

Intervention at the 23rd International Meeting of Communist and Workers' Parties

Dear delegates of the Communist and Workers' Parties,
Dear Comrades,

The Swiss Communist Party is very honored to participate for the first time in the 23rd International Meeting of Communist and Workers' Parties here in Turkey, following the acceptance of our membership in Cuba last year.

Our party was founded in September 2002, by young militants who recognized the need for a revolutionary and Marxist communist party in Switzerland. In fact, the Communist Party had been banned by the Swiss government in 1940 and had never been truly reconstituted. 62 years later, we then took the responsibility to rebuild the Swiss Communist Party. And today, we resume with the International Communist Movement with great pride.

We are a small party but with a valuable political experience of 20 years. We have learned and strengthened our understanding of the theoretical and practical power of Marxism-Leninism. Our party has had the disadvantage of having to rebuild everything from scratch, having to closely confront revisionism and Trotskyism. But we have managed to consolidate our organization, with the guidance that has represented the continuous study of Marxism-Leninism and the lasting will of our militants.

The communist organization must take care of internal unity, but always on the basis of the defense of Marxism-Leninism. With time we have understood that the analysis of the conjuncture that the party produces, which is very important for the growth of the party's policy, should never avoid and distort the theoretical foundations of Marxism-Leninism. Otherwise it can lead to serious organizational and political consequences. On the other hand, our conception at the present organizational moment is not to recruit for the sake of recruiting. However, our militants cannot remain passive and must contribute to the development of the class struggle.

Our approach, for the moment, is not to grow quantitatively, but to make the party's policy grow through the front of the trade union struggle, the front of international solidarity and the front of the popular layers of the youth. This is the slogan we have defined after several years of trials and diverse experiences.

In the field of alliances, particularly electoral, we have also had to learn. Our political leaderships in the past often made the mistake of overestimating our influence in the so-called "left fronts". Thus we have participated in several platforms between 2007 and 2015. But taking stock of that period, it is clear that we have never been more influential than when we have acted as a party with class independence and own strength in the actions we developed.

In such a way that we have abandoned any illusion that through a "left party", new or old, we can advance the interests of the working class and popular strata. Our policy of alliances is no longer based on "agreements on paper" but is based on specific objectives, on our capacity for situational analysis and our organizational agility.

Up to this point we have gone over some general aspects of the Swiss Communist Party, basically making a presentation. We will also address some important elements in the current debate of the International Communist Movement.

In our opinion, capitalism with a monopolistic character has expanded in all economic relations in the international market. The counter-revolution carried out in the USSR and the subsequent capitalist globalization have led to a scenario in which monopoly is the only form of capitalist development in force. It is what we can undoubtedly call "imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism". Only the study of this phenomenon with the tools of Marxism-Leninism can allow us to analyze the conjuncture of the international confrontation and the development of the imperialist war, as well as to confront the situation with a class and revolutionary perspective.

Faced with the sharpening of the contradictions of imperialism, we have many tasks in the struggle for socialism and workers' and peoples' power. In the immediate, it is necessary to support the resistance to imperialism and in particular the struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. We must denounce the complicity of the imperialist governments in the policy of occupation and colonization in Palestine and especially the blockade of Gaza. It is also very important to defend the Cuban Revolution. We denounce the blockade of Cuba and demand the withdrawal of Cuba from the list of countries sponsoring terrorism. We must be very attentive to the development of the class struggle in all corners of the planet. The peoples are awakening and it is necessary that the Communist and Workers Parties lead the vanguard of these struggles. So that they do not remain in revolts with no way out, they must take the road of a revolutionary rupture, for the construction of socialism.

Another immediate task is to confront the processes of criminalization of the struggles, in particular the repression against the Communist and Workers Parties. We stand with the Communist Party of Venezuela and oppose the maneuvers of the government of Nicolas Maduro. We call on the institutions of the Venezuelan State to immediately cease the illegal usurpation of the legal personality of the PCV. Lately, we have seen with great concern the criminalization of the demonstrations of solidarity with Palestine. It is very important that we confront with a plan of action the defense of democratic rights, such as the right to demonstrate, freedom of expression, the right of assembly and freedom of association.

Finally, we call for a debate on socialism with a historical approach where communists do not forget the lessons of the past. It is not with the recipes that led to the collapse of the USSR that we will be able to restore the validity of socialism today. It is necessary to return to the path of Marxism-Leninism.

Long live the struggle for socialism! Long live internationalism!