



Gauche révolutionnaire

Section française du Comité pour une internationale ouvrière (CIO/CWI)

SAVE OUR PLANET FROM CAPITALISM

'COP21' in Paris is the 21st meeting of its kind since 1972. There has been so much noise but with what results? The governments of the rich countries continue to grant themselves and the big companies they represent even greater rights to pollute the planet. There has been an unprecedented transformation in agriculture and food production and distribution, in total disregard of the effects on the health of the workers in the sector and of the consumers of its products. And all so that the food industry can maximise its profits!

Everything is done by governments, who are constantly striving to increase the power of big business over our lives and over the future of the planet, leaving ordinary people without any control whatsoever! They even put the climate question into the marketplace! We can expect nothing from their summits, except the opportunity to build our fight-back! Today's most urgent question is how to take control over our future!

From 28-29 November until 12 December, there will be protests and demonstrations everywhere in France and also across the world! Gauche Révolutionnaire and other sections of the CIO / CWI - our international organisation - have already been campaigning and will be fully participating in these two weeks of mobilisation in France and holding a public meeting in Paris.

Join us



Public Meeting

Save our Planet from Capitalism

Friday, 11 December, 7 pm

Speakers from

- Socialismo Revolucionario – Portugal
- Rättvisepartiet Socialisterna – Sweden
- Gauche révolutionnaire – France



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Save our planet from capitalism!

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Ecology and capitalism – one big masquerade!

In France, 18% of industry accounts for 87% of greenhouse gas emissions; 46% of that is from just 21 sites. The greatest culprits are just a handful of super-rich magnates! The majority of the victims of the ecological crisis are ordinary working people in the rich countries and the populations of poor countries most affected by droughts, floods, disease. ... It is the capitalists who are really responsible!

The example of Volkswagen is striking. They have used ecological concern as a selling point, while using special software to cheat pollution controls since 2009 - hiding emissions of up to 40 times the threshold allowed in the EU! Governments and big companies do everything possible to make us believe that ecology is safe with capitalism. But it will never be the case!

'Individual' solutions and green products: everything turned into a market!

Governments and establishment ecologists speak of 'individual solutions' to persuade us that we are all responsible for the environmental crisis in equal measure. Also that the fight against climate change must most certainly not be political: their system must never be brought into question!

This promotion of 'individual measures' and 'green capitalism' serves primarily to hide who are the real polluters:- the owners of the energy companies and other multinationals. Climate activists know that they do not constitute real solutions. We all need to be involved with those who are really in a position to take control over the major companies and run them democratically: that is the organised working class.

For big companies, environmental labels or small 'green' measures have less to do with ecology and more to do with 'communication strategy'. Alternative energy sources do not at the moment provide as much profit as fossil fuels. Since profit counts more than anything else, the big polluters such as the oil giants, continue wrecking the planet. Transport, factories, energy production are all dominated by big business; we have no control over them.

In general, it is not possible to control what you don't own! Let's take things over!

Today, the majority of the population has no say in industry. Workers are the driving force of any company, but the only thing that matters to the bosses is that they are available as cheaply as possible. The workers themselves are usually not able to decide what is produced or how. Little has changed in this respect; capitalists and their governments have to be forced to behave 'responsibly'. Their rotten system works only for the profits of their class - the tiny minority in society - no matter at what cost to the living conditions of the majority. Whenever progress has been achieved, it has been through mass pressure and struggles!

The capitalists simply use loopholes in the laws that they themselves have devised. They keep renegeing on the very norms that are supposed to protect us. They themselves, on the other hand, are protected by statutes that defend their private property. Here again, it is up to us - the majority of the population - to take matters into our hands by using the collective strength we have as the producers of

the wealth on this planet.

Organise and fight for socialism!

The capitalist system is taking us backwards; we must bring it down! We can change things only through socialist revolutionary action like that in France in 1968. This should mean the owners of companies being expropriated and the key sectors of the economy being placed under the control of workers and the people by nationalising them. This should include the major energy companies, 'Big Pharma' and many other major monopolies that dominate our lives, as well as the banks.

The socialism we need has nothing in common with Hollande's market approach or Stalin's bureaucratic dictatorship. It would mean democratic planning of the economy and the use of resources to satisfy the needs of everyone, not to provide profits for a handful or privileges for a parasitic caste.

The fact that working people would now be in control in society would change everything. The law of making private profit for company owners or shareholders would disappear. We would then use quality materials to make more long-lasting products, avoiding the current wastage or 'planned obsolescence' - goods that are also not hazardous to workers handling them or using them. Investing in factories, in transport and in non-polluting fuels: this is the only way a real energy change-over could be carried through!

Every one of us would have a job and also work less. It would give us more time to exert control over how construction and infrastructure is developed to cause the least disturbance to the environment. We already have the technical means to plan production according to our needs, not for profits; we can have rational management of all the resources on the planet.

It is time to organise to stop the bosses and their political representatives having a free rein in all major decision-making. Time to fight for a real change in who controls the climate and safe-guards the future for everyone on the planet!

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Committee for a workers' International