



Communist Party (Switzerland)



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## A call for communist unity and collaboration in the context of multipolarity

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Dear Comrades,

I'm very proud to be here representing the Communist Party (Switzerland), as it's the first time we're invited as members of the SolidNet. I thank the organizers who let us be here and made this meeting possible.

Comrades, we have entered a new historical phase in which the primary contradiction is the one between a declining Atlantic imperialist system colliding with the now irreversible transition from unipolarism to a multipolar world order. Multipolarism makes it possible to develop more equitable and democratic international relations, to the benefit of processes of national liberation: we have seen this again recently in Africa, with events that Western propaganda calls coups d'état but are in fact popular revolutions against French neo-colonialism. It's also happening with the struggle of the Palestinian people to whom all our support goes who want to free themselves from zionist oppression, and also with the struggle of the Serbian people who are fighting against Kosovar separatism armed by the US. Multipolarism, however, does not only concern the peoples of the South, those living in a colonial or semi-colonial context, but it also concerns the Western countries of the imperialist center, because this new phase of radical geopolitical changes will bring economic and social upheaval that will open extremely interesting margins of political viability even for the European communist and workers' parties that are almost all – with notable exceptions – relatively marginal today.

At this stage, therefore, we need to be able to unite Marxist-Leninists with those patriotic sectors of the bourgeoisie who oppose the enlargement of NATO and who aspire to cooperate peacefully with emerging economies, even if they are pursuing goals different from ours. We are talking about those sectors who have opposed EU sanctions on Russia and want to open to China. The Marxist-Leninist ideological line is certainly important for our Party, but at present we must also not be afraid to ally ourselves with those anti-imperialists and anti-zionists who, even if they do not recognize themselves in scientific socialism yet, they are at our side to build multipolarism today, in this new and dangerous historical phase that can lead us to a world war, if we do not take action.

Multipolarism is a phase that allows the accumulation of revolutionary forces. Even the smaller parties have a great opportunity today if they can adapt their mass line to the new phase: in Switzerland we are doing this with the so-called "No EU - No NATO" campaign, which puts the defense of our country's neutrality in the first place, especially in relation to the war in Ukraine. We have been heavily attacked by bourgeois and Atlanticist circles, some journalists have even said that our Party should be banned because it is "pro-Russian", but we have continued and succeeded in distinguish ourselves from the rest of the left, consolidating our presence in the regional parliament of Southern Switzerland, and thanks to this campaign we attracted interest



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from workers, peasants and popular sectors that no longer believed in the left until yesterday, because they considered it too snooty and intellectual.

Our task is to exploit the internal contradictions that we must skillfully identify in the national Swiss bourgeoisie: we must oppose the Atlanticist plans and inversely push for a non-alignment of Switzerland. It is complicated, but on this basis we can still build a mass line understandable from the majority of the working class and even the petty-bourgeoisie, preventing the latter from aligning with those who would have us join NATO altogether. This could happen because as Marxism teaches us, petty-bourgeoisie is a very unstable and opportunistic sector of the ruling class.

Following NATO's war against Russia in Ukraine, we are seeing so many economic and social problems develop since sanctions against Russia has been adopted by European Union and unfortunately also by Switzerland. Our general secretary wrote an article at that time, titled "Multipolarism is a revolution, not a gala dinner." Energy shortages, food supply difficulties, inflation, reduced purchasing power of the working class are issues that create discontent and may foster class struggle. The protest demonstrations that may emerge, however, are likely to be disorganized, not very mature politically, and therefore ineffective because they lack a credible political vanguard on the mass level. Our Party is also still too weak organizationally, although we are gearing up and our "No EU - No NATO" campaign allows us to extend our influence.

However, we must be aware that the bourgeoisie will not rule out authoritarian and repressive twists. Although not threatened by socialist revolution today, the bourgeoisie cannot accept a social and economic instability dictated by the transition from the unipolar system, protected by imperialism, to a multipolar system, in which emerging countries such as socialist China prevail. In Switzerland too, even if in a lighter way than in the EU, we see a resurgence of anti-communism and an intensified demonization of emerging countries such as the BRICS, both in media palimpsests and in educational programs.

Firstly, the Communist and Workers' Parties must therefore be ready for the struggle. They must not make the mistake of locking themselves up in the ivory towers of the universities, but they must "get their hands dirty" and reconnect with the masses. Above everything, however, the Communist Parties must get out of a losing, "minority-oriented" mentality: it is necessary for the Communist Parties to seek tactical, phase allies among those who are willing to cooperate peacefully with emerging countries and who in our case refuse to export weapons to the Ukrainian regime and want to defend, in the Swiss context, the country's neutrality.

The minoritarianism in which we sometimes risk ending up is not a question of numbers, but it is a renunciatory mentality that we sometimes breathe among our ranks. We must avoid being perceived by the masses as niche and folklore groups instead of legitimate political players, capable of responding concretely to current events. We must act as if we were governing parties even if we are not part of the government, in the sense of being credible and providing answers to all the country's problems, anticipating social dynamics but at the same time rejecting the influences of liberal fashions, renewing our proposal among young people harassed by liberal propaganda that turns the left into a rhetorical and harmless political entity. We must awake their interest instead, because we guarantee the reliability based on Marxist-Leninists coherence, without adopting simplistic tendencies that would dismiss our identity. We are doing this by working within the high school student movement and the Swiss Peace Movement, but we are still weak on the trade union front.



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In general, we need coordination on concrete issues and actions, not only with shared campaigns. We all have fields of action where we are stronger and others where we are less strong: putting together the strengths of the various parties as a collective resource is an opportunity to meet the challenges of multipolarism.

Never before – at least in the last thirty years – has foreign policy influenced local policy so much: positioning the vanguard Party correctly in international dynamics becomes strategic in order to gain prestige domestically as well. That's because the masses want to see a party that is both coherent in its project of society, and capable of providing a clear, anti-imperialist, patriotic and revolutionary vision of what is happening in the world.

We think that one of the most effective ways of acting could be to avoid losing resources in an overly pretentious theoretical debate that could turn out to be divisive and without concrete results, and rather to invest in sharing practices of political struggle and organization.

Do not misunderstand me: the ideological debate is important and we must conduct it among ourselves in a frank, innovative but also respectful manner. This is not the time to split over it: now that Atlanticism is becoming extremely more aggressive and we risk a nuclear war, our parties must find common ground for action.

As other participants here have noted, the progressive creation of an ideological hegemony among the working class is crucial, but perhaps it is even more strategic for us revolutionaries today to methodically insert ourselves among the younger generations. They are indeed the ones least influenced by the legacies of the past, and it is they whom we must educate to avoid being conscripted into NATO wars. On the contrary, we must help them to develop a sense of curiosity and respect for non-aligned nations seeking their own independent path of social emancipation, China in the first place. With young people it is possible to build a new sense of solidarity and community, as well as to weaken the individualist mentality that justifies the neoliberal model, even the green-washed one filled with superficial moralist and mediatic battles that are used only to justify imperialism and prevent the broad popular masses from engaging and organizing in an incisive way.

I hope this venue will let us start building further collaboration perspectives, and wish you all best success in your revolutionary work.

Thank you for your attention.