

Platform

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Leninism is a banner of certain victory

Stephen Cho | Coordinator of the Korean International Forum

April 21, 2025

Article for the International Scientific and Practical Conference “The Birth of Genius”, dedicated to the 155th anniversary of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, hosted by the CPRF faction in the State Duma, together with the All-Russia Public Organization Russian Scientists for Socialism (RUSO)

The genius of the great revolutionary Lenin lies primarily in his ideological and theoretical brilliance. Lenin inherited the revolutionary essence of Marxism, innovatively overcame its epochal and ideological-theoretical limitations, and established Marxism-Leninism in the era of monopoly capitalism and imperialism. Leninism demonstrated the possibility of socialism’s victory in one country, which became the theoretical premise for the Russian Revolution of 1917. Capitalism develops unevenly, engaging in the struggle for colonization during the stage of monopoly capitalism and imperialism, and can give rise to breaking weak links in the imperialist chains first and foremost. Lenin not only scientifically analyzed the great changes of this period and the shifts in the objective conditions of revolution but also studied the subjective conditions for the practical success of the revolution.

Practice is always the starting point of perception, the driving force behind the development of theory, and the criterion of truth. Leninism as the guiding ideology, the Bolsheviks as the leadership core, and the Soviets as the mass foundation—these formed the three key elements of the Russian Revolution. The October Revolution of 1917 proved that these subjective forces were the decisive factor in the revolution’s victory. The great Marxist and communist Lenin, who grasped the inseparable dialectical

relationship between the Russian Revolution and the world revolution, made an immortal contribution to strengthening the international communist forces by founding the Third International, the Comintern.

The locomotive of history is revolution, and the locomotive of revolution is the party. Convinced of the crucial role of the revolutionary political organization, Lenin devoted his life to building the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on his way to founding the party—the locomotive of the Russian Revolution. He founded it with the League of Struggle for the Emancipation of the Working Class (LSEWC), celebrating its 130th anniversary this year, as the parent organization, with the Bolsheviks—strengthened through the ideological struggle within the Russian Social-Democratic Workers’ Party—as the core, and subsequently formed the Comintern.

World War I, an inter-imperialist war, resulted in the emergence of the world’s first socialist state. World War II, which transformed from an inter-imperialist war to an anti-fascist war, led to the emergence of socialist states on a global scale and the formation of the socialist camp. Starting from the 1930s, national liberation struggles in colonies led by communist parties grew rapidly, deepening the political and economic crisis in the imperialist camp. Both national and international revolutions developed swiftly under the new conditions of the era, where socialist revolutionary movements in monopoly capitalist-imperialist countries, on the eve of socialism, and national liberation revolutionary movements in colonies, direct victims of the colonization battle and exploited for colonial super-profits, developed simultaneously.

Following the victory of the world anti-fascist forces

in World War II and the subsequent formation of the socialist and national liberation camps across the world—a period of great upsurge of revolution—the imperialist camp, feeling threatened, devised the “Cold War” strategy and pursued a policy of “containment” and localized wars against national liberation countries. As the international communist movement failed to overcome the dogmatic stagnation and revisionist degeneration within the socialist camp, a fierce counter-revolutionary storm swept through the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, plunging the world communist and anti-imperialist movements into a period of trials and hardships.

Nothing in the world remains unchanged. As the overall crisis of 21st-century capitalism and imperialism deepens, and as the neoliberal policies of imperialism face the risk of collapse, their global hegemony begins to waver. In proportion to this, the communist and anti-imperialist movements have strengthened on a global scale. As the capitalist system, inherently bound by its fundamental limitations, faces an unprecedented political and economic crisis, imperialism has brought fascism to the forefront to induce and provoke localized wars in Eastern Europe in 2022 and West Asia (the Middle East) in 2023. Now, it seeks to ignite a fatal war in East Asia and the Western Pacific. Imperialism is waging an unprecedented world war under the “New Cold War” strategy, targeting socialist countries and states with a socialist heritage as its main enemies.

Where there is oppression, there is resistance; and when darkness deepens, the dawn approaches. The world communist and anti-imperialist movements are forging a world anti-imperialist front, and they will emerge as the final victors in World War III, leading the new great upsurge of revolution. The historical experiences of victory in the Russian Revolution and World War II are the greatest weapons of our revolution in this era. The victory of anti-imperialist and socialist movements, advancing along the path of science, is certain. Leninism is the

banner of certain victory.

“From the First Wave to the New Fire: Advancing Proletarian Revolution Against Imperialist War”

Marco Pappalardo | Party of Committees to Support Resistance—for Communism (Italy)

We thank the CPRF for organizing this International Anti-Fascist Forum and for inviting us. It is an honor for us to be in the land that was the first socialist country in history. The Soviet Union and the Communist International led by Lenin and Stalin raised the first wave of proletarian revolution throughout the world and changed the world.

During the First World War in Russia, communists took advantage of the revolutionary situation generated by the world war, seized power, and held on to it. This was despite the civil war waged by the reactionary classes of the Tsarist empire and the aggression of all the imperialist powers. Their success was mainly due an advanced understanding by Lenin and the Bolshevik Party of the conditions of the class struggle in the imperialist phase of bourgeois society. It was also due to the advanced understanding of the particular conditions of the class struggle in the Tsarist empire. All communists who want to advance, must start from the experience of the USSR and learn from its lessons, valuing every positive aspect and identifying and overcoming the limitations that every innovative phenomenon inevitably has at the beginning.

Lenin teaches us that “the imperialist epoch is the epoch of proletarian revolution and the decline of bourgeois society.” Today, the decline of bourgeois society means World War III in pieces, growing misery even in the imperialist countries, environmental devastation, and the reemergence of fascists from the sewers where we had thrown them. World War III and the advance of the proletarian revolution are the two currents which, in struggle with each other, are contesting the ground throughout the world, given the unification that took place in the imperialist epoch. Either we put an end to war by promoting

the proletarian revolution, or we take advantage of the development of war to accelerate the proletarian revolution. “If socialism does not win, peace between capitalist States will mean only an armistice, a truce, the preparation for a new massacre of the peoples,” wrote Lenin in December 1917, two months after the victory of the Russian Revolution: all subsequent history up to the present day has confirmed this.

Lenin, and along with him Stalin, taught us that only the victory of socialist revolution in imperialist countries would guarantee that the victory in Russia would be irreversible. The first wave of the proletarian revolution (1917-1976) achieved great victories and successes, but failed to establish socialism in any imperialist country. As Italian communists, operating in an imperialist country, we say: the main reason for the exhaustion of the first wave of the proletarian revolution lies in the failure of the revolution in the imperialist countries. This was the main limit of the communists’ action during the first world wave of the proletarian revolution: this is the limit we must overcome today.

It is mainly because of this limit that, starting in the 1950s, the first revolutionary wave gradually lost momentum and modern revisionists, the representatives of bourgeois influence in the communist movement, took over the leadership of most communist parties. Therefore the communist movement declined until the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the socialist camp, and the imperialist bourgeoisie regained its domination of the world. But today, as yesterday, the deepening crisis of capitalism makes the establishment of socialism indispensable for the survival as well as any progress for humanity. The crisis is giving rise to an acceleration of the class struggle throughout the world, in which everything

that the first wave of the proletarian revolution brought about is converging: from the heroic struggle of the working class of the Donbass against fascism, to the great mobilizations in solidarity with Palestine, from the BRICS and the front of States resisting US imperialism to the countries where communists have maintained political leadership like the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In order to try to maintain its dominion, the imperialist bourgeoisie is now returning to fan the flames of reactionary mobilization and war: in Italy and other European countries, 'either we have Europe or we die' is becoming the banner of the reactionary mobilization of the popular masses. We can block the road to reactionary mobilization. Opposition to war, to war economy and arms race, resistance against the elimination of social welfare achieved when the communist movement was strong, is widespread among large sections of the masses in our country as in other imperialist countries and is increasingly translating into mobilizations, protests, and struggles. Leveraging opposition to war and its effects to bring the popular masses to participate in the socialist revolution is the general synthesis of the tasks of communists.

The CARC Party is active in Italy in the struggle against NATO and against our country's participation in NATO's proxy war against the Russian Federation in Ukraine. At its Sixth Congress in 2023, our party approved a clear resolution on the question of the war in Ukraine, rejecting any position of equidistance and any interpretation of the Russian Federation as an imperialist power. In December 2024 in Bologna, along with dozens of other organizations and associations, we promoted the establishment of a National Coordination for Italy's exit from NATO. We are now working to create links between the Coordination and workers in logistics and war companies, to block the production and transport of weapons.

Participation in the International Anti-Fascist Forum is an important opportunity to strengthen our work aimed at establishing a government in Italy supported by a Popular Front that opposes war and our country's complicity with fascist and pro-imperialist regimes around the world, for the full sovereignty of Italy in the interests of the popular masses, peace, respect and solidarity among peoples.

The establishment of socialism in an imperialist country such as Italy, even just a decisive leap forward in the socialist revolution such as the establishment of a Popular Bloc Government for which the CARC Party is fighting, is the main contribution that Italian communists can make to the struggle of oppressed peoples and to the cause of peace and socialism worldwide.

In this way the Russian communists, with the revolution that culminated in the October 1917 uprising, not only forced the imperialist powers to quickly end the First World War, but also launched the first world wave of proletarian revolution. The first imperialist country to break the chains of the International Community of US, Zionist, and European profiteers, speculators, and warmongers will start the new fire that will finally free the world from the capitalist system!

Lenin, Imperialism, and the Struggle Against Fascism

Christopher Helali | American Communist Party

I would like to dedicate my speech to the memory of my great uncle, Yiorgos Kasidakos, who served in the Greek People's Liberation Army (ELAS) of the National Liberation Front (EAM) under the leadership of the Communist Party of Greece (KKE). He served throughout the war as a partisan, achieving heroic victories with his unit against the Nazi invaders and was wounded during one such battle. After the war, he was arrested, imprisoned in Gytheio, and executed by the Monarcho-Fascists backed by Anglo-American imperialism on March 21, 1947 during the Greek Civil War. Honor and glory to all our heroic anti-fascist fighters! May their memories be eternal!

On January 28, 2025, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists set the Doomsday Clock to 89 seconds to midnight, the closest ever to human extinction.^[1] Our world is edging closer to annihilation. The ongoing genocide in Gaza, the collapse of the Syrian Arab Republic, the war against Yemen, the US-EU-NATO imperialist war on Russia, and the increasing hostility towards China by the United States have destabilized the world, bringing it ever closer to nuclear confrontation, and ultimately, our collective extinction. Over a century ago, V. I. Lenin made critical insights into the study of imperialism through an economic analysis of its structure. It was this theory that paved the way for an understanding of contemporary imperialism and the emergence of fascism during profound crises in the World Capitalist System. Yet, regrettably we are faced with ongoing ideological struggles within the international communist movement over the nature of imperialism, the countries identified as imperialist, and what that means for the transformation from a unipolar to multipolar or polycentric international

system. These issues must be properly understood theoretically for us to address the practical tasks ahead of us.

In Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism, Lenin outlines the main economic aspects of imperialism. It is important to identify them so that they help make informed ideological positions about our contemporary situation. This is ultimately the scientific outlook that we must stress. The five main economic traits of imperialism are as follows:

1. The concentration of production and capital reach heights that give rise to monopolies, which play a decisive and outsized role in economic life.
2. The fusion of banking and industrial capital gives rise to finance capital and the financial oligarchy.
3. The export of capital, unlike the export of goods, acquires special importance.
4. International monopoly groups are formed that divide up the world among themselves.
5. The world is divided and distributed among the major capitalist powers.^[2]

This definition can be juxtaposed with the definition of the so-called "imperialist pyramid" which was formulated by the former General Secretary of the Communist Party of Greece (KKE), Aleka Papariga. She writes, "[t]oday there are few countries which are at the summit, in the first positions of the international imperialist system (it is illustrated with the schema of a pyramid in order to show the various levels occupied by the capitalist countries) a handful of countries one could say according to the Leninist expression. But this does not mean that all the other capitalist countries are victims of the powerful capitalist states, that the bourgeois class of most countries has submitted to the pressure, despite its general interest that it has been corrupted."^[3]

This definition seeks to expand Lenin’s definition of imperialism, conflating it with merely having a capitalist mode of production or, in the case of socialist countries, having any economic relations with a capitalist country. This theory of the “imperialist pyramid” is further expanded by noting that “[t]he number of states is increasing which are regional powers, satellites of strong imperialist powers, countries which play a particular role in the alliance and partnership policy of the various powers in the pyramid. The inter-imperialist contradictions are in effect in every form of alliance, and all these multifaceted relations, which embrace every capitalist country in the world without exception, constitute the imperialist pyramid.”^[4]

The Communist Party of Greece’s position is effectively saying that every country in the world is a constitutive part of the imperialist pyramid. While it is clear that some powers are greater imperialist powers according to the pyramid, every country in the pyramid is to a greater or lesser extent, imperialist. No exception is made for those countries which are socialist or those that are fighting against Western hegemony. Aleka Papariga goes on to say, “[t]oday the number of imperialist centres has increased, while new forms of alliance have also emerged such as the alliance centred on Russia, the alliance of Shanghai, the alliance of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS), the alliance of the countries of Latin America ALBA, MERCOSUR etc.”^[5] This idea that somehow all of these countries and alliances, even those actively against US-EU-NATO imperialism are themselves imperialist, is, I would argue, categorically false.

Some might wonder why I juxtapose Lenin’s theoretical insights about imperialism with “imperialist pyramid” theory? The purpose is to highlight the glaring theoretical differences that have now translated into major political differences. Some communist parties have interpreted the current geopolitical landscape as a rivalry between

imperialist powers. This so-called theory of “inter-imperialist wars” confuses the masses, attempting to take a dogmatic and unscientific approach under the banner of “neither Washington, nor Moscow, nor Beijing.” However, it is clear that international developments have revealed that a new, more progressive world order is on the horizon.

This theoretical crisis has now manifested itself into a political crisis in the international communist movement over Russia’s Special Military Operation. Those of us who have been active in the anti-fascist struggle for years are clear about the Western-backed fascist junta that took power in Kiev in 2014. It was US-EU-NATO imperialism that installed a fascist government in Ukraine to be the frontline in their war against the Russian Federation. We know well the crimes committed by the Azov Battalion, Right Sector, and other Neo-Nazis, Banderites, and Fascists. The rehabilitation and memorialization of Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, the Ukrainian Waffen SS Galicia Division, and leaders like Stepan Bandera are an attack on the memory of the heroes who defeated fascism in the Great Patriotic War.

Having been on a fact-finding mission to Lugansk in the Summer of 2024, I submitted in my report to the United Nations that “[t]he slogans of ‘Russia, Russia, Russia’ in 2014 were not chanted with the aim of being part of Russia at that time but calling to be protected by Russia. To protect the civilians from a Western backed-regime that was outlawing their culture and traditions inherited from the USSR and trying to change them by imposing historical revisionism and foreign cultural values. This war is one of survival for the people of the Donbass, not of separatism, expansion, nor Russian ‘imperialism.’ Since early 2014, the people of the Donbass have called on the Ukrainian government to agree to protect, as one local put it, ‘our rights, our language, our history, and our heroes.’”^[6] The Ukrainian government failed to do this. However, Russia answered the call to defend the people of the Donbass, at long last launching the

SMO in 2022.

There is clearly a connection between imperialism and fascism. In the aforementioned case, Western imperialists supported, financed, and armed fascists in Ukraine to be their proxy in launching a war against the Russian Federation. It is imperialism that gives birth to fascism. The Thirteenth Plenum of the Executive Committee of the Communist International, as described by Giorgi Dimitrov, defined fascism “as the open terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinistic and most imperialist elements of finance capital.”^[7] How does a people fight against fascism?

To analyze this, it is important to understand how Dimitrov reconciled proletarian nationalism and the national sentiments of the working class. It is all too often the case that modern communists suffer from a form of national nihilism that spurns all types of patriotism and national identity. However, Dimitrov is clear when he writes that, “[w]e Communists are the irreconcilable opponents, in principle, of bourgeois nationalism in all its forms. But we are not supporters of national nihilism, and should never act as such. The task of educating the workers and all working people in the spirit of proletarian internationalism is one of the fundamental tasks of every Communist Party. But anyone who thinks that this permits him, or even compels him, to sneer at all the national sentiments of the broad masses of working people is far from being a genuine Bolshevik, and has understood nothing of the teaching of Lenin on the national question.”^[8] Dimitrov goes on to say that “proletarian internationalism must, so to speak, ‘acclimatize itself’ in each country in order to strike deep roots in its native land. National forms of the proletarian class struggle and of the labor movement in the individual countries are in no contradiction to proletarian internationalism; on the contrary, it is precisely in these forms that the international interests of the proletariat can be successfully defended.”^[9]

While liberals, social democrats, Eurocommunists, Trotskyists, ultra-leftists, and anarchists hurl insults at Russia and particularly the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (KPRF) for a supposed red-brown alliance, for support Russian nationalism, fascism, and imperialism, what these so-called “leftists” fail to understand is the national and patriotic character of the anti-fascist front that has developed in Russia since 2014 and especially since the SMO was launched in 2022. It is the character of this national form of anti-fascist struggle that has provided Russia with the strength to take on the US-EU-NATO imperialists and their allies and to still achieve victories on the ground. It is clear that Dimitrov’s formula is a winning recipe in the struggle against fascism.

Thus, the only correct view regarding imperialism today is to see the United States, European Union, and the NATO alliance, including their allies and lackeys as constituting one imperialist axis. Combined, they represent the real unipolar, hegemonic, and imperialist power in the world today. However, this power is declining. The rise of BRICS, the SCO, BRI, and other politico-economic projects seek to challenge the decades long unipolar world order. This is the birth of a multipolar world and it is the duty of every anti-imperialist to stand against US-EU-NATO imperialism.

A true Marxist-Leninist perspective on the emerging multipolar world should be centered on the progressive nature of this new world order. The American Communist Party does not see multipolarity as the solution itself but as a progressive and strategic step for the peoples of the world to have more freedom than under the unipolar world of US-EU-NATO hegemony. It is this freedom and space that will allow social movements to thrive and develop new economic forms as we are already seeing in different countries around the world. The American Communist Party rejects the theory of the so-called “imperialist pyramid” and sees this as an

attempt to obfuscate the theory of imperialism and the struggle against contemporary forms of fascism. The American Communist Party recognizes the progressive role played by Russia, China, DPRK, Iran, Yemen, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba, and other socialist and anti-imperialist countries in the world today.

The American Communist Party, true to the historical legacy of Marxism-Leninism, understands the importance of uniting forces that are dedicated to anti-imperialism. Our historical duty is to unceasingly confront US-EU-NATO imperialism and all of its proxies around the world. This represents the greatest threat to humanity today. Given the various fronts and lines of demarcation facing the international communist and workers’ movement today, we must sharpen our ideological positions and prepare for a prolonged ideological war with those who choose revisionism, opportunism, and liberalism. Our strategy is to be united in confronting imperialism under the banner of anti-imperialism. We must heighten and deepen our collective struggle against the US-EU-NATO imperialist axis, the greatest threat to world peace. Only through the final confrontation with Euro-Atlantic imperialism can we open the possibility of constructing socialism-communism and building a lasting world peace for all.

Notes

[1] John Mecklin, ed. “2025 Doomsday Clock Statement.” Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, February 5, 2025. <https://thebulletin.org/doomsday-clock/2025-statement/>.

[2] V. I. Lenin, Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism, <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/imp-hsc/ch07.htm>.

[3] Aleka Papariga, “On Imperialism-The Imperialist Pyramid,” <https://inter.kke.gr/en/articles/On-Imperialism-The-Imperialist-Pyramid/>.

[4] International Relations Section of the CC of the KKE, “The Leninist approach of the KKE on imperialism and imperialist pyramid,” <https://inter.kke.gr/en/articles/The-Leninist-approach-of-the-KKE-on-imperialism-and-imperialist-pyramid/>.

[5] Aleka Papariga, “On Imperialism-The Imperialist Pyramid,” <https://inter.kke.gr/en/articles/On-Imperialism-The-Imperialist-Pyramid/>.

[6] Christopher Helali, “UN Press Briefing on Factfinding Mission to Donbass and Moscow.” PopularResistance.Org, July 11, 2024. <https://popularresistance.org/united-nations-press-briefing-regarding-factfinding-mission-to-donbass-moscow/>.

[7] Georgi Dimitrov, “The Fascist Offensive and the Tasks of the Communist International in the Struggle of the Working Class Against Fascism,” n.d. https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/dimitrov/works/1935/08_02.htm.

[8] Ibid.

[9] Ibid.

On fascism

Communist Labor Party of Türkiye/Leninist

Dear Comrades,

Just as Marx began his analysis of capitalism with the commodity, the Communist International (Comintern) based its analysis of fascism on the study of monopoly capitalism. Thus, to understand fascism’s global situation today, we must start from the current state of monopoly capitalism, finance capital, and the capitalist mode of production worldwide. However, a detailed examination is impossible in this brief speech, so we will summarize our views as follows in a series of key points:

1) In the 90 years since the Comintern analyzed fascism, capitalist commodity production, the social productivity of labor, and the development of productive forces have reached unprecedented scales. Parallel to this—and as its result—capital accumulation and its concentration in the hands of a few monopolies have grown to magnitudes incomparable to Lenin’s era of imperialism.

2) This historical development has generated staggering wealth on one pole and staggering misery on the other. The contradiction now shakes capitalism to its foundations. The productive forces, having outgrown the capitalist mode of production that encases them like a suffocating shell, are fracturing it at every seam. The great social upheavals we witness today stem from this contradiction demanding resolution by humanity itself. Across the world, the working class, laborers, and oppressed peoples are rising against capitalism.

The process of dispossession of the dispossessed, which started with the 1917 October Revolution, is no longer confined to individual nations but has become a global phenomenon. This marks a new era/phase in history, as noted by Communist Labor Party of Türkiye/Leninist in the late 1990s. Lenin’s proclamation of imperialism’s collapse in 1917

heralded a new stage in the transition to socialism. Today, proletarian revolutions advance on a world scale.

3) Seven or eight years after the bourgeoisie declared the “end of history” (1991), NATO admitted the 21st century would be a century of revolts” and prepared to crush them. On September 11, 2001, U.S. imperialism formalized this by declaring a “global civil war.”

4) Monopoly capital, now concentrated in a handful of imperialist powers, can no longer sustain its growth through old methods of exploitation (e.g., indirect “dependency”). To survive, it imposes “full economic annexation” on nations within the capitalist system.

5) Nations resisting this policy faced bombardment, occupation, partition, or dismemberment. Examples:

- Yugoslavia: Bombed and dismantled via fascist militias and collaborators.
- Russia: NATO besieged it in 1999 after it rejected annexation and ousted traitor Yeltsin.
- Iraq/Afghanistan: Occupied militarily.
- Libya: Destroyed by NATO and religious-fascist proxies after Gaddafi’s refusal.
- Syria: Proxy war waged with global jihadist gangs.
- Ukraine: The elected Yanukovych was overthrown by the fascist “Maidan coup” for resisting plunder at the hands of the EU.

6) Fascism’s class basis is monopoly capital; its essence is a counterrevolutionary, anti-communist movement. While its forms vary by country and era, this core remains. Thus, reducing fascism to its 20th-century German/Italian/Spanish variants is a mistake.

7) U.S. hegemony and imperialism are collapsing. The revolutionary situation has emerged globally. Social revolutions and popular uprisings are an actual fact on every continent. To halt this, monopolies

deploy fascism as a counterrevolutionary weapon, mobilizing transnational fascist forces (e.g., Boko Haram, ISIS, neo-Nazis). In this sense, fascism now operates as an “international reactionary front”.

8) The latest vivid example of this is Ukraine. The imperialists not only brought the neo-Nazis to power with the fascist Maidan coup. Or, in the words of the Kremlin, they did not stop at organizing Ukraine as an “anti-Russian” state. At the same time, with the “Special Military Operation” launched by the Russian Federation to protect the people of Donbass from genocide, they cast away all the false veils of democracy and human rights. In continental Europe, in the notorious “social democratic Scandinavia”, they launched an unprecedented “anti-Russian witch hunt”, while revealing their true intentions, rooted in a deep anti-communism, anti-Sovietism. They set out to rewrite history. In the words of Baerbock, the granddaughter of a committed Nazi, they raised the Nazi swastika without shame or embarrassment. All this is a declaration that the imperialist states have reached a new level in their relation with fascism.

The war in Ukraine has stripped away of all the veils of the anti-communist and anti-Soviet genetic essence of the imperialist West. Once again, fascism is embedded in monopoly capitalism and comes to the fore in all bourgeois states—even the “most democratic”—when crisis demands!

9) The international communist movement must practically respond to this counter-revolutionary, anti-communist policy of the world bourgeoisie with the consciousness of communist international solidarity. Working peoples and young revolutionary forces are fighting voluntarily against fascism and the forces of counter-revolution. We know of the international fighters fighting for the Lugansk and Donesk People’s Republics. Revolutionaries, including our comrades, rushed to Rojava to fight against ISIS and the fascist Turkish state. In the past, we know that the International Brigades were formed against Franco fascism. We know about the

international fighters, including our comrades, who fought for the Palestinian Revolution against Israeli Zionism in Palestine. But now, unfortunately, very little of this movement is organized and most of it is unorganized, spontaneous.

It has become the unenviable task of the communist, revolutionary parties to reverse this situation, to give an organized expression to this international solidarity, to give life once again to the internationalist revolutionary spirit of comrades Fidel and Che.

10) The revolutionary situation has matured around the world. Communist parties must overthrow the bourgeois governments through a revolution and establish the rule of the working class and working people. Anti-fascist struggle is inseparable from smashing monopoly capital—its class foundation. The goal is not “bourgeois democracy” but the overthrow of the capitalist mode of production and the rule of the capitalist class, and the establishment of socialism through “revolutionary popular governments”.

In closing, we would like to express our love, gratitude and thanks to Comrade Stalin, who chased Hitler and European fascism to its lair and destroyed it; to the Soviet Red Army that fought under his leadership; to the working class and toiling peoples of the Soviet Union who trained this army and sacrificed 27 million of their children in this war. Much is demanded of those who make enormous sacrifices. The Soviet Red Army and the peoples of the Soviet Union have given us so much, and we owe it to them to uphold their cause and carry forward the banner of victory at the cost of our blood.

We will win, communism will win!

With love and respect to all.

European Fascism, Its Forms, Essence and Historical Causes

Vukašin Žunić | New Communist Party of Yugoslavia (Serbia)

Dear Comrades,

I warmly thank the comrades of the CPRF for organizing this vital forum eighty years after the triumph over Nazi-fascism—a victory forged through immense sacrifice and international solidarity. Today, as we confront the resurgence of fascism in new forms, we must draw strength from the lessons of history and renew our commitment to the struggle.

The Legacy of Anti-Fascist Victory

It was the Soviet Union—the ideological antithesis of fascism—that bore the heaviest burden in defeating the Third Reich. From the defense of Moscow in the winter of 1941 to the titanic clash at Berlin in 1945, Soviet soldiers sacrificed an estimated 20 million lives. Their courage turned the tide of the war. On May 1, 1945, a Red Army soldier raised the Red Banner of Victory atop the Reichstag, symbolizing not just military conquest but a moral triumph over the darkest totalitarianism.

Across Europe, communist-led resistance movements rose against fascist occupation. In Yugoslavia, the Partisans—a multiethnic force guided by egalitarian principles—have liberated their homeland alone and with the Red Army through relentless struggle. From the mountains of Greece to the forests of Belarus, fighters tied down Axis forces, sabotaged supply lines, and provided critical intelligence to the Allies. These movements proved that fascism could only be crushed through collective action rooted in class consciousness and internationalism.

Historical Roots

Fascism emerged in Europe as capitalism’s crisis management. The interwar period (1918–1939)

exposed the rot of imperialism: economic collapse, colonial exploitation, and the bourgeoisie’s terror at the prospect of socialist revolution. The Great Depression shattered liberal illusions, pushing ruling classes to abandon democracy for open dictatorship. In Germany, monopoly capital backed Hitler to crush workers’ movements and expand markets through war. In Italy, Mussolini’s Blackshirts were bankrolled by industrialists to dismantle unions and socialist parties. Fascism, as Lenin warned, is capitalism’s “open terrorist dictatorship” when the system faces existential threats from below.

Fascism’s Resurgence: A Product of Capitalist Crisis

We gather today not only to honor the past but to confront a grave reality: fascism, though defeated in 1945, has found new strength. Neo-Nazism is not an aberration but a symptom of capitalism’s endless crises. Just as the Great Depression birthed Hitler’s regime, today’s social inequalities, imperialist wars, and neoliberal austerity fuel far-right movements.

Since the 2008 financial collapse, working-class communities have been devastated by privatization, wage cuts, and austerity. Far-right demagogues exploit this despair, scapegoating migrants, leftists, and minorities. NATO’s wars in the Middle East and Africa—driven by imperialist greed—have displaced millions, creating refugee flows that fascists weaponize to stoke xenophobia. Meanwhile, liberal democracies, paralyzed by their allegiance to capital, offer no solutions. The result? Parties like Germany’s AfD, France’s National Rally, and Hungary’s Jobbik rebrand fascist rhetoric as “patriotism,” while paramilitary groups like Ukraine’s Azov Battalion and Greece’s Golden Dawn terrorize peoples and

marginalized communities. Even state institutions, from Germany’s Bundeswehr to Spain’s security forces, tolerate or collaborate with far-right networks.

The Communist Response: Unity, Struggle, Socialism

Comrades, fascism is capitalism in decay. To defeat it, we must attack its roots.

1. Class Unity Over Division: Neo-Nazis seek to splinter workers by race, religion, or nationality. We must unite the proletariat across borders, exposing the true enemy: the capitalist oligarchy that profits from exploitation and war.
2. Mass Mobilization: History teaches us that fascism cannot be debated away. Like the partisans of WWII, we must build militant resistance—street demonstrations, strikes, and antifascist self-defense—to disrupt far-right networks.
3. Expose State Complicity: Capitalist states have always used fascists as a cudgel against the left. We must expose and dismantle these alliances, whether in police collusion or electoral opportunism.
4. Build the Socialist Alternative: Fascism thrives where capitalism fails. Only socialism—a system prioritizing workers’ rights, equality, and international solidarity—can eradicate the conditions that breed hatred and fear.

No Pasaran!

The soldiers who raised the red banner over Berlin believed fascism was vanquished forever. Yet today, as neo-Nazis march in European capitals, we face a stark truth: the fight is never truly over. Liberals and reformists will not save us. Only a revolutionary working-class movement, armed with the lessons of 1945 and unwavering solidarity, can ensure fascism’s final defeat.

Let us honor the heroes of the past by building a future rooted in justice. Let us rise, united and vigilant, to crush this resurgent evil.

No Pasaran!

Long live international solidarity!

Long live the struggle for socialism!

“Against NATO’s World War III: Unite the Anti-Imperialist Front and Smash Fascism!”

Jozef Bossuyt | Communist Party of Belgium

I bring you the greetings of the Communist Party of Belgium. The PCB was founded 104 years ago, on September 3, 1921, and immediately became a member of the Third International. Now our Communist Party is a member of the World Anti-Imperialist Platform.

World War III began. It was planned, launched, organized, financed, coordinated and armed by NATO, the main instrument of US imperialism. The NATO war is a war, which is being fought on 3 fronts:

Ukraine-Donbass, Palestine-Arab countries, Korea-China-Taiwan. The current world situation can be summed up in one sentence: “The flames of World War III, perpetrated by imperialism, are spreading from Eastern Europe to West Asia (Middle East) and then to East Asia.”

Against this NATO war offensive, the anti-imperialist coalition, built around countries as China, the DPR of Korea and Russia is gaining allies over the world. Countries as Vietnam, Laos, Cuba, and Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, Eritrea, South Africa, Venezuela, Nicaragua joined this anti - imperialist front.

Recently, new fronts have been opened. In response to the genocidal attack on the fascist state of Israel in October 2023, a new third front is being opened from Arab countries such as Yemen, Iran and Lebanon. Since August 6, 2025, the war has spread from the Donbass deep into the territory of Russia, with the invasion and occupation of the Kursk region by the Ukrainian army.

On 12 June, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg announced that NATO would now coordinate all support from all NATO members to Ukraine. On 13 June, the G7 decided to grant Ukraine a loan of 50 billion dollars, mainly paid for by the United States. On that day, Joe Biden signed

an agreement with Zelensky that in the next 10 years, the United States will help Ukraine build a military industry, train Ukrainian soldiers, and exchange information.

In our country, Belgium, there is the NATO headquarters in Evere, the Supreme Headquarters of SHAPE Allied Powers Europe, the NATO Central Command in Casteau and an American military air base in Chièvres. About 20 American nuclear weapons are stored at Kleine Brogel. The broad peace movement is organising meetings and actions in Belgium, demanding the withdrawal of the Kleine Brogel nuclear bombs, the end of the contracts for the purchase of F-35 fighter jets with the United States, the reduction of military spending (NATO is demanding 2% of our gross domestic product this year, then in the future even 3 and 5%, Belgium now spends no more than 1%). The peace movement also demanded the closure of the NATO offices in Evere and Casteau and the military air base in Chièvres.

From May to June 14, 2024, students from Ghent University occupied the University building, demanding that the university cease all relations and cooperation with Israel. Then they were evicted by the police. But they have left a slogan in the building: We will be back! You can’t stop the revolution!

On 31 March, the Belgian trade unions organised a national general strike. They do not accept that the government is diverting more and more money from the budget to give it to Ukraine in the form of weapons, investments and the sending of Belgian soldiers.

At the same time the government is blocking the budgets for pensions and salaries, hospitals and health care, schools, kindergartens, public services such as the post office, buses and trains.

Gaza: Stop the genocide by the state of Israel!

Israel's genocide in Gaza has already murdered more than 50,000 people, most of them women and children. Medical personnel, like ordinary Palestinians, have been arrested, imprisoned in fearsome prisons where many are tortured and killed. Israeli troops have again cut the Gaza Strip in two since Wednesday night, March 19. Soldiers and tanks have returned to the area, a little more than a month after finishing the ceasefire. Earlier in the day, according to the Gaza Ministry of Health, more than twenty Palestinians had already been killed in Israeli bombings. Israel has completely restarted the war. Once again, humanitarian workers are not safe. In an attack on a United Nations building, a Bulgarian UN employee was killed and five others were wounded.

Ukraine: Fascist Zelensky regime-NATO: Out of Donbass and Russia!

In November 2013, the U.S. funded and organized the pro-fascist Maidan uprising in Kiev against the pro-Russian government of Yanukovych. The United States therefore mobilized the most reactionary nationalist forces, supporters of the Nazi collaborator in World War II, Stepan Bandera. In February 2014, these gangs destroyed government buildings, offices of communist and trade union organizations, monuments to Lenin and commemorating the Soviet Union, and overthrew the government. The newly installed regime was essentially fascist, Ukrainian in its forms and American in its objectives and policies. It is especially in the east of Ukraine (Donbass, Mariupol, Odessa) that the resistance has developed. Poroshenko, Ukraine's president since May 25, violently suppressed this growing resistance. On May 2, 2014, fascist gangs burned 40 people alive in the Odessa trade union building. In the Donbass, a popular uprising has driven out the fascist representatives. The working class, especially miners and metalworkers, confiscated weapons from police

stations and army barracks, and erected barricades around government buildings. In May 2014, in the Donbass (eastern Ukraine), in a referendum (with 95% and 89%), the inhabitants of the Luhansk and Donetsk districts decided to no longer be part of Ukraine and founded the Luhansk People's Republic and the Donetsk People's Republic. Poroshenko launched a military campaign against Donbas, bombing schools, hospitals, homes and power plants, killing 14,000 people between 2014 and 2022. But neither he nor the future President Zelenskyy was able to take the capitals Donetsk and Luhansk from the people of Donbass, who were fighting in a just, defensive, and legitimate war of liberation.

Russia's intervention in 2022 supports this war of liberation on the territory of Donbas.

From May 10 to 15 in 2024, a delegation of the World Anti-Imperialist Platform visited the Luhansk Republic and sent us its report with videos and photos. Their conclusion is that the Ukrainian army is acting in this war in the same way as the Israeli army is acting in Gaza, bombing, killing the civilian population, destroying schools, hospitals, apartments, the same cruelty of genocide.

Support the anti-war, anti-imperialist global front that is forming around China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, Russia, Iran and Yemen.

In Belgium we demand:

Netanyahu's arrest if he shows up on Belgian territory

Belgium out of NATO!

NATO out of Belgium!

Stop all relations with the fascist state Israel!

As history of victory shows: the people of the world will surely triumph under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-fascism

Stephen Cho | Coordinator of the Korean International Forum

Fascism is one of the class domination methods of monopoly capital. In developed capitalist countries, monopoly capital uses social democracy and fascism as its two main methods of dominating the working class and other working people.

Some advanced monopoly capitalist countries, which have taken the lead in capitalist development and colonial domination, favor the methods of populist politics and social democracy, using the surplus profits extracted from their colonies to reform the middle class within their own countries, thereby deceiving the people with a left-and-right two-party system that masks the contradiction of polarization between the upper and lower classes. Other monopolistic capitalist countries that lagged behind in capitalist development and colonial domination prefer fascism to social democracy due to the weak material foundation for reforming. Right before World War 2, Britain and France were typical examples of the former, while Germany and Italy were typical examples of the latter.

As is well known from the historical fact that the Nazi Party in Germany shifted from social democracy to fascism and triggered World War 2, the difference between social democracy and fascism lies solely in their methods of class domination; their root and essence are identical, and this is no longer a secret.

The method of class domination of monopoly capital within a country takes the form of social democracy and fascism, while the method of domination of the people of other countries takes the form of imperialism. The domestic monopoly capital system is expressed internationally as the imperialist system. Monopoly capital dominates the working class domestically through fascism and

dominates the people of colonies internationally through imperialism.

World War 2 began as an inter-imperialist war, with imperialist powers such as Germany and Italy fighting against other imperialist powers like Britain and France. However, its nature changed when Germany invaded the Soviet Union. During World War 2, the socialist Soviet Union formed the world anti-fascist front with imperialist USA and Britain; thereby, the nature of World War 2 came to be defined as an anti-fascist war in essence.

Although both sides—Germany, Italy, Japan on one side and the USA, Britain on the other—were all imperialist countries, they differed in their systems of domestic rule: fascism or social democracy. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Comintern did not overlook this difference and actively used it to propose the line of the world anti-fascist front as a tactical measure to expand the anti-fascist camp and isolate the fascist camp by maximizing contradictions within the imperialist camp, which led to victory in World War 2.

In the course of this struggle, the CPSU and the Comintern had to wage an ideological struggle against the “leftist” opportunism and narrow-minded close-door policy—particularly the worker's united front line of the Trotskyist forces, typical opportunist forces within the international communist movement. At the same time, they had to overcome repeated conspiracies, vacillations, and betrayals of the USA and Britain within the world anti-fascist camp.

The reactionary nature of the US-British imperialist forces was revealed in the “Cold War” tactics that began out of fear and vigilance against the formation of socialist camp and national liberation camp on a

global scale as soon as World War 2 ended. The US military, which entered the southern part of Korea as an occupying force, established the “Republic of Korea (ROK)” government in the colony and turned it into an anti-communist outpost and a bridgehead for continental aggression, eventually realizing its “Cold War” policy through the 1950-53 Korean War.

The military fascist system that was established in the society of the “ROK” in the 1960s and 70s was a thoroughly imperialist-transplanted colonial system. The fascist system established in some developed capitalist-imperialist countries and the fascist system established in colonies are essentially distinct like this. It is no coincidence that fascism in colonial “ROK” is not only anti-people but also anti-national, as it has become the puppet of imperialism, which is its master.

As proven by the history of world revolutions, revolutionary movements in the colonies prioritize the struggle against national discrimination over the struggle against class discrimination, and it is law-governed that the national liberation revolution precedes the class liberation revolution.

Through science and practice, it has been revealed that the nature of the “ROK” society is that of a semi-capitalist colony, and the character of the revolution in the “ROK” is a national liberation democratic revolution. This means that the basic contradiction lies in the combination of national and class contradictions, and within them, the national contradiction is the principal contradiction and the main link that must be addressed first.

Furthermore, it implies that the main target of the revolution in the “ROK” is US imperialism, and the fascist forces serving as its agents are secondary targets. Of course, as the fascist forces are serving as the tools of imperialism that directly suppress the people, the significance of the anti-fascist struggle cannot be limited to a tactical level.

Especially when the DPRK declared at the Supreme People’s Assembly in January 2024 that the “ROK” is the target to be subjugated and stated its intention to resolve the national question through an anti-fascist war, it reaffirmed that the victory of the anti-fascist

struggle could decisively drive the victory of the anti-imperialist struggle.

The anti-fascist struggle today holds universal significance not only in the “ROK” but worldwide. Specifically, the authorities in Kyiv, Ukraine, and the Netanyahu regime in Israel are acting as the vanguard of imperialism, serving as the cutting-edge fascist tools of imperialism, attacking Russia—a country with a socialist legacy—and a pro-socialist anti-imperialist nation, Iran, along with “axis of resistance.”

The war in Ukraine, which began with the imperialist-orchestrated Maidan coup-fascist coup in 2014, intensified with Russia’s special military operation in 2022. And following the four wars in West Asia (the Middle East) initiated and driven by imperialism and Zionism, the fifth war in West Asia is now underway, intensified with the war in Palestine in 2023.

The storm of World War 3 caused by imperialism is blowing from Eastern Europe through West Asia to East Asia and the Western Pacific.

The fierce local war provocations against the DPRK from September to November 2024, and the pro-US military coup—the first in 45 years—carried out in December by the pro-US fascist forces in the “ROK” are decisive signs and evidence that a war in the “ROK” is imminent.

Faced with their greatest crisis after the failure of the fascist coup, the only way out for the insurrection group is a civil war. When local warfare is added to this civil war, it becomes the war in the “ROK”. The history of the 1948 civil war, the 1949 local war, and the 1950 Korean War is being repeated today by the imperialist warmongers and their fascist puppets.

The war in the “ROK” is the ultimate scheme for the imperialist warmongering forces desperate to ignite World War 3 and a war in East Asia, and their most expedient card to suppress the imperialist non-warmongering forces.

As expressed by DPRK, “that time is not set by us”; but the Korean Peninsula is in a state of “countdown.” The revolutionary forces and patriotic people in the “ROK” do not desire war, but if war is triggered by

imperialism and its fascist lackeys, they will respond with an all-people resistance war and turn it into an opportunity for revolution. In this sense, the eve of war on the Korean Peninsula is the eve of revolution in the “ROK.”

Imperialist forces are openly pursuing their plan to make East Asia—where socialist states like the DPRK and China, along with Russia, a country with a socialist legacy, are all neighboring—the main battlefield of World War 3. The imperialist camp is conspiring to label the DPRK, China, Russia, Iran, and others as the “new axis of aggressors” and is desperately attempting to establish a “New Cold War” system to avoid an unprecedented political and economic crisis.

While the division within the imperialist camp may not compare to the strategic significance of the unity of the anti-imperialist front, it nevertheless carries certain tactical importance. We acknowledge that tactical measures to further intensify the conflict between the “war-mongering forces” and the “non-war-mongering forces” within the imperialist camp, which has been escalating since the Trump administration took office, are necessary, as historical experience clearly demonstrates.

World War 1 was an inter-imperialist war, World War 2 was an anti-fascist war, and World War 3 is essentially an anti-imperialist war. As a result of World War 1, the Russian Revolution triumphed, giving rise to the first socialist state in history. As a result of World War 2, the anti-fascist forces emerged victorious, leading to the formation of the socialist camp and the national liberation camp on a global scale. If the anti-imperialist camp triumphs in World War 3, a new era of revolutionary upsurge surpassing the period immediately after World War 2 will begin. On a global scale, imperialism and fascism will suffer decisive blows, and anti-imperialist and communist forces will be greatly strengthened.

Amid the situation of World War 3, in October 2022, world anti-imperialist forces, including communist parties around the world, gathered in Paris to hold the first international anti-imperialist conference and launched the World Anti-imperialist Platform

(hereafter the Platform).

The Platform has continuously held a total of seven international anti-imperialist conferences in Belgrade, Serbia, in December 2022; in Caracas, Venezuela, in March 2023; in Gwangju and Seoul, the “ROK”, in May 2023; in Athens, Greece, in November 2023; in Washington, USA, in July 2024; and in Dakar, Senegal, in October 2024. Each time, it has also carried out vigorous world anti-imperialist joint struggles.

The practical activities, theoretical and propaganda work, and occasional protests and daily activities of the Platform, which brings together nearly 80 parties and organizations, consistently aim at three major goals of the world anti-imperialist mass struggle, the ideological struggle against opportunism, and the strengthening of the international communist movement.

The Platform particularly condemns the Communist Party of Greece’s “Imperialist Pyramid” theory, which is essentially identical to Karl Kautsky’s “Ultra-Imperialism” theory from the eve of World War 1, and the absurd argument that all countries on Earth are imperialist, as well as the thoroughly erroneous claim that the war in Ukraine is an inter-imperialist war based on this argument.

Holding high the two slogans of “Proletarians of all countries, unite!” and “The people, united, will never be defeated!” the Platform regards establishing a revolutionary strategy based on scientific analysis of the situation as its lifeline.

As proven by the victorious history of World War 2 and the present reality approaching the 80th anniversary of Victory Day, the triumph of the world anti-imperialist camp is certain. The final victory of the world’s people struggling under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-fascism is a matter of science.

What is fascism?

Antifascist Former Resistance Fighters Netherlands

Fascism is an elusive concept. It is commonly used as an insult for politics one dislikes. Most definitions do not address the nature of fascism, but the presentation of it. The most concise definition was given by Georgi Dimitrov in 1935: “the open terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinistic and most imperialist elements of finance capital.” Fascism is also an ideology and there is an organisation behind it. As an ideology and organisation it can take different forms depending on the situation.

Fascism is a tool created for the purpose of defending the interests of a specific fraction of capital—finance capital—from threats to its economic dominance.

Finance capital is not only the originator of fascism, but also of imperialism.^[1] This should inform both our understanding of the relationship between fascism and imperialism, and the evolution of fascism historically.

Since fascism as a political tool of finance capital arises in crisis, it should be seen as reactive in nature.

Fascism arose first in Italy in the 1920s and next across the industrialized world throughout the 1930s. Winston Churchill praised the efforts of Benito Mussolini in crushing the militant workers’ movement. Likewise, German bankers and industrialists, British, and American business interests all gladly supported Hitler’s rise to power. German finance capital was threatened by an economic crisis of overproduction and a political crisis of worker’s revolution. Hitler restarted profit accumulation at the expense of living standards briefly, but only for a couple of years, after which war became an economic necessity. It was only at this stage that the other imperialist powers truly turned against Nazi Germany.

The practice of fascism is remarkably close to the practice of colonialism. British colonial practices and racial segregation in the southern states of the US actually served as guiding examples for Nazi Germany in constructing its repressive apparatus. After World War II, the exploitation of the global periphery through debt bondage intensified, but so did the threat of (communist-led) anticolonial revolution. The main threat to finance capital no longer originated from militant workers’ movements in the industrialized imperialist countries, but in the global periphery that was increasingly becoming the most important source of profits for finance capital. As a result, the form of fascism evolved as well, but remained a weapon of finance capital. One could say that the repressive apparatus of colonialism was brought to the home countries in the 1930s, adapted into what we call fascism, and then exported back into the (former) colonies.

The Cold War saw the rise of fascist regimes in non-industrialized countries such as South Korea, the Republic of China on the island of Taiwan, Indonesia, South Vietnam, Cuba, Argentina, Chile, and Paraguay, to name only a few. All these regimes were brought to power with the full support of the US in the face of socialist or socialist-aligned popular movements which formed a direct threat against the interests of finance capital. Widespread violent repression of union organizing, leftist parties, using detention, torture and even mass slaughter was present in all those regimes for this purpose. In some of these countries, liberal democracies existed beforehand, but the liberal political system no longer facilitated the effective subjugation of the working class. Of course, all of these repressive policies were combined with economic policies which made the

countries more open to Western capital penetration.

As the (socialist) USSR was destroyed, fascism (Ideologically) continued to exist (under the surface). The rehabilitation of several fascists took place in former Soviet countries, for example: the fascist leader Antonescu in Romania, Nazi Ante Pavelic in Croatia, head of state and collaborator Riso in Slovakia and Stepan Bandera in Ukraine. One recent example is Syria where the “rebels” who are in fact “islamic” fascists overthrew the Syrian government (of Bashar-al Assad).

Meanwhile, other threats to finance capital have arisen. These threats come from political movements, forces who are pursuing an independent (not necessarily socialist) path, based on economic nationalism. This comes in the form of the nationalization of natural resources of governments such as the Russian government, the Shia revolutionary Iranian government or the Bolivarian socialist Venezuelan and Bolivian governments.

To push back against these forces and regain access to those natural resources, violent gangs and far right political forces were used to unsuccessfully overthrow the Venezuelan government and successfully overthrow the Bolivian government. For a year, Bolivia was ruled by a violent, pro-capital military dictatorship. Similar forces were used in Russia and Iran, but those societies have proven too united and too stable for these forces to take root.

Instead, proxy regimes are used to attack Russia and Iran. Both Ukraine and the Zionist entity known as Israel are repressive military regimes which engage in hard-handed repression of the most militant anticapitalist, anti-imperialist and anti-Western populations within the territories they control. Both the native populations of Palestine and of the Donetsk and Lugansk People’s Republics have been subjected to kidnappings, extrajudicial detention, torture, extrajudicial executions and military assault by the Zionist and Kiev regimes.

Additionally, Israel serves the dual purpose of

preventing the unification of the Arab world by being a wedge in its heart. The balkanization of the Arab world keeps it both exploitable by finance capital and prevents it from forming an entity powerful enough to pose a challenge to imperialist hegemony.

The launching of Russia’s Special Military Operation in Ukraine marked the beginning of a new era in world politics, where for the first time in decades, an effective effort to roll back the influence of Western imperialism has been made. A new era of world politics was opened on February 24th, 2022. This new era is marked by economic and geopolitical challenges to Western imperialism, and thereby finance capital. Although this is a hopeful development for the future of humanity to be able to evolve beyond imperialism, this resurgence of an effective challenge to the imperialist order is met with a resurgence of finance capital’s standard tool in times of crisis: fascism. That means that in the coming years, the struggle shall intensify, along with all its tragic consequences for human suffering.

Since imperialism had become more vital to finance capital than it had been before WWII, fascism evolved from a tool for maintaining class relations within developed capitalist countries into a tool for maintaining imperialism. Therefore, there is no such thing as a fight against fascism without a fight against capitalism and imperialism (and the fight for socialism). Since imperialism is the maintenance of parasitic economic relations between imperialist core and periphery at the behest of finance capital, there is only one geopolitical bloc that fits this definition, and that is the West. Neither the state of Russia, nor of China, nor of Iran are subordinated to finance capital in their countries, nor can it be plausibly argued that their international economic relations are parasitic; their economic relations with other countries do not bring down living standards in those countries.

The main instruments of imperialism are NATO and its proxies, so to fight against fascism, it is imperative to fight for the dismantling of NATO and

for its defeat in its imperialist wars. Wherever US influence is strong but threatened, the fascist threat looms strong; without the power of the US, neither the fascist militias in Ukraine such as Azov, Aidar, C14, Pravy Sektor and the like, nor the modern-day Einsatzgruppen committing genocide in Gaza would be able to operate in any meaningful capacity.

Within the Western countries, this means that the fight against fascism primarily consists of uniting all forces opposed to NATO to push back against this machine of imperialism. Fascism can only be defeated by destroying the system that feeds it and gives it life.^[2]

Outside of the Western countries, the countries of the world must stand together to destroy their domestic forces of fascism that are instrumentalized by the West to overthrow anti-imperialist, sovereignist, economic nationalist governments. Venezuela has recently been at the forefront of this struggle. In 2024, President Nicolás Maduro of Venezuela has taken the initiative to organize an Antifascist International for the purpose of uniting antifascist forces of the world. This international is based on the understanding that antifascism is inextricably linked to anti-imperialism, anti-Zionism and anticapitalism. This collective front must not only fight fascism politically, ideologically and in the neighbourhoods, but also use digital space (for example the social media) and technological tools to counter information manipulation and ongoing multidimensional psychological warfare.

Additionally, the comrades from Korea’s People’s Democracy Party have taken the initiative of setting up the World Anti-Imperialist Platform (WAP), uniting anti-imperialist forces around the world. The AFVN has already been present at this International in Venezuela and is a signatory to the WAP’s Paris Declaration, and continues to be part of both entities. Going forward, it would only be appropriate if the FIR were to join both these initiatives as well, thereby connecting itself to the forces that are at the forefront of the struggle against fascism and fascism’s parents:

finance capital and imperialism.

Notes

[1] Finance capital—the fraction of capital that is in the business of creating credit rather than creating commodities, which is the business of industrial capital, or circulating commodities, which is the business of commercial capital.

[2] In many cases, this would even include rightist forces that are wrongly portrayed in left-liberal discourse as fascist. All who oppose the machine of Western imperialism are antifascist, whether they know it or not.

The tendency towards fascism urges us to develop an independent proletarian force

Miguel Ángel | Unión Proletariá (Spain)

Article for the Session 1: World War II and the victory of the global anti-fascist struggle

To understand and confront a war, Lenin said that the most important thing is to elucidate its class character, its causes, the classes that sustain it, and the historical and historical-economic conditions that generated it.

The two world wars of the 20th century and the one now maturing are imperialist wars. When monopoly capitalism can no longer resolve its economic crisis peacefully, each of its states must resort to plundering wars against the proletariat, the oppressed peoples, and other imperialist nations.

The First World War of 1914-1918 did not sufficiently end the overaccumulation of capital by any single power: imperialism as a whole lost one-seventh of the planet’s continental landmass with the victory of socialism in the Soviet Union; France and England defeated Germany, and despite the enslaving conditions of the Treaty of Versailles, it regained its footing, becoming the world’s second industrial power; most of the labor movement remained under the control of the bourgeoisie through social democracy, but the communist faction of the proletariat held out long enough to unleash a powerful class struggle beginning with the crisis of 1929.

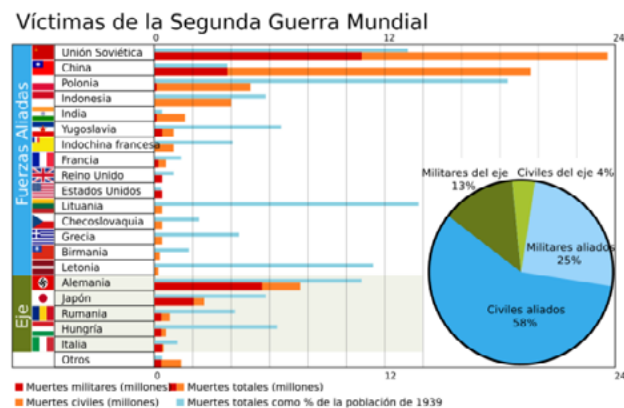
Most of the world’s capitalists then encouraged Nazi-fascism to crush the militant workers’ movement and launch fascist-influenced Europe against the USSR. But the Soviet government skillfully maneuvered to delay this goal and pit the Berlin-Rome Axis against Western parliamentary regimes. Thus, between 1939 and 1941, the Second World War was an unjust war

between two equally imperialist contenders. But, beginning in 1941, when the European fascist powers invaded the Soviet Union, the liberal imperialist side was forced to enter into an alliance with the country of socialism, and the war became a just war, a war for the liberation of the working class and the peoples of the world.

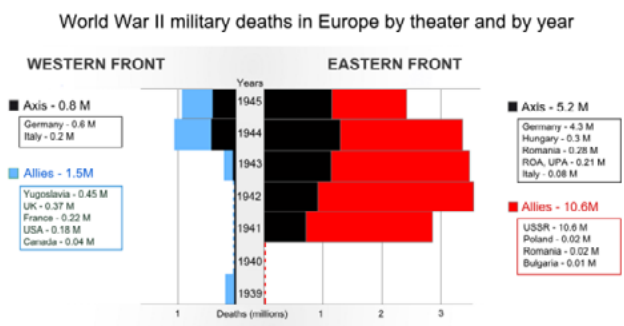
Despite this “grand alliance,” the war effort will be predominantly Soviet, and the majority of the victims of the atrocities in Germany, Italy, and Japan will be Soviet and Chinese.

The aim of German fascism was to destroy the Soviets, annihilate socialism, and obliterate the Soviet way of life. They were waging not just a war of usurpation or even enslavement, but a war of extermination, of genocide. An official call from the Nazi command at the beginning of the invasion, read to every Hitlerite unit, read: “Discard compassion and pity, kill every Russian and Soviet. Do not hold back before an old man, a woman, a girl, or a boy; kill. This will save you from death, ensure the future of your family, and cover you with eternal glory.” This is comparable only to what Israel is doing today to the Palestinian people: a planned racist genocide.

Between 20 and 30 million Soviets lost their lives, two-thirds of whom were civilians (the proportion was even higher among the Chinese population), which gives an idea of the fascists’ exterminating and reactionary purpose. In contrast, the number of victims in the Axis countries was less than a third of that recorded in the Allied countries; and the ratio of military to civilian casualties in the Axis countries was reversed, demonstrating the liberating and progressive purpose of the Allies, especially the USSR (even according to Wikipedia).



It was during the Great Patriotic War in the USSR that the fascist hordes were destroyed: 607 Axis Divisions, or 75% of the Nazi Army. The evidence, despite imperialist propaganda, is irrefutable. In total, the fascists lost 13,600,000 men in the war, killed, captured, and wounded, of whom around 10,000,000 fell to the Red Army.



From the beginning of the Nazi aggression in 1941 until the turning point marked by the Battle of Stalingrad in 1943, the imperialist allies remained on the sidelines, offering very little support to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union demanded the opening of a second front in Western Europe, but this had to wait until 1944.

Despite Western ideologues, the Red Army’s victory was not due to a numerical superiority in troops or climatic factors such as sub-zero temperatures. In both cases, until mid-1943, the Axis forces outnumbered those of the Red Army, and during the winter of 1941, temperatures only dropped below minus 10 degrees Celsius on very few days. The Blitzkrieg—which allowed the Nazis to conquer

Denmark in one day, the Netherlands in five days, Belgium in 19 days, Poland in 35 days, France in 44 days, and Norway in 63 days—failed in the USSR. And the Soviet combatants’ courage and skill were numerous proofs of their bravery.

The Soviet resistance and subsequent victory were due to the fact that it was a people’s war, based on the people’s identity with the socialism that had improved their lives and gave them confidence in a better future for humanity. The population of the USSR enlisted en masse in the Red Army and the organized anti-fascist guerrilla movement, and worked hard in the rearguard and building fortifications.

The difficult conditions in which the Soviet divisions found themselves at the beginning of the war (inexperience in motorized units, inferior quality of weapons, numerical superiority of the enemy, etc.) were quickly compensated for by the impetus and the certainty that they could not retreat, that they had to destroy as many enemy units as possible.

It was the Communist Party, created by V.I. Lenin, that led the Soviet people and their fighters to the great victory over the aggressors. In the preceding decades, this party had brought workers to power and managed to heal the wounds of the First World War and the Civil War, aggravated by the counterrevolutionary intervention of 14 capitalist countries. It had turned the country into the second industrial power, nationalizing factories, collectivizing and mechanizing agriculture, and organizing a planned economy. In 1931, Stalin warned that “We are fifty to one hundred years behind the most advanced countries. We must close this gap in ten years. Either we do it, or they will finish us off.” And he succeeded.

The current Russian rulers extol Tsarist Russia and distort the significance of the policy of patriotic unity pursued during the war against Hitler’s Germany. They assign decisive value to the concessions the Bolshevik government made to the country’s backward forces (Orthodox clergy, nationalist military,

imperial traditions, etc.) and curse the struggle the revolutionary proletariat waged to transform them, a struggle that was, however, essential for them to play a positive role in the resistance against the Nazi invasion. They also avoid recalling the evidence provided by Stalin that the country’s situation “on the eve of the Second World War, in 1940, was several times better than before the First World War, in 1913” (Speech delivered at the meeting of electors of the Stalin constituency in Moscow, February 9, 1946). And even less do they want to recognize that, as Stalin explained, what gave the people and the army “great and invincible strength” was “the socialist system born of the October Revolution” (27th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, November 6, 1944).

During the years of the conflagration, the Party intervened as an organizer and inspirer of talent, directing all efforts from the front and rear to defeat the enemy. The reorganization of the entire country according to wartime demands, the formation of new units and groups, their equipment, the accelerated development of the war industry, the training of military cadres, the leadership of mass fronts and the guerrilla movement, ideological work among the masses, and foreign policy were at the center of attention of the Party, its Central Committee, and the State Defense Committee.

In the confrontation with the fascist aggressors, 3.3 million communists perished, while 5 million soldiers, sailors, sergeants, officers, and generals joined the ranks of the Party. “I want to go into battle as a communist,” they wrote, knowing that joining the Party would grant them a unique privilege: to be the first to launch a crucial defense or a daring attack, to meet a burst of enemy fire and accomplish the most difficult and mortally dangerous missions. This is the greatest testimony to the immense prestige the Communist Party enjoyed among the masses of the Soviet people.

Of course, the peoples of Asia and Western Europe

also contributed to the victory over fascism, with their communist parties playing a prominent role. But the decisive force was the USSR, its Bolshevik Party, and its Red Army.

At the present time, imperialism does not need a fascist battering ram identical to that of the past against the socialist countries and the labor movement, due to the weakening of the communist movement caused by (objective) social stability and (subjective) revisionist betrayal in the dominant countries. We are, however, witnessing a rise of more or less fascist ideas and forces, while bourgeois “democracies” are becoming increasingly restrictive and authoritarian. Although collusion still prevails between imperialist states and between the two parties into which the capitalist class in each country is beginning to break up, the importance of fighting against fascist policies and the shock forces they distill is growing. However, it is not opportune for communists to propose an alliance with bourgeois and petty-bourgeois democracy while it supports the “civilizing” militarism of its governments with more or less enthusiasm.

Currently, the most appropriate course of action is for communists to focus on winning over the vanguard of the working class in the fight against imperialism and its two parties, and to support the anti-imperialist camp as a whole. This isn’t about ruling out specific agreements and consensus, but it is a priority to denounce the demagoguery of both the New Right and the collaborationist Left.

This denunciation is necessary not only for communists in oppressor countries, but also for those in countries opposed to them. To understand the importance of the role of the revolutionary proletariat in the anti-imperialist resistance, it is enough to compare the Second World War and the Russian Federation’s Special Military Operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine. Ukraine fell into the clutches of fascism, as Italy and Germany did in the last century. But the Russian Federation’s war

effort is incomparably smaller than what the Soviet Union had to endure: hundreds of thousands of combatants and victims, compared to tens of millions with weapons far less destructive than those of today (to think that imperialism would fear using them is deceptive and illusory, since it requires war).

Will Russia be able to defeat future direct NATO aggression? Will it succeed under its current political regime, which is subservient to capital and idealizes the country’s most rancid past? It will probably only succeed if the Russian working class regains political power to carry out the most urgent socialist transformations. And it will hardly be able to do so alone: it will need the proletariat of each country to fulfill its revolutionary and internationalist obligations.

Oppressed countries of two types and the relevant role of the proletariat of the oppressor countries

Miguel Ángel | Unión Proletariá (Spain)

Article for the Session 2: The Third World War and the tasks of the global anti-imperialist struggle

The imperialist periphery: dominated and oppressed countries

Imperialism continues to dominate a large portion of the world’s peoples, exercising its oppression to a greater or lesser extent even over those who managed to defeat it in their own territories. Its domination extends to all continents, although in some cases—such as in the countries that built socialism (primarily China, Vietnam, Cuba, and Korea) or in capitalist powers like Russia, heir to the Soviet revolution—its influence is limited to oppression without reaching direct domination.

However, these countries, although they are masters of their own destiny in the sense that they direct their economies and policies without having to answer to any foreign power, are still oppressed just because they are not dominated. All of them, including the former USSR, freed from imperialist domination, did not stop suffering imperialist isolation, coercion, sabotage, and harassment for even a second. In short, they continue to be oppressed by it. Thus, we can say that imperialism divides the countries it oppresses into weak and strong, like China and Russia.

The imperialist crisis

Imperialism may seem invincible, but its supposed strength depends more on the weakness of its opponents than on its own power. On three historical occasions, it was on the verge of collapse, each time when the revolutionary movement in the periphery coincided with uprisings in the capitalist center. The first was the October Revolution, which swept across Europe and forced the bourgeoisie to resort to authoritarianism, revealing the true nature of the state: class dictatorship. The second was the

victory of the Red Army over Nazism and the birth of people’s democracies, followed a third time by the triumph of the Chinese revolution in 1949, which revitalized the revolutionary movement in Europe despite the USSR’s agreements with imperialism. The response was state terrorism, with operations such as the Gladio network and the maintenance of the last European dictatorships.

The problem in strong oppressed countries

For oppressed but resilient socialist nations, like China, internationalism is not an infinite resource. Revolutionary defeats in imperialist centers force them to retreat, seek compromises, or even face capitalist restorations, as happened with the USSR.

This has happened throughout contemporary history, the now-closed cycle of the bourgeois revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries, especially with the Wars of the Coalition against the First French Republic (1793). These left France isolated, under siege at the same time from Spain, Great Britain, Prussia, and Austria. Had it had sufficient external support, especially from English “liberals,” the Jacobin leadership of the French Revolution would have had better conditions for further development instead of becoming conservative with the Thermidorian reaction.

The lack of revolutionary organization in the core countries not only prevents the defeat of imperialism, but also weakens socialist states and exacerbates oppression in the most fragile countries, such as Palestine.

The problem in weak oppressed countries

In the most vulnerable nations, national liberation often unites popular forces with sectors of the local elite, but the weakness of socialist organizations hinders a genuine revolutionary transformation. At best, one oppression is replaced by another—

sometimes even worse than the previous one. Their definitive emancipation depends, to a greater extent, on the revolution in the imperialist centers.

Successes like Thomas Sankara’s revolutionary movement in Burkina Faso remain in our memory, but they are exceptions that often inherit states and societies that are tremendously vulnerable to restoration. In the case of Palestine, if Israel were to collapse, regimes like those of the Arab monarchies or even Türkiye could take its place.

How to put imperialism back into crisis?

In short, recent history shows us that imperialism is not invincible, even though it has not yet been defeated. Its economic basis is the accumulation and concentration of capital through expanded reproduction, exploiting manual labor more and more effectively, which unequally places some capitalists at an advantage over others and conquers new markets, obtaining extraordinary profits. This is its logic regardless of who governs in the US, the EU, or Spain. We must remember one of the first theses of historical materialism:

“The general conclusion I arrived at, which, once obtained, served as a guiding thread for my studies, can be summarized as follows: in the social production of their life, men establish certain relations that are necessary and independent of their will, relations of production that correspond to a specific stage of development of their material productive forces. The totality of these relations of production forms the economic structure of society, the real basis on which the legal and political superstructure is raised and to which certain forms of social consciousness correspond. The mode of production of material life conditions the process of social, political, and spiritual life in general. It is not the consciousness of man that determines his being, but, on the contrary, his social being is what determines his consciousness.”(K. Marx, Preface to the Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy)

Imperialism, like capitalism before it, develops social, political, and cultural formations unevenly. Generally speaking, it divides the world into an imperialist center and a dependent periphery. But

this relationship of dependence is dialectical: its headquarters are in the imperialist center. Just as the center also concentrates high-value-added investments (engineering, technology, and finance), the capital exported to the periphery is mainly directed toward low-value-added sectors, such as the textile and assembly industries, where intensive labor exploitation predominates. It serves as an illustration if we ask ourselves which country has the most Atlantic imperialist bases and military forces (the US and Germany) as well as the most powerful intelligence agencies (Germany and France). Let us recall again another thesis of historical materialism regarding the importance of revolution in the advanced countries of the imperialist center:

“Without the help of the revolutionary proletariat of the advanced countries, the proletariat of the backward countries will not be able to maintain power or develop their socialist economy... As long as capitalism has not been overthrown, the exploitation of the oppressed nations by the imperialist nations will be inevitable. Consequently, the struggle of the colonial and dependent peoples for their liberation cannot be separated from the struggle of the proletariat in the imperialist countries against their own bourgeoisie.”(Lenin, Report on the National and Colonial Question, 1920.)

In short, the revolutionary experience that has proven most successful has been the one that has managed to achieve at least three unities in the anti-imperialist movement:

- 1) The unity of the organized working class to take over the headquarters of the imperialist bourgeoisie: The party of the revolution.
- 2) Support for weak oppressed countries. Solidarity with the anti-imperialist movement of peoples who have embarked on the path of national liberation. Because once this is achieved, they will be able to direct their efforts toward socialist revolution.
- 3) Support for the strong oppressed countries. Because, for the time being, they are the only ones capable of undermining the material basis of imperialism, sharpening the contradictions between them and hindering their unity of action.

Against imperialist war, let us prepare the proletariat for revolution

Miguel Ángel | Unión Proletariá (Spain)

*Article for the Session 3:
New Cold War and Internationalism (Imperialism’s
New Cold War Machinations and the revolutionary
strategy of the international communist movement)*

The more the crisis of the imperialist system deepens, the greater the conflicts between the United States, Europe, and Japan with the rest of the world and among themselves, seeing war as a way to save themselves at the expense of others, subjugating and plundering them. They are accelerating the already growing exploitation of their workers to finance war preparations. To convince the working class to acquiesce, they bombard it with lying and hysterical propaganda pointing to Iran, China, and Russia as threats to peace, security, and the Western way of life. It matters little that this propaganda is contrary to reason and evidence:

- The BRICS+ countries, harassed by imperialism, do not need to conquer the wealth of others because they already have sufficient natural and human resources within their own territories to develop the most thriving productive economies on the planet;
- Only the continuous provocations from Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan and South Korea are forcing them to make a military effort, even though it is much smaller than that of the Western powers;
- It is these, suffocated by an over-accumulation of capital and debt, that have to resort to parasitism and piracy.

Although emerging countries are taking advantage of their current advantages to resist, imperialist harassment is causing them serious damage. The communist, pacifist, and democratic forces of the West are trying to counter this aggression by refuting

the war propaganda of capitalist governments and private media. Their propaganda reaches a much larger population, but ours can be more powerful provided it is truthful and corresponds to the fundamental interests of the working majority. Hence the need for communists to demarcate camps with our allies in the anti-imperialist struggle, denouncing their errors and illusions, rather than repeating them.

It is true that anti-imperialist propaganda must take into account the current consciousness of the working majority, shaped by decades of economic, political, and ideological domination by the bourgeoisie. But we communists cannot start from this false consciousness as the petty-bourgeois democrats of the so-called “left” do. As materialists, our starting point must be the objective needs of our class and of social development. The task of communists must consist precisely in instilling an awareness of these objective needs in the workers and organizing them to satisfy them. And we will not be able to achieve this unless we criticize the subjectivist errors of our fellow travelers.

The first mistake is to accept the Russian leaders’ interpretation of the new Cold War in which we are immersed: they attribute it to the Western elites’ eternal hatred of Russia, concealing its connection to the anti-communist Cold War of the 20th century. While claiming that Tsarist Russia was a powerful country coveted by other powers, they deny its backwardness and reactionary nature, thus denigrating Lenin and the Bolsheviks, without whose socialist revolution the USSR would have been unable to defeat Nazi-fascist imperialism and contain “democratic” imperialism.

But Western leaders, in their current campaign against Russia, are not dedicated to denouncing its

imperial past, but rather to completely erasing the memory of the decisive Soviet contribution to the victory over Nazism. This fact demonstrates that the current Cold War is a continuation of the one unleashed by the imperialists after World War II. If they attack communism as even more totalitarian than fascism, it is because they fear—more than nuclear annihilation—the recovery of socialist ideals among the population of the former Soviet Union as the war against Russia intensifies.

Therefore, we communists must support the Russian government's resistance to imperialist harassment, but we must also criticize its bourgeois and anti-communist orientations, which endanger it.

A second error to avoid is propagating the idea that the West is increasing arms spending for economic, not military, purposes: that is, to restore capitalist profitability at the expense of workers' incomes. This belief ignores the reality of imperialism and its objective tendency toward war. By covering up the danger of world war with a softer but deceptive alternative, it undermines the revolutionary preparedness of the working class, legitimizing the subjectivist thesis of modern revisionism (20th Congress of the CPSU, 1956), according to which imperialism would have been forced to renounce world war because of nuclear weapons.

There is a third error, complementary to the previous one, which is the most serious of all because it disarms the proletariat. We are referring to the one committed by those who consider the main task of communists to be uniting, organizing, and mobilizing the masses on a more or less sentimental pacifist basis.

The modern revisionism that decomposed the international communist movement consisted precisely in the abandonment of preparing the proletariat for revolution and its replacement with the preaching of a peaceful and parliamentary path to socialism, of peaceful coexistence and emulation between different social regimes, and of the political organization of the entire people, without distinction

of class.

What led us to this quagmire was the imperialist prosperity achieved after two world wars, at the cost of the neocolonization of the oppressed peoples and the destruction wrought on the USSR. But today, this prosperity is turning into its opposite, and capitalism is dragging us full speed ahead into a third world war, barely held back by the fear of mutual nuclear destruction. Given the present conditions and prospects, it has become even more opportunistic and criminal to settle for defensive propaganda that whines against the folly or immorality of the imperialists, thus unwittingly helping them keep the people frightened and powerless.

It is all very well to advocate anti-imperialist unity as the primary immediate objective, but we communists—especially in the imperialist countries—can only achieve the strength of the proletariat's unity by educating and organizing within the Communist Party the most conscious sector of our class most willing to fight for the overthrow of the bourgeois political regime.

It will be precisely the political clarity and practical example of this party that will elevate the combativeness of the average worker, as events permit. To think that one must begin at the opposite extreme, from below, along the line of least resistance, by accumulating resistance to the bosses, to the war, to the imperialists, in “a process of growth of the party's tasks, which grow along with it,” is to succumb to the same spontaneity that Lenin refuted in his famous work *What Is To Be Done?*

This doesn't mean that we should neglect, as a secondary concern, the concerns of the broadest masses, but it does oblige us to ensure that our propaganda and also our agitation are consistent with the necessary revolutionary path. Consequently, instead of preaching peace as a *sine qua non* for advancing toward socialism, we must explain that, on the contrary, only the struggle for socialism will bring peace because it will prevent the Third Imperialist

World War or because it will allow its defeat by transforming it into a revolutionary civil war.

Furthermore, the restoration of political independence by the proletariat of the imperialist countries will be the best way to help our class brothers and sisters in those oppressed countries that are emerging as powers, in the face of the chauvinist aspirations of their bourgeoisies.

Shortly before his death, Stalin scientifically refuted the idyllic pacifism with which modern revisionism was beginning to emerge. In *The Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR*, he warned that:

- The post-World War II mass peace movement only pursues the goal of mobilizing the popular masses to prevent a new world war;
- On the other hand, the mass movement born out of the First World War pursued socialist ends by transforming the imperialist war into a civil war;
- therefore, the peace movement can postpone war and temporarily avoid a particular war, which is very good;
- but it cannot eliminate the danger of war because imperialism remains.
- To avoid war, “imperialism must be destroyed.” Stalin was merely adhering to the Bolshevik Party program, into which Lenin had incorporated the objective laws of the new imperialist stage of capitalism. In *Materials for the Revision of the Party Program*, Lenin:
 - exposes the fundamental peculiar features of imperialism: the high degree of development of world capitalism, the preparation of the apparatus of social regulation of the production and distribution process by the banks, the rise in the cost of living, the increase in the oppression of the working class by the monopolies (the tremendous obstacles to their economic and political struggles), the horrors, calamities, ruin and barbarism brought about by the imperialist war;
 - deduces as a consequence that “all these factors transform the current stage of capitalist

development into the era of the proletarian socialist revolution.”

- and concludes that the most urgent task is “the direct preparation, in all forms, of the proletariat for the conquest of political power, in order to implement the economic and political measures that are the essence of the socialist revolution.”

This is the approach and spirit that we communists must recover to combat imperialism and its war in a truly decisive manner!

“The Balkans must belong to the Balkan peoples—NATO must leave!”

Aleksandar Đenić | New Communist Party of Yugoslavia (Serbia)

Dear Comrades,

In this year, as we commemorate 80 years since the victory over fascism, we are simultaneously confronted with the consequences of counterrevolutionary processes in Eastern Europe, as well as the aggressive policies of Western imperialism against all progressive, sovereign, and socialist countries around the world. The decommunization process in Eastern Europe has led to the disintegration of socialist states and the loss of their sovereignty. This policy has spawned invented traditions and a rewriting of history—a widespread inversion in which victims are turned into oppressors, freedom fighters into criminals, and criminals into heroes.

The Serbian people, alongside other Yugoslav nations and under the leadership of the communists, led the largest anti-fascist resistance movement in occupied Europe. This historical experience teaches us that even an underground party of only 7,000 members was able to recognize the dialectical moment and rally the masses. Unfortunately, during the counterrevolutionary upheavals and the destruction of socialist Yugoslavia by Western imperialism, our country—at the behest of the European Union—embarked on a path of decommunization during its accession process to the prison of nations, the EU, where the rich grow richer and the poor become even poorer. In this context, Serbia has not been spared from the fate of historical revisionism, much like the other Eastern European countries already in or seeking EU membership.

Nevertheless, despite the anti-popular nature of Serbia’s current government and its policy of EU integration, Western imperialist pressure continues unabated, because Serbia has not been fully

subdued—Serbia remains outside of both the EU and NATO and retains more sovereignty than many other European nations. As a result, under Western dictate, a military alliance has been formed between Croatia, Albania, and the occupied part of Serbian territory—the false state of Kosovo. It is clear that this alliance is directed against Serbia. Pressure is mounting on Serbia for not imposing sanctions on Russia, and the Serbian president is under EU scrutiny for deciding to attend the Victory Day celebration in Moscow on May 9th.

In Serbia today, protests are being steered by the liberal opposition, which criticizes the current government not for its subservience to Brussels, but for not being even more submissive in enforcing anti-popular neoliberal policies dictated by the EU. Though there is genuine dissatisfaction among the people, it has been misdirected in the past six months, ultimately leading to the fall of the Serbian government. The new so-called “expert” government has continued the same anti-popular path, and under EU pressure, individuals labeled as pro-Russian have been excluded from ministerial positions.

The anti-popular course of the current regime is perhaps best illustrated by its intention to gift the General Staff building—a state-protected structure bombed during NATO’s aggression—to Jared Kushner, son-in-law of Donald Trump. Furthermore, the government plans to hand over land in Western Serbia to the British-Australian company Rio Tinto for lithium extraction, with a 4% royalty over 99 years, effectively turning Serbia into a mining colony of the EU. Lithium is, of course, a strategic mineral in the EU’s competition with China over electric vehicle production. These are just two acute examples of

the government’s servile policy toward Western imperialism.

Another major threat from this government is the ongoing rebranding of the United States in Serbian media. A dangerous campaign is being promoted that portrays Donald Trump as an anti-establishment figure and a defender of Serbian interests—even though he imposed 37% tariffs on Serbian goods and maintained the same foreign policy toward Serbia as all prior U.S. administrations.

Our party also faces intense anti-communist propaganda—not only from regime media but from the highest levels of government, including the president himself. In one regime-run television broadcast, our comrade Vukašin Žunić, a member of our youth organization’s secretariat, was publicly targeted with vicious lies about him and our organization.

Yet, the task before all progressive forces in our country is to conduct a principled and determined anti-imperialist struggle. We must campaign relentlessly against NATO and the European Union. Furthermore, all progressive forces in the Balkans must unite in opposition to NATO’s war-mongering policies and push for its expulsion from the region. The Balkans cannot be free while NATO remains. A NATO-free Balkans would give our peoples the chance to voluntarily unite, to develop together—because only through alliances can small nations, divided and pitted against each other by NATO, protect themselves. Small, quarrelsome nations are easy prey, and NATO thrives on those conflicts to justify its presence. For that reason, we repeat once more: the Balkans must belong to the Balkan peoples—NATO must leave!

In this spirit, the duty of all progressive forces in the Balkans and worldwide is to build a united front against Western imperialism. Today, as contradictions emerge within the imperialist system itself, we must seize the moment to assert our political line. We must be conscious of the specific conditions in each

country and adapt our tactics accordingly—but our strategy must remain clear: unwavering support for all anti-imperialist forces engaged in struggle against Western imperialism!

World War III and the revolutionary strategy of the communist movement

Party of Committees to Support Resistance—for Communism (Italy)

On the 80th anniversary of the victory over Nazi-fascism, it is particularly important to develop the discussion on revolutionary strategy within the international communist movement.

We are not only in the imperialist epoch, we are also in a revolutionary situation, one of war and revolution, similar to the situation of the first half of the last century. The imperialist epoch, which began at the end of the 19th century, has a character common to the whole epoch. It is the epoch of the proletarian revolution, that is, of the first steps of the transition for the masses from capitalism to communism under the leadership of the working class, and it is the epoch of the decline of bourgeois society. This common character is objective: it manifests itself in the structural and superstructural transformations of societies whether they are still dominated by the imperialist bourgeoisie (with the development of institutions and organizations needed to preserve capitalism in the context of collective productive forces and the production process) or led by the working class (with socialism building).

The imperialist epoch, however, is divided into three main phases.

- The first phase, which lasted from the end of the 19th century until the end of World War II. This was the phase of the first general crisis due to absolute overproduction of capital, the consequent general crisis of political regimes in single countries and in the relations between States at world level, and the long revolutionary situation during which the proletarian revolution triumphed in a series of countries and Marxism reached a new, higher stage: Leninism.
- The second phase, which runs from the end of World

War II to about the mid-1970s, is characterized by: a) the temporary resumption of capital accumulation at the international level; b) “capitalism with a human face” or welfare State in imperialist countries with modern revisionism as its political corollary; c) the struggles for the transition from capitalism to communism in socialist countries, centered on the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution of the Chinese people, and the attempt at a gradual and peaceful restoration of capitalism led by the modern revisionists.

- The third phase, which began in the mid-1970s and is still ongoing. The second general crisis of absolute overproduction of capital led to a new crisis of political regimes in single countries and in the relations between States, and to a new revolutionary situation. All this at a higher level than in the first phase, because the contrast between the collective character of the productive forces and their individual ownership has become more acute and more universal, because the forces of the socialist revolution have accumulated great experience, because Marxism has reached a third and higher stage: Maoism.

The Second World War ended in 1945,

- on one hand, with the formation in Eastern Europe of the socialist camp, which also included part of Germany (the German Democratic Republic) in addition to the other seven People’s Democracies, the formation of new socialist countries in Asia (the People’s Republic of China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) and the strengthening of New Democratic Revolutions (the most important of which was that of Vietnam) and

large anti-imperialist revolutionary movements in many colonies, semi-colonies, and politically independent countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America;

- on the other hand, with the supremacy of US imperialist groups not only over the popular masses of the US but also over other imperialist States and their colonies and semi-colonies (the creation, with the Bretton Woods Agreements of 1944, of the dollar-based world monetary system was the official expression of their supremacy, which was also consolidated in 1949 with the creation of NATO);
- thirdly, with great achievements in civilization and well-being that the popular masses of most imperialist countries wrested from the bourgeoisie, led by their respective communist parties. For these parties, these achievements were an alternative to the struggle to seize power and establish socialism, while for the bourgeoisie they were concessions that had to be made in order to make the right wing (the modern revisionists) prevail over the left wing in the communist parties of their respective countries. In imperialist countries, when modern revisionists definitively prevailed over the left wing, the bourgeoisie began to eliminate the communist parties. This happened also because the decline of socialism in the Soviet Union and in the People’s Democracies of Eastern Europe, promoted by modern revisionists starting with the 20th Congress of the CPSU (1956) and carried out with the reforms of the Brezhnev period (1964-1982), had reached a certain level.

In the context of World War II, the communist movement defeated Nazism and fascism, but failed to establish socialism in any of the imperialist countries. Failure to establish socialism in imperialist countries, where the decisive clash between the bourgeoisie and the working class takes place, is the main reason for the exhaustion of the first wave of the proletarian

revolution sparked throughout the world by the victory of the October Revolution and the work of the USSR and the Communist International. Failure to establish socialism in imperialist countries was the main limitation of communists’ action in the last century: it is the limitation we must overcome today. It is mainly because of this that, starting from the 1950s, the first revolutionary wave gradually lost momentum, modern revisionists (the exponents of bourgeois influence in the communist movement) took over the leadership of most communist parties, the communist movement as a whole declined until the dissolution of the USSR and part of the socialist camp, and the imperialist bourgeoisie regained world domination. The ongoing World War III, environmental devastation, global warming, and growing misery even in imperialist countries are the result of this domination. But the disaster into which the imperialist bourgeoisie is dragging the popular masses of the whole world makes the establishment of socialism indispensable not only for the progress of humanity, but also for its survival, and is giving rise to an acceleration of class struggle throughout the world. Everything that the first wave of the proletarian revolution brought about is converging into this struggle: from the countries where communists have maintained political leadership (the People’s Republic of China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Republic of Cuba) to the BRICS and the front of states resisting US imperialism, from the struggle of the working class in Donbass against fascism to the heroic Palestinian Resistance.

All the objective conditions exist for a decisive step forward in the socialist revolution. To this end, communists must identify and overcome the limitations that prevented us from establishing socialism in any imperialist country during the long revolutionary situation of the last century. The main limitation is the lack of a correct understanding—

that is, one based on the experience of the first wave of the proletarian revolution and on the analysis of the ongoing class struggle—of the strategy for socialist revolution in imperialist countries: of the path to establish socialism, of the way in which the communist movement prepares and carries out the conquest of power.

On this issue, there is not only disagreement among communists today, but first and foremost there is not even any discussion, even though strategy is an essential component of communist science. This is especially true for communists in European countries and the US. Here, the communist movement has not sufficiently freed from the historical legacy linked to its origins. Participation in elections and bourgeois democratic institutions, as well as supporting trade union and political demands for better living and working conditions, played an important role in the birth and development of a mass communist movement. However, since the conditions for socialist revolution have matured, reducing class struggle to these two activities has produced two deviations—electoralism and economism—and has become an obstacle that has prevented communist parties from fulfilling their historical task.

Every time the communist movement has gained some strength in imperialist countries, it has in fact

- focused on improving the living conditions of workers and the rest of the popular masses rather than leading them to take power, to take control of their own lives and of society as a whole;
- sought to broaden the participation of the masses in the institutions of bourgeois democracy (parties, elections, representative assemblies), to win support, consensus, cultural and opinion hegemony, votes and therefore strength in bourgeois institutions, as a means of influencing the actions of the government and the State apparatus in a direction favorable to the masses, rather than focusing on the conquest of power by the working class and the organized popular masses, establishing the dictatorship of the

proletariat and, through it, proletarian democracy. Defining the strategy of the revolution means providing an answer, based on the experience of the first wave of the proletarian revolution and the ongoing class struggle studied using dialectical materialism, to the question: are struggles for demands and participation in bourgeois political struggle, along with propaganda for socialism, of the history of the communist movement and its achievements, sufficient to put an end to the catastrophic course of events imposed by the imperialist bourgeoisie? Or is a special kind of war necessary?

The experience of the first wave of the world proletarian revolution shows that the Protracted Revolutionary People's War (PRPW) is the objective form of the revolution and that it develops in three stages:

- strategic defense, in which the main objective is to gather revolutionary forces among the masses, extend the influence and leadership of the communist party, and raise the quality of revolutionary forces;
- strategic equilibrium, in which the main objective is to form armed forces and ensure that they continue to exist, that the enemy cannot destroy them;
- strategic offensive, in which the main objective is the establishment of new power throughout the country.

1. PRPW is the strategy for revolution both for imperialist countries and for oppressed countries.

This thesis is confirmed by the experience of the first wave of proletarian revolution, both where it was consciously adopted as a strategy and where it was not, both in victorious revolutions and in defeated revolutions.

This is the lesson that comes from the Soviet experience: the phase of accumulation of revolutionary forces (led by the underground party, therefore under conditions of an independent power system and in opposition to tsarist power) led in 1917

to the second phase (that of strategic equilibrium, of “dual power”), which in turn gave rise to the phase of strategic offensive. Lenin did not elaborate the strategy of the PRPW, but his constant struggle for a dialectical conception of reality was a struggle for the party to adhere, in gaining leadership of the masses, to the laws of the objective course of the revolution.

This is the lesson that comes from the history of the struggles of the parties of the Communist International in imperialist countries, from their foundation until the end of the 1940s. For Italian communists, this is a particularly important lesson, because in European countries, only in Albania and Yugoslavia the communist parties managed to establish people's republics without the help of the Soviet Red Army.

2. The conception of revolution as PRPW is the antithesis of a) the conception of communists as promoters of struggles for demands and/or of the participation of the popular masses in bourgeois political struggle, b) the conception of revolution as a coup d'état by an enlightened minority or as a popular uprising (these in point b. were the conceptions between which the Communist International wavered).

3. Two other fundamental issues about the strategy for socialist revolution.

3.1 The type of communist party needed to promote and lead the war of the popular masses against the bourgeoisie and the clergy to victory.

In order to fight victoriously against the bourgeoisie, the working class must have a leadership, the communist party, which does not base its existence on the margin of political freedom that the imperialist bourgeoisie allows for the popular masses, but on its ability to exist and operate despite the bourgeoisie's attempts to eliminate it. The communist party must therefore be clandestine and, from clandestinity, intervene in the public (legal) movements that are necessary and useful to the working class, the proletariat, and the masses, assign a part of its

members to lead tasks in the public political struggle and in the public work of mobilizing the masses, and create all the public structures that the situation allows to create.

This is true not only in countries where the bourgeoisie has restricted the legal activity, but in every country and before the bourgeoisie imposes emergency laws: clandestinity is the rule, not an exception for times of emergency.

That the communist party must be clandestine is taught to us in negative terms by Gramsci (Italy) arrest in 1926, Thälmann (Germany) arrest in 1933, Zachariadis (Greece) arrest in 1936, Cunhal (Portugal) arrest in 1949, and the history of many other heroic leaders of communist parties in imperialist countries, among whom Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, assassinated in 1919. In positive terms, Lenin teaches us this too, when he strenuously struggled against Mensheviks to practice clandestinity even when the Tsarist empire, after the 1905 revolution, adopted policies inspired by bourgeois democracy.

The line of clandestinity of the (new) Italian Communist Party and the link between two brother communist parties—the clandestine (n)ICP and the public P. CARC—which the Caravan of the (n)ICP practices, is linked to the conception of the form of the socialist revolution and to the summation of the experience of the communist movement.

3.2 The war plan that communists must adopt: the plan for approaching the establishment of socialism.

Just like an army going to war, communists must adopt a plan that starts from the concrete situation of organization and consciousness of the popular masses, the balance of forces between them and the imperialist bourgeoisie, and the level reached by the revival of the communist movement, and indicates the sequence of steps to create a new system of power that, as it grows, undermines that of the bourgeoisie until it replaces it. This is how communists direct toward a political goal, the government of the country, the organizations that the resistance to the effects of

the crisis spontaneously creates among workers and the rest of the popular masses.

The war plan that the Caravan of the (n)ICP is implementing is the line of the People's Bloc Government (PBG), a sovereign and democratic government composed of trusted members of workers' and popular organizations, whose program, supported by popular mobilization, shall include measures to break with the US, Zionist, and EU imperialist groups in the political, economic, and military fields (with measures such as the abolition of public debt except the savings of the popular masses, the nationalization of main banks, the reestablishment of Italian State power over NATO and US bases, the break with political and military collaboration with the Zionists of Israel, etc.). The conditions to be created to establish such a government are: 1. to multiply and strengthen workers' and popular organizations, 2. to promote their coordination at every level, 3. to propagate the goal of the PBG, showing that its establishment is the prerequisite for achieving the goals for which the workers' organizations are fighting, 4. to make the country ungovernable for bourgeois authorities.

This is a plan designed to advance the socialist revolution in a context such as that of Italy, characterized by the precipitation of the general crisis of capitalism in its acute and terminal phase, by the weakness of the conscious and organized communist movement, by the fact that the popular masses tend to trust the exponents of the bourgeois left (non-communist opponents of the imperialist bourgeoisie) and which takes into account the role assumed by the State in the economy (State monopoly capitalism) in imperialist countries.

With the line of the PBG, the Caravan of the (n) ICP aims 1. to prevent the reactionary mobilization of the masses and 2. to unite the working class and the rest of the popular masses around the communist party. We do not aim to create either an alternative to socialism or a social system intermediate between

capitalism and socialism. The establishment of the PBG is a stage in the socialist revolution, in the PRPW against the imperialist bourgeoisie, which will end with the establishment of socialism.

In the conscious and organized communist movement, some reduce the strategy of PRPW to armed struggle. It is a distortion to think that PRPW always and only means armed struggle and that communists who adopt it as a strategy would always and only devote themselves to forming military organizations and preparing insurrections. The Russian Revolution was not always armed struggle: the October 1917 insurrection was preceded by the accumulation of forces directed by the party since 1903 and by more targeted work done between February and October 1917. PRPW does not begin with armed struggle, but with the existence of the clandestine communist party, organized in such a way as to exist and operate continuously with the aim of seizing power.

According to others, PRPW was fine for countries such as China, Korea, and Vietnam in the last century, and probably works for countries currently oppressed by imperialism, but not for imperialist countries. Their objection does not distinguish between universal laws of people's war and particular laws valid in single countries or groups of countries. The universal law of people's war shows that the popular masses, mobilized by the working class led by its communist party, can build a new power system and eliminate the power system of the ruling class—therefore, the accumulation of revolutionary forces around the communist party is a universal law of people's war. In Russia, for communists, this meant the soviets of workers, peasants, and soldiers, and in China, the liberated zones. Today in Italy, we are not promoting soviets of workers, peasants, and soldiers, nor are we creating liberated zones, but by applying the same law, we are promoting the multiplication, strengthening, and coordination of workers'

collectives in capitalist and public companies and of territorial and thematic popular organizations (against war, environmental devastation, etc.). For every communist party, this means:

1. to identify the stages leading to the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, to discover for each stage the correct objectives and lines (i.e., those in accordance with the objective development of the contradictions of the world and of the specific country) and to organize adequately to achieve them;
2. to lead the working class to act in accordance with the lines and objectives indicated by the party and to take the leadership of the rest of the popular masses;
3. to mobilize every class and group of the popular masses to defend, with the greatest effectiveness possible, their particular interests against the imperialist bourgeoisie and to exploit in every possible way the chronic struggles of interests that divides the bourgeoisie and their institutions;
4. to mobilize the advanced sections of the masses in all circumstances so that they can engage also the non-politically active sections, based on the common practical experience of oppression and exploitation;
5. to build and direct, directly or indirectly, from outside bourgeois political relations—therefore the party is necessarily clandestine—the broadest possible front of classes and political forces to achieve the objectives of each stage, promoting the maximum possible organizational level of the masses, in organisms public and clandestine, legal and illegal, peaceful and combative;
6. to prepare in every way the development of revolutionary armed forces directed by the party because, ultimately, armed struggle has a decisive and conclusive task in realizing the aspirations of the masses and establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat (“power comes from the barrel of a gun”).

In short, it is a question of developing the full potential of PRPW, building a broad front of revolutionary forces and classes.

Contemporary Fascism in the Imperialist West: The Rewriting of History and the Nazification Attempts of Society

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Introduction

In the aftermath of the Second World War, the imperialist countries embarked on a relentless campaign to distort historical truth, seeking to shift blame for fascism onto the Soviet Union while whitewashing the role of Western imperialism in enabling Nazi Germany. This ideological warfare did not end with the “end” of the Cold War; instead, it has intensified in recent years, particularly with the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine. Today, the imperialist West is experiencing a resurgence of fascist tendencies, driven by the deepening crisis of monopoly capitalism and the bourgeoisie’s fear of revolutionary upheaval. The war in Ukraine has become a key lever for the Nazification of Western societies, as ruling elites seek to rehabilitate fascist collaborators, suppress communist movements, and rewrite history to serve their class interests.

The Distortion of History: From the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact to Contemporary Anticommunism

Immediately after the Second World War, Western propaganda outlets launched a campaign to equate the USSR with Nazi Germany, focusing particularly on the 1939 non-aggression pact between the two states (the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact). These accusations ignored the fact that the Western powers themselves had pursued a policy of appeasement toward Hitler, most notably through the Munich Agreement of 1938, which handed Czechoslovakia (The Sudetenland) to the Nazis. Stalin responded to these distortions in his 1948 pamphlet “The Distortionists of History”,

exposing how the imperialists (Western Europe and the USA) sought to downplay its own complicity in fascism’s rise while vilifying the Soviet Union, which had borne the brunt of the war against Nazism and sacrificed millions to defeat it.

Today the imperialist propaganda machine is trying to rewrite the history of the war against the Nazis. According to their narrative, US forces saved Europe from fascism! The famous “Normandy landings”, the invasion of Italy... They claim that the US-British alliance finished off Nazi Germany! In fact, eighty percent of the German army’s casualties in the war, i.e. 4 out of every 5 German soldiers, died in clashes with the Red Army. On the other hand, it is instructive to compare the number of US and Red Army soldiers who died in clashes with the Germans during the war. 80 Red Army soldiers for every one US soldier! In 1942, 80 percent of the German-Italian and all the fascist alliance forces were on the Eastern Front! In early 1943, only 1.5 percent of the ground troops were in the Western zone! Obviously, all fascist troops were fighting against the Red Army. However, this “second front” from the West did not open in time. Moreover, the Anglo-American powers all knew that the German forces were not in the West, but in the East. They were waiting for the Soviet weakening.

Anti-fascist war and resistance took many forms: the Soviet Union’s pivotal role on the Eastern Front, partisan movements in occupied Europe (e.g., Yugoslav communists), and anti-colonial uprisings in Asia and Africa (especially in Vietnam, under the command Ho Chi Minh and the communists—Vietnamese Workers Party). The Soviet Union’s

sacrifices—27 million dead—and its defeat of 80% of Nazi forces cemented socialism as a bulwark against fascism.

Imperialist powers like Britain and France were fighting fascist forces in Europe and North Africa, while trying to preserve their colonial empires. When the US represent Willkie demanded the preemptive dissolution of the British and French empires. Churchill famously replied, “I have not become the king’s first minister to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire.”

These are only some of facts. However, today, this historical revisionism has reached new heights. Western propaganda systematically downplays the role of the Red Army in defeating fascism, instead promoting narratives that equate communism with Nazism. Monuments to Soviet soldiers are torn down across Eastern Europe, while collaborators with the Nazi regime—such as Stepan Bandera in Ukraine—are glorified as “national heroes.” This is not an accident but a deliberate ideological project aimed at erasing the legacy of anti-fascist resistance and justifying the imperialists’ own turn toward authoritarianism.

Attempts to Nazify of Western Societies

The war in Ukraine has accelerated the efforts of the imperialist monopolies to strengthen fascist tendencies in Western societies. NATO-backed regimes in Europe and North America have embraced far-right extremists (i.e. fascists/neo-Nazis), integrating them into state structures while suppressing revolutionary democratic/socialist opposition. In Ukraine, openly neo-Nazi battalions like the Azov Regiment have been armed, funded, and facilities by Western governments, despite their well-documented history of racism and terrorism. Meanwhile, in Europe and the U.S., anticommunism has become state policy: communist parties are banned in some countries, socialist movements are smeared as “foreign agents,” and historical memory

is manipulated to portray fascism as a lesser evil compared to communism.

This ideological orientation is not merely rhetorical—it reflects the material interests of the imperialist bourgeoisie. As the global capitalist crisis deepens, the ruling class (bourgeoisie) increasingly relies on fascist methods to maintain control. The suppression of workers’ movements, the militarization of police, and the scapegoating of minorities and leftists are all hallmarks of this process. The West’s support for Ukrainian fascism is not an exception but a template for its own future: a fascist state in which revolutionary communist forces and democratic opposition are crushed under the guise of “national security”.

Fascism as the Bourgeoisie’s Response to Revolutionary Crisis

The current global situation is marked by deepening economic crises, imperialist aggression, and rising uprisings and social revolutions against bourgeois rule and the capitalist system of exploitation. As we described a quarter century ago, it’s a “global civil war”, “global revolutionary situation”, in brief a “new stage” in the history of class struggle. From mass protests in France to strikes across the U.S. and the growing influence of socialist movements in Latin America, the capitalist system is facing unprecedented challenges. In response, the bourgeoisie resorts to fascism—not as a deviation, but as a logical instrument of monopoly capital in crisis, as an act of counter-revolution.

Fascism has always been the weapon of the monopoly capitalists class when bourgeois democracy fails to contain revolutionary movements. In the 1930s, German industrialists funded Hitler to crush the communist threat; today, Western oligarchs and militarists promote fascist forces to prevent the resurgence of socialism. The demonization of Russia and China, the escalation of militarism, and the suppression of social revolution movement thought

are all part of this strategy.

Conclusion

The imperialist West is returning to its fascist roots, not by accident but by necessity. As capitalism enters its terminal crisis, the bourgeoisie can no longer rule through “democracy”—it must resort to repression, historical falsification, and outright fascism. The war in Ukraine is both a symptom and an accelerator of this process, serving as a testing ground for the imperialist Western countries’ own descent into authoritarianism.

The task of revolutionaries today is to expose this reactionary fascist orientation, defend the truth of history, and build a militant anti-fascist resistance. The struggle against contemporary fascism is inseparable from the struggle against imperialism and capitalism itself. Only by overthrowing the decaying system that breeds fascism can humanity finally achieve liberation.

Historical experience has proven that fascism can be defeated through mass mobilization under the command of communist forces. Today, as neo-fascism reemerges, this history reminds us once again that vigilance and internationalism are essential. It underlines in bold lines that in order to defeat fascism, it is necessary to take advantage of the crisis of capitalism for the revolution of the working peoples, to overthrow the monopoly capitalist order, which is the material basis of fascism, and to establish the power of the workers and toilers.

Let us achieve the final victory of the anti-imperialist camp through the strategy of the world anti-imperialist front

People’s Democracy Party (“Republic of Korea”)

World War 3 is, in name and reality, an anti-imperialist war. Whereas World War 2 began as an inter-imperialist war and later transformed into an anti-fascist war, World War 3 will be consistently an anti-imperialist war from beginning to end. Against the imperialist camp that provoked World War 3, socialist countries, non-socialist anti-imperialist countries, and anti-imperialist forces within imperialist and colonial countries are forming a broad world anti-imperialist front.

The modern imperialist forces centered on the US-NATO are trying to manipulate the “New Cold War” system by accusing the war-engaged Russia and Iran and the pre-war Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and China of being the “new axis of the aggressors” in order to escape the unprecedented political and economic crisis. They are trying to repeat the “Cold War” strategy that followed World War 2, this time alongside World War 3, as a “New Cold War” strategy, but the anti-imperialist camp—centered on the nuclear and missile superpowers of the DPRK, China, and Russia—already holds a clear superiority in terms of justification, forces, and operations. This is being proven in reality.

The complete defeat of the NATO and neo-Nazi forces in Ukraine is imminent. On the battlefield in West Asia, the imperialist camp won a tactical victory by overthrowing the anti-US regime in Syria last December, but the strategic landscape of the world war has not changed at all. They are facing fierce resistance from the “Axis of Resistance,” including Iran and other anti-Zionist, anti-US armed forces. While the military and political unity of the anti-imperialist camp, including the DPRK, China, Russia,

and Iran, is getting stronger, the contradictions between the belligerents and non-belligerents in the imperialist camp are intensifying with the emergence of Trump, who has advocated for “withdrawing from NATO” and “ending the war in Ukraine.” It is reasonable to predict that imperialism will suffer a decisive blow in World War 3.

In forecasting the developments of World War 3, it is crucial to focus on East Asia and the Western Pacific. This is because the storm of World War 3, instigated by imperialist forces, is sweeping from Eastern Europe through West Asia (the Middle East) and toward East Asia and the Western Pacific. Although the belligerent imperialist forces may attempt actions such as the destruction of nuclear plants in Eastern Europe or strikes on Iran’s nuclear facilities in West Asia in order to prevent the non-belligerent imperialist forces from hindering the progress of World War 3, it is far more likely that they will initiate a war in East Asia through the war in the “Republic of Korea (ROK)” which has been building up since last year.

The imperialist forces completed the establishment of the “Northeast Asian version of NATO” between the US, Japan, and the “ROK” at the Camp David Summit in August 2023, and operationalized it through the multi-domain joint military exercise “Freedom Edge” in July 2024. Meanwhile, through the Washington NATO Summit in July 2024 and a series of multinational joint military exercises involving warmongering Pacific nations and NATO members from June to August 2024, they finalized and implemented the “Pacification of NATO.” Notably, US imperialist invaders integrated the Japanese Self-

Defense Forces’ Joint Operations Command and the US Forces Japan’s Unified Command, deploying missiles within the USFJ targeting the DPRK and China. In doing so, they have positioned Japanese militarist forces as the vanguard of the war in East Asia. Additionally, they have organized pro-US fascist forces in the “ROK” targeting the DPRK, and pro-US belligerent forces in the Philippines targeting China, thereby completing the battle array in preparation for the outbreak of war in East Asia.

The war in the “ROK” is the signal fire for the war in East Asia, and the civil war within the “ROK” is the fuse of the war in the “ROK.” The imperialist forces, after igniting the war in Ukraine in February 2022 and the war in Palestine and West Asia in October 2023, sought to trigger a war in the “ROK” in October 2024. In particular, to render the outbreak of World War 3 an irreversible trend, they provoked it more frequently, more intensely, and more recklessly. Within the sequence of events—including the attempted assassination of Trump in July 2024, the Ukrainian army’s invasion of Kursk in Russia in August, the concentrated attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon in September, the fabrication of the “DPRK troop deployment to Ukraine” rumors in October, the US’s lifting of restrictions on long-range missiles in November, and the overthrow of the anti-US regime in Syria in December—the pro-US fascist clique led by Yoon Suk-yeol in the “ROK” launched a local war provocation against the DPRK, including drone attacks on Pyongyang in October, followed by the declaration of emergency martial law in December. They also prepared a false flag operation in the “ROK,” aimed at carrying out a massacre of more than 100,000 people. It is evident that the US imperialist forces are behind the ongoing pro-US self-coup attempt and the political turmoil driven by an insurrection in the “ROK”.

The current situation in the “ROK” is a perilous one, where the crisis is escalating from insurrection to civil war. For the ringleaders and perpetrators of insurrection, who, under the “ROK” criminal

law, cannot avoid the death penalty or the severest punishments, civil war is a matter of life and death. Although Yoon Suk-yeol was dismissed on April 4, the insurrection cliques are still wrecking the state affairs, firmly holding key posts in the state’s institutions of violence such as the military, prosecution, and police. The masterminds of the insurrection, who plotted the self-fabricated provocations in the “ROK,” are still scheming shocking incidents, and the far-right reactionary mobs are plotting bloody clashes and riots. If a second martial law and live-fire order occur, whether due to clashes and riots—or through fabricated provocations in the “ROK” or local wars against the DPRK—civil war will inevitably erupt. And if a local war is added to the civil war, it immediately becomes the war in the “ROK”. In short, civil war is the only lifeline for the insurrection cliques at the brink of death, and the war in the “ROK” is the most desperate move of the belligerent imperialist forces, who are striving to ignite World War 3 and the war in East Asia, and the optimal card to overpower the non-belligerent imperialist forces. The power to save the “ROK” from this life-and-death crisis lies solely in the people and the nation. This has already been proven in practice: the DPRK’s “strategic patience” crushed the provocation scheme of a local war in October last year, and the pro-US puppet coup attempt in December was shattered by the “ROK” people’s December Uprising.

Today, amid the fierce confrontation against imperialism, our primary task and historic mission is to strengthen the anti-imperialist front. There is no other reason why the world anti-imperialist front—which inherits and develops the world anti-fascist front that achieved victory in World War 2—must be fortified and why the peoples of the world must rise up in the anti-imperialist joint action. Justice and victory are on the side of the anti-imperialist camp. Let us vigorously march forward toward the day of global independence, true peace, and genuine democracy!

Just as the Anti-Fascist Forces Won World War 2, the Anti-Imperialist Forces Are Bound to Win World War 3

Stephen Cho | Coordinator of the Korean International Forum

World War 1 was an inter-imperialist war, World War 2 was an anti-fascist war, and World War 3 is an anti-imperialist war. Both World War 1 and 2 were provoked by imperialism, originated from its political and economic crises, and ended up intensifying those crises. Likewise, World War 3, also ignited by imperialism and born out of its ongoing crisis, is bound to deepen it even further.

The storm of World War 3, unleashed by imperialism, is sweeping from Eastern Europe through West Asia (the Middle East) to East Asia and the Western Pacific. Along with Eastern Europe and West Asia, which are already engulfed in war, East Asia—where war is now imminent—constitutes one of the three major theatres of World War 3.

The war in Ukraine, orchestrated by imperialism through the Maidan coup in 2014 and escalated with Russia’s special military operation in February 2022, and the war in West Asia, initiated by imperialism in 1948 and reignited by the war in Palestine in October 2023, were both planned and driven by imperialism and its fascist puppets.

World War 1 led to the emergence of the first socialist state in human history, and World War 2 expanded the socialist camp and anti-imperialist front on a global scale. Frightened by the consequences of World War 2, the imperialist camp devised the “Cold War” strategy and put it into practice through the Korean War, using the “Republic of Korea (ROK),” established as an anti-communist outpost, as its spearhead.

The division of Korea began in 1945 with the arrival of US imperialist forces as an occupying army in the southern part of Korea. This contradiction deepened with the civil war within South Korea in 1948 and

with more than 2,600 invasions and localized wars against the DPRK initiated by the “ROK” army in 1949, eventually exploding into the Korean War in 1950. The Korean War was instigated by imperialism, arose from the political and economic crises of imperialism, and concluded with the intensification of those very crises.

The war in Ukraine is an anti-imperialist, anti-fascist war—one of liberation and prevention; the war in West Asia is an anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist, and liberation war; and the war in the “ROK” is an anti-fascist, anti-imperialist, and subjugation war. In essence, an anti-Zionist war is an anti-fascist war, and a war of subjugation of the “ROK” regime is a war of liberation of its people. The common feature of the wars in Ukraine, West Asia, and the “ROK” is that they are all anti-imperialist, anti-fascist wars, and the fundamental nature of an anti-imperialist, anti-fascist war is an anti-imperialist war.

Fascism, along with social democracy, is a mode of class domination by monopoly capital, while imperialism is the external expression of the monopoly capitalist system. Before the outbreak of World War 2, Nazi Germany’s mode of rule shifted from social democracy to fascism, and the early stages of World War 2 were characterized as an inter-imperialist war, as both fascist Germany and social-democratic Britain were imperialist states. However, after fascist Germany invaded the socialist Soviet Union, the war transformed into an anti-fascist war with the formation of an anti-fascist front between the socialist Soviet Union and the imperialist powers of Britain and the United States.

Today, since the fascist forces in Ukraine, Israel, and the “ROK” serve as lackeys for imperialism, while

appearing at the phenomenal level, the wars are waged by fascist forces; however, in essence, these wars are orchestrated by imperialism. The resistance of the oppressed and exploited peoples against the Zelensky regime in Ukraine, the Netanyahu regime in Israel, and the Yoon Suk-yeol regime in the “ROK” are, in their phenomenal form, anti-fascist wars, but in essence, anti-imperialist wars.

The reason why not only Eastern Europe but also Western Europe is tense over the war in Ukraine is because it is orchestrated, led, and supported by NATO, the imperialist aggressor force. The war in Palestine, from the very outset, immediately expanded into a regional war encompassing the whole of West Asia. Similarly, once a war in the “ROK” breaks out, it will immediately escalate into a war over Taiwan, further expanding into a broader East Asian war with Japan and the Philippines involved, and eventually into a Western Pacific war with the participation of Australia and others.

In August 2023, the leaders of the US, Japan, and the “ROK” de facto established an “East Asian version of NATO” at Camp David in the USA. The “Pacification of NATO” was politically finalized at the Washington NATO Summit in July 2024, and militarily consolidated through the “Freedom Edge,” “RIMPAC,” and “Ulchi Freedom Shield” exercises conducted from June to August 2024.

The root cause of the war in Ukraine, NATO’s “eastward expansion policy,” has extended from the North Atlantic, through the Mediterranean, leaping over the Indian Ocean, and reaching the Pacific. The “Axis” once formed by fascist Germany, Italy, and Japan during World War 2 is today being succeeded in World War 3 by a “New Axis,” composed of the fascist forces in Ukraine, Israel, and the “ROK,” under the manipulation of imperialism.

It was no coincidence that, under NATO’s operational plan, Zelensky’s fascist forces launched an offensive against Kursk in Russia in August 2024;

that, with the support of US imperialism, Netanyahu’s Zionist forces carried out concentrated attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon in September; and that, under the manipulation of US imperialism, Yoon Suk-yeol’s fascist clique provoked localized warfare against the DPRK from September to November and staged a pro-US self-coup in December.

The Yoon Suk-yeol regime in the “ROK” formally nullified the military agreement signed with the DPRK in September 2018 by June 2024. In September, it intensified its provocations with concentrated artillery drills against the DPRK, precisely at the sites where the West Sea naval clashes of 1999 and 2002 had erupted. In October, it escalated further by launching successive drone attacks on Pyongyang. These extremely dangerous provocations continued through November. Had the DPRK abandoned its stance of “strategic patience” and retaliated, a local war—and even a full-scale war in the “ROK”—could have broken out.

Yoon Suk-yeol’s fascist clique initially attempted to declare emergency martial law in the “ROK” under the pretext of a local war. When this failed, they proceeded to declare a baseless “emergency martial law”—without any real “emergency”—on December 3. Thanks to the courageous resistance of the people in the “ROK,” the National Assembly’s resolution to lift martial law, and Yoon’s impeachment, the attempt at martial law was thwarted. Had it succeeded, a “bloody rampage” would have erupted, with 10,000 people massacred in just the first phase, according to the “Noh Sang-won Notebook,” which outlined the Yoon clique’s subsequent plans. This would have meant that the coup and insurrection would have immediately escalated into a full-scale civil war, and combined with the outbreak of a local war, would have developed into the war in the “ROK.”

Driven further into a corner by the National Assembly’s impeachment in December 2024 and the Constitutional Court’s dismissal ruling in April 2025,

the insurrectionist, fascist, and reactionary clique—now decisively isolated and crumbling—sees civil war as its only remaining path to survival. As the history of the 1948 civil war, the 1949 local war, and the 1950 Korean War demonstrates, in the “ROK,” the combination of a civil war and a local war inevitably leads to a full-scale war in the “ROK.”

Had it not been for the DPRK’s stance of “strategic patience” and the people’s December Uprising, the war in the “ROK” would have broken out between September and November 2024, or at the latest by December, precisely following the original blueprint of imperialism. To reiterate, this would have immediately escalated into a war in East Asia and the Western Pacific, leading to the full-scale outbreak of World War 3.

The drive toward World War 3 by the imperialist warmongering forces is being disrupted by the counter-policies and setbacks pursued by the imperialist non-warmongering forces who have seized control of the US government. Amid the deepening military, political, and economic conflicts within the imperialist camp, the East Asian war—which would escalate World War 3 to full-scale confrontation—and the war in the “ROK,” its ignition point, are seen by the imperialist warmongers as the optimal means to suppress the retrogressive moves of the imperialist non-warmongering forces. For the imperialists desperate to ignite World War 3 and a war in East Asia, the war in the “ROK” has become not a matter of choice but an absolute necessity—their ultimate scheme.

After Trump’s victory in the presidential election, the imperialist warmongering forces orchestrated and supported the lifting of Ukraine’s long-range missile restrictions against Russia in November 2024, the coup in the “ROK,” and the collapse of Assad’s regime in Syria in December.

The US imperialists, together with the fascist forces of the “ROK,” dramatically escalated their joint war

exercises to invade the DPRK: from 132 exercises over a 20-year period (2003–2022) to 123 exercises in the single year of 2023, and then to 134 exercises in 2024. Entering 2025, the number of exercises has once again reached an all-time high. Not only has the number of exercises increased, but their character has shifted markedly toward nuclear war rehearsals. These drills have intensified into multi-domain operations that now include air, land, sea, underwater, space, and cyber domains, with Japan increasingly joining alongside the US and the “ROK.” The “Freedom Shield” exercise conducted by the US and the “ROK” in March 2025, aimed at invading the DPRK, was effectively a nuclear war drill conducted across multiple domains and sought to evolve into a trilateral exercise including Japan.

Beginning in 2023, when the US imperialist warmongering forces took direct command of war exercises aimed at invading the DPRK, preparations for the coup by the fascist forces in the “ROK” also accelerated in parallel. As mounting evidence of US imperialist orchestration surfaced, the insurrectionist, fascist, and reactionary forces in the “ROK” consolidated, and the ringleader of the insurrection, Yoon Suk-yeol, was illegally released through a fraudulent court ruling, all orchestrated once again by US imperialism.

If another reactionary riot like the unprecedented “January 19 court riot” occurs, compounded by shocking incidents like bloody clashes, shootings, or terrorist attacks, the “ROK” government will immediately declare security martial law. This would signify the transformation of the insurrection into a civil war, inevitably leading to the provocation of a local war and its escalation into a full-scale war in the “ROK.” In the early presidential election scheduled for June 3, the overwhelming victory of the reformist candidate Lee Jae-myung is virtually assured. Following his election, the insurrectionist, fascist, and reactionary clique is expected to suffer fatal blows through inevitable legal procedures,

including a special investigation into the insurrection. There is no doubt that the final desperate convulsions of the insurrectionist, fascist, and reactionary forces will unfold, and it is a reasonable prediction that the imperialist warmongers’ war drills against the DPRK and the fascist clique’s civil war maneuvers against the people of the “ROK” will converge through the provocation of a local war, ultimately escalating into a full-scale war in the “ROK.”

For the communist forces, it is fundamental to formulate revolutionary strategy grounded in a scientific analysis of the objective situation. The key focus of scientific analysis lies in grasping the schemes of the target of revolution, while the key focus of formulating revolutionary strategy lies in discerning the scheme of the revolutionary forces. The essence of strategy and tactics, as an all-encompassing system of aim, methods, and means, fundamentally resides in the aim.

On the Korean Peninsula, the eve of war is the eve of revolution. World War 1 accelerated the Russian Revolution, and World War 2 expanded this revolution to a global scale.

In May 2025, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the victory of the anti-fascist forces in World War 2, we express scientific confidence that the anti-imperialist forces will certainly triumph in World War 3. The victory of the anti-imperialist forces, which hold an overwhelming superiority in terms of cause, capacity, and operations, has already been demonstrated through the practical struggles of recent years. While there have been retreats in some tactical theatres, they continue to advance and achieve victories in the major strategic theatres.

The historical experience of forming the anti-fascist front, which led to victory in World War 2, is today being inherited and developed into the formation of an anti-imperialist front. It is a natural consequence that the revisionist and opportunist nature of the erroneous and absurd arguments—particularly those

based on the “Imperialist Pyramid” theory of the Communist Party of Greece—which deny this truth, clearly proven through practice, are being exposed and condemned across the world.

Since its founding in Paris, France, in October 2022, the World Anti-Imperialist Platform has continuously held international anti-imperialist conferences across Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa, and has actively waged the anti-imperialist struggle. The Platform will ceaselessly innovate itself and advance on its glorious path of strengthening the anti-imperialist front and spearheading the anti-imperialist struggle without deviation.

The final victory of the peoples of the world, united and fighting under the banner of anti-imperialism, is a matter of justice and of inevitability.

