

Speech October revolution event

Dear comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the NCPN we would like to greet you all on this important event, organized by our comrades from the Communist Party of Greece here in Athens, commemorating that 108 years ago, the ice was broken, and the way was shown by the great socialist October revolution.

It cannot be overstated how crucial the October revolution was for the working class, indeed, for all working people oppressed by capital. The establishment of workers' power after the October Revolution was the starting point for the construction of socialism. After the ruins of the first imperialist world war, which had slaughtered millions of soldiers, the workers, peasants and soldiers now turned themselves towards overthrowing their masters who had sent them to their slaughter and became masters of their own country.

The successful October Revolution and the socialist construction that followed were an important source of inspiration for the working class movement and its struggle in the 1920s and 1930s, and later with the resistance during the Nazi occupation and in the post-war years. It had a positive effect on class consciousness, the strengthening of class-oriented forces in the labour movement, and on the class struggle.

The October Revolution, which confirmed Leninist strategic insights, and the subsequent establishment of the Communist International, were of decisive importance for the maturation and development of the communist movement in the Netherlands. The SDP (Social-Democratic Party), which had already emerged in 1909 from the split between the reformist and revolutionary wings of social democracy, renamed itself the CPN and joined the Communist International, which played an important role in the fierce ideological struggle of the 1920s.

The October Revolution, the emergence of the socialist bloc and the post-war balance of power were an important impetus for decolonization, which was a high priority for the CPN and its predecessors.

108 years later, unfortunately, we are once again facing war and slaughter by the very same imperialists that the October Revolution overthrew. Because the bourgeoisie took back their power in Russia and Ukraine, two peoples who lived and worked together in peace under socialism, are now facing each other on the battlefield for the interests of the respective monopolies of their countries and their allies.

We have, however, an advantage. The experience of the socialist October Revolution, the experience of decades of socialism which was constructed with all its difficulties, mistakes, but also great successes, in various countries in the world. Currently, our party is studying the historical experience of the construction of

socialism, whilst at the same time studying the current socio-economic and political developments, which is capitalism going through a deep crisis.

Imperialism, capitalism in its highest stage, created misery, exploitation, oppression and poverty everywhere. From the genocide committed against the Palestinian people by the killer state Israel and its US-EU-NATO allies, to the war in Ukraine, in Sudan, to the deep poverty that a large majority of the world is living under, this system cannot provide a just future for mankind. Only socialism-communism can.

Comrades, with the socialist October Revolution began the collapse of the imperialist system. Despite its temporary victory, despite the counterrevolutions and the temporary retreat of the communist and workers movement, this is a fact that cannot be negated by the problems that we face in the developments of the subjective factor.

Of course, these problems should not in any way be underestimated. Not only are the people bombarded with anti-communist propaganda, slandering the October Revolution, the construction of socialism, its most advanced cadres and leaders, but we are facing a major obstacle to the preparation for the socialist revolution in our “own” ranks by opportunism, which is strengthened, bolstered, and funded by the so-called “anti-imperialist” bourgeoisie of Russia, Venezuela, and so on. The outbreak of the imperialist war in Ukraine has caused new divisions and exposed the weakness of some parties that call themselves communist in not being ready, in practice, to face their own bourgeoisie or to organize the struggle independently from the bourgeois classes.

Under the guise of anti-imperialism, anti-fascism, anti-colonialism, and so on, these forces take the side of the bourgeoisie that opposes itself to the Euroatlantic bourgeoisie. Non-scientific, dogmatic conceptions of imperialism are promoted, paving the way for collaboration with all kind of forces, even far-right forces, that claim to fight for a “multipolar” world that supposedly would be a “step forward” for the peoples of the world.

It is here that we should return to the October Revolution. Where all social-democratic parties at the time supported their own bourgeoisie in the imperialist first World War, the October revolution could succeed because it did not fall into the trap of the “Defense of the homeland” and other slogans that trapped the people into supporting their own bourgeoisie in the imperialist war.

The attitude of the communists toward the imperialist war is therefore essential not only in formulating the correct strategy for a revolutionary path, that is, not just being able to “say what we do” but to “do what we say” when the pressure of the bourgeois-opportunist forces on the working class to support them increases.

In this sense, October is more relevant than ever. Let us continue to study the lessons of this monumental historical event, to strengthen our struggle to abolish the exploitation of man by man!

