

DIP and Palestine

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I would like to start my words by expressing, just as many speakers did before me, my utmost solidarity with the Palestinian people, facing an ongoing genocide attempt, a continuation of Nakba, as we speak. Their resilience and resistance, notwithstanding arguably the most terrible atrocities committed of 21st century against them, under thunderous applause from what is euphemistically called the “international community”, carries in itself the promise of a Free Palestine.

It is no coincidence, dear comrades, that the Revolutionary Workers’ Party of Turkey 7th Congress, which adopted a resolution on Lenin and Lenin year, as comrade Levent eloquently explained in the previous session, also adopted a forceful resolution for Palestine. The resolution, adopted unanimously, expressed its unconditional support for Palestine and Palestinians against the massacre, genocide attempt, and ethnic cleansing that Israel undertook. I just said that the adoption of resolutions on Lenin and Palestine in the same congress was no mere coincidence. Indeed, the emphasis on a jealous defense of the Leninist heritage and a steadfast defense of the Palestinian cause are interrelated and equally central elements of the Revolutionary Workers’ Party’s revolutionary strategy.

By gathering here for a conference commemorating Vladimir Il’ich Lenin, we are not merely commemorating a historical figure. On the contrary, we claim and reclaim a political heritage, which includes as one of its cornerstones the strategical alliance of the working class and oppressed peoples against imperialist capitalism.

Accordingly, and as the logical consequence of this stance, we stand with Palestine, not as a mere token of solidarity, but with the consciousness that Palestine stands at the forefront of the fight against world imperialism and the prospects of an anti-imperialist revolutionary future. It is due to this dialectical connection that we affirm that one can not reclaim the Leninist heritage without unflinching support towards the anti-imperialist cause, not least that of Palestine, and once could hardly propose a coherent antiimperialist position on Palestine without basing itself on Lenin's political legacy.

It is on this understanding that the Revolutionary Workers Party conducts a relentless struggle in support of the Palestinian cause. As our 7th Congress resolution reiterates, DIP continues to fight "for a revolutionary solution in Palestine," which would entail nothing less than a "free, democratic, secular and socialist Palestine" within the Socialist Federation of the Middle East and North Africa. In addition to theoretical elaboration and resolutions, DIP's engagement in the Palestinian cause is well visible in its militant action in the streets of Turkey, along with the Friend of Palestine, who will take the floor after me.

But dear comrades, it is also equally important for us to underline that support of the revolutionary Marxist tradition for the Palestinian cause, has a long history, not incidentally reaching well before the foundation of a state of Israel in historic Palestine.

After briefly introducing the resolution of DIP's 7th Congress, I would like to mention a special publication, concretely a dossier, published by the Revolutionary Workers' Party's theoretical quarterly journal in Turkish, *Devrimci Marksizm* and its special annual edition in English, *Revolutionary Marxism*. This dossier, whose introductory text is aptly titled "As Red as a Palestinian Watermelon," introduces precisely this proud tradition of ours. The first two texts are from 1947, before the imperialist-imposed partition and the ensuing catastrophe, known in Arabic as Nakba. The first was published by the Revolutionary Communist League, which was the Palestinian section of the Fourth International at that time. The second, on the other hand, is an editorial from the French-language central publication of the Fourth International itself, *Quatrieme Internationale*. What marks these texts is a steadfast and principled opposition to the partition of historic Palestine and the creation of a settler-colonial state on parts of it. We are proud to reclaim this history as ours, dear comrades. And whereas principled opposition to the colonization of Palestine might seem only too evident, please do remember that at the time, the Soviet Union and newly-emerging Eastern Bloc around it were voting for the partition of Palestine, and communist parties of the world were toeing this official line, and lining up to salute Israel. Let it be crystal clear comrades, our intention could not be further away from digging deep into history to find bones of contention where there exist none. But we would like to also offer a level of clarity and even confidence in the new generation of militants worldwide swelling the ranks of the fight to support Palestine, by showing that there exists a communist tradition whose support for Palestine is not simply conjectural or tactical, but rather strategical and let me say even existential comrades. Or to put it as Lenin once famously expressed in a distinctly different context, *est' takaia partiia* comrades, there is such a party,

such a revolutionary tradition. We, revolutionary Marxists, are proud to call this history ours.

And to be sure, this no ancient history and our support for the Palestinian causes does not conjugate in the past tense. As a reminder of this, the same dossier includes a communiqué con-published by DIP and our cherished EEK comrades in Greece. Let me conclude my words, dear comrades, that we shall never cease to hold that proud banner of ours high, until the day, that long-awaited day when Palestine is Free.

Friends of Palestine Against Imperialism and Zionism



The Friends of Palestine Against Imperialism and Zionism platform is fighting Zionism and its lackeys in Turkey since 2018.

It aims to support the Palestinian cause in the quest for the total destruction of Israel and the foundation of a free, democratic, secular and socialist Palestine from the river to the sea, for Arab and Jewish Palestinians.

It seeks to unmask the fake support of the despotism regime in Turkey of the Palestinian cause and to expose its complicity with Zionists by not heeding the boycott, divestment, and sanctions call of the Palestinians, and by maintaining economic, military, and diplomatic relations with Israel.

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