



Rete dei Comunisti

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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Rete dei Comunisti

Communist passion and reason

On Sunday 3 July, the Meeting of the Rete dei Comunisti concluded in Rome.

A meeting that took place over three days, in which public debates and the discussion of the various working groups on different issues alternated; the first open to all and sundry, the others 'reserved' for members of the RdC.

All three public debates were streamed on the RdC's channels, and are available.

The working groups have finalised an internal discussion process, the results of which will be made public in September, and on which the organisation will call for a debate that will hopefully be as broad as possible.

The Meeting went beyond expectations, both in terms of the wide participation and the quality of the debate that characterised both the public confrontation initiatives - Friday at the House of Peace and Saturday at the c Intifada - and the fruitful internal discussion (without neglecting the recreational moments that made the days less demanding and the torrid heat relatively more bearable).

The meeting was a moment of verification of the process of building a political subjectivity committed on the different fronts of the class struggle in our country and at the same time aimed at developing a work on oneself that with last year's 4th National Assembly began to see its first fruits, further matured in the course of this year.

The work on itself, for the RdC, is a work in pro-

gress aimed at the formation of an organisation capable of facing the challenges of a political phase that has radically changed since the West's precipitous flight from Afghanistan last August and even more so with the escalation of the war in Ukraine since the end of February this year.

That is why the meeting was also a sort of hinge between a significant amount of political work carried out over the past year in different areas, and the construction of a political agenda for the autumn that is already taking shape in recent weeks.

A political agenda to come that draws on the experience gained mainly on three levels:

- the development of youth organisation with OSA and Cambiare Rotta - which organised the youth camp 'fighting as soldiers of ideas' on 22-23-24 July;
- the contribution, within the Unione Sindacale di Base, to the construction of an independent and combative trade union organisation, which with the Workers' Assembly of 25 June launched the hypothesis of a general strike and a national demonstration in Rome to oust the Draghi government, all to be built;
- the consolidation of the front of political representation within Potere al Popolo, which in early June held its National Assembly followed by an important moment of political clarification with the vote on the document previously discussed in more than 50 local assemblies.

An overall political work - that of the Rete dei Comunisti - developed in strong dialectics with the most active parts of the social bloc of reference and the other experiences with which they have convergent objectives, and which has never shied away from fruitful confrontation.

An activity conducted with the awareness that there can be no process of affirmation of the demands of the subordinate classes without the development of a strategic hypothesis capable of effectively confronting the challenges that a world in profound transformation places before us.

In order to do this, it is first of all necessary to reject ideological subservience to a capitalism

that, over the past 30 years, has tried to represent itself as humanity's only destiny, seeking to eliminate from the horizon the possible construction of an alternative to its world.

This ideological breakthrough operated by the ruling classes has not spared even the 'radical left', which is often incapable of giving a correct interpretation of the changes taking place and articulating a consequent praxis, even when - in certain cases - neo-liberalism has shown its proclaimed failure.

Faced with the different systemic short-circuits that the crisis of the capitalist mode of production generates - from the increasingly explicit tendency to war to the ecological infarction of



the planet, from the regression of values that the decline of the West brings with it to the growing immiseration of the population even within the imperialist metropolis - the reasons of the communist variant will be able to acquire ever greater legitimacy in the eyes of the popular classes.

A hypothesis that, we are certain, will have to assert itself in pushes and pulls among the ranks of the subalterns, even against the reactionary plague, whatever form it takes, and the preventive criminalisation that will be promoted by the ruling classes.

The work of communists must be aimed at building the subjective conditions for them to play a general role in the development of the contradictions that this system produces.

To build an organisation that is a 'collective political brain' capable of facing theoretical challenges and proposing an organic programme of transformation, capable of developing an appropriate method of work, capable of shaping a body with the necessary articulations to develop a real mass line, and at the same time imposing militancy as a way of life within its ranks, an organism that, working on itself, increasingly seeks to immunise itself from the pathologies of decadent capitalism and its 'regressive progress'.

The days of the Meeting confirmed that we are on the right track on a non-linear and all uphill path, in which perhaps more than ever the alternative for humanity is between socialism and barbarism.

5/7/2022, Rome

Fighting as soldiers of ideas

The Communist youth organization Cambiare Rotta's "Fighting as Soldiers of Ideas" camp was held on July 22-23-24. It was a three-day event of training, debate, and assemblies, as well as sociability, music, sports tournaments, aggregation, militant engagement and internationalist solidarity.

The name of the camp refers to a speech by Fidel Castro: a non-random choice meant to make clear what must be the model for a generation that, just at the beginning of a process of change that has put an end to U.S.-led capitalist globalization, aims to seize the opportunity of the structural crisis we are experiencing, committing itself to rebuild an active momentum and a revolutionary organization equal to the problems facing our generation.

This path, built mobilization after mobilization, from schools to workplaces, has tangible examples to refer to: foremost among them the example of the Cuban Revolutionary Party and the Cuban people, who year after year are demonstrating that an alternative to this present state of affairs is not only possible, but that it will only be possible within a socialist revolutionary process. For this reason, during the camp we had the opportunity and honor to meet with a delegation from the Cuban embassy in Italy. A moment where we exchanged testimonies and reasoning about the history of the Cuban revolution, lessons that can speak to our generation as they do to the Cuban youth. On this occasion we were able to demonstrate our internationalist and active solidarity with Cuba, which was then continued in the following days with the July 26

celebrations.

Also important were the moments of internal discussion, which questioned the youth structures of OSA and Cambiare Rotta about the year that opens with this September. The student side of OSA, building on a year of struggle and conflict agitated in schools against school-to-work alternation, focused on the issues of how to strengthen mass intervention in schools, how to engage and leverage representation to consolidate the conflict that students express, and the issues that press our generation, such as psychological distress and gender issues. Similarly, the youth sphere of Cambiare Rotta focused in debates and planning for political intervention in universities and on the environmental issue, which for our generation represents a strategic hairpin turn that shows the structural limits of the capitalist mode of production. Similarly, the issue of youth precariousness, of the exploitation to which our generation is subjected, has been addressed: a series of conditions that impose an alliance with class unions such as USB, and in particular the Federation of Social, which deals precisely with all that atypical work that affects our generation.

It was not just words, however, that stopped. The week before the camp, in fact, the Piacenza prosecutor's office had opened an investigation on charges of criminal conspiracy against USB's logistics delegates. A clear attack on those who daily bring conflict to workplaces, strengthening the class movement and forging alliances of struggle with our generation, as has been done throughout the year of student mo-

bilization. A clear warning to anyone thinking of opposing the ongoing capitalist reorganization and the imperialist plans of the European Union that we have seen materialized with full support for the war in Ukraine.

The example of the workers blocking arms is being heard by the younger generation of our country, ready to demonstrate alongside the workers themselves in the ports, in the warehouses, in the squares the opposition of our generation to the caravan and the war.

That is why we were at the demonstration that took place in Piacenza, alongside USB and comrades affected by repression. It was an important day of struggle that marked a clear response to the ongoing employers' attack, which, given the international crisis we are experiencing, put in place a quantum leap from previous

years.

The camp concluded with a moment of discussion involving the entire youth organization, together with the Rete dei Comunisti, to address the revival of the new and the goals that a communist youth organization must set for itself. In the face of a new phase that has opened with the war and of an autumn that promises to be hot, given the exacerbation of the contradictions the West is facing, it is necessary to develop all the political and organizational tools to be equal to the challenges of the present. Working in every school, in every university, in workplaces, throughout the country, to strengthen the case for revolutionary communist organization in the 21st century, against NATO and EU imperialism.



Criminal Unionism?

The order of home detention by the GIP of Piacenza - the prosecution had asked for pre-trial detention in jail for all of them - for 4 leaders of SiCobas and 2 of the Unione Sindacale di Base, plus less afflictive measures for personal freedom, such as a prohibition to stay and a requirement to sign for two other trade unionists, is a very heavy attack not only on individual comrades and the two acronyms of conflictual trade unionism in question, but on the possibility of trade union organization in general; not only in the logistics sector.

The 350 pages with which the measures are "justified" and the charges - two "criminal associations" and 150 specific criminal acts - are made explicit, are the result of investigations that began in 2016, conducted by both the DIGOS and the Mobile Squad of the Emilian town, hearing numerous witnesses, constantly following the various disputes, with copious use of wiretaps. Private violence, sabotage, resistance, interruption of a public service and, of course, criminal conspiracy "as leaders, promoters and participants, organizers," are the charges some of which - excluding these 8 for which the request for imprisonment had been made - affected dozens of suspects.

Sabotage, i.e., blocking a conveyor belt; disruption of public service, i.e., blocking goods in companies dealing with the postal system: Resistance when charged at a picket line are some of the crimes charged, and so on.

This is in fact an immense mass filing exerted on union activity over the past 7 years in the logi-

stics sector, in the hubs of multinational companies in the sector.

A trade union activity that has allowed not only the concrete improvement of workers' working conditions, but the emergence of the fraudulent system of "contract changes" and its co-management together with "false cooperatives," complicit unions and servile politics, as if Piacenza was now a company town in the hands of the logistics giants.

One must perhaps go back to Valletta's FIAT, and then Agnelli's, and the investigations that made a "scandal" then to be able to attempt a comparison of how one company, in this case multiple companies, so heavily directed a monstrous investigative activity because it saw its own interests being harmed.

Making the best of things without having to go up against any organized entity except one's direct competitors is the ideal world of l'orsignori who consider it "normal" to receive any benefit from the territories and yet pay taxes where it suits them best (there is no shortage of tax havens even in the European Union).

In short, this is a "judicial theorem" that feeds on some rather suggestive narratives, born out of an obvious semantic twist between "aggressor and aggressed," which would like on the one hand to put a "tombstone" on the possibility of organizing on that weak link for the value chain where workers' action has proven to be more incisive, growing a more advanced propensity for struggle than in other sectors, and on the other

hand prepare the ground for a further narrowing of the right to strike, so as to make it "criminally actionable."

For prosecutors and the GIP, it is the multinationals in the value chain who are the "injured party," along with individual union members, at least until they become union leaders.

The class struggle to obtain better working conditions-even in the case of contract chan-

ges-better becomes extortion, and the strike a blackmail against the company.

Incentivizing union membership, the attempt to win greater representativeness inside the company and the dialectic between different trade unions - sometimes a bit rough - becomes a kind of "clash of criminal organizations" with practices bordering on gangsterism...

"Exasperated" employers, in order to secure

social peace, have had to "give in to union demands," and since the power relations with the growth of collective organizing have at least relativized the Far-West in which the industry was previously able to thrive, someone thought that "there was a need to give a signal," in anticipation of an autumn that promises to be much hotter than this scorching summer.

The undercurrent message that they want to get across is that union militants, especially the confrontational ones, and the organizations they lead, are basically for-profit organizations that cut companies and individual members, not unlike - except for the total absence of corporate backlash - those pachydermic concerted union apparatuses where corruption to the detriment of members and servility to business and the palaces of power (Draghi in the lead, lately) thrives.

Of "instrumentalization of unwitting workers" the GIP speaks several times, as if it were an amorphous mass of gullible people gulled by unscrupulous union leaders, and not of workers who decide to undertake forms of hard struggles because the only incisive ones in an industry where working conditions were abysmal and respect for contracts a chimera, risking their own safety - indeed their lives, as seen in the cases of Abd Elsalam and Adil Belakhdim - spurred on by similar struggles whose results they wanted to emulate.

There is a certain skewed imagery in the narrative being peddled (and the employers' media are there to megaphone it) in the justifications on the side of this very serious act against the "new labor movement."

A "literary inspiration" that seems to draw from the Criminal Union Laws of the second decade in the twentieth century in the United States during the Red Scare, or even from the well-known "judicial theorems" promoted by a part of the judiciary, time and again, in our unfortunate country.

In the face of all this, the strikes proclaimed in the logistics sector since midnight on July 19 - and the spontaneous ones already put in place on the same day - the local initiatives and the national demonstration this Saturday afternoon in Piacenza are a first response to make this inquiry turn into a textbook case of the heterogenesis of the ends of class struggle from above, and into the anticipation of a new cycle of struggles.

COMBATTERE COME SOLDATI DELLE IDEE

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CONTATTACI PER PARTECIPARE!

CAMBIARE ROTTA **OSA**
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With the Unione Popolare

To build a political alternative to the present state of affairs

Draghi's resignation closed a political cycle that opened in 2018, through governments that were the result of 'variable geometry' party alchemy. After the two M5S-led executives, the third was the result of the Euro-Atlantic commissariat of the country, to which the entire parliamentary framework was substantially subordinated, as in the days of the Monti government.

From 13 February 2021 until the July crisis, the government of the former head of the ECB proceeded 'unhindered' by taking absolutely relevant decisions: PNRR, privatizations, aid to companies, and sending arms to Ukraine. An agenda dictated by Brussels turned into 'current business' through strategic choices that will affect well beyond his term of office.

President of the Republic Mattarella, who has always been at the service of the Euro/Atlantic project, immediately dissolved the Chambers, imposing an election campaign in the middle of August. The purpose is clear: to reduce political agility and space for social interlocution as much as possible in order to quickly return to an executive subordinate to the diktats of the EU and NATO.

In this scenario, the main political formations, beyond the volatility of the polls, make use of enormous media coverage in the service of the 'strong powers', bypassing the test of signature collection.

By contrast, the Unione Popolare, a political alliance not prone to the strategists of NATO,

the EU oligarchies, and the interests of Confindustria, had to jump the signature-gathering bar in the middle of August. This was no easy feat, successfully achieved, allowing it to stand in the elections throughout the country. It was the first encouraging political result, to which the militants of the Rete dei Comunisti actively contributed through Potere al Popolo, a constituent part of Unione Popolare.

In the coming weeks we will commit ourselves to Unione Popolare with an electoral campaign 'on the ground', side by side with the activists of Potere al Popolo, highlighting the strategic nodes of the crisis of the capitalist mode of production that the next executive to come out of the polls on September 26th will have to face: the increasingly harsh economic and social crisis,

the trend towards war, the ecological infarction of the planet. To these, as to other 'systemic distortions', the totality of the political framework proposes the worn-out neo-liberal and war-mongering formulas, aligning itself with Washington (NATO) and Brussels (EU), which convey the interests of the large multinationals, the so-called industrial and financial 'champions' that are devastating the world.

We will face a short and intense electoral campaign, a necessary step in the construction of an independent political representation of the subaltern social classes, for a political entity that fights for the rupture of the present state of affairs and the construction of 21st century Socialism.



**SUPPORT THE UNIONE POPOLARE!
STRENGTHEN POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
BUILD POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE FOR
AN AUTUMN OF STRUGGLE!**

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