

BRAZIL. REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL

Comrades

It is with great joy that the Revolutionary Communist Party of Brazil participates in this face-to-face resumption of the International Seminar Problems of the Revolution in Latin America on August 19 in the city of Quito, capital of Ecuador.

The Seminar with the presentation of various revolutionary organizations of our continent coincides with a moment of progress of the class struggle in several countries, of new threats of a 3rd World War and of the conspiring by coup plotters of the extreme right to impose fascist governments in some of our countries. For this reason, we thank the comrades of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador (PCMLE) and the Revolutionary Youth of Ecuador (JRE) for allowing revolutionaries from our countries to discuss, in a fraternal and profound way, their ideas, analyses and proposals in the face of a situation as challenging as the one we live in.

Comrades, the theme of this seminar "The left and the workers faced with the imperialist war," puts great questions to us and reveals, at the same time, that we no longer live in a predominantly peaceful era. Quite the contrary. War is now present on every continent and is causing the deaths of hundreds of human beings on a daily basis. Its breadth and depth are such that social scientists began to use the term of hybrid warfare to illustrate the various means of war that are taking place in the world today, such as conventional warfare, irregular warfare and cyberwarfare, war of disinformation, foreign electoral intervention, etc. It should be noted, however, that all these wars are unleashed by capitalist powers determined to establish new spheres of influence, control of ports, dominate markets and sources of materials, in short, to exploit the peoples and nations more deeply and thoroughly.

While we are gathered here, the imperialist war against Ukraine is six months old and new provocations and threats may lead Taiwan to undergo bombing or continue to exist as a prisoner of violent contention between two major world powers. Palestine is suffering further attacks from Israel. Syria, Iraq, Libya and Afghanistan, among other nations, despite having already lost millions of lives, continue to fall victim to endless imperialist wars.

In fact, the heads of capitalist governments, who once smiled at dinners on luxury yachts, today are publicly exchanging accusations and threats. Although each of them presents different reasons for invading or bombing a country, the objectives of the imperialist countries with these wars are the same: to dominate the peoples, to take control of the wealth of the invaded country and to enrich the great world bourgeoisie at the expense of the slaughter of human beings.

It is worth mentioning that, although the big bourgeoisie media are disclosing some of the destruction of these wars, they never report that, while children and families are murdered, the big global bourgeoisie, the large corporations and investment funds are making billions from wars and the current carnage in the world. In fact, amid the bodies mangled by bombs, the owners of the war industries of the major capitalist countries are displaying their financial balance sheets and celebrating the rise of their shares on the stock exchange. Also called the industrial-military complex, this group is the most *powerful lobby in* the United States Congress, in the Russian, German, French and also Chinese parliaments. The owners of the war industries own banks, investment funds, aircraft companies such as Boeing, automobile industries, pharmaceutical laboratories and even co-produce films to influence world public opinion to consider war inevitable.

Thus, the closer the world is *to the 3rd World War*, the more the production of bombs, missiles, visible and invisible military aircraft, the manufactured of nuclear weapons and the flood of dollars will

enter the pockets of the multimillionaires who own the shares in these companies. Of course, material and human resources will be ruined and the economic, social, political and health crisis will be deeply aggravated. But capitalism has not developed to ensure better living conditions for the peoples or to build a world of peace, but to oppress and exploit human beings.

In fact, a report released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) revealed that in 2021 alone, the total value of arms sales exceeded \$531 billion. The U.S., the country that promotes the most wars and invasions in the world, is the largest arms seller, controlling 39% of the market, and owning the five largest arms companies in the world. China accounts for 13 percent of the world's arms exports, a total of \$66.8 billion, and has five companies among the world's top 100.

The U.S. war budget, pompously called the Defense Budget, approved by Congress is \$768 billion plus \$27.8 billion for the production of new nuclear weapons. Russia has an estimated military expenditure of \$178 billion. Germany decided to triple its military budget for 2022, which was \$59 billion and jumped to \$159 billion. On March 7 China increased its military budget by 7.1%, reaching a total value of \$229.47 billion, a third of what the United States will spend. The UK expects to spend US \$71.6 billion for Defense.

In December, the UN announced that \$6 billion was needed to end the famine of 42 million people, equivalent to 1 percent of the U.S. military budget planned for 2022. In February of this year, FAO, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, estimated that 800 million people are living in hunger in the world. All this immense military spending shows that the imperialist powers are preparing for new and violent military confrontations. The US, for example, increased the presence of its troops in Europe, by 100,000 troops at numerous military bases, including with nuclear missiles, and sent two gigantic aircraft carriers into the China Sea with the aim of "countering evil influence" and the European Union decided to rewrite its basic document called the Strategic Compass for EU Security and Defense, adding that, among the possible scenarios, is a new world war.

China has been conducting so-called military exercises near Taiwan for weeks and increasing its spending on nuclear weapons.

Capitalism wants more war

In addition, the global recession is a reality in all major capitalist countries. The U.S. has not recorded any growth for two quarters; the same is the case in the European Union and the Chinese economy has slowed growth rates even before the pandemic. Recession, the global energy crisis, climate disasters, pandemics like Covid-19 and now monkey pox make the world bourgeoisie even more voracious and willing to do everything it can to exploit the workers and the wealth of nations.

The possibility of a new world war is so probable that the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) António Guterres declared on August 1, 2022, that "humanity is one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation."

NATO, the military arm of the United States and major European countries, with the entry of Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Czech Republic, Estonia, Slovenia, Latvia, Lithuania, has greatly increased its firepower. In opposition, China and Russia announced in February an "agreement without limitless," that is, a military and economic one. As we see, the capitalist powers are preparing for new wars and not to end them. But this warning is music to the ears of the capitalist class, because we are dealing with a class that is guided by profit and business, and human beings are only a means for this minority of vampires to indulge.

In reality, the world capitalist class commits hundreds of atrocities every day against human beings and nature. The total number of refugees exceeds 300 million people; 2.2 billion live without access to

water and 4.2 billion have no basic sanitation. Therefore, the question "The left and the workers faced with the imperialist war" and what to do to prevent the new world war is not only current, but urgent.

Truth be told. To expect the voracious imperialist powers to stop the arms race and that capitalists will renounce their gigantic profits from wars is a vain illusion. To believe that there will be no new world war because the world would be destroyed is to turn a blind eye to the successive wars that have been taking place and to history itself; see Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Thus, the only way to prevent the escalation of a world war is for the workers to come together, strengthen the revolutionary parties in each country and launch themselves into combat against the rotting governments of the bourgeoisie, to destroy those responsible for wars and hunger, and, once and for all, to end the domination of this minority of billionaires over humanity.

In other words, it is necessary to replace the governments of the bourgeoisie with independent workers and peasants governments, which defend the interests of the vast majority of society and place the enormous and formidable resources that humanity has to end poverty and unemployment, protect nature, produce vaccines and end epidemics, promote culture, harmony and peace between peoples. Let us fight for universal brotherhood, take the world out of the hands of these hypocritical bourgeois exploiters.

Indeed, only when capitalist hell is destroyed, a handful of rich people who dominate the economy and world politics have been defeated and profit is no longer above life, will the peoples live in harmony. In a prophetic way, in 1915, V. I. Lenin, the great leader of the October Revolution, said: "Capitalism has become reactionary;... mankind is faced with the alternative of going over to Socialism or of suffering years and even decades of armed struggle between the 'great' powers for the artificial preservation of capitalism... and national oppression of every kind." (*Socialism and War*)

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Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party (PCR) – Brazil