

WORKERS' PARTY OF TURKEY



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60th YEAR OF TIP!

February 13th 2021

Emerging in order to "Protect the rights of the oppressed working class of Turkey", "Whatever man-made thing you see in this world is the work of our calloused hands!" Our adventure echoing with these words, is celebrating its 60th anniversary today.

Our party, founded by workers on February 13, 1961, our party that threaded the idea of 'Independence, Democracy and Socialism' to every corner of the homeland, the Workers' Party of Turkey is still young, still standing.

Kemal Türkler, Behice Boran, Mehmet Ali Aybar, Yaşar Kemal, Çetin Altan, Avni Erakalın ...

And with them, the housekeeper Ayşe's, the miner Recep's, the tobacco worker Huseyin's, the press worker Attila's ...

They joined hands. They trusted their own strength and the fertile soil of the country.

They inspired and gave hope to the future generations.

They have grown our belief that we can change this order.

We are walking on the way that they paved.

We know our roots are strong.

We see a plane tree branching off and ramifying.

We see the excitement of those who embarked on this path 60 years ago in the eyes of every young person, every laborer, intellectual and women who join us.

All our citizens making a living with elbow grease, we are appealing to you!

This excitement will grow by sharing.

Let's walk together on this path leading to the government in power of the laborers, in other words, all of us.

Only together we can change this order, which begrudges us out of business, bread, freedom, peace, justice and living humanely.

Not only for our children, but for ourselves.

To win not only tomorrow but also today.

For the government in power of the working people.

To live...

Long live the Workers' Party of Turkey!

Translator: METEHAN AKMAN

WE WILL CREATE A FREE AND EGALITARIAN COUNTRY WITH OUR OWN HANDS

LONG LIVE MARCH 8! LONG LIVE SOLIDARITY!



Seher Ünver

Central Committee Member of TIP

Today is a day when women of the world organise against exploitation and inequality, raise their voices for the dream of a new world and take the streets to challenge reactionism, imperialism, exploitation, poverty and violence.

Preserving the legacy of March 8 International Working Women's Day, women from the Workers' Party of Turkey took to the streets, particularly in major cities such as Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir to strengthen the struggle and solidarity against the economic crisis and unemployment that have intensified during the pandemic.

In Turkey, this period in which exploitation has amplified, women were left to choose between disease and starvation just like every other labourer. The army of the unemployed has expanded with the implementations of unpaid leave and short-time working practices; flexible, undocumented and insecure labour has become the primary forms of employment.

The reactionary policies on the other hand, have made life challenging for all workers, primarily the women.

Today, in our country where inequality, injustice, violence, harassment and child abuse have become exorbitant;

Women aren't regarded as equal citizens,

Any woman who doesn't submit to reactionism is targeted by all sorts of humiliation and violence,

Women face the threat of unemployment and forced into precarious and flexible employment, the participation of women in Turkey in working life becomes increasingly difficult and female unemployment is rising.

Conservatist, misogynist and sexist policies are imposed upon every aspect of life, violence towards women and femicide are fostered, those who murder women are released and take marginal penalties by means of remissions for good behaviour

Women are pushed out of production and are bringing up children and being only a mother at home is being imposed by the government .

The AKP government has a plan to prevent women's divorce and to take away the alimony rights of women.



The reactionary and fundamentalist policies of AKP shape women's lives.

They are trying to restraining women's access to abortion and sexual and reproductive healthcare.

LGBT+ individuals are subjected to discrimination in workplaces and every sphere of life.

Women workers, more so than others, are being forced to bear the burden of the economic crisis that has intensified with the pandemic, while the resources of the country are being transferred to the capitalists.

This is unacceptable!

We states that;

- The practice of unpaid leave, implemented under the pretext of the pandemic, forcing the workers to misery must be abolished, paid leaves must be made mandatory,
- Flexible and precarious employment forced upon women must be prohibited and every worker should receive secure employment,
- Women's employment must be expanded,
- Reactionary practices subordinating women must be abolish
- Stop laying a hand on our right to alimony!
- Prohibit violence against women and enforce the Istanbul Convention!
- Penalise sexual harassment and abuse, not acquit them!
- Acknowledge our demands of equal pay, keep your hands off our right to unionize!

European Union, Turkey and Distorted Ideals



İlke Bereketli and Hakan Güneş
Central Committee Members of TIP

In its official documents EU argues that “The European Union is set up with the aim of ending the frequent and bloody wars between neighbors, which culminated in the Second World War.” They also argue that the Union respects the will of the people aiming the welfare and freedom of its citizens. What a great lie!

We the communists, the internationalists of the world, we are well aware of this falsification. That is just a version of Kautskijist transformismo. Peoples of Europe harshly suffered from the two great imperialist wars and of course they are willing to support the idea of a war-free, borderless and a just Europe. However, from the very beginning the Coal and Steel Community designed the Union as a capitalist-imperialist bloc serving the monopolies of European Great Powers. All of the demands and

desires of the people, of the working classes for a peaceful and egalitarian region, exploited by the monopolistic capital of Berlin, Paris and others. Kautskijist parties and labor union leaders deceived the masses. This dishonest promise still exists among the so-called “left” parties of Europe. After Von der Leyen appointment to the presidency of EU Commission, once again they claim that they are working for peace, equality and freedom in and out of Europe. Nowadays they claim to be working for the climate justice as well.

To become more concrete in the discussion, we would like to mention about the European Green New Deal. We consider the Green New Deal as a good example of Gramsci’s passive revolution concept. European Green New Deal has been brought to the table when the climate crisis merging with economical crisis came to the surface and became unignorable for the states.



Europe's Green New Deal is supported by some leftist organisations as well, however the deal only aims to change the superstructure in Europe without touching the substructure. It aims to turn the neoliberal financial policies into green without aiming nationalisation. The deal will only bring carbon taxes and new regulations for carbon trade, which means that the commodification of carbon will still exist under the green new deal. For us there is nothing new here, and we strongly doubt that there is nothing green either.

Even the young Greta Thunberg's words, when she calls for a "system change", sounds more radical than the green new deal to us.

Ecological movement has the potential of becoming the banner of a revolutionary movement in the near future, as the anti war campaign in Russia that lead to the Great October Revolution did, a century ago. But plans like green new deal tends to absorb the will of the people towards a radical change in the system concerning climate emergency. Therefore we stand against such deals which may lead to a passive revolution in Europe.

Of course, as the members and followers of an internationalist movement, we are not against regional federations or unions. To the contrary, our movement from the earliest stage founded as an internationalist world party aiming at borderless and classless world society. But we are well aware of the differences between the capitalist-imperialist blocs serving to the monopolies and equal and voluntary union of the peoples.

Workers Party of Turkey's (TIP) program clearly

state that our struggle against capitalism is part of the struggle against imperialist-capitalist blocs of world. We also fight imperialistic tendencies in and out of our countries. Within that perspective we underlie the importance of deciphering the false, deceiving promises and policies of the European Union leaderships.

For a true borderless, just and free Turkey, Europe and World we aim at cooperating with sister organizations, in particular the ones in Europe, Balkans, Mediterranean region and in the Middle East.

EU-Turkey "cooperation in preventing the migration" is against the human rights and aiming a low cost labor market in EU and in Turkey. Great majority of the EU member states and Turkey as a candidate

state are part of the imperialist War organization, the NATO. We call for common efforts to fight against NATO's enlargement and war policies.

Pandemic once again showed importance of human-centered planning, job guarantees and food security. EU member countries and Turkey's government only cared about the interest of the monopolistic capitalism which they represent. We call for a common fight against capitalism's sacrifice of humanity. We need to defend the right to free delivery of fundamental needs for all people and job guarantees. There is no EU agenda for free housing, free healthcare, free education and employment guarantee. But we do have. Yes, we do have.

We know that another world is possible and its possible with the common struggle of the people of the world. We should cooperate more closely in unveiling fake climate policies, fake employment policies and failed pandemic policies of EU and our national governments.

Long Live solidarity of the peoples!



A Persistence and resistance for the future: Marksizm ve Siyaset (Marxism and Politics)



Berat Çelikoğlu

Our Central Committee Member CAN SOYER, wrote a book on Marxist method and theory. The book sheds light on the political discussions, the Marxist perspective and its application to the political discussions.

A cumulative result of periodical regression of socialist movement, neoliberal wave and the attempt to polish what is old or already has been sublated with prefixes such as “neo” or “post”: A depoliticised and moderate Marxism whose ties with the class have been cut! Can Soyer objects to this understanding by using Marxist method and theory.

Having helped the editing and/or the publishing of various works, Yordam Publishing continues to help us strengthen our struggle and raise our voice for Marxism and socialism in Turkey. Recently, Marksizm ve Siyaset: Yöntem, Kuram, Eylem (Marxism and Politics: Method, Theory, Activity), written by Can Soyer, has been published.

WHAT IS THE PERSISTENCE FOR?

“If we claimed that our age is waiting to be analysed by Marxism, it would not be wrong. But it would lack something. Our age is essentially waiting to be destroyed, dismantled and buried in history.”

What is the persistence for, what is the resistance against? These are undoubtedly the first questions that readers will come up with. This book has two essential claims: Marxism cannot be separated from politics. In the first two sections of the book (Method, Theory), Soyer discusses and defines the ground on which the third section (Activity) is placed and he ultimately points out the significance of politics for Marxism.

In addition to this, politics is also discussed with regard to around what kind of relations it revolves and what needs to change. At this point, Soyer persists in a certain understanding of Marxism which underlines the working-class and the class struggle as opposed to other approaches to Marxism that have certain power

especially since 1990s. However, this persistence does not repeat clichés, reducing the class to oversimplified reflections, it rather focuses on change and transformation while stressing the importance of the class analysis and class conflict for Marxism.

In this sense, this book is the book of persistence and resistance: A defence of Marxism which is resisting against depoliticization and fighting for the working-class. In the three main chapters, Soyer investigates

KEY TO THE FUTURE: A POLITICIZED AND REVOLUTIONARY MARXISM

What lies beneath the focus on the transformative function and the significant role of class struggle and politics for Marxism is, of course, the ambition to end the decades-long solitude of the revolutionary movement and make socialism a real alternative again. This requires different methodological and theoretical approaches as well as critical and



Marxism in its unbreakable relation to politics as well as its revolutionary function regarding society and class conflict methodologically, theoretically and in its practice. Moreover, the discussion, which is based on philosophy and history, is far from being monotonous or oversimplified and it achieves to vividly present the issues to the reader.

It is worth noting that the author refrains from claiming that the danger of depoliticization is the result of an anti-Marxist conspiracy. Soyer does not try to point his finger at the ones who have distorted Marxism, nor does he claim his words to be “the words of wisdom”. As the book presents Marxism in its totality and dynamic relation to various views, the author stays loyal to his work and makes his criticism from within.

self-critical views. Therefore, it would not be wrong to say that this book attempts to cross a line between a certain Marxist approach, which has politics in its core, and other “Marxist” views as an understanding of Marxism that excludes politics and class struggle cannot be the same as the approach Soyer discusses. If one thinks that building a socialist alternative centred on the masses through a revolutionary Marxist approach is the key to the future, this book can be considered as a guide, which opens up new debates and must be read critically.

And needless to say, Soyer’s work must be tested within the class struggle!

Marksizm ve Siyaset: Yöntem, Kuram, Eylem, Can Soyer, Yordam Publishing, First Edition, December 2020.

Translator: SUDE ÖZMEN

NEWS FROM THE PARTY

Our Party has been participated in Nevroz celebrations (Kurdish holiday), in various cities all around the country including Kurdistan



The Palace Regime has been withdrawn from Istanbul Convention in the middle of a night. After this, the women and LGBTI+ have protested this decision all around the country. The protests continue.

Our chairperson Erkan Baş, whose book “Socialism to Live” published a few weeks ago, made autograph session in various cities.



The resistance in Bogazici University continues. In the last few days, they took more than 70 people under custody. On the other hand, the protests are still lively.

Our Party is being prepared to the upcoming elections. We have been held our congress in various cities.







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