The dramatic worsening of the world economic crisis over the summer gives us a clear indication that the capitalist system really is on its last legs. The ‘debt crisis’ has demonstrated the literal bankruptcy not only of the banks, but of entire states; and not only the states of weak economies like Greece or Portugal but key countries of the Eurozone and on top of it all, the most powerful economy in the world: the USA.

And if the crisis is global, it is also historic. The mountain of debt that has become so visible over the last few years is only the consequence of capitalism trying to postpone or hide the economic crisis which surfaced as far back as the late 1960s and early 70s. And as today’s ‘recession’ reveals its real face as a genuine depression, we should recognise that this is really the same underlying crisis as the one which paralysed production in the 1930s and tipped the world towards imperialist war. A crisis expressing the historical obsolescence of the capitalist system.

The difference between today’s depression and that of the 1930s is that capitalism today has run out of choices. In the 1930s, the ruling class was able to offer its own barbaric solution to the crisis: mobilising society for imperialist war and re-viding the world market. This re-organisation created the conditions for launching the ‘boom’ of the 50s and 60s. This was an option at that time, partly because world war did not yet automatically imply the destruction of capitalism itself, and there was still room for new imperialist masters to emerge in the aftermath of the war. But it was an option above all because the working class in those days had tried and failed to make its revolution (after the First World War) and had been plunged into the worst defeat in its history, at the hands of Stalinism, fascism, and democracy.

Today world war is only an option in the most abstract theoretical sense. In reality, the road to a global imperialist war is obstructed by the fact that, in the wake of the collapse of the old two-bloc arrangement, capitalism today is unable to forge any stable imperialist alliances. It’s also obstructed by the absence of any unifying ideology capable of persuading the majority of the exploited in the central capitalist countries that this system is worth fighting and dying for. Both these elements are linked to something deeper: the fact that the working class today has not been defeated and is still capable of fighting for its own interests against the interests of capital.

**Dangers facing the working class**

Does this mean that we are heading by some automatic process towards revolution? Not at all. The revision of the working class can never be ‘automatic’ because it requires a higher level of consciousness than any past revolution in history. It is nothing less than the moment where human beings first assume control of their own production and distribution, in a society with relations of solidarity at its heart. It can therefore only be prepared by increasingly massive struggles which generate a wider and deeper class consciousness.

Since the latest phase of the crisis first raised its head in the late 60s, there have been many important struggles of the working class, from the international wave sparked off by the events of May 1968 in France to the mass strikes in Poland in 1980 and the miners’ strike in Britain in the mid-80s. And even though there was a long retreat in the class struggle during the 1990s, the last few years have shown that there is now a new generation which is becoming actively ‘indignant’ (to use the Spanish term) about the failure of the present social order to offer it any future. In the struggles in Tunisia, Egypt, Greece, Spain, Israel and elsewhere, the idea of ‘revolution’ has become a serious topic for discussion, just as it did in the streets of Paris in 1968 or Milan in 1969.

But for the moment this idea remains very confined: ‘revolution’ can easily be mistaken for the mere transfer of power from one part of the ruling class to another, as we saw most clearly in Tunisia and Egypt, and as we are now seeing in Libya. And within the recent movements, it is only a minority which sees that the struggle against the current system has to declare itself openly as a class struggle; a struggle of the proletariat against the entire ruling class. After four decades of crisis, the working class, especially in the central countries of capitalism, no longer even has the same shape that it had in the late 60s. Many of the most important concentrations of industry and of class militancy have been dispersed to the four winds. Whole generations have been affected by permanent insecurity and the atomisation of unemployment. The most desperate layers of the working class are in danger of falling into criminality, nihilism, or religious fundamentalism.

In short, the long, cumulative decay of capitalist society can have the most profoundly negative effects on the ability of the proletariat to regain its class identity and to develop the confidence that it is capable of taking society in a new direction. And without the example of a working class struggle against capitalist exploitation, there can be many angry reactions against the unjust, oppressive, corrupt nature of the system, but they will not be able to offer a way forward. Some may

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The Riots in Britain and capitalism’s dead-end

In the face of the riots, the bourgeoisie offers repression and fear

The real question: how to resist

The real question facing those of us – the vast majority – who do not profit from this gigantic criminal enterprise called capitalism is this: how can we defend ourselves effectively when this system, now visibly drowning in debt, is obliged to take every available step to desist?

Do the riots we have seen in the UK this past week provide a method for fighting back, for taking the battle into our streets and our communities? Those who backed an increase in police numbers, with the latter also in favour of curfews, among those who backed an increase in police numbers, with the latter also in favour of curfews, would have us believe so.

The riots mostly occurred in areas of high unemployment and deprivation. Many people have a natural sympathy for those living in the poorer circumstances and left-wing groups have for a long time lapped into that feeling. Posing as an ‘alternative’ to the consensus in parliament Cameron and the Socialists Workers Party in various headlines (13/8/11) announced an “urban revolt spreading across Britain”, declared the riots (using an expression that was lost in the translation) to be “an act of wanton destruction, the respectable financial institutions who launder billions from the proceeds of the criminal enterprise called capitalism are this: how can we defend ourselves effectively when this system, now visibly drowning in debt, is obliged to take every available step to desist?

The government and the media condemn law and order, the police, who sparked the riots in the first place, from the standpoint of a society which functions on the basis of organised greed, on the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a ruling class that functions on the basis of organised greed, and those at the bottom of the pile, who can’t afford to know what had happened. And this comes in response to the riots in the first place, from the standpoint of a society which functions on the basis of organised greed, on the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a ruling class that functions on the basis of organised greed, and those at the bottom of the pile, who can’t afford to know what had happened.

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In an article in The Guardian on the riot strategy we identify three distinct responses from the working class – survival, struggle and capitulation. The majority of workers are still tend to accept the system in its current state and just trying to survive through fear of poverty and unemployment. A small minority has taken the path of struggle. However, “part of the class contradiction is that even in its situation and left-wing groups have for a long time lapped into that feeling. Posing as an ‘alternative’ to the consensus in parliament Cameron and the Socialists Workers Party in various headlines (13/8/11) announced an “urban revolt spreading across Britain”, declared the riots (using an expression that was lost in the translation) to be “an act of wanton destruction, the respectable financial institutions who launder billions from the proceeds of the criminal enterprise called capitalism are this: how can we defend ourselves effectively when this system, now visibly drowning in debt, is obliged to take every available step to desist?

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“You cannot hope to bribe or twist, (thank God) the British journalist. But, seeing what the man will do, unbridled, there’s no occasion to,” (Humbert Wolfe)

Many workers know from bitter experience the nasty, lying nature of the British media. Murdoch’s News of the World (NoW) is merely one example of the ruling class frame the way we see and understand the world: an important part of totalitarian state capitalism’s repressive apparatus aimed at ensuring that we don’t even want to think about changing it.

It was a headline around Rupert Murdoch’s News International (NI), the UK arm of Murdoch’s global, US-based News Corporation. This is blatantly untruthful in the spotlight.

The phone-hacking scandal showed how police, politicians and the media have for years worked with and for each other ‘in the national interest’ against the majority of the population. It revealed a world of bribery, corruption, hypocrisy and cynicism – including the floating of its own ‘laws’ when it suits – that the Left has consistently attacked.

To highlight just some examples:

• For decades, top politicians from all parties maintained close personal relations with members of the Murdoch clan and their senior employees.
• They brought ex-Murdoch hacks into the heart of government. Current Prime Minister David Cameron hired ex News of the World (NoW) editor Andy Coulson (who had previously resigned from NI because of illegal phone hacking ‘on his watch’). The Labour Party now has four close links with Murdoch and doesn’t care.

1 Recall The Sun’s disgusting campaign against those who opposed the war in Iraq through 2003, when the BBC’s disinformation during the 2004-5 miners’ strike, in particular when the Corporation cut and presented footage of a supporter’s pet dog that had attacked police at the Orgreave works, when in fact it was the other way around.

2 During WJ, nations states everywhere tried to control all economic and political activity to make war easier – a war that which has persisted and increased to the present day. Concerning relations with the press in GB, this was exemplified by the appointment of William Max Haytun (Lord Beaverbrook), owner of The Daily Express, as war time Director for Propaganda, and of Alfred Harmsworth, the Daily Mail’s owner, to control the media. British capitalism.

3 But now the ‘great and the good’ say that’s going to change. The mighty Murdoch Empire – ‘the unacceptable face of media capitalism’ – has been, via newspaper exposés and televised proceedings of a Parliamentary Committee, humiliated and humbled. The media as we know them has been exposed.

4 As Murdoch’s media outlets are the only ones pushing the ruling-class propaganda’s channel, the only ones raising the voice of hacking, bribing, blackmailing private investigators to spy. As if all this wasn’t intrinsic to capitalism!

5 Last year’s farce over the corrupt misuse of MP’s expenses, the ruling class having to try to use the exorbitant worldliness of its own life to pretend that it’s merely a problem of a few rogues who don’t represent the norm and who’ve now vanished. At the same time, it’s trying to manipulate the scandal to clean out its own stable, heal its own divisions and to ensure that its all-important media mouthpiece function as they should.

So what lay behind the eruption of this scandal, and why did it explode when it did?

From savour to saviour

Murdoch and NI have played a particular role in the life of the British bourgeoisie over the past 40 years. At election time, Murdoch’s papers always support the team the ruling class wants to get into power. The press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market.

(1) Murdoch and his son James got greedier. Not just Murdoch and not Murdoch’s papers but Murdoch and the Left – organisations like UK Uncut, the SWP, Campaign Against the Arms Trade which have for years worked with and for each other ‘in the national interest’ against the majority of the population. It revealed a world of bribery, corruption, hypocrisy and cynicism – including the floating of its own ‘laws’ when it suits – that the Left has consistently attacked.

(2) A so-called “white paper” is essentially the new buzzword for state-sponsored propaganda which doesn’t appear as such, part of the battle to win ‘hearts and minds’ at home and abroad, and used by the bourgeoisie as a necessary adjunct to imperialist domination. It includes the ‘reach’ obtained, for example, by Britain whose influence via the ‘independent’ BBC World Service is the envy of its rivals. The importance of radio, press and broadcasting in this regard cannot be underestimated, witness the spread of information speed by Britain’s British secret services around the issue of ‘weapons of mass destruction’ prior to the invasion of Iraq.

(3) Murdoch’s support of US imperialism and strong Euro-sceptic views had helped reinforce press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market, not content with 39 per cent owner share of the UK press market. This is blatantly untrue.

6 Southern Cross went out of business this summer and didn’t care. The mighty Murdoch Empire – ‘the unacceptable face of media capitalism’ – has been, via newspaper exposés and televised proceedings of a Parliamentary Committee, humiliated and humbled. The media as we know them has been exposed. As Murdoch’s media outlets are the only ones pushing the ruling-class propaganda’s channel, the only ones raising the voice of hacking, bribing, blackmailing private investigators to spy. As if all this wasn’t intrinsic to capitalism!

7 The modern Southern Cross Care Home building on the apex of Bisterner Avenue, Walthamstow, East London, today stands on suspicion of illegally obtaining information via newspaper exposes and televised proceedings of a Parliamentary Committee, humiliated and humbled. The media as we know them has been exposed. As Murdoch’s media outlets are the only ones pushing the ruling-class propaganda’s channel, the only ones raising the voice of hacking, bribing, blackmailing private investigators to spy. As if all this wasn’t intrinsic to capitalism!

8 “You cannot hope to bribe or twist, (thank God) the British journalist. But, seeing what the man will do, unbridled, there’s no occasion to,” (Humbert Wolfe)

9 What’s happened to its vulnerable residents – have they been transferred to hospitals, prisons, mental-care special needs, or the shares of the company that publishes them? Have they been transferred to hospitals, prisons, mental-care special needs, or the shares of the company that publishes them?

10 Murdoch and his son James got greedier. Not just Murdoch and not Murdoch’s papers but Murdoch and the Left – organisations like UK Uncut, the SWP, Campaign Against the Arms Trade which have for years worked with and for each other ‘in the national interest’ against the majority of the population. It revealed a world of bribery, corruption, hypocrisy and cynicism – including the floating of its own ‘laws’ when it suits – that the Left has consistently attacked.

11 When Britain’s largest care home operator Southern Cross went out of business this summer the news of finalised freefalling share prices fell on the homes of 7,500 residents (and their relatives) in 750 homes across the country and more than 43,000 employees who risked their ‘lives’ with poverty wages.

12 While the situation of the elderly being ‘cared for’ in the homes that had knowledge of the British bourgeoisie’s domination. It includes the ‘reach’ obtained, for example, by Britain whose influence via the ‘independent’ BBC World Service is the envy of its rivals. The importance of radio, press and broadcasting in this regard cannot be underestimated, witness the spread of information speed by Britain’s British secret services around the issue of ‘weapons of mass destruction’ prior to the invasion of Iraq.

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From lies to reality

We need to go back a bit. At the end of 2008 and the beginning of 2009, the US bank Lehman Brothers pulled the economy to the edge of the abyss. The whole financial system was threatened to fail like a house of cards. The state had to take on a large part of the debts of the banks, which had already reached incalculable proportions. As a result the central banks themselves were put into a very dangerous situation. And in the Eurozone, the Bourgeoisie showed its profound cynicism. We were treated to a series of arguments, each more dishonest than the one before, so a more credible lie was needed, some 17 years ago...

The Europeans can no longer have a truly lucid view of the collapse of their own system. However, lying, cheating, hiding the facts is a necessity for the exploiters if they are to keep the exploited under their yoke.

They began by saying that all this wasn’t as serious as all that, that they were in complete control of the situation and that it was only a bit ridiculous. However, the best was yet to come. At the beginning of 2009, after a near 20% fall in world gross domestic product, a few experts took the right facts, a rapid exit from the crisis. It was all a passing storm, but the facts proved to be stubborn. The situation continued to deteriorate. Our famous leaders then moved on to the cruelest nationalist arguments. We were told that it was all the fault of the American population who had taken out credit without any thought and bought houses without having the means to pay back the loans. It was a new and perhaps even more effective discourse.

The explanation wasn’t much use when the crisis hit the Eurozone, when it became obvious that the Greek situation was heading in the same direction. The arguments then became even more shameful: the exploited in this country were described as cheapskates and parasites, as a country that was as specific to that country, just as it had been in Iceland and as it would be a few months later in Ireland. On the other hand, the leaders of these countries added their murderous little phrases. According to them, the Greeks were spending too much. The lower orders were living above their means, living like lords! But faced with the legitimate anger growing within these countries, the elite once again went up a notch. In Italy, good old Berlusconi was identified as being the sole responsible for this downturn. However, words were never enough for neglecting the weight of sovereign debt in their calculations. Now they are accused of making too many errors in their assessment of the situation for half a century, enabling the system for half a century, enabling the system for half a century, enabling the system to survive.
In The Independent of 3/9/11 there appeared an article based on secret files that the paper had obtained. The secret files provide amusing samples of much of the intelligence officialdom, here substantiated excerpts from that article. The Independent says that they “reveal the astonishing close links that existed between British and American governments and Muammar Gaddafi.”

The documents chart how prisoners were offered to the Libyans for brawling interregnum; how the British were using their contacts with the regime, the British were enjoying with British intelligence. Letters and dozens of files with him when he left Libya.

The revelations by The Independent will lead to the regime. The Independent says that “The backwards is going to be too atomised, too divided to constitute it a ‘show of force’”. A UN official at the Independent says that “We wish to inform you that Iamul KAMOKA @ SUDABI was the last day of March”.

The US has ordered the oil companies to pull back from their Libyan operations. The US is also planning to send a delegation to Libya to discuss the possibility of lifting sanctions against the country.

The Libyan leader said “We have taken the necessary measures to ensure that the country’s economy will continue to grow despite the sanctions imposed on it by the international community.” He added that “We are determined to continue to build a better future for our people.”

The economic situation in Libya is improving due to the reduction in oil prices. The Libyan government has also announced plans to increase investment in the energy sector.

In conclusion, the Libyan people are determined to continue their fight for freedom and democracy. They are confident that they will succeed in overthrowing the Gaddafi regime and establishing a democratic and prosperous Libya.
The scale of the catastrophe that has taken place at the nuclear power plant at Fukushima in Japan has once again revealed the predatory exploitation of nature by capitalism. The human species has always lived by transforming nature. But with the development of the productive forces and the production of commodities, nature has increasingly been reduced to the mere object of use and exploitation. The industrial revolution, which makes all nature his inorganic body – both his inorganic body and nature that he saw as the “life of the species”.

Physically man lives only on these products of nature, whether they appear in the form of food, heating, clothes, a dwelling etc. The universality of man is his absolute universality, which makes all nature his inorganic body – both inasmuch as nature is (1) his direct means of life, and (2) his material, the object and the instrument of his life activity. Nature is man’s inorganic body – nature, that is, insofar as it is his human environment, his surrounding nature.

A society that is not the class society who bear responsibility: between the exploiting and the exploited, the latter feels the deepening of the ‘debt crisis’, now hitting the recent period? (25). This forum will focus on some of the most important developments in the world since the last meeting at 2008. The deepening of the ‘debt crisis’, now hitting not only weaker countries like Greece but the advanced capitalist world as a whole. The question of global economic downturn is also a question of the ideological form that alienation takes and relates to the deepening of the ‘debt crisis’.

The development of the productive forces and the production of commodities, that were the two sides of the Neolithic revolution, have been the two sides of the nuclear power plant at Fukushima. The latter, 8 of the country’s 17 plants will be closed down by 2008, and some big energy users of problems with supply, and large price increases. Over recent years there have been reports of a renaissance of the nuclear industry in Japan, and another 493 planned according to the industry group. The World’s Nuclear Association. In Britain there has been a debate about the risks and benefits of nuclear power with one of the most high profile critics being the former Labour party leader, who has not only announced his conversion to nuclear power as the only realistic way to prevent global warming – but also gone on to attack former colleagues in the anti-nuclear movement for ignoring scientific data about the real risk of nuclear power.

The relationship between humanity and nature

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1. Financial Times 08/06/01 “Nuclear power: atomised safety”.
2. Guardian 22/03/11 “Why Fukushima made me stop worrying and love nuclear power”.
3. Ibid.
4. Financial Times. The anti-nuclear lobby has misled us all”.

For the same reason? Before the 18th century it has been calculated that an average blast furnace worked two years on and two years off required 2,000 hectares of forest. In South Wales, subsi- dizing the iron industry, the stages of the industrial revolution witnessed the develop- ment of ironworks and led to the deforestation of areas of Wales that had already been densely wooded. The growth of demand for wood led to price in- creases and shortages that affected the poor most of all. In parts of France there was insufficient wood to fire the bread ovens and in others it was reported that “the poor do without fires”. The limits to production imposed by the organ- ic economy can also be seen by calculating the amount of timber that would have been required to match subsequent consumption of energy. The limits to production imposed by the organ- ic economy can also be seen by calculating the amount of timber that would have been required to match subsequent consumption of energy. Coal. Wood is not as efficient a source of energy as coal: two tons of wood are required to produce the same amount of coal and 30 tons to pro- duce a ton of iron. An acre of managed woodland can produce about the equivalent energy of one ton of coal in a year. In 1750 4,515,000 tons of coal were produced in England and Wales. To pro- duce the equivalent amount of energy using tim- ber would have taken 4.3 million acres, or 13% of the land surface of the two countries. In 1800 coal production was 13,045,000 tons requiring 35% of the land surface (11.2 million acres). Half a century later production had risen to 65,050,000 tons requiring 74% of the land surface (47 million acres). One of the limits to Britain’s rise to world dominance was that it had coal reserves that were accessible using the existing technology. This created the momentum to develop the means of production to allow the extraction of coal from deeper levels. The increasing use of energy has been a feature of value. On the other hand, it led to the denial of access to energy to the products of energy for millions of humans who lack the money to be interested to the interest of the capitalists. This is illustrated in Narratives of capital how the wealth of the world was the result of the dispossession of the indigenous peoples of the Churches that characterised 19th Lon- don to the warming of the globe that threatens the future of humanity today.

New debates about nuclear energy

Nuclear energy, capitalism and communism

The scale of the catastrophe that has taken place at the nuclear power plant at

5. Marx Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844, 1932
6. Ibid.
Contact the ICC

Debate is vital to the revolutionary movement. One of the most important elements of our activity, defined in our Basic Positions, is the “political and theoretical clarification of the goals and methods of the proletarian struggle, of its historic and its immediate conditions”. This, we are convinced, is only possible through the confrontation and discussion of differing views and positions within the revolutionary camp.

For this reason, we urge our readers to write to us with their comments, opinions and disagreements on the positions and analyses that we defend in our written press, including our website.

We will do our best to reply to all serious correspondence as quickly as possible, although given our limited resources we may not always be able to do so immediately. Should the subject matter be of general interest, then we may publish both correspondence and our reply in our press.

While debate amongst revolutionaries is vital, it is equally necessary not to fall into the trap of thinking that our activity is something amorphous and acceptable to the bourgeois dictatorship disguised under the trappings of the democratic state. We will not under any circumstances publish our correspondents’ real names, nor their home or e-mail addresses.

Write to the following addresses:

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Israel protests continue despite war tensions

In the article on the 'social justice' movement in Israel we published on 7 August, we wrote that "numerous demonstrators have expressed their frustration with the way the incessant refrain of 'security' and of the 'threat of terrorism' is used to make people put up with growing economic and social misery. Some have openly warned of another round of military clashes or even a new war to restore 'national unity' and split the protest movement.'

These fears proved to be well-founded. In 19-18 August, there was a spate of armed attacks on Israeli civilians and military patrols. Public transport busses in southern Israel were rakied with gunfire, leaving several dead and wounded. There was some confusion as to whether the Popular Resistance Committees or Hamas carried out these attacks: neither claimed responsibility. Either way, the Israeli government responded in its characteristically brutal manner, with air strikes in Gaza and gunfire, leaving several dead and wounded. There and yet what is significant is that these demonstrations took place, attracting up to 10,000 people, in Tel Aviv and several thousand in other cities. And there was no shying away from the question of war: on the contrary, the slogans raised on the demos reflected a growing understanding of the need to resist the march to war and for the opposed of both sides to fight for their common interests: "Jews and Arabs refusing to be enemies", "social justice is demanded in Israel and the territories", "Life in dignity in Gaza and Ashdod"; "No to another war which will bury the protest." The "Test 1948" Palestinian-Jewish group on Rothschild Boulevard issued a statement of its own: "This is the time to show real strength", the statement read. "Stay on the streets, condemn the violence and refuse to go either home or to the Army to take part in the revenge attack on Gaza." A speech by Raja'at of Hafit in Haifa also expressed the emergence of internationalist sentiments, even if still couched in the language of peace and pacifism: "At the end of the day, a homeless family is a homeless family, and a hungry child is a hungry child, regardless whether he speaks Arabic, Hebrew, Amharic or Russian. At the end of the day, hunger and hunger is just like wealth, have no homeland and no language, we are saying: it is time to speak of peace and justice in one breath! Today more than ever, it is obvious to everyone that in order to talk about justice, this government might begin another war."

The fact that these slogans and sentiments should become so much more popular when they were only a year or two ago indicates that something profound is happening in Israel, and especially among the younger generation, who have seen comparable glimmerings of youthful protest against the Israeli status quo in Gaza.

And Israel, the 'Gaza youth' are a small minority and they are weighed down with all kinds of illusions – in particular, Palestinian nationalism, social justice and better living standards, and the perspective of an authentic revolution of the exploited. Amos 28/8/11

In a further sign that the protests in Israel have not disappeared, The Guardian reported that a number of unoccupied buildings in Jerusalem have been taken over by demonstrators who are demanding that they be used to house people at affordable rents. http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/aug/29/israel-squatting-communist-housing

Social justice activists have embarked on a series of lightning squats of unoccupied buildings as part of a six-week protest against rents and house prices in Israel. The protesters, who aim to "inspire a national squatting movement", unveiled Jerusalem's first "People's House" on Saturday night, occupying an abandoned state-owned building near the prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu's official residence, where several thousand demonstrators called for social justice and better living standards. The flesher of hundreds of candles lit up poems inspired by the social justice protests which were daubed in white paint on the walls.

Political positions of the CC

World Revolution is the section in British of the International Communist Current which defends the following political positions:

* Since the first world war, capitalism has been a decadent social system. It has twice plunged humanity into a barbaric cycle of war, war, reconstruction and new crises. In the 1990s, it entered into the final phase of this decadence, the phase of decomposition. There is only one alternative offered by this irreversible historical decline: socialism or barbarism, world communist revolution or the destruction of humanity.

* The Paris Commune of 1871 was the first attempt by the proletariat to carry out the revolution, in a period when the conditions for it were not yet ripe. Once these conditions had been provided by the onset of capitalist decadence, the October Revolution of 1917 in Russia was the first step towards an authentic world communist revolution. The Great Proletarian Social-Democratic War of 1914-18, a particularly brutal form of the universal tendency towards state capitalism, itself a major characteristic of the period of decadence.

* Since the beginning of the 20th century, all wars are imperialist wars, part of the deadly struggle between states large and small to construct or retain a place in the international arena. These wars bring nothing to humanity but death and destruction on an ever-increasing scale. The working class can only respond to them through its international solidarity and by struggling against the bourgeois in all countries.

* All the nationalists – "national independence", "the right of nations to self-determination" etc. – whatever their colour, ethnic, historical or religious, are a real poison for the workers. By calling on them to take the side of one or another faction of the bourgeoisie, they divide workers and lead them to massacre each other in the interests and wars of their exploiters.

* In decadent capitalism, parliament and elections are nothing but a masquerade. Any call to participate actively in the parliamentary circus can only reinforce the lie that presents elections as a real choice for the exploiters. "Democracy", a particularly hypocritical form of the barricade, does not differ from other forms of capitalist democracy, such as Stalinism and fascism.

* Accumulated social forces are always equal to actionary. All the so-called "workers’, Socialists’ and ‘Communists’ parties" (now ex-Communists), the leftist organisations in Germany, France, Spain and Italy (with official inter-blocs) constitute the left of capitalism’s political apparatus. All the tactics of "popular fronts", anti-fascist fronts and ‘united fronts’, which mix up the interests of the proletariat with those of a faction of the bourgeoisie, serve only to smother and denigrate the struggle as a whole.

* With the decadence of capitalism, the unions everywhere have been transformed into organs of capitalist order within the proletariat. The various forms of union organization, whether "official” or "rank and file", serve only to divide the working class and sabotage its struggles.

* In order to advance its combat, the working class has to unify its struggles, taking advantage of the economic tension and organisation through sovereign general assemblies and committees of delegates elected and revocable at any time by the assemblies.

* Terrorism is in no way a method of struggle for the working class. The expression of social strife with no historic future and of the decomposition of the petty bourgeoisie, when it’s not the direct expression of the permanent war between capitalist states, terrorism has always been a futile soil for manipulation by the bourgeoisie. Advocating secret action by small minorities, it is in complete opposition to class struggle, which demands from conscious and organised mass action by the proletariat.

* The working class is the only class which can carry out the communist revolution. Its revolutionary struggle will inevitably lead the working class towards a confrontation with the capitalist state. In order to destroy capitalism, the working class will have to overthrow all existing states and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat on a world scale, thus transforming the political power of the workers’ councils, regrouping the entire proletariat. The cantonist transformation of society by the workers’ councils does not mean ‘self-management’ or the nationalisation of the economy. Communes require the conscious abolition of the nation-state. The burning problem of the world community is which all activity be oriented towards the full satisfaction of human needs.

The revolutionary political organisation constitutes the vanguard of the working class and is an active factor in the generalisation of class consciousness within the proletariat, the core of which is to ‘organise the working class’ not to ‘take power’ in its name, but to participate actively in the movement towards the unification of struggles, towards workers taking control of them for themselves, and at the same time to draw out the revolutionary political goals of the proletariat’s combat.

Our activity

Political and theoretical clarification of the goals and methods of the proletarian struggle, of its historic and its immediate conditions.

Organised intervention, united and centralised on an international scale, in order to contribute to the process which leads to the revolutionary action of the proletariat.

The regroupment of revolutionaries with the aim of constituting a real world communist party, which is indispensable to the working class for the overthrow of capitalism and the creation of a communist society.

Our origins

The positions and activity of revolutionary organisations are the product of the past experiences of the working class. The movement towards the internationalisation of class consciousness in political organisations has drawn through history. The ICC thus traces its origins to the progressive contributions of the Communist League of Marx and Engels (1847-51), the three Internationals (the International Workingman’s Association, 1864-72, the Socialist International, 1884-1912, the Communist International, 1919-23), the left fractions which detached themselves from the degenerating Third International in the years 1929-30, in particular the German, Dutch and Italian Lefts.

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