



**MARXIST LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY
TURKEY/KURDISTAN**



MLKP



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**What Does
the Uprising of the Yellow Vests
Announce?**



With the yellow vests movement, the masses move with a spontaneous class consciousness from defense to attack. Tens of thousands have been taking to the streets and squares every Saturday since 17 November in France. They block the streets, build barricades, turn down police cars, set banks on fire and resist the police violence. They seek freedom under the pavement stones, just as in May 1968. Much has been said and written about this movement. Some turn up their noses and call the movement a reaction of the petty-bourgeois, while others distance themselves from it on the grounds that it forms a breeding ground for the fascist-nationalist front. Those seeking a "sterile uprising" can find their peers elsewhere as "salon activists". However the movement is commented, the movement is a spontaneous, militant popular movement of the impoverished French against the rich classes and their state, against capitalism, which is in an existential crisis at the stage of imperialist globalization.

The question of the subject

In the stage of imperialist globalization, there is an incomparable proletarianization on a world scale. Contrary to the claims of thinkers with a western scope, that there is no proletariat anymore, it did not disappear,

on contrary its ranks have widened. At the same time, the production process has been internationalized, production shifted to "low-wage" countries. Unemployment has become a chronic condition, part-time and flexible working conditions multiplied. For the working class of the West, imperialist globalization means that they are losing their privileges to a great extent and are more and more resembling the working classes of dependent countries, because the basis on which the working class, in its last analysis, made compromises with the bourgeoisie, is melting, whereas the abyss between the poor and the rich grows and grows. The time of gaining surplus-value through continued technological development is over. Capitalism finds no other source of supply than exploiting labor and financial parasitism. That is why the capitalist state is attacking the achievements of the working people ever more aggressively, making itself the open representative body of the monopolies. As a result, the aristocratized workers are being proletarianized again, petty bourgeois with big dreams are bankrupted in large numbers, students who want to jump to a higher class by studying lose even the hope of a simple job. The working class continues to grow, though it is more scattered than ever before, and the interests of those who have not yet become working-



class, the house-laboring women and students merge with the interests of the working class. The most sensitized parts of all these oppressed strata, centered on the working class, will come together as subjects of this new era with the same demands. The yellow vests demonstrate this reality to us.

The question of action

With the fragmentation of the production process, the working class has no reason to expect that a disorganized, scattered working class can gain limited rights with actions in individual factories, let alone stopping the general attacks of the bourgeoisie. Especially under the conditions of imperialist globalization, where capital can move unhindered and shift production to more favorable locations, short-lived actions are not effective. That is why in this new time, it makes sense either to step into action against the entire bourgeois class worldwide or to stop the entire daily life of the system in a single country. The yellow vests now focus on stopping the daily life, and with this, they've gained a new quality. Although their action, which is limited to the Saturdays and the blockade of roads and gas stations, is still far too inadequate, but the fight has just begun. Our world today is a single field in which the contradictions between labor and capital, state and people can spread from a spark in one place to a conflagration, and the oppressed of our time are so well interconnected as never before, they learn from each other like never before.

The question of leadership

This uprising has terrified the Macron government, on the one hand with "the breakage of daily life order" and, on the other hand, with its quality of having no usual leadership. It is neither a trade union movement that the state can control, nor a radical action by anarchists that the state can crush. The yellow vests, however, are united by no organization, but by the anger against impoverishment and their uncontrollability makes the government afraid.

Therefore, the attacks of the state were first in a controlled manner, the tactic was to stifle the actions without igniting them. As the actions continued, so did the state violence increase. The real fear of the state is that this mass anger finds an organized form. The revolvers have formed decision-making committees all over the country that are not yet united in one network but complement each other. Of course, this chain of

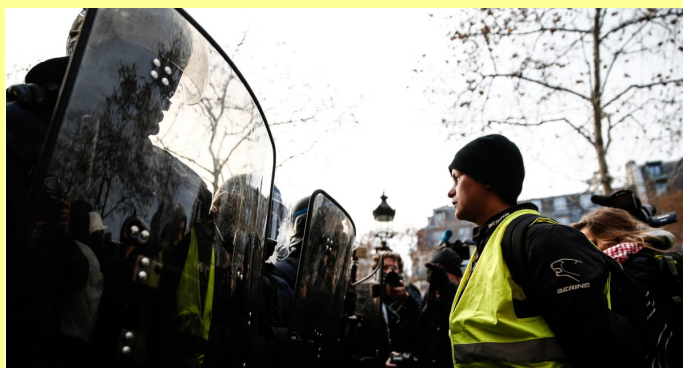


committees does not suffice, the rising attacks of the state require more determined centers and a political organization that achieves a revolutionary program for the movement. It depends on the revolutionary character and dynamics of revolutionary forces, how well they understand this new time, how much they are not in a teaching but in a learning position and, with this learning of the movement, create consciousness and tear down the limits of movement.

In the center of this leadership question stands the need for future ideas, a liberation ideology. Since these are missing, the demands of the movement do not go beyond small improvements within the ruling orders. But capitalism is in such a crisis that it can no longer tolerate even small reforms. The contradictions between all oppressed classes, strata and the capitalist system, the bourgeois state are becoming more and more acute. As the class antagonisms of our present bourgeois order become more acute and the middle classes melt, political inclinations also become more and more. Radical political-Islamist currents or new types of fascist movements can therefore arouse the interest of the oppressed by using the demands of the oppressed. The fascist movements and structures of our time are characterized by being a backward reaction to the attacks of imperialist globalization. The basis of these new fascist currents are the unemployed, impoverished workers, expropriated owners, those who have lost their old positions.

The liberation ideology, on the other hand, manifests itself through organization and struggle. Without the internalization of the demands of the masses, without organizing them, without being on their side and in the front row of them, without participating in the class struggle in one way or another, the question of leadership can not be solved. This question can not be solved in a representative way, but by actively involving the masses in the decisions. While one of the main demands of the uprising is fair pay and social rights, another major demand is popular democracy, the participation of people in political decision-making through referendums, a rejection of bourgeois representative democracy.

The existential crisis of capitalism





After the fourth action, Macron was forced to negotiate with the yellow vests and announced an increase in the minimum wage by 100 €, along with further successes of the revolt, whereas the movement has gained self-confidence. This struggle is far from being over. The bourgeois social order is in crisis and this crisis can not be solved with capitalist production relations. Social development has stopped. Now decay, war, impoverishment, extreme exploitation, grave pension, chronic unemployment, violence, drugs, mental and cultural degeneration determine our society. On this basis, all kinds of fascist political filth strengthen. Without rejecting this foundation as a whole, without

destroying it, without sweeping away the bourgeois social structure, no social solution will be possible. On the other hand, the level of development of the productive forces is as ripe as never before for a new form of society, for communism. By turning the means of production into social property, these questions can be solved. While humankind is as close to communism as it has never been, mentally it is as far away from it. This contradiction can not be solved by mental work, but by revolutionary practice, by even greater participation in mass actions, by learning from the masses. Because only revolutionary practice can create new mental production.



Aggravated solitary isolation against PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan continues to be an explicit interface of the state policy towards Kurdish question. The Kurdish people's leader Öcalan has not been allowed to see anyone including his family. Isolation to Öcalan had started after the "peace process", which ended with the Suruç massacre where 33 revolutionaries were killed, including communist youth leaders, and which happened after the June 7th, 2015 elections*. Since July 2015, fascist Turkish state exacerbated the war both inside and outside the country and carried out brutal massacres. This "civilian" coup d'état process, which AKP evolved into the Palace** fascism, continued with capture of the full control of police and military by the Erdoğan-Palace regime after the failed coup attempt of Gulenist movement on July 15th 2016, and following to this, with the change of the parliamentary to presidential regime, by means of April 16th 2017 referendum and June 24th 2018 general elections. Trying to overcome its social

legitimacy crisis to maintain its dictatorship, fascist chief regime arrested elected HDP deputies in order to close the democratic struggle channels completely in this process. Among these arrested, there were co-chairpersons of HDP, Selahattin Demirtaş as representative of the Kurdish national liberation movement and Figen Yüksekdağ as representative from communist movement. Still, ex-parliamentarians, tens of thousands of HDP members are in prison, judicial processes are not being functioning for the political prisoners, there is not even a crunch of the principle "rule of law" left. Only recently, the decision of EHRC (European Human Rights Court) for the release of Demirtaş has not been put into order.

Leyla Güven, DTK*** chairwoman, was among the arrested before the June 24th 2018 elections. She has been elected in these elections, but despite her gained impunity, she wasn't released. As a resisting Kurdish woman, Leyla Güven sees the isolation against Öcalan as the isolation against the freedom of Kurdish people. For this growingly burning reason, she started a hunger strike

* In this election, HDP got 13,1 percent of the popular vote and overcame the 10 percent vote threshold for parliamentary. This result was also a record for the Kurdish and socialist political tradition.

** Referring to the Palace where Erdoğan built for himself as a symbol of the new presidential system.

*** DTK: Democratic Society Congress. The Congress works in North Kurdistan especially, thorough local people's assemblies.



with the sole demand to remove of isolation against Öcalan. Immediately, other political prisoners joined this hunger strike resistance. Moreover, HDP started supporting hunger strikes in its party buildings in different cities. As the state is intimidated by any kind of resistance, to prevent it from spreading to streets and among masses, the police raided HDP party buildings and took the hunger strikers under custody. Yet, strikes didn't end, the next days, new comers took over the shift and joined the hunger strike. Thus, the "spontaneous" demand of this hunger strike resistance became to stop the state's arrest terror and the release of the arrested. As it started with this essence, it became a more apparent means of antifascist struggle during this last month.

Trying to grow its political power by leaning on the relations with EU before 2007, the AKP had made the party closure process by law extremely difficult, which is actually also a precaution for itself not to be closed in the future. That is why, Erdoğan doesn't want to bring back this procedure of suppression, instead he uses different tools. He doesn't close down HDP, but tries to make it dysfunctional by arresting all of its cadres who are still outside the prison. This tactic has been beaten off so far, by the broad party basis and people's organization capacity around their party. Of course, this reaction is still not big enough to stop these attacks and to push the fascist terror back.

The state's arrest terror and direct violence has not been only towards hunger strikes. Worker's actions flamed by the women workers in this summer against French company Flormar, had peaked with the mass actions of the 3rd Istanbul airport construction site workers. The biggest arrest number of workers in the history of Turkey was seen in this action, more than 400 workers were taken under custody at one night, trade union leaders were arrested. Worker's actions are still spreading as the economical crisis grows, but they don't carry on with an integrity among each other and can be suppressed by providing some partial demands and by police violence, since they haven't yet met with the other channels of antifascist resistance.

This period will show us long lasting effects of economical crisis and therefore following worker's actions. In such a period, Turkey again will face with an election. Elections, which are used as a means of gaining

social legitimacy to overcome the afore mentioned legitimacy crisis of Erdoğan dictatorship, will again be functional as long as it is used as a means of path-opening for revolutionary struggle, of spreading the antifascist resistance to the base for the HDP, which is the democratic unity front of the oppressed, including communists and Kurdish national liberation movement. Approaching elections like typical bourgeois party will cripple this purpose of HDP with the legalistic and parliamentarist enthusiasms. In this sense, struggle against the sections in HDP, who have the intention to affiliate with the bourgeois left (such as CHP) and liberals, is among the tasks of socialists inside the HDP. Essentially, it is because such alliance with the bourgeois left will weaken HDP and such a step will be a step to liquidate the revolutionary essence of the party. That is why hunger strikes, street rallies, worker's actions, local resistances towards ecological devastation, rebellious steps of unemployed or student youth, any kind of resistance opposing the Erdoğan fascism are in sight of communists. Communists will try to unify them with the united democratic front embodied in HDP.

In such a political atmosphere, revolutionaries, who are determined to hold on their democratic struggle positions until the last moment, are in mobilization against the arrests through reestablishing their party organs over and over again. They use this as a form of resistance today against fascism. And the hunger strikes started by Leyla Güven entered the scene as one of these forms. As communists, we are taking part in this resistance with all our strength from Europe, to Turkey, North Kurdistan to Rojava. We embrace the demand of freedom for Öcalan so as to defeat fascism and to move forward the historical alliance with Kurdish national liberation movement on a revolutionary basis. Communists, who directly joined the hunger strikes in some cities, or who made solidarity visits to party buildings, made agitprop works in the streets, dare to pay the price against the state violence. The defeat of fascism can only be possible through simultaneously using armed or unarmed means, organizing peaceful actions or actions based on violence and revolutionizing every position we have. We undertake the task to be a breathing pipe for our peoples with our bodies in our lands where Erdoğan tries to disallow even breathing for the ones who do not give up on their freedom.



Statement of MLKP Kurdistan Organization: Against Occupation Attacks and Fascist Terror To the Streets, Action, Resistance!

Fascist, colonial occupation attacks to Mexmûr, Shengal, Afrin and Rojava continue. 4 patriotic women aged from

13 to 73 were murdered in Mexmûr, which was bombed by warplanes. In the same attack, the Tayyip Erdoğan



leadership, which also murdered 3 civilians in Shengal, systematically, increasingly and recklessly threatens millions of people who live in Rojava and Northern Syria. Women and civilian killer AKP continues its war preparations.

Erdoğan and his gangs, who carried out massacres in Mexmûr, Shengal and Afrin before the eyes of the world, have now turned their faces to Rojava, which they call the "East of the Euphrates".

These attacks, which took place at a time when revolutionary forces of Rojava reached the final stage of effective operations against ISIS gangs, became one of the indicators of the organic relationship between the bloody gangs and the Erdoğan administration.

The War of the Tyrants and the Political Islamist Capital

Before the election, they want to keep their melting coalitions together before the masses, to stop these developments with the intimidating atmosphere of the poison of chauvinism and war policies, and to stop the progressive accumulation of society.

They do not tolerate even the slightest movement in society, because they are weak. The violence, attacks and state terror, which are becoming more and more reckless every day, are carried out to cover these weaknesses.

They cannot tolerate the smallest organized behavior on the street, in the party building, even in institutions like the HRA (Human Rights Association). From Saturday Mothers' sits to hunger strikes, they are afraid of all kinds of actions.

In Imrali, they are trying to spread the isolation attack on the Kurdish people's leader, Abdullah Ocalan, to all prisons, but they face the resistance of the prisoners. The hunger strikes initiated by Leyla Güven and the network of solidarity woven around her set them in panic. The waves of the economic crisis began to turn down the poor lives and even the followers of fascism have rebelled. The millions who struggle to survive are also staying in a dilemma of existence-absence. The streets are getting hotter. They are afraid of the yellow vest actions in France, and fear to death from a new Gezi process. In such circumstances, they hurry to start the Rojava invasion to prevent further actions. Because they hope that the war mongering will suppress all kinds of objections.

To be clear, the lives of hundreds of thousands of people are in danger to be sacrificed for the future anxiety of a handful of capitalists and fascists led by Tayyip Erdoğan and his collaborator Devlet Bahçeli. This applies not only for Rojava and Northern Syria, which are the target of these attacks. At the same time, the lives of all the

peoples of Turkey and Northern Kurdistan depend on a handful of colonists and bourgeoisies' destiny. The battle on the agenda is the war of the bourgeois moneybags and reactionary fascist religious traders. Hundreds of thousands of people are trying to put into an endless war vortex so that they can continue to benefit from their blessings.

AKP-MHP coalition led by Tayyip Erdoğan has become a serious threat to the peoples in Turkey, along to all the peoples living in the region.

With the United Resistance to Stop the War

The Erdoğan and Bahçeli duo, who want to go to elections in this war atmosphere, will be able to apply to all kinds of cheating and non-legitimate practices. In the upcoming local elections, the winners have already been announced. No matter what the people vote, they will be able to declare an appropriate outcome for their power, just like the June 24th elections. They will try to block the elections with the threats of oppression, persecution and terror in Kurdistan, with arrests and attacks and with the threat of "whoever will be elected, we will appoint a trustee".

Fascist institutionalization will be deepened not only in elections, but in every field, from economy to politics, from local governments to the judiciary. The state of emergency will be normalized. The oppression and repression will surround the entire society. Isolation, violence and massacres will be imposed on our Kurdish people through genocide, ISIS policies against the Alevis, women and seculars will be used. All the parties, including the CHP, will be forced to obey to the fascist chief. Otherwise, they will open the doors of Silivri or another prison.

If these war policies are allowed, if one stays silent and watches them doing what they want... This fire will burn everyone but everyone for sure.

Today is the time of the millions of people, who are against occupation and war, to go to the streets. Today is the day of the rising revolutionary action. It is possible to neutralize fascist state terror and war policies with all forms of struggle. The only way to do this is to expand the street-based struggle in a united, revolutionary line. To defend the Rojava revolution means not to allow a dirty war of occupation. To set up barricades defending the revolution means to stand beside those behind the barricades, who stand for freedom and hope. It means mobilizing for honor, freedom and revolution!

No to the Fascist Occupation War!

Long live the Rojava Revolution!

Colonialist Fascist Occupiers Will Be Defeated, the Resisting Peoples Will Win!