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Country Report for the 10th International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and **Organizations**

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Our country, like the entire world, is involved and upset by the second general crisis of absolute overproduction for capital began about thirty years ago. Since autumn 2008, the crisis entered its acute and terminal phase, which determines the situation in the country and its developments, those generated by the initiative of the working class and of the other classes of the popular masses, and the opposed ones that the imperialist bourgeoisie attempts to impose.

The alternative that is emerging more and more clearly is that between reactionary mobilization and revolutionary mobilization of the popular masses. A way is directed towards the socialist revolution, the other towards fascism and war.

The crisis does not allow alternatives to these solutions. In fact, this is not a cyclical economic crisis going on and ending keeping substantially stable the political regimes existing in Italy as in the rest of the world. It is a general crisis of capitalism. It is generated by the absolute overproduction of capital, and resolves or in the direction imposed by the working class, that is, through the socialist revolution, establishing a structure where the nature of capital is taken off from the wealth produced, or in the direction imposed by the imperialist bourgeoisie, that is, through war, which destroys the excess capital, that is to say it destroys the resources used as capital in capitalist society that are exceeding.

The two ways, and the classes that follow them, are opposed already in a relationship of war; on the side of the working class it is the revolutionary protracted people's war (RPPW)¹, on the side of the bourgeoisie is the undeclared war of extermination of the popular masses².

The revolutionary people's war in our country has begun with the process of founding the (new) Italian Communist Party ((n)PCI), and develops with the strengthening of the New Power as opposed to the Papal Republic and destined to oust it. The New Power that the Party builds step by step is its ability to direct the conscience of the masses and to direct their actions.

Building the New Power, namely strengthening and extending the ability to guide the conscience of the masses and their action, means to build the revolution. Indeed, the revolution is not something that breaks out, a rebellion of the masses that turns into insurrection, but a process that is constructed step by step. Construction of the revolution and development of protracted revolutionary people's war are therefore the same thing.

The ability to direct the consciousness and the action of the masses is the ground the forces of the working class and of the imperialist bourgeoisie are contesting. *La Voce*, magazine of the (new) Italian Communist Party, (n-34, November 2009) specifies that the core of the power of the bourgeoisie, in Italy as "in all countries of Western Europe, is its hegemony over the masses popular, its ability to direct their consciences and direct their action", (adding that "the armed forces are now an essential but complementary factor and are the garrison of the power of last resort of the bourgeoisie").

Reactionary mobilization of the masses means the ability to direct the consciousness of the masses and direct their action so as to drive the masses towards open wars, wars between the masses in Italy and wars of the Italian masses against those of other countries. In Italy the war of the masses against other masses is fomented mainly promoting fascism and racism, and therefore the attack on immigrant populations. The mobilization of the Italian popular masses towards war against those of other countries develops by participating in imperialist wars of occupation, as in the countries of former Yugoslavia, in Lebanon, in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

Now in Italy both these forms of mobilization of the masses are in the early stages and are experiencing great difficulties. The resistance of the masses towards fascism, racism and war is strong. The imperialist bourgeoisie hesitates in using open forms of dictatorship, both in proportion to the resistance it meets and because of the the memory of the defeat suffered when the Resistance overthrew Fascism still burns.

¹ The Revolutionary Protracted People's War is "to build the Communist Party, to gather around the Communist Party the revolutionary forces of society, to raise their ideological, political and organizational level, to mobilize them according to a plan to develop a series of initiatives that weaken the power of the imperialist bourgeoisie and strengthen the new popular power, until to get to create the armed forces of the revolution for ending the war against the imperialist bourgeoisie, eliminating its state and establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat. (*Thesis and Statute of the 2nd Congress of the CARC Party- October 31 and November 1, 2009*, Thesis No. 4)

²,"The crisis has fed and feeds imperialist bourgeoisie's war of extermination of the popular masses all over the world: it is a war that causes every year tens of millions of deaths from hunger, misery, exploitation, wars, diseases, depression, environmental pollution, accidents at work, traffic accidents, predictable and containable natural catastrophic events such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tsunamis, etc.. Moreover, in its desperate search for profit, the bourgeoisie is poisoning and destroying the planet and endangering the basic conditions for the existence of human kind. No war in human history has ever done so many victims as many this war of extermination kills each year,. (*Thesis and Statute of the 2nd Congress of the CARC Party- October 31 and November 1, 2009*, Thesis No. 4)

The bourgeoisie is divided and wavers between supporting the reactionary right wing, that is Berlusconi's gang, and supporting the moderate right wing, that is the Democratic Party and some others. The reactionary right wing includes Mafia, fascist and racist forces. Still large part of the popular masses grown under the influence and orientation of the old Italian Communist Party supports the moderate right wing.

The bourgeois left wing, including forces that still call themselves communist, is in a deep crisis. It has been removed from the national parliament, after losing lots of votes in the elections. It keeps positions in local governments. It consumes and tends to crack because of the contradiction that on the one hand leads it to be the left side of the moderate right wing, according to the traditional practice of revisionism of whom the bourgeois left wing is the last heir, and on the other compels it to maintain the relationship with the popular masses to which it is related, that are breaking away from the moderate right wing in an ever deeper and wider way.

The contradictions that are rising up invest in an unprecedented way the Vatican, the most powerful institution by which the imperialist bourgeoisie ruled Italy in the last fifty years. In particular, the Vatican cannot support the reactionary right wing, even if it defends the Vatican propagandizing its ideology, supporting its institutions and financing it: the reactionary right wing, with its racist and fascist ideology is unacceptable for most Catholic masses, because that ideology is contrary to the principles of Christianity.

Vatican's crisis is a major phenomenon: the Vatican has been the dominant force not only in the last half century in Italy, but so it has been during the last five centuries in the whole peninsula, and throughout this period it has been a brake on progress, before contrasting and disrupting the bourgeois revolution, and then fighting the communist movement by any means. Vatican' crisis, which is unprecedented, favours the Italian communist movement in its task of abolishing this institution, which is based in Italy but also exerts a powerful negative action at international level.

In Italy, therefore, the general crisis creates a situation of increasing conflicts between the imperialist bourgeoisie and the masses, and within the imperialist bourgeoisie, and undermines its regime that, here as in every other imperialist country, is still today a system of preventive counter-revolution³.

1. To maintain popular masses' cultural and political backwardness, by means of a culture of evasion form reality, of movements and theories that distract attention from reality and concentrate it on futilities (diversion), making confusion and intoxication with reactionary theories and false news. In short, to prevent the rise of political consciousness with a proper articulate system of cultural operations.

2. To satisfy the requests of improvement that the popular masses make more strongly, to give everyone the hope to have a dignified life and feed this hope with some practical result, to envelop every worker in a network of financial bonds (loans, installments, mortgages, bills, taxes, rents, etc.) that every moment make him risk to lose everything or anyway much of its social state and richness if he is not able to respect fixed deadlines. If in claiming struggles the masses conquer time and money, the bourgeoisie has to make them use what they conquered for satisfy their "animal needs" and therefore multiply means and forms for their satisfaction so that the masses would exhaust the money and time they have.

3. To develop channels for popular masses' participation in bourgeoisie's political struggle in a subordinate position, following its parties and exponents. Popular masses' participation in bourgeoisie's political struggle is an essential ingredient of preventive counter-revolution. The division of powers, the representative assemblies, the political elections and the struggle among various parties (the multipartitism) are essential aspects of the regimes of preventive counter-revolution. The bourgeoisie has to make the masses perceive as their own the State that in reality is

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³ The ruling class in the imperialist countries, in order to prevent the socialist revolution, in any case in which it has not been forced to resort to terrorist dictatorship, that is to Nazism and Fascism, created regimes of preventive counter-revolution, based on five pillars:

The system of preventive counter revolution crumbles, but we are still far from the situation that some communist forces in our country and abroad have called "modern fascism", in particular during the joint attack by the criminal organizations and the State repressive forces against immigrants in Rosarno, in Calabria, in January 2010. On the contrary it is true that the Italian imperialist bourgeoisie is doing "trials of fascism", that is to say it mobilizes fascist groups and organizations to test the waters and for making they show their ability. Countering these trials of fascism is one of the most important battlefields in the war that opposes imperialist bourgeoisie and working class.

In this field the (new) Italian Communist Party has given clear directives for the action in March 2009⁴, followed by organizations implementing its General Plan of Work (GPW), the ones we call "the caravan of (n) PCI", because in decades they have worked and followed the path that led to its founding in November 2004. These, starting from the organization of the popular patrol in July 2009 in Massa, Tuscany, started the campaign against government racist measures and produced effects at national level, with demonstrations, rallies and rail blocks, organizing and coordinating permanent anti-fascist committees. The state reacted with arrests, imprisonments and exiles of comrades, with particular rage against the CARC Party, but was forced to retreat both on the field of racist measures and on that of repression against us.

This campaign, that is going on, and other important actions have marked the development of the forces of the caravan of the (n)PCI in recent years.

The (n) PCI published in February 2008 its *Manifesto Program*. The date is historic because for the first time the Italian communist movement has had a means so valuable and necessary.

In July 2008 the judicial persecution against the forces of the caravan suffered a heavy defeat with the non suit judgement for the Eighth Judicial Proceedings against comrades leaders of (n)PCI and of CARC Party⁵.

that of imperialist bourgeoisie. All those who want to participate in political life must be allowed to participate. The bourgeoisie, however, lays and must lay down the tacit condition that they had to play along with ruling class' laws: they had not to go beyond its social order. Despite this tacit condition, however and immediately the bourgeoisie is obliged to divide more definitely its political activity in two fields. A public one, which the popular masses are admitted to (the "petty theatre of bourgeois politics"). A secret one, reserved to the authorized staff. To tacitly respect this division and adapt itself to it is an indispensable requirement of any "responsible" politician. Obviously, every tacit rule is a weak point of the new mechanism of power.

- 4. To maintain the popular masses and particularly the workers in a state of powerlessness, to prevent them from organizing themselves, to supply the masses with organizations led by venal, corruptible, ambitious, individualists men the bourgeoisie trusts in, to prevent an organization autonomous from bourgeoisie in its structure and orientation.
- 5. To repress Communists as more selectively as possible. To prevent by any means that Communists get success, therefore that they multiply their strength organizing in a party, that they have a conception of the world, a right method of knowledge, of work and strategy, that they carry out an effective activity, that they recruit, that they establish their hegemony over the working class. To corrupt and co-opt, and break and eliminate the ones that do not let themselves be corrupted or co-opted.

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⁴ Let's support, promote and organize people's patrols for creating the conditions for a dignified life in a safe and clean environment, against patrols of fascists, racists of the Northern League and cops,! 11 March 2009 Statement.

⁵ Let's celebrate the victory achieved in the Eighth Judicial Proceedings launched by the Italian authorities against the "caravan" of (n) PCI! 4 July 2008 Statement..

Starting from December 2008 and in the first part of 2009 the forces of the caravan were directly and indirectly involved in a major active ideological struggle, necessitated by the need to transform ourselves to be able to perform the new duties imposed by the development of the terminal phase of the crisis began with the financial crisis of October 2008. This struggle has confirmed the value of the principle of two lines struggle, one of the greatest contributions of Marxism Leninism Maoism to communist thought, as a fundamental element for development and growth of new communist parties.

In March 2010, the (n)PCI made the announcement to have held its First Congress underground. This, as well as a historic day, was a victory and advancement of RPPW⁶

These results are an expression of the renaissance of the communist movement, which is still in its early stages. Especially in the imperialist countries, and also in Italy, the communist movement is still weak. This is a weakness that the communist movement will overcome as soon as it will be able to carry out a right evaluation of the experience of the first socialist countries and of the first communist movement, and the more it will understand the reasons why that first movement was not able to make the revolution in any imperialist country. This weakness will be overcome the more it will make advance the battle against dogmatism and economism, the main obstacles to the development of Italian and international communist movement.

The communist movement is weak in Italy, and among the masses the trust in the possibility to make the socialist revolution in Italy is minimal. Therefore, facing the economic crisis coming to its head in October 2008, the (n)PCI launched the slogan of the People's Block Government, an emergency government able to implements the interests of the masses by applying the measures to cope the most devastating effects of the crisis, namely:

- 1. to assign to each firm productive (of goods or services) tasks useful and suitable to its nature, according to a national plan (no firm must be closed);
- 2. to distribute products to families and individuals, to firms and to collective uses according to clear plans and criteria, universally known and decided democratically;
- 3. to assign to each individual a socially useful job and assure him, in return for its strict implementation, the necessary conditions for a dignified life and for the participation in the management of the company (no worker must be fired);
- 4. to eliminate unnecessary activities and productions harmful to humans or to the environment, assigning other tasks to the firms;
- 5. to initiate the reorganization of other social relations according to the new productive base;
- 6. to establish collaborative links and exchanges with other countries willing to establish them with us.

The establishment of this government is the only real alternative to the reactionary mobilization of the masses. It will not be the government of the Communist Party, but the government of those forces that now are enjoying the trust of large sections of the working class and of the most advanced masses of our country, and it will also be supported by that part of the bourgeoisie more fearful to use the subversive instruments. In the People's Block Government there will be two conflicting tendencies, one tending to restore the "normal course of things" waiting for the economic crisis to end, another tending to use this government as a step in the

⁶ See Note 1.

construction of the revolution, as a step of RPPW from which the revolutionary forces will go towards the decisive confrontation with the imperialist bourgeoisie from positions of strength.

This second trend will be that driven by the working class and its Communist Party. It will work with the knowledge that this is not an economic crisis that passes, that it is not a cyclical crisis. This crisis requires a radical political solution that provides an opportunity for the working class lead by the (new) Italian Communist Party to make Italy a new socialist country, and so to fulfil its historical task and give its greatest contribution to the international communist movement.