois groups.

But the opportunist left tries to present itself as an alternative to these two political poles, demanding legality, democracy and human rights. This left, parliamentary and electoral, nationalist, patriotic and democratic, is also the enemy of the workers and contributes to their enslavement. It only calls for some reform that does not change the essence of the dominant regime of exploitation. The resumption of the class struggle will have to break not only with the artificial polarization imposed by the bourgeoisie, but also with the treacherous currents of the opportunist left.

The path that workers must follow is to return to strike, for an indefinite period and without notice, to demand significant increases in wages, pensions and incomes support for the unemployed, a reduction in the working day, relying on the organization at the base, moving forward towards the rebirth of true class-based unions, grouped in a United Class-Based Trade Union Front for the clash against the bosses, their governments and their repression.

agriculture, which employs about 80% of the workforce, mostly in subsistence farming. Capitalist industry is concentrated in the South Services contribute 48% of GDP and manufacturing less than 10%. GDP per capita was only \$774 in 2019.

The country's proletarianization process has been extremely slow. Youth unemployment is high, especially in the North, where Islamist groups use it as a recruitment pool. Most young people work in agriculture. Only 46% of the population is literate.

Modern agriculture has historically been based on cotton. Gold and cotton account for 85% of exports. Poverty is entrenched, especially in rural areas. Limited mechanization of agricultural capital makes farms vulnerable to cyclical droughts. The lack of roads is why the domestic market is quite small.

Moreover, Burkina Faso is one of the fastest growing African economies, with a rate of 5.68% in 2019, despite threats from Islamist groups and the Covid pandemic. Between 2000 and 2022, the share of GDP of the manufacturing sector fell from 16.2% to 9.9%, that of agriculture from 26.4% to 21.7% and that of services from 48.8% to 50.5%. But extractive industries increased from 1.9% to 14.5%. In the same period, the share of employment Maduro and Cabello (the same bounty that in industry went from 4.2% to 7.0%, that of services from 10.4% to 18.8%, while that of agriculture fell from 85.4% to

The country is thus following the path taken by all capitalist countries. However, the active population is still mainly made up of farmers

As in most "third world" countries due to Western colonialism and imperialism, they have been reduced to suppliers of raw materials, with the native bourgeoisie earning a rent through the rental of farm and mine land, acting as an obstacle to the development of the country. Imperialism blocks the capitalist development of these countries. And in particular of Burkina Faso. In 2022, food inflation reached

14.1%. This, combined with political instability caused by Islamist insurgents, led to the second coup in less than a year, which placed Captain Ibrahim Traoré in power. The decline of French imperialism in the region was first evident in Mali, where two coups took place in less than a year. This French withdrawal paved the way for Russian involvement, whose mercenaries have settled in the region.

The popular discontent that fueled these coups was due to both the inability of previous regimes to combat jihadist in Las causas históricas del separatismo árabe

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