

Peoples do not need "protectors". Out with the imperialists from Ukraine!

Once again, the rivalries of the great imperialist powers form dangerous developments that will create an ill and bloody outcome for the peoples. The conflict that is unfolding these days in Ukraine is a very dangerous one.

It is dangerous because the two most dangerous forces on the planet are involved, American and Russian imperialism. This fact shows that the region of Ukraine has turned into a time bomb that can explode at any time depending on the developments. Russia's invasion of the Russian-speaking border region of Ukraine, right after its recognition by Putin in his speech as an autonomous democracy, will not stop there but it rather aims to overthrow the US-pawn Zelensky administration. This invasion elevates the confrontation between the imperialist forces to new and upgraded levels. The situation is made even more difficult because of the absence of organized workers and communist movement, independent of the imperialist aspirations in the region, which will be the only factor that can put a stop to their plans.

On the one hand, there is the US goal of world domination, the purpose of which is served by encircling Russia and crushing it, militarily and financially. That is the reason why there is intense pressure by the Americans to include Ukraine to NATO but also solidify any country already joined with NATO. At the same time, the US forces are trying to stabilize and legitimize their presence in Europe at all levels (militarily, financially, politically) but also put pressure on their allied European forces to isolate Russia, especially on issues concerning energy and the gas pipelines.

On the other hand, Russia, which is an imperialist power, wants to prevent Ukraine from joining the EU by all means. Putin's recent speech, full of anticommunist hatred, concludes with the recognition of the independence of Donbas and Lugansk. This recognition does not create the appropriate conditions for the independence of the peoples of the region; on the contrary, it leads these peoples to further suffer the intrusiveness of and dependence by Russia. Russian imperialism is also trying to activate the Minsk agreement aspiring to the help of European powers, as well as cause a breach in the relations between US and other European countries. Obviously, their main goal is to stop the admission of Ukraine to NATO but also to prevent the installation of military missile bases in its periphery. China has become a tactical ally of Russian imperialism at this stage. It is known that Chinese imperialism falls behind the United States and Russia from a military

perspective, despite its best efforts. However, pressure from the US superpower on a number of matters, has led them to use its military power, but mainly its advanced economic force in agreement, currently, with Russian imperialism. The Chinese leadership knows firsthand that not only does it still need the Russian war industry, but it looks forward to a joint response alongside Moscow, to the escalating US pressure, both through bilateral relations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. At the same time, China is trying to be present in the opening fronts (Balkans, Middle East, North Africa) by all means, as well as approach the European powers and their markets through trade and economic agreements (i.e. silk road, One Belt One Road Project).

The Balkans are in the eye of the storm, too. Our country's bourgeoisie, which is tied to American and European imperialism, has also played its role in promoting the US and NATO plans in the region. The Prespes Agreement by the previous so called left-wing government of SYRIZA was nothing more than an attempt to attach Northern Macedonia to the "embrace" of NATO. This attempt is aggressively opposed by Russia, who strengthens the far-right party VRMP in response. A similar situation exists in other parts of the Balkans (Serbia, Albania, Kosovo). The wider Balkan region is a region of fierce conflict between the US and Russia and the political staff in these countries are deeply dependent and conflict for foreign interests. The US-Russia confrontation also intensifies the confrontation in the Mediterranean and the Greek-Turkish conflict. The armament programmes race between Greece and Turkey raises the tension. The new agreement on the American military bases in Greece, as well as the relations and the pressures that Turkey receives from Russia, produce the risk of war. At the same time, energy competitions are intertwined in all of the above. The recent shutdown of the certification of Nord stream 2 by Germany (the duration of which remains to be seen) on the occasion of Russia's position on the issue of Ukraine is indicative of the fact that the geostrategic crisis escalates the energy-economic dimension of the imperialists' conflicts and aspirations.

From this rivalry the peoples and the communist movement have nothing to gain and have no interest in choosing a side with the one or the other Imperialist. **The Russian and Ukrainian peoples are now being driven to become cannon fodder of an unjust and reactionary war, whether their leaders are involved as subordinates or protagonists.** On the contrary, the duty of the forces of the revolutionary communist movement today is to strengthen the anti-imperialist movement and to raise their voices, shouting **NO TO WAR** and **THE PEOPLE NEED NO PROTECTORS**, to oppose

imperialism and their respective local bourgeoisie in every country that supports one or the other imperialist and facilitates their military and economic policies.

In this direction, CPG(m-l) took initiatives in all the major cities in Greece, and organized anti-imperialist/anti-war demonstrations, along with other left parties and organizations, based on our opposition to the 70 years since Greece was admitted into NATO and the opposition to the dangerous developments in Ukraine. With slogans such as **“70 years of NATO means Juntas, Wars, Refugees, Terrorism”**, **“Out with the American bases in Greece”**, **“Front of the peoples against war, imperialism and dependence”**, hundreds of people demonstrated in Athens, Thessaloniki, Crete, Ioannina and elsewhere. We will continue to take initiatives and struggle towards this direction, and it is in this very direction that we want to meet, cooperate and struggle with other progressive revolutionary forces outside our country.



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