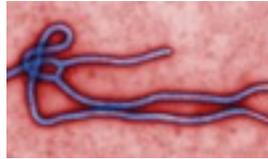


Issue No. 005

**LIBERTY.  
EQUALITY.  
SOLIDARITY.**



**WEST AFRICA  
DISEASE AND  
DEVELOPMENT**



**ISRAEL - PALESTINE  
TACTICAL PROBLEMS  
OF ISRAELI BDS**



**RUSSIA  
PUTIN CELEBRATES  
IMPERIAL LEGACY**

# THE RED VINE



# Journal of the Red Party

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# The Workers Movement in the United States: The First Workers Parties

by Peter Moody

*[This article is part one of a series intending to give an overview of the workers movement in the United States, from its roots in the early days of the Republic to the near-mass workers parties of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, to the decline and defeats of the most recent period.]*

The workers movement in the United States has deep roots. While trade unions and working class political organizations for the most part didn't become major players until the decades after the Civil War, worker-radicals existed on the American political landscape since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and their activities formed some of the first experiments with the independent organization of the working class. Like the Chartist movement in Great Britain, these early movements fused multiple currents around radical democratic politics and various forms of pre-Marxist socialism, and campaigned on both the economic and political fields in order to achieve their goals, meeting with some early successes. However, this early

movement, known as the Working Men's Party, was not able to sink deep roots into the working class as it existed at the time, and gradually filtered back into the (also recently formed) Democratic Party, helping begin the workers movement's long and tortured relationship with said organ of bourgeois political power.

Labor strife had started to become more common in the years after the War of 1812, particularly as the larger cities on the US East Coast developed into manufacturing centers. Still mostly semi-independent skilled workers rather than employees in large scale factories, these workers were nevertheless acutely aware of their position as wage-earners rather than truly "independent" farmers or craftsmen, engaging in both labor activism - such as resisting an attempt by employers in Boston to increase the working day from ten to eleven hours in 1829 - and forming educational and mutual aid organizations like the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York. This initial element of working class organization was assisted and supplemented by free-thought

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The Red Vine is the official organ of the RP. Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the RP; editorials reflect the views of the RP Central Committee. We encourage readers to contribute letters and articles to the paper.

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and democratic radicals, as well as early utopian socialists, which helped coalesce the movement into one with broader political principles and goals.

One of these utopian socialists, a worker-intellectual by the name of Thomas Skidmore, was a major catalyst for the creation of the Working Men's Party. Placing himself firmly within, but radically extending, earlier traditions of American democratic radicalism, Skidmore sought a strategy to overcome social inequality and class divisions through workers participation in politics. According to the schema Skidmore laid out, those won to his political program would elect enough legislators in every states so that constitutional conventions could be called. These conventions would open up the electoral franchise to all adults, who would then set about to expropriate all private property and divide what could be easily divided equally among the populace, and although Skidmore did acknowledge that talented individuals would acquire more wealth and property over the course of their lives, the abolition of inheritance

would ensure that these individual differences would not develop into entrenched inequalities over the long term.

While Skidmore's vision of the future still rested in large part on the equal division of property to individuals rather than collective ownership and use, he did recognize the emergence of large-scale economic activity like banks and factories which couldn't necessarily be divided up on an individual basis needed to be held in common. His proposals for working class political action were - if perhaps somewhat incidental in the long run - important enough in the short term that he strongly pushed the creation of an independent workers party, which, with the combination of Skidmore's proto-communist politics and the already-existing working class activity in cities like New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, lead to the emergence of local Working Men's parties in those cities in the late 1820s.

Unfortunately, these parties did not last long. While achieving respectable votes and managing to elect some of their

candidates in local elections, the various branches of the Working Men's Party were divided between those who sought more radical solutions and supported independent action - such as Skidmore - and those who argued for smaller-scale reforms, as well as supporters of the main bourgeois parties at the time. The Democratic Party in particular had started to make overtures towards the constituencies that the Working Men's Party intended to represent, and helped direct the nascent workers movement towards more populist channels. Nevertheless, this ultimately failed attempt represented one of the first times the working class in a particular country theorized its interested on both an economic and rudimentary political level. And while the failures of the Working Men's Party did mean that American workers were locked in representation through bourgeois parties for many decades, it suggests that such an arrangement was not a natural order of things for American workers, and independent workers parties would likely arise in the future, as they indeed did.

# Socialist Election Conference Talks Tactics

by Gabriel Pierre

Fifteen people, myself included, attended the Socialist Electoral Alliance's first national videoconference on August 6th. The SEA is an initiative of the Campaign for a United Socialist Party (CUSP), although the relationship between the two is not yet fully demarcated.

Saturn Concentric from CUSP opened the proceedings by posing the need to have a conversation about joint socialist electoral campaigns in the wake of Kshama Sawant's (Socialist Alternative) successful bid for Seattle city council. He emphasized the 'socialist' part, explaining that while "there also needs to be a conversation about green and independent left candidates," people on the ground have a "visceral reaction" to the very word socialism, that the label is associated with "uncompromising class struggle" in people's minds. He further noted that socialism is viewed positively by a majority of American youth, making the need to be an openly organized current even more clear.

This kicked off a tactical discussion which took up nearly all of the conference. When the idea was floated that socialists should concentrate on running for small offices, both to

circumvent undemocratic ballot access laws at higher levels and to aid in building local movements, I cautioned against a slip into the "sewer socialism" practiced by the 20th century Socialist Party of America - abandoning major political issues in favor of narrow municipal horizons. There's nothing wrong with running for city council or school board, but we must not be afraid to speak and organize on any major problem facing the class, whether they transcend county, state or even national borders. Most agreed.

Jorge Mujica, the Chicago Socialist Campaign's candidate for Chicago Board of Aldermen<sup>1</sup> and Matt Andrews, the (Vermont) Liberty Union Party's candidate for U.S. Congress, shared their experiences. Comrade Mujica remarked that the Chicago

Socialist Campaign, which formed as a local answer to the left's sectarian divisions, is slowly morphing into something like a "territorial labor union." The CSC has its doors open to all workers in the Windy City, whatever ward they live in, doing what it can to help with workplace and landlord disputes.

Because Chicago is ruled entirely by the Democratic Party, the local elite can't hide behind Republican obstruction to explain why they never deliver for workers and the oppressed. Despite this somewhat unique feature of Chicago, Mujica said the kind of campaign they're running can and should be replicated elsewhere; I can't help but agree. We socialists should run wherever we can *as socialists*, rather than as Greens or left-populists, ditching sectarian divisions by uniting on



the basis of a principled revolutionary program.

Mujica said having him in the city government would strengthen the socialists' hand in their on-the-ground work, although he has no illusions of building 'socialism in one city' and has not shied away from international solidarity - his participation in Chicago's mass anti-war demonstration last week is one example. Comrade Andrews spoke on his experience at the other end of the spectrum, saying that as a candidate for the highest legislative body in the land, he's emphasized national and international policy questions. After he mentioned how Vermont's relatively favorable ballot access laws helped Liberty Union launch the campaign in the first place, I intervened to raise the need for far-reaching democratic demands. It's not

enough to ease the suffocating restrictions the two main capitalist parties put in place to divide power solely amongst themselves; we need to go further. Proportional representation would put an end to the gerrymandered legislatures and the 'spoiler effect' that capitalist politicians use to scare working people into voting for the 'lesser evil' rather than what they actually want.

The conference, while impeccably democratic in how it facilitated discussion, was light on concrete proposals. Being an inaugural conference, this was to be expected. The conference voted on how often to meet and whether or not to allow self-described socialist Senator Bernie Sanders to participate in the SEA, in the highly unlikely event he accepts a prior invitation sent to him. I cast my vote for regular (biweekly)

meetings and to allow Senator Sanders, if only to castigate him for diluting the good name of socialism - its above-mentioned uncompromising class struggle - with his soft liberal, pro-capitalist domestic and pro-imperialist foreign policy.

All said, solid progress for an opening meeting. In sessions to come, I expect the SEA will see sharpened debate on whether it will lay the foundations for a reformist party or a revolutionary one that can transcend both opportunism and sectarianism. This isn't an academic debate - for comrades who seek to get socialist candidates in office, emulating Seattle's Kshama Sawant, do we also seek to emulate her sudden concessions to business and dropping of the referendum on the fight for \$15?

## Party Update

We have mixed results to report this month. In the 'plus' column, *The Red Vine* surpassed two hundred readers in July - 203, to be exact. This month's issue has several items which will be of interest to those seeking principled socialist unity, so let's see if we can get those numbers up even higher this time around - don't be afraid to click that "share" button, or better still, buy some print copies to circulate around town! The RP website has been redesigned as well, which should make navigation, donation and subscription a more user-friendly experience.

As for the 'minus' column, we were a little too eager to report last month on the impending release of the new *Draft Program* - the new timetable is that it'll come out following a programmatic conference on the 10th. The upshot is that it's not too late, at the time of writing, for non-Party members to put their two cents in. Check in regularly with the RP website for the latest developments on this, as well as an upcoming exchange of views on Palestine and Kshama Sawant with the Communist Workers Group.

# What Way Forward For Palestinian Solidarity?

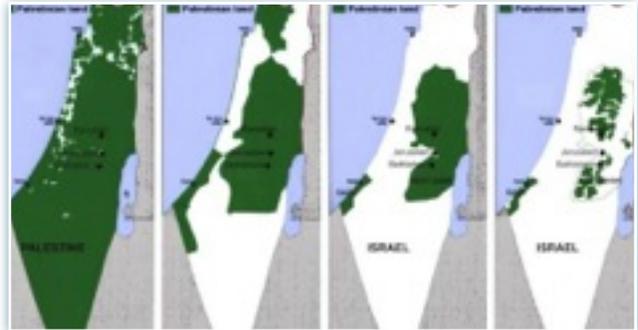
Editorial by the Red Party Central Committee

As these lines are written, the death toll from Israel's month-long siege of Gaza stands at more than 1,800 Palestinians and 67 Israelis, 64 of whom were soldiers. For the Palestinians, the figures skew in the opposite direction - over two thirds were civilians, including hundreds of children. 485,000 people have been displaced, fleeing the devastation of their homes only to find that even United Nations-sponsored schools and refugee camps are not safe from Israeli military strikes. Now that Israel has withdrawn its ground troops from Gaza, it appears likely that the current hostilities will come to an end - but what has really changed since July 8th saw the opening of Israel's tragically misnamed 'Operation Protective Edge'?

## An Imperial Tragedy

The roots of the current war can be traced back to the formation of Israel as a settler-colonial state in 1948 when, with the backing of world imperialism (the U.K. and U.S. foremost), the new state was given 56 percent of Palestinian land, although the Jewish settlers made up only one third of the population at the time. Since then, Israel has expanded to engulf ninety percent of what used to be Palestine. Even with a diaspora of over five million people denied the right to return, further encroachments continue - particularly in the settlements on the West Bank.

Palestinians continue to be forced out at gunpoint to make room for Israeli colonists, in defiance of international law. Just days before Operation Protective Edge began, the Israeli government announced its intention to build 1,500 more Jewish-exclusive housing units in the West Bank / East Jerusalem.<sup>1</sup> In general, Palestinians live under police tyranny, an elaborate separation wall



(locally nicknamed the “apartheid wall”) and stifling economic restrictions including a near-total economic blockade of Gaza. Being in Israel proper as an Arab-Israeli citizen still means suffering under second-class citizenship - so much for the oft-repeated media claim that Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East.

Gaza itself is among the most densely populated polities in the world, with 1.8 million languishing in an open-air prison roughly the size of Detroit. Hamas was midwived into existence by the Israeli government, promoted in the 1970s and ‘80s to squeeze out the secular left-nationalist Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), which Israel deemed a terrorist organization. Nowadays the PLO’s wings are safely clipped as far as the Israeli state is concerned; it governs the West Bank as a comprador capitalist regime, subservient to Israeli capital. The decline of secular and left-wing resistance created a political vacuum that was filled by Hamas, whose leadership represents an aspiring national capitalist class.

All of this is to say that, without prettifying Hamas, this horrendous situation is an *imperial* creation. Hamas may well be a terrorist outfit - but if we define terrorism as attacking civilians to achieve political goals, they pale in comparison to the Israeli

state's indiscriminate slaughter and its political, diplomatic and military backing from the United States.

### Problems of BDS

Marxists support the struggles of the oppressed against their oppressors. Therefore socialists have been at the forefront of international Palestine solidarity, correctly predicting that ending the siege of Gaza in both its military and economic forms is a necessary prerequisite for the growth of a strong Palestinian left that can win the masses to its banner. Of course, the only *lasting* solution would be an international one, a revolutionary socialist movement spanning the Middle East that struggles against all oppressors and exploiters, be they Jewish or Arab elites. But in the immediate sense, active international solidarity has an important role to play in relieving the most acute manifestations of oppression. The breadth of solidarity displayed since July has been impressive: hundreds of thousands - perhaps over one million - demonstrators mobilized in every corner of the world, from up to 100,000 in London to around 7,000 in Israel itself. Those 7,000 anti-war Israelis are part of a bold albeit highly isolated development that includes some fifty IDF reservists who publicly refused to serve in the operation and a war crime whistleblower.<sup>2</sup>

Despite the protest ban by pro-American Egyptian military dictator Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, a hundred brave souls gathered in Cairo to demand that Egypt re-open its Gaza border, the closure of which has further intensified the economic and humanitarian crisis there. Even in the United States, where public opinion is shaped by a staunchly pro-Israel corporate media and politicians, 38 percent of Americans view Israel's conduct during Operation Cast Lead as 'unjustifiable', while ten thousand people marched in Chicago and several thousand more have mobilized across the country to call for the end of the U.S.'s \$3 billion annual aid to Israel.<sup>3</sup>

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*The Red Vine!*



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In the midst of this, the campaign for boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel has gained a wider hearing, with several socialist groups - particularly the International Socialist Organization - placing it front and center. The ideas behind BDS, which began in 2005 in a call for action sent by numerous Palestinian labor and civil society groups, are straightforward: don't buy Israeli goods, convince local government and academic institutions to divest from Israeli investments, and pressure governments to adopt sanctions against the Israeli state. It has been embraced by the United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC), the main anti-war alliance in the United States.<sup>4</sup>

The BDS campaign's goals - ending the occupation and colonization of Arab lands, dismantle the apartheid wall, legal equality for Arab Israelis, and implementation of the Right of Return for Palestinian refugees - are all eminently supportable, but several aspects of the *method* should give socialists and anti-war activists pause.

For one thing, the consumer boycott is a relatively passive method of struggle and is difficult to enforce. While it has a place in the toolbox of working-class activism, elevating it to the front and center organizes people under ethical-consumerist rather than class lines. In any case, BDS *per se* is a blunt instrument. Taken to mean a total boycott of all things Israeli, it does not differentiate between the class relations *among* Israelis. It would, if adopted widely enough, most likely increase the siege mentality among the Israeli Jewish working class that is fostered by the capitalists.

As far as sanctions go, revolutionary socialists have no business calling on their own imperialist states to impose sanctions on another state - that would be a slip into the illusion of 'democratic imperialism.' We can see the results of this humanitarian form of imperialism in Iran and Baathist Iraq, where the burden of suffocating sanctions were passed down the ladder from the

ruling class to the workers and the middle classes. In Israel, they would be passed down (to the greatest extent possible) to the Arab Israelis.

This is not to say that we should oppose BDS outright. The movement organizes broad numbers of people in a more consistent and ongoing way than street demonstrations alone are capable of doing. Rather, we should seek to emphasize boycott and divestment from Israeli *military* companies, non-Israeli companies whose business props up the Israeli military (such as HP), and companies operating in the occupied West Bank territories - SodaStream being a prominent example. This, along with active support for workers refusing to handle Israeli cargo<sup>5</sup>, highlights the international working class's role as a class-for-itself acting in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Palestine, and incidentally also makes it more difficult for the right-wing media to label all pro-Palestinian organizers as anti-Semitic.

Permanent subjugation lends itself to permanent resistance, and 2014 won't be the last Israeli crusade against the Palestinians. A modern incarnation of the medieval crusader state, Israeli terror cannot last without the generous sponsorship of U.S. imperialism, as UNAC and other anti-war activists correctly note. A stronger, more principled program of solidarity is our best weapon for severing that link.

#### Notes

1. <http://online.wsj.com/articles/israel-issues-tenders-for-1-500-new-housing-units-in-west-bank-east-jerusalem-1401991417>
2. Eran Efrati, arrested after leaking information on the IDF massacre in the Gazan city of Shuja'iyya - where dozens of men, women and children were killed on July 20 - as an act of revenge against the death of Israeli soldiers. <http://globalvoicesonline.org/2014/08/03/israeli-army-whistle-blower-leaks-account-of-revenge-attacks-against-civilians-by-israeli-troops-in-gazas-shujaiyya/>
3. Bernie Sanders / Elizabeth Warren, <http://www.gallup.com/video/174377/americans-continue-support-israel-actions-against-hamas.aspx>
4. <http://nepajac.org/UNACgaza.pdf>
5. See the Transport Workers Solidarity Committee call to action, <http://www.transportworkers.org/node/1413>

# WWI: Putin Blames Bolsheviks

by David Arthur Smithers

Russian President Putin recently dedicated<sup>1</sup> a World War I monument in Moscow with a speech. He started, “A century ago on this day, Russia found itself obliged to enter World War I.”

Further in the speech he said, “But their feats and their sacrifices in Russia’s name were forgotten for long years. World War I itself, which the rest of the world calls the Great War, was erased from our country’s history and was labeled simply ‘imperialist’... Today we are restoring the historical; truth about World War I...”

In lecture 5 of “Six Months That Changed The World: The Paris Peace Conference of 1919” Margaret MacMillan explains the Germans rationalized that they really did not lose the Great War, as their soldiers returned in good order, and except for the in the Rhineland they were not occupied. They rationalized that what was lost was due to backstabbing elements in their own society. These elements would be the ones victimized by the Nazi brown shirts in the terrible years to come.

Having made an early peace with Germany, with generous territory granted in exchange for removal of German troops from Russian soil, the Soviets concentrated on making a peoples republic and were looking forward to world revolution. At the Paris Peace Conference where Soviet Russia was not present, France, Great Britain, and the United States decided how the world boundaries were going to look for the next century or so, which laid many seeds of immediate and future conflict.

Could the same thing be happening in today’s Russia?

Putin asserts, “But this victory was stolen from our country. It was stolen for the defeat of their homeland and army, who sowed division inside Russia and sought only power for themselves, betraying the national interests. Today, we are restoring the links in time, making our history a single flow once more...”

Those who would romanticize



that Putin is a stand in for a past Soviet glory are mistaken. This is a reactionary imperialist. It is no wonder that many of the reactionary parties that succeeded in the European Parliamentary elections admire Putin, and actually despise the United States. Putin is resurrecting the fabled past to buttress his crony capitalist state. It will be as if the communist revolution never happened. A great big mistake.

Perhaps Putin can chalk it up as a foreign homosexual Zionist plot. Marx and Lenin can be placed in the rubbish bin and the flow of history restored. Russia will stand up, just in time for the taunting that the United States and allies are giving it in Ukraine.

## Notes

1. <http://eng.news.kremlin.ru/news/22756/print>

# Ebola Outbreak Reveals a Sick System

by Mari Pierre-Antoine

The recent outbreak of ebola in West Africa has rapidly become the worst yet on record. There are now 1,300 cases reported as well as 729 deaths, including many health care workers. Ebola is a disease primarily seen in poverty plagued areas. Outbreaks typically begin from wild animal populations that come into contact with humans through hunting or domestic animals. The disease is highly contagious and spreads through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person.

There is no cure or vaccine for ebola, but if symptoms are properly managed the mortality rate can be reduced. Spread of the disease can be minimized by using basic sanitation and medical quarantine - basically, having access to modern health infrastructure. Liberia announced it was closing down its schools and most of its border crossings as well as placing nonessential government workers on mandatory 30-day leave. Sierra Leone has announced a state of emergency. The police and military have been given orders to establish quarantines for affected areas, conduct active surveillance and residential

searches, as well as protect health care workers. While the state of emergency exists, public gatherings are restricted. Surely the state will act only out of concern for public health, without abusing these extraordinary powers in any way, right?

The United States Peace Corps announced that it is withdrawing from the affected countries due to the epidemic. Aid agencies are removing nonessential personnel or ceasing operations altogether. This has grave implications for the affected countries, which rely almost exclusively on foreign aid for health care services.

Sierra Leone, a country of more than 6 million, has less than 200 doctors in its entire public health sector and Guinea has only 1 doctor for every 10,000 people; the worldwide average is 13 doctors for every 10,000 people. The statistics for these countries expose the dire poverty that has permitted ebola to spread so quickly. The countries affected are plagued by defunct health care systems and other infrastructure. In total the countries spend less than \$900 million per year on health care for their citizens. In response to the ebola outbreak, the European Union pledged \$2.7 billion in aid, the only major foreign aid so



far. This is about three times the area's normal health care budget, but less than two days of United States military spending.

The imperialist powers have competed amongst one another for position in West Africa as it is wealthy in natural resources: consider Guinea, with the world's second largest production of bauxite (the main source for aluminum) and Sierra Leone being famous for its diamonds. Both Liberia and Sierra Leone have been subjected to devastating civil wars over the past quarter century, fed by the economic interests of the United States and Great Britain. This corporate greed ensures continued poverty for the vast majority of those who live there, by keeping West Africa poor imperialism guarantees criminally cheap prices for these valuable goods. The ebola outbreak shows the human cost of this intentional underdevelopment.

## Film Review: *The Great Fallacy*

by David Arthur Smithers

This movie is a second person narration. Instead of the Puerto Ricans, it is *we* Puerto Ricans and *you* Puerto Ricans. It is prescriptive in a global, revolutionary sense. Some may question the value of talking about nutrition and physical / mental health, but that is part of the radical political education presented to undue the fallacy.

The fallacy is the view of reality that only appears correct but actually is destructive of one's sociological identity. Marxists know this as alienation from one's work and from one's life.

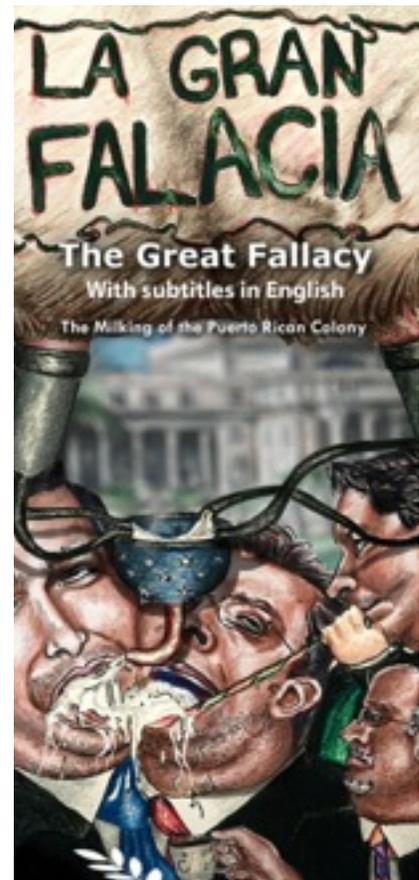
"Puerto Rico is living the convulsion of 114 years of the filthiest and most disgusting colonialism any country has ever seen," says radio personality Jorge Seijo at the opening of the film, "where Puerto Ricans have been put through a transculturation process where humans have been educated as if they were milking animals."

The film illustrates profusely and convincingly this

process in order to, recalling the words of Malcolm X, wake up the people who have been sedated into welfare, ill-health, violence and having their resources, culture and wealth steadily stripped away for the benefit of the mainland US economy and the comprador capitalist politicians who control the island colony.

Paco Vazquez's posting at [filmsforaction.org](http://filmsforaction.org) states that the film is aimed at the colony's diaspora in the mainland, but is applicable to a wider audience regardless of nationality. I think this is really a misstatement of what the film pretty well accomplishes. It wakes Puerto Ricans up, not by creating a resentful ethnic nationalism, but a picture of their situation and their place in the world of all workers: of all peoples struggling against the alienation and anomie of capitalism, of their particular context of 400 years' colonial rule by Spain and the U.S.

*Boriken* (Puerto Rico) and the *Boricuas* (Puerto Ricans) are a rich mixture of Taino indigenous lineage with black and white, speaking Spanish and some English. On an island



smaller than Iowa, the nation and its people is a rich tropical paradise of most precious water and natural resources which are endangered and neglected in the present era.

*The Great Fallacy* is one call to remedy and to action for *Boricuas* and all of us.

Watch *The Great Fallacy* online at [www.filmsforaction.org/watch/the-great-fallacy-full-movie/](http://www.filmsforaction.org/watch/the-great-fallacy-full-movie/)

## WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Red Party is a U.S. political organization that fights for working class unity in a single socialist party-movement. A united organization, based on a Marxist program, would turn politics as we know it upside down, injecting the labor and social movements with a renewed sense of confidence and strength.

\* A united workers' party-movement would combine political action with economic and social action, including running socialist candidates for office, protests, strikes, co-operatives and mutual aid societies.

\* Our organization has the word party in its name, but we recognize that in the world-historic sense there is no revolutionary party in the U.S. today. Instead we have a fractured array of competing sects organized on a bureaucratic basis. Their work is hampered by hyper-activism with little to no long-term strategy, lack of internal democracy and lack of deep roots in the working class. The Red Party organizes day-to-day resistance against injustices spawned by capitalism within the context of strengthening working class organization and building support for socialism.

\* Marxists operate through democratic centralism. Through ongoing debate we

seek to achieve unity in action and a common world outlook. As long as they support agreed actions, members have the right to speak openly and form factions to advance their views.

\* Marxists oppose all imperialist wars and interventions, from Iraq to Syria, but recognize that ending war permanently means ending capitalism.

\* Marxists are internationalists. We strive for the closest unity of the working class and oppressed peoples everywhere. We oppose nationalism in all its forms. We advocate a new revolutionary workers' International. Without an International (a world party), the struggle against Capital is weakened. Capital organizes across borders; so too must we.

\* Marxists support industrial unions (organizing workers by industry) rather than the more narrow trade union structure. We support the highest possible level of pan-American union coordination for workers' rights. Bureaucratic leadership and class collaboration, particularly support for the Democratic Party, in the unions must be replaced with democratic revitalization and class independence.

\* Marxists are champions of the oppressed. Women's oppression, racism, national oppression and LGBT/QI

oppression are just as much working class questions as are higher pay, union rights and struggles for quality health, housing and education. Marxists demand self-determination for American Indian nations, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and all other territories.

\* World capitalism, based on exploitation and a reckless quest for profit, is increasingly putting the future of humanity at risk through war and climate change. World capitalism must give way to world socialism - a society based on freedom, solidarity and a radical extension of democracy.

\* Marxists oppose Stalinism, a system of bureaucratic dictatorship that rules in the name of socialism the same way the capitalist class claims to rule in the name of liberty.

\* Socialism itself is the first stage of the global transition to communism - a society where war, exploitation, money, classes and states exist only as museum pieces. Communism is the negation of class society and provides the maximum individual and collective freedom.

If you agree with these principles, join the Red Party!

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