

RESISTANCE

ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT BULLETIN | FEBRUARY 2026 / NO: 1

**THE U.S. EMPIRE AND REFORMISM HAVE COLLAPSED!
LET'S UNITE AND FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM AS A FRONT!**



ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT
www.anti-imperialistfront.org

NEWS - PRESS RELEASES



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IMPERIALISM: A DEFINITION

Imperialism is the highest, monopolistic, and final stage of capitalism. Its fundamental contradiction is between imperialism and the peoples of the world. In the era of neocolonialism, imperialism has also become an internal problem within formally independent countries.

THE FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NEO-COLONIALISM

Neo-colonialism replaces the overt occupation of classical colonialism with covert domination. By doing so, it distorts national consciousness and tries to disguise the mechanisms of imperialist exploitation and domination.

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THE FLOWER OF RESISTANCE: ZEHRA KURTAY

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AIF IN ACTION

Photographs from the actions of the Anti-Imperialist Front.

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Biographies of revolutionaries who fell as martyrs in the struggle against imperialist policies.

WHO
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ARE

ANTI-
IMPERIALIST



FRONT

The Anti-Imperialist Front (AIF) is a union of revolutionary, socialist, communist, anarchist, democratic, and patriotic organisations struggling in different countries against imperialism.

It was officially declared in 2014, following decisions taken at the Eyup Bas Symposium for Unity of the Peoples Against Imperialist Aggression, held annually in Turkey since 2009. Representatives from 46 countries have participated in these symposiums, sharing experiences of resistance and struggle.

WHO WE ARE...

Imperialism has intensified the oppression of peoples across the world, especially following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. While imperialism relies on domestic collaborators and while capitalists who control international capital accumulate ever greater wealth, the peoples of the world are crushed under hunger, poverty, war, and massacre.

Documents published by the United Nations itself clearly demonstrate that imperialism is responsible for global hunger and poverty. According to these reports, more than 25,000 people die every day from hunger, over 17,000 of them children. Every year, 18 million people die directly from hunger, and 70 million die from hunger-related causes.

Yet hunger could be eliminated with only 50 billion dollars — a sum smaller than the annual profits of many of the world's largest monopolies. The amount required to eradicate hunger entirely is less than the 596 billion dollars spent by U.S. imperialism on military expenditures in 2015 alone. Today, U.S. imperialism possesses more than 10,000 nuclear weapons according to official figures — enough to destroy the world many times over.

This reality exposes the truth clearly: the cause of hunger is not scarcity, but the existence of monopolies. Imperialism is armed from head to toe in order to protect monopoly capital.



IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION TODAY

Imperialist aggression manifests itself differently across continents and countries, but the force behind every attack is the same: imperialism.

In the Middle East, U.S. imperialism actively sows division, exploits ethnic, religious, and national differences, and uses indigenous collaborators to fuel endless wars.

In Latin America, it maintains embargoes such as the one against Cuba, spreads narcotics, and applies ideological pressure against revolutionary movements.

In Europe, under the banner of the European Union, it strips countries such as Greece and Bulgaria of their sovereignty, drowning them in debt and austerity.

In Africa, it survives by destroying social values, provoking famine, poverty, and tribal wars.

In Asia, it tramples the achievements and values created through socialist struggle.

In short, imperialism systematically seeks to render peoples ideologically, economically, and militarily incapable of resistance.

IMPERIALISM AND THE CRISIS OF RESISTANCE

Today, imperialism appears as the sole global power, and with it spreads disorganisation, despair, and fragmentation among the peoples. There is no longer a unified socialist bloc confronting imperialism. Yet the power to create such a force remains in the hands of the oppressed peoples themselves. History proves this.

The First Imperialist War led to the destruction of Tsarism and the birth of the Soviet Union. In the Second Imperialist War, it was socialists who formed the backbone of resistance against fascism. After the war, one-third of humanity united under socialism, halting imperialist aggression.

Today, however, institutions that claim to “protect world peace”—the United Nations, NATO, the European Union, the IMF, CENTO, and dozens of related bodies—exist solely to protect imperialism against the threat of socialism. Even after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, these organisations continue to view the peoples of the world as enemies and intensify their repression.



THE INTERNATIONALIST TRADITION

The foundations of socialist internationalism were laid with the First International in 1864, led by Marx and Engels and crowned by the Paris Commune.

The Second International further organised the working-class struggle, overcoming reformism.

The Third International became a decisive force in spreading socialism and dealing historic blows to imperialism and fascism. The solidarity shown in the Spanish Civil War, the trials led by Georgi Dimitrov against German fascism, and the victories of the Vietnamese and Cuban peoples stand as enduring examples of proletarian internationalism.

However, the degeneration caused by revisionism weakened unity among socialist countries, leaving both socialist and oppressed nations isolated in the face of imperialist ideological, economic, and military assaults. Despite numerous attempts at renewed unity, no effective internationalist structure exists today to guide resistance, even as imperialist aggression reaches unprecedented levels.

The world working class has been deprived of its compass.

IMPERIALISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Imperialism today targets not only socialist forces but also bourgeois governments that refuse submission. The Middle East has been deliberately fragmented along ethnic, religious, and sectarian lines — Palestinians, Kurds, Arabs, Sunnis, Alevis, Shiites — set against one another in service of imperialist oil interests.

The devastation of Iraq and Libya demonstrates the outcome of this policy: shattered states, destroyed independence, and peoples turned into enemies.

In Syria, imperialism armed reactionary forces, established military bases, and prolonged a war that has claimed over 400,000 lives, displacing half of a population of 22 million. Yet Syria also revealed imperialism's weakness when confronted with resistance.

Imperialism seeks to dismantle any force — socialist or otherwise — that does not submit, transforming entire nations into neo-colonies through division and chaos.



THE NECESSITY OF UNITY

Today, imperialism launches a coordinated military, economic, and ideological assault against the peoples of every continent. Meanwhile, many organisations claiming to fight for peace surrender their weapons under UN supervision, while popular forces are turned into ground troops of imperialism. As a result, the peoples of the world are left ideologically and organisationally vulnerable.

THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT

The Anti-Imperialist Front (AIF) is a union of revolutionary, socialist, communist, anarchist, democratic, and patriotic organisations struggling in different countries against imperialism.

It was officially declared in 2014, following decisions taken at the Eyüp Baş Symposium for Unity of the Peoples Against Imperialist Aggression, held annually in Turkey since 2009. Representatives from 46 countries have participated in these symposiums, sharing experiences of resistance and struggle.

The AIF has expressed international solidarity through:

- Visits to Syria, Lebanon, Donbass, Belarus and Northern Kurdistan following fascist and imperialist attacks
- Organised Anti-Nato campaign
- Organised a long march to Rafah Crossing in Egypt
- Solidarity actions in Ukraine and Donbass
- International monitoring of resistance cases
- Active resistance against fascist repression in Turkey

The Anti-Imperialist Front was established upon the proposal of the People's Front, which continues the struggle for socialism against imperialism and fascism in Turkey.



OUR CALL

**We write to you with the responsibility imposed by history.
The most urgent need of today is clear:
TO ORGANISE AND FIGHT AGAINST
IMPERIALISM
WE WILL FIGHT WITH OUR OWN STRENGTH
TO BRING THE PEOPLES TO VICTORY.
WE WILL NOT ALLOW IMPERIALISM TO BE
THE EXECUTIONER OF THE PEOPLES.
WE ARE RIGHT.
WE WILL WIN.**



THE COLLAPSE OF IMPERIALISM: THE U.S. EMPIRE HAS COLLAPSED! REFORMISM HAS COLLAPSED!

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LENIN SAID...

Lenin said: “Imperialism is decayed and rotten capitalism, and our era is the era of proletarian revolutions.”

The socialist revolution is not an ‘option’—it is a historical necessity.

Imperialism no longer even feels the need to hide behind the lies of “human rights,” “democracy,” and “freedom.”

LENIN SAID...

“The more aggressive imperialism becomes, the weaker it is.”

Our era is the era of imperialism and proletarian revolutions.

For this reason, socialism is not an alternative—it is a historical necessity.

HOW DO WE ARRIVE AT THIS CONCLUSION?

How should Marxist-Leninist organizations and the proletariat analyse reality?

- **Dialectical materialism** – the method of thought: CONTRADICTION
- **Historical materialism** – the law of understanding society: CLASS
- **Marxism-Leninism** – transforming this knowledge into revolutionary practice: REVOLUTION

The fundamental contradiction lies between imperialism and the peoples of the world.

This contradiction turns into **class struggle**.

Class struggle culminates in **revolution**.

Thus, the socialist revolution is no longer an option—it is a historical necessity.



THE MARXIST-LENINIST CONCLUSION IS CLEAR

- Capitalism cannot advance
- Imperialism is a decayed stage of capitalism
- Humanity is faced with two paths:
- barbarism
- or a leap forward through socialism

There is no third way.

For this reason, the socialist revolution is no longer an “option,” but a historical necessity.

WHY DO WE KNOW THIS?

Because we know the **laws of history**.

Marxism-Leninism teaches the proletariat **scientific thinking**.

Marxist-Leninists evaluate events not by intentions, but by objective laws formed historically.

The entire proletariat of the world must evaluate reality in this way. This is the scientific method of thinking. Laws are not formed according to our intentions, but historically. They do not express our wishes, but objective realities.

THE LAWS OF HISTORY

1. The Tendency of the Rate of Profit to Fall (Karl Marx)

Capitalism's internal contradiction:

- Living labour decreases
- The source of surplus value narrows
- Profit rates fall

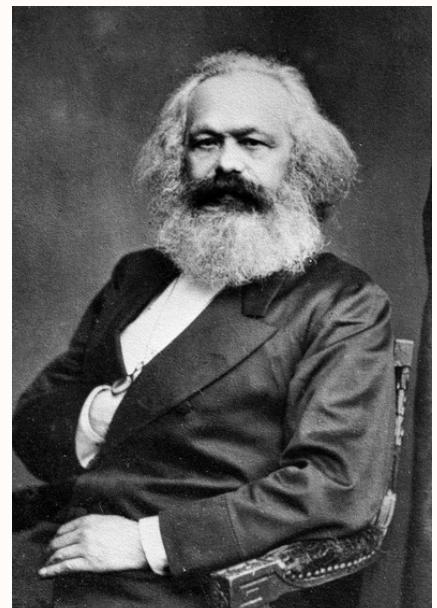
At this point, capital faces two options:

1. **Social transformation (socialism)**

2. **A return to primitive forms of exploitation**

Imperialism has chosen the second—and by its nature, it must.

This is the **return of primitive accumulation** (Marx): expropriation, plunder, force, war.

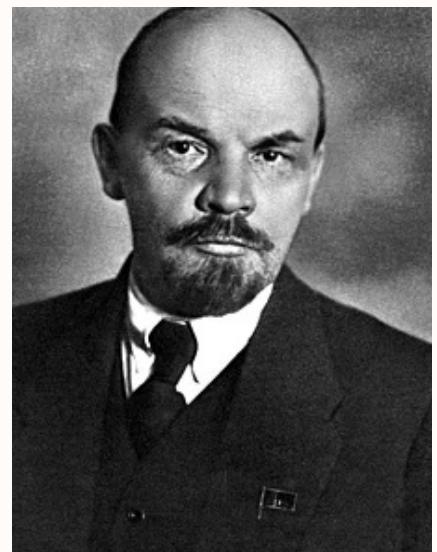


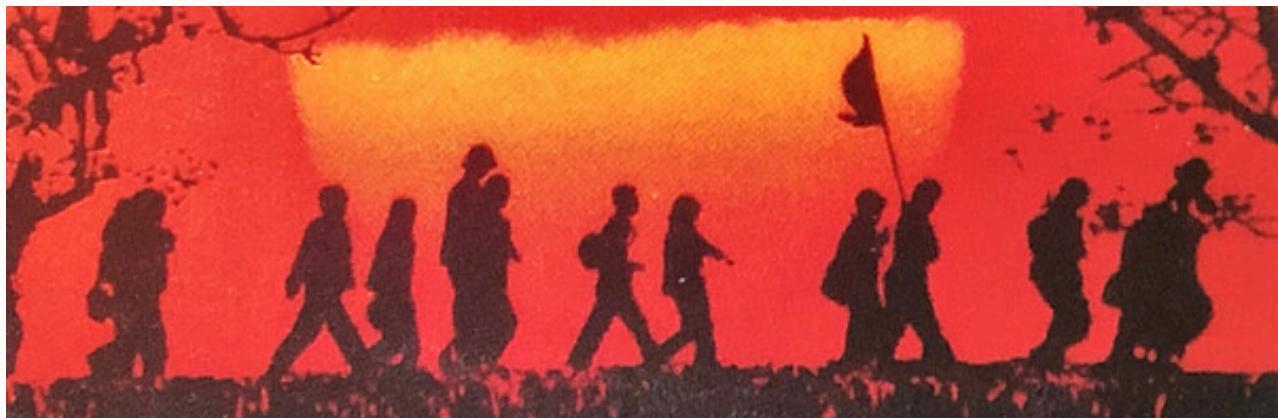
2. LENIN'S HISTORICAL LAW

Lenin stated: "**Imperialism is the eve of revolutions.**"

Imperialist aggression is not strength—it is weakness.

The more aggressive imperialism becomes, the weaker it is.





CAPITALISM HAS EXHAUSTED ITS HISTORICAL MISSION

According to Marx, capitalism's historical role was to:

- Develop productive forces
- Break feudal bonds
- Create the world market

This mission has been completed.

CRISIS MEANS COLLAPSE

The imperialist crisis that erupted in **2008** has not been overcome.

- In 1945, the U.S. controlled nearly **50% of world production**
- Today, this has fallen to around **15%**

U.S. hegemony is weakening.

The illusion of a unipolar world has collapsed.

THE REASONS FOR THE COLLAPSE

1. **Historical** – Imperialism can no longer produce progress
2. **Economic** – The falling rate of profit and forced regression
3. **Political** – The historical collapse of bourgeois democracy
4. **Ideological** – The collapse of claims to universality

THE TRUMP ERA AND THE RETURN TO THE MONROE DOCTRINE

U.S. imperialism is attempting to resolve its crisis by going back 200 years. A Monroe Doctrine-style policy of naked, coercive power is being imposed.

This is not a deviation—it is the **decay phase of capitalism**. Imperialism is so decayed that it can no longer sustain even ideological legitimacy.

The Monroe Doctrine (**1823**) declared: “Latin America is my sphere of influence.”

Trump, speaking for U.S. monopolies, effectively says: “**The entire world is my sphere of influence.**”

THE REVOLUTIONARY TASK

The proletariat must establish:

- Marxist-Leninist parties
- Popular organizations (People's Committees, People's Assemblies)

In the face of imperialist aggression, if Marxist-Leninist organizations and popular organizations do not exist, this vacuum will be filled by fascism, nationalism, religion, and corruption, diverting the struggle in another direction. The process of proletarian revolutions will be delayed, and the peoples of the world will pay an even higher price. Just as in Germany, socialists failed to establish M-L parties despite having the conditions to seize power, leaving it to Hitler's fascism, or as in Turkey today, where the fascist party leader Devlet Bahçeli (MHP) exploits the people's anti-imperialist sentiments by claiming "the U.S. is the real problem," history shows the dangers of failing to organize.

The task of revolutionaries is clear:

- The naked face of imperialism has been exposed.
- Reformist and liberal illusions have collapsed.
- Revolutionary, anti-imperialist, and socialist struggle has become objectively more legitimate.
- The struggle against imperialism is not only moral—it is historical and scientific.

It is necessary to establish popular organizations and parties:

- The Party carries the question of power.
- People's Committees and People's Assemblies transform the class.

Functions of the Party:

- Preserve the program
- Fix the objectives
- Integrate experience

Functions of People's Assemblies:

- Develop new cadres
- Educate the class
- Expand the struggle

This is a mutual relationship and historical wholeness.

WHY ARE POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS MORE POLITICAL AT THIS STAGE OF IMPERIALISM?

Because:

- The crisis is permanent
- The state is visible in its naked coercion
- Capital cannot hide

Therefore, popular organizations:

- Quickly clash with class antagonisms
- Rapidly acquire political character

Compared to previous periods, this process will be far sharper and more decisive.

In the 19th century, the United States exploited Latin America through the Monroe Doctrine and developed as a result. What once allowed U.S. capitalism to grow now signals its collapse.

Capitalism is no longer the bearer of progress; it has become its obstacle. Unable to carry humanity forward, it now seeks to preserve itself by dragging humanity backward.

- Productive forces are not developing; they are being destroyed
- Science is subordinated to war, destruction, surveillance, and control
- Speculation dominates instead of labour

THE FINAL REVOLUTIONARY CONCLUSION

This two-hundred-year attempt to push humanity backward cannot halt humanity, cannot reverse history,

it only sharpens contradictions and intensifies conflict.

The Marxist-Leninist conclusion is clear:

capitalism cannot advance; imperialism is a decayed stage.

Humanity will either be dragged into barbarism or leap forward through socialism.

For this reason, the socialist revolution is no longer an “option,” but a historical necessity.

Regression is not a sign of imperialism’s strength, but an expression of its historical impasse.

THE ONLY OPTION IS SOCIALIST REVOLUTION

Imperialism is armed from head to toe.

The proletariat must organize under **Marxist-Leninist parties** and carry out a **revolution based on force**.

Reformism has historically gone bankrupt.

Scientific socialism has once again proven to be the **only consistent path**. “The fact that Chavez, Morales, and now Maduro have been openly kidnapped; this is a collapse of reformism!”



HISTORICAL CONCLUSION

It must be stated clearly:

- Without popular organization, the class cannot appear on the historical stage.
- But, at the same time, popular organization alone cannot solve the problem of power.

The relationship between the two must be correctly established.

THE PEOPLE DO NOT BECOME POLITICAL POWER ON THEIR OWN—M-L LEADERSHIP IS REQUIRED.

The Marxist law is simple: **the class makes history only when organized.**

Today:

- When living spaces are under siege
- When labour is fragmented
- When the state imposes itself by force

Popular organizations are:

- Not secondary
- Central arenas of struggle

But they carry historical significance only when linked to class antagonism, leadership, and the objective of power.

IN SUMMARY:

1. **Historical Level:** Blockage of the productive forces
2. **Economic Level:** Stagnation of capital accumulation
3. **Political Level:** Collapse of democracy and hegemony
4. **Ideological Level:** Erosion of universal values
5. **Revolutionary Perspective:** Lenin's Logic

- The more naked and aggressive imperialism becomes, the sharper the contradictions.
- Dragging humanity backward simultaneously creates objective conditions for socialist and anti-imperialist revolutions.

Leninist Revolutionary Strategy:

- As imperialist aggression increases,
- As exploitation and coercion are exposed,
- Revolution becomes inevitable.

In short, **imperialism's regression, historical decay, and revolutionary opportunity are expressed together.**

We must organize, because only an organized people is invincible.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE AGAINST IMPERIALISM!

STRUGGLE – WIN – BUILD SOCIALISM!

THE ONLY PATH IS REVOLUTION; THE ONLY SOLUTION IS SOCIALISM!

LETS UNITE AND FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM AS A FRONT!

Signatories:

Anti-Imperialist Front

People's Front (Turkey)

SUPERNOVA (France)

Popular Action – Group of Communists/Fighters (Greece)

“Borotba” association (Ukraine)

Movimiento Guevarista de Ecuador

Iniciativa Comunista (Spain)

Interbrigade of the Moscow City Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation

New Socialist Movement of Georgia

Zannekinbond, Flanders (state of Belgium)

All-African People's Revolutionary Party

Revolutionary Student Commission (student's wing of Communist Party Marxist Kenya)

23rd September Movement (Bulgaria)

American Communist Party

BULTZA EHM-L (Euskal Herria/Basque Country)

New Communist Party (Great Britain)

*Footnote: The list of signatories is accurate as of the date this bulletin was prepared.



IMPERIALISM: THE DEFINITION

FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NEO- COLONIALISM

VENEZUELA: THE US IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION AND THE ANTI- IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE



IMPERIALISM: THE DEFINITION

Imperialism is the highest, monopolistic, and final stage of capitalism. Its fundamental contradiction is between **imperialism and the peoples of the world**. In the era of neocolonialism, imperialism has also become an **internal problem** within formally independent countries.

Imperialism is not merely a system of **military and economic domination**; its primary mode of attack today is ideological, shaping consciousness, culture, and political life in the interests of monopoly capital.

Imperialism operates through multiple, interconnected methods: **Military – Political – Ideological – Economic – Cultural**

For a country to be imperialist, it must possess **highly concentrated financial capital** and **powerful monopolies**. A country that is not among the richest in the world, and that lacks monopolistic financial capital of sufficient scale, cannot be imperialist.

However, the mere possession of large amounts of capital is not enough. The imposition of imperialist hegemony also requires **military force, political coercion, and direct aggression**.

Imperialism is a **global system of neocolonial oppression and financial enslavement**, in which the overwhelming majority of the world's population is exploited by a handful of so-called "advanced" countries, led by the **United States**.

Imperialism is **parasitic capitalism**. Like an octopus, it has wrapped the entire globe in its tentacles, extracting superprofits soaked in the blood, labour, and lives of millions of workers in dependent and neocolonial countries.

Imperialism is **decaying capitalism**. In its ruthless struggle for raw materials, markets, and territories, it destroys entire states and throws nations back in their historical development by decades or even centuries. The domination of the world market by monopolies leads inevitably to **stagnation, decay, and the obstruction of genuine scientific and technical progress**.

Imperialism is **aggressive capitalism**. It unleashes wars across the globe in the struggle for resources, markets, and the redivision of the world among rival financial groups and imperialist powers.

Imperialism threatens the very existence of humanity. By massively expanding military budgets and stockpiling weapons of mass destruction, the imperialist powers are preparing for a new world war, including the potential use of nuclear weapons.

Imperialism is directly responsible for hunger, poverty, disease, and inhuman living conditions that claim millions of lives every year. The problems of hunger, homelessness, and epidemics could have been resolved long ago were it not for imperialism's unrestrained drive for world domination and profit at any cost.

In its effort to preserve its global hegemony, the United States, together with its allies, overthrows governments that refuse submission, installs puppet regimes—including fascist ones—supports terrorist organizations and reactionary ideologies, and incites racial, national, and religious hatred to divide peoples and set nations against one another.

Imperialism stops at no crime to maintain its rule over the world. It persecutes and murders communists, suppresses anti-fascists and anti-imperialists, crushes all opponents of the system, and organizes pogroms, massacres, and genocides.



FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NEO-COLONIALISM

Neo-colonialism replaces the overt occupation of classical colonialism with covert domination. By doing so, it distorts national consciousness and tries to disguise the mechanisms of imperialist exploitation and domination.

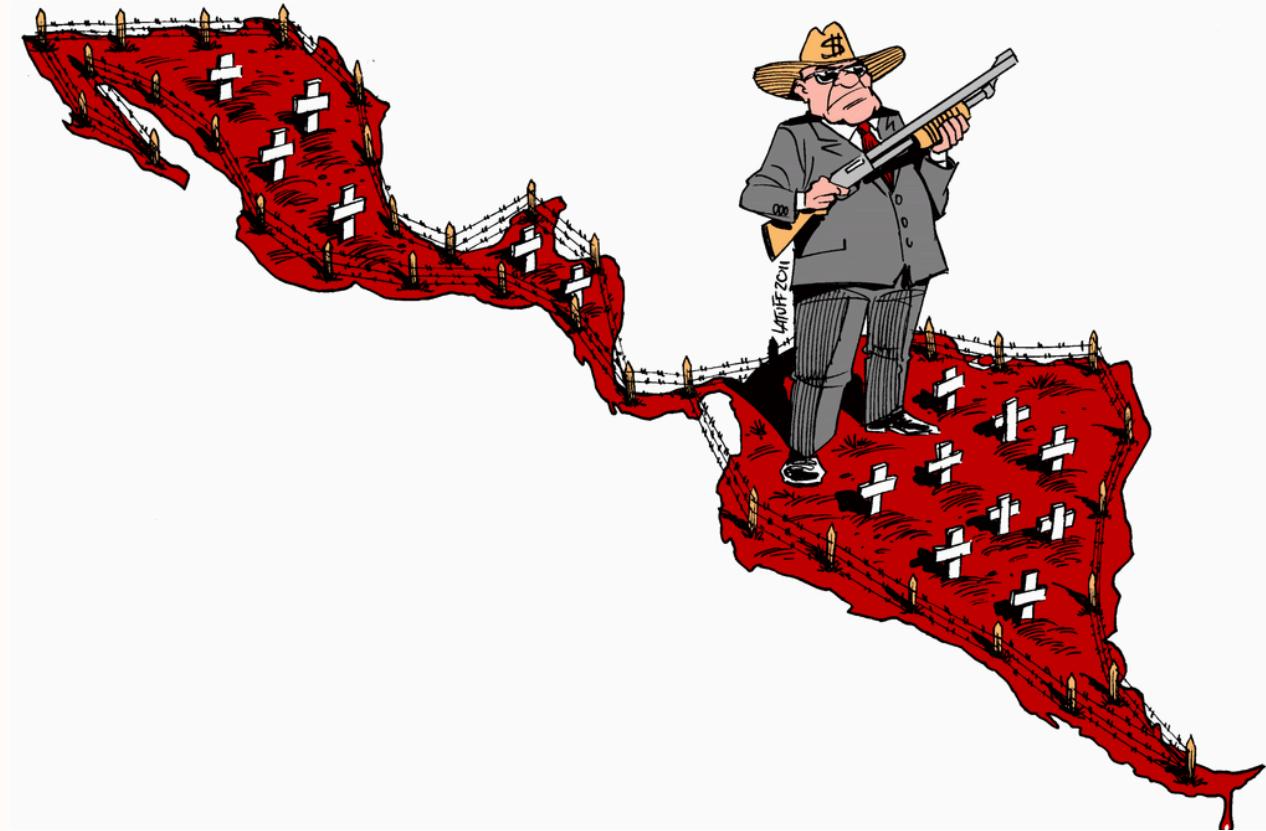
Intensifying capital through ruthless exploitation, imperialism leverages its technological superiority to alter the structure of capital exported to colonies—ensuring greater profits with less investment.

1. Distorted capitalism, built from the top down and centred around the assembly industry, is a key hallmark of neo-colonialism.
2. Even in its distorted form, capitalism develops the domestic markets of colonies, allowing imperialism to put otherwise idle capital from metropolitan centres into more lucrative use.
3. Oligarchic regimes and colonial-type fascism, built to serve both imperialist and local monopolist interests, are defining features of neo-colonial rule.
4. U.S. imperialism, emerging dominant after the Spanish-American War (the first market war of the imperialist era), began applying neo-colonial methods as early as the Second Crisis Period (1919–1945).

During this period, the U.S. entered Latin American colonies with promises of “freedom” and “independence,” later evolving its tactical use of neo-colonialism into a systematic strategy during the Third Crisis Period.

“Now, while imperialism granted formal independence to former colonies, foreign capital entered under the guise of ‘import substitution’ and ‘support for national industries.’ This formed the most insidious system of colonialism-re-subjugating not just old colonies, but also, countries that had managed to escape imperialist control. In this system, where independence was reduced to a flag and a national anthem, the aim was not only to extract natural resources, but also to create a superficial, often assembly-based industry, expand the domestic market and intensify exploitation by leveraging cheap labour.”

(We Are Right, We Will Win, Vol. 1, pp. 164–165)



Starting in the 1940s and '50s, imperialism accelerated the development of neo-colonial systems to deepen exploitation, undermine national consciousness, and expand markets.

Neo-colonialism preserves the essence of imperialist exploitation while evolving its form enabling more aggressive exploitation of the people.

Changes in the Components of Exported Capital

1. These new methods were systematized through U.S. foreign policy, beginning with the Truman Doctrine.
2. Neo-colonies were burdened with economic and military debt—such as the Marshall Plan—marketed as “development” aid.
3. As debts mounted, institutions like the IMF and World Bank became de facto colonial governors.
4. By the 1970s, the U.S. had signed dependency agreements with over 70 underdeveloped countries.
5. Through these agreements, the imperialists dictated how loans would be used effectively controlling entire national economies and establishing a distorted capitalist structure dependent on them.
6. As Fidel Castro wrote in *World Crisis*, the cost of “technology transfer” was enormous by 1982, neo-colonial countries paid over \$35 billion for technology alone, accounting for more than a third of their total foreign debt increase that year.



Centuries of colonialism—culminating in the imperialist era—allowed wealth from dozens of countries to be funnelled into imperialist centres. This gave imperialism massive advantage in high-tech, capital-intensive production.

This technological superiority enabled monopolies to solidify their dominance via exports, patents, know-how, and branding.

The New Form of Imperialist Occupation: Secret Occupation

1. Imperialist exploitation requires a political and military base in every country.
2. The people will inevitably rise up against imperialist domination, drawing inspiration from those who have broken the chains of exploitation.
3. In response, imperialism replaces open occupation with covert occupation to safeguard its interests.

“Imperialism needed to develop a system of domination that would politically, militarily, and economically secure its interests in the colonies. This security depended on having centralized instruments of oppression and terror that would suppress the reaction of the people and directly defend imperialist interests. This need led imperialism to build local collaborator armies capable of implementing what fascist junta leader Evren called a ‘transition from passive defence to active defence.’”

(We Are Right, We Will Win, Vol. 1, p. 168)

These collaborator armies offer many advantages:

- They spare the imperialist powers from deploying their own troops to every corner of the world.
- They eliminate the high costs associated with maintaining a permanent open occupation.
- They serve as effective tools in suppressing national liberation movements through indirect intervention.

These armies become dependent on the imperialists in every aspect from the boots they wear to the weapons they use. Though called “national” or “military” armies, they are occupying their own countries on behalf of imperialism.

Imperialism places great emphasis on these collaborator armies in every period, embedding them in networks of control linked directly to the imperialist military command.

Connected through military alliances like NATO, SEATO, and CONDECA, these armies are among the institutions imperialism trusts the most.

In countries like Turkey, these armies adopt training programs, curricula, and doctrines developed in imperialist centres.

Most of the officers in these armies are trained to suppress national consciousness, alienate themselves from the people, and embrace anti-communist, counterrevolutionary ideologies - through special programs conducted in imperialist military academies.

The internalization of imperialism in neo-colonial societies - a key difference from classical colonialism - is made possible through:

- A distorted capitalist structure imposed from the top down,
- The collaborator monopolist bourgeoisie, and
- The domination of the domestic market by imperialist-aligned monopolies, integrating it into the broader imperialist economy.

Imperialism also asserts control over superstructure institutions, reshaping them to align with the economic foundation it has imposed.

VENEZUELA: THE US IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION AND THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE

The Main Enemy Is Imperialism: Venezuela and a United Anti-Imperialist Front Against Imperialist Aggression

Murderous U.S. imperialism—get out of Venezuela.

Venezuela's abducted president, Nicolás Maduro, must be immediately and unconditionally returned to his country. The forcible detention of the president of a legitimate, independent state—and of a member of parliament—is not an “incident,” a “diplomatic crisis,” or a “legal violation.” It is imperialism appearing on stage in its most naked and direct form.

January 3, 2026 is a watershed date. On this day, U.S. imperialism directly attacked the Venezuelan state, kidnapped its legitimate leader, and declared that it no longer even needs to conceal its aggression. This attack is not isolated; it is nothing other than the practical implementation of the new security doctrine proclaimed by the United States. With the so-called “Donroe Doctrine,” Washington once again confirms the truth long exposed by Lenin: imperialism is not a choice, but a necessary stage of monopoly capitalism. It is the inevitable result of finance capital, monopolies, and the redivision of world markets.



Trump's threat to “reassert control over the Western Hemisphere” is not rhetoric; it is a program of recolonization. What liberals call a “violation of international law” is, in reality, the normal functioning of imperialist law. International law is not neutral; it is a superstructural instrument of imperialist relations of production. It is applied to the weak, suspended for the strong, and weaponized whenever necessary.

The Real Reason: Violence to Prolong a Collapsing Hegemony

This attack cannot be explained solely by Venezuela's oil reserves. Yes, U.S. monopolies want to regain the privileges they lost under the Bolivarian process. But the decisive factor is that U.S. imperialism has entered a period of historical decline. Like every declining empire, it increasingly resorts to violence.

The attack on Venezuela is part of a broader strategy aimed at breaking China's economic and commercial influence in Latin America. China's growing presence in a region Washington views as its "backyard" is shaking U.S. hegemony. For the same reason Greenland is targeted; for the same reason Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, and Cuba are in the crosshairs. For the same reason Iran is being encircled and Palestine is being pushed toward annihilation.

These are not separate crises but parts of a single process: imperialism's attempt to reorganize the world by force in the face of deepening global contradictions.



The Principal Contradiction: Between the Peoples and Imperialism

There are many contradictions in the world. But Leninist analysis teaches us which one is decisive. Today, the fundamental contradiction is between the peoples of the world and the imperialist system led by the United States. NATO is the military apparatus of this system.

Any approach that obscures this reality, fragments the struggle, or presents secondary differences as strategic divides objectively serves imperialism.

The Lesson of History: Reformism Disarms

What is happening in Venezuela cannot be considered independently of the 1973 coup in Chile. Neither Allende, nor Chávez, nor Maduro has been able to fundamentally resolve the question of state power. Health care, education, and social rights are of course important; but as long as the bourgeois state apparatus is not dismantled, these gains remain temporary.

Imperialism cannot be abolished through reforms. A system in which monopolies, oligarchs, and imperialist institutions continue to exist inevitably invites counterrevolution. Those who carry out coups are eventually overthrown by coups.

There is only one solution: the total dismantling of imperialism and its local collaborators. Liberation is possible only by relying on organized popular forces. Its name is revolution. Without revolution, imperialism cannot be confronted.



The Front: Unity Against the Main Enemy

The past years have taught us an important lesson. The resistance of the Palestinian people—especially in Gaza—has shown that different political and cultural currents can unite against a common enemy. Under conditions where a legitimate government has been abducted, it is a historical necessity for all democratic, popular, and socialist forces to unite in a common anti-imperialist front.

Those who reject this front are not neutral. Under these conditions, neutrality does not exist; either you stand with resistance, or you become an objective ally of imperialism.

Resistance Is Not an Option—It Is a Necessity

The handcuffed, blindfolded images coming from Venezuela have exposed the true face of imperialist “democracy.” These images reveal today’s balance of forces in the class struggle. From Palestine to Africa, from Latin America to the impoverished neighbourhoods of the imperialist metropolises, the same violence prevails.

The democratic space does not arise spontaneously; it is the product of class struggle. Today, this space is being systematically narrowed. This is a warning to us all.

The task of popular, democratic, and socialist organizations is clear: to resist imperialism through every legitimate form of struggle.

Imperialism will be defeated—only those who resist will win!





**THE
INTERNATIONAL
ACTION DAY
AGAINST NATO
JOIN THE
INTERNATIONAL
WEEK OF ACTION
AGAINST NATO:
30 MARCH -6 APRIL**

PAGE 27 | THE INTERNATIONAL ACTION DAY AGAINST NATO

ANTI-NATO CAMPAIGN

THE INTERNATIONAL ACTION DAY AGAINST NATO

JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST NATO:

30 MARCH – 6 APRIL

What Is NATO Really?

NATO stands for occupation, repression, war crimes, torture, murder, poverty, exploitation, injustice, counter-guerrilla warfare, and hostility toward the peoples of the world.

It represents isolation prisons, terror laws, and systematic disinformation.

NATO is an organisation created to extend and enforce U.S. imperialist hegemony across the globe.



Military Bases: The Architecture of Domination

The United States of America maintains more than 750 foreign military bases in over 80 countries.

NATO itself operates 91 military bases worldwide, divided into four main categories:

- “Deterrence and Defence” – 48 bases
- “Operations and Missions” – 19 bases
- “Projecting Stability and Fighting Terrorism” – 22 bases

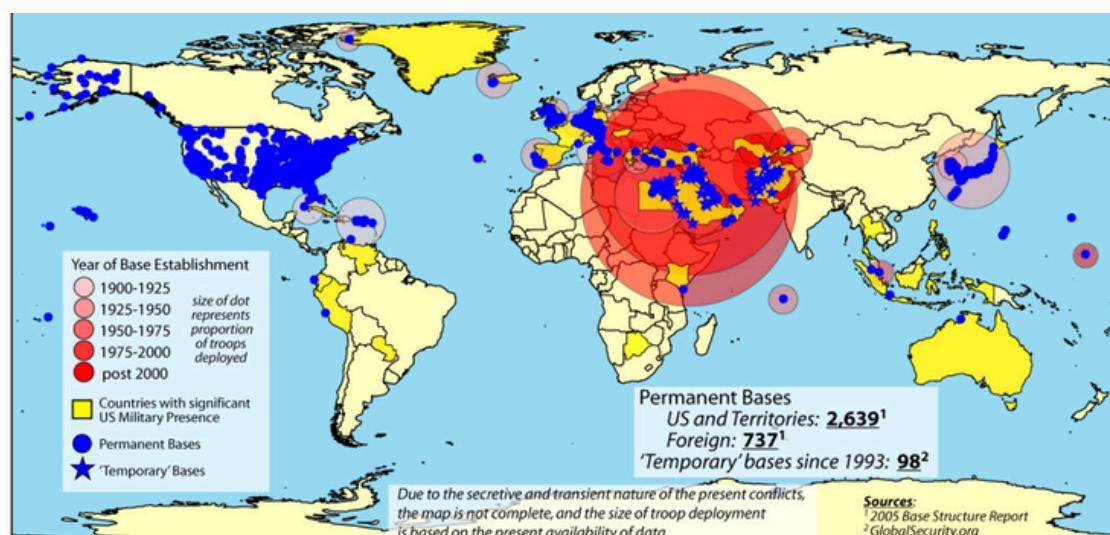
- “NATO Partnerships” – 2 bases

Imperialism and its collaborator states seek to transform the entire world into a giant NATO base. From Ramstein Air Base in Germany, to Izmir Air Station in Turkey, Souda Naval Base in Greece, and JFC Naples in Italy, new bases are continuously constructed to expand U.S.–EU profits and military control worldwide.

The Establishment of NATO – 4 April 1949

- NATO was founded on 4 April 1949, falsely presented as a “defensive pact against communism.”
- Through the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, imperialism implemented a coordinated strategy to establish U.S. global dominance.
- NATO is an imperialist war machine, serving U.S. and European expansionism.

NATO currently consists of 30 member states, with Finland and Sweden integrated into its expansionist strategy.



How Does Imperialism Rule the World?

Through:

- a) NATO Strategic Concept decisions
- b) Anti-terror laws

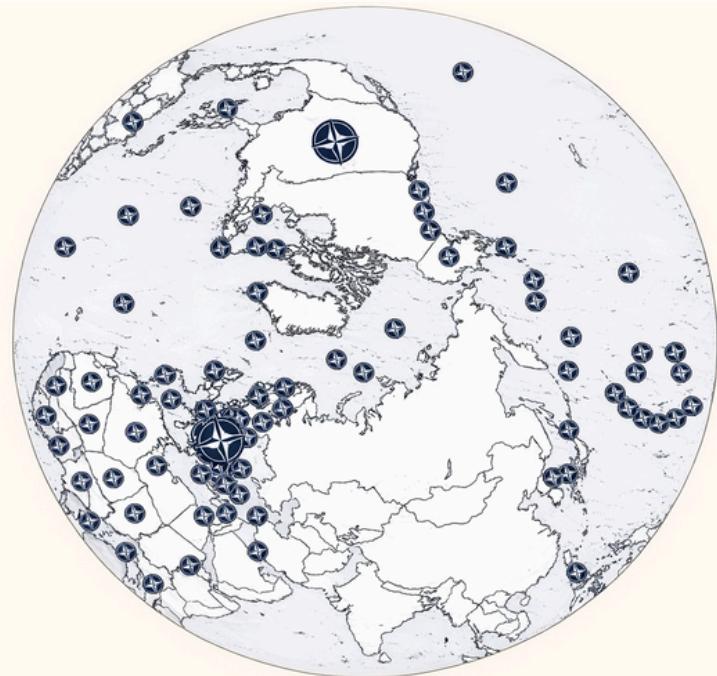
At the Vilnius NATO Summit (2023), the following decisions were taken:

- NATO will respond to attacks through SACEUR (Supreme Allied Commander Europe) – a position always held by a U.S. officer.
- The NATO High Commander in Europe now has the authority to conduct operations and attacks without consulting NATO bodies or informing member states in advance.
- 300,000 NATO troops are to be kept in a state of high operational readiness.

NATO and the U.S. are constructing a global front against China, stretching from Central Asia to the Indian Ocean, and extending to South Korea and Japan, including the southern regions of China. NATO has openly declared the entire world a “strategic region.”

As U.S. imperialist doctrine states: “*The United States cannot survive without a world system.*”

The Vilnius decisions were taken to enforce this system and impose U.S. hegemony globally.



NATO’s Crimes Against the Peoples of the World

U.S. and NATO bases are used to attack oppressed peoples everywhere:

- In the Middle East: Palestine, Yemen, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan
- In Ukraine, supplying weapons to support the Zelensky regime
- Against the peoples of Africa and Asia, who resist imperialism and exploitation

NATO is not only a military alliance—it is the gendarme of the imperialist world order.

It does not merely occupy territories; it uses disinformation and psychological warfare to occupy minds.

NATO is the largest terrorist organization in the world. Its summits aim to turn independent countries into provinces of the U.S. Empire.

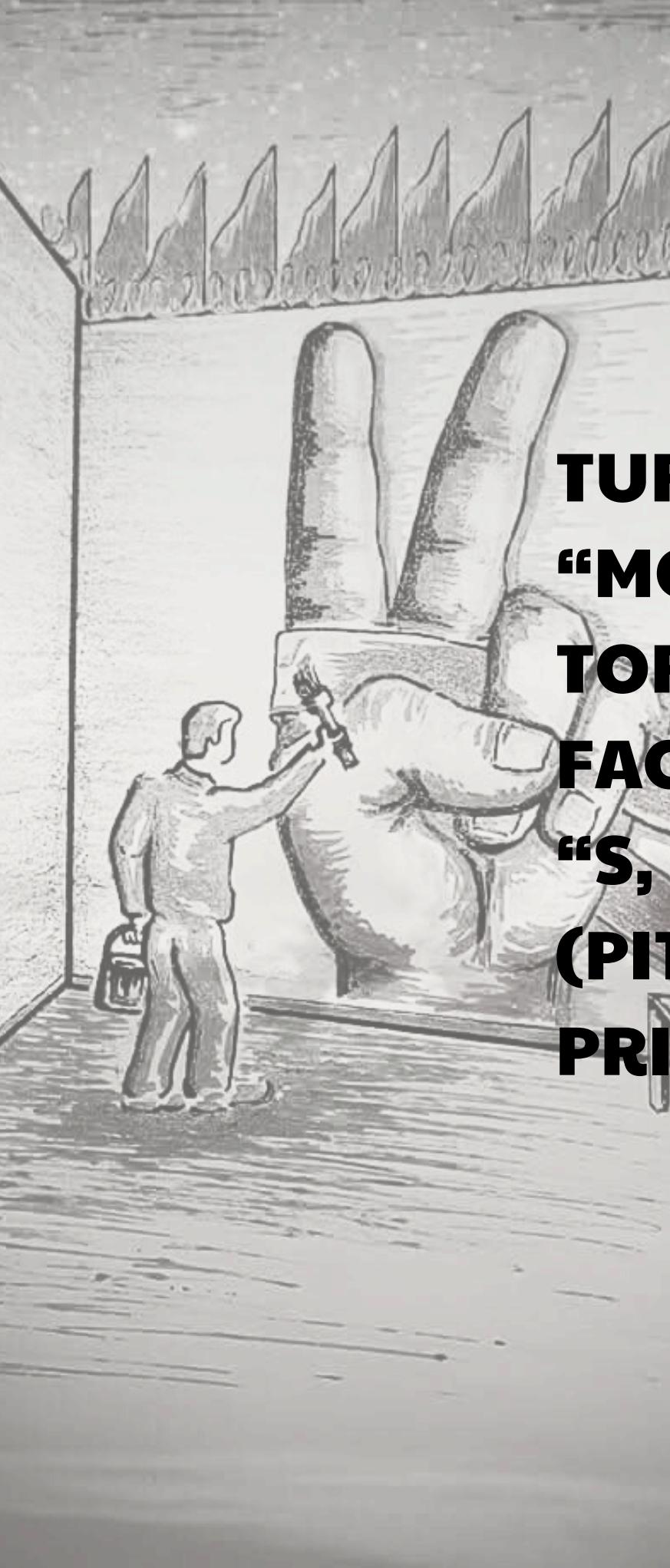
NATO is the greatest threat to the peoples of the world.

We must unite against imperialism and its collaborator states.

**ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD – UNITE AND FIGHT AGAINST NATO!
OUR COMMON ENEMY IS IMPERIALISM
SMASH NATO – CLOSE ALL BASES**

*Anti-Imperialist Front
Greece, France, Belarus, Austria, Turkey, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Spain
*P- CARC, Italy
* Anti-NATO Action, Greece
* Popular Action, Greece
* Samidoun Palestinian Prisoners Solidarity Network
* Alliance Against War Switzerland, Austria
* All African People's Revolutionary Party
* Secours Rouge Toulouse
* Union Borotba Ukraine, Donbass
* Vanguard of the Red Youth of Labour Russia
* Campagne Unitaire pour la Libération de Georges Abdallah, France
* Antiimperialist Coordination
* Zannekinbond, Belgium
* Bultza Herri Ekimena, Euskal Herria Basque Country
* Frente Anti Imperialista, Spain
* Saoradh, Ireland
* Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine (DFLP)
* Movement 23 September, Bulgaria
* Indar – Nafarroa, Euskal Herria
* Moroccan Socialist Youth
* Internationalt Forum, Denmark
* RNP-F, Serbia
* Supernova revue communiste, Marseille
* Communist Party of Jordanian
* Latinoamérica Unida
* Unidos contra el Lawfare
* Amigas da Democracia Barcelona
* Coordinadora Estatal contra la OTAN y las Bases
* Party of Communists USA
* Andalusian Nation Party- Andalusia
*Socialist Platform of Georgia
* CPRF Moscow Communist Interbrigade

*Footnote: The list of signatories is accurate as of the date this bulletin was prepared.



TURKEY'S “MODERN” TORTURE FACILITIES: “S, R, Y - (PIT-TYPE)” PRISONS

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TURKEY'S "MODERN" TORTURE FACILITIES: "S, R, Y - (PIT-TYPE)" PRISONS

Long-Term Solitary Confinement Practices, Human Rights Violations, and Resistance.

In Turkey, the political prisoners are facing a prolonged, time-spread form of torture that has recently come to the public agenda through hunger strikes and death fasts. This form of torture is called long-term aggravated solitary confinement/isolation. Criticism and debate are increasingly growing regarding these prisons—referred to as S-Type, Y-Type, and High-Security Penal Institutions, and collectively called “Well-Type Prisons” due to similarities in their architectural structure—and the continuous and aggravated isolation-based execution model applied within them, which is said to cause serious human rights violations.



So far, 14 prisoners who took part in indefinite hunger strikes and death fasts against well-type prisons have been transferred to prisons that are not of the well-type as a result of their actions, thus partially having their demands accepted and ending their protests. Some prisoners who engaged in long-term hunger strikes ended their actions because they were released during the protest period. However, some prisoners continue their hunger strikes and death fasts. Some of these prisoners have been continuing their hunger strikes and death fasts for hundreds of days, and their health conditions are worsening day by day. The main demands of prisoners on hunger strike and death fast are the closure of S-Type, Y-Type, and High-Security prisons and an end to continuous and aggravated solitary confinement practices. In addition, their demands include stopping transfers to well-type prisons, transferring prisoners already sent to these prisons to non-well-type prisons, and ending the practice of transferring prisoners against their will to prisons located very far from their families.

In this article, we will mainly focus on examining the aforementioned well-type prisons and the isolation/confinement model applied in them from medical and legal perspectives, and we will present information regarding the human rights violations they cause. However, before doing so, we will also provide information—necessary, in our view, for a better understanding of the issue—about the architectural structure of these prisons and the execution model implemented within them, in order to portray “well-type” prisons as concretely as possible.



A- ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE AND EXECUTION MODEL OF S-TYPE, Y-TYPE, AND HIGH-SECURITY PENAL INSTITUTIONS

A.1. General Information

Across Turkey, there are 6 Y-Type, 7 S-Type, and 11 high-security prisons. Compared to F-Type and T-Type prisons—which are also based on single-cell and small-group isolation—these prisons have much harsher isolation conditions. Long-term solitary confinement in single-person cells, limited ventilation hours, deprivation of sunlight, and constant surveillance by cameras stand out among the practices that cause severe human rights violations.

Cells in these prisons range from 5 to 10 square meters. Ventilation areas are extremely narrow, and the wire meshes on the windows have gaps so small that they prevent sufficient light and air from entering the cells. There is almost no fresh air circulation in the cells. Due to this architectural structure, prisoners liken these prisons to a “well” and refer to them as “well-type prisons.”

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What distinguishes these prisons from F-Type and T-Type prisons—which are also isolation-based, cell-type prisons—is that isolation is even further aggravated, and the architectural structure is designed to minimize prisoners' contact with other prisoners and the outside world. So much so that some prisoners are unable to have any social contact with another human being for months. While prisoners in F-Type and T-Type prisons at least have the opportunity to walk, exercise, and see the sky in independent ventilation areas attached to each cell, none of these opportunities exist in the new-type prisons. Prisoners spend 23 hours a day locked in their cells and are taken out to ventilation areas only for 1 hour a day, alone. The architectural design of the “ventilation” areas and the rules governing their use further aggravate isolation rather than alleviating it.

These practices go beyond mere “deprivation of liberty” and result in violations of the prohibition of torture and inhuman or cruel treatment. It is indisputable that conditions that completely prevent access to daylight—combined with practices such as desocialization, isolation, humiliation, and the creation of uncertainty—damage prisoners' physical and mental health, and that this constitutes a violation of the prohibition of torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

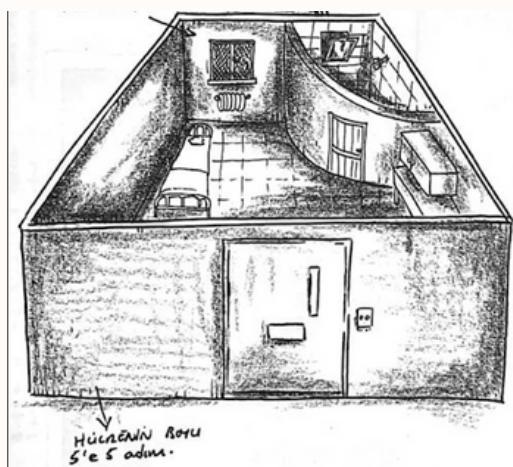
A.2. Physical-Architectural Structure

These prisons have an architecturally three-story structure and consist of single-person and three-person cells. In other words, they are based on solitary confinement and small-group isolation. A gradual isolation-treatment policy is implemented in these prisons.

Blocks A, B, C, and D consist of single-person cells, while Block E contains only three-person cells. The blocks consist of five corridors, or modules—for example, modules such as A1, A2, A3, A4, and A5. Each corridor (module) is treated as independent both from other floors and from other corridors. For example, a person staying in A1 on the second floor is not taken out together with those on the first or third floors to common areas such as ventilation, sports, workshops, etc. Detainees and convicts on the same floor are only taken out to common areas if they are deemed “well-behaved” according to the isolation-treatment policy implemented by the prison administration. Those who are not considered “well-behaved” are never allowed into common areas under any circumstances and are not permitted to come together with other detainees or convicts or to engage in social activities in any way.

In blocks with single-person cells, there are 6 cells on each floor, making a total of 18 single-person cells. In Block E, which contains three-person cells, there are 3 three-person cells on each floor, totalling 9 three-person cells.

Access from the corridors where the cells are located to the main corridor on each floor is provided through iron-barred doors controlled electronically. In the main corridor, there is a Local Control Panel (LCP). The guards on duty on that floor remain at the LCP. Cell doors are electronically controlled from this point and are opened and closed via electronic commands. The intercom system inside the cells, which is intended to enable communication with administrative staff, is also connected to and controlled from the LCP.

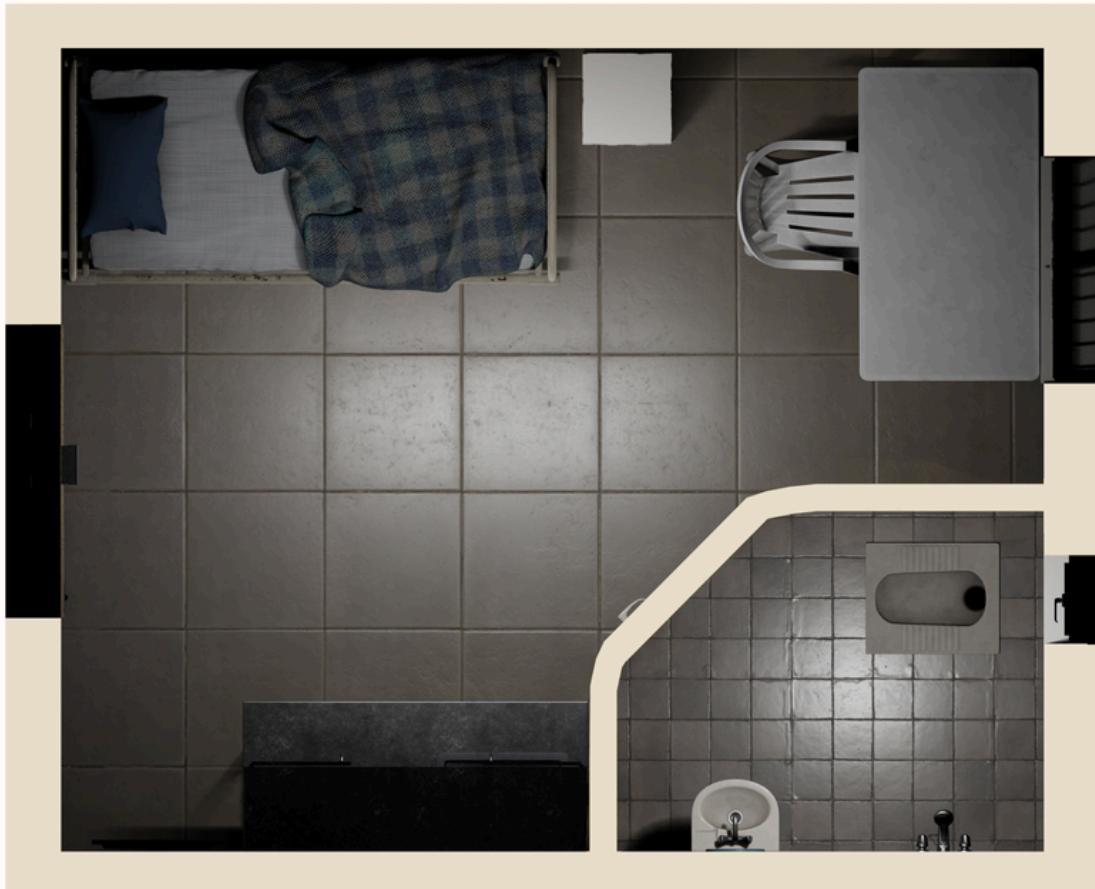


After passing through the automatically opening iron-barred door, there is an area called a workshop on the first and third floors, which is also used for discussion activities. This area is approximately the size of two three-person cells.

None of the cells have independent ventilation. There are ventilation areas located at a distance from the cells, which other prisoners are also allowed to use at different time intervals. Ventilation periods are limited to between 1 and 2 hours. This means that prisoners spend 22–23 hours a day locked inside a sunless, airless, damp cell.

Each cell has one window; however, due to the architectural design—because the cells face north and there are very high walls, especially for cells on the lower floors—daylight either does not enter at all or enters only minimally. In addition, due to the presence of wire mesh on the windows and the very narrow spacing of the mesh, there is no regular flow of light or air. As a result, the cells are dark, airless, humid, and damp.

Cell doors are opened and closed from the Local Control Panel section. The intercom system inside the cell is the only connection with the outside, and this system is also connected to the Local Control Panel.



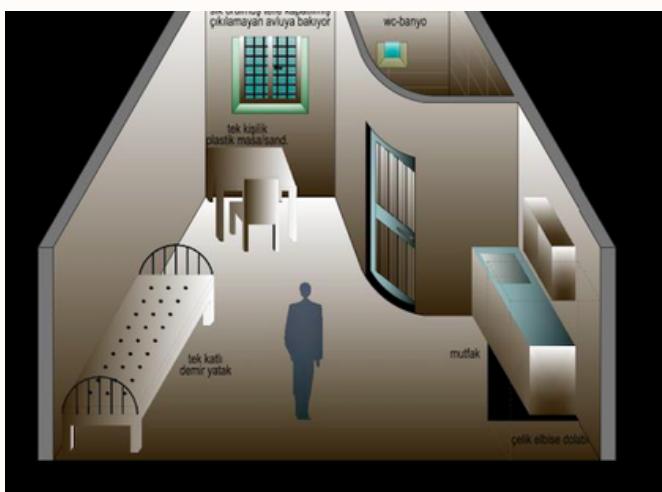
A.2.1 – Architectural Structure of Single-Person Cells

In these types of prisons, there are 18 single-person cells in Blocks A, B, C, and D.

The cells are 4.40 meters long and 3.60 meters wide. On the right side of the cell, relative to the door, there is a single-person iron bunk bed, and at the end of the bunk there is enough space to fit one square plastic table and a plastic chair. In addition, there is a wall-mounted iron locker for storing clothes.

At the end of the kitchen counter, there is a pentagon-shaped area containing a squat (Turkish-style) toilet and a shower. The cell window has iron bars, and over these bars there is wire mesh with gaps so narrow that not even a ballpoint pen can pass through.

The glass panel on the cell door is rectangular and extends vertically from top to bottom, allowing the entire cell to be visible. In other words, the interior of the cell is under constant surveillance.



The cell door is opened and closed automatically from the Local Control Panel (LCP). Next to the cell door, there is an intercom system. One of the two buttons on the intercom is for emergencies, while the other is used either when the detainee wishes to ask something of the guards stationed at the LCP or when the guards wish to communicate with the detainee. For prisoners held in single cells, this intercom is the only means of communication with the outside world. Above the intercom are the volume and channel buttons for the central radio system. Through these buttons, only three radio channels selected by the prison administration can be listened to.

Prisoners held on the first floor can see only a handful-sized portion of the sky, and only by pressing themselves against the glass. Those on the second floor can see slightly more. Although the field of view is somewhat wider for prisoners on the third floor, they feel the cold of winter and the heat of summer to their very core.

A.2.2 – Architectural Structure of Three-Person Cells

Three-person cells have the same architectural features as single-person cells. The only difference is that three-person cells consist of two separate sections: a sleeping area and a dining area.

The cell is 7.20 meters long and 4.40 meters wide. On the right side of the cell door, near the ceiling, there is a camera. This camera covers the entire dining area and almost the entire sleeping area.

Three-person cells also do not have independent exercise area. Prisoners are taken out to closed exercise areas the first floor and open exercise areas on the second floor for a maximum of two hours per day.

A.2.3 – Architectural Structure of the Exercise Areas

In well-type prisons, there are no exercise areas that can be accessed directly from the cells. In each module, there are two exercise areas—one open and one closed—dependent of the cells, identical in size, and approximately equivalent to the size of two three-person cells.

The closed exercise area on the first floor is recommended for use during rainy and cold weather. Three sides of this area are surrounded by walls, while one side consists of iron bars. The open exercise area is located on the second floor; it has no roof and is surrounded on all four sides by high walls.

Prisoners are not allowed to take anything with them to the exercise areas except water, prayer beads, and a chair. Once prisoners are taken out to the exercise area, if they wish to return to their cell for any reason—such as needing to use the toilet, for another necessity, or due to health reasons—they are not taken back out to the exercise area again within the allotted time.

Whether prisoners are allowed to use the exercise area together with other prisoners housed on the same floor depends on the treatment/adjustment requirement, that is, on being considered “well-behaved.” Only those prisoners deemed “well-behaved” by the administration are taken out to exercise together with others; those not considered “well-behaved” are taken out alone.

A.2.4 – Architectural Structure of Sports, Library, Activity, and Visiting Areas

Open and closed sports halls are located on the first floor. Prisoners are taken to the closed sports hall once or twice a month, depending on the treatment condition—that is, only if they are considered “well-behaved.”

Visiting areas are divided into sections, each containing three visiting booths. Prisoners are allowed to see only their own visitors. There is soundproof glass and iron bars between them. During visits, a guard constantly patrols approximately two meters behind the visitor for monitoring purposes.

On the first and second floors, there are also open-visit areas divided into glass-capsule-like compartments. Each prisoner held in a three-person cell meets their own visitors separately, inside individual glass capsules. Prisoners held in single-person cells may likewise see only their own visitors inside a glass capsule, and no social contact with other prisoners is permitted under any circumstances.

B. MEDICAL AND LEGAL EXAMINATION OF THE LONG-TERM AND SEVERE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL SOLITARY CONFINEMENT / ISOLATION MODEL

General Information

Long-term solitary confinement causes serious negative consequences, concerns, and violations from both medical and legal perspectives. The United Nations and other international bodies have issued explicit recommendations to limit or prohibit long-term solitary confinement—see, for example, the Mandela Rules. In addition, courts in certain countries and states have ruled that such practices must be subject to procedural and substantive review.

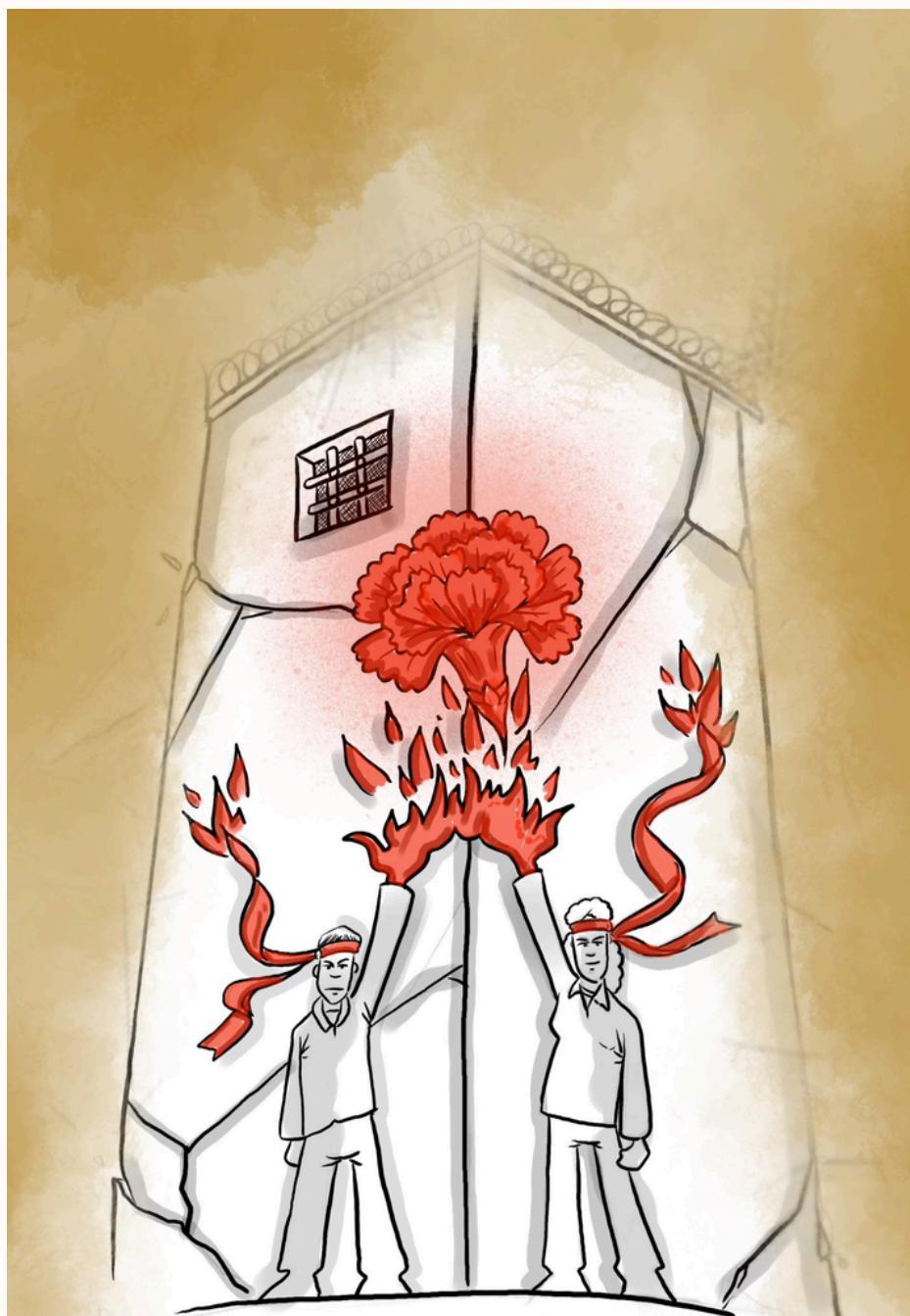
Medical Dimension

The prevailing view in the medical literature is that solitary confinement causes psychiatric disorders, severely affects neurological and cognitive functions, increases the risk of suicide and self-harm, and leads to chronic physical health problems.

Many scientific studies report a significant association between long-term solitary confinement and psychological distress, anxiety, depression, affect regulation disorders, psychotic symptoms, and cognitive impairment. Some studies have consistently found a high prevalence and severity of post-isolation psychopathology. Although methodological differences exist among studies (e.g., case series, cohorts, and a lack of controlled studies), the direction and magnitude of the findings are alarming.

“Being confined alone in a cell for twenty-three hours a day is believed to deprive people of their humanity and lead to harms ranging from depression to post-traumatic stress disorder and breaks from reality. The condition known as SHU syndrome, which causes the most extreme mental harm, takes its name from Special Housing Units, where time spent in isolation can lead to delusions, hallucinations, and paranoia (Grassian, 1983).”

Despite methodological differences and data limitations in some studies, a large number of independent studies and expert reports consistently depict solitary confinement as causing serious mental—and sometimes physical—harm in both the short and long term.



Legal Dimension

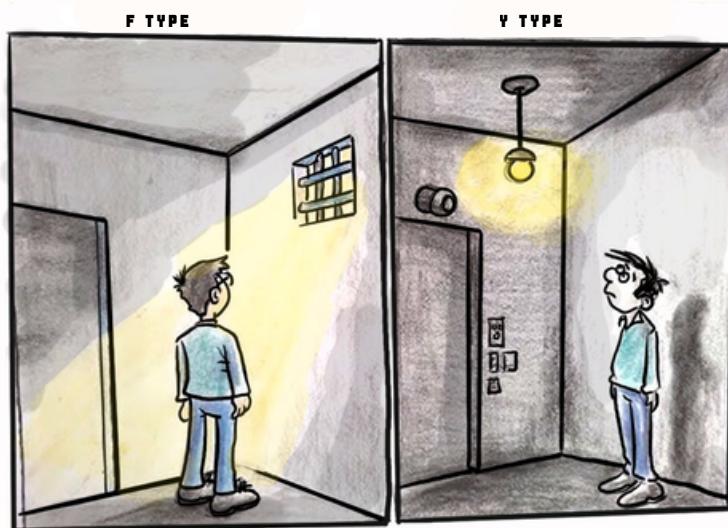
With regard to the practice of long-term solitary confinement, there are serious debates in both national and international law—at the normative level (laws, regulations, conventions, etc.) and in doctrine (expert opinions). As a result of these debates, a series of binding regulations have emerged concerning the principles governing the application of solitary confinement.

The principal international legal text concerning long-term solitary confinement is the document known as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, commonly referred to as the Nelson Mandela Rules.

Article 3 of the Nelson Mandela Rules emphasizes that prison regimes—particularly those involving long-term solitary confinement—and the conditions of detention must not further aggravate the restrictions that are the natural consequence of imprisonment for detainees and convicted persons. The fundamental aim of this rule is to stress that unnecessary or excessively harsh practices should not be added on top of the inherent hardships of imprisonment. Since incarceration itself is already recognized as a heavy burden, unnecessarily intensifying this burden for disciplinary or other reasons is prohibited.

Article 44 of the Mandela Rules defines “long-term solitary confinement” as confinement for more than 15 days for 22 hours or more per day without “meaningful human contact,” and Article 45 recommends that such confinement be strictly limited or prohibited.

Article 43 of the Mandela Rules explicitly states that long-term solitary confinement must be restricted. Moreover, reports by the UN Special Rapporteur and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) emphasize that long-term solitary confinement may constitute torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. UN bodies assess solitary confinement as a practice that poses a particular risk of “psychological torture.”



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Article 43 of the Nelson Mandela Rules reads as follows:

Rule 43

Disciplinary sanctions shall not amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. The following practices, in particular, are prohibited:

- a) Indefinite solitary confinement.
- b) Prolonged solitary confinement.
- c) Placement of a prisoner in a dark or constantly lit cell.
- d) Corporal punishment or the reduction of a prisoner's food or drinking water;
- e) Collective punishment.

Instruments of restraint shall never be applied as a sanction for disciplinary offences.

This rule draws a clear fundamental rights boundary directly related to solitary confinement:

Indefinite (open-ended) solitary confinement, and Long-term solitary confinement

Are listed as practices that are absolutely prohibited. It is emphasized that their use may constitute torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. With this provision, the United Nations makes clear that long-term solitary confinement cannot be justified or applied even on the grounds of disciplinary punishment or security concerns.

The international law violations caused by the solitary confinement model implemented in well-type prisons, and the principal international human rights instruments violated, include the following:

Violation of the Prohibition of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment:

The United Nations Convention Against Torture and other international instruments recognize long-term and aggravated solitary confinement as torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. The psychological and physical suffering caused by solitary confinement constitutes a clear violation of this prohibition.

Violation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules):

The Mandela Rules guarantee detainees' right to humane treatment and stipulate that solitary confinement may be applied only in exceptional cases and for the shortest possible period. The current practices in Turkey are contrary to both the spirit and the letter of these rules.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

In particular, Article 5, which states: “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:

In particular, Article 7, which provides that “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:

This convention defines and prohibits torture. International authorities recognize that long-term solitary confinement may fall within the scope of this definition.

In Lieu of a Conclusion

In light of the framework we have set out in detail and the information provided, there is no doubt that the execution model applied in the increasingly numerous S-Type, Y-Type, and High-Security Penal Institutions (well-type prisons) in Turkey in recent years—both in terms of their architectural design and the practices that aggravate and complement solitary confinement—poses serious medical and legal problems and constitutes grave human rights violations.

Just as in the past, when political prisoners opposed the opening of F-Type isolation prisons, today political prisoners are opposing these prisons and the execution model applied in them. Based on the assessment that these prisons have inhuman conditions, that solitary confinement constitutes a time-extended form of torture leading to death, and that it is fundamentally an ideological attack targeting their revolutionary ideas, they are expressing their opposition through hunger strikes and death fasts—demands that are entirely legitimate and justified.



This is a reality: whether in their modern form or in their most primitive manifestations, prisons have often been both a necessary stop and the arenas in which the struggle between classes—and, as one of its forms, the struggle for rights and freedoms—has been carried out most sharply. The central part in this struggle have undoubtedly been political prisoners. The fact that political prisoners in Turkey today are resisting well-type prisons by risking death and enduring hundreds of days of hunger stems precisely from this reality.

For the existence of well-type prisons today is not merely a spatial or physical issue. These prisons are not problematic solely because physical or social isolation constitutes a human rights violation. For political prisoners, the core of the problem—just as it was with the opening of F-Type prisons—is that this represents an ideological attack: an attempt to force revolutionary prisoners, under conditions of severe isolation, to renounce their ideas, ideals, and the values they have defended at the cost of their lives.

Of course, the physical and psychological destruction caused by well-type prisons and the physical/social isolation they impose, as well as the grave human rights violations they produce, are also legitimate and valid reasons for the hunger strikes and death fasts undertaken by political prisoners. Even from this perspective alone, the struggle and resistance against well-type prisons are justified and legitimate.

For this reason, it is a historical, political, and moral responsibility—particularly for us as jurists and lawyers, and for everyone involved in the struggle for rights and freedoms—to support this entirely legitimate struggle against well-type prisons and the inhuman conditions within them, and to fight for the acceptance of the demands of political prisoners.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS

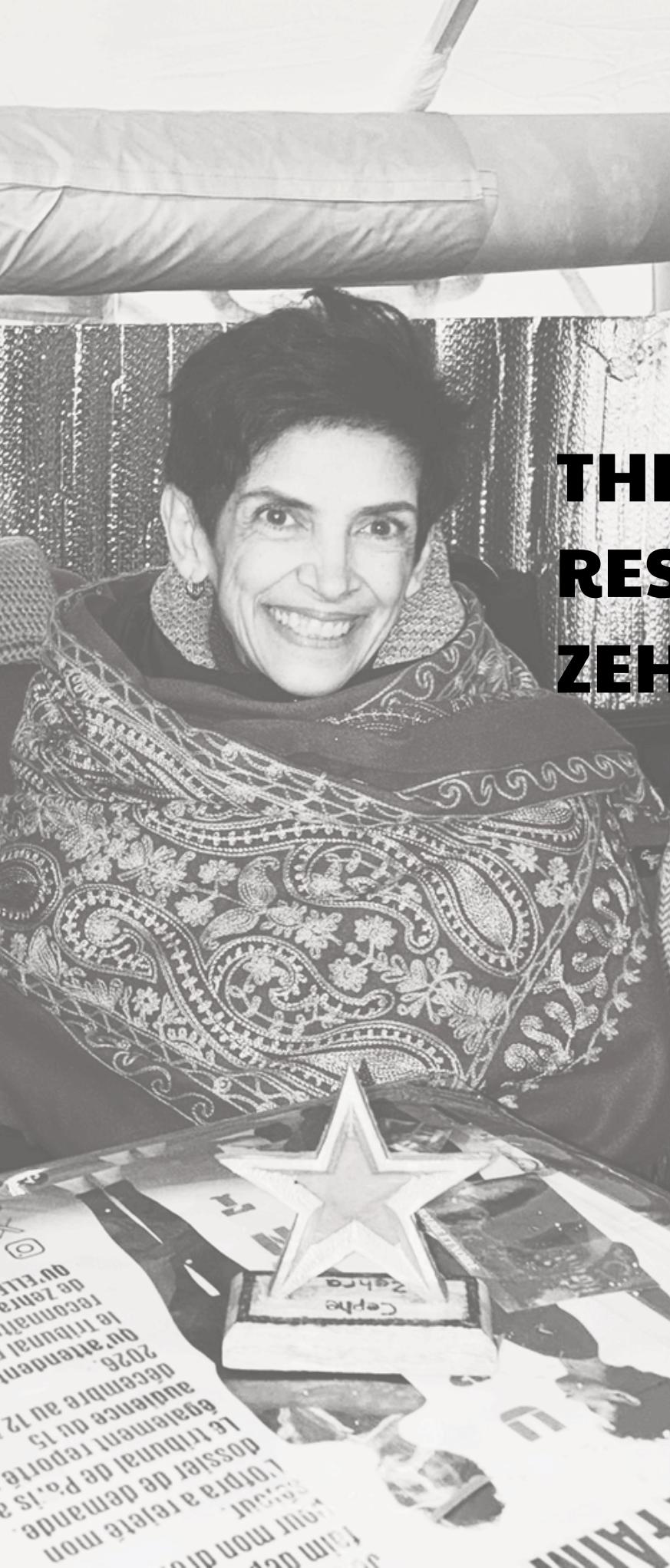
IS4PP.ORG IS4PP@RISEUP.NET

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IS TORTURE

SOLIDARITY WILL BREAK THE ISOLATION



SIGN THE PETITION ON THE CHANGE.ORG AND SPREAD IT.
(PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONFIRM IT ON THE EMAIL SENT BY CHANGE.ORG)



THE FLOWER OF RESISTANCE: ZEHRA KURTAY

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THE FLOWER OF RESISTANCE: ZEHRA KURTAY

Zehra Kurtay is a former political prisoner from Turkey, an anti-fascist, and a socialist journalist, who was imprisoned in Turkey for her political views and journalistic activities.

She participated in a hunger strike against solitary confinement between 2000 and 2007, during which she was tortured and force-fed. Since then, she has suffered from severe health after-effects. She still suffers from Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome, memory loss and other physical effects.

Zehra Kurtay is a political asylum seeker, and her rights are protected by international human rights declarations which the French state has signed up to. Therefore, her life should be protected by the French government.



Despite the fact that Zehra Kurtay's indefinite hunger strike has progressed to a level that critically endangers her health, France has not only refused to meet Zehra Kurtay's demands but has instead launched attacks through arbitrary practices.

Various democratic institutions have issued statements against France's arbitrary and aggressive stance, condemning France's position. They declared that they stand with Zehra Kurtay's resistance and demands.

French imperialism has cancelled the asylum application of Zehra Kurtay, who is in the 6th month of hunger, and postponed her court hearing! France first decided to deport her to Turkey, then to a "third country," but as a result of resistance and solidarity, it was forced to revoke these decisions.

Following this process, Kurtay began a resistance in the heart of Paris for her right to residence. From the very first day, the resistance received great support and solidarity. Death fast veteran, suffering from Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome, Zehra Kurtay has been wasting away day by day, cell by cell, yet her resistance has grown.

French democratic circles have also embraced this resistance.

At this point, French imperialism had two options:

**EITHER IT WOULD ACCEPT KURTAY'S JUST AND LEGITIMATE DEMAND,
OR IT WOULD LAUNCH AN ATTACK AGAINST THE RESISTANCE.**



French imperialism appears to have chosen the latter. To break the resistance, to force Kurtay to abandon her struggle and her demand; To prevent opening a path of resistance for asylum seekers whose rights have been violated; To ensure that Zehra Kurtay does not become a “bad example”; It is attacking.

Yes, to date French imperialism has deported tens of thousands of asylum seekers unjustly, unlawfully, and arbitrarily, and like all European imperialists, France intends to deport tens of thousands more.

Zehra Kurtay is a BARRICADE against this racist, exploitative, blackmail-based asylum policy. By arbitrarily cancelling her asylum application and postponing the court hearing, French imperialism wants to DESTROY THIS BARRICADE. This barricade in the middle of Paris will not be destroyed!

In the end, after lengthy delays, on 19 January 2026, the court decided that the decision to extradite Zehra Kurtay to Turkish fascism has been lifted. With our uninterrupted resistance for 202 days, our sense of comradeship, and our trust in our people, we have won our first victory!

Zehra Kurtay—whom French imperialism sought to make an example of in the new wave of attacks it launched to send revolutionaries from Turkey back to their country—has single-handedly repelled these attacks with her 36-kilogram body and rendered them futile.



European imperialism wants to pacify and co-opt revolutionaries, whom it sees as the only obstacle to gaining new positions in the war it wages against peoples while maintaining exploitation. Those revolutionaries it cannot co-opt, it seeks to subdue by threatening them with residence rights and extradition to Turkish fascism. In doing so, it sees no problem in cooperating with Turkish fascism.

Imperialism does not hesitate to trample even its own bourgeois law in order to eliminate revolutionary ideas—which it sees as the only obstacle to turning peoples into submissive slaves—so as to open space for imperialist policies and extinguish even the smallest hopes among peoples against imperialism.

All that has happened is a bitter lesson for those who pin their hopes on imperialism and beg justice from its laws. We repeat today what we said yesterday: just as against Turkish fascism, against European imperialism too, the only salvation—the absolute necessity—is RESISTANCE!

ONLY THOSE WHO RESIST WIN!

WITH HER 202 DAYS OF CONTINUOUS RESISTANCE, ZEHRA KURTAY FORCED FRENCH IMPERIALISM TO STEP BACK AND HAD THE EXTRADITION DECISION AGAINST HER LIFTED.

IT WAS NOT THE WORDS OF BOURGEOIS LAWYERS IN THOSE GRAND PALACES OF JUSTICE THAT LIFTED THIS EXTRADITION DECISION, BUT THE DETERMINED RESISTANCE OF A 36-KILOGRAM WOMAN AND THE HUNGER STRIKE AND COMRADESHIP SHARED BY NEZİF ESKİ FOR 87 DAYS!(*)



Despite all the terror propaganda of imperialism,
despite the leftist movement in Turkey that buried its head in the sand
wherever there was resistance,
despite Kurdish nationalists who sought to break support for the resistance,
despite French reformists who used every kind of demagoguery to end the
resistance,

**THE PARIS RESISTANCE TENT WON ITS FIRST VICTORY ON ITS 202ND DAY!
WE HAVE SHOWN FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE THAT IMPERIALIST POLICIES CAN
ONLY BE NEUTRALIZED THROUGH RESISTANCE!**

AT A TIME WHEN THOUSANDS OF MIGRANTS ARE BEING HASTILY SENT BACK TO THEIR COUNTRIES, WE DID NOT ACCEPT THIS BANDITRY AND, THROUGH OUR RESISTANCE, FORCED FRENCH IMPERIALISM TO STEP BACK!

WE DECLARE:

IF THERE IS IMPERIALIST BANDITRY, WE STAND AGAINST IT!

IF THERE IS AN ATTACK AGAINST PEOPLES, REVOLUTIONARIES FROM TURKEY STAND AGAINST IT!

Zehra Kurtay's victory has historic significance in that it sets a precedent for other quests for justice that will be waged by tens of thousands of migrants facing deportation. Aware of this historic importance, we promise our people who stood with the resistance and embraced Zehra Kurtay and the Paris Resistance Tent: **WE WILL WIN!**



Our comrade Zehra Kurtay has given her answer to this attack by French imperialism:

“I ACCEPT FRANCE’S IMPERIALIST DECLARATION OF WAR!”

ZEHRA KURTAY’S ANSWER IS ALSO OUR ANSWER.

We will further expand Zehra Kurtay’s resistance. We will defend it with even greater strength.

And we declare that for any negative outcome that may befall Zehra Kurtay—who has dropped to 36 kilograms in the 6th month of her indefinite hunger strike – we will hold **FRENCH IMPERIALISM DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE!**

All current officials and authorities of the French state and government, The officials and responsible parties of the asylum institutions, Are responsible for every cell of Zehra that is wasting away.

THIS IS OUR CALL TO FRENCH IMPERIALISM:

Restore Zehra Kurtay's right to residence. Put an end to arbitrary cancellations and postponements, and to the policy of threats and blackmail! Any harm that may come to Zehra Kurtay will be a crime hanging on the chest of French imperialism.

Know this: we will NEVER forget this responsibility and this crime. Nor will we allow French imperialism to forget it. Our belief in the justice of the peoples and of history is complete. French imperialism will be HELD ACCOUNTABLE for these attacks and for any harm that may come to Zehra Kurtay.



(*): The figures are as of the date the article was written.



AIF IN ACTION

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ACTIONS FOR VENEZUELA



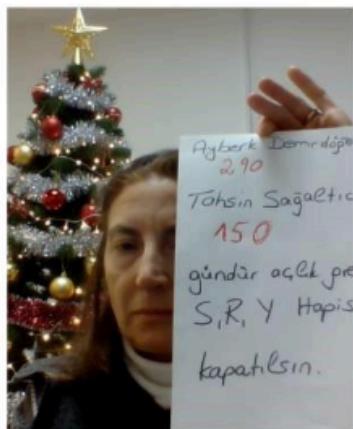
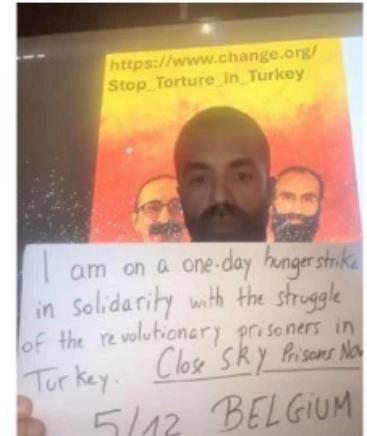
ACTIONS FOR PALESTINE



ROSA LUXEMBURG CONFERENCE IN BERLIN



ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING THE REVOLUTIONARY PRISONERS AGAINST THE PIT-TYPE SOLITARY PRISONS IN TURKEY





OUR MARTYRS ARE OUR VANGUARDS

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NEWS · PRESS RELEASES





EYÜP BAŞ (TURKEY)

Place/ Date of Martyrdom: Istanbul / 9 November 2009

Date of Birth: 1968

Place of Birth: Ankara

Burial Place: Gazi Cemetery, Istanbul

Eyüp Baş was a comrade, martyr, and internationalist revolutionary from People's Front Turkey, who devoted his life to the unity and common struggle of the revolutionary and leftist movement in Turkey. In the final year of his life, he also worked tirelessly for the international fight against imperialism.

In recognition of his invaluable contributions to the common struggle of oppressed peoples worldwide, the AIF has named its international symposiums after Eyüp Baş for many years, dedicating them to his memory and to his thought, which continues to inspire the unification of all people against the common enemy: imperialism.

Due to the conditions he endured during his many years of captivity, he had been suffering from serious health problems for a long time. On September 23, 2009, Eyüp Baş was taken to hospital with complaints of abdominal pain. He was initially diagnosed with jaundice and was kept under treatment for 50 days at Istanbul University's Çapa Medical Faculty Hospital. Despite all medical interventions, he could not be saved. We lost revolutionary Eyüp Baş on November 9, 2009, at 21:40. He had been a revolutionary for 16 years.

Our comrade Eyüp Baş was born in 1968 in Çankaya, Ankara. His family originates from the Kelkit district of Gümüşhane. He grew up in Ankara. While attending Dikmen High School, he dropped out in his second year. He was the child of a poor family. He learned—by living and working—what labour and exploitation truly meant. He worked as a water and heating installation technician, laboured in factories, various facilities, and construction sites, and at one point ran a coffeehouse.

On May 4, 1992, a house in Ankara's Dikmen neighbourhood where four of our fighters were staying was surrounded by the police. Our comrades fell as martyrs after resisting in armed confrontation. Directly across from that house was a coffeehouse—owned by Eyüp Baş. The massacre and the resistance unfolded before his very eyes.

That day marked the beginning of Eyüp Baş's revolutionary path.

Shortly after the massacre, he met members of the Front who came to investigate what had taken place in that house. This encounter soon turned into an organizational relationship. The actions carried out during our period of initiative had already deepened Eyüp Baş's sympathy for Devrimci Sol; in a sense, he was already prepared to become part of it.

He carried out organizational work in Ankara's shantytown neighbourhoods. In Dikmen, Mamak, Altındağ, and Keçiören, he gradually assumed increasing responsibilities. In 1994, he took part in numerous protest actions against the "April 5 Austerity Package." While continuing this struggle, he was arrested on June 28, 1994.

From the moment he became a revolutionary, he never refused a task. He never said, "I can't," or "I'm not ready." In 1996, he was among the resistance fighters who launched the death fast against the oligarchy's attempt to impose F-type isolation prisons. As a result of this resistance, he became a gazi (veteran). The 1996 Death Fast marked a turning point in his revolutionary life. He later described it as follows:

"It was the summit of my decision to live as a revolutionary for life. After the victory, I felt no longing whatsoever for the system."

From that day on, he lived as a "revolutionary for life" and gave his final breath as a revolutionary. In 2000, the oligarchy once again launched an assault against revolutionary prisoners. During the December 19, 2000 massacre—amid tear gas, bullets, and torture—Eyüp Baş was imprisoned in Çankırı Prison. After the massacre, he was transferred to Sincan F-Type Prison, where he was held in torturous isolation cells until November 2004.

During the 2000 Death Fast resistance, as with other veterans of the 1996 Death Fast, Eyüp Baş was not permitted to join the hunger strike. Though he struggled to accept this, he continued to take on different responsibilities. As deaths continued, Eyüp's revolutionary commitment only deepened:

"I always acted with the anxiety of what more I could do. Because we lost so many martyrs. This history is, above all, the history of our martyrs written in blood. I wasn't allowed to join the death fast. Each martyr pushed me harder, increased my pace of work."

When he was released in 2004, he was ready for new responsibilities with a deepened revolutionary consciousness. He assumed duties in relations with the left and in the struggle of the poor people of Küçükarmutlu.

He was a tireless worker for unity on the left. After his release from Sincan F-Type Prison in 2004, Eyüp Baş was assigned to efforts aimed at building unity among revolutionary, democratic, progressive, and patriotic forces. It was undoubtedly a difficult field, rife with factionalism and rivalry. Yet he fulfilled this task successfully. He was principled, persistent, and determined in defending the Party's positions. He was combative, resistant, uncompromising toward deviations and distortions—and with all these qualities, he demonstrated the utmost sacrifice, flexibility, and labour to achieve unity across the left.

From organizing May Day actions, to establishing principles and traditions against "intra-left violence," to coordinating the final joint actions for Güler Zere—his labour was everywhere. He took on responsibilities in organizing actions and alliances across the Middle East, Europe, and globally, bringing to life our internationalist policy aimed at uniting peoples against imperialism. His modest contributions to the joint struggle of the left in Turkey and the world's peoples, carried out within the framework of the tasks assigned by his organization, will not be forgotten.

He stood at the very centre of the struggle. He was a rank-and-file fighter. Without concern for position or career, he gave his labour unstintingly. Nothing could break his morale or prevent him from completing a task once it was assigned. He said: "If you ask me what the Party means to me, the only answer I can give is: Everything. It is everything good, beautiful, human, and humane—it is where I find myself."

To what was "everything" for him, he gave everything he had. In the end, he gave his life for our revolution.

Our revolution, as with all our martyrs, will keep him alive.



Two sisters, **Zehra** and **Canan Kulaksız**, members of DEV-GENÇ (Revolutionary Youth) in Turkey, who put their bodies on the line against NATO imperialism and the policies of isolation prisons. They were part of the large-scale Death Fast Resistance of the Front against F-Type isolation cells.

They are like two carnations of the international struggle—standing against US-NATO isolation prisons and the massacres of fascism.



CANAN KULAKSIZ (TURKEY)

Place/Date of Martyrdom: Istanbul, Küçükarmutlu / 15 April 2001

Date of Birth: November 17, 1981

Place of Birth: Rize

Burial Place: Family Cemetery, Dağsu Neighbourhood, Rize

She became the second resistance fighter, after Gülsüman Dönmez, to embrace death by laying her body on the line outside prison walls against the F-Type prisons and the brutality of isolation. On the 137th day of the resistance she began in Izmir, she fell as a martyr in the resistance house in Istanbul-Küçükarmutlu.

“Young and Honourable Life”—yes, this is one of the phrases that best defines her.

Canan Kulaksız was born on November 17, 1981, in Rize. She later moved to Istanbul with her family. She completed primary school in Rize, and middle and high school in Istanbul-Esenyurt. She was accepted into the Biology Department of the Faculty of Science at Ege University and was still a first-year student at the time.

While taking part in the academic-democratic struggle of the youth, she also worked at Ege TAYAD during periods when the university was closed. In other words, she was both a TAYAD activist and a member of Dev-Genç. When the F-Type prison assault began, she started a death fast in Izmir, outside prison walls. Her sister Zehra was simultaneously participating in the death fast action organized by TAYAD members in Istanbul. After a while, Canan also came to Istanbul and continued the death fast together with her sister Zehra in the poor shantytown house of Küçükarmutlu.

Two sisters—side by side, hand in hand, heart to heart—continued this months-long journey of the death fast together.



ZEHRA KULAKSIZ (TURKEY)

Place / Date of Martyrdom: Istanbul, Küçükarmutlu / 29 June 2001

Date of Birth: March 3, 1978

Place of Birth: Rize

Burial Place: Family Cemetery, Dağsu Neighborhood, Rize (Central District)

During the great resistance against the F-Type prisons, she was among those who began a death fast outside the prison walls. Together with her sister Canan Kulaksız, they walked the same path—into the embrace of hunger. Within short intervals, both sisters fell as martyrs in the resistance house of Küçükarmutlu.

Zehra Kulaksız was born on March 3, 1978, in Rize. Later, her family moved to Istanbul's Esenyurt district. She completed middle school and high school in Esenyurt. During her high school years, she joined the revolutionary struggle and entered into organized relations. Revolutionary relatives played a guiding role in this process. While still in high school, she also took part in local organizing work in Esenyurt.

In 1997, she entered the Department of Economics at Istanbul University. From the moment she arrived, she found what she had been seeking:

“When I came to the university... they were putting up posters. I went over to them and said I was looking for İYÖ-DER members. That same day, preparations were underway for the ITU opening festival, and they were going to do theatre work. I insisted on going with them. From then on, I began struggling as a member of İYÖ-DER.”

Within the youth movement—through İYÖ-DER and at Istanbul University—she took on responsibilities. Student youth across the Mediterranean region also knew Zehra. She travelled there to share her knowledge and experience with fellow students.

This history is, above all, the history of our martyrs written in blood.

She was a member of Dev-Genç. She was the relative of a political prisoner. When the resistance began, she joined without hesitation the death fast initiated by TAYAD families.

During the days of resistance, she described her position as follows:

“I see myself in the most beautiful and most important place of the struggle. We are passing through a critical process, and I am inside a great resistance. I am right at the centre of the struggle.”

Her life was struggle.

When asked about her ties to the system during the resistance, she replied: “I am ready to sever every bond,” and added, “Including the bond to life itself.”

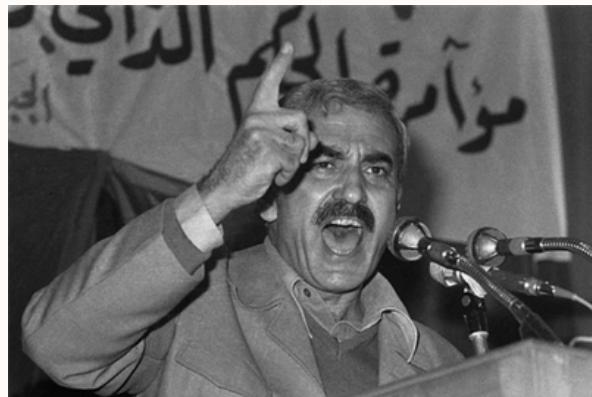
By resisting, by writing an epic, by breaking new ground, she became immortal.

Whatever we did,
we did it because we loved our people.
We endured all hardships
for this love.

We paid the price that fell to our share
for these feelings.
We handed the flag
to those who came after us.
We know it is in safe hands.

Zehra Kulaksız

GEORGE HABASH (1926 – 2008) (PALESTINE)



“The Palestinian revolution was launched to achieve the impossible, not the possible.” George Habash

This January marks the eighteenth anniversary of the martyrdom of the great internationalist leader and sage of the Palestinian revolution, George Habash, founder of the Arab Nationalist Movement and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

George Habash, the Palestinian political leader and founder of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), died on January 26, 2008, in Amman, Jordan, at the age of 81.

Born in Lydda, Mandatory Palestine (now Lod, Israel) in 1926, Habash was forced into exile after the 1948 Nakba. He trained as a physician, graduating from the American University of Beirut, and became deeply involved in nationalist politics, later embracing Marxist ideology.

In December 1967, six months after the Arab defeat in the Six-Day War, Habash founded the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which combined secular Arab nationalism with revolutionary Marxism. Under his leadership, the PFLP became one of the most prominent Palestinian factions, advocating armed resistance against Israeli occupation and opposing diplomatic compromises such as the Oslo Accords.

After leading the PFLP for more than three decades, Habash stepped down as general secretary in 2000 due to ill health.

Habash died of a heart attack in hospital in Amman, where he had been living since the early 1990s. His death prompted three days of national mourning. Flags were flown at half-mast across the Palestinian territories in his honour.

Hundreds of mourners gathered in Jordan for his funeral, carrying Palestinian flags and chanting in tribute to the veteran guerrilla leader whose life's work was dedicated to the Palestinian struggle.

George Habash's legacy continues as a revolutionary thinker and organizer, his influence on Palestinian politics and international liberation movements endured long after his passing.

ZOYA ANATOLYEVNA KOSMODEMYANSKAYA (1923–1941) (THE USSR)



The world mourns the loss of Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, a courageous young Soviet partisan whose unwavering bravery against fascist forces stands as a beacon of resistance for generations to come. Born in 1923 in the village of Osino-Gay, Russia, Zoya grew up in a period of profound national transformation, yet her life would be defined by an extraordinary commitment to justice and the defence of her homeland.

At the age of 18, Zoya answered the call to resist the invading armies of Nazi Germany. Joining partisan units operating behind enemy lines, she undertook acts of sabotage that disrupted German supply lines and demonstrated that courage and defiance can transcend even the most terrifying oppression. Her actions were not those of a soldier alone, but of a conscience unwilling to submit to tyranny.

In November 1941, Zoya was captured by German forces. The Nazis tortured her extensively, trying to force her to reveal the names of her fellow partisans. Despite beatings, starvation, and threats of death, she refused to give any information, maintaining total silence about her comrades and the resistance activities.

Her defiance enraged the German officers. Before her execution by hanging on November 29, 1941, she reportedly shouted statements of courage and resistance. Multiple sources cite variations of her last words: “I am a Soviet woman. I die, but you will not defeat us.” “Beat me all you want, you will get nothing.” “For the Motherland!”

Eyewitnesses and later Soviet accounts emphasize her fearless demeanour, reportedly smiling at her executioners and showing no sign of fear. Her calm and courageous behaviour under torture turned her into a symbol of Soviet patriotism and resistance.

Posthumously awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union, Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya became more than a partisan fighter—she became a symbol of sacrifice, resistance, and the enduring fight against fascism. Streets, schools, monuments, and countless stories commemorate her life, ensuring that her heroism is never forgotten.

Zoya’s legacy endures not only in the pages of history but in the hearts of all who value freedom, justice, and the courage to stand against oppression. Though her life was tragically short, her spirit remains eternal, inspiring all antifascist people of the world to continue the struggle for liberty and dignity.

Rest in power, Tanya. Your bravery will never be forgotten.



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