

# PROGRAM

of the Marxist-Leninist Party

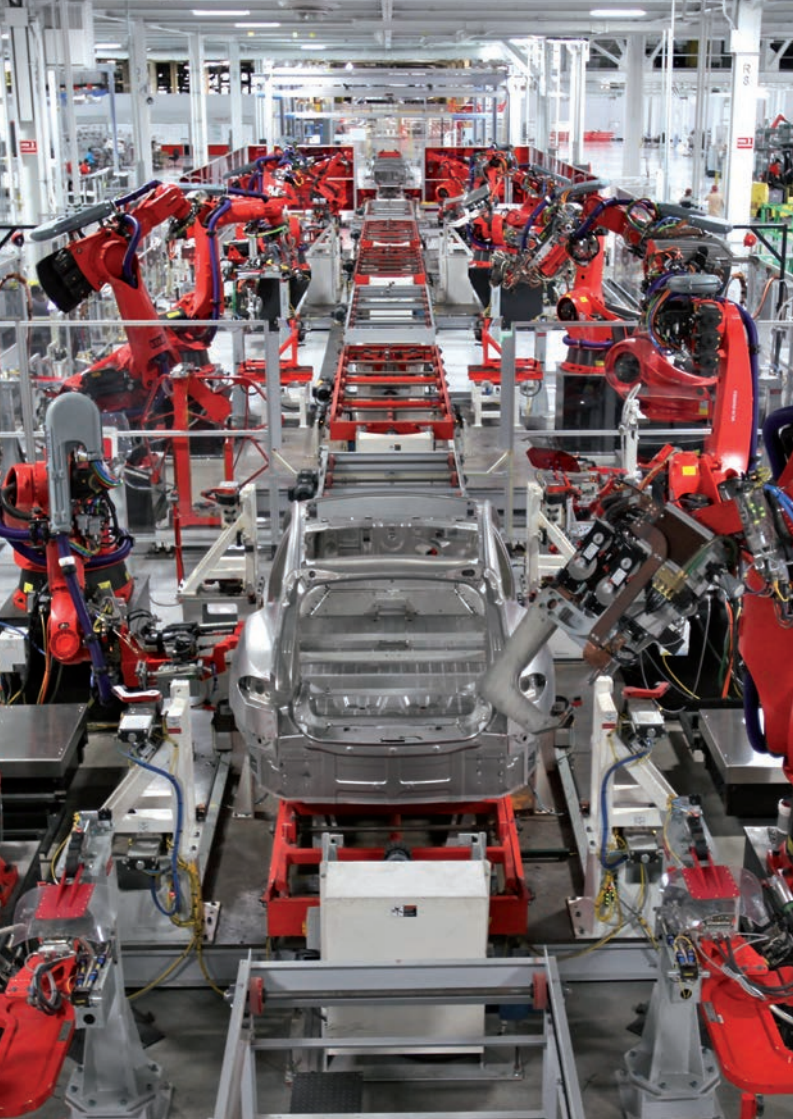


Member of  
**ICOR**



**MLPD**

Marxistisch-Leninistische Partei Deutschlands



*“The internationalization of the productive forces has ushered in a new historical period of transformation from capitalism to socialism. The material prerequisites for the united socialist states of the world have matured as never before in history.”*

Program, Chapter A, Section 1, page 16

Programm der Marxistisch-Leninistischen Partei Deutschlands  
Program of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD)

Central Committee of the MLPD

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# **PROGRAM**

of the Marxist-Leninist Party

Revised Party Program adopted by the Tenth Party Congress  
of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany

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**Stefan Engel**  
Chairman of the MLPD

## **FOREWORD**

Since it was founded in 1982, the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD) has worked on the basis of its Bochum Program. In 1999 the Gelsenkirchen Party Congress approved a number of essential additions that took into account German reunification and party work on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking.

Since the beginning of the 1990s the imperialist world system has undergone an essential change due to the reorganization of international production. The struggle of a leading stratum of around 500 international supermonopolies from the banking, industrial, trade and agricultural sectors for control of the world market has since put its stamp on world events. The chronic over-accumulation of capital since that time increases the general crisis-proneness of the imperialist world system. The threatening global environmental catastrophe and the general danger of war call into question the very existence of human life. The national-state regulation of politics and economics has degenerated more and more into a mere appendage of an internationally agreed crisis management. The common denominator of this crisis management is limited mainly to the maintenance of the imperialist world system and the dominance of a few top monopolies of international finance capital. At the same time, the competition over profitable investment

areas, world market shares, natural resources and political spheres of influence is intensifying to an extreme degree. Against this backdrop, the potential for a revolutionary world crisis has grown considerably.

This program, further developed at the Sonneberg Party Congress in 2016, succinctly portrays the essential changes in capitalist society. It draws conclusions for the extension and further development of the Marxist-Leninist strategy and tactics in the preparation of the international socialist revolution. Especially important in this regard are

- the unity of national and international class struggle;
- the unity of the struggle for social liberation and for the solution of the global environmental crisis;
- the unity of the struggle for the liberation of the working class from exploitation of wage labor and for the liberation of women from their special oppression;
- the connection between winning the decisive majority of the international industrial proletariat and the fighting alliance with the oppressed of the world.

In a situation in which social reality has become more complicated, with the party program everyone is given the possibility to comprehensively get to know the po-

licies, goals and working methods of the MLPD as new-type party and to understand them in their essential features, contrary to their anticommunist distortion and defamation. It draws conclusions from successes, defeats and mistakes of the past in the struggle for socialism. It shows the path of self-liberation of the working class and all the oppressed and exploited in a socialist and communist society.

The program characterizes the present-day demands on class consciousness, women's consciousness, environmental consciousness or internationalist consciousness. Simultaneously, it brings across many opportunities for taking part in the tasks for the future of humankind and committing oneself to the liberation from capitalist exploitation and oppression at the side of the MLPD.

The further developed party program has been written based on the experience of the MLPD's history of roughly fifty years of party building and the lessons learned from the international Marxist-Leninist, revolutionary and working-class movement. It emphatically distances itself from the chief variants of opportunism and sectarianism opposing the liberation of the working class, and at the same time joins hands with all the exploited and oppressed for the common struggle. It is committed to

actively participating in and promoting the International Coordination of Revolutionary Parties and Organizations (ICOR) and is a signal to the youth of the world to join the struggle for a socialist future.

**Stefan Engel**

Chairman of the MLPD, 2016



**Gabi Gärtner**  
from April 2017  
Chairwoman of the MLPD

## CHAPTER A



## CHAPTER A

### Internationalized Capitalist Production and the General Crisis of Capitalist Society

**1.** The general crisis of capitalism, which began with World War I and the 1917 October Revolution in Russia, is an all-around crisis of the imperialist world system. It pushes the fundamental contradiction of our era, the contradiction between capitalism and socialism, towards its resolution. Today five major contradictions characterize the imperialist world system's increased instability:

- The contradiction between the bourgeoisie, with solely ruling international finance capital and its imperialist governments at the top, and the international working class, under the leadership of the internationally associated industrial proletariat, in alliance with the oppressed of the world
- The contradiction between imperialism and the subjugated nations
- The contradiction between the capitalist mode of production and the natural foundations of human life
- The contradiction among the imperialist national states and among the international supermonopolies
- The contradiction between the internationalized productive forces and the national-state forms of organization

## CHAPTER A

In the process of corrosion and decay of the economic, political and ideological forces of capitalism, since the reorganization of international capitalist production in the 1990s, the general crisis-proneness of the imperialist world system has developed in a universal way. It constitutes this system's characteristic mode of existence today. The internationalization of the productive forces has ushered in a new historical period of transformation from capitalism to socialism. The material prerequisites for the united socialist states of the world have matured as never before in history.

**2.** The international working class is the decisive society-changing force in capitalist society. Its vanguard today is the international industrial proletariat as carrier of the most advanced mode of production and direct antipode of solely ruling international finance capital. The progressing transformation of the economic structure of capitalism turns an increasing part of the workers from specialized hands of the machines into versatily trained supervisors and directors of the complicated, internationalized process of production. This process long ago would have ceased to function without the exploitation of the creative power and the initiative of the working class and other strata of the working people.

The progressing industrialization of all social life has

caused the working class to grow strongly. On a global scale it has now become the main force in the struggle for national and social liberation.

But the universal satisfaction of the material, social and cultural needs of the working class and the masses is prevented by the system of capitalist exploitation.

**3.** The internationalized production has made the law-governed contradiction between the unbounded expansion of capitalist production and the restricted growth of the markets chronic. The result is a chronic overaccumulation of capital which finds vent in a law-governed way in cyclical overproduction crises that are increasing in scope and depth. They are accompanied by different forms of financial crises such as stock market, banking or monetary crises.

Since the 1970s, moreover, with each step ahead in the development of the capitalist mode of production, enormous structural crises have emerged in the process of the reproduction of capital, involving the ongoing destruction of productive forces and capital. Unlike cyclical overproduction crises, in the chronic international structural crisis capital is destroyed in a relatively controlled manner. The main results are the development of growing mass unemployment and underemployment as

## CHAPTER A

lasting phenomena, general lowering of the wage level, increasing speedup, overexploitation of a growing section of the wage earners as well as the dismantling of social achievements combined with rising taxes for the masses. The structural crisis on the basis of the reorganization of international production has become the most powerful pacemaker of the economic crises.

The ruling international supermonopolies shift the growing burdens of the crisis also onto the non-monopoly bourgeoisie and those sections of monopoly capital which are not part of solely ruling international finance capital. As a result, hundreds of thousands of small-scale producers are ruined each year while the concentration and centralization of the big corporations have assumed a worldwide dimension.

**4.** With the collapse of the social-imperialist Soviet Union and its sphere of rule at the beginning of the 1990s, a unified world market emerged. This provided the basis for a temporary economic upswing of several leading imperialist countries and a cross-border process of concentration and centralization of international finance capital.

The world economic and financial crisis from 2008 to 2014 was the so far deepest, longest and most comprehensive since capitalism came into existence. An un-

precedented international crisis management was directed mainly against the possible revolutionization of the working class and the broad masses.

Moreover, this crisis management transmits the general crisis-proneness of the imperialist world economy to the national budgets. The runaway state debt gives rise to the constant danger of a general national bankruptcy and entails the gradual dismantling of the public welfare system. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and European Central Bank (ECB) shift ever new burdens onto the shoulders of the masses by cutting pensions and wages, dismantling social achievements or devaluing savings. This inevitably evokes the resistance of the working class and the broad masses and is a material basis for a new upswing of the struggle for national and social liberation and the development of a revolutionary world crisis.

**5.** Furthered by tremendous capital export from the imperialist countries at the beginning of the new millennium, a number of formerly neocolonially dependent countries developed from mainly agrarian countries into capitalist industrial countries. The development of monopoly capital and state-monopoly structures led to the emergence of new-imperialist countries like India, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa, Saudi Arabia or Turkey. Social-imperialist China rose

## CHAPTER A

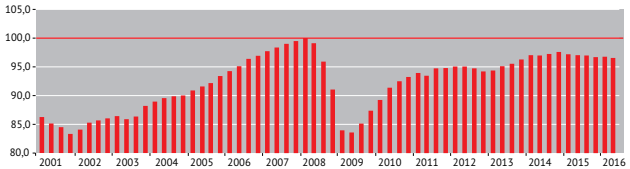
to become a leading economic power that vies for supremacy with the USA, Japan or the EU. In a world characterized today by multipolarity, the inter-imperialist contradictions sharpen in the competition for spheres of power and influence.

**6.** The crisis cycle of the imperialist world economy changed. The fluctuating stagnation that has taken the place of the boom period in the crisis cycle and precedes the next over-production crisis became an international phenomenon. Political, financial, economic and ecological shocks influence economic developments much more directly today and involve the constant risk of triggering a new world economic and financial crisis.

The inflation of speculative capital has become the most conspicuous feature of the world economy and increasingly dominates economic and political affairs.

**7.** The internationalization of the capitalist mode of production makes regulation by the national state increasingly more complex, more expensive and, at the same time, less effective. The contradiction between the rule of the monopolies of one country, organized on the basis of the national state, and the fully developed internationalization of the capitalist mode of production comes to a head in a most extreme way.

## Altered crisis cycle of the imperialist world economy



OECD index of industrial production (quarterly)

Peak level before crisis = 100

Chart: GSA e.V.



*Mass demonstration against the planned free trade agreement TTIP, Berlin, 2016*

## CHAPTER A



*Meeting of workers and demonstration at the First International Miners' Conference in Arequipa, Peru, 2013*

**8.** International competition intensifies to the point of mutual destruction. In the face of stagnating markets, the compulsion grows to expand present economic blocs and agreements and to form new ones, along with competing international banks.

This is connected with a tremendous intensification of the exploitation of wage and salary earners: increasing flexibilization of working hours, increase in the intensity and duration of labor; increased shift work, night and weekend work; wage cuts, introduction of low and extremely low wages; loss of social rights; a growing number of employees with limited-term contracts and in temporary and part-time jobs or at companies with contracts for specific tasks and services. That particularly affects women and the young. This development furthers divisions in the working class in its struggle for better wage, working and living conditions and for its social liberation, but also engenders solidarity and resistance.

**9.** The result of the reorganization of international production and the hegemony of international finance capital is that capitalist production and consumption now only function on the basis of the chronic, crisis-charged destruction of the natural foundations of human life. Through the control of the world agricultural market and the use of genetic engineering and biotechnology,

## CHAPTER A

the chronic agricultural crisis is deepened. The destruction of the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of small and middle peasants and the destruction of more and more farm land is the price paid for the capitalist industrialization of many neocolonially dependent countries. The result is hunger and malnutrition, mass rural exodus and a growing army of migrant workers.

**10.** The bourgeois state and family system has the task of ensuring the production and reproduction of human life in capitalist society. It serves as a policing agency of the ruling monopolies over the life of the masses. With the reorganization of international production it has entered a state of chronic crisis internationally, too. This calls into question the viability of the capitalist system and provides the social basis for a new upswing of the struggle for the liberation of women.

**11.** In the competition for markets, cheap labor, raw-material areas and spheres of influence the imperialists resort to increasingly sharper exploitation and oppression of the neocolonial countries. The law-based result is the crisis of neocolonialism. It is accompanied by a chronic debt crisis and leads to the economic and political disruption of more and more states.

**12.** The growing flows of refugees worldwide are an expression of the fact that a large and growing section of the world population no longer can or wants to live in the old way. Migration makes the material basis grow for the unity of the international proletariat with all exploited and oppressed.

**13.** The political essence of imperialism is the striving for world hegemony. The unrestrained power politics of imperialism requires the militarization of the economy, state and society.

Although its unrestricted economic supremacy is visibly fading, as currently sole imperialist superpower the USA arrogates to itself the role of world police against the national and social liberation of the oppressed peoples and classes. Its aggressive claim to sole hegemony is confronted with power-political aspirations of newly arisen imperialist powers like China or Russia. The struggle for imperialist goals leads inevitably to increased armed conflicts and conjures up the danger of a Third World War involving the use of ABC weapons. Only the peoples, under the leadership of the international proletariat, can prevent this. As long as there is imperialism, there will be wars and the danger of war.

## CHAPTER A



*Support for refugees in the joint struggle*



*Solidarity with the Kurdish liberation struggle in Rojava, North Syria*

**14.** German imperialism today finds its worldwide political influence mainly on clever economic interpenetration of finance capital with the international markets and national economies.

As an ally of the United States and within the NATO framework, German imperialism has extended its influence in the political and military fields, thus – as strongest economic power in the EU – getting increasingly into rivalry with its imperialist allies. German imperialism underscores its power-political interests not only by participating in international military actions under the hypocritical banner of humanitarian aid activities of the UN, but now also takes part in wars of aggression.

**15.** Solely ruling international finance capital is an infinitely small stratum of the bourgeoisie comprised of groups of international supermonopolies with differing national-state bases and ties. Its strategic weakness versus the united international industrial proletariat consists in the fact that it does not command a common power apparatus. It must rely on the organs of power of the individual imperialist countries to maintain its rule and to suppress the exploited masses. Attempts to build up international power structures ultimately fail because of the national-state power base of the international monopolies and the conflicting interests of the monopoly groups.

## **CHAPTER A**

International finance capital manipulates public opinion via the modern mass media and bourgeois mass culture. It uses bourgeois parliamentarism to disguise its dictatorship. By means of the bourgeois parties as its social main bases and by means of their apparatus to deceive the people, it tries to bind the masses to the capitalist system. For the masses, bourgeois democracy means mainly deception, but also oppression and terror, as is shown by the increasing fascization of the state apparatuses.



## CHAPTER B



## CHAPTER B

### The Social Development in Germany and the System of the Petty-Bourgeois Mode of Thinking

**1.** Germany has a capitalist social order at the stage of development of state-monopoly capitalism in the frame of internationalized capitalist production. It constitutes the immediate pre-stage of a socialist society. The international supermonopolies based in Germany, which are part of solely ruling international finance capital, have totally subordinated the state, and the organs of monopoly capital are fused with the organs of the state apparatus. They have established their universal rule over all of society, over other monopolies and the non-monopoly capitalists as well. Through the organs of the EU they exert influence on other European states. Likewise, the supermonopolies of other countries exert such influence also in Germany.

**2.** The social large-scale production is subject to private appropriation by the capital owners, in particular by the industrial, agricultural, trade and banking monopolies merged into finance capital. These internationalized state-monopoly relations of production form the fundamental contradiction in the development of capitalism in Germany today. They constantly call the national state into question since it has become an obstacle to the further development of the internationalized productive forces. At the same time, the importance of the national states

## CHAPTER B

and of the buildup of their power apparatus grows. It remains the decisive instrument for maintaining class rule and the economic, political and military power base in the struggle for the redivision of the world.

**3.** The solution of the social question calls for overcoming the capitalist exploitation of wage labor as well as the bourgeois state and family system. These are also the basis for the double exploitation and oppression of the masses of working women. Societal life is completely subjected to the process of the production and reproduction of commodities for maximum profit. Whereas the process of the production of means of life is socialized, the preservation and propagation of the human species is largely privately imposed upon the single family. The social inequality of man and woman in capitalism is based on this contradiction. The prevailing economic dependence on the husband, the chief responsibility for keeping the house and the family, the chains of bourgeois morality and religion, widespread sexism, and domestic violence constitute a system of special oppression of women in capitalist society.

**4.** On account of its late development, at the end of the nineteenth century rising German imperialism sought to make up ground against rival imperialist Great Powers

through its modern technology and superior organization. It pressed with special aggressiveness for a redivision of the world and, therefore, unleashed two imperialist world wars. These became pacemakers for the transition from monopoly capitalism to state-monopoly capitalism in all imperialist countries.

**5.** Reacting to the victorious October Revolution of 1917 and the revolutionization of the masses after World I, in 1933 the monopolies established a fascist dictatorship to preserve their power. In doing so they practiced an aggressive anticommunism and utilized a racist, social-fascist demagoguery which misused socialist terms. Due to the division of the working class, the establishment of the fascist dictatorship could not be prevented. After it was smashed by the anti-Hitler coalition with the socialist Soviet Union as the main force, at the end of World War II, chiefly under Stalin's leadership, the Potsdam Treaty was negotiated between the victorious powers. It provided for depriving German imperialism of its power while maintaining the unity of the German nation.

At first, the monopolist bosses were forced to withdraw from the management of the big enterprises. But very soon, the Western occupying powers, following the anti-communist change in the US policy towards Germany, helped the German monopoly capitalists back to power

## CHAPTER B

in West Germany. With the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) on May 23, 1949, they divided Germany and, breaking the Potsdam Treaty, advanced the rise of new German imperialism.

**6.** As a response to the division of Germany by the Western powers, the German Democratic Republic (GDR) was founded on October 7, 1949. From the initiative of the masses and with the support of the Soviet Union, in the following years the hopeful transition developed from an anti-fascist people's democracy to the first socialist society on German soil.

**7.** Subsequent to the restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union after the Twentieth Party Congress of the CPSU in February 1956, the petty-bourgeois bureaucracy in party, state, economy and armed organs established a bureaucratic-capitalist system in the GDR. Many socialist achievements in the life of the masses were formally retained initially, but with the restoration of capitalism they changed their character and were embedded in a revisionist system of reforms from above which served to camouflage the capitalist character of the new order. With the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961 the revisionist leadership of the SED abandoned the struggle for a united socialist Germany.

**8.** As a result of worldwide demand following World War II and promoted by high mechanization, automation and state measures, an unprecedented and long-lasting upward trend began in the West German economy in the early 1950s. The dramatic development of the forces of production accelerated the rapid rise of new German imperialism to a mighty economic, political and military factor.

**9.** During the economic boom that lasted until the early 1970s, in order to prevent the international advance of German imperialism from being endangered by labor struggles, the monopoly capitalists pursued a policy of cooperation, especially between the Rightist leaders of the SPD and trade unions and the associations of the capitalists. This policy of "reforms from above" was a paralyzing poison against the revolutionization of the working class. Since the turn to the dismantling of social reforms in the early 1980s, however, state-monopoly capitalism in Germany is in a latent political crisis that breaks out into the open more and more frequently and infuriates the masses against the dictatorship of the monopolies.

**10.** In the 1980s, the increasing technological and economic relapse of the GDR in comparison to the West came into

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an ever intensifying contradiction with the maintenance of the social achievements. On this basis and as the result of a marked bureaucratic bossism, pseudo-socialist phrasemongering and political oppression, deep disappointment emerged among the masses, and, in 1989, a broad democratic people's movement developed.

Its result was the peaceful reunification in 1990, to which the deep wish of the German people to overcome the division of the nation also contributed. The erosion of the power of Soviet social-imperialism was an important international condition for the peaceful reunification. As it did not take place under socialist conditions, it became possible for West German monopoly capital to incorporate the GDR into its sphere of economic and political power.

**11.** Reunified Germany is the economically strongest and most populous country in the European Union. Relieved of some political restrictions imposed by the Allied powers after World War II, German imperialism, in alliance with other European Great Powers, is striving for hegemony in the world. It is the main enemy of the working people in Germany.

**12.** For the economic and political rise of German imperialism after World War II, bourgeois democracy proved

to be the best-suited form of rule. When monopoly capital is faced with the revolutionary storm of the working class with its allies and its power is so shaken that it can no longer exercise its rule by the methods of bourgeois democracy, it will try to cast aside the rights and freedoms of bourgeois democracy and establish a naked terrorist dictatorship as its system of rule.

**13.** Bourgeois ideology is in a crisis and, in its blatantly reactionary forms, is decreasingly capable of exerting influence on the masses. In order to corrode the class consciousness of the working class, or rather, to prevent it from advancing, the ruling forces have developed step by step an entire system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking in society. It aims at disorienting, disorganizing and demoralizing the proletarian class struggle and, politically, has become a main element of monopoly power and its current main method of exercising rule.

The petty-bourgeois mode of thinking seemingly assumes a critical attitude towards the social conditions, at the same time defending capitalism against any social alternative.

**14.** When monopolies and government demonstratively terminated the policy of class collaboration in 1996, a

## CHAPTER B

wave of independent strikes of the industrial proletariat, an expression of class consciousness awakening on a broad scale, ushered in the end of the Kohl government. From 1998 the Social-Democrat/Green Schröder/Fischer government took over the job of stamping out the embers of the working-class offensive. For the first time it elevated the system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking to a method of government.

In 2004 the transition to the working-class offensive was initiated, climaxing in the independent strike of the Opel workforce in Bochum and the newly emerged Monday demonstration movement against the Hartz laws. The Schröder/Fischer government lost its mass base, Social Democracy slid into a deep crisis, and a change to a Merkel-led CDU/CSU/SPD government took place. To stop the beginning transition to the working-class offensive, those in power modified the system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking: they concentrated on the petty-bourgeois anticommunist mode of thinking to contend with genuine socialism and the growing influence of the MLPD.

**15.** Since the failure of the old, aggressive anticommunism, the ruling forces use modern anticommunism. It feigns a critical standpoint towards capitalist society only to denigrate socialism at the same time. Constantly

The Social Development in Germany and the  
System of the Petty-Bourgeois Mode of Thinking



*The self-organized strike of the Bochum Opel workforce in 2004 received broad support.*



*2004 marked the beginning of the Monday demonstrations against the Hartz laws, which continue to take place in many German cities.*

## CHAPTER B

new horror stories and distortions of the historical facts about the formerly socialist Soviet Union and Mao Zedong's China are intended to systematically build up anticommunist reservations and negative feelings among the masses against the socialist alternative and the MLPD. Demagogic, aggressive bourgeois terms like "Stalinism" and "Maoism" are used to do this. At the same time the restoration of capitalism in the formerly socialist countries is denied. With censorship and an elaborate media boycott, those in power pursue a policy of isolating the MLPD.

Trying to justify their own betrayal, "Leftist" careerists, "purified" petty-bourgeois former Leftists or ex-members of the ruling classes in the vanquished bureaucratic-capitalist countries usually are the chief exponents of modern anticommunism. As star witnesses for the alleged failure of socialism, they and their parties are systematically fostered by monopoly capital up to their elevation as wielders of governmental power.

To the extent that the masses deal successfully with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking and its various shades, contents and forms and adopt the proletarian mode of thinking, they will decide in favor of the way of proletarian class struggle.

## The Social Development in Germany and the System of the Petty-Bourgeois Mode of Thinking

## CHAPTER C



## CHAPTER C

### The Working-Class Movement and Women's Movement in Germany and the Struggle over the Mode of Thinking of the Masses

**1.** The working class in Germany, composed of people of different national origins, carries the main burden of exploitation and oppression and of the destruction of the natural foundations of life. The working class as sole revolutionary class stands in irreconcilable contradiction to monopoly capital. It is endowed with concentrated experience of Western state-monopoly capitalism, of Eastern bureaucratic capitalism and of the hopeful beginnings of socialist construction in the initial years of the GDR. It is concentrated in masses in large-scale industrial production and in the industrialized logistics, health, utility, trade, education and communication corporations. There it learns the organizational discipline which enables it to assume the leadership in class struggle. The vanguard of the working class in Germany are those male and female workers who, employed in international production systems, are part of the international industrial proletariat. This is the leading force in the national and international class struggle. It represents the potential of the united socialist states of the world, of the solution of both the environmental question and the social question in socialism/communism.

The working-class youth suffer especially from exploitation and lack of rights. They embody the future of the

## CHAPTER C

working class and form the core of the rebellion of the youth against the capitalist system.

**2.** Female workers, doubly exploited and oppressed, have the leading role to play in the development of the militant women's movement. They represent the struggle for the liberation of women in a socialist society and, in the working-class movement, are the standard-bearers for the liberation of women. The developing women's consciousness is an important yardstick for the development of the class consciousness of the working class.

**3.** As a result of twelve years of fascist Hitlerite dictatorship which had smashed the German working-class movement for the most part, class consciousness was poorly developed in the postwar years. The division of Germany divided the working-class movement. The struggle for the unity of Germany, against the rise of new German imperialism and against remilitarization in the 1950s was the last joint action of the working class in the East and West until the reunification.

**4.** In the GDR, the transition from the antifascist-democratic transformation to the beginning of socialist construction in 1952 initially was combined with a

The Working-Class Movement and Women's Movement in Germany  
and the Struggle over the Mode of Thinking of the Masses



*Trainees in the mining sector demonstrate solidarity in the fight for jobs.*



*Women's power: World Women's Conferences of grassroots women successfully held in Venezuela (2011) and Nepal (2016)*

## CHAPTER C



*Mass rally for "30 Years MLPD" in 2012*



*Europe Seminar of MLPD and ICOR in 2012*

strengthening of socialist consciousness among a growing part of the working class. However, the revisionist degeneration of the SED (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands – Socialist Unity Party) after 1956 robbed the GDR working class of its revolutionary leadership. Modern revisionism deeply penetrated into the masses and corroded their socialist consciousness. This made it possible for the capitalist restoration in the GDR to proceed without meeting substantial resistance.

The KPD (Kommunistische Partei Deutschlands – Communist Party of Germany) in West Germany degenerated into a revisionist party, this being furthered by its dependence on the SED and additionally by the banning of the party in 1956. Calling the bureaucratic-capitalist relations of exploitation in the former Soviet Union and the GDR "real socialism" persistently discredited the idea of socialism. The negative experience of capitalist restoration in the formerly socialist countries constitutes an essential basis for the effect of modern anticommunism.

The building of a Marxist-Leninist party since the end of the 1960s in the FRG, its founding as MLPD in 1982 and its nationwide construction in reunified Germany were necessary prerequisites for a new upsurge of the struggle for socialism.

**5.** Modern revisionism disguises itself as Marxist, but in

## CHAPTER C

reality it repudiates and falsifies the fundamental principles of scientific socialism. It is a form of bourgeois ideology in the working-class movement. It spreads opportunism and, by means of pseudo-socialist politics, disorients those who are in search of a social alternative to capitalism.

With the collapse of bureaucratic capitalism in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the GDR, modern revisionism got into an open crisis. This has opened the way to a new upswing of the struggle for socialism.

**6.** On the basis of a long-lasting policy of reforms from above and the emergence of petty-bourgeois living conditions among a mass of workers, reformism reached an all-time high in West Germany well into the 1970s. Instead of class struggle for the overthrow of capitalist rule, reformism practices class-conciliation to save capitalism and by this paralyzes the workers' will to fight. Since the end of the policy of social reforms at the beginning of the 1980s, reformism, too, has gotten into a crisis. Now it has the task of selling to the masses the acceptance of poorer wage, working and living conditions without a fight as being without alternative. This has considerably impaired its capacity for binding the masses.

**7.** The relative stabilization of capitalism in West Germany led to a long-lasting stage of class struggle without a revolutionary situation. Since the 1980s, however, a turn in the development of class consciousness has occurred. Class consciousness, environmental consciousness and women's consciousness awakened. The transition to the working-class offensive repeatedly was initiated.

**8.** Within the working-class, women's and environmental movements, in the people's and youth movements, the currents of bourgeois ideology mainly operate today by means of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking. As far as mass influence is concerned, reformism is the main danger within the working-class movement. Revisionism is the main danger as far as ideological influence is concerned. The counterpart of Right opportunism is ultra-Left sectarianism, which deters the working masses from turning to socialism. Among the young, particularly modern anti-authoritarianism plays a damaging role. As the tendency grows to the dissolution of the phase of relative calm in the class struggle, modern anticommunism takes center stage in the bourgeois propaganda. The petty-bourgeois anticommunist mode of thinking becomes the main obstacle to the unfolding of class consciousness and the working-class offensive.

## CHAPTER C

**9.** The internalization of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking in the thinking, feeling and acting of the masses over decades and the all-around manipulation of "public opinion" prevent an economic, ecological or political crisis from suddenly turning into a revolutionary crisis. The bourgeois world outlook is systematically carried into the working-class and mass movements and also plays a dominant role in science and culture.

In order to come into the strategic offensive, the working class, with the help of the Marxist-Leninist party, must come to grips with the diverse variants of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking. In practice, their conscious replacement with the proletarian mode of thinking indicates the transition to the working-class offensive and active people's resistance against the government. This constitutes a fundamental prerequisite for the maturing of the socialist revolution.

**10.** The crisis of bourgeois parliamentarism, its parties and institutions finds expression in an increasing abstention of the masses from voting and their "disenchantment" with political parties. This manifests itself also in the constant changes in the party landscape in Germany, with ever new Left-reformist, revisionist, but also ultra-reactionary to fascist parties and movements. Those in power deliberately utilize and promote them to

absorb the protest potential and work against a revolutionization of the masses.

**11.** Unless it is led by its revolutionary party, the working class will not be able to proceed to attack the state power of solely ruling international finance capital successfully. On the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking, the revolutionary party must develop into a real party of the masses which has all-round interrelations with the various self-run organizations of the masses and organized mass movements in all kinds of sectors.

## CHAPTER D



## CHAPTER D

### The Existential Danger of a Global Environmental Catastrophe

**1.** Humans are the highest product of nature. From the beginning their history was based on the ever higher unity of humanity with nature. With modern science and the industrial mode of production, humans have created the so far highest stage of this unity. Under capitalist conditions, however, from the beginning a process of the deformation of the natural environment and the estrangement of humans from nature developed.

**2.** At the end of the 1960s, the unlimited capitalist striving for profit and capitalism's unbridled, destructive exploitation of nature set off a global environmental crisis which calls the unity of humanity and nature universally into question.

**3.** With the reorganization of international production since the 1990s, the environmental crisis changed from an accompanying manifestation of imperialism to a law-governed manifestation. It ushered in the transition to the global environmental catastrophe. This accelerated self-destructive process is reflected to date in nine main factors which are developed to differing degrees:

- destruction of the ozone layer
- accelerated destruction of the forests

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- looming climate catastrophe
- rapid increase in regional environmental disasters
- imminent danger of collapse of the world's ocean systems
- destruction of regional ecosystems and extinction of species
- ruthless overexploitation of natural materials
- waste proliferation, poisoning and pollution
- irresponsible use of nuclear energy

The interaction between these factors and the feedbacks from nature speed up the transformation to a global environmental catastrophe.

**4.** The internationalized capitalist mode of production is destroying the ecosystems of the global biosphere in a law-governed way and acutely threatening the existence of humanity. Solely ruling international finance capital and its governments are fully aware that this is happening.

The masses do not want to perish in a global environmental catastrophe – it is not inevitable fate. The strategic goal of a liberated society without exploitation and oppression, the solution of the social question, can only be achieved today in unity with the solution of the environmental question. The environmental question

## The Existential Danger of a Global Environmental Catastrophe



*Protest against storage of toxic waste in mines*



*Protest in Peru against environmental devastation caused by the Newmont Mining gold mine*

## CHAPTER D



*Landscape gardeners against Stuttgart 21 rail project*



*Red Foxes kids in action to save the natural environment*

has become a question of the system, a central question of the class struggle and the preparing and carrying out of the international socialist revolution.

**5.** Imperialist environmentalism is the answer of solely ruling international finance capital to the worldwide resistance of the environmental movement and to the intensifying imperialist competition for the world's resources. Its central precept is the alleged compatibility of capitalist economy and ecology. This means: environmental protection only if the profits are increased. This ideology takes effect as a petty-bourgeois environmentalist mode of thinking in the thinking, feeling and acting of the masses and undermines the environmental consciousness necessary to save humankind from the global environmental catastrophe.

**6.** The society-changing character of the environmental struggle demands of the working-class movement and the revolutionaries of the world, of the German and international environmental movements, a deep-reaching process of self-transformation and renewal. The international industrial proletariat must become the leading force in the international revolution to resolve the environmental issue in socialism/communism. At the same time, the environmental struggle will be an inexhaustible source of fresh forces for the struggle for socialism.

CHAPTER E



## CHAPTER E

### Socialism/Communism as Social Goal

**1.** The now dominant internationalized mode of production in the imperialist world system completes the material preparation for the united socialist states of the world. Today, the productive forces have been developed in such a way that they could provide humane living conditions and a high cultural level for all humans in unity with the natural environment. The power of solely ruling international finance capital has become the decisive obstacle to all social progress.

**2.** Capitalist rule must be overthrown and a socialist social order established to enable the abolition of all forms of exploitation and oppression of the working masses. Economic crises and wars will be overcome and the productive forces freed from their capitalist fetters; the restoration, consolidation and higher development of the unity of humanity and nature will become the guiding principle of society as a whole.

**3.** After the working class has overthrown the dictatorship of international finance capital and taken over state power in the individual countries, it must set up the dictatorship of the proletariat and transform the means of production into common property of the entire working population.

## CHAPTER E

The capitalist mode of production must be fundamentally revolutionized and the socialist mode of production established. On the basis of a developed socialist consciousness and a high level of development of industry, culture, science, technology and social system, societal life can be geared to people's needs and the interchange of matter between humans and nature can be consciously organized. The socialist principle of distribution demands that each according to their abilities must take part in social production; it guarantees that each according to the work they do will participate in the distribution of social wealth, and furthermore that the collective will care for the old, sick and disabled.

**4.** A paradigm change in society as a whole under the general line of the unity of humanity and nature orients the mode of production, the mode of thinking, the methods of working and the way of life to the satisfaction of the constantly changing material and cultural needs of humanity. The socialist mode of production will be consciously organized so that use will be made of the advantages of internationalized large-scale production as well as of purposefully decentralized production sectors and a closed-loop economy. In the united socialist states of the world, peoples and nations will cooperate on an equal level and for mutual advantage.

**5.** This revolutionary transformation can be achieved only by the conscious mass action of the working class and its allies and never by the bare decrees of the authorities of socialist society. It is the masses of workers and their self-run organizations, who, under the leadership of the Marxist-Leninist party, must take the direction and administration of production and society into their own hands. In the interests of the working people, they must consciously apply the dialectical method at the highest level in an all-round way, realize a proletarian culture of debate, and develop voluntary discipline and utmost creative initiative. In controlling bureaucracy and realizing the interests of the masses, the self-run organizations of the masses play a special role as organs and school of the exercise of power in socialism. All tasks that are socially necessary are socially organized.

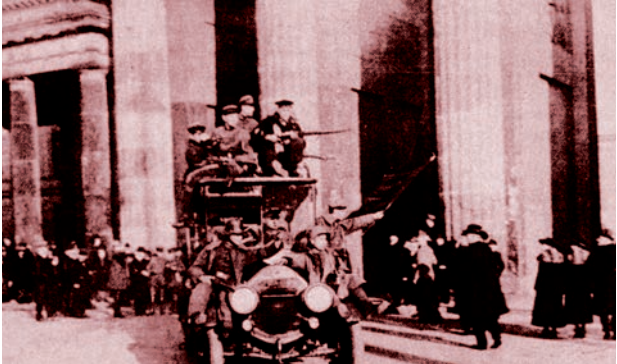
The liberation of women is a primary social task of socialism. It means that all fetters from the millennia of oppression of women rooted in the structures of society or patriarchal traditions will be smashed and any oppression and discrimination on the grounds of gender overcome. The family gradually will be freed from its function as economic unit, and the private responsibility for the production and reproduction of immediate life increasingly will become the responsibility of soci-

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ety. Women's full potential for socialist construction is brought to bear and will be promoted in working life, in personal relations, and in political or cultural life.

The young generation is the pioneer of the New and must become the practical vanguard of socialist construction following the guideline, "Serve the People."

**6.** The international socialist revolution leads step by step to the construction of the united socialist states of the world with the goal of worldwide communism. Socialism is a society of transition from capitalism to communism. Completing and securing the victory over the dictatorship of solely ruling international finance capital calls for a superior power: with the dictatorship of the proletariat the working class organizes the class struggle in socialism, and practices proletarian internationalism. The essence of the dictatorship of the proletariat is the socialist transformation of the economic base and the social living conditions. This takes place on the basis of broadest democracy for the masses. As a result of the systematic ideological struggle for the advancement of socialist consciousness, the overcoming of bourgeois morality and the suppression of the resistance of the capitalists, functions of the state and the administrative apparatus increasingly pass over into the hands of the masses. With that the state itself becomes more and more superfluous.



*November Revolution of 1918 in Germany: worker-militiamen at Brandenburg Gate*



*Under the leadership of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht the KPD was founded. Ernst Thälmann led the KPD from the 1920s on until he was arrested and murdered by the Hitlerite fascists.*

## CHAPTER E



*Functions of the state are transferred to the masses.*



*Annual commemoration of the revolutionaries Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg in Berlin – the biggest manifestation for socialism in Europe*

The system of self-control of socialist society must concern itself with the control of the mode of thinking and working and the way of life of the responsible leaders of the economy, the state and the party.

**7.** Though after the triumph of the socialist world revolution and the successful building of the united socialist states of the world the transition to communism will take place, for some time the dictatorship of the proletariat will remain in effect in a certain way. Its main task then will be the gradual abolition of classes altogether. The tradition of bourgeois ideology still lingers on for a long time. Not until bourgeois ideology has been vanquished once and for all will classes and the state die out and the classless society begin. The government of persons is replaced by the administration of things and the direction of the processes of production. Labor has become the primary need of life, since it gives everyone the opportunity to develop their physical and mental abilities in an increasingly comprehensive way and use them for the good of society. The fruits of social production are no longer distributed according to the work done, as in socialism, but according to the needs of people. On this basis the social inequality between man and woman is overcome. The separation of manual and mental labor and of town and country then belongs to

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the past, as does the exploitation of humans and nature. The division of the world into national states gradually vanishes while the nations increasingly merge. Communism is "humanity's leap from the realm of necessity into the realm of freedom" (Frederick Engels).



*October Revolution of 1917 in Russia: storming the Winter Palace*



*MLPD rally in Stuttgart in 2009*

## CHAPTER F



## CHAPTER F

### The Lessons from the Restoration of Capitalism in the Former Socialist Countries and the Struggle against Revisionism

**1.** The socialist Soviet Union and its indelible successes had served as mainstay and model for the struggle of the proletarians and oppressed peoples of the world for almost forty years. At the Twentieth Party Congress of the CPSU in February 1956, a new bourgeoisie led by Khrushchev seized political power in the Soviet Union. It propagated modern revisionism and restored capitalism step by step. This state-monopoly capitalism of a new type was the basis for the formation of Soviet social-imperialism. Along with the USA, it became a hot-bed of worldwide reaction, exploitation, neocolonial oppression, environmental destruction and imperialist warmongering.

**2.** The gradual restoration of capitalism entailed the abrogation of socialist principles. The new bourgeoisie had the power of disposal over the most important means of production, banks, trade organizations and means of transport; it strived for maximum profits and expansion of spheres of influence.

**3.** The new bourgeoisie fought tooth and nail against the advances in environmental policy achieved under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin. Socialist environmen-

## CHAPTER F

tal laws were repealed, with devastating effects, and an irresponsible overexploitation of nature was practiced.

**4.** With the aid of its lackeys in the other communist parties, the revisionist leadership of the CPSU forced the GDR and most countries of the former socialist camp into taking the capitalist road and, by transforming the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) and the Warsaw Treaty defense alliance into capitalist institutions, led them into neocolonial dependency on the Soviet Union.

**5.** To deceive the masses of the people, the new bourgeoisie in the GDR called its system of rule a "workers' and peasants' state" and propagated it as "real socialism." The revisionist SED formally presented itself as the Marxist-Leninist party of the working class and imposed a pseudo-Marxist-Leninist ideology on the masses of the people, combined with some social improvements. It abused the honest commitment of many people who wished to work selflessly for the construction of socialism in order to deceive people about the bureaucratic-capitalist character of the GDR. Any beginnings of a democratic or even Marxist-Leninist opposition were mercilessly prosecuted by the State Security Service. Deprivation of rights and bureaucratic paternalism were



*Erich Honecker (center) and Walter Ulbricht (on the right): representatives of the new bourgeoisie in the former GDR*

practiced, and a climate of fear of spying and denunciation was created.

**6.** The restoration of capitalism was the consequence of the seizure of power by a degenerated petty-bourgeois bureaucracy which, in a long process, had established itself in the midst of the socialist leadership of the economy, the state and the party. Its material basis lies in the still existing contradictions between capitalist and socialist countries, between manual and mental labor, and between town and country, in the remnants of commodity production, the existence of bourgeois

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and petty-bourgeois family relations, the continuance of bourgeois right, the estrangement of humans from labor and nature, which still has not been overcome, and, last but not least, in the effects of bourgeois ideology.

**7.** All over the world, the bourgeois mass media celebrated the economic and political collapse of the Soviet Union and its neocolonial structure of rule in 1991 as the "end of socialism" and the beginning of a "new world order." In reality, the world observed the decline of the weakened, revisionist part of the imperialist world system. It was an expression of the bankruptcy of modern revisionism and intensified the general crisis of capitalism.

The petty-bourgeois bureaucracy strives for personal privileges, promotes nepotism and careerism, suppresses honest criticism from the party and the masses, abuses its authority for egoistic motives and distinguishes itself by empty and submissive phrasemongering sounding like Marxism-Leninism. These manifestations of a petty-bourgeois mode of thinking today are misleadingly used against the Marxist-Leninists by modern anticommunism.

**8.** The MLPD acknowledges the great achievements of socialist construction in the Soviet Union and the GDR.

However, it also conducts a necessary criticism of failures, errors, problems, and even crimes, in order to draw creative conclusions.

The merits of the Soviet people in smashing Hitlerite fascism are immortal. After Lenin's early death, under Stalin's leadership the Soviet people resolutely continued down the socialist road against the bitter resistance of internal and external enemies.

But at the same time the necessary ideological struggle against the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking was neglected; the mobilization of the masses against the degenerated petty-bourgeois representatives of bureaucracy was largely abandoned. These were the two main errors of Stalin. Instead, the struggle against bureaucratic mismanagement and sabotage was waged by means of a security service which was bureaucratized itself and one-sidedly with administrative means. The bureaucratic-centralist methods employed by the leadership of the party, the economy and the state were left mostly untouched. Due to false accusations and the wrong handling of contradictions, many innocent people also were intimidated, slandered, denounced, sentenced to imprisonment or even executed.

To ensure unencumbered control related mainly to the party's Central Committee, an independent Central Con-

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trol Commission was set up under Lenin's leadership in 1921. It was a serious mistake and also an expression of underestimating the danger of capitalist restoration when, under Stalin's leadership, at the Seventeenth Party Congress of the CPSU in 1934, the Central Control Commission lost its independent character.

**9.** In the GDR, petty-bourgeois bureaucratism had developed early at the top of the SED. Mistrust in the masses and bureaucratic-centralist methods of leadership increasingly replaced patient persuasive work and undermined democratic centralism.

On June 17, 1953, all over the GDR hundreds of thousands of workers went on strike against the raising of the planned production target, bureaucratically ordered from the top. The SED leadership was neither willing nor able to draw real lessons from the just mass criticisms. Instead, the imperialist attempts at abusing this mass movement for anti-socialist goals were used as an occasion to smash it with military means. This turned many sincere supporters of socialist construction into opponents and effectively discredited the idea of socialism among the masses.

**10.** The insufficient consolidation of the socialist consciousness of the masses of the working people and the

The Lessons from the Restoration of Capitalism in the  
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*Socialist construction in the Soviet Union in the 1920s*

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*Mao Zedong – revolutionary and Marxist-Leninist theoretician*



*Cultural presentation at a mass meeting during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution*

party members, their inadequate revolutionary vigilance and the poorly developed democratic control over the responsible leading persons allowed the bureaucracy in the party, state and economy to degenerate into a petty-bourgeois bureaucracy, which after the Twentieth Party Congress of the CPSU led the SED onto a revisionist course and became a new type of bureaucratic bourgeoisie.

**11.** After 1956, the Communist Party of China headed by Mao Zedong took the lead in the struggle against the seizure of power by the modern revisionists. In 1966, Mao Zedong developed the idea of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution as highest form of class struggle under socialism. Mao Zedong recognized the decisive barrier against the restoration of capitalism in the ideological and political mobilization of the masses, of millions of workers, peasants, women, revolutionary intellectuals and the young generation. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution represents the decisive method of struggle against the danger of a revisionist seizure of power in that it rapidly develops the socialist consciousness of the masses and strengthens the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Following the revisionist seizure of power by a new-type bureaucratic monopoly bourgeoisie under the leader-

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ship of Deng Xiaoping in the People's Republic of China after Mao Zedong's death in 1976, the results of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution were revised. This introduced the restoration of capitalism in China, too, and led to the formation of Chinese social-imperialism.

**12.** The historical defeat of the revolutionary working-class movement with the destruction of socialism in all formerly socialist countries gave rise to a lengthier phase of confusion, resignation, disorganization and liquidationist developments. Laborious efforts to build new Marxist-Leninist parties became necessary in most countries of the world.

The decisive lesson to be drawn is this: One cannot build up socialism with a petty-bourgeois mode of thinking. Socialism can win only with the proletarian, socialist mode of thinking prevailing. For that, the control of the mode of thinking of the responsible bureaucracy on all levels and the development and consolidation of the proletarian mode of thinking of the masses are decisive.

**13.** As the masses of the world intensify their search for a social alternative, the ideological dispute mainly with different shades of revisionism gains in importance.

A material source of the diverse revisionist theories and

their propagation today are countries like China, Vietnam, Cuba or North Korea, which still fly the flag of socialism/communism, but in reality have executed the restoration of capitalism. They sully the image of socialism/communism in a serious, persistent way.

The Marxist-Leninists' struggle against revisionism must help the masses come successfully to grips with the petty-bourgeois revisionist mode of thinking. The teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong and their vivid further development and application to the concrete situation of progressing social reality form the essential ideological-political foundation for a new upsurge of the struggle for socialism.

**14.** Socialism is the concentration of the most progressive ideas and achievements of humankind. It is not a preconceived scheme and most definitely not egalitarianism, but emerges from the multifaceted life and struggle of the masses. It is the next necessary social step forward, in which the revolutionary progress of the productive forces is used for the benefit of society as a whole in unity with nature.

The idea of socialism lives on among the masses of the peoples all over the world. It will gain new appeal since the general crisis-proneness of capitalism demonstrates every day anew the necessity and possibility of socialist society.

## CHAPTER C



## CHAPTER C

### Way and Goal of the Liberation of the Working Class and the Liberation of Women in Germany

**1.** The strategic aim of the class struggle of the working class in Germany is to take over political power as part of the international socialist revolution.

It is the task of the MLPD to win over the decisive majority of the international industrial proletariat in Germany for socialism and to develop its struggles higher to an all-round struggle directed against solely ruling international finance capital and the state, its political instrument of power. In order to achieve this, the party does systematic and persevering rank-and-file work aimed at uniting the working class, starting from united action on single questions and proceeding to the united front on all essential questions.

**2.** It is the duty of all Marxist-Leninists particularly in the places of work and in the trade unions to actively prepare and initiate struggles of the workers for daily demands and to exert every effort to develop them higher to class struggle in the true sense.

**3.** The struggle for socialism requires an independent struggle for the liberation of women that is systematically supported by all Marxist-Leninists. The struggle for equal rights aims at the equality of women and is directed against their discrimination in capitalist society. It must be a school

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of struggle for the liberation of women and for their complete emancipation in genuine socialism/communism.

**4.** The core of the revolutionary tactics of the MLPD is to combine economic and political struggle, or in other words, to convert economic struggle into political struggle, and to direct class struggle towards the socialist objective. It is necessary that class-conscious workers recognize the unity of the national and international sides of the class struggle; understand that the solution of the social question is most closely linked with the solution of the ecological question; draw the conclusions from the revisionist betrayal of socialism, stand up for the liberation of women, and to do all that, successfully and lastingly come to grips with the system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking.

**5.** The strategy and tactics in the class struggle must be complemented by a strategy and tactics in the struggle over the mode of thinking of the masses. Its result is the development of proletarian class consciousness to higher levels, up to socialist consciousness.

**6.** The working class must learn to involve the broad masses in the struggle against monopolies and govern-

ment. By building the proletarian united front as the heart of the movement, the MLPD organizes the struggle for saving the environment from the profit economy, for the liberation of women, for the defense and extension of social gains and of bourgeois-democratic rights and liberties, for international solidarity and a proletarian refugee and asylum policy, the struggle against the fascization of the state apparatus and against the militarization of the state and society, as well as the anti-fascist struggle and the struggle for peace. At the same time the party must put the leadership of the working class into effect in the struggle of broad sections of the people.

With its Youth League, *Rebell*, the MLPD wins the masses of youth as practical vanguard of the struggle for genuine socialism. The MLPD wages a resolute struggle against reformism and revisionism and educates the working class and other strata of the working people in the spirit of scientific socialism.

**7.** The MLPD builds upon the revolutionary traditions of the KPD, the German proletariat and its great leaders Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Karl Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg and Ernst Thälmann. Instead of mechanically copying the contents and methods of the old communist and working-class movement, the MLPD developed the new-type party.

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As working-class struggles grow in strength, the MLPD has the task to increasingly become the party of the masses. For that the party must promote and constantly develop the interaction with the trade unions and other self-run organizations of the masses.

In order to achieve this, it must be armed with scientific socialism, must possess a great wealth of experience, be tempered in class struggle and know how to lead the working class in the struggle against the rule of international finance capital.

**8.** The general crisis-proneness of the imperialist world system undermines the effect of the social system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking. The less effective this means of corroding proletarian class consciousness is, the sooner the working class will go on the offensive.

Connected with this will be that solely ruling international finance capital and the state experience an economic and political crisis so severe that they can no longer rule in the old way and the great majority of the working people are no longer willing to go on living in the old way. In this situation, economic and political mass strikes and demonstrations will be prevalent.

The working class has the wish that the revolution could win without the use of violence. But the issue of vio-

Way and Goal of the Liberation of the Working Class  
and the Liberation of Women in Germany



*Demonstration at the Karl Marx Monument in Chemnitz*



*Protesting violence against women and racism in Cologne, 2016*

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*Kurdish women members of the YPJ (Women's Defense Units) in Rojava, North Syria*



*Europe's dockworkers score success against EU "Port Package" directive. Here: dockers in Paris in 2016*

lence rises independently of the will of the proletariat. With the struggles taking a revolutionary upswing, the monopolies, according to all historical experience, will attempt to maintain their power by means of brutal force. Therefore, when the situation requires, the working class must rise up in arms under the leadership of its party. In the overthrow of imperialism and the smashing of the bourgeois state apparatus, proletarian class struggle attains its highest form in capitalism.

**9.** Under the condition of internationalized production, the socialist revolution will adopt an international character. Today, the international collaboration of the imperialists in organizing counterrevolution and the interaction with the international class struggle hardly allow the possibility of a revolutionary process being led to victory if isolated in one country.

Proletarian class struggle is mainly national in form. These struggles must be linked with the international class struggle and developed into a cross-border class struggle. From that an international united front will emerge against imperialism and reaction and for the united socialist states of the world.

The international socialist revolution is generally a proletarian revolution. It is an interactive process of revo-

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lutions which take place at different times and differ in their particular character in the individual countries. In this world revolutionary process, mass strikes, mass demonstrations, anti-imperialist, democratic and revolutionary struggles and uprisings will be in mutual, inseparable interaction.

Therefore, the proletarian strategy and tactics in each country must be grasped and realized essentially as a preparation for the international socialist revolution. The proletarian class struggle for national and social liberation interpenetrates in the course of this with the furtherance and support of the cross-border struggle for freedom and democracy.

Based on decades of the resolute defense of Marxism-Leninism, the forming of new Marxist-Leninist forces in the world meanwhile could gain new impetus. With the founding of ICOR (International Coordination of Revolutionary Parties and Organizations) in 2010 an organization was created for the coordination of and cooperation in the practical work of revolutionary parties and organizations. This association also furthers the ideological-political unification of the international revolutionary and working-class movement. At the same time, appropriate forms of organizing the international coordination and revolutionization of the struggles of the workers and the masses of the people must be pro-

moted, developed to higher levels and actively supported. This is the way towards the unity of the international Marxist-Leninist and working-class movement and towards a new upsurge of the world revolution.

**10.** In the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the MLPD obliges itself to support, morally, politically and materially, the liberation struggle of the proletariat and all oppressed against imperialism.

Every victory of the struggling workers and oppressed all over the world in the struggle for their national and social liberation gives strength to the struggle here in this country. And, in turn, every victory of the working class and the oppressed in Germany gives strength to the struggle against imperialism in all countries.



*ICOR was formed in 2010. The MLPD is a founding member.*

## CHAPTER H



## CHAPTER H

### Winning Over the Broad Masses for the Struggle for Socialism

**1.** In its struggle for state power and in socialist construction, the working class needs a solid alliance with all the oppressed. They include especially the masses of oppressed women in their millions; the people exposed to or driven to flight by hunger, wars and misery; the hundreds of millions of small and middle peasants and independent small producers and traders who are ruined by the dominance of international finance capital; those whose existence is threatened by the global environmental crisis; the masses of youth who are being robbed of their future; all those who are persecuted because of their ethnicity, their religion, their gender or their sexual orientation, as well as all politically oppressed democrats, anti-fascists and revolutionaries, and last, but not least, the populations of entire nation-states that are subjected to imperialist arbitrariness.

In addition to the internationalist class slogan, "Workers of all countries, unite!" the MLPD embraces the extended strategic alliance slogan, "Workers of all countries and all oppressed, unite!"

**2.** Forging the revolutionary fighting alliance of the working class with the petty-bourgeois intermediate strata is a strategic task. The petty-bourgeois intermedi-

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ate strata base their existence on the capitalist relations of production and therefore form the principal mass base of monopoly dictatorship. However, the all-pervasive proneness to crisis of imperialism, the accelerated, systematic destruction of their basis of subsistence and the intensifying intellectual oppression increasingly bring them into contradiction to the ruling monopolies.

**3.** In the course of the reorganization of international production the class structure has changed further. There is a greater differentiation within the two main classes. The number of wage-earning intellectuals has grown considerably while the number of self-employed intellectuals and farmers has decreased.

The petty-bourgeois intellectuals have become the dominant petty-bourgeois stratum in Germany and more and more other capitalist countries. The circumstances of work and life of the lower stratum of the dependent intellectuals in particular have become increasingly similar to those of the working class. The petty-bourgeois intellectuals have thus become the main ally of the working class in these countries.

**4.** The material basis for the solution to the problem of feeding humanity has matured as never before. How-



*Millions take flight: people oppressed by the imperialist world system*



*Protest by women teachers*

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*United across Europe, dairy farmers fight against their ruin.*



*Rally during the 2013 federal election campaign*

ever, the dictatorship of international finance capital ruins hundreds of millions of small and middle farmers and small traders all over the world and has given rise to a chronic crisis of global food supply. The strategic importance of the alliance with the smallholders and middle farmers as producers of foods grows as a result.

The working class increasingly also will find allies among small business operators.

As the class struggle develops to higher levels, the working class must know how to assert the leading influence of the proletarian mode of thinking among the intermediate strata. Only in this way can the working class itself cope successfully with the effect of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking.

**5.** The international socialist revolution also frees the petty-bourgeois intermediate strata from imperialist exploitation and oppression. All progressive achievements of science, culture and education that previously were suppressed for profit and power reasons will come to fruition in socialism.

Those in power want to prevent a revolutionary alliance between the working class and petty-bourgeois intermediate strata. They encourage privileges, careerism, individualism, arrogance, lack of discipline, disorganization, competition and so forth.

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The essence of preparing the alliance is to systematically remold the mode of thinking of the petty-bourgeois strata into a proletarian mode of thinking through practical cooperation, jointly organized struggle, confidence building, mutual aid, learning from each other, and patient persuasion work. The revolutionary alliance with largest possible sections of the petty bourgeoisie is only possible if they recognize that their justified interests can be realized only in the struggle for genuine socialism at the side and under the leadership of the working class.



## CHAPTER I



*Willi Dickhut,  
1904–1992*

*KPD functionary, Marxist-Leninist,  
resistance fighter against Hitlerite fascism,  
leading thinker of the new-type  
party and co-founder of the MLPD*

## CHAPTER I

### The MLPD as New-Type Party

The MLPD stands in the tradition of the old communist movement. However, from the outset it drew creative conclusions from the movement's strengths and weaknesses and from the changed conditions for the class struggle. Willi Dickhut, leading thinker and co-founder of the MLPD, molded the basic direction and the style of the new-type Marxist-Leninist party.

Its foundations in world outlook are Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought. They are not an ossified dogma, but a vital guide to action. Their creative character is grounded in materialist dialectics. The MLPD made the conscious application of the dialectical method to the problems of our time the guiding principle of the ideological-political and practical work of the party.

In its history, and particularly with the shifting of its work in the 1990s to the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking, the MLPD has developed numerous unique characteristics of the new-type Marxist-Leninist party:

- The MLPD is a revolutionary working-class party with a steadfast proletarian character.
- The system of rank-and-file work of a new type for raising the level of the unity of party and masses, in which every member actively participates according to their capabilities.

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- The party leadership and functionaries are most closely linked with the party rank and file and the broad masses.
- Every leading body is obligated to account for its actions to the members. The members decide; the party congress is the highest organ of the MLPD.
- The MLPD finances its work solely on the basis of membership dues and donations of the members and masses and is financially independent.
- The MLPD has a sound theoretical foundation. The system of the theoretical organ, *Revolutionärer Weg* (Revolutionary Way), provides a reliable ideological-political orientation in all questions of party building and the class struggle. New phenomena and essential changes in nature, society and in human thinking are analyzed on a timely basis. In this way the party can unify its mode of thinking and working, develop guides to action and foresightedly gird itself for future tasks of the international socialist revolution.
- The political line of the party laid down in the program provides a consistent basic orientation for practical work and for the fundamental tasks in the given stage of the class struggle.
- The organizational principle of democratic centralism ensures that the experience and initiatives of all mem-



*Rank-and-file work is discussed and members are schooled in the party groups.*



*MLPD and Rebell finance their work through membership dues and donations.*

## CHAPTER I



*Joint celebration at the annual Horster Mitte Fest in Gelsenkirchen  
(where the MLPD also has its headquarters)*



*Courses for learning the dialectical method serve to enable the members and the masses to find their bearings independently.*

bers are incorporated in the unified action of the party and that the principle-based unity of the party is maintained and consolidated.

- Through principle-based criticism and self-criticism with the masses and within the party, the party creatively develops further and learns to fulfill the leading role it has to play in the struggle for socialism and, later, in the construction of socialism.
- The system of self-control aims at avoiding mistakes. It unites, under the leadership of the Central Committee, control from the top by independent control commissions with control from below by the members and self-control by every cadre.
- In the system of the new-type organization and cadre work, through the party's leading bodies the scientific work to lead party building is developed. Through persistent, patient education of and care for cadres, more and more members become Marxist-Leninists who can think and act on their own.
- The conscious promotion of the generation change and purposeful promotion of workers and women play an outstanding role in the forming of leadership personalities in all fields.

## CHAPTER I

- The vital driving force of cadre development is the proletarian ambition of every revolutionary and Marxist-Leninist to unselfishly espouse the self-liberation of the working class. Personal advantages and privileges based on political work are strictly rejected, on the other hand. The functionaries of the MLPD are expected to practice a modest lifestyle. The income of full-time functionaries is limited to an average skilled worker's wages as maximum.
- The MLPD develops an attractive party life as a school of socialism, with proletarian cultural and recreational activities and steadfast solidarity in all areas of life.



## CHAPTER J



## CHAPTER J

### The System of Rank-and-File Work of a New Type and the Practical Program of the MLPD

#### 1. The transition to class struggle in the true sense

The class struggle in the true sense begins when the struggles of the working class take on a society-changing character and the working class launches its strategic offensive against the dictatorship of the monopolies. That requires a socialist consciousness of the decisive majority of the international industrial proletariat.

The leading factor of the society-changing movement for the liberated socialist society is the transition to the working-class offensive. The realization of the working-class offensive is bound to the systematic rank-and-file work of the party and has these basic elements:

- The struggle for daily demands and partial slogans must be waged offensively so that it can be developed higher. Starting from the struggle for every job, the working class must fight unemployment at the expense of monopolist profits.
- The economic struggle must include the social question and the environmental question and be combined with political struggle, that is, be transformed into political struggle. It is only in this way that the workers can grasp how their experience with exploitation and

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oppression in the workplace is inseparably connected with the ruthless exploitation of nature, that both are an expression of the monopoly dictatorship and that the state is the decisive instrument of power of the monopolies. The struggle for democratic rights and liberties must be made the focus of the political demands.

- The struggle to liberate the working class and the struggle to liberate women must become identical.
- The workers' struggles must combine the struggle to solve the social question with the struggle to solve the environmental question.
- The driving force for the transition to the working-class offensive is the unity of young and old.
- The individual struggles must be concentrated into mass struggles and developed higher. The workers will become a superior force when they think, feel and act as a class. Therefore, it is of fundamental importance for the development of class struggle to fight to overcome any and all division and to organize class solidarity, to develop cross-sector and cross-company actions and to employ the full fighting power of the working class. Strikes must be combined with demonstrations and other forms of struggle so that they are placed in a universal social context.

- If necessary, the unionist framework must be broken through and the working class must go over to independent struggles. They are the yardstick for the development of the political independence of the working class.
- The working class must come successfully to grips with the socially organized system of the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking so that it can unfold its class consciousness and its struggles can develop into class struggle in the true sense.
- The workers' struggles in the national framework must be raised to a cross-border level if possible. In this way



*International solidarity between automotive workers*

## CHAPTER J

they become the school of international worker unity and the preparation of the international revolution.

### **2. Development towards the party of the masses**

To help the working class and the broad masses of the working strata find their way to socialism, the MLPD must become the party of the masses.

The system of rank-and-file work is the main method for lastingly breaking the relative isolation, brought about by those in power, and reaching the strategic goal of the stage without an acutely revolutionary situation: the winning over of the decisive majority of the international industrial proletariat in Germany for genuine socialism and the involvement of the broad masses in the struggle against international finance capital and its government.

With systematic rank-and-file work in large-scale enterprises and in neighborhoods, in the active resistance against the threatening global environmental catastrophe, at universities and in party-building work, the MLPD with its groups plants roots among the masses and conquers Marxist-Leninist areas of influence.

The new-type system of rank-and-file work organizes the unity of party building and promotion of non-party-affiliated self-run organizations of the masses, with

party building as leading factor. Organized long-term cooperation is a basic condition for the masses to come successfully to grips with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking and take the future into their own hands.

The basis for the party's relation to the masses is the mass line. There is no revolution without or against the masses of the people. The members of the MLPD trust in the masses and their ability to liberate themselves. With their vivid example they exert persuasive power in order to win the masses over for the struggle for socialism.

The party must work on the basis of the proletarian mode of thinking so that it can always provide correct orientation to the working class. This is a constant process



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of self-transformation to creatively implement Marxism-Leninism in every concrete practical issue of class struggle, party building and the preparation of the international socialist revolution by consciously applying the dialectical method at the level of the doctrine of the mode of thinking and of systemic thinking. The five main categories are:

- The concrete analysis of the concrete situation at the level of the doctrine of the mode of thinking investigates how the masses assimilate objective reality as struggle between the proletarian and petty-bourgeois modes of thinking and act accordingly.
- The strategy and tactics in the struggle over the mode of thinking of the masses organizes the superiority of the proletarian mode of thinking in the struggle against the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking with the goal of the masses adopting the proletarian strategy and tactics as their own
- The proletarian culture of debate is the decisive method for correctly handling contradictions to preserve and advance the unity of party and masses with utterly convincing arguments.
- Scientific working, as dialectical unity of Marxist style of work, proletarian methods of work and scientific

organization of work, guarantees that the party can establish and advance the fundamental unity of theory and practice at all times and for every task.

- Proletarian control and self-control is the conscious organizing of the advancement of knowledge so as to avoid mistakes.

### **3. Marxist-Leninist rank-and-file work in large-scale enterprises**

The patient Marxist-Leninist rank-and-file work in workplaces and trade unions among the blue- and white-collar workers and trainees of large-scale enterprises in



*Steelworkers at a Metalworkers' Union day of action in Duisburg, 2016*

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industry, logistics, communications and the increasingly industrialized centers of the social, healthcare and education sectors is the main fighting line of the MLPD.

The new-type work on the main fighting line is the heart of the system of rank-and-file work of the MLPD.

Taking the all-sidedness of party work into account, the MLPD's workplace party groups as most important basic units of the party have priority over the building of other groups. They form the proletarian backbone of the MLPD's system of rank-and-file work.

It is the main task of the workplace groups to prepare, initiate and lead workers' struggles and develop them higher and to systematically awaken and raise the proletarian class consciousness of the industrial labor force and their families. The struggle for economic, ecological and political partial demands must be waged as a school of class struggle.

The MLPD members take an active role to advance work in the trade unions, the most important self-run organizations of the working class. In these organizations, MLPD members fight any form of class-collaboration policy and promote the transformation of trade unions into fighting organizations for the defense and improvement of the wage, working and living conditions. They promote the

## The System of Rank-and-File Work of a New Type and the Practical Program of the MLPD

militant activity and initiative of the masses of trade union members. They strive for a close linkage of the revolutionary party of the working class with the trade unions without violating their non-party-affiliated status.

The Marxist-Leninists irreconcilably oppose any attempt by the reformist union bureaucracy to boss around the millions of union members and to impede the development of class struggle. On the other hand, they reject any kind of activity hostile to the union and, on the basis of constructive trade union work, help the workers to successfully cope with an oppositional mode of thinking.



The members of the MLPD cooperate in producing many factory and corporation-wide newssheets "by workers, for workers".

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The MPLD supports the struggle for the following demands and slogans as school of class struggle:

- Six-hour workday/thirty-hour workweek with full wage compensation!
- Fight for healthy, environmentally compatible working and living conditions!
- Fight to implement progressive production methods of a closed-loop economy!
- Full legal right to strike in all matters!
- No restriction of political and trade-unionist activity!
- For unified collective agreements throughout Germany! Fight the splitting of the working class by sub-contracted labor, "contracts for work and services", fixed-term employment, low wages etc.!
- Strong general labor union! No incompatibility rulings against democrats, anti-fascists and Marxist-Leninists in the trade unions!
- Make the socialist perspective a substantial part of the trade unions!
- Progressive workplace labor relations law!

- Fight flexibilization of working hours!
- Higher wages and salaries!

#### **4. Marxist-Leninist environmental work and environmental struggle**

Marxist-Leninist environmental work aims at arousing, strengthening and raising the level of environmental consciousness. The MLPD furthers the process of self-transformation of the environmental movement so that it takes on a society-changing character.

Marxist-Leninist environmental work is the second most important line of struggle and an integral part of any party work.

The main task of the Marxist-Leninist environmental groups is to unfold active resistance against the global environmental catastrophe locally, as school of the society-changing environmental struggle and the preparation of the international socialist revolution, and to develop it to higher levels.

The environmental groups realize the connection to the main fighting line and promote the proletarian molding of the environmental movement.

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The MLPD promotes worldwide cooperation and coordination of the active resistance and related non-party-affiliated forms of organization.

Guiding principles of the MLPD's program of environmental struggle are:

- Active worldwide resistance against the threatening global environmental catastrophe!
- Active environmental protection in struggle against the profit system! Elimination of environmental damage at the expense of those who cause it!
- Worldwide construction halt and shutdown of all nuclear systems at the expense of those who run them!
- Step-by-step and finally complete substitution of fossil fuels by renewables! Energy generation mainly from sun, wind, water and organic wastes! Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 70 to 90 percent through the year 2030 and lowering of the CO<sub>2</sub> content of the atmosphere to 350 ppm!
- Expansion of free local public transportation on the basis of renewable energy. Goods transport by rail and water!
- Enforcement of environment-friendly cultivation methods and species-appropriate livestock farming in agri-

culture, against big estate owners and agrocapitalists!

- Active animal protection! Fight to preserve species diversity!
- Fight for healthy, free drinking water!
- Fight worldwide hunger, food speculation, the mass poisoning and destruction or misuse of foods, the malnourishment of billions of people! Ban the use of genetically manipulated plants and animals!



*Protest for the shutdown of all nuclear power plants, 2011*

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- Fight the destructive extraction of raw materials: Ban deep-sea drilling, fracking and extractive surface mining! Ban the storage of waste and toxic waste underground and in the oceans!
- Ban landfills and waste incineration. Compulsory comprehensive recycling – sparing use of natural raw materials and radical reduction of waste accumulation!
- Highest safety standards for the storage and processing of wastes of whatever kind!
- Protect the forests, especially the tropical rainforests!
- Protect the world's oceans!
- Creation of millions of jobs to eliminate environmental damage at the expense of those who cause it and to effect the change to renewable energy sources and recycling!
- Struggle for a socialist society in which the development of the unity of humanity and nature is society's guiding principle!

## **5. Marxist-Leninist work among women and the struggle for the liberation of women**

The MLPD works actively among the masses of women. It promotes the development of the militant women's movement against the special exploitation and oppression of women, in Germany and internationally, as most important link between the working-class movement, the active people's resistance and the rebellion of the youth. To this aim, the militant women's movement must include the whole range of women of different classes and strata.

The proletarian women's movement, which increasingly is becoming a significant force in the struggle of the international industrial proletariat, must become the backbone of the militant women's movement.

The party promotes women's consciousness, the common basis of the militant women's movement.

The promotion of and active collaboration with the various self-run organizations of the militant women's movement serve to involve the masses of women in societal activities and to win them over for the society-changing aim of the liberation of women in a socialist society. The MLPD helps the militant women's movement to free itself from the narrowness of petty-bourgeois and bourgeois feminism.

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- Fight all forms of the special exploitation and oppression of women and girls!
- Right to sexual self-determination!
- Punishment of sexual exploitation and violence!
- Fight sexism, pornography, prostitution and human trafficking!
- For economic, social and cultural equality of women!
- Active promotion of women in social life!
- Free, qualified all-day care in childcare centers and schools!



- Abrogate § 218, the anti-abortion law!
- Recognition of gender-specific reasons for asylum and an independent right of residence for foreign women!

## **6. Systematic work in the neighborhoods**

To win over the broad masses and involve them in the struggle against monopolies and government, the MLPD does systematic rank-and-file work in the neighborhoods. Its core is the Marxist-Leninist work among women. The party's Marxist-Leninist social work serves as school of the struggle for a socialist society and of a paradigm change in the way of life in society as a whole. Every neighborhood party group develops Marxist-Leninist local politics.

The neighborhood party groups are a strategic reserve for the work on the main fighting line and for the active resistance against the global environmental catastrophe. Every neighborhood party group develops comprehensive relations with a factory party group.

The neighborhood party groups address in particular working-class families and promote the organizing of their children in the *Rotfüchse* (Red Foxes) children's organization and of youth in *Rebell*.

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An international movement to defend social gains has emerged against the shifting of the burdens of crises onto the shoulders of the working people. It is directed particularly against the redistribution policy in the social and health sectors, in the educational and cultural sectors, against privatization of public services and increasing communal fees.

The most important guidelines for Marxist-Leninist work in the neighborhoods:

- Repeal the Hartz laws! Higher unemployment pay and its unlimited continued payment for the entire period of unemployment! No discrimination against migrants and asylum seekers in the labor market!
- Higher social assistance payments to make a life in human dignity possible!
- Lowering of the retirement age to 60 for men and to 55 for women and for shift workers and heavy workers, without loss of pension! Raise the pension level!
- Full payment of social-security contributions through a sales-based business tax!
- Lower taxation of the masses, no indirect taxation; drastic progressive taxation of big enterprises, big earners and large fortunes

- Preserve and provide sufficient, environmentally sound and inexpensive housing!
- Free, universal access to internet and telecommunications regardless of income and residence status!
- Thorough preventive healthcare and medical treatment free of charge for everyone permanently residing in Germany!
- Involvement of the elderly, sick and disabled persons in societal life and full payment by the monopolies and the state of all costs necessary for a life in dignity!



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### **7. Marxist-Leninist work at universities and the preparation of the revolutionary alliance**

The preparation of the revolutionary alliance of the working class with sections of the petty-bourgeois intermediate strata is a task of all MLPD party groups.

The MLPD supports just demands of the petty-bourgeois intellectuals, small and middle farmers and small traders, as long as they are not directed against the working class. But only the struggle for socialism under the leadership of the working class opens a real way out for them. The MLPD supports the just resistance of secondary school and university students. It promotes the organizing of intellectuals in the various self-run organizations of the masses and in the MLPD.

The Marxist-Leninists work together with progressive scientists and cultural workers and advocate that petty-bourgeois intellectuals put their abilities to work on behalf of the working-class struggle and the future of youth.

The Marxist-Leninist university groups organize the rank-and-file work among the employees and students at universities and other institutions of higher learning. They work together with the Youth League to construct groups of secondary school and university students

within *Rebell* as mass tactics of party building at universities. They fundamentally criticize the separation of manual and mental labor, make a dialectical critique of bourgeois science and culture, propagate the proletarian world outlook and encourage close ties with the working class.

- Fight the gagging of science, research and culture by the profit interests of the monopolies!
- Fight the mental patronizing and ideological and political disciplining at schools and universities in particular through modern anticommunism!



*Student protests against tuition fees*

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- Promotion of research and education that address the real problems of the future of humankind, like environment-friendly technologies!
- Freedom of political activity at schools, colleges and universities on an anti-fascist basis!
- General political mandate for elected representatives of secondary school and university students!
- Fight the militarization of educational and cultural institutions! German Federal Army, get out of schools and universities!
- No social and political selection at schools and universities!
- Fight the consequences of the redistribution of public budgets at the expense of the employees, in particular in the education, culture, social and health sectors! Joint struggle against low wages, temporary employment and contracts for services in academic professions!
- Increase and extend financial support for the education of secondary school and university students!
- No discrimination against foreign secondary school and university students!

- Raise producer prices and cut consumer prices at the expense of the big estate owners, agricultural corporations and retailing monopolies!
- Right of unhindered coalition of small and middle farmers, freelancers, small traders and small and medium-sized enterprises for representing their economic and political interests against monopolies, big estate owners and the state!

## **8. Marxist-Leninist work among youth, the Youth League *Rebell* and the rebellion of youth**

The young people are the most active force in society and the most avid seeker of a social perspective. The MLPD with its Youth League, *Rebell*, organizes rebellion for the future interests of the working class and the broad masses.

Marxist-Leninist work among youth is the mass tactics of party building, the focus of the party's organizational policy, and a measure of the party's orientation to the future in its work. The members of the MLPD are urged to make contributions to active youth work.

The MLPD spreads the proletarian world outlook among the youth. The party wages a resolute struggle against the ruination of the vital forces and health of young people. It promotes the conscious, responsible use of media

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and means of communication and educates the youth against the consumption of drugs and other addictive substances. It does systematic anti-fascist work against fascist incitement of young people and educates them for active, anti-fascist struggle. It resolutely fights the militarization of society and supports the anti-militarist struggle of the youth. It helps the youth cope successfully with the corrosive and self-destructive influences of sexism and advocates an enlightened, self-determined approach to sexuality. The struggle of youth against mass unemployment and underemployment at the side of the older workers is a major issue.

*Rebell* is a self-run organization of the masses of young people; it has a Marxist-Leninist character. Rebellious working-class youth forms its backbone. It is the main form of organization for the Marxist-Leninist work among youth. *Rebell* implements a school of life of the proletarian mode of thinking for the masses of the youth and children of whatever nationality. This aim requires the ideological-political leadership of the MLPD, close practical cooperation and the furthering of the organizational independence of the Youth League. All-sided party work with the construction of county organizations is the most important condition for winning over the masses of the youth.

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*The Red Foxes are the children's organization of the MLPD.*



*The Youth League Rebell in action*

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Rebell summer camp

*Rebell* conveys the spirit of international solidarity, reliance on one's own strength, respect for physical work and the natural environment, equality of girls and boys, unselfish commitment to the cause of all the exploited and oppressed and to the common struggle for socialism. *Rebell* members are active fighters for the environment, militant anti-fascists and practical organizers of international solidarity. *Rebell* wins over young people under the slogan, "Rebellion is justified!" and develops proletarian cultural and recreational activities. In this way it helps the young to come to grips with the effect of bourgeois youth culture and a widespread petty-bourgeois lifestyle. In its whole work, it puts into effect Mao Zedong's guiding principle, "Serve the People!".

With the leadership of the children's organization, *Rotfüchse* (Red Foxes), *Rebell* assumes responsibility for the future of the working class. This work embraces the entire life of the children and aims at educating them to proletarian behavior in all matters.

- Put majority and the right to vote and be elected down to 16 years!
- Obligatory trainee quota of at least 10 percent of the workforce in big enterprises!
- Fight the special lack of rights of working-class youth,

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caused among other things by subcontracted labor, "contracts for work and services" and fixed-term employment. Give all former trainees regular jobs commensurate with their training!

- Preservation and extension of youth protection and the provisions for the protection of young people at work!
- Legal, social and cultural equality of girls and boys at training, in jobs and in daily life!
- Special protection of children and youth against violence and sexual abuse!
- Free, unified and qualified education system from nursery to university!
- Thorough school and professional training!
- Teaching and learning materials completely free of charge!
- Comprehensive anti-fascist education at schools and in the mass media!
- Fight the militarization of public life, education and culture!

- Promote mass sport! Qualified information and education for practicing healthy nutrition! Expansion of institutions and facilities which provide free cultural, sports and recreational activities for children and young people!
- Comprehensive drug education! Fight the quagmire of drugs!

## **9. Realizing the new quality of proletarian internationalism**

The international revolutionary movement must coordinate and revolutionize the class struggles raging all over the world. Accordingly, as active member of ICOR the MLPD assumes responsibility for the revolutionary movements in the entire world and implements every task as an element of the preparation of the international socialist revolution.

The MLPD promotes the unity of the working class, of the broad masses, in the women's and youth movements across the boundaries of national origin. To this end it must promote a system of international forms of organization and be especially active in furthering the building of ICOR. The leading factor is the close unity of struggle of Marxist-Leninist parties and organizations. The MLPD

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promotes international mass activities and meetings for cross-border cooperation, mutual revolutionization of the class struggle, the furtherance of party building and the self-organization of the masses as well as world-wide cooperation on joint fighting tasks, for instance the international days of struggle.

The MLPD develops manifold bilateral relations for mutual support in party building and collaboration with other revolutionary forces on an equal basis. The MLPD promotes solidarity pacts and international solidarity brigades for mutual support of the revolutionary struggle for liberation all over the world. The new quality of



*ICOR Solidarity Pact: construction of a health center by international brigades in Kobanê, North Syria, 2015*

proletarian internationalism develops as a component part of the new-type system of rank-and-file work.

The MLPD stands for a proletarian refugee policy. It advocates getting organized together in the MLPD, the revolutionary Youth League, *Rebell*, and the various non-party-affiliated self-run organizations of the masses.

- Workers no matter from which nationality – one class, one enemy, one struggle!
- Full legal equality of all people permanently living in Germany, independent of their nationality!



*Topping-out ceremony for the “House of Solidarity” in Truckenthal, Thuringia, 2016*

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- Unrestricted right of asylum for all oppressed on an anti-fascist basis!
- Protection of all refugees and recognition of their rights in an international convention!

### **10. Struggle for peace and antimilitarist struggle**

The MLPD supports the struggle against the general danger of war, imperialist wars and the militarization of society. Lasting world peace has as a prerequisite the abolition of any exploitation and oppression of man by man. Therefore, the MLPD propagates and supports also armed liberation movements for national and social liberation.

The MLPD rejects a professional army in Germany. Enlisting in the federal army and the police is no way out for the young generation. The MLPD defends the right to conscientious objection, but criticizes pacifism as an ineffective method of combatting militarism and the danger of war.

- Ban and destroy all ABC weapons!
- Dissolve NATO and the intervention forces of the EU and of the German federal army!
- No German troops abroad!



*"Peace for Syria" demonstration in Gelsenkirchen*

- Cancel the weapons embargoes against revolutionary liberation movements! No export of arms to reactionary regimes!
- Respect the right of self-determination of peoples and nations!
- Condemn and severely punish mass rape as method of waging war!
- Fight any form of ethnic hatred, racism and anticommunism! Peace and peoples' friendship!
- Fight the militarization of state and society!

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### 11. Struggle for democratic rights and liberties

The fascization of the state apparatus and the dismantling of bourgeois-democratic rights and liberties are an expression of the dictatorship of the monopolies. Due to the vulnerability of the international production and for fear of the international revolution, the extension of the apparatus of force is stepped up on an international level under the pretext of "fighting terrorism". The dismantling of personal rights is, in reality, pursued for fear of the organized working-class movement and the people's struggles.

- Defend and extend bourgeois-democratic rights and liberties!
- Repeal the Emergency Powers Acts and their amendments!
- Repeal paragraph 129a/b of the penal code! Put an end to the banning and criminal prosecution of revolutionary parties and organizations!
- Effective data protection! Abolish data retention!
- Fight corruption and arbitrary behavior of authorities!
- Fight the preparations for civil war, state surveillance and police terror!

- Prohibit all acts of censorship against democrats, anti-fascists and Marxist-Leninists!

## 12. Anti-fascist struggle

The monopolies and parts of the state apparatus and the mass media support the neo-fascists as shock troops and reserve against revolutionary movements and workers'



*Anti-fascist demonstration in Hildburghausen in 2016, initiated by the Youth League Rebell*

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struggles. The slander and the attacks against people of different nationality and color, minorities, anti-fascists and revolutionaries are meant to split and intimidate people. The MLPD advocates the unity of people of different nationalities and origins. The struggle against neo-fascist terror is closely connected with the active promotion of peoples' friendship and international solidarity. The MLPD places its trust in the anti-fascist consciousness of the masses and, in particular, the youth. It is an active part of anti-fascist actions and does educational work on the danger of fascism, its wire-pullers and the societal causes of fascism. It helps the masses overcome the influence of social-fascist demagoguery and nationalist and racist prejudices.

- Not one inch to the fascists! Ban all fascist organizations and their propaganda!

### **13. Proletarian parliamentarism**

The MLPD realizes a proletarian parliamentarism in order to exercise its right of democratic opinion formation and to raise the activity of the masses.

This includes both the participation in election campaigns and the utilization of the platform of parliament as voice of the masses.

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*Active for the interests of the masses*



*Voter action groups also serve to monitor candidates' activities.*

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The electoral candidates of the MLPD face up to the scrutiny of the masses and are committed to proletarian principles.

- Repeal undemocratic election obstacles, threshold clauses and obstructions of parliamentary work!
- No public financing of parties!

### 14. The Policy of Joint Struggle, Forms and Principles

The MLPD works together with other forces on the basis of joint struggle. Those who participate retain their independent identity and the freedom to conduct independent agitation and propaganda; they work together



*Election Congress of the "Internationalist Alliance" in Berlin, 2016*

on an equal basis for mutual advantage. The MLPD distinguishes between

- ▶ Self-run organizations of the masses as permanent organizational forms of joint struggle, like trade unions, women's associations, etc. To reach the aim of involving the broad masses, these self-run organizations must guarantee a real non-party-affiliated status, broadest democracy and financial independence. Also, the following principles have proved successful:
  - Close linkage with the working-class movement
  - Realize a culture of debate in an atmosphere of objectivity and solidarity
  - International solidarity
  - Openness to the perspective of a society freed from exploitation and oppression
  - Equal participation of Marxist-Leninists
- ▶ Joint organizational forms to realize concrete temporary tasks of struggle. Usually, such joining of forces is defined by a joint platform and principles of collaboration. In the interest of the unimpeded union of the masses, the MLPD supports the following demands:

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- Unlimited right to assemble and demonstrate on an anti-fascist basis!
  - Free admittance to public places and facilities on an anti-fascist basis!
- Common forums to organize the exchange of ideas and to coordinate and develop the joint struggle of different participants, also with international participation
- Forms of organization and struggle involving direct democracy, and politically independent mass movements that target the government, with open microphone, votes in the streets, democratic coordination of work, financial independence and openness in terms of world outlook on an anti-fascist basis.

### 15. Proletarian united front

The development of active people's resistance involves the broad masses in the social struggle against the dictatorship of the monopolies. Active people's resistance is characterized by militant mass actions against monopolies and state. It is an indication of the prevailing level of environmental, peace, anti-fascist, democratic, internationalist, women's and class consciousness.

The goal is to interfuse the activities of the broad masses



with the struggle of the working class and develop them into an all-around united front. This united front is led by the proletariat and directed against finance capital and the state as its political instrument of power. It develops in a process of ideological debate in which people come to grips with the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking while gathering joint practical experience in struggle.

## **16. Promotion and dissemination of the proletarian world outlook**

The ruling forces have always reacted against Marxism-Leninism by distorting and defaming it in an anticommunist

## CHAPTER J



*Rote Fahne, the central organ of the MLPD, has been appearing for over 45 years.*

way. It is a result of bourgeois manipulation of opinion that today the broad masses, for the most part, have in their minds a distorted image of scientific socialism.

As long as bourgeois ideology prevails in the ranks of the working class and the masses of the people, they cannot free themselves from capitalist exploitation and oppression.

In its rank-and-file work the MLPD therefore develops an entire system of an offensive of world outlook for genuine socialism and against modern anticommunism.

- The MLPD helps the masses to overcome, based on their own experience, the petty-bourgeois mode of thinking and to adopt a firm proletarian class standpoint.
- The MLPD promotes the dissemination of Marxism-Leninism and the socialist ideals of the party by a variety of means and methods. To this end, its decisive weapon is the theoretical organ, *Revolutionärer Weg* (Revolutionary Way).
- The MLPD conducts a movement for learning the dialectical-materialist method, which helps the masses come successfully to grips with the metaphysical-idealist method.
- The MLPD promotes the development of proletarian culture and morale in close connection with the class struggle, taking up the best international democratic and revolutionary traditions and, at the same time, critically assimilating progressive ideas and achievements of bourgeois society in the fields of literature, music, art and science.
- Separation of church and state!
- Fight the manipulation of public opinion by primitive and modern anticommunism!

## CHAPTER J

- Free admittance to the mass media for Marxist-Leninists and all progressive forces!
- Particular support for the educational and cultural work of the working-class movement!
- Open public discussion on the socialist alternative!

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**Willi Dickhut**

*Head of the Editorial Team  
Revolutionärer Weg until  
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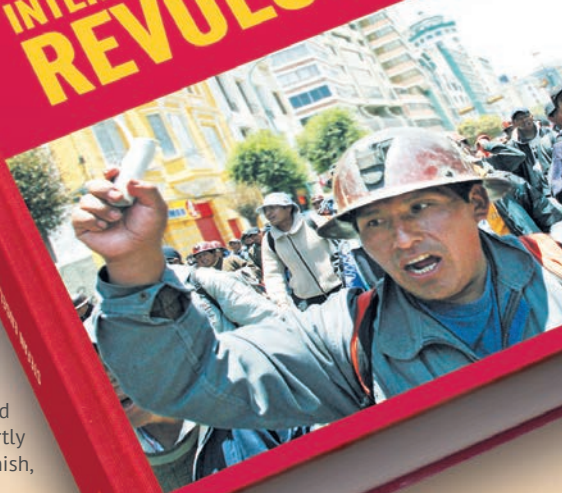
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*“Socialism is the concentration of the most progressive ideas and achievements of humankind. It is not a pre-conceived scheme and most definitely not egalitarianism, but emerges from the multifaceted life and struggle of the masses. It is the next necessary social step forward, in which the revolutionary progress of the productive forces is used for the benefit of society as a whole in unity with nature.”*



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