

Our Internationalism, Not Theirs;

DECLARATION ON GLOBALISATION

The World Trade Organisation, which is meeting today, is one of a network of global organisations – the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development, the Group of Seven – which co-operate to enforce “world competition”. This “competition” means the slashing of wages, working and living conditions, income support for the unemployed, and time for leisure and human enjoyment. This is the agenda of the multinational corporations. It must be fought every inch of the way.

This fight cannot be on a purely national basis. There are no national solutions. There are no state solutions. It is no longer enough to defend what has been won in the country where one lives. If a victory is not gained for everyone, everywhere, capital will run to a country where it has not been won, to overturn it. If the gains made in the rich countries do not spread, in some form, to the poor countries, all countries will sink to the lowest level. The only way to prevent living standards moving into free fall is to raise standards to the same level world-wide. This cannot be done by treaties. It cannot be done by United Nations resolutions. What is needed is **international direct action**.

EITHER LIVING STANDARDS WILL BE RAISED WORLD-WIDE OR THEY WILL BE PUSHED DOWN EVERYWHERE

“Fair trade”? “Regulating” the multinationals? What nonsense. We live in a world where multinationals control states, not states multinationals.

Nobody wants or needs a world government. The new model global market, the embryo of a monstrous new form of authority, takes care to describe itself as “libertarian”. Governments, subverted at every step by the massive drive for free trade, demonstrate that, far from being reservoirs of power, and guarantees of democracy, they degenerate into toadies of world capital as soon as serious “market pressures” emerge. What is billed as globalisation shows not only that capitalism is incompatible with democracy, but that democracy is incompatible with government, abjectly surrendering before the capitalist counter-revolution against every step forward in the twentieth century. If world direct action alone can stop world capitalism’s offensive, world direct democracy is necessary as both cause and effect of that direct action. In every major upsurge against capitalism, new forms of direct democracy have emerged, in diverse forms, trying to express new forms of popular energy. They are necessarily anarchic since they are based on a repudiation of existing forms of government as complicit with a collapsing economic system. They try to end the separation which now prevents popular politics influencing economics, creating a new economics controlled by the majority underclasses who lose out under capitalism. In this century such experimental forms of popular control sprang up, in one or two countries, in crisis situations, only to be turned back and defeated when those countries remained isolated. Now the need is to use the innovations in communications to spread new forms of popular anti-power worldwide.

DIRECT ACTION – DIRECT DEMOCRACY – DIRECT CONTROL – EVERYWHERE

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