

Forward

Youth-Culture-Democracy

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'90 Years On'
21st January 1919

We declare that the Nation's sovereignty extends not only to all men and women of the Nation, but to all its material possessions, the Nation's soil and all its resources, all the wealth and all the wealth-producing processes within the Nation.

Democratic Programme
Of the 1st Dáil



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Time to reclaim our economy

The Connolly Youth National Executive Committee released a statement early in September 2008 stating:

The events we are witnessing are a direct result of the anarchic system of capitalist production. The lack of regulation, transparency and accountability, in a word planning, in the major source of profit in the capitalist world, the financial services, has caused a crisis that threatens millions of jobs worldwide and entire countries economies.

Subsequent events and studies have reinforced this belief. The crisis we are in, while compounded by the mismanagement and exposure of our economy by successive governments, is in fact far more basic than that. It is a product of the cyclical nature of capitalism itself and is global in scope. However it is wrong to misinterpret this as alleviating governments and individuals of blame. Human action, although confined, does have impact. We must and do blame our government.

Independent TD, Tony Gregory, passed away last 2nd of January 2009 at the age of 61. The Connolly Youth Movement would like to extend its deepest condolences to Tony's family and friends.



For the CYM and its members Tony was an influence and inspiration. And we echo the words of SIPTU General President, Jack O'Conner, when he described Gregory as a **'fearless fighter for the people of Dublin.'** It is not often these days one can utter such words about a person who recently passed but they are entirely fitting for this man.

Tony started his working life teaching History and French in southside school Coláiste Eoin and politically was early on involved in the movement away from Official Sinn Fein and in establishing the Irish Republican Socialist Party, a movement he shortly after left. Tony ended his political career both as a TD and as a Patron of the People's Movement, a movement the CYM fully support.

Elected to parliament in 1982 as an Independent TD Tony will probably be most remembered for what subsequently became called the 'Gregory Deal'. Here he traded support for a Fianna Fail government for much needed investment in his constituency, Dublin's north inner city. In remembering this one must always remind oneself of the failed Fine Gael and Labour coalition that preceded this Government. Tony will surely be forever remembered by these Dublin people for this quantitative difference he made in their ignored lives.

But to remember him solely for this would be a tragedy. Tony was committed to a free and independent socialist Ireland and acted for such in all his adult life. Tony will be missed by working people in Ireland and will be a loss to the global socialist movement. To canonise Tony would be wrong but to forget him would be worse. CYM in all its actions remembers you Tony.

For Workers Rights and Freedom!

Continued from page 1

Workers across the world are facing unemployment, loss of savings, devastated pension funds and house repossession, but some are facing this more than others. Politics does make a difference and Irish Governments, of different coalitions; have since the 1950's bought into a straightjacket version of economic development that has left us particularly exposed and vulnerable to this crisis.

Through privatisation and de-regulation, dependence upon foreign direct investment, loss of sovereignty via the European Union, we have lost political control over our economy. Our political representatives have willingly given away control of the most fundamental area of sovereignty of a nation-state – the economy. It is time for us to reclaim it. This cannot be done through the same political representatives or their parties that have led us here. We the people need to reclaim it for themselves and no longer be satisfied to have representatives govern for us. The Connolly Youth and the communist movement internationally have been arguing this and it is time people listened.

It is wrong of mainstream commentators to say 'No one could have predicted this.' They may not have with their limited concept of economics and their tie to the political and financial establishment. However, many Marxist economic commentators have been propounding Marxism 101 and the crisis ridden nature of capitalism and more specifically the danger of the dependence of western capitalism on financial services as their major source of profit to the neglect of more traditional and stable manufacturing.

The answers to this crisis will not come from the politicians who led us here or from the economists that missed the signs. They will come from the peoples' movement – the communist movement. This January marks the 90th anniversary of the publication of the Democratic Programme by the 1st Dáil and the CYM propose a revisit of this document and the reasons it was never implemented as a programme for government as a starting point for reclaiming our economy.

Corporate Welfare and Socialised Debt

We are living in a time of unapologetic and undisguised corporate welfare. The government 'bailouts' of financial institutions and other industries represent hand outs with few conditions to the very people who are directly responsible for the current global crisis of capitalism. While the necessary investment could not be found for hospitals, schools, infrastructure and real wage increases for workers, billions if not trillions could be conjured up overnight to cover the debt created by greedy and unaccountable institutions.

Various governments have attempted different strands of the same policy. They have recapitalised, injected billions into institutions of their choice, they have part or fully nationalised, bought the major shareholding in companies and institutions again of their choosing, they have guaranteed the debt and risk, shouldered the responsibility of non-payment, again of their favoured businesses. All these policies have done little to address the fundamental crisis we face, a crisis due to the anarchy of the capitalist productive system in this case started by finance capital.

Whether in the form of nationalisation or government guarantee, one thing is common in all capitalist responses to this crisis. Ordinary tax payers and citizens are shouldering the responsibility for the irresponsible and unaccountable actions of an inherently unstable and unjust economic system. Those at the top who have creamed off billions in rewards and bonuses are being protected and guaranteed by those at the bottom who for years have not received any meaningful increase in standard of living, as workers have increasingly been swayed by the relentless advertising of so-called cheap credit (which we are now seeing the not so cheap cost of).

The one common theme across western countries has not been, as some people mistake it for or dishonestly call it, socialism but in fact the very opposite. It has been the socialisation of debt. That is, society forced to take on the cost and risk of the debts of individual private institutions without these institutions being owned socially. Citizens ultimately incur the cost and shareholders continue to receive the profit.

Nationalisation from a 'right-wing' perspective as this is, national socialism as it has previously been called, has not been carried out to save jobs (as we have seen with the job losses suffered in Northern Rock post nationalisation by the British Government amongst many other examples) nor has it been carried out so that profits will be socially owned and re-invested in social infrastructure. No, this form of nationalisation is being carried out to stabilise the system so that all can be re-privatised again and the economy can go back to 'business as usual'.

Indeed, so delighted have the Banks been with this action Anglo Irish Chairman Donal O'Connor said:

The Government's commitment to make further capital available ensures that the Bank will continue to be a sound and viable institution. We are very grateful to the Government for this clear demonstration of support.

And it sure must take something for a private Bank to thank government for state intervention in their internal financial affairs!

In Defence Iñaki de Juana Chaos and Freedom of Speech

Press Statement December 2008

The Connolly Youth Movement declares its support for Iñaki de Juana Chaos' right to free speech. Comrade De Juana Chaos who was brought before a court in Belfast on Monday as a result of an EU arrest warrant for charges made by a Madrid court that he had praised terrorism in a letter. In the letter De Juana had merely called on the Basque people to continue their struggle for self-determination.



The charges highlight the reality of the EU Imperialist project and the true nature of the 'war on terror' and the repressive legislation that has resulted, legislation we are all too familiar with in Ireland.

CYM Belfast Branch

Time To Sack The Government!

It is time we in the twenty-six counties said 'enough is enough'. It is time the electorate punish the Independents in Government, the Green Party in coalition, and most of all Fianna Fail. It's time to sack the government.

They have shown their gross ineptitude, their ideological bankruptcy but most of all how out of touch and ignorant they are of their electorate. They put forward a three part solution to the initial crisis each part of which highlights their inability to govern responsibly and each part of which is cause for sacking in and of itself.

Firstly, the government guarantee of the debt of certain financial institutions, as outlined in this issue of *Forward*, was nothing more than the socialisation of debt with little in return. And these billions, 480 as was conservatively estimated, conjured up overnight while during the time of boom this government failed to make the necessary funds available for vital social infrastructure.

Secondly, was the much trumpeted and early 'tough budget'. Tough for the Banks? No. Tough for the millionaires? No. Tough for those Irish citizens with foreign Bank accounts carefully avoiding their responsibility to Ireland? No. Tough for the multi-nationals making billions of profit in Ireland that then disappears off to accounts in far away places? No. So who exactly was thus budget tough for? The elderly, the young, the health service, the education system, those dependant on efficient public transport, those in low income families. This budget was tough for the majority living in the twenty-six counties, low to middle income people and families, and easy for the minority, the rich.

The final part of this government's initial masterplan to deal with the economic crisis and possibly the most cynical and irresponsible of all was to suggest to working people suffering under record levels of personal debt and arrears in mortgages that the 'patriotic' thing to do was to spend money

Subway Sack Young Pregnant Migrant Worker



Natalia Szymanska, a young Polish woman, was sacked from Subway in her fifth month of pregnancy on a dubious charge of being in breach of the company's health and safety policy.



We call on Subway to:-

- immediately reinstate the pregnant worker,
- reimburse her for loss of earnings,
- compensate her for the injury to feeling,
- treat all workers fairly.

Sign the petition at:

www.petitiononline.com/subway1/petition.html

in order to avoid the greater evil of deflation (an economic phenomenon that will benefit many low income families in reduced bills and costs but that will cut greatly into the profits of big business and so 'threaten our jobs!')

So eager were the government that we 'spend spend spend' they even turned the Christmas lights in Dublin's City Centre on early to get us in the festive mood of carefree expenditure and reckless borrowing. Yes reader, this at a time when we are being told to conserve energy to save our planet. Where on earth were the Green's, clearly not on our planet or have they just fallen in behind the same excuse we have been hearing for decades of ignoring environmental problems, the economy first.

It all seems so incredible yet unfortunately it is very real. Amidst an orgy of rewards and bonuses, expenses, claims and corruption, nepotism and brown envelopes that passed for politics for so long the basis of the southern economy, the financial services, was leading working people into a crisis of which we have yet to see its worst effects.

Democracy is not just about voting when we are told to vote it is also about acting, demanding and changing. We have seen a number of u-turns forced upon the Government by groups of citizens but now it is time to join all the dots and see the bigger picture. The Connolly Youth Movement will be launching a campaign in 2009 called 'Sack the Government' and we ask anyone interested in getting involved to make contact with us. We will, in the near future, be holding a day session to develop a strategy to achieve our aims of bringing down this government. To attend and get involved in this open and inclusive intervention contact us.

Israel – A Terrorist State

CYM Press Statement

December 28th 2008

The Connolly Youth Movement condemns this morning's massacre by the Israeli State of the Palestinian people.

This morning's indiscriminate air strike against Gaza, one of the most densely populated areas in the world, has greatly increased the suffering felt by the people in Palestine.

As of release of this statement 145 people have been murdered and 150 have been injured by the Israeli State, though these figures are sure to rise. (Over 700 by the time of publication of *Forward*).

While the Palestinian people are well used to living under Israeli siege and under Israeli attack, this morning's air strikes, which Israel have described as only the beginning of their operations, were particularly savage. For eighteen months the Israelis have kept the Gaza strip under siege, leading to fuel and food shortages in the area. They have now added to this misery with the blood and mayhem of their air strikes.

The world must condemn the terrorist and criminal actions of the Israeli State. The terrorist state of Israel must be held to account for its actions.

Until the Palestinian people are given their own independent state, until Israel and its backers in Washington realise the right of the Palestinian people to live free from terror, there cannot and will not be peace in Palestine, or in the wider Arab world.

Israel must take a step back, before they inflict more misery and suffering on the Palestinians.

The Connolly Youth Movement calls for an immediate end to all aggression.

The CYM, in solidarity with our fraternal brothers and sisters in both Palestine and Israel, calls for the end of Israeli occupation and the creation of an independent Palestinian State, whose borders and sovereignty are respected.



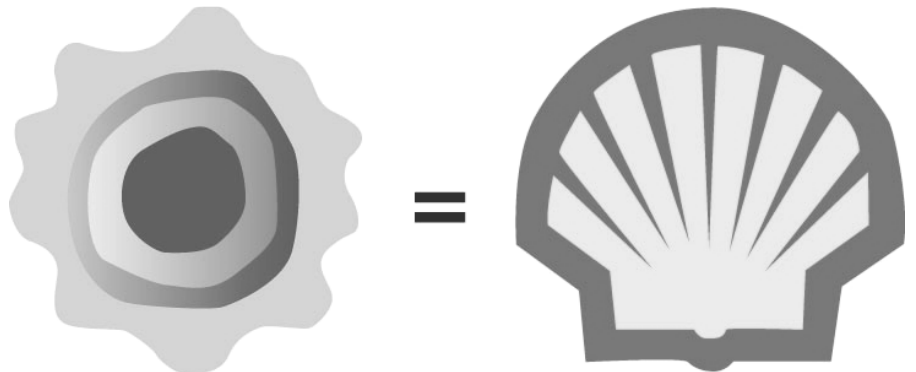
"THANK YOU, MY MAN."

1ST REVOLUTIONARY KICK OFF!

In a nice way to wrap up the final few weeks of the year the Dublin Shell to Sea group organised a 5-a-side football tournament to raise funds for the ongoing struggle they will face in the new year. After weeks of planning, the tournament took place from 12pm-3pm on Saturday the 29th of November in the brand new Ballyfermot Sports Complex.

On such a cold afternoon (really cold!!) there was a great response from all groups concerned, with teams from CYM, Dublin Bus, Eirigi, Gluaisteacht, IPSC, IRSP, Seomra Spraoi, Sinn Fein, Socialist Party and WSM all turning out to have a go. It ended up with an all Dublin Bus final, not for lack of trying from the political groups with the valiant CYM making the semi-finals being knocked out by the eventual winners, but Dublin Bus (aka Harristown F.C) just had the edge on all the rest.

With such an interest and good turn out it proved a very successful fundraiser for the campaign and so achieved its goal. There's now word of another 5-a-side taking place in the New Year and CYM will of course be taking part and would encourage all supporters of the campaign to get a team together for the next one or to organise a tournament in your own area.



TOPAZ

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Shell

3 dates to remember – many lessons to learn

Fifty years ago on New Years Day 1959, Cuban dictator Batista fled Havana as Guevara and Castro rode into Havana separately early in January, heralding the beginning of a glorious revolution which has survived for fifty years and is still going strong.

Twenty years later an even more brutal dictatorship was defeated and overthrown by the long suffering Nicaraguan people. In 1979 Daniel Ortega led the Sandinistas into Managua. After forty years the Nicaraguan people succeeded in overthrowing successive Somoza dictatorships.

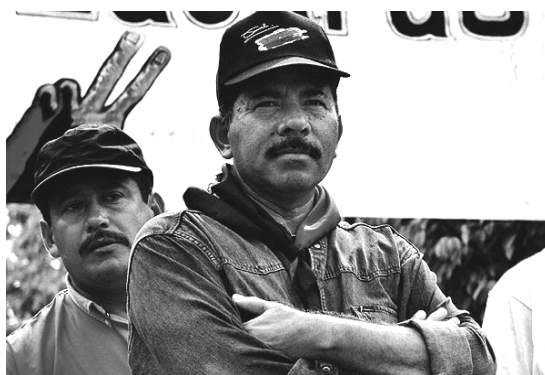
However, the worlds oppressed were to suffer a major setback in 1989 with the beginning of the collapse of the Soviet Union and Eastern Socialist countries. This collapse sent reverberations throughout socialist and communist parties worldwide and Western European workers were losing their invisible partner at the negotiating table with capital.

1959, 1979 and 1989 represent three important dates in socialist history, and they deserve much study and reflection. There are many lessons to be learned, positive and negative, from these three anniversaries.

Above all else we must recognise from these experiences that after a revolution the battle is not over. In the aftermath of every socialist revolution, the bourgeoisie will regroup and attempt a counter- revolution. This was seen after the October Revolution in the Civil War and ongoing sabotage, in Cuba at the Bay of Pigs invasion of 1962 and in the 1980's in Nicaragua through the CIA/ Contra war.

Between 1912 and 1933, the USA occupied Nicaragua, before putting the Somoza dictatorship in place in 1927. On the 21st of February 1934, the Somoza family assassinated Augusto Cesar Sandino, after inviting him to a meeting. It was Sandino who lent his name to the Sandinistas, when Carlos Fonseca formed the Sandinista National Liberation Front, a small guerrilla group, in 1961.

A turning point came in 1972 when, following an earthquake that destroyed 90% of the capital Managua, the Somoza regime took foreign aid for themselves and sold food and medicine on the black market to further enrich themselves at the cost of the people. Elements of the Catholic Church began supporting the revolutionaries, making them acceptable to the Nicaraguan populace. This helped turn a small dedicated movement into the popular revolution of the late 70's. In joyous scenes in Managua in July 1979 convoys of armed Revolutionaries arrived cheered on by the masses.



The revolution changed the fortunes of the Nicaraguan people. For the first time in their recent history the country was run by the people and for the good of the people. Between March and August 1980, the Sandinistas ran a massive National Literacy Campaign, with teachers sent out to small villages to teach people to read and write. It was a massive success. Other social programmes were run, which gained international recognition in the areas of health, education, childcare and land reforms backed and supported by other Socialist countries like the German Democratic Republic.

US marines had often been involved in direct military action against Nicaragua, invading and occupying parts in 1894, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1910 and occupying the country for twenty years between 1912 and 1933. So after almost a century of interference, invasions and occupations, it was hardly surprising that Yankee Imperialism was not going to allow the Nicaraguan people decide on their own future.

With the election of one of the USA's most infamous president, Ronald Regan, a new period of increased interference in Nicaraguan affairs commenced. The Sandinistas Revolution that had started to make many advances in the standard of life for the Nicaraguan people, was to discover just how difficult maintaining their revolution was to be.

The Regan regime imposed tough economic sanctions and a harsh trade embargo. They also began training and illegally financing a group of bandits, who were to become known as the Contras, in Honduras.

Despite Daniel Ortega winning what were internationally declared as free and fair elections, US intervention did not end. Indeed the International Court of Justice delivered a judgment against the United States in June 1986. Its summary stated, that the USA had been "training, arming, equipping, financing and supplying the Contra forces or otherwise encouraging, supporting and aiding military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua, the United States has acted, against the Republic of Nicaragua, in breach of its obligation under customary international law not to intervene in the affairs of another state."

After almost a decade of US war against the new revolution, the Sandinistas were voted out of power in 1990. The people voted them out, as they saw this as being the only way of ending the war that had devastated their country. Unlike in 1984, when the US refused to accept election results, the Sandinistas accepted the enforced wish of the people.

In April 1961, a force trained, financed and armed by the United States government and backed up the US Air force attempted an invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs. However, the Cuban military defeated the invaders within a matter of days. Since 1963, the United States has attempted to cripple Cuba with a diplomatic and trade embargo. Cuba has remained strong against these outside forces and built its revolution for the last fifty years.

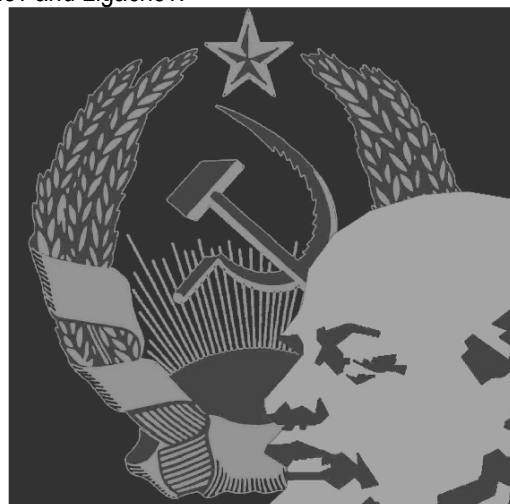


Cuba has not only suffered from external problems. An economic reliance upon the Soviet Union caused great difficulties for the country in 1991, when the Soviet Union collapsed. This time became known as the "Special Period" leading to significant shortages in food, water and fuel. Cubans and their government had to dig deep and reassess how their economy was run. They developed solar, wind and bio- energy to help move away from dependence on oil. Farming became more organic and there were huge strides forward in public transport. Despite fifty years of survival, Cuba is still involved in a daily battle to maintain its revolution and develop.

The strongest and most developed socialist state in history, the Soviet Union, was in existence for 74 years. While the USSR was regularly at loggerheads with its ideological enemy, the United States, post World War 2 there was no real threat of outward forces overthrowing the state. The USSR was a powerful union with a large well trained and funded military. The reasons for the collapse of the Soviet Union came largely from within its own borders. It was caused by an internal counter-revolution within the State and the victory of the 'right' within the CPSU.

The Soviet Union under the rule of Josef Stalin (1929- 1953) pursued an economy that was controlled by a central governing body. The success of this planned economy depended upon successful state control over the factors of production. Stalin's radical policy saw the industrialization of the Soviet Union on an unprecedented scale. The size of the industrial working class grew, the dependence upon agriculture fell and urbanization increased rapidly. Heavy industry was created in the socialist system by the devotion of all available resources, sometimes at extraordinary costs. The rate of economic growth began to slow from the time of Khrushchev, from growth of 10 to 15 percent a year to three to five percent a year.

Throughout the history of the Soviet Union two trends always battled, a right wing that incorporated the ideas and methods of capitalists, and a Marxist wing that supported class struggle, a strong Communist party, and an uncompromising defence of working class leadership. These two currents existed even before the October Revolution: the Menshevik trend, on the one hand, and the Bolshevik trend on the other. Later, this fight polarized around Bukharin and Stalin, Khrushchev and Molotov, and Gorbachev and Ligachev.



The whole history of the USSR can be seen in the light of the struggle between these two currents. Gorbachev, representing the right trend, won leadership in 1985 and introduced a wide ranging program of reform. His major reforms were glasnost and perestroika. Brezhnev, with his policy of stability of cadre and his fear of making waves, left an extremely aging leadership and he let various problems in the economy and society get worse. The scarcity of some products, especially high-quality ones, the development of the "second economy," the corruption of party leaders, all made people unhappy. When Gorbachev promised to solve these problems, almost everyone agreed. It seemed that, finally, someone had appeared with the will to change things for the better.

However we now know that Gorbachev did not do this and instead oversaw the liquidation of socialism.

2009 is a time to remember nothing is perfect and everything is subject to struggle. Let's struggle to reclaim our economy and our sovereignty.

No means a re-run!

We have received assurances and guarantees. What a relief! They have listened to us and all will be ok. All we have to do is vote Yes to the Lisbon Treaty in its second referendum in Ireland in 2009 and we will be protected against all the bad things the Lisbon Treaty promises!

That appears to be the government's logic. But the Irish electorate is not as stupid or ignorant as Fianna Fail wish. We know that promises and assurances, particularly coming from the mouths of Fianna Fail, mean nothing against legally binding constitutions and court judgements. And so when we are bullied into voting a second time we will not shirk our responsibility to the rest of Europe and we will come out and vote No again!

Oh and in case anyone is interested, under existing Nice Treaty arrangement a state has the right to propose a commissioner:

Article 214.2 TEC reads: ***The Council, acting by a qualified majority and by common accord with the nominee for the President shall adopt the list of other persons whom it intends to appoint as Members of the Commission, drawn up in accordance with the proposals made by each Member State.***

Under Lisbon Treaty arrangements a state will only have the right to suggest a commissioner. A subtle but vital change. Lisbon states:

Article 17.7 amended TEU: ***The Council, by common accord with the president-elect, shall adopt the list of the other persons whom it proposes for appointment as members of the Commission. They shall be selected, on the basis of suggestions made by Member States, in accordance with the criteria set out in paragraph 3.***

Not only will nation-states lose their right to propose, their suggestions will ultimately be held to ransom by the president-elect. This president-elect will therefore have Prime-Minister style powers over the European Commission (read Government).

European Super-State by stealth, manipulation and lies

Open Europe, a pro-EU think-tank, recently reported that the EU spends more money on PR than Coca-Cola do globally.

In this report it stated that so-called information pamphlets were full of one-sided rhetoric like 'the EU's remarkable success story' and how it is 'delivering a better life for everyone' through a single market that is its 'winning formula'. This all masquerading as unbiased factual information!



Indeed the report uncovered an internal European Commission report on communication that stated, *Neutral factual information is needed of course, but it is not enough on its own. Genuine communication by the EU cannot be reduced to the mere provision of information.* That's right genuine communication cannot tell you what the Lisbon Treaty actually means it must instead use phrases and rhetoric like democracy, accountability and equality and never mention the actual neutral information of tax implications for ordinary citizens and creation of a European army etc.

The director of Open Europe, Lorraine Mullally, on publication of her think-tank's report said, *Taxpayers should not be footing the bill for vain PR exercises to make us love the EU. The EU needs urgent and radical reform, not expensive campaigns to improve its image.* Miss Mullally went on to say, *People certainly need to know more about the EU, but the EU has proved unable and unwilling to provide neutral, factual information. This senseless spending on dubious PR projects has got to stop.*

An example of those dubious PR projects she refers to is the European School Milk Poster that directs schools to display a pro-EU milk poster 'permanently situated at a clearly visible and readable place at the main entrance' it even goes as far to give the measurements of the poster – A3 or bigger with letter 1cm tall or bigger.

All these billions spent, that we as tax-payers foot, are to convince us of the inherent 'good' of the European project, a 'good' that is increasingly being exposed for its militaristic and dominating global designs.

Explaining Economics Part 4



Continuing *Forward's* examination of economics this edition will look at how surplus value and what is commonly known as profit is created thus revealing the base cause of exploitation and alienation in capitalist society – that of the productive process.

Surplus Value and Profit

It is through the creation of surplus value, or profit, that capitalism keeps on running as a system, and that bosses maintain and extend their wealth and control over the world. If the system stopped creating profit it would collapse. It is through the wage system, through the exploitation of wage labour by capital, workers by bosses, that this vast social order is maintained.

How is profit made, how is surplus value produced, but through the production process, through the controlled application of labour to the capitalists raw materials giving the product its value as a good which it is then sold for.

The boss buys his materials he needs to create his product at their value (the amount of labour required in their production), the factory or office space, the raw materials (it could be paper, metal, chemicals or a contract to provide a service like insurance). With this however he has nothing but a load of useless items that he cannot gain from, until he purchases the magic ingredient of labour-power (that is me and you). By putting labour-power to work he is able to create the good or service he sells for profit. But, and this is the key point, as we know from the labour theory of value (already expounded in previous editions of this magazine) the product is sold roughly at its correct value. The boss does not create surplus value or profit by selling his product at too high an amount. The boss doesn't create surplus value through the sale at all, he only realises this surplus value in the form of profit. The surplus value has already been created by labour. It is labour's value that the boss then pockets as profit.

A few more sentences may be needed. The boss buys all the things he needs to create his goods, including labour-power, for say 1000 euro. The worker then goes to work and creates the product that the boss then sells at its correct value for say 1500 euro, thus realising 500 euro profit off the labour of the worker.

Lets say of the original 1000 spent the worker received 300 of that as his wage, the rest went to buying the other commodities needed. That means the worker only received 300 of 1500, 1/5 of the value he created. So for every hour the worker worked and was paid he then worked 4 hours for FREE, for nothing but to create the surplus value for the boss that he needed to create profit to keep himself rich and the system going. It is this free labour or gratis labour that creates profit. It is this that is the source of exploitation in capitalism.

... the whole capitalist system of production turns on the increase of this gratis labour by extending workday or by developing the productivity, increasing the intensity of labour power, etc.; that, consequently, the system of wage-labour is a system of slavery, and indeed of a slavery which becomes more severe in proportion as the social productive forces of labour develop.

whether the worker receives better or worse payment.
K. Marx. 1875 'Critique of Gotha Program'

A few more points need to be mentioned that spring directly from this great discovery made by Marx.

First, is that as profits rise, as a percent of the value of the product, wages fall at that same percent. Wages and profit are in inverse proportion to each other. To increase profits the boss must exploit labour even more, the boss must either lengthen the working day or increase the amount of labour the worker does in his day (increase productivity of the worker). Where possible new technology is implemented and far from easing our workload it actually increases our exploitation as we create more surplus value by producing more goods while receiving the same wage, or it puts us out of work. This is why early in the development of capitalism many workers destroyed machines in a vain and hopeless attempt to protect their interests.

To increase profit the boss must create more free labour. The worker must only be paid for 1 of every 6 hours, from the above example. And so logically from this for the worker to increase his wages he must eat into the bosses profits, he must get himself paid for 2 of every 5 hours worked.

*They stand in inverse proportion to each other ...
Profit rises in the degree in which wages fall ...*
K. Marx. 1847 'Wage-Labour and Capital'

Second, is that bosses are driven by competition to make profits and so constantly seek out profitable industry or business, it is this that generally equalises the rate of profits across industries. If one business makes a higher rate of profit more capitalists will get into it, flooding the market, thus forcing the sale of product below the actual value and thus reducing the rate of profit. This battle between capitalists equalises the rate of profit across industries.

That competition is sure to equalise the rate of profit in different trades, or reduce them to one average level, but it can never determine the level itself, or the general rate of profit.
K. Marx. 1865 'Value, Price and Profit'

This is just a snapshot of the great class struggle that is taking place worldwide. It starts in the office or in the factory, in the field of production and spreads into every area of life. It is the production process, of private property and wage labour, which is exploitative not just individual bosses or extreme cases of 'sweat shops'.

Behind the masks and random acts of violence is meaningful mobilisation

Communication from the Greek Young Communist League, the KNE

We would like to inform you of the direct response of tens of thousands of young students and workers that participated in the demonstrations yesterday evening and today, denouncing the new attack upon mass-organized movements. These demonstrations condemned the latest murderous attacks by unknowns against a group of students in Peristeri (a working-class neighbourhood in the Athens region, where the KKE and KNE has significant influence) that at that time were organizing the next day's demonstration of their school union. The student Giorgos Paplomatas, member of KNE and the 15-member students' council of his school was wounded by gunshot.

By the time this murderous action happened, a call of the KKE brought about a huge demonstration –condemnation of this new attack took held in the center of Peristeri. Today thousands of students of schools have demonstrated after the call by the Struggle Coordinative of School Unions.



These massive demonstrations are an immediate response to all forms of official and unofficial repression mechanisms of the state that has proved that they aim to intimidate furthermore the youth and peoples workers' movement. Young people and workers denounced the government disclosing its heavy political responsibilities.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform all outside of Greece that we have that a series of opportunists of Synaspismos Syriza ,Trotskyists and anarchists groups “broadcasting” and “informing” through national and international bourgeois media, have reversed completely the reality. They try to present these mobilizations as a new kind of movement based on hooded persons organized by specific circles and secret services in Greece and in other countries of Europe. Unluckily for them the vast majority of young people and working class participate not in groups of hooded persons but in the multiple massive blocks of All Workers Militant Front (PAME) as well as the Struggle Coordinative of School Unions.

The organized and well protected movement that KKE and KNE insist on calling the youth and people to participate in, has discomforted the bourgeois class. That's why during the previous weekend “unknown” persons hit two office buildings of Local Organizations of KKE in Thessaloniki and that's why they intensify in all forms their offensive against the KKE and KNE.

Despite all the plans and attempts of the capital and the government, youth movement will not obey their calls. It will follow the working class orientated movement and its slogan “Let's struggle for rupture and overthrow”.

To the Greek Ambassador,

Members and friends of the Connolly Youth Movement in Ireland in solidarity with our comrades of the KNE and with our brothers and sisters in Greece would like to register our deepest protest at the murder of 15 year old Alexander and at the violent and vicious state repression Greek workers and people currently suffer under.

The Connolly Youth Movement have sent a message of support, through the KNE, to Greek workers and students at the brave stand they are taking against the anti-labour and anti-people policies of your Government. We condemn the Government's portrayal of protestors and opposition as thugs and instigators of mindless violence.

We support the KNE's actions in schools and universities and call on you to register our protest to your Government.



Looking forward to a positive response.

Yours,

Gareth Murphy
CYM General Secretary

*No response (one month later)
has yet been received!*

History being re-written in front of our eyes

Anti-Communism becomes accepted history

Early 2009 is the date given for the DVD release of the 'acclaimed' film 'The Soviet Story'.

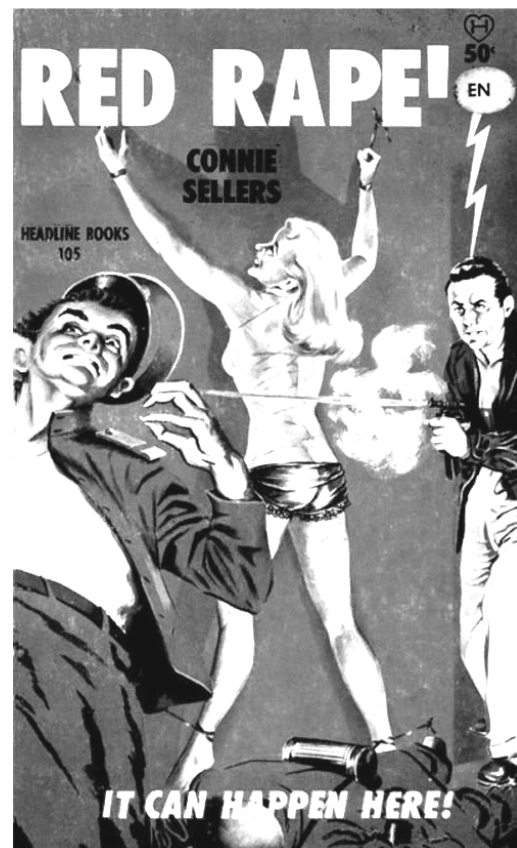
This film, premiered in the European Parliament, is part of a general trend in the European Union to re-write history and present communism as an equal to fascism. This attack can be more obviously seen in the banning of the Czech Communist Youth (KSM) by the Czech State and in the countries Latvia, Estonia and Poland through the campaigns to remove Red Army anti-fascist memorials to obliterate the role played by the Red Army in these countries liberation from fascism. This ideological offensive has been taken to absurd levels in some Baltic states where ceremonies have taken place to honour SS fascists and persecute Red Army veterans. Indeed Communist Parties are banned across a number of these countries again despite the overwhelming historical evidence of the leading role they played in the partisan movements against nazi-occupation and collaborationist nationalist governments.

The reason for this offensive is simple. A spectre is once again haunting Europe. Communist Parties were not destroyed and Marxist ideology has not been defeated. Recent figures emerging from several former Socialist countries show there is significant support for the Socialist system and for the various leaders of Socialism.

One major outlet providing 'The Soviet Story' with an international platform has been the notorious US government funded 'Voice of America' news service, responsible for instigating crimes around the world and encouraging sabotage and internal wrecking against countries who choose a different path than subjugation to US imperialism.

The film's website boasts the claim *'The Soviet Story' presents a truly unique insight into the recent Soviet history.* What is in fact told is a collected version of regurgitated Cold War propaganda, the bulk of which is no longer taken seriously by post-Cold War bourgeois academics.

With the advent of Euro-communism in the 1970s and hastened by the collapse of Socialism around the world in the 1990s, social democracy in its various forms has joined in chorus with the ruling class' falsifications in attacking the legacy of Soviet Union. It is important that Communists do not shirk from our duty of defending the furthest advancement towards a genuinely equal society - we cannot let anti-communist propaganda become accepted history.



This is a classic example of US pulp anti-communist propaganda supporting the academic theory of the 'domino effect' that US foreign policy was based upon. The fiction is set in the US after an invasion by 'the Ivans' as they are called in this book. Published in 1960 it conveniently coincided with the US war upon the Vietnamese people where the administrations policy line was fight communism there not here. The books front cover suitably ends with the line 'It can happen here.'



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90th ANNIVERSARY

**FIRST DÁIL
ÉIREANN**
1919 - 2009

The Struggle for Socialism in Ireland Today

11am - 12.30pm - 'A democratic economy for today'

Noel Carrillo (Cuban Ambassador)

Eugene Mc Carten (General Secretary of Communist Party)

1pm - 2.30pm - 'The European Union and Democracy'

Frank Keoghan (Secretary of the People's Movement)

3pm - 5pm - 'Struggle for Socialism in Ireland'

Debate Between Connolly Youth Movement,
Ógra Shinn Féin and Labour

Chaired by TD Finian Mc Grath

8pm - till late Anniversary Music and Drinks

The Cobblestone Pub

JD Thompson

Andrew Clarke

Strange Brew

Saturday 31st January,
Connolly Bookshop,
Temple Bar, Dublin 2