

# RED FIRE

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!



## RISE AGAINST COVID LIES!

*(The following is the text of a statement released by the Workers League on 17-01-2022.)*

As the dawn of 2022 broke, the world entered year three of the “New Normal”. Many had hopes that 2021 would see the end of “Covid”, and we could return to the somewhat usual life we had until 2019. Western governments appeared to be finally doing away with lockdowns, admitted that

Covid will spread amongst the whole community, that schools and universities need to re-open, that the economy has to re-start, and that travel needs to resume. Yet this was a ruse. The Covid plot is being pushed as hard as ever, with the maniacal focus on the vaccine and ever-present booster shots being touted – once again – as the only guarantee of safety. Vaccine passports and QR

check-ins are required for entry into all kinds of venues, from restaurants and bars to cinemas and sporting stadiums. Facemask mandates are returning for public transport, and many other indoor and outdoor venues. Millions of workers around the world have lost, or are losing, their jobs to vaccine mandates.

**RED FIRE** is the publication of the Workers League.

The Workers League is an organisation which seeks to build a vanguard party for working people, which can lead the struggle for socialism and a world without war.

We welcome all enquires and feedback, as well as applications to join. Contact us by:

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### **Nonsensical narrative**

From the beginning, the Covid narrative never made sense. Lockdowns were predicated on the notion of asymptomatic spread – the idea that the allegedly highly dangerous SARS-CoV-2 virus can spread by people who have no symptoms, have never been sick, and feel 100% healthy. Forced facemask wearing was ordered by many governments, and often enforced by police, on the spurious grounds that facemasks help prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2, and its variants. Plastic shielding was set up in supermarkets, and plastic sheeting was set up in some schools and placed between students. Young students in some schools were forced to wear facemasks all day, including during physical education classes. Families and relatives were kept apart from one another, and in some cases were banned from attending the funeral of a family member. National, state and provincial borders were closed

down, which in many cases violated the federal constitutions of whole countries.

Much of the Covid narrative was driven relentlessly towards “the vaccine”, which was purported to be the way out of the crisis. Then it came out that (if the Covid vaccine doesn’t injure or kill you) it wears off after 60 to 90 days. Then it was acknowledged that everyone who receives two doses of the Covid vaccine, can still be infected, can still transmit, can still get sick and can still die – from Covid. Booster shots were hailed as the answer, with the intervals for taking one being steadily reduced from 12 months to six months, and then to three months. Then it was announced that the “fully vaccinated” would still have to wear facemasks, and may still have to be confined by lockdowns, regardless.

Open systems of apartheid have been put in place, by governments who claimed for decades that discrimination is immoral. The “unvaccinated” can be banned from venues, shops, events, theatres, cinemas and more – on the grounds that they are somehow unprotected and pose a greater danger to those that have been vaccinated. Then statistics emerge showing that those who have been vaccinated are in fact at greater danger of contracting Covid, and in greater danger of being hospitalised with Covid. Entire industries have been brought to a standstill, on the grounds that they are “not essential”. Rules and other edicts are issued by politicians and governments which change daily, and sometimes hourly. Politicians, Police Commissioners and employees of Covid vaccine manufacturers – Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson – are exempt from vaccine mandates. Leading scientists and doctors who dissent are “fact checked” or banned from social media.

### **Covid tyranny is the oppression of capital**

While SARS-CoV-2 and Covid-19 may exist, the Covid *narrative* does not make sense because it is based on a mountain of lies. Demonstrably, there is no “pandemic” in terms of usual mortality rates significantly increasing. If anything, the increases in mortality rates that have occurred are in line with the rollout of the Covid vaccines. None of the rules, restrictions, passports, facemask mandates, lockdowns and state and national border shutdowns have any basis in science or medicine. The political repression of Covid tyranny is the oppression of the stock markets and the banks – indeed it is the dictatorship of finance capital showing its true face. Covid is the class line, and the source of Covid terror is the faltering capitalist system of private production for private profit.

The class line in a time of acute crisis cleaves a society in two, which is why families, friends, partners and workmates have been torn apart – the closest of allies become bitter enemies overnight. What is occurring is the replacement of democracy with a form of fascism previously unknown. It has never previously been encountered because the political ideology of this particular form of fascism is *liberalism*, NOT far-right ultra-nationalism. Many scratch their heads trying to understand this, but fascism can employ ANY ideology – liberalism, reformism, conservatism, nationalism – as long as it defends capitalism. As long as the working class has not yet formed a party of its own, and has not yet won a struggle for power, a descent into fascism at a certain point becomes inevitable.

While it may appear that the bureaucratic *caste* which leads the People’s Republic of China (PRC) led the charge into lockdowns and hysteria, it is the Western ruling classes in Europe and the USA which drove the Covid civil war on the working class, by self-inflicting the worst economic depression ever conceived. The capitalist super-elites knew that only a profound and deep

recession would give them a chance to “re-set” their economies by first destroying whole parts of it – to provide new fields of investment. The slump had to be so deep that it was necessary to stop whole sections of society from functioning altogether. This is the source of the hitherto unimaginable restrictions on human movement, travel, culture, sport, the right to work and the right to participate in society.

Despite this scenario, there is no reason for despair, as a freedom movement has arisen in response. This movement, which is regularly mobilising millions throughout the world, is the largest in modern history. It contains those who can see through Covid lies and are prepared to take action to restore the truth. Yet as vital as these rallies and demonstrations are, in themselves they present no threat to the forces of darkness. What is required is not just a mass movement, but ***a struggle for political power***. Workers must prepare for the formation of strike committees, which can then serve as alternative and incipient organs of ***their own state***. While mass demonstrations can remain peaceful, workers need to be prepared to defend their strike committees from retaliation by police and security forces – by any means necessary. This potentially enables a situation of *dual power*, where the dying and obsolete state squares off against the new and rising state. The leadership of Marxist vanguard parties must arise, which can guide workers towards the final victory – publicly owned and planned economies, where those who labour collectively rule.





# RUSSIA FOILS NATO WITH RECOGNITION OF THE DONBASS



Above: The Donetsk People's Republic and the Lugansk People's Republic, now recognised as independent by Russia. [www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

24-02-2022: Snookering the relentlessly hostile provocations of Washington the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Russian President Vladimir Putin signed two decrees on February 21 which recognised the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and the Lugansk People's Republic (LPR) - collectively known as the Donbass. In the presence of the leaders of the DPR (Denis Pushilin) and the LPR (Leonid Pasechnik), he also signed the Treaty of Friendship Cooperation and Mutual Assistance

between Russia and the Donbass republics.<sup>1</sup> This followed a meeting of the Russian Security Council the previous day, which was broadcast live on Russian television. Several members of that meeting pointed out that some 700 000 of the 4.6 million inhabitants of the Donbass already have a Russian passport, and some 500 000 more have applied for one. This effectively makes them Russian citizens who are entitled to protection from harm.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>

<https://english.cctv.com/2022/02/22/ARTIAyWjqlfc2W8nV4oaN8Rn220222.shtml> (22-02-2022)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.moonofalabama.org/2022/02/russias-security-council-recommends-to-recognize-the-donbas->

## NATO foiled

President Putin stated to his constituents that Russia had done everything possible to maintain the territorial integrity of Ukraine through the Minsk Agreements. However, seven years after signing the last round of them, it was becoming more clear than ever that Ukraine was violating the Minsk Agreements<sup>3</sup> by not implementing them. NATO has been foiled because with Russia formally recognising the DPR and the LPR, it is a straightforward matter for them to request Russian military assistance against the relentless shelling of the Ukrainian forces against civilians in the Donbass. And indeed, this is precisely what Russia has now done, deploying a peacekeeping mission to the DPR and LPR.<sup>4</sup> Obviously, no “invasion” has taken place, if the Russian forces are invited into the Donbass – in the same way that Russian forces were invited into Syria to help protect the Arab Republic against US backed terrorists from 2011 onwards. Sheepishly, responding to the news of the Russian peacekeeping mission to the Donbass, the White House refused to make a statement one way or the other.<sup>5</sup>

This comes after around *five years* of continual Western “warnings” that Russia was about to invade Ukraine! Needless to say, these allegations<sup>6</sup> are utterly baseless, and only recently have their cries become more and more shrill. This whole crisis stems from 2014, when the US state department orchestrated a Nazi coup against the then government of Ukraine. The word “Nazi” is

not used for hyperbole – these elements are literally into Nazism. Backed by extremely anti-Russian, anti-communist (even though socialism in the former USSR disappeared decades ago!) and anti-Jewish barbarians such as the Azov Battalion, Svoboda and Right Sector, the US government backed<sup>7</sup> “UkroNazis” proceeded to wage war on the Donbass, which took the only option available to it and defended its land against imperialist installed coup which later proceeded to do things such as a defacto ban on the Russian language.<sup>8</sup> This, alongside rejecting an illegal Nazi coup government elected by no one, was part of the reason why the Donbass took action to protect themselves, and 96.77% of Crimeans<sup>9</sup> voted to re-join Russia in the referendum which took place in March 2014.

## Wag the dog scenario

Arguably, Anglo/US imperialism sought to ramp up their deadly provocations against Russia over Ukraine in a “wag the dog” situation – where an unpopular President seeks to distract attention by starting a war on the other side of the world. In any case, Anglo/US imperialism *needed* a political distraction from the huge impact of the Freedom Convoy in Canada, which beset Ottawa for weeks, and inspired replica actions in Australia, New Zealand, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Finland and Israel.<sup>10</sup> Rather than just truckers, these Convoys mobilised millions of workers rightly fed up to the back teeth with vaccine mandates and all aspects of totalitarian repression meted out under the name of “Covid”. If these

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republics.html?cid=6a00d8341c640e53ef0278806ce60b200d (22-02-2022)

<sup>3</sup><https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/02/11/explainer-what-are-the-minsk-agreements-a76327> (22-02-2022)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.rt.com/russia/550177-putin-decree-military-donbass/> (22-02-2022)

<sup>5</sup> <https://thethaiger.com/news/world/us-guarded-on-whether-it-considers-russias-peacekeeping-mission-in-donbass-an-invasion> (22-02-2022)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.businessinsider.com/the-most-likely-scenarios-for-a-russian-invasion-of-ukraine-2022-2?op=1&r=AU&IR=T> (22-02-2022)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.strategic-culture.org/news/2018/06/03/how-why-us-government-perpetrated-2014-coup-ukraine/> (22-02-2022)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/apr/25/ukraine-adopts-law-enforcing-use-of-ukrainian-in-public-life> (22-02-2022)

<sup>9</sup> <https://culturedallroundman.wordpress.com/tag/crimean-referendum-results/> (22-02-2022)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.sott.net/article/464143-Freedom-Convoy-movement-spreads-across-the-globe> (23-02-2022)

actions continued and deepened, global capitalism itself may have been called into question. To distract from the undeniably just demands of the Freedom Convoys – no one should lose their job over a vaccine, no one should be forced by the government to act against their will – Anglo/US imperialism ratcheted up the pressure on Russia. It wasn't like they were not already doing it anyway.



Above: A monument to Victory Day (the defeat of the Nazis by the USSR from 1941 to 1945) in Belarus. President Lukashenko resisted the full pressure of imperialism and refused to lockdown its people, its economy and its society on the fraudulent grounds of a "Covid health emergency". [www.belarus.by](http://www.belarus.by)

Even though Anglo/US imperialism is entirely to blame for the dire prospect of a nuclear war on Russia, the Russian government did not aid themselves by actively engaging and implementing the fraudulent Covid "pandemic" and associated attacks on their own working class. Even though many Russians simply ignored some of the pointless or harmful restrictions put in place, the Russian government would have been better off taking the position of the Belarusian government of President Alexander Lukashenko –

who resisted and stared down the enormous pressure from imperialism to crash the Belarusian economy, force people to wear facemasks and impose lockdowns.<sup>11</sup> Unfortunately, President Putin and the Russian government dutifully carried out the scientifically absurd dictates of the very imperialist forces that seek to destroy them, in a vain attempt to assuage decades long Western anti-Russian hostility.

The seemingly infinite patience of the Russian government with the insane war provocations of Washington and NATO has yielded it almost zero in terms of results.<sup>12</sup> Having abandoned even a heavily distorted and vulgarised version of Marxism more than 30 years ago, today's Russian government fatuously appears to cling to the belief that through persistent diplomacy Russia will eventually be able to come to working agreements with the West in trade, investment, security and other matters. This **delusion** is fuelled by the Russian government's wild misunderstanding of its own Soviet history, demonstrated by Putin's recent speech to the nation over Donbass. While recognising the political repression of Stalin, Putin blamed Lenin and the Bolsheviks (!!) for not only the creation of Ukraine, but the problems existing now.<sup>13</sup> Washington could not agree more!

### Defend Russia despite its leadership

In reality, the problems in Ukraine today have much more to do with Stalin and his henchmen **reversing** the positions of Lenin and the Bolsheviks on the national republics, and virtually everything else, after taking power in a political counter-revolution beginning in 1924. Stalin could never have come to power without the failure of the 1919-23 German revolution, which was betrayed in blood by social democrats. Stalinism then

<sup>11</sup>

[https://www.algora.com/Algora\\_blog/2020/09/09/belarusi-an-president-lukashenko-says-imf-offered-a-billion-usd-bribe-to-impose-covid-19-lockdown](https://www.algora.com/Algora_blog/2020/09/09/belarusi-an-president-lukashenko-says-imf-offered-a-billion-usd-bribe-to-impose-covid-19-lockdown) (23-02-2022)

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.globalresearch.ca/negotiations-have-got-russia-nowhere/5771081> (23-02-2022)

<sup>13</sup> <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/67828> (23-02-2022)

completed its betrayal of October 1917 by handing the USSR to the USA via Yeltsin in 1991-2. During the 1990s, Russia entered a social catastrophe the likes of which they had never experienced. From 2000, Putin – despite his anti-Soviet politics – began the rebuilding of Russia by taking back key industries under state ownership and control. These had been privatised under US sponsored “democracy” in the 1990s with disastrous consequences.

Now, basic industries in Russia are state owned, or majority state owned. Of course, this state ownership is vastly different to the state ownership of, say, the People’s Republic of China (PRC) – which had a socialist revolution in 1949. Nevertheless, Russia’s state-owned industries are off limits to imperialism, and do not necessarily have to run purely on profit. Therefore, they make a huge contribution to the development and rebuilding of the Russian economy. For example, two-thirds of market capitalisation on the Russian stock market is owned by the state. Some “stock-market”! It is true that state ownership is mainly limited to four industries: energy (oil, gas and electricity), banks, defence and transportation.<sup>14</sup> Yet defence and transport are total state monopolies. Compare this to the US, where giant privately owned “defence” companies more or less dictate to the US government.

Admittedly inheriting the Soviet Union’s formidable military, Russia’s state owned defence industry today has achieved virtual miracles – with a fraction of the resources available as compared to the USA. Russia’s hypersonic missile technology, for example, is at least *20 years* ahead of where the Pentagon finds itself.<sup>15</sup> This, above all, is why – despite all the bravado in the world – the US government repeatedly states that it “will

not engage” Russia in military conflict. It could not do this in Syria, and it definitely is not able to do this in Ukraine – or anywhere else. It continually seeks a *limited* war – but given nuclear and now hypersonic weapons technology, a “limited” war is probably not possible.

The pall of nuclear war once again hangs over humanity, threatened by the unhinged elites occupying Washington, London and Brussels. As Russia is eons away from being “imperialist”, workers of the world need to stand for the *military* defence of Russia, Crimea, the DPR and the LPR and Belarus – while offering no *political* defence of governments which reject the heritage of the Soviet Union. Both the Covid war and any associated military or nuclear war can only ultimately be avoided by the working classes in the East and West disarming their respective governments through new socialist revolutions, modelled on the world’s first – Red October of 1917. Vital for this perspective is the construction of Leninist-Trotskyist vanguard parties, with linked international sections, to forge a future where the collective wealth of humanity benefits those who live by the sweat of their brow.

The publication of **RED FIRE** involves considerable expense, but it is a task which is willingly undertaken to advance the struggle for socialism.

The Workers League welcomes any donations that all supporters of the workers’ cause are able to contribute. Any donation, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated.

Please visit:

[www.redfireonline.com/donate-to-red-fire/](http://www.redfireonline.com/donate-to-red-fire/)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/the-role-state-corporations-the-russian-economy> (23-02-2022)

<sup>15</sup> <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/reboot/us-hypersonic-weapons-pale-comparison-china-and-russias-193331> (23-02-2022)



# ANTI-MANDATE FREEDOM RISING ROCKS CANBERRA



Above: Part of the 2 million strong Freedom Convoy to Canberra march on February 12. Image from [www.trtworld.com](http://www.trtworld.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

09-02-2022: Following the lead of Canada's historic Freedom Convoy to Ottawa, Australia's capital Canberra was beset by tens of thousands demanding an end to Covid vaccine mandates over the weekend of February 5-6. Travelling by truck, bus, car or whatever means they could, the huge crowd marched from Canberra's Glebe Park to Old Parliament House<sup>16</sup> echoing the very sentiments that millions of Canadians feel – enough is enough. As has become the norm with demonstrations that are part of the freedom

movement, the mainstream media barely covered it at all. On the occasions it did, it admitted that riot police were mobilised against what was an entirely peaceful protest.<sup>17</sup> The march on the Old Parliament House included two sitting federal Members of Parliament (MPs): Craig Kelly of the United Australia Party (UAP), and George Christensen of the Liberal National Party (LNP).<sup>18</sup>

**Red**

**Ensign**

**prominent**

<sup>16</sup> <https://tottonews.com/2022/02/05/large-protest-canberra-mandates/> (08-02-2022)

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-05/thousands-of-protesters-against-mandatory-vaccination-act/100807560> (08-02-2022)

<sup>18</sup>

<https://appronica.co.uk/www.news.com.au/national/nsw-act/news/rebel-nationals-mp-george-christensen-attends-canberra-antivax-mandate-protest/news-story/> (08-02-2022)



By far the most prominent flag flown in Canberra was Australia's Red Ensign. The Red Ensign and the Blue Ensign were both used as Australia's national flag from 1901 to 1953, when the federal parliament passed legislation making the Blue Ensign Australia's official flag.<sup>19</sup> The Red Ensign had always, and continues to be, the flag of Australia's merchant navy. Yet in today's context of the freedom movement – the largest and most sustained political movement in Australia's history – the Red Ensign (also known as the "Red Duster") has become a symbol of rebellion and resistance against tyrannical political repression meted out by state and federal governments under the guise of a fraudulent "pandemic". While it is true that those who fly the Red Ensign are also motivated by an intense Australian nationalism,<sup>20</sup> in politics context is everything. And right now, the Red Ensign is being unfurled and flown by those who are waging a heroic battle not only to end Covid vaccine mandates, but to restore all basic rights which have been removed under the deceit of a "health emergency".

At one of the many rallies over the weekend, anti-mandate protestors hoisted the Red Ensign and the Aboriginal flag (exposing, once again, criticism that the freedom movement is "racist") at Government House. Crowds surrounded the flagpole, and riot police were sent in to take it down. Despite being nearly choked by one cop, one man fought them off with the help of the surrounding mass who did not react despite being physically threatened. The police soon had to give up, and retreated, to the roars of approval of the crowd.<sup>21</sup> Anti-mandate protestors are entirely justified in defending themselves against police attempts to limit the impact of their demonstrations. No amount of police repression can override the fact that millions simply want

their lives to go back to what existed before "Covid" began.

### **Nationalism as a reaction**

Most understand, however, that those days are not returning unless the freedom movement can win a decisive political battle against those who have imposed "The New Normal". Three years in, it is more than evident that "Covid" is not about healthcare. Whether or not the SARS-CoV-2 virus exists, the Covid narrative was always rhetorical cover for arguably the largest assault on the working class in history. While it is true that some small business has also been decimated by lockdowns, vaccine mandates – take the shots or lose your job – are squarely aimed at working people. In fact, vaccine mandates are about throwing as many workers into unemployment as possible. The ruling class calculates that doing so will drive down the cost of labour power, by creating a pool of unemployed who will be prepared to work for whatever wages are on offer. To drive down wages at this stage of the capitalist crisis, employers need governments who will enact unprecedented political repression. They even require politicians who understand that liberal democracy must be replaced with fascism.

In general, the freedom movement understands this very well. Yet its prescriptions for fighting this unusual form of fascism remain rudimentary and contain limitations which need to be overcome. Largely due to the utter betrayal of the so-called left and Trade Union officialdom, the freedom movement embraces an overt nationalism as a buffer against an agenda they see as being imposed by "globalists". This nationalism can even spill over into a manifest anti-socialism, with some fantastically identifying the "global elite" as having a "socialist agenda". Hence, there are examples of some in the freedom movement flying the flags of

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.anfa-national.org.au/the-red-ensign/> (08-02-2022)

<sup>20</sup> <https://australianredensign.com/about-us/> (08-02-2022)

<sup>21</sup> <https://cairnsnews.org/2022/02/07/down-with-the-union-jack-and-up-with-the-red-ensign-at-government-house-today/> (08-02-2022)

extremely anti-communist governments, now and during the last century. Some fly the flags of: Poland, Ukraine, Croatia, apartheid South Africa (!), Israel, Belarusian Nazi collaborators and the former South Vietnam (!). The fact that the Belarusian government never imposed lockdowns or any vaccine mandates, while the Israeli government almost forcefully vaccinated close to its entire population – seems lost to them.



www.bolnews.com

While Marxists in the freedom movement cannot ignore the blatant anti-socialism that these flags display, neither can genuine leftists walk away and dismiss arguably the most significant political movement yet seen. These flags represent only a small section of the freedom movement, and the majority can be won over to a pro-working class agenda *given the leadership of even a small vanguard party in formation*. Whether or not they recognise it, the Covid agenda – up to and including the installation of fascism – is driven by **capitalism**. More specifically, it is driven by a Western led capitalism which faces its most devastating crisis ever. The rate of profit has fallen to such a point that ANY attempt to revive it must be tried. This includes a fake pandemic and a deliberately inflicted depression. The destruction of much small capital and millions of jobs in the process is regarded by the wealthiest billionaires as little more than collateral damage.

Therefore, while many in the freedom movement believe themselves to be fighting against both fascism and communism, objective reality has them in fact confronting the rule of finance capital. This is why real socialists must join and build the freedom movement shoulder to shoulder with all those who can sense that “evil” is afoot. This “evil” is in fact the rule of an infinitesimally small minority of billionaires, who can only retain power by utilising an army of agents – corporate politicians, Trade Union officials, and, in this case, almost the whole gamut of “left” parties who have prostrated themselves before Big Pharma, Big Tech and Big Media. The abject treachery of these envoys who swear blind they are “progressive” drives the nationalism of the anti-mandate freedom fighters.

### For a real class struggle

Yet this nationalism is not insurmountable. As long as working people have not yet reached true class awareness, many of them will cling – quite tenaciously – to nationalism. Thus, this nationalism must be dealt with through patience and tact, while guiding workers towards tasks that can propel the movement forward. Writing during 1916 on the Easter Rebellion in Ireland, Bolshevik leader V.I. Lenin stressed:

“The socialist revolution in Europe *cannot* be anything other than an outburst of mass struggle on the part of all and sundry oppressed and discontented elements. Inevitably, sections of the petty bourgeoisie and of the backward workers will participate in it—without such participation, *mass struggle is impossible*, without it no revolution is possible—and just as inevitably will they bring into the movement their prejudices, their reactionary fantasies, their weaknesses and errors. But *objectively* they will attack *capital*, and

the class-conscious vanguard of the revolution, the advanced proletariat, expressing this objective truth of a variegated and discordant, motley and outwardly fragmented, mass struggle, will be able to unite and direct it, capture power, seize the banks, expropriate the trusts which all hate (though for difficult reasons!), and introduce other dictatorial measures which in their totality will amount to the overthrow of the bourgeoisie and the victory of socialism, which, however, will by no means immediately “purge” itself of petty-bourgeois

slag.”<sup>22</sup>

Allowing for the passing of time, does this description not also somewhat accurately describe today’s freedom movement? Undoubtedly there are sections of the petty-bourgeoisie taking part, some workers who lack political education, some who have “prejudices”, and others. Is it not the case, *despite this*, that “objectively they attack capital” ? And that the path is wide open for a “class-conscious vanguard” to unite the “outwardly fragmented mass struggle” ? And that if the advanced proletariat is able to “direct it, capture power, seize the banks” .... “overthrow the bourgeoisie” it will still have to deal with petty-bourgeois elements?



Below Left: The Red Ensign (a.k.a the Red Duster) was prominent in the anti-mandate freedom mobilisations which beset Canberra in February. Despite its nationalism, it has been used as somewhat of a rebel flag against the Covid tyranny of the Australian government. Image from [www.newshk.org](http://www.newshk.org)

Revolutionaries today must therefore not *directly* combat the nationalism of the freedom movement. Indeed, in Australia, socialists should recognise that the Red Ensign is being used as a symbol against what they see as the “Australia” they once knew being captured by unaccountable international ghouls. Genuine leftists in the freedom movement need to guide it, where possible, towards the formation of such bodies as strike committees – ongoing organs organising the aims of the freedom movement. Through this process, the masses may see the need for establishing their own government, which is under their own control. “Their own” government can only be one representing labour as against capital – for the petty-bourgeois class has no independent political program of their own. This requires the forging of a genuine Leninist party, which can lead the masses *through the proletariat* towards not just the end of vaccine mandates, but the abolition of all manifestations of lawless repression.



<sup>22</sup>

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/jul/x01.htm> (08-02-2022)



# TYRANT TRUDEAU FLEES FROM FREEDOM CONVOY



[www.vnexplorer.net](http://www.vnexplorer.net)

*(Article was current at the time of writing. Sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

01-02-2022: The news that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his family have been moved from their residence in Ottawa to an “undisclosed location”<sup>23</sup> ahead of the arrival of the Freedom Convoy comes as a form of poetic justice. Trudeau, an enthusiastic enforcer of tyrannical Covid lockdowns, vaccine passports and vaccine mandates, has in effect fled for his life from one of the largest protests Canada has yet seen. The Freedom Convoy, composed of trucks and other vehicles forming a line some 70 kilometres long,

had been described by Trudeau as a “fringe minority”. Tesla CEO Elon Musk, despite being a corporate magnate, correctly skewered Trudeau on Twitter. “It would appear that the so-called ‘fringe minority’ is actually the government...(he wrote)..if the government had the mandate of the people there would be a significant counter-protest. There is not, therefore they do not.”<sup>24</sup> Musk also lauded the thousands of Canadians lining the highways and streets in support for demonstrating during the height of a Canadian winter – with temperatures as low as -17° C.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.bizpacreview.com/2022/01/30/as-freedom-convoy-descends-on-ottawa-trudeau-flees-to-secret-location-citing-security-concerns-1194805/> (01-02-2022)

<sup>24</sup> <https://thepostmillennial.com/elon-musk-slams-justin-trudeau-over-fringe-minority-comment> (01-02-2022)

## Anti-mandate, not “anti-vax”

Trudeau – the personification of liberal totalitarianism – is living on another planet if he believes that the majority of Canadians support nonsensical Covid restrictions. A recent poll found that some 85% of Canadians now view Covid as no worse than the flu, while only 12% fear hospitalization with Covid.<sup>25</sup> Nor can the Freedom Convoy be slurred as “anti-vax”, when the demands of the truckers are clearly anti-mandate. James Bauder, one of the organisers with the Canada Unity Foundation, stressed that the Freedom Convoy is not about the vaccine, as there are single-jabbed, double-jabbed, double-jabbed and boosted and no jabbed truckers all taking part together. It is about the mandates – and we are done with mandates, he stated.<sup>26</sup> The plan seems to be to converge on the capital Ottawa and remain there until the mandates are removed. Currently there are vaccine mandates for truckers both of the side of Canada and on the side of the United States of America (US).

Popular podcaster and former actor Russell Brand highlighted the hypocrisy of the mainstream media for almost totally blocking out news about the Freedom Convoy. He made the point that truck drivers, along with nurses and healthcare workers, were hailed as tremendous heroes for delivering food and other goods during the harsh lockdowns that the world endured over the last two years.<sup>27</sup> Now, the moment truckers stand and fight for freedom from scientifically and medically unjustifiable vaccine mandates and vaccine passports – the corporate media turns their heads and walks away. As soon as anyone steps outside the dominant Covid narrative, they are shunned or

denounced as “anti-vaxxers” or “conspiracy theorists”. Yet the tide is very definitely turning against the fraudulent Covid narrative.

## Crumbling “pandemic” claims

Over and over again, Western governments repeat the mantra that the Covid vaccines are “safe and effective”. Yet the data on adverse events after the taking of a Covid vaccine is there for all those who care to look. As of January 28, 2022, 61 654 Covid-19 injection related deaths and 9 755 085 injuries have been reported across the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK) and the US.<sup>28</sup> In addition, reported deaths and injuries after taking Covid vaccines could be an indication of at most 10% of all deaths and injuries – the vast majority never going through the required reporting process. Even if Big Tech and Big Media censor all kinds of news and information that does not align with the official Covid narrative, they cannot stop word of mouth amongst the overwhelming mass of working people. Many workers know someone personally or know of friends or acquaintances who have been struck down with illness or have died soon after taking a first or second shot of Big Pharma’s “Covid” toxic brew. Firsthand experience cannot be censored by the government and its compliant media, no matter how much power they think they have.

Moreover, vaccine mandates over one’s employment are so obviously not about health care that most can see straight through it. Though they may not have an explanation for why, millions of workers feel in their gut that threatening the livelihood of people who are keeping whole societies running is dead wrong. Ditto for vaccine passports, which restrict human movement, enforce apartheid type discrimination, and

<sup>25</sup> <https://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/omicron-no-big-deal-majority-of-canadians-believe-covid-no-worse-than-the-flu-says-poll> (01-02-2022)

<sup>26</sup> <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/were-done-with-mandates-freedom-convoy-vows-no-violence-as-up-to-2000-vehicles-head-for-ottawa> (01-02-2022)

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itbSlqY4Nnw> (01-02-2022)

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.globalresearch.ca/jaccuse-governments-worldwide-lying-you-people-populations-they-purportedly-serve/5750650> (01-02-2022)

degrade even those who comply. The Freedom Convoy in Canada, an extension of the freedom movement which has maintained mobilised opposition to Covid dictates for two years, is another shot in the arm for working people the world over. Indeed, the Canadian Freedom Convoy has led to truckers in Australia replicating the effort, with a similar convoy to the capital Canberra.<sup>29</sup>



[www.clarosms.lesdegusteux.com](http://www.clarosms.lesdegusteux.com)

While workers should mobilise in support of Freedom Convoys, it should be acknowledged that the default politics of the freedom movement – nationalism – presents a political roadblock. While it is understandable that participants in the Freedom Convoys unfurl Canadian or Australian flags to adorn their vehicles, waving the same flag as that of the government imposing Covid terror limits what can be achieved. While it appears as though the Covid agenda is being imposed globally, or over the top of “national sovereignty”, it rather is part of a class driven war. It is the capitalist class, particularly in Europe, the US and Australia, which is driving Covid madness *against* the working classes. The conservative bureaucratic caste ruling the People’s Republic of China (PRC) certainly helped coordinate the Covid

<sup>29</sup> <https://tottnews.com/2022/01/31/updates-convoy-to-canberra/> (01-02-2022)

agenda – but it emanated from Washington, London and Brussels.

Given this, from out of the freedom movement must emerge a real left, light years away from the fake left which wasted no time in kneeling before the throne of imperialism. From a popular people’s movement must emerge a pro-working class struggle to establish alternative organs of political power, which must then be defended against any attempt to disperse them. What is also required is *a workers party which fights for a workers government*, comprised of the most advanced and self-sacrificing proletarians committed to the establishment of collectively owned and planned economies. Vaccine mandates, vaccine passports, lockdowns and other forms of tyranny can then be consigned to the cauldrons of the netherworld from which they emerged.



Above: Part of the Freedom Convoy led by Canadian truckers, which at one stage reached 75 kilometres in length, the longest in history. While the mainstream media at first refused to cover the event, they were forced to by the sheer numbers of Canadians supporting it, as well the backing it was obtaining from all supporters and participants in the freedom movement worldwide. The main demand was clearly anti-mandate, rather than “anti-vax”, and it was this part which garnered support from many workers internationally, even if they have concerns about other political aspects of the freedom movement. [www.earlynews24.com](http://www.earlynews24.com)



# FREE NOVAK DJOKOVIC! ABOLISH VACCINE MANDATES!



Above: Novak Djokovic, world's number one male tennis player. [www.shropshirestar.com](http://www.shropshirestar.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

09-01-2022: At the time of writing, the Australian federal government lost a bid to delay the court case launched by Novak Djokovic's legal team, which would allow him to remain in Australia and play at the Australian Open.<sup>30</sup> Novak Djokovic is the world's number one male tennis player, and has been at the very top of the sport for most of his career. He currently has 20 winning Grand Slam titles to his name, alongside Roger Federer and

Rafael Nadal. If he won the 2022 Australian Open, he would move to 21 Grand Slam titles and could arguably claim to be the best player in history. Unfortunately, Australian politicians are making entirely political decisions in an attempt to disbar him from playing in Melbourne, and even deporting him from the country – in the name of "Covid". Djokovic has withstood enormous pressure to succumb and submit to taking the extremely dangerous and experimental Covid vaccine – and thus stands with the anti-lockdown

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-01-09/court-documents-detail-timeline-of-djokovic-deportation/100746228> (09-01-2021)

freedom movement, even if he has never been a participant.

### **Detention based on ideology, not “health”**

If he played the Australian Open – a title he has won a record nine times – he would be a big chance to win. If he is banned from the country over “Covid” and does not play the Australian Open – the “winner” (at least of the Men’s Singles) will forever be remembered as a second-hand champion. The real reason the Australian government is attempting to block Djokovic from playing in Australia’s biggest tournament is that an unvaccinated winner will expose large parts of the Covid narrative as even more false than it already is. A fit and healthy unvaccinated Djokovic playing a physically gruelling Grand Slam and winning it obviously sends the message that Covid vaccination is *completely unnecessary, and in fact that you are better off without it*. This reason – and not risible claims that an unvaccinated person poses some kind of health danger to anyone or any country – is why Djokovic is now in detention awaiting the outcome of his court case. *Working people should demand his immediate release and his entry into the Australian Open.*

While it is true that Novak Djokovic – with a net worth of approximately \$220 million<sup>31</sup> – can afford a high-powered legal team to represent him, he is fighting a battle that working people the world over must win. That is, people should have the right to undertake any occupation, and earn a living, without facing a vaccine mandate. Srdjan Djokovic, Novak’s father, is certainly aware of issues at stake. He emphasised that “This is not a

fight for the libertarian world, this is not just a fight for Novak, but a fight for the whole world!”.<sup>32</sup> Hundreds of supporters and members of the Serbian community in Melbourne have rallied for days outside the hotel where Novak is currently detained.<sup>33</sup> These folk are not just mobilising on the basis of Serbian nationalism, but against an epic injustice against a non-Western figure who refuses to yield to the scientific and medical absurdity of the Covid narrative. And Covid ideology originates and is enforced principally by the ruling classes of Western imperialism.

### **Australia the testing ground for unlimited repression**

Many in Australia had hopes that 2021 would be the last year of Covid lockdowns, facemasks, vaccine mandates, domestic and international travel bans and other restrictions. The start of 2022 soon put paid to this yearning. Incredibly, Northern Territory (NT) Chief Minister Michael Gunner announced the introduction of a “vaccine pass” and a four-day lockdown for the unvaccinated – denying the ability of those who have not taken the poisonous injection *to work or even to exercise for one hour per day*.<sup>34</sup> Covid political repression in Australia thus now has no legal or physical limit. The politicians imposing insane levels of Covid oppression are doing so without even so much as a pretence of passing an act of parliament (although Victoria’s “Pandemic Powers Bill”<sup>35</sup> represents somewhat of an exception), or oversight by a parliamentary or judicial committee. Decrees and edicts are simply announced, posted on a government website – and then are enforced by security and police

<sup>31</sup> <https://wealthygorilla.com/novak-djokovic-net-worth/> (09-01-2021)

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10372539/Novak-Djokovics-dad-issues-urgent-message-Australian-government.html> (09-01-2021)

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10383215/Shock-twist-Novak-Djokovic-visa-saga-Home-Affairs-minister-asks-court-DELAY-hearing.html> (09-01-2021)

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.skynews.com.au/australia-news/coronavirus/northern-territory-placed-into-lockout-until-noon-on-monday-unvaccinated-residents-to-enter-lockdown/news-story/85112b44c171b0196694c65807d1ed63> (09-01-2021)

<sup>35</sup> [https://www.rebelnews.com/pandemic\\_powers\\_bill\\_passes\\_to\\_give\\_dan\\_andrews\\_dictator-like\\_control](https://www.rebelnews.com/pandemic_powers_bill_passes_to_give_dan_andrews_dictator-like_control) (09-01-2021)

forces on the ground. In other words, the shell of parliamentary democracy has been shattered into a thousand pieces.



Above: Jeremy Chardy, a pro tennis player from France, who reached a career high world ranking of 25. He had to miss the entire 2021 season after suffering an adverse reaction to the Covid vaccine, and may struggle to return to the tour. [www.tennis.com](http://www.tennis.com)

Australia has become regarded as the canary in the coal mine, or the testing ground for the implementation of a totalitarian terror never previously seen. Australia, as its national anthem sings, is “girt by sea”. In almost all directions, thousands of kilometres of deep blue water confront those who aim to travel internationally. For the unvaccinated, there is no escape from the island continent, unless one has an oversize boat or private jet. Covid travel bans clamped on the country ensure that only the “fully vaccinated” (a constantly shifting definition) can freely leave or enter. It appears that the global ruling classes behind Covid have decided to test the limits of political repression they can get away with in Australia, with “successful” experiments then cleared to be applied elsewhere.

Whether or not a novel coronavirus exists, and whether or not Covid-19 is some form of respiratory illness, *Covid is a class war* waged by the wealthiest multi-billionaires and the states

that protect them against the overwhelming majority whose labour has created endless zeroes in their bank accounts. Covid represents the replacement of liberal democracy with liberal fascism. Capitalism approaches an “end of days” scenario, due to being rapidly overtaken by the sheer power and performance of the largely nationalised and planned economy of the People’s Republic of China (PRC). If capitalism is to have any chance at all of a “re-set”, the deliberate destruction of large parts of the Western economies *may* open new fields of investment. So, regardless of the human cost, Covid repression via lockdowns, facemasks, vaccine mandates, travel restrictions etc. – are imposed.

Thankfully, the freedom movement – the largest political movement ever – completely rejects the lies which buttress Covid, and therein lies its power. At the same time, the leaders of the freedom movement must learn that only a class struggle for socialism has any chance of forever consigning Covid repression to the dustbin of history. Not only should Novak Djokovic be free, but all vaccine mandates, all lockdowns, all travel restrictions, all Covid passports and so on, *should be abolished*.





# KAZAKHSTAN: “COLOUR REVOLUTION” RIOTS EXPLODE



Above: Government buildings were set ablaze by violent rioters in Kazakhstan in early January. [www.elrisala.com](http://www.elrisala.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

08-01-2022: Never believe anything until it is officially denied, so goes the axiom. This cannot be more apt when viewing the current situation in the former Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan. When asked in a press briefing if the United States (US) government was behind the violence sweeping Kazakhstan in line with some Russian claims, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki brushed it aside. “There are some crazy Russian claims about the US being behind this...[this is] absolutely false, and clearly part of the standard Russian disinformation playbook”.<sup>36</sup> Given the US

disinformation playbook, which claimed – without a shred of evidence<sup>37</sup> – that the Russian government had interfered in the 2016 US Presidential Election, Psaki’s claims stand on razor thin ground. Scratching even slightly beneath the surface, one can find the dirty fingerprints of the usual regime change suspects all over the violent riots disguised as protests tearing Kazakhstan apart. These include, but are not limited to, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED – the “legal” regime change arm of the CIA) and billionaire anti-socialist “colour revolution”

<sup>36</sup> <https://nypost.com/2022/01/05/jen-psaki-dismisses-russian-claims-that-us-is-behind-kazakhstan-unrest/> (08-01-2022)

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/03/25/muellers-russia-report-special-counsel-indictments-charges/3266050002/> (08-01-2022)

puppet master George Soros and his Open Society Foundation (OSF).

### Foreign funded “NGOs”

There is zero that is progressive, let alone revolutionary, about a “colour revolution”. The name designates ultra-reactionary regime change operations usually directed against the former Soviet Republics, but they have also been used in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Invariably, the US state department works in tandem with fake fronts posing as Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) or Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and the OSF is the premier partner of choice for the covert outsourcing of US Foreign Policy. The OSF has been operating in Kazakhstan since 1995 and has been funded to the tune of more than \$100 million over 25 years. According to the Kazakh Minister of Social Development Darkhan Kaletaev, he is aware of 53 international organisations, 30 foreign government organisations, and 77 foreign NGOs operating in his country – with 70% of the funding for these bodies flowing in from the USA.<sup>38</sup> There are some estimates that today there are some 16 000 foreign funded NGOs operating throughout the country<sup>39</sup>, with some placing the figure higher, at 22 000.

The Soros funded OSF is not the only one but is the most prominent. There are some reports that NEXTA, the Polish based NED funded front which was extremely active in regime change operations against Belarus,<sup>40</sup> is heavily involved. Plausible claims say that NEXTA is explicitly instigating violence in Kazakhstan, publishing material showing “protestors” how to use hand grenades and urging them to arm themselves heavily against the police. While the US White House claims

“Who...us?” in relation to the New Year violence, Twitter posts show that the US Embassy was already warning about mass “protests” in Kazakhstan on December 16, 2021 – almost a month ago.<sup>41</sup> Talk about the US state department telegraphing its punches!

### Riots disguised as “protests”

The notion that the rabid and frenzied force employed by several thousand misguided or wilfully misled armed combatants on the streets of various cities across Kazakhstan was a “protest” about “gas prices” or the “standard of living”, is absurd at face value. Even though the government appeared to acknowledge this as the rationale, and resigned, this was an attempt to stop further violence. The government then announced a 180-day moratorium on price rises for LPG, diesel, gasoline and utilities.<sup>42</sup> Yet this was in response to open attacks on police throughout the country. In Alma-Ata, the rioters ripped iron shields, batons and helmets from the hands of police. Some of them stole police cars and even ambulances,<sup>43</sup> where they did not overturn them and set them ablaze. Government buildings were stormed and assaulted in several cities, including the southern towns of Shymkent and Taraz, with over 100 police injured.<sup>44</sup> In a real revolution, a mass movement will obviously first clash with police. Yet when “protestors” violently attack police before much else gets underway, it is a dead giveaway that it is organised bloodthirsty chaos with political aims, i.e., terrorism.

Innocent civilians – who do not at all support violent regime change – were also targeted. Rioters beat up some 500 civilians and ransacked

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.kp.ru/daily/27348.3/4528358/> (08-01-2022)

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.globalresearch.ca/video-crisis-kazakhstan-creates-new-area-instability/5766366> (08-01-2022)

<sup>40</sup> [https://larouchepub.com/other/2021/4824-roman\\_protasevich\\_tool\\_of\\_angl.html](https://larouchepub.com/other/2021/4824-roman_protasevich_tool_of_angl.html) (08-01-2022)

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.sott.net/article/462832-Steppe-on-Fire-Kazakhstans-Color-Revolution> (08-01-2022)

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.enca.com/business/kazakhstan-limits-fuel-price-after-protests-over-hikes> (08-01-2022)

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.kp.ru/daily/27348.3/4528283/> (08-01-2022)

<sup>44</sup>

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/world/2022/01/05/Kazakhstan-declares-state-of-emergency-in-Almaty-province> (08-01-2022)

hundreds of businesses.<sup>45</sup> Kazakh President Kassem-Jomart Tokayev announced a two-week state of emergency and a night-time curfew in the capital Nur-Sultan, citing “a serious and direct security threat to citizens”.<sup>46</sup> While leftists do not politically back the Kazakh government, it is unarguable that the terrorist riots threaten the lives of Kazakhstanis. President Tokayev is also justified in appealing for assistance via the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) – a military alliance of Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan – and is more than validated in blaming “foreign-trained terrorist gangs”<sup>47</sup> for the wave of violence. So far, Russia, Belarus, Tajikistan and Armenia have offered to send troops, but Kyrgyzstan is waiting. The foreign troops will not be involved with any “protests”, but will be used to guard strategic assets, military bases, mines and refineries.

While genuine revolutionists offer no political support to the governments of any of the former Soviet Republics, we condemn and oppose ultra-violent regime change operations which are squarely aimed at the Russian Federation. What is more, Kazakhstan today is another example that capitulation to the fake Covid “pandemic” does not at all appease, or ingratiate, one’s nation to imperialism. On the contrary, this only emboldens Wall Street to unleash yet more subversion. Global capitalism has reached such a depth of a crisis that it can only resort to extreme violence against the working masses in a vain attempt to save itself. The only real protection from imperialism is for socialism to once again return to the steppes of Kazakhstan, Russia, Eurasia and internationally. Key to this is the construction of internationally linked workers vanguard parties based on the Marxism of Lenin and Trotsky, and the

supersession of capitalism via the assembly of nationalised and planned economies.



Above: The riots in Kazakhstan in January were so dangerous that the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) was activated for the first time. The CSTO contains Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The Russian and Chinese governments later came out with statements stating explicitly that “colour revolutions” planned and orchestrated by the US government, will no longer be tolerated. [www.astanatimes.com](http://www.astanatimes.com)



<sup>45</sup>

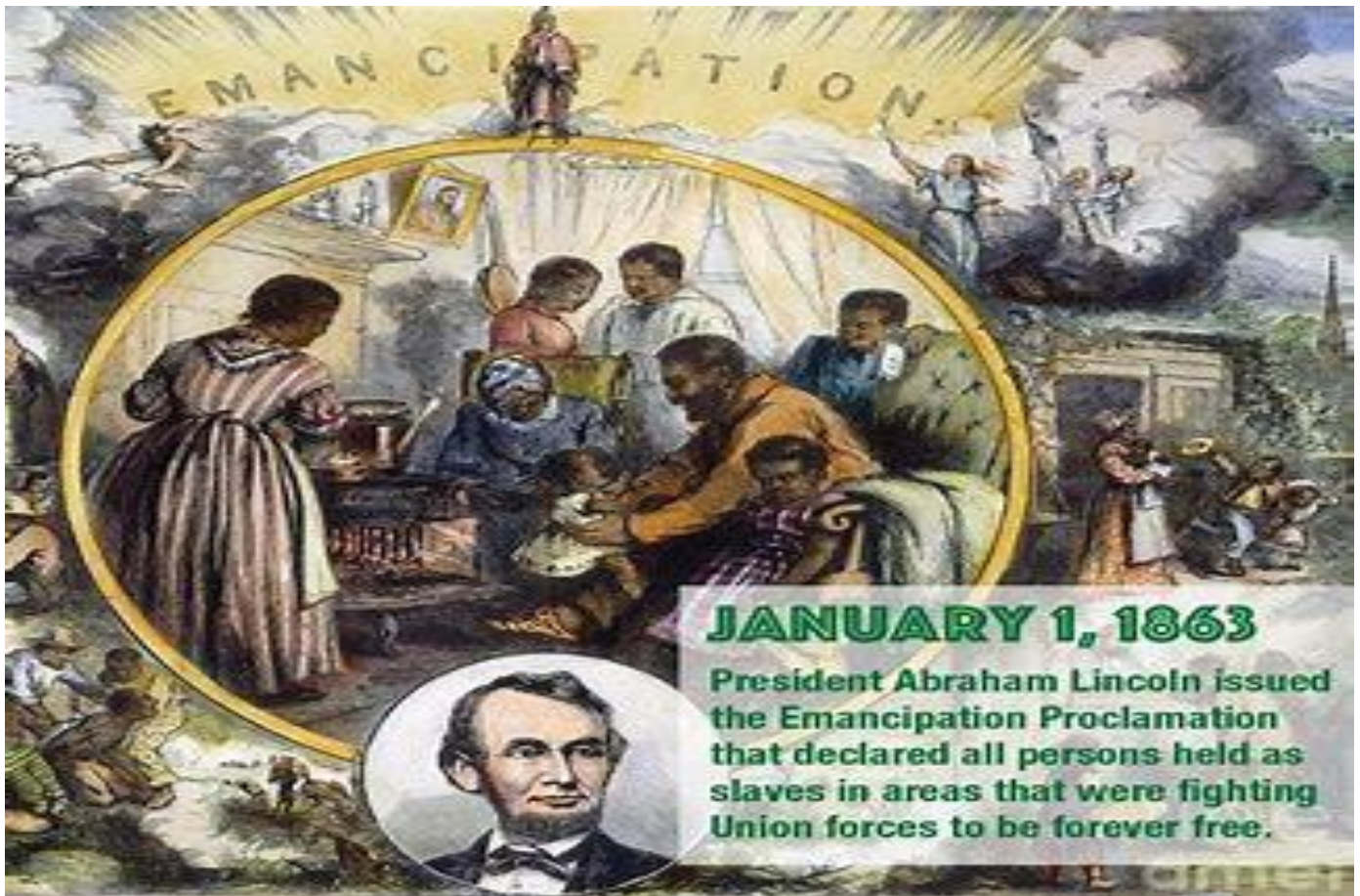
<https://www.malaymail.com/news/world/2022/01/05/kazakhstan-government-resigns-after-violent-protests-over-fuel-price/2033100> (08-01-2022)

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/news/world/russia-central-asia/article/3162160/kazakhstan-president-declares-emergencies-protest> (08-01-2022)

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/news/world/russia-central-asia/article/3162294/kazakhstan-president-seeks-russias-help-violent> (08-01-2022)



# WELL THERE ARE BOURGEOIS RIGHTS....AND THEN THERE ARE BOURGEOIS RIGHTS



By Thomas Buddenbrook

Throughout the Covid Left, there has been a hue and cry about the “bourgeois individualism” of the truckers convoys in Canada and Australia, as well as many other elements of the global medical freedom movement. In a recent article on Red Fire online, “The Straw Man: ‘Fascism’ in the Freedom Movement,” the Trotskyist Platform was given special mention in this regard:

The Trotskyist Platform (TP), another champion of identity politics, go a step further into the arms of the super elite, despite themselves. They state that those who claim it is their right to refuse vaccines, facemasks and social-distancing

rules are doing so on the basis of “extreme individualism”, which is counterposed to the collectivist spirit on which the socialist and trade union movement is based.<sup>48</sup>

Trotskyists, or Bargain Basement Stalinists?

But it isn’t just the identity politicians that accuse the Freedom Movement of such individualism. In a recent article in the World Socialist Web Site, not exactly known for their fondness for identity politics (IP), the following is expressed:

Nothing about this movement is progressive, popular, or even politically repressed—in fact it is far better represented in parliament than most of the

<sup>48</sup> The Straw Man: “Fascism” in the Freedom Movement – Red Fire ([redfireonline.com](http://redfireonline.com)),

referring to DON’T BELIEVE THE FAR RIGHT’S DEADLY LIES | Trotskyist Platform

population....They represent a current of petty-bourgeois “radical” thought, influenced by libertarianism, anarchism and Stalinism, hostile or disdainful towards the working class and seeking an alternative base for an “anti-establishment” movement. Rejecting the class struggle, they look for opposition to ..., the government and the corporations in the assertion of purely individual rights and liberties—rooted in appeals to personal or national sovereignty.<sup>49</sup>

Joining this chorus, attacking the U.S. Bill of Rights, is the “Class Struggle Education Workers”: a front organization for the Internationalist Group:

Now that safe vaccines are available for all adults, youths and children age 5 years and up, [!!! When did this happen?!! What testing has been conducted on these shots to show that they are safe?!!!] the CSEW is for obligatory vaccination for COVID-19 for everyone in the schools (teachers, staff, students, vendors, administrators) as a necessary public health measure. There must be no religious exemptions..<sup>50</sup>

The TP’s affinity for this bilgewater is not so surprising. What is rather incredible is the fact that the SEP, and the Spartacist offshoots, have jumped on the bandwagon as well. As the Spartacist League’s *Workers Vanguard*, and the IG’s own *Internationalist*, have been fond of saying over the past few decades, “this is pretty *rich*”—coming out of groups, especially the SEP/WSWS, that have historically *defended* individual rights, against for example, the #Me2 movement’s utter contempt for the right to due process.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Omar Ali, Would-be putschists and other leaders of Canada’s far-right Freedom Convoy - World Socialist Web Site (wsws.org)

<sup>50</sup> Use Union Power to Keep Schools Open Safely | CLASS STRUGGLE EDUCATION WORKERS (edworkersunite.blogspot.com)

<sup>51</sup> The #MeToo campaign versus the presumption of innocence - World Socialist Web Site (wsws.org)

It is also especially remarkable, coming as it does out of the Spartacists’ and its offshoots’ press, for another reason. These newspapers lampooned, with relish, year after year, “the touching faith in the capitalist state”<sup>52</sup> of Labor Militant (now SAlt). Ahh, but they will probably reply. “We’re not talking about faith in the bourgeois state now. We’re talking about the trained, honest, well credentialed *public health officials*--like ‘America’s Doctor’. Anthony ‘The Science’ Fauci, who merely *work* for the bourgeois state [and for Big Pharma?!]. These saints among us can walk on water! If they tell us--without any significant testing--that these shots are safe, effective, and necessary, then they must be! And the ‘right wing bourgeois elements’ in the lower classes, who resist this, who do not share our faith, who insist upon their ‘individual rights’ (oh please!) must be fiercely criticized, and, when necessary, repressed.”

How touching is *that*?

Because these groups have permitted the Trojan Horse of scientism and faith in bourgeois “public health” authorities to come through their intellectual gates, their Marxist radicalism has effectively been thrown out the window. They now sound, for all the world, no more like courageously critical-minded Trotskyists, but instead, bargain-basement Stalinists, lining up whatever workers that have the misfortune of still following them, with the technocratic diktats of Bill Gates and the World Economic Forum.

As Robert Kennedy, Jr. has been saying for a few months now, the Bill of Rights now serves only as sanitary paper, on which the ruling class can wipe its arse, in its fascist campaign to destroy the small business middle class, and the working class. All with the blessing of these “Marxist” groups. Freedom of speech? Not if you express a dissenting opinion from the CDC and Anthony

<sup>52</sup>

[https://www.marxists.org/history/etol/document/icl-spartacists/pamphlets/Labours\\_Touching\\_Faith\\_in\\_Capitalism.pdf](https://www.marxists.org/history/etol/document/icl-spartacists/pamphlets/Labours_Touching_Faith_in_Capitalism.pdf)



Fauci. Of assembly? Please--and risk a super spreader event?! Religion? Sorry, no religious exemptions. Rule of law, made by representative legislature? The right to civil disobedience, and the right to a guarantee that the punishment will fit the “crime”? Are you crazy?!! It’s an emergency, and the truckers are transphobic fascists! An equal right to public accommodations, including restaurants, museums, concerts? Not if you haven’t gotten the latest mandated booster shot. The right to keep your job? See above. How about the right to determine what goes into your body, to exercise informed consent under the Nuremburg Code, with a medical experiment proven neither safe, effective, nor necessary, And all with the blessing of these so-called “Trotskyists”--?!!

The idea that people are “right wing” or even “fascist,” because they uphold such basic bourgeois rights, is to throw all such rights into a “night where all cows are black,” as Hegel might say. As I titled this piece, “there are bourgeois rights...and then, there are bourgeois rights.” Not all, in fact, very few, should be condemned (nor did these latter Trotskyist groups condemn them, but in fact, *praised* them and *defended* them--until the pandemic began. Then they ran around screaming their anxiety, and their support for Covid repression, like Chicken Littles).

#### Not Even All the Rights of Man are All Bad...

In his reply to his former teacher, Bruno Bauer, “On the Jewish Question,” Marx distinguished such rights along the lines of the French Revolutionary Constitution. And he pointed out the contradiction between these “Rights of Man,” and the “Rights of Citizens.” The Rights of Citizens--freedom of speech, assembly, vote, etc. allowed one to participate in the political community created by the bourgeois state. The Rights of Man were pretty much the opposite: the right to private property, to tell others to get lost, this is mine, and I’m indifferent to your welfare, and I might use my private property to exploit you.



The former, the rights of the citizens, though they permit individuals to join a community, are still eminently bourgeois *individual* rights, which protect us from any “collectivist spirit” when this threatens to devolve into mindless, groupthink acceptance of bourgeois-state *demagoguery*: in which the professional middle class, along with most of the “Trotskyist” and “socialist” movement, seems so *entranced* these days. And these rights are the fruit, as the WSWS and other hard Trotskyist, anti-IP journals never have tired *in the past* of telling us, of centuries of struggle by the common people, and the workers. And these rights must be employed in the socialist revolution. To suppress these rights through fascism is the tendency of liberals, and especially, neo-liberals, as Ishay Landa (*The Apprentices Sorcerer*) has pointed out, as they grow increasingly fearful of such employment by the working class, threatening their bourgeois right to private property. And such rights must be preserved in the *aufhebung* of the socialist revolution--if there is to be truly a dictatorship of the *proletariat*, of the working class, who must democratically control their economy and society. Yet even a differentiation must be made *within* the Rights of Man. Certainly, socialists have no use for the bourgeois right to own private property, by



which to exploit the labor-power of the working class.

But on the other hand, there remains the right to control our own bodies, the right of self preservation, embodied both in the U.S.'s Thirteenth Amendment, outlawing slavery, and in the Nuremburg Code. Would anyone really propose to argue that Marx, as "collectivist" as he was, when he critiqued the *pro-private-property*, *pro-exploitation* aspects of the "Rights of Man" meant also to oppose *this* component, *this* basic human right?

In the Name of the "Collectivist Spirit," the Covid Left Kisses Off the Working Class... And Moves Into Tonytown

I would like to remind you, that the Nuremburg Code was created in the aftermath of the Nazi Holocaust, when Nazi doctors performed fiendish medical experiments on concentration camp prisoners--much like the murderous experiments conducted by Anthony Fauci and Francis Collins on children of color, just a few decades ago, with AZT. And without their consent. (See RFK, Jr.'s *The Real Anthony Fauci*)<sup>53</sup> Have these corrupt monsters suddenly turned over a new leaf--so much so that our fake Trotskyist friends have decided we should give up our right to bodily autonomy and informed consent to them?! That doesn't make any sense. That is a death cult, not science. We had Jonestown. Let's call this one "Tonytown." Or "Gatesville"? It is not Trotskyist, or socialist, either. It is based, as I said before, on the Trojan Horse of scientism, transforming science into a new kind of authoritarian religion, where the "public health" officials are treated as if they were priests and popes, whose authority, as in the Milgram experiment, must be followed without question--and without any real safety or effectivity testing.

<sup>53</sup> Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., *The Real Anthony Fauci: Bill Gates, Big Pharma, and the Global War on Democracy and Public Health*. Childrens Health Defense, 2021. The book documents exhaustively the corruptive "iron triangle" that Fauci, Gates, and others have created, to their enormous financial gain, between Big Pharma and the governmental "regulatory" agencies they control, and the massive amount of collateral damage, in terms of deaths, sterilizations, and injuries, this has created over the decades, here in the U.S., in Africa, and around the world.

As Ted Reese and others has well documented, this destruction of our rights has *nothing to do with public health*. It has been carried on with the purpose of accumulating enormous profits by Big Pharma, Tech, Shipping, et alia., in part reaped by government payments for these shots, and partially by the expropriation of the small-business bourgeoisie--shutting them down during the phony pandemic, and stealing their consumer markets--as well as the immiseration and enslavement, via digital technology and the creation of massive unemployment, of the global working class.<sup>54</sup> It is the duty of the socialist movement to support the movement by the working class, and the lower middle class, to defend our basic human *individual* rights against this fiendish campaign to reduce us to a state of abject misery. But not only to offer critical (anti-nationalist, anti-capitalist) support--*we must lead it, take it over, toward revolutionary socialism*. If we survive, as Peter Sinfield wrote, "we can all sit back, and laugh,"--and shame these fake socialists for the idiots they have become. If we do not, if we fail, it will be in large part due to their abject betrayals. The best the global working class can offer to these staunch defenders of the "collectivist spirit"--and thus, effectively, today's *ancien bourgeois regime*--is what Marx and Engels wrote was offered to the "feudal socialists" (in *The Communist Manifesto*)

"The aristocracy, in order to rally the people to them, waved the proletarian alms-bag in front for a banner. But the people, so often as it joined them, saw on their hindquarters the old feudal coats of arms, and deserted with loud and irreverent laughter."

<sup>54</sup> Ted Reese, Capital's profitability now depends on 'lockdowns', acute social enclosure, and 'medical' tyranny (grossmanite.wixsite.com). This is why the betrayal of the Covid Left, their complete incomprehension that we are moving from wage slavery *back to slavery, effectively repealing the Thirteenth Amendment, not just for people of color, but for the global entire working class including nanobot/5G technology--is so heinous*. And these fakirs claim to represent the best of the Enlightenment?

# "RAIN BOMB" HITS AUSTRALIA'S EAST COAST



Above: Dramatic flooding hit South East Queensland in late February, 2022. [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

02-03-2022: As the corporate media narrative suspiciously switches from one fake bogeyman (Covid) to another (Russia), Australia's East Coast has been swamped by a real threat which is already taking lives – extreme climate change. Over the last weekend in February, 1.5 metres of rain fell over three days, mostly around Brisbane and South East Queensland (QLD), in what was dubbed a "Rain Bomb". In the consequent rising floods, at least 8 people were swept away to watery graves,<sup>55</sup> some of them being unable to

escape their vehicles while attempting to navigate their way home. 18 000 homes in QLD have been fully or partially damaged,<sup>56</sup> with many owners and residents now attempting to clean through the muddy residue left by floodwaters which rose rapidly to submerge parts of their houses. All public transport in Brisbane has been shut down, and while there is a temporary reprieve from the driving non-stop rain, it is expected to return during the week,<sup>57</sup> causing more chaos.

## **"Rare" Weather Phenomenon?**

<sup>55</sup>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/feb/28/eastern-australian-states-hit-by-major-flooding-after-rain-bomb-weather-event> (01-03-2022)

<sup>56</sup>

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2022/02/28/677673/Australia-Weather-Bomb-Rain-Floods-> (01-03-2022)

<sup>57</sup>

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/world/2022/02/27/austrian-rain-bomb-floods-claim-sixth-life/2044209> (01-03-2022)

With the “Rain Bomb” rapidly moving south into New South Wales (NSW), some media outlets are describing it as a “rare weather phenomenon”, while admitting that the current floods are the worst to hit Brisbane since 2011, when that was referred to as a “once in a century event”.<sup>58</sup> Yet many workers can see with their own eyes and through their own experience, that when several or more “once in a century weather events” seem to occur every few years – it is NOT a one-off. Moreover, many are now aware that these extreme weather events are not only more frequent, they are increasingly dangerous and take the lives of innocents each time they arrive. While the politicians act as if nature is simply at work, it is plain to see that the decades of warnings about carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels – alongside other dire environmental warnings - should have been heeded and acted upon long ago.

One doesn’t need to be a climate scientist to understand the dynamics which lead to the increased frequency of flooding. As global temperatures rise, clouds that can hold a lot of rain become more common in a warmer atmosphere. Warmer oceans leads to gigatonnes more evaporation, which leads to more atmospheric moisture, which in turn leads to more intense rainfall.<sup>59</sup> In colder climates, such as parts of North America, this increased moisture can also lead to more intense snow falls.<sup>60</sup> Think of a pot of water on the stove: the more heat is applied, and for a longer period, the more water simply bubbles away through evaporation. A similar effect takes place for the blue planet. During previous ice ages, carbon dioxide in the atmosphere were around 200 parts per million (ppm) and was around 280 ppm before the industrial revolution. Yet in 2013, carbon ppm topped 400 for the first time ever,<sup>61</sup>

and has continued rising since then. The rise in carbon emissions mirrors the rise in the burning of fossil fuels, which has led many scientists to name a new geologic era – the “Anthropocene”.



Above: The floods which hit Queensland in February destroyed many houses and damaged properties with mud infested waters. Eight (8) people lost their lives, being swept away by dangerous flood waters. Image from [www.educationreview.com.au](http://www.educationreview.com.au)

### Humans not to blame

Yet “anthropogenic global warming” is a misnomer, in that it implies that humans alone are the cause of climate change, which is just one of the pressing environmental emergencies. Environmental degradation is largely caused by industrial development, which is a necessity both of capitalism and its socialist successor. However, it is only with collectively owned, democratic and planned economies that the needs of the natural (including human) environment can be genuinely taken into consideration on its own account. Capitalism, with private ownership of the means of production and anarchistically unplanned economic competition domestically and internationally – can never be constrained by “external” reasons such as a healthy environment

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.livemint.com/news/world/what-is-rain-bomb-australia-hit-by-rare-weather-phenomenon-8-dead-check-pics-here-11646028200505.html> (01-03-2022)

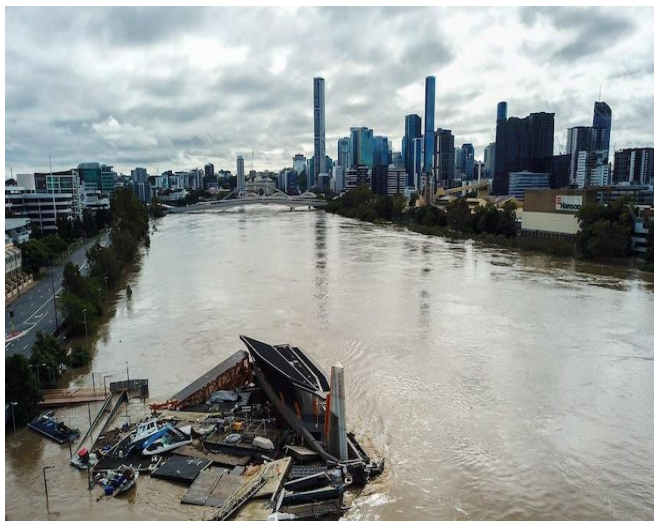
<sup>59</sup> <https://www.livescience.com/48368-why-four-weather-extremes-are-happening-now.html> (01-03-2022)

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.climaterealityproject.org/blog/climate-101-why-does-climate-change-increase-rainfall> (01-03-2022)

<sup>61</sup> [https://climate.nasa.gov/climate\\_resources/24/graphic-the-relentless-rise-of-carbon-dioxide/](https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/24/graphic-the-relentless-rise-of-carbon-dioxide/) (01-03-2022)



for people to habitate. Socialism, on the other hand, based on public ownership and control of the means of production – has no need for cutthroat economic competition, with its resulting extreme disregard for the soil and natural conditions.



Above: Some ferry terminals on the Brisbane River were destroyed by rapidly rising floodwaters raising the river level. Image from [www.abc.net.au](http://www.abc.net.au)

Millions across the globe have mobilised over the last two years against the virtual abolition of liberal democracy under the false guise of “fighting Covid”. This movement for freedom correctly rejects the fraudulent claimed basis of a “health” emergency, as Covid repression clearly worsened health outcomes for many workers – with millions losing their jobs. At the same time, many in the freedom movement also reject the concept of climate change, believing it to be another essentially fictional narrative alongside Covid. This is a mistake, though perhaps motivated by healthy instincts. “Covid” as supposedly the most dangerous disease in history has no scientific basis whatever and is a cover for political repression. Yet climate change does have a scientific basis and is confirmed almost universally

by climate scientists.<sup>62</sup> However, many in the freedom movement see the same people and the same forces who shrieked about the “danger” of Covid, likewise shrieking about the danger of climate change – and assume both are false alarms.

### **Liberal politics at fault, not climate science**

Covid “health” fascism was driven not by far-right ultra-nationalism – this task was entrusted to *liberal* capitalist politics. It was reinforced primarily by already existing parliamentary parties who were aggressively backed by the old Trade Union officials alongside civil libertarians, feminists, “progressives”, and many utterly fake “socialist” and “Marxist” parties. The abject treachery against the working class of these layers which claimed for decades to be “revolutionary” has understandably resulted in some in the freedom movement rejecting everything else “leftists” ever stood for – including climate change. While it is true that the liberal left were animated by the danger of climate change, it was only their prescriptions for a solution that were fictitious. That is, it was fantastic to imagine that production could switch from fossil fuels to so-called renewable energy (primarily solar and wind power), switch to electric vehicles – and the system would right itself. Liberal political forces drove the “climate change” movement because they were concerned above all to *save the capitalist system*. The peak environmental groups were completely tied to the governments of the Western imperialist states, and thus the “climate change” movement could never achieve any of its fundamental goals due to its resolutely cross-class composition.

Just as the Covid left drove the working class into the ultimate cross-class alliance in the supposed interests of “public health”, the liberal left drives

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-consensus-97-per-cent/2014/sep/15/97-vs-3-how-much-global-warming-are-humans-causing> (02-03-2022)

[illegible]

The cardinal lesson which needs to be learnt and re-learnt is that the working class cannot ally itself with “its own” ruling class (via capital’s agents of Trade Union officials, liberals and the fake “left”) on Covid, on climate, on NATO’s war on Russia or

While climate change is certainly an existential threat to life on Earth, it cannot be separated from the other forms of capitalist exploitation, especially the exploitation of labour power, i.e., working people themselves, and also the scourge of imperialist war. The vegetation and foliage obviously cannot be mobilised in its own interest, so Marxists must concentrate on organising the only real class in society which has no material interest in the maintenance of capitalism, either in its previous form of liberal democracy, or its current form of Covid “health” fascism – the workers. Vanguard parties, linked internationally, can help lead the working class through the dregs of “Covid” and imperialist war to a new society, where those who labour will rule collectively for the true benefit of all.





# ISIS-K STRIKES PAKISTAN: ISIS JOIN WITH NAZIS IN UKRAINE



Above: Mourners offer funeral prayers for some of the victims of the Peshawar Mosque bombing. Photo by Abdul Majeed/AFP

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

10-03-2022: In an act of barely constrained brutality, a Shiite Mosque in the Pakistani city of Peshawar was targeted by a suicide bomber during Friday prayers on March 4. 62 civilians were killed, and around 200 were injured. ISIS-K (Islamic State – Khorasan Province), purportedly an offshoot of ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), claimed responsibility for the attack soon afterwards.<sup>63</sup> Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Police said that the bomber used 5 kilograms of explosives packed with 150 ball bearings for the devastating attack.<sup>64</sup> The Human Rights Commission of

Pakistan released a statement which said that the assault was clearly intended to target Shia worshippers, which follows the pattern of the activity of sectarian outfits which have been allowed to run amok in recent years.<sup>65</sup> Yet ISIS-K has not only targeted Shia Muslims for reprisals. In October last year, ISIS-K claimed responsibility for the killing of Satnam Singh Khalsa in Peshawar. His “crime”? Practicing Unani medicine as a Sikh physician. Around 15 000 Sikhs live in Peshawar, with many running various businesses and pharmacies.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>63</sup> [https://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2022/03/05/pakistan-Pakistan-mosque-suicide-bomb-Islamic-State-Khorasan-Province/1381646489824/](https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2022/03/05/pakistan-Pakistan-mosque-suicide-bomb-Islamic-State-Khorasan-Province/1381646489824/) (08-03-2022)

<sup>64</sup> <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2346692/cctv-footage-shows-two-handlers-escorted-peshawar-suicide-bomber> (08-03-2022)

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.indianarrative.com/world-news/ruthless-isis-k-claims-responsibility-for-deadly-suicide-bombing-of-shia-mosque-in-peshawar-154932.html> (08-03-2022)

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/isisk-claims-killing-of-sikh-physician-in-pak-s-peshawar-101633110576939.html> (08-03-2022)



## US relocates proxy forces

ISIS-K is the demon spawn of the US (United States of America) Empire's war on Afghanistan, or at least the contrived end of the ordeal. While virtually the entire so-called left fell hook, line and sinker for the imperialist narrative of a "defeat" or "ham-fisted withdrawal" from Afghanistan after 20 years, what actually occurred was a strategic *relocation and reassignment* of US government sponsored ISIS barbarians, so as to better target Russia, China and Iran.<sup>67</sup> The liberal left, while betraying the working class through Covid repression, was immediately enlisted to call for regime change against the Taliban, via plaintive calls for asylum for Afghan refugees. This conveniently – for the Pentagon – builds political pressure for the US war machine to re-invade and/or overthrow the Taliban.<sup>68</sup> The Covid left thus alibis yet another potential imperialist war, barely being conscious of what it is doing. Pakistan was always going to be targeted by Washington's ISIS-K proxies, as punishment for its co-operation with the People's Republic of China (PRC), as well as with the Russian Federation.

Arguably, the latest cold-blooded attack on Peshawar by ISIS-K was ordered by the US deep state as retaliation against former cricket great and now Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan. PM Khan visited Moscow to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin on February 24, *on the very day* that Russia's DeNazification operation in Ukraine began. This would have infuriated the White House,<sup>69</sup> and it is not beyond plausibility that the Peshawar attack on Shia civilians by the covertly backed ISIS-K was one outcome. Yet in fact, PM Khan's visit to Moscow was not timed to

coincide with the beginning of Operation Z by Russia in Ukraine. It had in fact been planned well in advance, with PM Khan's visit intended to push the delayed "Pakistan Stream" gas pipeline. The 1100-kilometre project, also known as the North-South Pipeline, was initially agreed to in 2015. Islamabad and Moscow were to jointly fund it, with construction to be carried out by Russian firms.<sup>70</sup> Due to dwindling local gas supplies, the project is more important for Pakistan than it is for Russia. Yet, like Nord-Stream 2 – the pipeline from Russia to Germany – the Pakistan Stream pipeline would increase its co-operation with Russia, excluding the US ruling class from another area of economic activity.

## Pakistan tilts towards Eurasia

US and EU (European Union) imperialism is rapidly losing economic ground to the integration of the vast planned economy of the PRC with Russia and other nations of Eurasia. Pakistan, especially under PM Khan, saw the writing on the wall years ago, and enthusiastically signed up to the PRC's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI or New Silk Road). Specifically, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), as part of the BRI, will bring undisputed benefit to Pakistan. The CPEC comprises investments that could grow to \$60 billion, and etches out a 2700-kilometre route from Gwadar in Baluchistan province, right through to the Kashgar prefecture in the PRC's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR). The CPEC prioritises transport infrastructure, industrial development, energy, and the port at Gwadar.<sup>71</sup> Indeed, one by-product of the CPEC could be the development of the Karakorum Highway to ultimately connect

<sup>67</sup> <https://redfireonline.com/2021/09/25/afghanistan-us-withdrawal-prepares-hybrid-war/> (08-03-2022)

<sup>68</sup> <https://redfireonline.com/2021/08/30/afghanistan-us-empire-shadow-boxing-with-isis-k/> (08-03-2022)

<sup>69</sup> [https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/pakistan-achieved-nothing-in-moscow-irked-washington-on-top-report-122022600224\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/pakistan-achieved-nothing-in-moscow-irked-washington-on-top-report-122022600224_1.html) (08-03-2022)

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.gulftoday.ae/news/2022/02/23/pakistan-pm-imran-khan-to-visit-russia-as-fears-of-war-loom> (08-03-2022)

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.crisisgroup.org/asia/south-asia/pakistan/297-china-pakistan-economic-corridor-opportunities-and-risks> (08-03-2022)

Peshawar to Kabul.<sup>72</sup> Not surprisingly, even the uber-capitalist World Economic Forum (WEF) recognises that the \$900 billion BRI will boost Trans-Eurasian trade infrastructure, providing a boon for countries such as Pakistan and Afghanistan.<sup>73</sup>



Above: The aftermath of a bus bombing in Pakistan, which targeted Chinese engineers working on projects for the China Pakistan Economic Corridor. It is highly likely the culprits were terrorist operatives funded by the US government in an attempt to derail the extensive economic and infrastructure building co-operation between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Pakistan. [www.timesofindia.com](http://www.timesofindia.com)

The response of Wall Street and their agents is to continue deadly subversion, rather than seek to co-operate with countries developing with the assistance of Beijing. CPEC construction has been targeted for wanton violence twice already. In April 2021, a terrorist bombing hit a hotel in Pakistan's Baluchistan province where the PRC Ambassador to Pakistan was staying. He was not there at the time, but the bomb killed 4 other people. Then in July, a bus carrying people working

on the CPEC exploded, killing 13 people including 9 Chinese engineers.<sup>74</sup> While US President Joe Biden announced "Build Back Better World" (B3W) at the last G7 conference<sup>75</sup>, supposedly as America's answer to the BRI, this was clearly a false front behind which the US elites would continue to attempt to disrupt and derail the BRI through any means necessary – up to and including life taking terrorism.

This is also the driving force behind Washington's support for the "independence" of Baluchistan, Pakistan's Southwest province. Back in 2012, US Congressman Dana Rohrabacher introduced a resolution calling on the US government to recognise the "right to self-determination" of Baluchistan.<sup>76</sup> Like other instances of US government support for separatism overseas, this is scarcely about US government concerns for a "Free Baluchistan" and much more to do with attempting to prevent the construction of the port of Gwadar, a crucial checkpoint for the PRC's BRI trade routes. In addition, an "independent" but pro-US Baluchistan would be a lily pad base for US troops or their proxies, with access to the sea right in the heart of Central Asia. This would obviously be a base from which US military power could be deployed to effectively block further Eurasian integration.

### **Circling back to Ukraine**

ISIS-K butchery in Pakistan is linked to the US/NATO/EU imperialist war on Russia via Ukraine, as there are reports filtering through that ISIS and Al Qaeda cells are actively recruiting young people in the Yemeni city of Aden and deporting them to fight in Ukraine against Russia.

<sup>72</sup>

<https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2021/08/17/the-afghanistan-china-belt-road-initiative/> (08-03-2022)

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/06/china-new-silk-road-explainer/> (08-03-2022)

<sup>74</sup> <https://newatlas.report/2021/07/23/us-fingerprints-on-terrorism-aimed-at-china-pakistan-economic-corridor/> (08-03-2022)

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.mei.edu/publications/build-back-better-world-alternative-chinas-bri-middle-east> (08-03-2022)

<sup>76</sup> <https://tribune.com.pk/story/338079/us-congressman-tables-resolution-calling-for-independence-of-baloch> (08-03-2022)

The methods apparently used are offers of 4000 Saudi Riyals and the promise of marrying Muslim Ukrainians.<sup>77</sup> This gels with reports from the Russian foreign intelligence service (SVR) that the US and NATO governments are transferring ISIS fighters from Syria to Ukraine. According to the SVR, at the end of 2021, the US released several dozen ISIS cutthroats from prison, where they were taken to the US controlled Al-Tanf base and gave them further terrorist training with a focus on the Donbass.<sup>78</sup> In addition, Russian Ministry of Defence spokesperson Igor Konashenkov claimed that they had evidence that mercenaries employed by US “private military contractors” – such as Academi (formerly Blackwater), Cubic and Dyn Corp – are being sent to fight Russia in Ukraine. Some 200 mercenaries from Croatia have already arrived in Ukraine, with the governments of the United Kingdom (UK), Denmark, Latvia and Poland also allowing mercenaries to travel to Ukraine.<sup>79</sup>

Academi/Blackwater have earnt millions supplying its mercenaries to the CIA, Pentagon and US State Department for covert operations in the past, and now Ukraine is the main field of operations. They will be fighting alongside and with the Nazi Azov Battalion,<sup>80</sup> which has been carrying out war crimes for eight years against anti-Nazi resistance fighters and civilians in the Donbass. The combination of Academi/Blackwater and Dyn Corp mercenaries, ISIS and Al Qaeda hoodlums, and Ukrainian Nazi fiends has been described as a “Neo-Nazi Jihad” besetting Ukraine, as an estimated 20 000 foreign fighters pour into Poland

under the supervision of the CIA.<sup>81</sup> Never one to refrain from adding fuel to a fire, arch war hawk Hilary Clinton has publicly called for an armed insurgency against Russia in Ukraine.<sup>82</sup> Quite correctly, Igor Konashenkov has stated that none of these foreign mercenaries being sent to Ukraine can be considered as combatants in accordance with international humanitarian law. Russia has vowed to criminally prosecute any captured foreign mercenaries while understandably asserting that international rules for prisoners of war (POWs) would not apply to them.<sup>83</sup>



Above: For years before 2022, the Russian government have claimed that Blackwater (later renamed Academi) mercenaries have been operating in Ukraine. They have been working alongside the Nazi Azov Battalion and others against Russia. Now, they are being joined by ISIS mercenaries from Syria. [www.nbcnews.com](http://www.nbcnews.com)

### Stand with the non-imperialist bloc

Despite the threat of a major war, and ongoing terrorism sponsored by US/EU/NATO governments, working people should not succumb

<sup>77</sup> <https://www.dailyyemen.net/2022/03/06/aden-isis-recruits-mercenaries-to-fight-against-russia/> (09-03-2022)

<sup>78</sup> <https://www.globalresearch.ca/russia-warns-washington-sending-isis-fighters-ukraine/5773045> (09-03-2022)

<sup>79</sup>

<https://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/library/news/ukraine/2022/03/ukraine-220303-sputnik05.htm> (09-03-2022)

<sup>80</sup> <https://www.transcend.org/tms/2022/02/the-blackwater-is-in-ukraine-with-the-azov-battalion/> (09-03-2022)

<sup>81</sup> <https://www.unz.com/pescobar/how-russia-will-counterpunch-the-u-s-eu-declaration-of-war/> (09-03-2022)

<sup>82</sup> <https://libertarianinstitute.org/blog/hillary-clinton-wants-to-turn-ukraine-into-afghanistan/> (09-03-2022)

<sup>83</sup> <https://news.antiwar.com/2022/03/04/foreign-volunteer-fighters-arrive-in-ukraine-to-repel-russian-invasion/> (09-03-2022)



to a sense of powerlessness. Millions have mobilised for two years against unprecedented tyranny under the guise of “health”, while the forces of liberalism strongly defended capitalist wealth and power. The liberal so-called left has *not* convinced the majority of the working class that Covid repression was justified, and they have not now convinced major proportions of the working class to side with NATO against Russia. Their alignment with unashamed Nazis and ISIS in Ukraine demonstrates once again that these elements are the very opposite of “progressive humanitarians”. Despite 20<sup>th</sup> Century history, where fascism was the preserve of far-right ultra-nationalists, liberalism now fills this vacuum. Regardless of what liberals, progressives, civil libertarians, feminists, “socialists” etc believe themselves to be, they have formed the backbone of a totalitarianism they always swore they would stand against. Perhaps unconsciously, they have become what they despise.

Some commentators have noted that Washington wants a war in Europe because they are losing the economic competition with the PRC. We would agree, but we would add this is a demonstration that the private capitalist economies of the West are not able to compete with the predominantly publicly owned and planned socialist economy of Red China. The US/EU/NATO elites thus resort to murderous terrorism against Pakistan or any country which joins the PRC’s Belt and Road Initiative, foreign interference in any country which merely co-operates with the PRC or Russia, and a proxy war via Ukraine. The Covid war did not inflict enough economic pain on the working class to revitalise Western capitalism – so now more economic pain may well be inflicted through imperialist war.

While it is true that the political leaderships of Russia and the PRC abjectly betrayed workers internationally by imposing terror via a fraudulent

“pandemic”, working people have a huge stake in ensuring that the non-imperialist bloc (Russia, China, Iran etc) is able to prevent the US/EU/NATO from pushing the world into a global war. Pro-freedom socialists stand for the military defence of Russia, Crimea and the Donbass, while withholding political endorsement of the Russian government. Workers should demand that ALL economic sanctions, all sporting, all cultural and all academic bans against Russia *be lifted immediately*. Similarly, the PRC (and Pakistan) should be allowed to conduct trade and investment with any neighbour and any country – without being threatened covertly by Western subversion. The PRC’s largely nationalised economy and proletarian state should be defended – while maintaining a left-wing critique of the conservative politics of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The horrors of today’s capitalism need to be superseded by the advance of socialism, guided by vanguard parties genuinely committed to the liberating Marxism of VI Lenin and

LD

Trotsky.

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WORKERS LEAGUE

# BLACK ROCK, THE VANGUARD GROUP: WHO OWNS PLANET COVID?



[www.basedunderground.com](http://www.basedunderground.com)

*(Article sourced from [www.redfireonline.com](http://www.redfireonline.com))*

21-01-2022: Despite the variegated views and philosophical outlooks of the component parts of the freedom movement, most shades of it would agree that the Covid “pandemic” is largely a rhetorical and ideological cover both for political repression and for the one of the largest wealth transfers in history. Just during 2020, the wealth of the world’s billionaires rose to \$10.2 trillion, while millions of workers lost their livelihoods.<sup>84</sup> So who was driving the Covid agenda? Some claim that ultimately, it emanated from the three largest

asset management corporations in the world – Black Rock, State Street and The Vanguard Group. As of January 2021, these “Big Three” controlled 18 trillion dollars’ worth of assets. To put a trillion in perspective, 1 trillion seconds on a time clock would combine to form 31 546 years.<sup>85</sup> The Big Three are the largest investors in 88% of the S & P 500 companies. They hold the leading stakes in Apple, JP Morgan Chase – and Pfizer.<sup>86</sup>

## **Ultra-concentration of ownership**

It goes much further. In January 2020, Black Rock and Vanguard were the two largest shareholders

<sup>84</sup>

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/oct/07/covid-19-crisis-boosts-the-fortunes-of-worlds-billionaires> (18-01-2022)

<sup>85</sup> [https://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/K-12/Numbers/Math/Mathematical\\_Thinking/how\\_big\\_is\\_a\\_trillion.htm](https://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/K-12/Numbers/Math/Mathematical_Thinking/how_big_is_a_trillion.htm) (18-01-2022)

<sup>86</sup> <http://themostimportantnews.com/archives/3-giant-financial-companies-that-the-global-elite-use-to-control-88-of-the-corporations-listed-on-the-sp-500> (18-01-2022)

in GlaxoSmithKline. At Pfizer, Vanguard is the largest investor while Black Rock is the second largest stockholder.<sup>87</sup> *Global Justice Now* compiled a report released in December 2020 which outlined just some of the crimes that Big Pharma corporations have carried out as a matter of course. They exposed the misdeeds of Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Gilead, Pfizer, Moderna and Sanofi. Amongst other crimes, Big Pharma spends more on share buybacks to keep stock price high and on dividend payments to shareholders – than they do on research and development of new drugs. Development of vitally needed antibiotics are not undertaken by Big Pharma, as they are not seen as profitable.<sup>88</sup> Black Rock and Vanguard effectively own Big Pharma, through which they drive the Covid “pandemic” – as some claim, and not entirely without basis.

Not content with owning a controlling stake in Big Pharma, Black Rock and Vanguard effectively own Big Tech and Big Media as well. They have investment holdings in Google, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Amazon, Microsoft, Apple and Reuters. Black Rock and Vanguard are the top two owners of Time Warner, Comcast, Disney and News Corp, i.e., four of the six media companies that control more than 90% of the US media landscape.<sup>89</sup> In Big Tech, among the largest companies we find Apple, Samsung, Alphabet (parent company of Google), Microsoft, Dell, IBM and Sony. These are often interconnected. Facebook owns WhatsApp and Instagram. Alphabet owns Google and YouTube. Microsoft owns Windows and Xbox. All up, four companies produce the software used by almost all computers, tablets, smartphones, electronics and household appliances. And among the top shareholders we consistently find Black Rock and

Vanguard – with State Street and Berkshire Hathaway alongside them.<sup>90</sup> These days, control of software is close to control of society.



Above: Some of the largest corporations in the US have controlling portions of their capital owned by stockholders such as BlackRock, The Vanguard Group, and also State Street and Berkshire Hathaway. It is somewhat of a myth that many large corporations compete against each other when they often have the very same owners. [www.theburningplatform.com](http://www.theburningplatform.com)

According to capitalist mythology, competition is necessary to bring out the best in quality and standards. Yet capitalist economic competition leads directly to its opposite – monopoly. Once monopoly is attained, it is an illusion that, for example, Coca-Cola and Pepsi – or Apple and Android – “compete” against each other to provide the best product. Why? Because they are owned by the same shareholders and asset management fund behemoths. Their stock is owned by the same outfits, and invariably at the top of the share ownership pyramid is Black Rock and Vanguard. In fact, Vanguard is the largest

<sup>87</sup> <https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/blackrock-vanguard-own-big-pharma-media> (18-01-2022)

<sup>88</sup>

[https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/re-sources/pharma\\_covid-19\\_report\\_web.pdf](https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/re-sources/pharma_covid-19_report_web.pdf) (18-01-2022)

<sup>89</sup> <https://www.sott.net/article/462744-How-The-Vanguard-Group-is-building-an-empire> (18-01-2022)

<sup>90</sup> <https://truthunmuted.org/blackrock-and-vanguard-behind-the-global-takeover-and-vaccine-mandates> (18-01-2022)



shareholder in Black Rock! Oxfam reports say that 1% of the world own more wealth than the other 99% combined. In 2017, 82% of all earned money went to this 1%.<sup>91</sup> Black Rock and Vanguard hold a virtual monopoly on most industries, and they are in turn are owned by the wealthiest families in the world, most of whom have been extremely rich since before the Industrial Revolution.

Yet the influence of Black Rock and Vanguard is not just limited to Big Pharma, Big Tech and Big Media – which arguably gives it control of the fraudulent Covid narrative, and many other chronicles. Black Rock and Vanguard also works closely with central banks around the world, including the US Federal Reserve, which is a private entity. They lend money to the Federal Reserve, act as an advisor to it, and develop its software.<sup>92</sup> It is possible that we will reach a stage where Black Rock and Vanguard call the shots, because their wealth is greater than US GDP (Gross Domestic Product), and almost every government, hedge fund and retiree is a customer.<sup>93</sup> It is claimed that by 2028, Black Rock and Vanguard will own “almost everything”.

### The Covid Reset

Yet the understandable concern of gigantic private monopolies owning everything is limited to one side of the world – that of Western imperialism, centred in the USA, with subsidiaries in the European Union (EU), Japan, Australia and so on. Here, the concentration and centralisation of capitalist ownership is a law of the development of generalised commodity production. The almost limitless accumulation of unimaginable wealth at one pole exists alongside poverty or just livable conditions for the overwhelming majority of working people. The duplicitous Covid agenda,

which aims to increase the wealth of a tiny minority of billionaires at the expense of the relatively impoverished masses, may well have been largely pushed by Black Rock and Vanguard, or by firms owned and controlled by them. Yet the merging of corporate and state domination is an inevitable outcome – the longer the capitalist mode of production is permitted to stand. That is to say, as long as the working class has not formed its own leadership which can guide the struggle for its overthrow, imperialist capitalism must at a certain stage regress into a form of fascism. Today, this proceeds under the rubric of “Covid”.



Above: Far from ‘improving the state of the world’, Klaus Schwab and his World Economic Forum (WEF) aims to improve the already gargantuan property ownerships of the wealthiest capitalist billionaires on the face of the planet. Some in the freedom movement mistakenly believe that the WEF’s slogan of “you will own nothing and you will be happy” is an indication of some form of “globalism” or even “socialism”. In fact, it is the continuation of capitalism in a late stage, trying to save itself from internal decay by depriving larger and larger sections of the working class of decent living conditions. Capitalist monopolies, backed by asset management firms such as BlackRock and Vanguard, need to be taken into public hands. [www.biznews.com](http://www.biznews.com)

<sup>91</sup> <https://noqreport.com/2021/06/15/blackrock-and-vanguard-the-same-shady-people-own-big-pharma-and-the-media> (18-01-2022)

<sup>92</sup>

<https://rightsfreedoms.wordpress.com/2021/06/17/blackr>

[ock-and-vanguard-the-same-shady-people-own-big-pharma-and-the-media](https://financialpost.com/investing/a-20-trillion-blackrock-vanguard-duopoly-is-investings-future) (18-01-2022)

<sup>93</sup> <https://financialpost.com/investing/a-20-trillion-blackrock-vanguard-duopoly-is-investings-future> (18-01-2022)

Many in the freedom movement, which has bravely resisted Covid repression, point with alarm to the slogan of Klaus Schwab's World Economic Forum (WEF), that in the "Great Reset" you "will own nothing and be happy".<sup>94</sup> They fear that the "globalists" will take away all property, leaving us as renters at best. Indeed, it is possible that capitalist conglomerations, if they are not stopped, could buy up all housing stock, and simply rent it out to working people. Yet this "collective" ownership of the capitalists should not at all be confused with collective ownership which occurs after the triumphant overturn of private production for private profit – a socialist revolution. Here, *capitalist* property is transferred to the overwhelming majority of society, held and defended in trust by a workers' state – the "dictatorship of the proletariat". The working class then has collective access to the means of production, whereas previously ownership and control of the means of production – capital – was restricted to millionaires and billionaires. Capitalist ownership of the land, factories, machinery, office buildings etc., does not just mean that workers are condemned to forever sell their labour power to big corporations. It causes extreme alienation, as many sense and feel that they have no stake in society, that society is run for the benefit of the super-rich elites, and so on.

This is exacerbated even further if private corporations start to buy up public land, public transport and facilities such as ports and train lines, the more "neoliberal" capitalism progresses. Where capitalism was happy in the past for the state to own and run public facilities, the ever-falling rate of profit drives capital to return to cannibalise the state which previously provided basic infrastructure. Even if it were a capitalist state which, in the past, owned and operated transport and other facilities, workers could

somehow still feel that some parts of society were publicly owned. When this material is sold off or bought by private capitalist interests, extreme disenfranchisement and alienation returns, leading to all manner of social malaise. This is because private (capitalist, not personal) property tears society apart, while socially owned property has the effect of binding people together.



Above: The four largest banks in the People's Republic of China, all of which are state owned. They are: 1. The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China 2. Bank of China 3. China Construction Bank and 4. Agricultural Bank of China. While the big four banks in Australia are fully privatised and run exclusively for private profit, the big four Chinese banks are a vital part of what forms the workers' state, and are used to drive economic growth and provide services with minimal fees to hundreds of millions throughout the country. [www.en.ce.cn](http://www.en.ce.cn)

### Who owns the PRC?

While workers in the West eye the accumulation of trillions by Black Rock and Vanguard with apprehension, 20% of the world's population are

<sup>94</sup> <https://medium.com/illumination/in-2030-youll-own-nothing-and-be-happy-about-it-abb2835bd3d1> (19-01-2022)

free from such angst. The People's Republic of China (PRC), through one of the most momentous revolutions in history, overturned capitalism in the process of expelling colonialist domination over their homeland. From the declaration of the PRC on October 1, 1949, social property rather than private capitalist property has prevailed. In the world's largest country, the vast majority of 1.4 billion people view the PRC as "theirs" – whatever its faults. And so it is. For example, the PRC applies a system of public ownership to all land. Generally, land in urban areas is owned by the state and land in rural areas is owned by "collectives". The state retains ownership of state-owned land at all times. An investor in such land does not "buy" the land, as in the West. The investor only has the "use" of the land for a certain period – Land Use Rights (LURs). LURs are dispensed by the land authorities of the PRC and confirmed by a certificate issued by the local land bureau.<sup>95</sup> Land, in the PRC, cannot be bought and sold like a product.

Many Western pundits struggle to grasp this fact, and apply Western specific concepts to the PRC, where they do not apply. Large sections of the Western corporate media were awash with alarmist reports that the collapse of Chinese real estate giant Evergrande was imminent, which could trigger a global recession larger than that of 2008. But what happened? Evergrande disclosed 300 billion dollars' worth of liabilities in June 2021 and "defaulted". Immediately, local governments then began a process of effective nationalisation.<sup>96</sup> Then in September, the People's Bank of China injected \$19 billion into the banking system to "bailout" Evergrande.<sup>97</sup> Effectively, the state prevented an economic downturn.



Above: Much of the Western media shouted about a supposed collapse of Chinese real estate corporation Evergrande, which was supposedly imminent. However, the government of the PRC was well aware of the dangers that might occur should the firm fail, and so some local governments began a process of renationalising its assets. This prevented a collapse, and the Western pundits' claims of a "Lehman Brothers" style meltdown did not occur. This is yet another indicator that "capitalism" does not rule in the PRC. Image from [www.newssite4all.com](http://www.newssite4all.com)

There was no "collapse" of Evergrande. Rather, there was an orderly process of local governments effectively renationalising its assets to *prevent* a collapse. This was assisted by the People's Bank of China (PBOC), a state-owned bank. It is one of China's largest, with an estimated 3 trillion dollars' worth of foreign exchange reserves.<sup>98</sup> Many state owned enterprises (SOEs) are funded by the PBOC, and to a substantial extent it ensures state control over large parts of the PRC's economy. In fact, to ensure the state retained control over logistics (the means of distribution), in December 2021 the PRC merged five of its largest logistics firms into

<sup>95</sup> <https://www.mondaq.com/china/land-law-agriculture/89998/ownership-of-land-in-china> (19-01-2022)

<sup>96</sup> <https://tfiglobalnews.com/2021/12/16/starting-with-evergrande-ccp-begins-the-brutal-nationalization-of-all-corporate-entities-in-china/> (19-01-2022)

<sup>97</sup> <https://coingape.com/china-evergrande-surges-27-post-nationalization-rumors-crypto-market-surge-in-tandem/> (19-01-2022)

<sup>98</sup> <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/peoples-bank-china-pboc.asp> (19-01-2022)



one – the China Logistics Group.<sup>99</sup> During 2020, the PRC's central government poured 72 billion dollars' worth of subsidies into the state-owned Commercial Aviation Corporation of China (COMAC).<sup>100</sup> So the state-owned firm which dominates aviation received huge subsidies – from the state!



Above: The PRC's Baosteel firm which makes up part of China's huge steel production, a huge driver of economic growth. Since 2015, the PRC has accounted for just over half of the world's entire steel production. Image from [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com)

Since 2015, the PRC has been the world's largest steel producer, covering around 51% of the world's total steel production. Almost all of this steel production comes from PRC state-owned firms such as Hebei Iron and Steel Group, Angang Steel Company, Baosteel, Wuhan Iron and Steel Corp and Jiangsu Shagang Company.<sup>101</sup> According to Mr Schwab's WEF – no fan of state ownership – the PRC is home to 109 corporations which are

listed on the Fortune Global 500, with 94 of them being state-owned.<sup>102</sup> Of the world's top five companies by revenue in 2020, three of them are based in the PRC, and all three of them – Sinopec Group, State Grid, China National Petroleum – are state owned.<sup>103</sup> While the economies of Western capitalism are in an induced depression, the PRC's strong state backed economy recorded an amazing 8.1% GDP growth rate in 2021, the fastest growth rate it had achieved in ten years.<sup>104</sup>

While the privately owned capitalist economies in the West are dominated by Black Rock and Vanguard but mired in recession, the PRC with its collectively owned economy protected by its own state – forges ahead with seven league strides. While the PRC remains a bureaucratically deformed workers state, where workers' democracy is curtailed by a conservative and nationalist caste, it nevertheless demonstrates the superiority of a collectively owned and planned economy. This is the alternative to the hyper-capitalist Western economies, where private monopolies, such as Black Rock and Vanguard, accumulate unspeakable wealth and economic power entirely at the expense of working people. Despite the Stalinist and Maoist politics of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the PRC indicates what is potentially possible when the proletariat holds the reins of state power.

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<sup>99</sup> <https://www.caixinglobal.com/2021-12-07/china-creates-new-state-owned-logistics-giant-101814442.html> (19-01-2022)

<sup>100</sup> <https://itif.org/publications/2021/02/08/fact-week-china-has-provided-its-state-owned-national-champion-commercial> (19-01-2022)

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-top-10-steel-producing-countries-in-the-world.html> (19-01-2022)

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/05/why-chinas-state-owned-companies-still-have-a-key-role-to-play/> (19-01-2022)

<sup>103</sup> <https://news.cgtn.com/news/2021-06-14/Explainer-Why-China-has-so-many-state-owned-enterprises-115vt8ntcZ2/index.html> (19-01-2022)

<sup>104</sup> <https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-01-17/China-s-GDP-tops-114-36-trillion-yuan-in-2021-16T64Jt0na8/index.html> (19-01-2022)

# The Evolution of Bill Gates

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