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FRANCE

Revolutionary Days...

With the yellow vests,
the exploited enter on the barricade combat

Fighting for the Paris Commune

LET'S SEIZE THE BASTILLE!



DOWN WITH MACRON!

Macron did not yield. Supported by the union bureaucracy and the big bosses, he only seeks to scam and deceive the people

**As in May 1968:
Revolutionary General Strike
until Macron falls!**

They have taken too much from us, now we want everything!



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December 7th, 2018

FRANCE IN FLAMES



With barricades, roadblocks, blockades to the oil companies, taking schools and fighting in the streets, insurgent France stood up!

Macron lies, says he retreats in fuel, gas and electricity increases while militarizing all of France, but the masses do not leave the streets.

They stole us too much, now we want everything!

Free fuel! Recover the 35 hours per week and finish with labor flexibility!
Increase in salary and decent jobs for all! Let's defeat education and retirement reforms!
May the capitalists pay for the crisis!

**We must expropriate the transnationals and the imperialist bankers who exploit the working class and plunder and oppress the colonies and the semi-colonial world!
We must nationalize them without compensation and place them under workers' control!**

The enormous struggle of the "yellow vests", the working class, the young people of the *cités* (the working class neighborhoods), the students, the ruined middle class, the small producers and the peasants, continues to put the Macron government and the set of the regime of the V imperialist Republic on edge..

Hard matches have already begun. The masses are already fighting in the streets, fighting goes on from behind the barricades. The revolutionary days have begun and a phenomenal independent action of the masses has united all the exploited in the same demand: "Down with Macron!".

The workers, driven by a brutal increase of the diesel prices and high cost of living, have come out along with the rest of the exploited and oppressed classes of society to face the increase in diesel. But that was the spark that lights the meadow for all sectors to enter the fight with their claims: against the high cost of life, to recover the 35 hours/work-week, against the brutal attack on education and youth, against labor flexibilization, for decent retirements. All the exploited who have something to claim have come together at one point, which is where the flames that burns the bins in the barricades comes from and drives millions to fight: none of the most min-

imal demands of the workers and the poor people can already be resolved and conquered without defeating the government.

The economic struggle that has been waged for years by the French working class and its youth has been transformed into a mass political struggle.

The unions were “surprised” by this huge mass action. The union bureaucracies, servants of French imperialism were overwhelmed and surpassed by the vast majority of the working class. This came into political struggle and this time its organization is not the unions, but the barricades and the street fighting and unity in the struggle with all the exploited sectors and the ruined middle classes of the countryside and the city. Youth, the most exploited sectors, are the advance of this fight. In the words of Trotsky in the 1930s, from the Paris Commune to the French May of ‘68, through the revolutionary uprisings of the 1930s, the working class speaks and fights with the language of the barricades.

This new mass attack resumes from the most advanced historical combat of the French proletariat.

Without the shackles of the the trade union bureaucracies and the social-imperialist parties, the masses gain the streets. The clash with the police is inevitable. The self-defense committee emerges, the barricade emerges. The vanguard that fights there is seen with sympathy by millions of the exploited who are represented in that struggle. There is no sector that does not enter the fight with the demand for “*Macron, resignation*”.

Against those who said there were no conditions for superior struggles of the workers, against the treacherous leaders who said that one could not triumph or get conquests from the bosses, the masses in France demonstrated, in a decisive battle, how they can really push back the enemy, even circumstantially, fighting for everything to achieve even the least.

For their organization and their struggle and for their conscience, the reformist leaderships have been far behind and out of the current battles of the masses. From the corners of the desks where they negotiate and sell out the struggles, they now offer themselves as mediators and negotiators on behalf of the exploited. But nobody recognizes them. The government has no one to negotiate with. Nobody negotiates! May Macron fall! That is the only way to victory.

Day by day the revolutionary days were raising and demonstrating in higher actions, the level of consciousness of the masses. In the fight, they are learning. All the sectors that enter the combat carry their claim. Although



Barricades in the centre of Paris, next to the Arc of Triumph

the government has ceded the increase in diesel, the fight does not stop. Nobody believes Macron. Already the fight is for everything and for Macron to fall.

The situation is tense. The polarization between classes becomes unbearable for the bourgeoisie that has lost control of its slaves. The reason is that “reformism without reforms” has lost control of the masses. They are in the streets and from there they do not retreat.

The masses have entered into a phase of political struggle. In this fight to defeat Macron, the professions and the different branches in which unions are organized according to their industrial activity are no longer differentiated. The students, the ruined middle classes, etc., also enter the struggle.

While for the economic struggle the organization is the union; for the political struggle, this time in France, the organization is the barricade, the factory committees, the student committees, the committees of ruined small producers, the neighborhood assemblies.

These are the organizations that are emerging and unite all the masses in struggle. They are the organisms of direct democracy and self-determination of the exploited, embryos of their power.

Reformism only distinguishes the working class in economic struggle, since for them politics is only something for the bourgeoisie and its parties or for themselves to manage the exploiters’ businesses from the government.

The bourgeoisie uses different methods to dominate its slaves: fascism, the dictatorship of sweetened capital such as bourgeois democracy; kings, generals; and even governments of workers’ parties that manage their businesses to deceive the workers.

And despite the fact that unionists and reformists in particular do not like it, the working class also uses and is

obliged to use different methods of struggle: slowdowns, general strikes, sit down strikes, strike pickets, fighting of barricades, the workers' militia, the insurrection, the revolt.

In this case, the masses in their political struggle in the streets begin to set up the organizations to unify those who enter the fight. It is about coordinating, massifying, extending and generalizing the self-organization bodies of the exploited, the power of those below. It is about the picket goes one step forward to the self-defense committee and this to the militia. It is about representing all classes and class sectors that enter the struggle to overthrow the government. It is about preventing all collaboration with the bourgeois power of the structures that the revolutionary masses set up and to make them independent of the state of the exploiters to the extreme degree. Well, it's about preparing for his overthrow.

Any program that does not start from this premise is not a revolutionary or socialist one. It is a typical program of servants of the bourgeoisie who seek to give different outputs to this huge clash of classes that is ongoing.

While we were writing this chronology and accounting for the different columns and notes with which the revolutionary Marxists follow the events of France, the government of Macron finally had to retreat and announce the suspension of the increase in fuel, gas and electricity prices. But even so, all sectors of the masses have a reason to continue fighting: the workers to whom 35 hours/workweek were robbed by the government and to whom the labor flexibilization was imposed by decree; the working youth who cannot even get a job, and the ruined middle class that sees its living standards to drop abruptly. The students have been brutally repressed in the *lycées* and today they take the streets. In Macron's France the only ones who use to win are the parasites of the ME-DEF and the bankers! That is why the cry that crosses all the barricades, pickets and blockades is: "**Macron: resign!**". The fight does not end. The fight continues.

We are before revolutionary days in France. They are enormously spontaneous, but they have surpassed all the containment wall of the reformist leaderships. In these independent actions, the masses have exploded in a combat motorized by the hatred to the government and the regime for the unprecedented suffering they imposed on them.

Their method of struggle and organization, like the barricades and embryos of coordinating organisms, as well as the objective of their struggle, which is the fall of Macron, means that together with spontaneity a high level of consciousness of the working class has developed. and the oppressed who enter the combat.

The treacherous leaders will try at every step to dis-

organize these revolutionary milestones conquered by the masses. The conditions to lay the foundations and set up a revolutionary party in France are already more than mature.

This fight arises from a level of consciousness that leaves behind the "union leaders" of the surrender and betrayal, the reformist left that for years has claimed to "moderate the adjustment" and also the charlatans who talk about the "France Insoumise" but when this insurrection comes quickly to ask Macron to resign and the elections to be anticipated to prevent the revolutionary tide from defeating Macron with its direct action and also from sweeping out with all the institutions of the infamous imperialist regime.

The fact is, the fall of Macron by the working class would lead to immediately open a huge revolutionary crisis in the heights. All institutions of power would be dislocated. The reformist left tells the bourgeoisie to renounce its government before that happens.

Currents such as the NPA or liberal-petty-bourgeois social democrats such as the PTS of Argentina, tell the bourgeoisie to save themselves by making cosmetic reforms to the regime of the Fifth Republic, unifying the legislative and executive power. They are all ways to close the path for the only way forward that the workers have, which is to fight for the workers' peasants' and popular Commune to take the Bastille.

The combats of December 1st

The most critical point of this revolutionary combat occurred on Saturday, December 1. Being fed up with so much attack, of dealing with hikes in fees, the increase in taxes, the deterioration of public services and above all the increase in fuel prices, hundreds of thousands of workers and exploited took to the streets and raised their barricades, burning cars, establishments, businesses and everything they found in their path to demonstrate the anger of those below and attacking national buildings. The emblem of the "light city", the Arc de Triomphe, was enveloped by a true cloud of tear gas thrown by the murderous police, but when it dissipated it clearly distinguished in its façade graffiti saying "**Yellow vests will triumph**", "**France is ours**" and "**justice for Adama**", in allusion to the young black worker who was killed by the police in 2016.

On this same day, the insurgents showed their anger by going to the rich neighborhoods of the capital, burning dozens of high-end cars and attacking the luxury stores and one of the symbols of the power of imperialist France: the banks.

Throughout Saturday, the exploited fought hard with the CRS (anti-riot police) and the gendarmerie, which responded, as expected, by repressing them recklessly and

leaving hundreds of demonstrators injured and detained.

In the cities and rural areas of the interior of the country the hatred of the exploited was also felt, as happened in Toulouse, Marseille and Bourdeaux. There were pickets on routes and roads. In some cities, the airports were taken for a few hours and the entrances to the fuel tanks of Total, the French imperialist oil company, were blocked.

On Monday 3, after the struggle of Saturday and encouraged by those actions, the drivers of about 350 ambulances blocked the National Assembly in Paris against the reform of the financing of the sanitary transports.

The combative students speaking the language of the barricades also entered this class war. On Monday and Thursday, the secondary students joined the fight, and at the cry of "*Macron, Renunciation*" they set up their barricades and pickets from early in the morning and blocked 200 schools in support of the "yellow vests" and against the new curricula that is being applied, which leaves hundreds of young people out of high school and college. In the Paris region they burned cars, drove back firefighters and stoned the police, who repressed them harshly. In the interior this measure was also felt, with strong mobilizations and confrontations with the police in Montpellier, Marseille, Bordeaux, Nice, Toulon, Dijon and Lyon, among many other cities.

We must set up the power of those from below!

Open the way to the Commune of workers, peasants and the poor people!

For a Worker-Peasant Provisional Government supported by the self-determination organisms of the working class and the masses in struggle

Independence for Reunion Island, Guadeloupe, Martinique and all the colonies oppressed by the butchers of the 5th Republic!

French imperialism treats the oppressed peoples of the colonies as slaves; and that is what it wants to impose today on all the exploited in France. Today the rebellion in the metropolis has already reached the Island of Reunion. Therefore, it is time to fight for the liberation of their class brother and sisters from the colonies, such as those in the Island of Réunion, Martinique, Guadeloupe, because the people who do not liberate their siblings will never be able to liberate themselves from the yoke of the capitalists.



The enemy is at home! Take out the troops and military bases of the French imperialist transnationals from MALI, CHAD and all of sub-Saharan Africa and the Maghreb and the Middle East!

The best allies of the French insurgents are the workers of Burkina Faso, who today are also fighting against the rise of fuels, of Iran, of Yemen, of Mali, of Chad, of Niger, of Algeria and of Syria; where the French oil transnationals plunder, super exploit, add to the misery and bombard the exploited without mercy.

Let the borders be open! We are all immigrants! Full rights to immigrants! Equal salary for equal work! Papers for everyone and decent homes, right now!

Stop chasing those who fight! We cannot fight with our mates taken hostage in the prisons of French imperialism. Drop all charges for workers and popular fighters!

Acquittal to Air France workers!

Let's take all the prisoners of these days out from the prisons of the 5th. Republic!

Freedom to George Abdallah who has been imprisoned for 35 years, and of all political prisoners!

For the unity of workers throughout Europe!

Yesterday, during the days of general strike in Greece, it was written on the walls: "Spark in Athens fire in Paris, it is the insurrection that is coming", today the spark of Paris has to reignite the fire in Athens! May the fire of Paris spread to all of Europe, and burns Athens, Berlin, Madrid, Rome, London, Brussels, Lisbon!

Down with Maastricht!

For the Socialist United States of Europe!

ANA NEGRI AND MARIA BATISTA

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Statement of the Collective for the Re-foundation of the 4th International – FLTI

December 13th, 2018

Macron did not yield. Supported by the union bureaucracy and the big bosses, he only seeks to scam and deceive the people

Fight as in May 1968: Revolutionary General Strike until Macron falls!

The yellow vests do not leave the barricades

On Saturday December 12th, the yellow vests, the workers, the unemployed youth from the working class neighborhoods, the retired, the impoverished petty producers, made a hell on the streets of Paris and in the cities of France, facing the security forces. In Paris a true state of siege was mounted, with armored vehicles of the gendarmerie preventing the masses from raising their barricades on the streets. All the exploited entered the fight for the fourth time in a row. They made a huge day of revolutionary struggle while they are preparing a fifth day of revolutionary struggle for next Saturday Decem-

ber 15th which shows that those from below do not leave the streets.

The concessions of Macron: a great scam and deception to the people

After the day of political struggle of December 8th, the government of the Fifth Republic saw that it had lost the control of the masses and that its power was staggering and weakening. Before the revolted masses advance against the power of the bourgeoisie, after a week of silence, Macron called for a meeting to the treacherous union bureaucracy of the trade union federations CGT, CFDT, FO, CFE-CGE and CFTC¹, to the French imperialist employers' organizations (MEDEF, CPME and U2P²) and to the presidents of the National Assembly (representatives, senators and the Economic Council).

In that meeting they began to devise a big scam and a deception against the workers. First, they mounted a scene to announce that "concessions were given" to the rioting workers and people, making them believe that such concessions as the 100 euros "wage increase" and the suspension of the price increase of fuel, were a result of the demands of the union feder-



2018: Barricades in the centre of Paris

¹ CGT: General Confederation of Labour / CFDT: Democratic French Confederation of Labour / FO: Workers Force / CFE-CGE: French Confederation of Managers – General Confederation of Executives / CFTC: French Confederation of Christian Workers

² MEDEF: Company Movement of France / CPME: Petty and Middle Companies Confederation / U2P: Organization of the Private Sector Employers

ations agreed with the employers associations. This is a vile lie. The bureaucracy of the unions prevented the working class from intervening through them in the struggle in the streets. The union bureaucrats supported the hikes in fees and the increase of the fuel prices of Macron, after betraying the enormous combats of the French working class against the labour flexibilization and the loss of the 35 hours of work per week. In these weeks of struggle they did not move a finger while the majority of the working class took the streets, removing from them the restraining vest that the bureaucracy of the unions had imposed on them, putting on the yellow vest and allying themselves with the students and the impoverished sectors of the middle classes of the countryside and the city. That is to say, it is a real mass political struggle against the government and the regime.

But the working class and the exploited people of France are perfectly clear about how things are: who the lackeys of the government and traitors of the workers' struggle are and who really were at the forefront of the barricades and on the streets.

On the other hand, in this meeting, they conspired against the rioting workers, plotting a deception that was quickly exposed as such before the workers and the people. Actually, **neither the government nor the bosses granted anything, nor the union bureaucrats got anything.** Everything has been a big lie.

The 100 euros of "increase" to the minimum wage announced by Macron will not come out from the bosses' pockets, but from the State treasury, that is to say, what is being granted is nothing more and nothing less than a subsidy to the employers and, in the near future, the masses will have to pay for it with new taxes.

The same goes for the annulment of the tax on social security for retired who earn less than 2000 euros and the new-year bonus, whose payment is subjected to the decision of each employer, whereas all of them, of course, have already announced that they cannot grant it...

What about the increase in the fuel prices? A gross hoax... The increase is postponed. Undoubtedly, with the masses off the streets, with the union bureaucracy regaining control of the workers movement, with the bosses enslaving the workers in the companies, with the state flogging the immigrants, the unemployed and the youth, that is to say, once the situation is stabilized, the hike in fees will return again. On what day of 2019 will this be? The one in which the masses are once again controlled by their leaderships and evicted from the streets.



1968: Barricades of the heroic French May

The enemy is the financial oligarchy of France and the imperialist Europe of Maastricht

The workers and the French people know that the one who gives the order to increase the prices of fuel to "reduce the state deficit" is the imperialist Europe of Maastricht. The axis that pivots the businesses of the European imperialist gangs in that continent and in the whole planet are the the government of Macron and the government of Merkel, the Franco-German imperialist axis that has found a vital space in the European continent, from Portugal to the Russian steppes.

To maintain the monetary unity of the euro, the Maastricht Europe does not allow more than a 3% deficit in the public accounts of their member states. France has passed that deficit. Of course the big French capitalists, their bankers and the financial oligarchy are not willing to put a single euro of the super profits they get from the oppressed people they plunder and from the French workers they exploit in order to pay for that deficit. That is precisely what the increase in the prices of fuel is about: making the masses pay the deficit of the functioning of the state.

The government of Macron proudly claims to give subsidies to companies, when he pays to each worker those 100 euros plus. This amounts to 10,000 million euros, as current expenditure of the state, which, we insist, will be paid by the masses with increased taxes, as the French people know well. Hence, one of the key claims that fuelled these battles against the increase in fuel prices, was to impose taxes on the great fortunes.

In France, all the workers and people know that Total, one of the largest imperialist oil companies on the planet, partner of the "7 sisters" in the looting of oil throughout the colonial and semi-colonial world, in its balance in the stock market has shown 12,000 million dollars of yearly earnings that it distributes among a handful of shareholders and parasites that live off clipping coupons.

That is to say, with the declared super-profits of one year of one of the greatest French imperialist companies, a wage increase can be paid for all the workers of France. Not to mention the Renault group, whose profits reached 11,500 million euros in 4 months; or Airbus or Paribas bank which is openly one of the largest investment banks in China, associated with the transnationals that enslave the Asian working class

It has become clear to the workers and the French people that Macron's announcement is not a concession and that he does not yield anything. It is a scam and a deception that cannot even be passed as a reform or a conquest by the traitors of the union bureaucracy.

The Macron government today is supported by the traitors of the union bureaucracy and the big bosses, who fear for their fall at the hands of the direct action of the masses

The "king" Macron lost control of the masses, so he sees his dominance is endangered. Thus he called his "squires", the union bureaucrats, to subject the masses to this infamous pact, to strangle the heroic struggle of the masses. Martinez, of the CGT, along with all the union bureaucracy, plays a fundamental role in saving the infamous French Fifth Republic, for these traitors will be the ones who will guarantee the application of the bosses' plans, in case the bourgeoisie manages to take the exploited out of the streets.

That is their role, because they are responsible for the French working class losing one of its main achieve-

ments, the 35 hours of work per week. They sold out the fight against the reform of the labour code, the fight against the Khomri law, the fight against the reform of the railways and a long etcetera.

For this reason, **the CGT did not call for any general strike** these days, since it's a matter of life or death for them not only preserving the property and profits of the capitalists, but also because the bourgeoisie knows that **the fall of Macron government at the hands of a direct action from the masses would open a real crisis of power in the heights and in all the dominance institutions of France.** This is what this "negotiation and dialogue table" is about: to uphold Macron so that the masses do not topple him and prevent them from advancing in opening the way to achieve their demands, demolishing all the institutions of dominance of the French Fifth Republic. The bourgeoisie knows that this would mean the opening of the revolution in France. It would be putting the first stones to build up a barricade of the Commune to take over the Bastille ...

For this reason the bourgeoisie mounted quickly a **real wall** to defend its fortress, to "reinforce the Bastille" before the hatred of the masses... It is a sinister agreement of the bosses and the union bureaucracy when the bourgeois power has lost control of the masses, that is, at times when the slaveholder has lost control of his slaves who have risen.

This new wall of lies and deception that was built is because the workers with their combats have also put into question the police control of the streets of France. The bourgeoisie knows that in new and superior clashes with the repressive forces and the army, the workers will have the weapons at their reach, as they would've conquered them from the picket lines and barricades.

The French ruling classes was forged in the massacre of the Paris Commune and in deceptions and lies, with which they diverted the fight of May 1968, supported by the union bureaucracy in general and Stalinism in particular. They know very well that they need to give back the control of the workers' movement to Stalinism, to the social-imperialist left and to the bureaucracy of all the unions, totally corrupt and sold to the bourgeois state.

That is why Macron called Martinez, the general secretary of the CGT, to organize this meeting to deceive the people and made him the de facto vice-president, as head of the internal police within the labour movement that the bourgeoisie has to control the unions. This is why the capitalist system and its regimes and governments



Macron together with Merkel, from Germany



Macron and the traitor bureaucrat Martinez, general secretary of the CGT

In those years began a revolutionary mass uprising throughout the world. After the fighting against the treacherous Stalinist bureaucracy of the metalworkers in East Germany in 1953 and the workers' councils of Hungary, the working class clashed with the Stalinism, lackeys of the imperialism, in the streets of Prague. In Tlatelolco, Mexico, hundreds of students were killed in violent repression when they were fighting in defense of education. A huge masses' uprising radicalized the world working class that confronting at the left

supported and covered up the Communist Parties since 1989, especially in Europe, after they handed over the USSR. It is in order to control the unions with manu militari. Stalinism knew and knows perfectly that job.

As we saw in various statements, the entire left (the former Trotskyists among them) whined about the unions not participating, when the masses were in the streets and had already completely surpassed the union bureaucracy. But Martínez and the CGT, the social-imperialist bureaucrats of Force Ouvrière (Workers Force) and other trade union federations, paid heed to these currents and participated: they closed a pact with the big bosses to support Macron and deceive and swindle the people.

When we write this statement, it is clear that the masses are not falling for Macron's deception and scam. They are still waiting for his resignation. The union bureaucracy has had to take another stand. It announced a new action of the unions for this Friday, December 14th, with which it intends to ride on the crest of the wave to try to control the revolutionary tide. However, it is highly discredited. The union bureaucrats are not yellow vests. They are not fighters of the barricade. They do not bring conquests. They only betray. They are enemies of the "vandals", as they call those who fight on the streets of France. They are enemies of the yellow vests. They are servants of the Fifth Republic.

After the most advanced steps of May 1968, a new revolution tries to stand up in France

In that tumultuous year, Paris was shaken by an enormous revolutionary struggle. The student's movement occupied the universities and for a month, combative militant students were the spark that ignited the prairie that led the labour movement to intervene and set France on fire.

with the infamous pact of US "democratic" imperialism and its partners, the treacherous Stalinist bureaucracy, signed in Yalta and Potsdam after World War II.

In 1968, the US with President Lyndon Johnson from the Democratic Party invaded Vietnam (a reminder to today's left that is so pleased and welcomes this party as progressive) and in response, the Vietnamese masses carried out the Tet offensive, attacking all the Yankee barracks and even his Embassy in Saigon.

The anti-war movement, with its vanguard, the black movement, radicalized in the USA in a real pitched battle against the police of the murderous Democratic Party of the masses of Vietnam.

Che Guevara died in Bolivia, surrounded and isolated by Stalinism, and the student movement dressed in red the universities of Paris with their revolutionary struggle.

The French working class, breaking the barrier of the treacherous trade union bureaucracy of the CGT, controlled by Stalinism and the CP, burst into along with the student movement in a 15-day general strike that even led to De Gaulle's government fleeing out of France and took refuge in Germany, afraid of the masses may have overthrown him with their revolutionary combats. The working class in France, just as it happened in Czechoslovakia, earlier in Hungary and as soon as it was made in a generalized uprising in the world, hit towards the left against the Stalinist control of the world workers movement and its counterrevolutionary pact with imperialism.

The lessons of that combat are alive in the consciousness of the masses. Every revolution that begins, takes elements of the previous ones and the tracks of the past leave their mark on the exploited masses. And in the bourgeoisie, there was a clear class consciousness to face the new mass battles.

Today Macron (worried about being 1968 De Gaulle) on the one hand looks at Berlin and on the other, at the

barricade. He has not yet embarked on the trip because he hopes that the traitors of the trade union bureaucracy and the self-styled "New Left", true social-imperialist currents, will extinguish the fire of the barricades.

On the boards of the big transnationals, the bourgeoisie is preparing itself for the possibility that the masses defeat Macron, something which it is not willing to allow, but when it sees its power in danger, it develops its entire class instinct and consciousness.

Thus, in case the current plan of deception and lies fails, they have already sent their bourgeois left wing, which goes from Melenchon to the "anti-capitalist" servants of French imperialism, to request that Macron resign, to advance the elections and to "democratize" France unifying both chambers in a Single National Assembly.

While he sends the police to the street and raises these walls against the masses, the bourgeoisie also prepares this new deception to sweeten the regime of the V Bonapartist and counterrevolutionary Republic with doses of "pseudo-democratic" lies. Why? Because the bourgeoisie's General Staff, as we have already said, learned perfectly from the French May.

In '68, almost 30 days of combats of the student movement were necessary so that the French proletariat could break the stranglehold of the union bureaucracy tightly controlled by Stalinism, as he had been doing since the outbreak of WWII. Already at that time, the traitor Thorez, the general secretary of the French Communist Party, disarmed the *maquis*, which was the French resistance that had smashed fascism and the workers to work 12 hours a day in the worst conditions of slavery for "rebuild the France". And years later, when "distributing wealth time" arrived, workers only received more hunger, misery and oppression. The working class was sold out and also paralyzed when French imperialism organized the massacre and genocide in its Algerian colony that was struggling to become independent.

The fate that the Foreign Legion prepared for the Algerian workers and peasants was the same for the workers of France: miserable wages and slavery. That was the engine of the French May. The working class broke with the Communist Party and the bureaucracy of the unions, they broke with a 15 day general strike of and together with the student movement took over France.

So it is disgusting when reformism talks about the "Welfare State" of French imperialism. They are, and always have been, part of the workers' aristocracy and of the upper strata of the French and European proletariat, from where they arrogantly look down at the working class of the French colonies and the semi-colonies that this imperialism oppresses and plunders.

In 2018 the workers have entered
the combat breaking union
bureaucracy's siege

The bourgeoisie can read very
well the conditions and the current
development of independent mass
actions in France

The bourgeoisie and its government behave today as they are doing, because they draw the lesson from '68. The revolution began in that year when Stalinism and bureaucracy lost control on the labour movement.

But this time the working class broke the straitjacket and it did not wait 30 days of combat of the student movement to leave the factories to fight, like in 1968. This time, the workers and the exploited masses entered directly into political struggle to overthrow the government, despite and against the union bureaucracy. **The proletariat entered this fight together with the student movement and the ruined middle classes. The union bureaucracies were surprised, like the bourgeoisie, by this great independent mass action.** After huge betrayals of the bureaucracy of the CGT and other trade union, it was the workers' movement that putting on the yellow vests, was the advance of the exploited in the barricades that began to burn Paris.

A gang of the French bourgeoisie, like that of Le Pen, tried to use the action of the masses with its "anti-Maastricht" policy, but gave the order to leave the barricades because there was the working class, the rebellious youth and the student movement fighting... Breaking with the vests of the bureaucracy, the workers movement is already on the streets. Their method of struggle is the barricade. The students, by hundreds of thousands, are also there. The time limit of the French May have been shortened. The trap of the new wall, based on the scam of the pact of the union leaders with the government, is for the working class to go back to be under bureaucracy's control.

The bourgeoisie knows and wants to prevent the barricade evolves to the picket, the picket to the roadblocks, the road blocks to stop the production and from there to open the way to the Factory Committees to break the corset of the bureaucracy and impose the general strike.

If the current conditions develop, these will lead to the Factory Committees and the open defeat of the union bureaucracy that controls each particular factory. This is the way to a new May '68, a May French based on Workers' Councils, the rebel student movement, barricades and

pickets. This is necessary in the dynamic of the combat that has been established. And for that reason the new wall and the infamy mounted by the bourgeoisie and the sweetened class collaboration politics of the left, including the "anticapitalists", which does not want Macron-De Gaulle- "to flee to Germany". They want his resignation and anticipated elections.

What travels through France is the ghost of the revolution and of the French May, and that begins to travel all over Europe.



The working class needs to set up the self-organizing masses organisms with direct democracy that will set up the Self-defence Committees and the Workers' Militia

The task of the moment in France is to set up the ad hoc organisms suitable for the current combat, to organize the masses in struggle: the Consumers Committees, Young people of the cités Committees, Students Committees, Factory Committees, Unemployed Committees and Committees of the picket lines of the barricades centralized at the local, regional and national levels.

The issue is about raising the power of the workers and the exploited masses. It is about disarming the police and arming the people. As in the revolutionary France of 1793, one man, one rifle! And as it was shouted in the Paris Commune: "*whoever has the weapons, conquers the bread!*".

Faced with this there is no mystery or anything to invent. As much as reformists and treacherous leaders tell the masses and harp on them in their ears, the only thing they can do is "union struggles or pressure on Parliaments to get crumbs", the working class and its allies have already entered into the political struggle. And this subsumes the economic struggle and for the masses everything comes down to the Government's fall to get even the smallest of its demands. Union bureaucracy cannot control the barricade battles of the yellow vests. They slip like in a frozen lake.

What the masses have ahead of them is to raise the workers' councils and their militia from the barricades in order to unite all the oppressed and exploited classes of society. This is no mystery. These are the Soviets. Those

that the reformists together with the bourgeoisie have sworn never allow them to set up again. That is their job, they are paid for it.

The masses that today have entered the combat in France have seen the development of the Maghreb and Middle East revolutions opened in 2011. The blood left by the masses in that combat has not yet been cooled. The French imperialist bourgeoisie itself has tried to use it with dozens of "ISIS attacks" to deceive the people and with a false "national unity" to subordinate the working class to the bourgeoisie.

These events, as well as the combats throughout the region, are still fresh. There the coordination of workers and soldiers in the Syrian revolution and Libyan militias occurred... In Cairo, millions were grouped in Tahrir Square and the tenth day of mass actions, from there was called a general strike and so the "pharaoh" Mubarak was overthrown... The memory of Tunisia and how with a revolutionary general strike, occupying police stations, the political prisoners were released and the government of Ben Ali fell... The blood of the masses who staged the revolution of the Maghreb and the Middle East is still hot as well the tragedy of their defeats.

Also in North Africa and the Middle East, the NPA, the self-titled "New Left" and the other reformist leaderships, made the masses believe that with Constituent Assemblies, "democratizing" the bourgeois regimes, they would conquer bread and freedom, without expropriating capitalists and advancing towards socialist revolution. There clearly is the strategy of these traitors who promised bread "deepening bourgeois democracy" (ie, the fiercest dictatorship of capital), but what the masses received were the bayonets of fascism and counterrevolution, after the lies of reformism were imposed.

All these are the dangers that the French masses have before them. But the last word has not been said yet. The

flame is still on. The mass combats do not stop. They aim to sweep the citadel of power. The conditions were created to raise the power of those from below to fight against the power of the ones on top and to destroy all the ruling institutions. A pre-revolutionary situation has opened in France. The most backward of it are the reformists who do not know how to beautify this infamous imperialist Republic with sweet phrases and make-up to "democratize" it, when actually in order to conquer the slightest demands it must be demolished.

The forces of the French working class are in their brothers in the colonies and semi-colonies that French imperialism oppresses and in the workers in the rest of Europe

Masses struggle in France can only triumph decisively and unite with that of the working class of the colonial and semi-colonial world, fighting together against the imperialist Transnationals of the Fifth Republic and the regimes and the oppressors murderers Governments. **Independence of Guadeloupe, Martinique, Reunion and all the colonies!** A people that oppress another cannot liberate itself!

Out with the troops, military bases and financial oligarchy of French imperialism from Mali, Chad, Syria, all of Africa and the whole semicolonial world!

The strength of the French working class lies in unity with workers throughout Europe. Their victory will come if they smash imperialist Maastricht.

The combats of France are followed by all the workers in Europe with an enormous expectation and even they begin to imitate their example. This happens with the workers of the Spanish State who fought against the autocracy of the Bourbons, even those of England in crisis; from Belgium to the Greek workers who entered into struggle actions as it was the last general strike in Athens, which threatens today to be ignited by the spark of France. In "times of peaces" the treacherous union bureaucracies of Europe call opulent meetings of unions from all over Europe. Now they would never do it. Because the path masses are following is the one of Hamburg, which prepared a "hell" against G-20 in 2017, like the one in Paris today.

Years ago, the working class rose in Romania and Renault workers there shouted: "*We want to earn like the Renault workers of France!*" That did not happen. The union bureaucracies divided the European working class,

including the workers of the same transnational corporations, relocated in the East where they turned those countries into "*maquilas*". The workers of those countries were forced to work and the wages of the workers of the imperialist metropolises were sunk. That is how they managed to make the French workers earn as the Romanian workers.

Today the French working class has conquered a huge step forward to fight: it broke the control of the union bureaucracies that submit it to its own imperialist bourgeoisie. It is time to call the workers of the French transnationals, who are oppressed and exploited in Eastern Europe and all over the world, to revolt along with the working class of the metropolis.

The Paris Commune was an example of militant internationalism of the world proletariat. This proclaimed that all the workers of the world were citizens of the commune.

Let's fight like in May '68!

Open the road to the Revolutionary General Strike until Macron falls!

We must disarm and dissolve the murderous police who threaten to take the workers and the poor people of France in a bloodbath!

The Self-defence Committees, the pickets and the Workers' Militia have to be set up!

Let's seize the Bastille!

Down with the Fifth imperialist Republic!

We must conquer bread, work, education, decent pensions, recover the 35 hours week shift and defeat the slavery that capitalists want to impose!

May the bosses and the bankers pay the crisis!

Progressive taxes to the great fortunes!

Statization without compensation and under workers control of all the Transnationals and imperialist banks!

For the Commune of workers, peasants and poor people!

Down with the imperialist Maastricht!

Let's the flames of Paris ignite the revolutionary fire in the entire European and world working class!

For the Socialist United States of Europe!

France: huge mass independent actions

The working class doesn't have the leadership it deserves

The final word hasn't been said. On its favour, the bourgeoisie has a huge historical class consciousness and also paid agents, which are called to play each one their own role. The working class doesn't have the leadership it deserves and this places its offensive in jeopardy at each step. The spontaneity of the masses has a limit, which is given by the counterrevolutionary character that the workers movement leaders -paid by the bourgeoisie- have.

However, the bourgeoisie has a problem: it cannot make any concession or reform. The French-German dominance on Maastricht doesn't allow it.

1968 French May was diverted and the Communist Party managed to re-take the control of the workers movement, because, in order to expropriate such a revolutionary struggle, **the bourgeoisie had to concede a 35% raise in wages**, the highest raise that the working class got, in France and in Europe, in the second post-war. Only with this, De Gaulle could re-take the control of the working class, with the Communist Party once again betraying the French revolution.

This is the current dilemma. The union bureaucracy cannot even guise the proposals of Macron as a gain for the workers, as they are scam of the government.

The working class, in its experience, starts to distinguish its enemy each time more. This time, it knows that without overthrowing Macron, it can't get any of its demands. **The workers have already lost with every fight in which they put pressure on the government, led by the union bureaucracy.** The



May 1968: "workers and students together will be victorious"

deception that the cuts and the capitalist offensive can be "soften" or "negotiated" has been left behind... There cannot be an "annulment" of the attacks of the government in the National Assembly. The 35 working hours a week are gone. The clash between the classes is inevitable. The Fifth Republic is in crisis.

The bourgeoisie is anticipating and prepares a way out to stop a potential revolutionary crisis. It knows that if it doesn't stop this with deception and lies, whether economical lies or by sweetening its regime of dominance, it must take its Armed Forces to the streets, which would be very risky in France, since each time the bourgeoisie uses its army to repress its own people, the horizontal split of it is posed. The rank and file soldiers in the barracks are children, brothers, sisters, partners of the workers that fight in the barricades.

This will be the last card which is willing to use, and it will, if the union bureaucracy and the social-imperialist left disorganize the current offensive and disarm the

proletariat. That's the experience of Egypt or the centralization of counterrevolution in Syria. The bourgeoisie took good care in protecting the Arc of Triumph by swarming it with cops during the last demonstration. If the exploited had taken it, it would've been like a true Tahrir Square, as that of El Cairo in 2011, where the working class and its allies, the poor of the farms and the city, made their numbers matter, forcing a general strike and imposing the fall of Mubarak.

The working class has a way out to confront such conspiracy, deception, lies, betrayal and repression: to fight as in May 1968, with picket lines and stopping the production, hitting on the capitalists where they hurt the most, their profits and property. A new French May of 2018 must arise. **Macron deserves an indefinite Revolutionary General Strike until he falls. To prepare it and organize it is the current task.**

The bourgeoisie sent the traitors of the union bureaucracy to disor-

ganize the struggle, so there is no fighting as in the Commune, where all the dominance institutions of the state are swept away. This is the current moment.

The bourgeoisie also sent the left parties and some of them who claim to be “anti-capitalists” to guise as “democratic” the “court” of the bankers and the French imperialist transnational companies, so there is no seizure of the Bastille.

In 1968, when De Gaulle fled to Germany and the masses controlled France, the Communist Party rose the demand of “anticipated elections” and for the resignation of De Gaulle, in order to prevent a revolutionary crisis and to prevent De Gaulle from falling due to the masses. Stalinism called to “democratize” the French imperialist regime. The same thing is raised today by Melenchon and his “anti-capitalist” appendixes, which are always willing to save the bankrupt capitalism. There’s nothing new. They just re-take today the old policy of Stalinism, to strangle the proletarian revolution.

There’s an iron alternative: either Macron falls, the workers councils, the armed structures of the masses are set up and the French revolution starts; or the imperialist Fifth Republic is “sweetened”, the updated regime is saved, there are snap elections and the mass offensive is disorganized. There are two irreconcilable alternatives. On the one hand, the revolution; and on the other hand, betrayal.

Which crisis do the masses have in order to take new steps forward? The crisis of leadership, that is to say, the over-accumulation of treacherous leaderships to disorganize the ongoing offensive.

In this period, it is about for the masses to conquer self-organization organs of the exploited in struggle, which should be at the level of the struggle to confront the

attack of the government and the capitalists.

**The ones from the
below don't leave
the streets
They have taken
too much from us; now
we want it all!**

They have taken too much from the masses of France, like their greatest gains, as the 35 working hours a week. Their wages and pensions were plunged. The path to the first job of the youth was closed. They left hundreds of thousands of immigrant youth as an industrial army of reserve, without future. They left the pensioners in the worst condition in modern France history.

There is no longer an “Un-submissive France”, as is claimed by the left which is servant of the system. There is a revolted France. The engine of the struggle are the minimum demands to live and work decently, and for the workers to stop funding the state, which spends thousands of millions of euros in supporting the imperialist banks and the French transnational oligarchy. When they went bankrupt in 2008, the state got them out of the crisis, with huge allowances. The French workers don’t accept to keep on paying the military expenses of the French state, which are millions of euros to fund the Armed Forces which invaded Mali and have military bases in the Sub-Saharan Africa with NATO troops. The workers don’t want to pay any more for the expenses of this “nobility” of finance oligarchs, the boards and parasites of the big transnational companies and banks in France.

We are seeing a class clash. Who pays for the imperialist Maastricht, the political and military businesses

and the transnational companies? For the bourgeoisie, the workers and the people must keep paying for it. However, they have seen their gains lost, one by one. They have said “enough!” and have transformed the fight for the fall of Macron as the minimum demand that unites all the exploited in France.

The imperialist France, allied to Germany, goes to new adventures of political and trade wars, to dispute the world market to USA. They desperately need to increase the labour productivity and to strengthen the super-profits of their transnational companies, in order to compete in the world.

France looks to England, which is pushed on the one side by USA to exit the EU (Brexit) to hit on the EU, and on the other side it is pushed by Maastricht to surrender it while it leaves. This is happening to one of the biggest imperialist powers of the planet. France also looks at Germany, but in order to get together with it in a bloc which has equal conditions, France has no other way than attacking its working class. The labour market relaxation and the end of the 35 working hours a week mean that the transnational companies need a Chinese or Africa waged labour in France.

For the masses, the question is clear: Macron must fall. This would mean the end of the imperialist Fifth Republic and a strategic blow on Maastricht imperialist Europe. The bourgeoisie knows it and the treacherous leaderships that support it know this too. From the revolutionary movement, the task is to collaborate with the workers in France to distinguish clearly who are their allies and who are their enemies, and how their fight is posed under the international current conditions.

December 13th, 2018

CONTINUED FROM BACKPAGE

December 15th, 2018

The yellow vests do not leave the streets

CP and NPA- try to “change the course” of the masses to **pressure struggle** like what had been taking place in France... They want the exploited to put pressure on the Parliament to withdraw the bill on labour flexibilization, so it does not attack so hard on the retired. That is how they have been selling out every great struggle of the French proletariat. **Masses broke the inertia of useless pressure struggles imposed by the traitors of union bureaucracy and they marched on the streets convinced that without overthrowing the government and the infamous regime there would not be any chance of getting any of their demands.**

Those on the top declared war and they are not willing to leave without defeating the working class. Those of the bottom must go for everything.

The unions, led by these real scabs of the trade union bureaucracy, were a dead weight on the masses and their struggles. These were called in an agreement with the employers to negotiate and to cynically agree on the latest handout that Macron tries to give, which, as we have already seen, is a real scam for the workers and the rebellious people. That is why we speak of a union bureaucracy that openly plays a role of scabs, traitors and strikebreakers. In this 5th day of struggle it was proven again.

Because if something is seen among the unionized workers in France today, it is their predisposition, their desire to fight alongside with the yellow vests. That is why hundreds of thousands have put on their vests and marched on the streets despite and against union leaders' orders.

Thus, in order to decompress this tendency towards a predisposition to struggle among workers' ranks, **the bureaucracies of the trade union centrals called for a march of the unions the day before to the 5th day of the yellow vests (that is, 12/14) to break and divide the fight.** This was a clear action to separate the unionized workers from the hundreds of thousands already fighting on the barricades. But these union bureaucrats did not succeed, nor managed to stop the 5th day of struggle on 12/15 of the yellow vests, although they did make it more difficult and uphill. But his march did not arouse even the slightest enthusiasm among the workers. No more than 4,000 people marched in Paris under the leadership of the traitor Martinez of the CGT. As always, by his side, there were leaders of the NPA that influences Solidaires, and of course members of FO, a government appendix trade union.



Mélénchon together with the bureaucrat Martinez

The trade union Solidaires, influenced by the "anti-capitalists", which claims to be a “militant” union, has systematically refused to break this front of union bureaucrats that supports Macron's government. They have refused to call to surpass them and set up committees of workers in companies, factories and other workplaces so that the working class can organize itself with the yellow vests, the unemployed, the rebellious youth and most workers who fight in the barricades. And then they cry and whine that "*the unions do not intervene*". Scabs! They participated in the demonstration of the scabs of the union bureaucracy on December 14 and not to fight to overcome the union leadership of Martinez and the CP, but to be their servants and their left appendages, which is what they really are.

But despite so much conspiracy against the masses and so much betrayal, it was clear on the 5th day of struggle, and it was shown in the streets, that Macron's fraud and scam are not accepted or endorsed by the majority of the exploited.

The forces of those from below are not exhausted at all

A huge conspiracy is underway to disorganize what the masses built

The development of revolutionary days of struggle of the exploited in France needs of a real strong action of those from below, not a pact with the government; it needs a synchronized and coordinated action of all the exploited, opening a mass insurrectional mass process. That is at the top of the agenda today. The workers and the French people know what it is: **it means starting a new May 1968.** This would mean that the exploited con-

quer an indefinite general strike until the government falls. Thus, the revolutionary days that shook France for weeks would climb a key step in a fight that would leave the regime in crisis and open a revolutionary crisis in the heights, as happened in May '68 after 15 days of strikes, which forced De Gaulle to escape to Germany for a week. **Martinez's great betrayal is sitting down with the government and the big bosses to strangle this enormous mass onslaught, dividing the ranks of the exploited, preventing the path to the General Strike. That is why Martinez, general secretary of the CGT, today is a real prime minister without a portfolio of Macron,** the commander-in-chief of the internal police of the labour movement, which are the union bureaucracy and the social-imperialist parties. They say nothing about the struggles of the colonies such as the Island of Reunion and Guadeloupe, because they defend the French bosses' left pocket.

Martinez and the scab CP do not represent anybody today. They are supported by the state that keeps them at the head of the unions and, by the left, by the renegades of Trotskyism that disguise this rotten union bureaucracy, one of the most treacherous in Europe, as "anti-capitalists".

Down with Martinez and the traitors of the union bureaucracy! We have to recover the trade unions to put them at the forefront of the barricade combat against Macron!

Open the road to factory committees! All the exploited must wear the yellow vest!

At the top of the agenda we can find the task of recovering unions and setting up factory committees so that the force of all the exploited in France ends up exploding in a centralized and generalized action.

The method of the assembly voting the action committee and sending delegates to the barricade is the path that the working class needs to go through so that the organization of the struggling masses can take a leap, so that the relative spontaneity of today opens the way for a superior organization that leads to prepare and organize new and superior combats such as the one that is proposed: as we said, the indefinite general strike that overthrows the government. The immediate task is to coordinate and centralize at the local, regional and national levels the committees of yellow vests, secondary and university students, pensioners, the unemployed, immigrants and refugees and, above all, factory committees

and recovered unions. It is at the top of the agenda to extend and coordinate them nationally, getting rid of the bureaucrats who tie their hands to fight.

The crisis of revolutionary leadership of the French proletariat is nothing but the overabundance of treacherous leaderships that want to undo what the masses conquered with their struggle. The role of these leaders is to stop a higher mass attack and, above all, prevent the self-determination and self-organization organisms of all the struggling masses from being set up, an issue that would blow up that privileged layer of worker aristocracy and corrupted bureaucracy, that the big employer corrupts and sustains with the crumbs that fall from the super-profits of the super-exploitation and plundering of the colonial and semicolonial world. A centralized combat body of all workers and exploited in France would question who really should govern, whether the government of the French imperialist gangs or the government of the revolutionary working class with its armed councils.

That rotten social-imperialist, union and political bureaucracy is the one that the French proletariat must leave on the side of the road to advance its battles.

The limit of the current battles is an accumulation of reformists, former Trotskyists, Stalinists, defenders of the Fifth imperialist Republic and the business of the great French employers in the semi-colonial world. They are the ones who prevent the forces of the exploited from being centralized in a mortal blow against Macron's government.

In 1968, when they called themselves Trotskyist and revolutionaries, the ancestors of the French NPA, the Communist Révolutionnaire League (LCR) of the United Secretariat of the Fourth International, openly called the French working class to break with Stalinism and march to the revolutionary general strike, as it was proven by the statements of Alain Krivine at that time. They even argued that in order to conquer the slightest demands, it was necessary to overthrow De Gaulle and move on expropriating and imposing workers' control of the imperialist companies.

There are no more traces left of old LCR, which even in a centrist way was looking for a way towards socialist revolution. There are only spoils and waste left. For decades they have publicly renounced -and in Congresses- to the struggle for conquering the dictatorship of the proletariat. They are true advocates of "democratic" dictatorship of capital, the most perfidious of dictatorship of a handful of monopolies that expand their profits based on millions of exploited in France and in the colonial and semicolonial world. That is why they are against a mass revolutionary action that overthrows Macron and places at the top of the agenda the dictatorship of the vast major-

ity of the exploited against a minority of parasites. They are nothing but a new batch of the French Communist Party of '68; its most faithful heirs. Together with Mélenchon, they fight to "democratize" this imperialist regime. Today they support "De Gaulle-Macron". 50 years passed and lots of water under the bridge...

Today they are in a strategic single front with the bureaucracy of the French trade unions. It has been a while since they have become a social-democratic party based on the furious defence of the Fifth imperialist Republic. And not only them, but also all their appendices, that from within the NPA, shriek and shriek that what has to be set up is the party of Lenin and Jean Jaures, of Trotsky and Gramsci, to cover up that they have liquidated all vestige of a revolutionary Trotskyist party in France and internationally. They have taken the IV International to the mud of Stalinism. They call to set up a "broad", "non-sectarian" left that fights "for more democracy". These people have abandoned the fight for the socialist revolution as an immediate task to solve the demands of the exploited of the world a long time ago. They have crossed the Rubicon.

These capitulations and policy of NPA, the appendix of French Stalinism, is not only an international policy of the heirs of Pabloism, but also of Solidaires, the trade union that the NPA influences. In 2016 they made a block with the CGT to sell out the fight against the El Khomri law of labour flexibilization at national talks with Hollande's government. Then, in May 2018, in the middle of the struggle of the railway workers and the students, they met with the CGT, with Mélenchon, with sectors of the bourgeoisie that had been part of the SP (Generation.s) and with different NGOs to set up a movement called "Popular Tide". As in the mobilization of scabs of 12/14 against the struggle of the yellow vests, when the attack of the labour flexibilization against the workers took off, they called a march... on

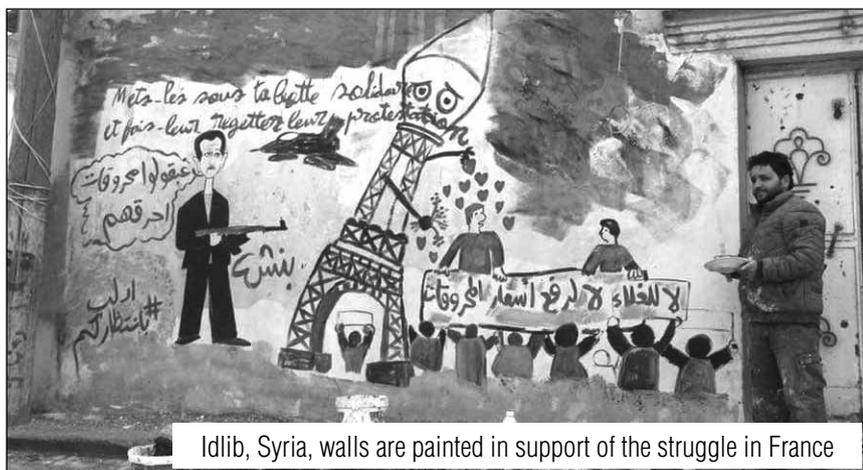
Sunday! whose goal was not (and they made it very clear) to overthrow Macron, but to put pressure on him so that he "changes his policy". **That was their situation, when they were surprised and overcame by the hurricane of the yellow vests that ran the curtain and clearly showed the face of the traitors in this tragic play where the masses fight and their leaderships betray them.**

The treachery of the leadership of the trade unions and the reformist left puts the revolutionary alliance of the workers and the impoverished popular sectors of France in serious crisis

The crisis of the leadership of the proletariat is becoming more acute. Despite this, France's mass combat does not leave the streets. And this, on the other hand, is followed with great attention by millions of workers in the world. In the G-20 Summits, imperialism has been concentrating its offensive to impose its prescription of labour flexibilization all over the world, to make workers pay for the crisis of 2008, when the financial oligarchy vanished and spent in advance more than 90 billion dollars that human work has not yet produced. It is a perverse and bankrupt capitalist system; 1% of parasites that has started a fierce class war at the international level.

In Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, China, Russia, the USA, France, Iran... There is no longer a country where there is no fight against this international plan of labour flexibilization, while union bureaucracies prevent this struggle from being coordinated and centralized as happened with the struggle for 8 hours, which unified all the workers of the world. These leaderships paid by the capital not only refuse to this but even to unify the struggles in every country, just as they do in France. They do the same everywhere. That is what they are paid for.

That is why the combats of France -where the working class and the exploited have overcome this earthenware of labour bureaucracies and aristocracies- are a blow by the left to this brutal imperialist offensive. The Syrian resistance has not surrendered and from the streets of Idlib identifies the assassin Al Assad with Macron, while they call to fight together with the yellow vests from the last trenches of the revolution. The Iranian working class, and its vanguard, the metalworkers, have entered into enormous class maneuvers. In Hungary,



Idlib, Syria, walls are painted in support of the struggle in France

Left, Al Assad advising Macron to drown the protests in blood as he did with the Syrian revolution.

Right, the Yellow Vests fighting for the fall of the regime next to Eiffel Tower

workers have also rebelled against labour flexibilization and even against the owed salaries. In Haiti there has been a workers revolt... Masses fight back.

December 17th is the anniversary of the day Mohamed Bouazizi was immolated in Tunisia for being an unoccupied computer technician who was not even allowed to sell vegetables on the street. Today those young people burn Paris. These traitors and scoundrels of the union bureaucracies accuse them of being "vandals", when it is the rebellious youth who put the Palestinian flag in front of the Zionist consulate in France. And if these gentlemen of the bureaucracy are upset that the youth burn their cars, better store them and go out to fight, instead of destroying workers' struggle.

New traps and conspiracies against the struggle of the masses: the government proposes "citizen initiatives" and referendum, while Mélenchon and the New Left supports constitutional reforms

While the government sees its fraud and deceit to the people fail, with the postponement of the increase in diesel; and while union bureaucracy is not able to control and disorganize the revolutionary tide that has begun, Macron seeks to impose new traps on the masses. **Its objective is none other than to divide not only the workers' movement but also that from the other exploited classes with which it has forged an alliance in the streets.**

With his new proposal to accept the "citizens' initiative", that is to say, there can be referendums in France without the need of approval of a section of the National Assembly, Macron has agreed with Mélenchon and his front "Un-submissive France" to open a debate on this issue.

The treacherous trade union bureaucracy is not enough anymore. Now comes the time of the New Left, the time of the Podemos and Syriza that with the demagoguery and lie of "expanding democracy", they strangled the revolutionary struggle to end with monarchy in the Spanish State when the Indignados rose up with the war cry of "Republic". This European New Left is the one that in Greece with Syriza left intact Troika's power and today administers its business from the government.

Now in France, relying on the middle classes that have entered the fight with just democratic aspirations, the government seeks to seduce them with the New Left to leave the streets and yellow vests and go to vote.

New traps... but the masses fight for bread and for recovering everything that the capitalists have taken from

them. The crisis of the government and of "Un-submissive France" is that the masses have an aspiration a thousand times more democratic and revolutionary than Macron, Mélenchon and the lackeys of the New Left. They only seek to prevent the masses from taking the Bastille, armed as in the revolution of 1789-1793 or with the workers taking power as in the Commune in the nineteenth century.

What the reformist left and the government want to prevent is the minimal and elementary democratic demand of the masses that Macron falls in order to achieve their minimum demands for bread, decent pensions, work and cheap diesel. The scoundrels of the New Left and the bourgeoisie know very well that fighting for these minimal demands (which bankrupted capitalism cannot give) and overthrowing Macron would mean the beginning of a workers' revolution, which terrifies the ruling classes of France and all Europe.

Ultimately, the "democracy" of the New European Left has put very far away the guillotine and, as we have already said, it does not dream of continuing the struggle of the revolutionary Jacobins of the democratic revolution they proclaim to carry out. How is it possible to "reform" and "democratize" the Fifth Republic of the imperialist gangs that with their troops and military bases are fighting with fascist methods for the colonial and semicolonial world and to defend their interests, without expropriating the transnationals and bankers and without a victorious socialist revolution? Again, the New Left proves to be as old as the theory of the "2 stages revolution" of Stalinism that led the world working class to historical defeats.

"Un-submissive France" (allies of the Podemos and Syriza, and the "anti-capitalists" as appendages of them) has been preparing itself for moments like these; they are willing to play "siren songs" making the masses believe that "democratizing" the regime will make the bourgeoisie pay for the crisis. This is a lie, an infamy and a new shot to the back of the exploited, which only pursues the objective of breaking the worker, peasant and popular alliance that is leaving without social base and sustenance to the imperialist regime of the V Republic.

The alternative is clear and it is the same one that took place in revolutionary Greece after 40 general strikes and in Spain when it was revolted by the "Republic of the Indignados": either the organizations dual power of workers, popular sectors impoverished and students are set up, and the bourgeoisie and its state are disarmed; or they will divert the revolutionary struggle of the masses and subject the working class to its institutions of domination and to the most cruel and brutal exploitation and attack of its conquests, and when not, to decisive counterrevolutionary blows.

In the imperialist Europe of Maastricht, which is in a trade war with the USA and fighting for the planet with the other imperialist powers, with some of them being in open bankruptcy, there are no margins of concession for the Gaullist France of the arrogant financial oligarchy of Paris. It is them, the exploiters, or us, the workers.

The bourgeoisie fears that the revolutions of the armed workers' councils will return to Europe, the ones that expropriated from Berlin to the Russian steppes during the 20th century. This time they will do so in the central imperialist countries.

To prevent this, the bourgeoisie has educated, trained and corrupted with crumbs and coins to this social-imperialist left, which calls itself European "New Left", which has written thousands of books revising and destroying Marxism so that, at times like this, the can betray the beginning of the proletarian revolution!!!!!!!!!!!!

At the G-20 summit, the imperialist powers evaluate and define their plan of war against the world workers

Against the new betrayals of reformism, the fighting banner of the Fourth International must be recovered

In the last G-20 Summit held in Buenos Aires at the beginning of December, imperialism agreed on a truce in this commercial war, including between the US and China. The powerful glimpsed over their shoulders and saw that through their disputes over the markets and the world trade had been breaking a new revolutionary offensive of the underdogs.

In China, the trade war -through lifting of customs barriers- has already opened an acute crisis of recession and layoffs. Over 9,000 strikes go through the cities with the highest concentration of workers in that country. Hundreds of thousands of students have marched on the streets to fight with the workers to set up independent trade unions against the bourgeois scoundrels of the "red businessmen" who are the true slaves of the working class on behalf of the transnationals and imperialism.

At the G-20 Summit they agreed a 90-day truce to close their gaps, while the Democratic Party of the Yankee imperialists tries to channel the brawling fight of the black workers, the martyred immigrants in the productive process of the USA, of the women and the rebellious youth, by including candidates from those sectors to better de-



The workers in Hungary fight against the plans of labour flexibilization

ceive, divert and disorganize the struggle of the American working class. This is an imposture and a real scam to subjugate the working class and the exploited to the Democratic-Republican bipartisanship of Yankee assassins.

While temporarily trying to close the gaps from on top, the masses did not give them a break in their attack. But the exploited resist and fight. On the battlefield, a thousand and one battles are fought, but a thousand and one betrayals also stand out. **It is under these conditions that the struggle to recover the program, the theory and the strategy of the Fourth International is opened.** This is an immense task because it was delivered to the mud of betrayal and ignominy. Its clean banner was placed at the feet of the bourgeoisie. No revolutionary force claiming Trotskyism can allow it.

The banner of the Fourth International today fights with the metalworkers of Iran against the murderous clerics and millionaires ayatollahs who, together with Al Assad and Putin, massacre the Syrian masses; it is in the barricades of the yellow vests; in the rebellion of the Hungarian workers; in the combats of the Chinese working class and its rebellious youth, which today rises again as it did in '89 in Tiananmen.

In each decisive battle of the proletariat the forces will arise to recover and refound the Fourth International, the only party that proposes the socialist revolution as the only concrete and immediate solution for the world working class in the current battles.

Regrouping the forces of the international revolutionary movement for this purpose is the task of the moment.

Let's fight like in May 1968!

Let's seize power in Paris as in the Commune!

Let's fight for the revolution of the councils of workers and soldiers throughout Europe as the Bolshevik Party conquered in the USSR and the ones that the Revolutionary Third International of Lenin and Trotsky fought for!

Statement of the Collective for the Re-foundation of the 4th International – FLTI

After the 5th Act of struggle...

The yellow vests do not leave the streets

The limit of the mass actions today comes down to the betrayal of union bureaucracies who support Macron's government, making a pact with the bosses

On December 15th the yellow vests blocked the roads and marched around the streets of several cities all over France. They confronted the police once again to defend from repression. The protestors in that cold morning met in Paris met a police line in the train stations and the access blocking the entrance to the city, seizing their masks, vests, etc.

The combats continue. The fire of the barricade has not been put down. The masses are not leaving the streets, despite the scam of Macron's statements, which are not even handouts. The journey of 12/15 was carried out despite the infamous pact between union bureaucracy and the big bosses. The predisposition to fight remains untouched. The masses carry trade unions on their shoulders, like dead weight. They are led by the bureaucracy and they are a big obstacle for the working class and exploited to deploy all their strength in the fight against Macron, by attacking the business and interests of great capitalists.

The struggle must take a leap forward. It must climb a step. The government has placed all the forces of union bureaucracies to prevent it. A new blow against the government is imperative to leave the infamous regime of the 5th Republic in crisis. In order to achieve that the working class must stop the production and the entire France, this would question immediately the property of the big bosses. This would propel the struggles that masses have been carrying out for the last 5 weeks. This is key to a successful combat. If this has not happened yet, if the indefinite general strike has not started yet, if Macron is still in power... **it is because Martinez and his CGT are saving him, together with other union leaders.** They divide the uprising of the working class. Despite union bureaucracy, hundreds of struggles and conflicts are joining the yellow vests in the streets and barri-



ades, while the student movement joined the revolutionary combats openly.

The day of struggle of December 15 was openly betrayed by all union bureaucracies. From the beginning of this mass political struggle against Macron Stalinist union bureaucracy of Martinez and CGT and his friends said the "stability of the government had to be preserved".

The leadership of trade union Solidaires –influenced by "anti-capitalist left"– and Force Ouvrière (FO) said that the fight was to make "the government change its policy", not to overthrow it.

All of them are a wall to prevent the factory committees from arising and join mass organizations who are fighting to defeat the government.

Union bureaucracy –based on social-imperialist parties of labour bureaucracies and aristocracies like Melenchon,

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