International Liaison and Exchange Commitee
ICLE
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DECLARATION

adopted at the second meeting of the ICLE

28, 29 and 30 November 2019 in Paris

Against war, exploitation and repression! The peoples want to live!

The second meeting of the International Committee of Liaison and Exchanges (ICLE), formed at the proposal of Louisa Hanoune at the Open World Conference of Algiers in 2017, was held in Paris, 28, 29 and 30 October 2019.
In a situation marked by a destructive offensive by imperialism and by uprisings of the peoples in many countries, the delegates from 4 continents came together.

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The speeches by all the delegates emphasised the destructive consequences of the decomposition engendered by finance capital, the trusts and monopolies and the governments in their service. The crisis of the system provokes, on the world scale, tens of millions of job cuts, extreme poverty, precarity, the conditions to which women and young people are subjected, famine and war, with arms budgets that have considerably increased, as well as the unprecedented destruction of the environment by capital (we have heard the delegates from the last of the French colonies in the Caribbean denounce the colonial crime of poisoning these islands with chlordecone).

We have heard the delegates from the African continent. The imperialist military interventions, notably those by the United States, France and NATO, unleashed under the pretext of fighting terrorism, are in fact wars for the control and pillage of gas, oil and natural resources. The African continent is ravaged by the domination of the monopolies, the trusts and the governments of the big powers in their service who multiply the military bases, participating in the massacre of the African populations. These military interventions threaten many states with pure and simple dislocation, such as those of the Sahel, while they have already dislocated Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Afghanistan, etc. They exacerbate the extreme poverty provoked by decades of structural adjustment plans, privatisations and unbridled liberalisation.
These interventions throw millions of children, men and women onto the roads of exile, making them easy prey for traffickers. Those who make their way to Europe are hunted down by the governments and confined in camps. In Europe, as in the United States, the "migrants" are hunted and confined in camps, whereas their survival requires that their right to enter the country of their choice be recognised.

The delegates present at the second meeting of the ICLE support the fight of the peoples of Africa, the Middle East and Asia who want the withdrawal of all the foreign troops and who fight for the reconquest of their sovereignty and their rights.
Faced with this march to barbarity engendered by capitalism, a revolutionary wave is rising that, from Algiers to Santiago, passing through Beirut, Hong Kong, Khartoum, Port-au-Prince and Barcelona, demands, in the same terms, that all the regimes subservient to capital be ousted from power.

This is the message of the Algerians who, by the millions and millions, have demonstrated for nearly ten months to oust the regime that wants to sell off the hydrocarbons to the imperialist monopolies. The Algerians affirm: in 1962, we liberated the land; in 2019, we will liberate the people. This is a revolution in Algeria for the sovereignty of the nation, which implies the people's sovereignty over the country's natural resources.

We have heard the delegates from the Middle East. By braving the worst of repression in lands devastated by wars, by overcoming the ethnic and religious divisions fabricated and kept up by the parasitic cliques in power, the Iraqi and Lebanese people affirm that they want to oust them all.
Several delegates spoke of the fight of the Palestinian people who, subjected to a new offensive by the Israeli state with support from the United States, seek to resist, for their self-determination in a

democratic Palestinian state, with respect for the religions, genders, origins and colours of its citizens.

We have heard the delegates from Latin America. On this continent, there is a wave of uprisings that, after Ecuador, has seen the working class and people of Chile stand up to end with the legacy of the Pinochet dictatorship, kept up by the successive governments, right and left alike, for 30 years. In turn, the peoples of Columbia and Panama are standing up, while the American imperialism is imposing a destructive blockade against Venezuela. And the resistance against the coups spurred by US imperialism continues, as in Bolivia today, after Brazil.

We have heard the delegates from the Caribbean, from occupied Haiti and the last of the French colonies, affirming their fight for their national sovereignty.

We have heard the delegates from Asia, denouncing the plans of social and economic liquidation in their countries and interving at the heart of the resistance of the workers in India, in Bangladesh, where the worker organisations participate in the fight of the workers and students against these plans. It is a matter of supporting the movement of the workers and peoples, against capital, for workers' rights and against racism, bigotry, xenophobia and patriarchal violence. The delegates insisted on their solidarity with the people of Kashmir, denouncing the violent assault against the autonomy of Kashmir and the lockdown by the government of India. We also stand in solidarity with the Rohingya people, violently repressed by the genocidal policies of Myanmar (Burma) and subjected to Islamophobic hate and cruelty in India.

We have heard delegates emphasise that, in these mobilisations, the youth are standing up for the right to a future, as in India and Europe, as well as in Algeria, Chile, Hong Kong and the Middle East, where the youth occupy the leading positions in the fight.

We have heard the delegates from the United States and Europe.
In the United States of America, 40,000 workers from 34 General Motors factories were on strike for 40 days with their union, UAW, while massive strikes are multiplying in education at the moment when the electoral campaign underway reveals the depth of the gap between the immense mass of workers and the tiny minority of speculators.
In Europe, all the governments, like the European Union itself, have entered an unprecedented crisis under the effect of the competition of the big monopolies. The governments, whether they be of the "left" or the right, seek, in the service of capital, to destroy all that had been won by the struggles of the workers. The resistance is developing on the level of the whole continent, from east to west and north to south, to oppose these destructive plans. And it is this that is at the origin of the political crisis that is tearing apart all the governments and all the institutions in Europe.

Throughout the world, these governments in the service of capital seek to take back control of the situation by unleashing savage repression, with hundreds of demonstrators killed with real bullets in Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Chile, Haiti and Bolivia, not to mention the hundreds of others arrested or wounded in Algeria, Spain, France, Hong Kong…

The delegates from the four continents make the same observation. These governments seek, by all possible means, to confine the leaderships of the class organisations and the parties that claim to uphold democracy in the framework of the "continuist" functioning of the political institutions.
Many of the parties that once pretended to speak in the name of the workers, despite the growing rejection of which they are the object, seek to channel the mobilisations in order to preserve the regimes they serve.
Faced with these manoeuvres, the mass of the workers and activists seek to give themselves the means to submerge "from below" the blockage organised by the leaderships, to take back the organisations they had given themselves for their defence, the leaders of which have often implemented policies against their mandate. It is thus that new forms of organisation have cropped up, bearing witness to the lessons drawn by the workers and activists from the experiences of the recent period and showing the will of the broad masses to take control of their movement and organise themselves.
In a situation where the "trade war" engaged by Trump threatens to degenerate into a multitude of new wars, nobody can say how or to what extent, in the coming weeks, the agents of imperialism will react to the revolutionary explosion developing on all continents.

Together, having come from four continents, we affirm:
The ties we have made in the ICLE constitute the guarantee that none of us will be able to be isolated and struck in the criminal silence organised by the states and their corrupt cliques.
Never have we had so much need for the active solidarity offered to us by the ICLE, as we have been able to measure through the very broad campaign for the liberation of Louisa Hanoune, general secretary of the Workers' Party and women's rights activist, a campaign that, in over 100 countries, has seen political and union organisations of the labour movement, as well as numerous democratic organisations, associations, personalities and democrats, take a position.
Never have we had so much need for the support point that the ICLE now represents.
A Committee of liaison and exchanges able to take initiatives on each of our continents in response to the developments of the situation, for example, against the engagement of French and American troops in Africa and the middle East.
A point of support to bring together the forces engaged in each of our countries in the organisation of an "International Day Against War and Repression" and which will address themselves to American labour activists to ask them to support the delegation that will go to the UN headquarters in New York to hold the institution accountable for being the tool of those who make imperialist war.
This is the commitment we make.
This is the commitment we make, we activists and officials from 55 countries and 4 continents, gathered in Paris, 28, 29 and 30 November 2019, in the framework of the International Committee of Liaison and Exchanges (ICLE).

THE 55 COUNTRIES PRESENT:

AFRICA: South Africa/Azania, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Capo Verde, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Mauritius, La Réunion, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia.
AMERICAS: Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, United States, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Martinique, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela.
ASIA: India.
EUROPE: Germany, Austria, Belgium, Belorussia, Spain, France, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine.
MIDDLE EAST: Lebanon, Palestine.

In addition, delegations from the following countries had their visas refused: Burundi, Guinea-Conakry, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Somalia, Chad, Togo.
And the delegations from the following countries, for other reasons (medical, professional) were unable to participate but support the meeting of the ICLE: Armenia, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, Thailand, Moldavia.

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