



# La Cause du peuple

Proletarians of all countries and oppressed peoples, unite!

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Proletarian, anti-imperialist and  
revolutionary newspaper

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# Developments in France in the past year

**The past year has been full of political turmoil and advances by revolutionary forces in France. This special issue of *La Cause du Peuple* summarizes them for our international, English-speaking readers.**

The march toward the coming imperialist war and the march to restructuring the French state, led by the bourgeoisie in power, have accelerated this past year. These policies amplify the burden on the working class and have already led to major national strikes and anti-capitalist movements in the past ten years, from the « Loi Travail » movement, the Yellow Vests, the later struggle against the pension reforms in 2023, revolts for Nahel to revolts in French colonies like Kanaky (“New Caledonia”), each giving birth to new generations of revolutionary youths and radicalizing proletarians.

Last year, on July 14, 2025—the National Day of France, or “Bastille Day”—Macron, before his generals, promoted a strategy of intensifying militarization announcing that by 2027 the military budget would reach 64 billion euros, twice the 2017 figure, alongside policies to indoctrinate youth, expand reserve forces, and

prepare the population for war. The day after Bayrou, his Prime Minister, announced drastic cuts to public healthcare, public services, state employment, and shockingly for many, the elimination of two paid holidays, including the highly symbolic May 8th, Victory Day against fascism. In 2024, Macron had already appointed this center-right prime minister after dissolving parliament even though the left coalition had won the elections and unitedly proposed a leftist candidate for Prime Minister. Macron’s move thus violated the constitution and deepened the hate and hostility toward his presidency.

A broad movement then began online and in the masses, calling for a national day of protest on September 10 to paralyze the country by blocking the economy by any means necessary. The anger was boiling despite the summer months being a time of low political activity in France. It echoed the start of the Yellow Vest movement—except this time the state was better prepared, mobilizing a full media apparatus to discredit the movement as “extreme-left” before it had even begun. Bayrou resigned to defuse the mobilization, handing the masses a small victory before September 10th even arrived. Hundreds of “struggle committees”

formed across France, regrouping tens of thousands of people, but the movement ended quickly in three days of intense street confrontation, losing intensity each day. In the end the broader masses did not join in the numbers expected. Repression was heavy: house arrests were carried out, and over 80,000 police officers were mobilized on September 10 alone, one officer per 1000 citizens. The “inter-union” coordination, as usual, steered the movement toward minimal demands, favoring the most conciliatory union leaderships and turning an explosive movement into mere “protest days.”

For revolutionaries, the answer to this apparent state of failure is a firm “it doesn’t matter”: a victorious 10th will come again. The class struggle is still accelerating, the political situation remains tense, the economic and social crisis deepens, the bourgeois state grows more reactionary, and the tendency is toward revolution.

Many leftists dwell on the repression to argue revolution is impossible. We focus on the other side of the contradiction: the development of the struggling masses. This movement showed greater maturity—its early stages were highly organized, with general assemblies held before the first day of action, which is precisely





what alarmed the bourgeoisie and pushed Bayrou to resign. The French masses have learned from past struggles, tactically but above all strategically, moving from spontaneity toward organized struggle and recognizing the limits of reformist, pacifistic marches.

The “Septemberist movement” marked the return of an organized popular movement breaking with spontaneism—a historic fact in a country marked by insurrectionist impulses running on instinct. Shifting from spontaneous to organized action, with over a month of popular assemblies nationwide, the movement reached the limits of a purely federalist organization; this necessary step forward turned into the opposite of federalism, revealing the datedness of that form for today’s struggle. Faced with the state—the centralized headquarter of reaction—a movement organized from below, without unified leadership, can only fail against the scale of police mobilization. This demonstrated, in practice, what we say every day: the proletariat urgently needs to reconstitute its Communist Party as the headquarter of the oppressed.

At its core, the movement’s failure reflected the urgent need for a revolutionary organization capable of coordinating and leading the broad

masses in action. Commentators pointed to the problem of fragmentation—coordinating multiple sites of action within a city, let alone across the country—yet these same commentators contributed to the defeat through their localized “affinity groups,” ideologically stagnant and fixated on a “pure movement” that sanctified spontaneity without ever offering an alternative to defeat. The bourgeois state maneuvers its forces with such ease it is difficult to catch off guard; blockade locations were often publicized for the purpose of informing the largest number of masses, so the repression organized itself in turn. This is no longer a quantitative problem, since the masses who are willing to fight number in the hundreds of thousands, even millions—it is a qualitative one. The moment calls for a qualitative leap that only the Communist Party, the command center of the revolution, alongside the finest youth France has seen in decades, is capable to deliver. Masses need to prepare in battles in the factories, working-class neighborhoods, and universities, wherever capitalist suffering imposes its rule. Strategic and political centralization of the movement, combined with tactical decentralization allowing local forms of struggle, are the only path to trium-

“**The moment calls for a qualitative leap that only the Communist Party, the command center of the revolution, alongside the finest youth France has seen in decades, is capable to deliver.**”



ph. For the first time in decades, anarchism and trotskyism did not dominate the scene, causing their frustration and even sabotage. Above all these developments sparked hope that the spiral of defeat can be broken.

Most striking was the new generation's great desire for political organization. The contradiction between the need for organization and a petty-bourgeois rejection of it persists, but the trend favors overcoming it. This marks the return of class struggle and a renewed seriousness, reflecting a revolutionary situation developing unevenly across France. We are witnessing the rebirth of the Communist Movement—still small in numbers, but qualitatively superior to any other organization.

Our era is defined by the struggle between this rebirth and the old, outdated non-organizations left from the previous phase of struggle. Rejecting pacifism, opportunism, passivity and determined to fight imperialism, capitalism, and reaction now, this youth—the finest France has seen in decades—has decided to give their life to revolutionary work, with a first act of helping reconstitute the glorious Communist Party. Communism, this generation's greatest passion, provides indestructible strength, the driving force behind the march toward freedom.

We are living through the twilight of Macronism, a total failure, unable to restructure the economy or the state while fueling the class struggle as never before in decades. Macron's pathetic reign was marked by rising reaction and militarization as the sole response to the multiform crisis of a French imperialism in decay. The instability opened by the dissolution of parliament forced the grand bourgeoisie to show its true face of a selfish parasite imposing its will on the state, confirming more than ever the Marxist theory of the state developed by Lenin.

The class character of the bourgeois state grows more visible by the day, destroying the myth of a public power standing above interests. In reality, politics is decided in the trading pit. Whatever the hero of reactionaries, General de Gaulle, or the social democrats might say, the solution is not a new constitution but the working class's struggle to conquer power. The grand bourgeoisie will share nothing, and the hour has come to expropriate the expropriators. The 2027 presidential election will open a new leap in the class struggle, forging a combative working class ready to reconstitute the Communist Party. Boycotting this electoral masquerade will be a central act

in the split Marx described between “the proletarian nation and the bourgeois nation.”

We understand the rejection of the current political forms of “the left,” still mired in the opportunism of words and the cowardice of action. This is why a new youth has taken up communism with tremendous passion, storming old France with immeasurable fervor setting itself the task of reconstituting the glorious Communist Youth in spring 2026.

Our urgent tasks are to fight step by step to reignite the dormant fire of the proletariat: storming the factories, organizing proletarian trade unionists, strengthening our presence in working-class neighborhoods, developing ideological struggle in the universities, and fighting oppression wherever it strikes, all this

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while building a broad movement to defend democratic rights against the encirclement of reaction. The times are ablaze, the dark days are passing, and the storming of heaven is being prepared daily with the ardor of the new triumphing over the old. Joy must animate us, for comrades are fighting everywhere. A new page of history is being written right now in the depths of Brazil, where poor peasants forgotten by all carry the new world at gunpoint. We march together as one soul.

Revolutionary optimism is material—it reflects an understanding of the era, a new wave of revolutions set to change humanity forever. It is in this spirit that we celebrate May 1st, the international day of the proletariat in struggle. Genocidal wars and social and ecological crises are one aspect of the revolution;

people's wars, invincible national resistances, uprisings and insurrections are the other, and the principal one: proof that the subjective forces that will end imperialism are already here, growing stronger by the day.

The media monopoly serving the grand bourgeoisie tries to plunge the masses into pessimism and reaction, manipulating minds with reactionary propaganda unmatched in history. Lies, ignorance, submission, conformism, and denial of science grow alongside the repression of anyone who rises against the state of things. The sole purpose of these apparatuses is to preserve the genocidal, barbaric, anti-people system that is imperialism. It is a wasted effort: proletarian revolution is an objective process, the result of imperialism's own internal contradictions. It is the masses who make history, the popular masses are all-powerful, they are the true heroes. More than ever, the peoples of the world are ready to take up the struggle, refusing capitulation and submission. This is one of the transcendent truths of our era.

US imperialism, the principal enemy of all the world's peoples, has not won a war since 1945: its wars of plunder have broken against the resistance of oppressed peoples. From Korea to Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and today Ukraine, Lebanon, Yemen, and Iran, everything shows that imperialism is a paper tiger. On five continents, the masses are preparing their liberation after centuries of oppression and humiliation. How can one not be optimistic when the Palestinian resistance refuses to lay down its weapons and is strategically settling the fate of Zionism?

The world proletarian revolution is an objective fact. There can be no worsening of imperialist chaos without its opposite growing in turn. The revolution is made up of two currents that must unite: a new generation of communists rising within the proletarian movement, whose people's wars point toward total emancipation; and the national liberation struggles, presently its beating heart, above all across the greater Middle East. The people's war in India faces difficulties tied to this new era, but it will hold, because its leadership, the Communist Party of India (Maoist), has great experience and deep ties to the country's most exploited masses. India's revolutionaries are not alone.

In France, the billionaires, the bourgeoisie, Macron and his kind are surrounded. In 2026 they had to back down on their May 1st reform as well as the state budget votes in the absence of any real protest out of fear of unleashing



chaos. The grand bourgeoisie is condemned to push for ever more repressive governments to stave off its own crisis, a drift toward reaction, rooted in economic crisis, now deepening into a social and political crisis of unprecedented depth. All of this can only intensify the class struggle. Revolts, social movements, strikes, but also, and we must understand this, violence, gangs, racism, and the like are part of its complex dialectic.

We must be clear: revolution cannot happen unless the proletariat, drawing the broad popular masses with it, reconstitutes itself as a Communist Party, the general staff and vanguard of the socialist revolution. The objective and subjective conditions for revolution in France are ripe for major developments, but the road ahead will be difficult, marked by detours and defeats.

Revolutionary optimism, then, is a flower that must be tended constantly. The grand bourgeoisie will never lay down its weapons and will fight to the death by every means available; there is no peace of the brave in revolution. The proletariat is destined to win, and the bourgeoisie knows this better than anyone. The situation will grow ever more intense, the 2027 presidential elections, whoever wins, will mark a new stage in the class struggle and, therefore, in reaction. We must be categorical: there is no immediate fascist danger. This drift toward reaction has existed since the bourgeoisie joined the camp of counter-revolution in June 1848; fascism will impose itself as the bourgeoisie's solution only once an armed proletariat directly contests state power. Our task is to build a powerful tactical front defending democratic rights and an antifascist spirit,

answering a reaction that, in its desperation, will only intensify its attacks. Communism, ever luminous, is a phoenix that cannot die, for it expresses the resolution of the contradiction between imperialism and the world's peoples, between labor and capital. No propaganda can kill it, no police force can silence it, no genocide can destroy it. The true enemy always comes from our own ranks, those who abandon the revolutionary principles and capitulate in front of hardships. The new generation of communists will remain faithful to the principles left to us by the immortal Paris Commune: "We will never surrender Montmartre's cannons." Let us embrace our era and our responsibilities, and serve the people and the revolution with all our hearts!

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## La Cause du peuple

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# Toulouse: A red youth shakes up public order

At the dawn of the morning road-blocks, in the darkness at the head of the demonstration in Toulouse, a red light pierced the darkness. Just like their flag, the combative and organized youth of the Revolutionary Youth shone brightly throughout the day on September 10.

## A turbulent start to the morning under the movement 'Block everything!

Following a call from the local union, 'Le Mirail CGT', the Mirail People's Committee for Mutual Aid and Solidarity (CPES), and thus from the 'Let's rebel!' General Assembly in Toulouse, around a hundred people first gathered at 6:30am on the Eisenhower Avenue in the Mirail neighborhood to block traffic. The crowd, comprising residents of the neighborhood and the south of the city, as well as workers from the area organized within the CGT (from major companies like Thalès, Continental, Capgemini...), were tear-gassed after just a few tens of minutes. The crowd did not disperse and moved on to set up a roadblock at another roundabout on the Avenue. People have also reported the presence of a burning barricade emitting a long plume of black smoke on the ring road between the *La Reynerie* and *Bagatelle* neighborhoods, causing traffic. A blockade was called for and joined at the same time at the *Jolimont* roundabout, in the city center, and similar clashes were observed, with even a burning barricade having been started. It is clear that in Toulouse, public order has been disrupted! Part of Eisenhower's procession then went to join the general assembly called by the trade unions at 10am, whilst the other part headed to show support for the school blockades already underway.

## Three secondary schools blockaded at the same time

No fewer than three secondary schools have upheld the French tradition of secondary school blockades. From 6am, the *Déodat de Severac* Highschool found itself blockaded by a group of young revolutionaries from the school. By 9:30am, nearly 150 highschoolers had gathered behind the red flags of the Revolutionary



Fire in Toulouse,  
September 10, 2025.

Youth and a banner bearing the slogan '*Déodat* determined against the misery! It's right to rebel!'. They went to join the blockade at the *Les Arènes* Highschool. In front of these two highschools, graffiti calling for a blockade of the school on September 10 were already visible from the start of the term, and the students had organized a General Assembly to prepare for it. The *Saint-Sernin* Highschool had also organized itself in advance and successfully maintained the blockade throughout the morning. The highschoolers from *Déodat* and *Les Arènes*, joined by the procession from

the Eisenhower Avenue, made their way to the other rallying points in the city center, such as that of the striking healthcare workers at the *Hôtel Dieu* hospital.

## 30,000 people at the protest

In response to the call from the General Assembly on September 10 and the trade unions, a large crowd of protesters gathered at Jean Jaurès. At the head of a dynamic march organized by the CGT Union Youth Collective, a leading group was formed, comprising the most combative participants: young people, workers,



former Yellow Vests and revolutionaries. At the front, a red, white and yellow banner bore the universal slogan 'It's right to rebel!', signed by the Revolutionary Youth. The procession notably gave the floor to a member of the Truth and Justice Committee for Bilal<sup>1</sup> in the midst of the protest, who was able to emphasize the importance of linking the demands of the 'Septembrist' movement to the issue of police violence and working-class neighborhoods. Fueled by combative and class-conscious slogans, refusing to let the police dictate the order of the march, this red procession continued its march without faltering, wearing red scarves and marching forward with their flag unfurled. The police cordon simply retreated, with fear in their eyes, whilst a huge crowd chanted: "There are more of us than you!" At times, as if to salvage their tarnished honor, they tried to seize by forcing the red flags to be pointed at them, but to no avail. The demonstration ended with a police assault on the Saint-Cyprien Place. After an initial round of tear gas followed by a charge, the front of the march held its ground and quickly regrouped behind the red group that had reformed. The protestors held out for nearly an hour, unfazed by baton blows and grenades that were being thrown. The protest eventually dispersed, with a few fires lit in the adjacent side streets. The final tally stands at

1. A 34-year-old father from the neighborhood murdered by the police, in January 2025.

61 people that were arrested, which is more than during the most confrontational days of the Yellow Vests movement. Although the overwhelming majority of those arrested were released without further action the following day, La Cause du Peuple offers its support to the injured and to those who continue to face repression in the wake of this day's events. The day ended with a number of gatherings, such

**By 9:30am, nearly 150 highschoolers had gathered behind the red flags of the Revolutionary Youth and a banner bearing the slogan 'It's right to rebel!'**

as the meal organized by the Mirail neighborhood General Assembly at the CGT Union office, which enabled the forty or so people present—striking workers, local residents and revolutionaries—to debrief on the day's events with endless optimism.

#### **A widely distributed local newsletter**

Throughout the day, at the picket lines, at the blocked roundabouts and during the protest,

nearly 3,000 copies of the "Septembriste Toulousain", the local newspaper produced by the movement's General Assembly, were distributed, sparking enthusiasm amongst those present at the protest, some of whom took copies to distribute by themselves.

#### **The shock troops to the frontline**

As we said in our previous articles on the movement: "Young people must form the shock troops of the movement by putting the energy of their youth at the service of radical collective action." They have indeed formed shock troops, alongside the striking working class, as the militant masses at the head of the march. It was under the colors of the proletariat—the red of the workers' blood—that the youth of Toulouse, as everywhere else in France, forced the police to retreat and signaled the return of the Communists, amidst the fire of the barricades and the fog of tear gas. It is with even greater enthusiasm than before this day that the revolutionary youth of France will continue their determined march towards the re-establishment of the Communist Youth. La Cause du Peuple will continue to cover the forthcoming developments in the movement in Toulouse, which already promises to be groundbreaking.

Blockade at Saint-Sernin Highschool in Toulouse on September 10, 2025.





# In Limoges, **highschoolers** are tougher than law enforcement

**During the “Septemberist” movement in France, in September 2025, highschool students decided to organize themselves. We have followed their struggle in Limoges during those few months. Despite violent and targeted police repression, they acted week after week against the reforms that target young people.**

*“It all started with a protest against budget cuts to arts subjects in secondary schools,” says Léna, a highschooler involved in the protests. “Then, during the September protests, there was a peak in mobilization. Today, the protests are against Parcoursup<sup>1</sup>, against pay cuts for apprentices<sup>2</sup>...”*

High school students in Limoges meet for a General Assembly (GA) every Wednesday: “It’s

1. Parcoursup is the mandatory platform for university admissions. It is highly unequal and widely criticized.  
2. Apprenticeships are an alternative path for young people—both high school students and young adults—in which they are employed by a company while they train. If they are under 25, their wages are below the minimum wage; in some cases, they can be as much as 73% lower if they are under 18. The government intends to lower it even more.

*an inter-school GA open to everyone, centered on organizing actions and discussing political issues.”* Writing leaflets, printing them, and distributing them in schools: all of this is organized by the students themselves. The dates for school blockades are chosen in advance, but the location is decided on the morning itself. *“It allows us to avoid the repression that comes with deciding at the last minute,”* explains Léna.

## **A school walk-out in support of a 16-year-old who was arrested**

Indeed, the repression on the high school movement in Limoges was not long to come. As early as September 10, high school students were targeted: *“At that point, it wasn’t a question of stopping the high school movement specifically— it was more part of the government’s general policy at that time to prevent any form of protest.”* On every national day of the September movement, the secondary school pupils blockaded a school. Following the blockade of the *Limosin* Highschool on September 10, the school feared the movement would continue on the 18th and closed its doors administratively, as to prevent any blockade. Never mind, the

students blockaded *Valadon* Highschool instead! On that day, E., a sixth-former and a minor at the time, was violently arrested by the police in the midst of a charge and spent a day in police custody. This unwarranted arrest shocked the sixth-formers but did not stop them. The next day, in solidarity with E., *Limosin* Highschool, where he attends school, was blockaded once again.

## **High school students struck in the mouth and stomach by the police**

The movement continues to grow, and so does the repression. *“They really started targeting high school students when the Septemberist movement came to an end and they saw that the angry youth weren’t going to stop there. So, they’re trying to stop us.”* At the end of November, *Turgot* vocational and technical highschool was blockaded in protest of a 15% cut in apprentices’ wages. The police arrived quickly and warned that they would break up the blockade. The young people taking part formed a human chain and were joined by other students in solidarity; everyone chanted slogans such as ‘High school students, workers, unite, unite!’. Léna, who was there that day, recounts: *“The cops had special equipment; you could tell they’d come to beat us up. They had helmets, batons – they were very well prepared. There were two large lorries with room to load people onto them. They lined up in front of us and then charged into the crowd at the main gate. They forcibly pulled a young man away and dragged him along the ground. People didn’t break the human chain; the highschooler was shouting “Don’t let go of me!” He knew that if people let go, he’d be taken away. He was being punched in the ribs at the same time and was hit in the face; his lip was bleeding... But nobody let go of him.”* That day, two other highschoolers were punched in the mouth, and a third was struck in the stomach by a police officer wearing padded gloves whilst another held him down. *“We were mainly angry, shocked because it forced us to face the truth: that the police aren’t there to protect anyone at all. This was said in a speech right in front of the police. Despite the standoff, we carried on shouting at them through the megaphone. Afterwards, we held a general assembly, and for the rest of the day we handed out leaflets at every high school we could find to talk about the pay cuts for apprentices.”*

## **Blockades welcomed by everyone, except by the lapdogs of the bourgeois order**

The high school students’ protests continued



◀ Blockade of Valadon Highschool on September 18, 2025, as part of the Septemberist movement.



in December, with a blockade at Valadon Highschool on the 17th, the day the Parcoursup university application platform opened. The highschoolers are opposed to selection and the lack of open spots at universities: *"It's a whole system of injustice; we need to overthrow the entire education system. Ultimately, school grades shouldn't ruin our future."* The sit-in, welcomed by both the young and staff, was nevertheless broken up by the police at around 10 am. *"The police clearly tried to arrest two schoolgirls; they dragged them both across the floor. They took our megaphone and our banner."*

New year, new blockades: on January 19, the students organized themselves to once again block Valadon Highschool. This time, they were met at the crack of dawn by the headteacher, a scumbag who clearly had no problem using violence against 16- and 17-year-olds. Taking his role as the National Education system's mindless lapdog very seriously, he hurled rubbish bins at the students. Several of them end up with large bruises on their legs. But the students refuse to let it get to them and carried on with their day by printing leaflets against Parcoursup, which they handed out in front of the school at 8 am, before going off to put up posters up in the neighbourhood.

### Young people specifically targeted for their fighting spirit

The repression is aimed specifically at certain individuals, notably activists from the Jeunes Révolutionnaires<sup>3</sup>. This targeting takes place during roadblocks, through acts of violence, but also during actions unrelated to high schools, such as demonstrations in support of Palestine, involving verbal intimidation. These pressure tactics are deliberate attempts to silence the young people of Limoges, who are renowned for their fighting spirit. *"It's important to point out that even though the Septemberist movement has ended, it's still going on; we're*

3. Young Revolutionaries.

*still holding as many school-wide general assemblies as ever, and we continue to organize blockades fairly regularly, always bearing in mind the demands, both of the September movement and, at the moment, regarding Parcoursup. As long as we haven't achieved victory, we won't forget."*

And highschoolers are not alone in this struggle. During the Septemberist protests, they joined with students at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities in Limoges, particularly those affiliated to the Fédération Syndicale Étudiante<sup>4</sup> (FSE): *"Every time there was a university blockade, the students joined the highschoolers at their blockade to set off together for the demonstration. Twice, we joined the teachers gathered outside the Prefecture to set off together. Even though we don't have the same means of protest, we largely have the same demands because the reforms affect us all."* Last year, the Jeunes Révolutionnaires and the FSE set up joint information stands outside Limosin Highschool to protest against Parcoursup, and this is set to happen again this year. Whether they are

4. Student Union Federation.



▲ A schoolgirl was injured in the legs by a headteacher in January.

highschoolers in the general, vocational or technological sections, they are all increasingly aware of the government scam: Parcoursup, the 15% cut for apprentices, the militarization of young people through the SNU<sup>5</sup>... Macron and his kind better watch out, because as the youth regularly chants at demonstrations: 'The bourgeois state is not our state; all power to the proletariat!'

5. The SNU, "Universal National Service" is a two-week program—currently optional—for young people aged 16 to 25, designed to indoctrinate the youth into accepting the march toward war.



▲ Blockade of Valadon Highschool on December 12 in protest against Parcoursup and the government.

◀ Blockade of Limosin Highschool as part of the September protests, September 10, 2025.



# To build on the anger of September 10 and beyond: **demand organization**

**Popular struggles are intensifying across the world. They reflect a new wave of proletarian revolutions. France, likewise, is being shaken by popular uprisings that are gradually increasing in both intensity and militancy. We are witnessing the great return of class struggle, shattering the ideological and political consensus of bourgeois democracy and raising the revolutionary consciousness of the popular masses.**

Although the bourgeoisie remains on the offensive, it is trapped in an economic crisis unparalleled in its history and is no longer able to subsidize stability or maintain its social order as it once did. It can no longer buy social peace through billions in subsidies, while imperialist restructuring has become a necessity for its own survival. This restructuring is dismantling the old society and laying the foundations for a proletarian counter-offensive. The entire myth of the "End of History," understood as the definitive victory of the imperialist system and bourgeois democracy, is collapsing in the face of the ever-growing struggles of the peoples of the Third World. Class struggle is producing a profound catharsis in which reality reveals itself for what it truly is. The seeds of the Communist idea are once again flourishing among the youth, and proletarian revolution increasingly appears as the only political strategy capable of transforming the world and putting an end to imperialism and exploitation. The control of the entire media and educational apparatus, the immense propaganda poured out every day through every available channel, and the continuous development of methods of repression cannot overturn the universal truth of class struggle: It is right to rebel! This slogan is both universal and timeless. Demonstrations, popular uprisings, and riots, no matter how massive or militant they may be, cannot by themselves lead to proletarian revolution; otherwise, history would already have provided such a precedent. Revolutions are rarely born of misunderstandings. The history of the Communist Movement has shown and continues to



▲  
A painting of a worker picking up a flag that has fallen to the ground.

demonstrate that unorganized masses cannot move beyond spontaneity. The bourgeoisie fights to the bitter end; as a class, it cannot simply surrender. The complex social organization of the bourgeois state requires, in order to overthrow it, a superior social organization capable of directing the revolutionary process as a whole from organizing spontaneous revolt to revolutionary war, including armed political strikes. Only Marxism, as the universal ideology of the proletariat, provides a scientific approach to the question of organization.

The question of organization is therefore central for every individual or group determined to put an end to this world of oppression and imperialist wars.

If we examine the social history of France, we can distinguish two major periods: an ascending period marked by working-class and popular victories, and a second period, from which we have yet to emerge, characterized by the systematic destruction of the rights previously won. Only the revolutionary struggles of the proletariat have secured political and social rights. Reformism has never won anything except corporatist concessions accepted, or even encouraged, by the employers. Beginning with the Great October Socialist Revolution, followed by the revolutionary wave that emerged after the Second World War (China, the countries of Eastern Europe, the colonial

wars of national liberation, and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution), the bourgeoisie found itself in such a precarious position that it had no choice but to make concessions in order to avoid being completely overthrown. It had to buy off and corrupt the masses by any means possible.

The decisive political difference between the first period of advance and the second period of retreat was the organization of the proletariat: the Communist Party. It is the organization of the proletariat into an independent Party, completely separate from the bourgeois parties, that constitutes the precondition for every major victory. Thus, what Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels set forth so brilliantly 177 years ago in the Manifesto of the Communist Party has proven to be entirely correct. The founding work of the Communist Movement is of burning relevance in the present period. Today, just as yesterday, this is the one element that is lacking the only force capable of halting the bourgeois offensive and turning the balance in favor of the proletariat and the popular masses. This element, the Party, which once stood at the center of everything, has today, through the actions of its own leaders, been dismantled and fragmented into a thousand pieces. From this process of internal decomposition rooted in the betrayal of Marxism and, consequently, of the interests of the working class, a



phenomenon we call revisionism, the working class was left orphaned, deprived of a general staff to guide it in the class struggle. External factors merely aggravated this internal decay. This is precisely what Marxist philosophy teaches us: every phenomenon is fundamentally driven by an internal contradiction. In our case, this contradiction is the struggle between Marxism and revisionism, between the proletarian and the bourgeois world outlooks. Bourgeois thinkers, academics, sociologists, political scientists, and journalists, by contrast, explain everything through external causes alone. According to them, the transformation of the economic base over the last forty years in France, the collapse of the USSR (which had long since ceased to be revolutionary), individualism, consumer society, and similar developments constitute the fundamental causes of the decline of the Communist Movement in France. These external factors undoubtedly influenced the decline of the Communist Movement, but they were not its principal cause. Unlike Marxism, the Trotskyist left views history in a static and ahistorical manner: according to them, the Communist Party was rotten from the very beginning, the familiar argument about "Stalinism." Yet this interpretation is contradicted by the actual history of class struggle in France. The working class never followed the ultra-left, and even less the Trotskyists. On the contrary, workers joined what is labelled "Stalinism" in massive numbers, that is, the Marxism of the period: Marxism-Leninism. The Trotskyist ultra-left denies reality. It is idealist in its outlook, convinced that it is always right, even when confronted with the working class itself, the creator of all wealth and history. In the end, it invariably finds itself in the camp of the counter-revolution; this is intrinsic to its political nature. The Communist Party raised the political consciousness of and organized millions of women and men in the struggle for socialist revolution, in the development of a new culture of the highest level, and in the defense of proletarian rights. It succeeded in mobilizing the broad popular masses, workers, the petty bourgeoisie, intellectuals, peasants, and youth, against fascism through the Popular Front and through the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War. The Communist Party became the soul, the leadership, and the beating heart of the Resistance (while the Trotskyists rejected both armed struggle and participation in the Resistance), and it stood behind the great social gains achieved after the Second World War. Likewise, the CGT became a genuine instrument of class struggle once it came under

Communist leadership. Whereas, under socialist and anarchist leadership, the CGT had accepted the Union Sacrée in 1914, it took the path of armed struggle in 1939. Later, under revisionist leadership, it once again became an instrument of "social dialogue," class conciliation, and social peace. More than 70,000 women and men gave their lives in the Resistance in the struggle against fascism and for the independence of France, the overwhelming majority of whom were directly or indirectly linked to the Communist Party. This stands as a remarkable historical achievement, demonstrating the profound value embodied by Communism. Here again, academic Trotskyism aligns itself with reactionary forces in seeking to minimize, or even erase, the decisive role played by the Communist Resistance.

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## **Marxism maintains, on scientific grounds, that revolutionary violence is historically inevitable for the conquest of power**

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For decades, the working class was identified with Communism itself. The bourgeoisie could not exercise the unchecked domination that it enjoys today; it was afraid, because its only strategic enemy was the Communists and their Party. It is essential to understand that whenever the working class wins rights, it wins them for the majority, for the people as a whole. Conversely, when it loses those rights, the whole of society bears the cost, as we have witnessed over the past forty years. The organized working class is the driving force behind every political and social advance because it stands at the center of class struggle, which is itself the driving force of history.

It is true that once the Party embraced revisionist theses, it could only move against the proletariat and the popular masses, eventually degenerating into what is now known as the P"C"F. This degeneration was the result of a long ideological and political process rooted in a flawed, both conscious and unconscious,

assimilation of Marxism, leaving the Communist Party without any strategy for the conquest of political power, which is its very reason for existing. Much could be said about the revisionist process. It initially takes the form of opportunism, leading to successive capitulations and retreats before culminating in the outright betrayal of proletarian interests. At every stage, the entire process is ultimately condensed into one decisive question: how political power is to be conquered and maintained.

The division always arises over the same issue: revolutionary violence. Marxism maintains, on scientific grounds, that revolutionary violence is historically inevitable for the conquest of power.

Revisionism claims that other roads are possible, but these invariably amount to reliance on parliamentary elections. Such a perspective runs directly against the very driving force of history, which is none other than class struggle. Revisionism may also take the form of the theory of the "accumulation of forces," which argues that the objective conditions are never ripe and that the time for revolution has not yet arrived. In practice, this perspective invariably ends in integration into the bourgeois state through parliamentary elections. After the Second World War, the working class and the armed popular masses were prepared to make the supreme sacrifice for the Revolution. The Communist Party was the leading political force in France, winning 29 percent of the vote. Millions of workers openly identified themselves as Communists. Following that election, the Party's leader should, by all political logic, have become Head of State. Instead, the Socialists and the Gaullists united to prevent such an outcome. This historical moment should have definitively buried the illusion that Communists could conquer political power through the ballot box. On the contrary, it was the Party's integration into that institutional framework that broke the revolutionary momentum born of the Resistance. The essential lesson is therefore clear: any genuine revolutionary process in France in 2025 must represent a decisive and uncompromising break with the entire apparatus and institutional framework of the bourgeois state. Such a rupture is an act, the separation of socialism from imperialism. It is both a collective and an individual act, one that consists in breaking all the chains that restrain and hinder our revolutionary praxis.





▲ Blockade on the A9 highway in Narbonne (Southern France), December 19, 2025.

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# The **smallholders'** revolt, the urban-rural divide, and imperialism

**The large-scale blockades organized by farmers against Mercosur in past months raise a complex question: how should we understand the smallholders' revolt in France, an imperialist country? A lot of contradictions are intertwined here, but one of the central aspects is that the smallholders' revolt is absolutely justified; it is a struggle against the monopolistic bourgeoisie that further oppresses labour.**

For several years now, smallholding (small and medium-sized farms) has been in a deep crisis. This stems from the relentless struggle between small- and medium-scale production and large-scale capitalist production, which has developed primarily in the vast grain-growing plains of northern France. This small- and medium-scale production is directly subject to the monopoly of the food industry (which processes and adds value to agricultural production) and, primarily, to large-scale retail (which

transforms it into a commodity). The current situation stems directly from the development of capitalism in France, which—alongside the growth of large-scale manufacturing—has seen the persistence of small landholdings inherited from the bourgeois agrarian reform. Although since the 19th century—and especially since the

**Mercosur is a vital necessity for European monopolies in crisis**

1950s—the trend has been toward concentration and, consequently, the disappearance of small and medium-sized farms, they continue to exist, albeit in a state of perpetual crisis. From a historical perspective, these forms of production are “archaic” because they cannot rationalise production processes. The same is true of small businesses and artisanry. The historical trend is toward concentration in industry, agriculture, and commerce—although

there are negative aspects to this, since, and this is the key point, it is not the result of a democratic process—it contributes to the slow unification of humanity.

The unsustainable situation—between the preservation of small and medium-sized farms and the ever-more-ferocious expansion of monopolies, but above all the absence of a Communist Party capable of taking on the political task of resolving this contradiction—means that the smallholding, in crisis, has no choice but to rely on state support to survive. Protectionism and regulation can only be very short-term solutions: the problem does not lie there, but rather in the dictatorship of monopolies, which is increasingly crushing society economically, politically, socially, and culturally. Even by using fertilizers and pesticides to their heart's content—in a massive ecological and human catastrophe—their gains will be only short-term; for the tendency of the rate of profit to fall is an inescapable law of capitalism. Capitalists, needing to maintain their profit margins, raise prices. Fertilizer producers will have to raise their prices, particularly because workers are



fighting to improve their living conditions, which will automatically lower farmers' rates of profit. On the other hand, large retailers must also maintain—and if possible, increase—their profit margins: they therefore push to buy products more cheaply and sell them at higher prices on the shelves. The farmer is caught in the middle of a value chain that is, of course, far more complex (the price of a barrel of oil, for example, influences absolutely everything in said chain), not to mention the vagaries of the weather, which are becoming an increasingly heavy burden. The only solution left, therefore, is to rely on direct government subsidies, but even there the source is running dry; the crisis is everywhere. Another solution is to invest in the semi-colonies of Eastern Europe and the Maghreb, where the “miracle” of imperialism transforms the exploited small farmer into an exploiter.

The opportunism—and, let's be frank, the cynicism—of the bourgeoisie means that, on the one hand, it will sign the Mercosur agreement, which entails the ever-more-ferocious exploitation of the people and land of Latin America, and on the other hand, it sends its political lackeys (Macron, the “Les Républicains” party (the traditional conservative party), the “Rassemblement National” party (the main far-right party), etc.) to feign outrage against this agreement. It is no coincidence that, at the very same time, the Renault Group has just invested 600 million euros in Brazil. The deal is that the “EU,” serving imperialist monopolies, grants the latifundios (Brazilian large landowners) the right to sell poor-quality meat in the world's largest market, so that in exchange the Brazilian government grants large corporations the right to intensify the plundering of the country's wealth. Macron's and Lula's playacting was nothing more than a pathetic expression of Brazil's submission to the interests of imperialist monopolies. It should be noted that Brazil's smallholders and landless peasants suffer daily from this submission: Mercosur will affect them 100 times worse than it will French farmers, because they are subject to a semi-feudal system. In practical terms, the Mercosur agreement serves only a tiny fraction of the Brazilian population: the large landowners, who will attempt to secure their falling profit margins, and the bureaucratic capitalists—a form of capitalism in a semi-colony subject to imperialism. This agreement is a vital necessity for European monopolies in crisis, especially since France is the agricultural exception among the imperialist countries of Europe (along with Spain); it will therefore be signed one way or

another. Reactionary opportunists will cry wolf against the “evil” European Union, hiding the only truth: that it is the big French corporations that are destroying the country. These “proud patriots” are ready to make any compromise when it comes to securing positions of power.

Beyond the agricultural aspect, the smallholders' revolt deeply reflects the urban-rural divide born of the development of capitalism. An article in the liberal newspaper *Les Echos* on January 8, 2025, citing a UN report, tells us that France is predominantly rural. Not only is this logical from a geographical standpoint—since rural areas cover 88% of the territory—but also in terms of population distribution.

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## High poverty rates, rural flight, an aging population, the withering of public services, agricultural crises, overtourism, and isolation are just some of the hardships faced by the majority of French people living outside major cities and Paris

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In France, 19% of the population lives in rural areas, 36% live in small towns and villages (i.e., areas considered rural), and 48% are urban dwellers (cities with at least 50,000 inhabitants). This is a “French exception” amongst imperialist countries—an exception that is denied, one that reactionary politicians exploit opportunistically by playing on the contrast between the countryside, which they portray as the “true France”—working-class and white—and the city, the violent “cosmopolitan hell.” The reality is quite different: outside the major cities and *Urbs urbis* (Paris), the majority of the population is left to fend for itself by the state. High poverty rates, rural flight, an aging population, the withering of public services, agricul-

tural crises, overtourism (in certain areas), and isolation are just some of the hardships faced by the majority of the French people. This is the so-called “peripheral France,” where actual neglect—and not merely the expression of its sentiment, as is often claimed—fosters a sense of revolt that is now channelled into voting for the far right. In these areas, as in the rest of the country, the main problem is class conflict; it is the only basis for uniting the masses.

The root cause of all these ills therefore remains the same: capitalism in its monopolistic stage, which always must further concentrate resources and labour to rationalize production. At the same time, it needs to plunder the soil's resources (and those beneath the ground, as with the opening of massive rare-earth mines across the country) to maintain its profit margins and provide cheap (and carcinogenic) food, which serves to keep the labour force as inexpensive as possible. Monopolies drive the privatisation of public property and the streamlining of the state, which must finance them (1,270 billion of euros are squandered each year to aid corporations) while abandoning its citizens. There is no longer any money for maternity wards, hospitals, schools, revenue services, trains, or even the gendarmerie (despite its role as the backbone of the French bourgeois state) in rural areas—even though we have never produced so much wealth.

The issue is complex: a lot of contradictions are intertwined, but one of the central aspects is that the smallholders' revolt is absolutely justified. We must support this just struggle, which is a fight against the monopolistic bourgeoisie that further oppresses labour. In *The Communist Manifesto*, one of the program's points is to combine agriculture with manufacturing industries; in order to gradually abolish the urban-rural divide through a more equitable distribution of the population throughout the country. Only the socialist revolution can accomplish this titanic task of abolishing the distinction between city and countryside and between intellectual and manual labour. The socialist revolution is not opposed to rural life: on the contrary, it works to eliminate this distinction, which will involve a major movement to decentralize metropolitan areas and a large-scale reorganization of the territory where nature and humankind will no longer be in competition. Through planning, we will put an end to waste and unnecessary projects, and we will be able to address climate-related issues.



# The Quentin Case and the 1941 Path

On February 14, 2026, a 23-year-old far-right, fascist, and neo-Nazi activist, Quentin Deranque, died from a head injury inflicted two days earlier by anti-fascist activists during a brawl in Lyon. This brawl occurred amid heightened tensions in the city: a conference held by MEP Rima Hassan, a member of the France Insoumise (FI) party<sup>1</sup>, was disrupted by a far-right “feminist” collective. A group of far-right activists (including Deranque) was standing nearby in support of the collective. It was at that moment that the brawl broke out between them and a group of anti-fascist

activists. The incident gained national attention.

The far right accused former activists from the far-left group “La Jeune Garde Antifasciste” of setting up an ambush for the victim, which is false. Propaganda raged against the “danger of the far left,” portraying Deranque as a pacifist Catholic. The National Assembly even observed a minute of silence in memory of Quentin Deranque three days later.

The reaction of politicians, on both the right and the left, following the death of the fascist thug Quentin in an affray with anti-fascists in Lyon, as well as that of the bourgeois media, must shed light on the situation facing the revolutionary and democratic forces and the new responses that must be provided. Since the collapse of the revisionist French Communist Party (PCF) beginning in the mid-1980s, the entire country has been sinking into lies, rea-

son has been crushed, and the truth violated. Despite the fact that the PCF, and with it the CGT<sup>2</sup>, had not been revolutionary for quite some time, and that they had, in fact, ardently participated in the counterrevolutionary offensive by supporting the anti-communist thesis on so-called “Stalinism,” the bourgeoisie did not have completely free rein to impose its worldview. The bourgeoisie’s worldview is, above all, a lie about its own role as an oppressor. It must therefore, by any means necessary, accuse the oppressed of being the oppressor, or at least of being on the same level. It is, first and foremost, an historical truth that has been constantly denied in universities. A vast body of work, based on no historical sources and a pure product of reactionary propaganda, has flooded library shelves and then television studios. We must realize that this is the great revenge for World War II, and, of course, for Communism, that has been unfolding since the 1980s and has accelerated as every barrier has crumbled under the pressure of the steamroller of intellectuals in the pay of the media monopoly, and complacent left-wing politicians.

Collaboration during the war represents the absolute betrayal of the upper bourgeoisie, the elites, the entire state apparatus (public servants, the judiciary, the police, the army), in short, of all the ruling classes. In stark contrast, it was the working class and a segment of the small peasantry, allied with progressive intellectuals, who carried the full weight of the Resistance and, in fact, of “national honor”, to the extent that such a thing exists at all. Despite the fact that after the Liberation everything returned almost to the way it had been before, mainly because the Communist Party did not fulfill its historic role by seizing state power by force, culturally, the spirit of the Resistance was dominant. The new Republic, though made of the same stuff, the same people, as the old one, had emerged from the Resistance and was therefore intrinsically “anti-fascist.” The armed working class, organized by the PCF, achieved major advances, but these were far less than what it could have expected given its sacrifice

2. General Confederation of Labor, the main union in France.

1. France Insoumise is the most popular social-democrat and reformist party at the moment in France.



A group of protesters holds up a sign reading “No to the dissolution of the Jeune Garde” during a rally against the dissolution of the anti-fascist organization in Lyon on May 6, 2025.



and its position: that is, power. It was the Gaudist compromise that the Communists accepted after several concessions and defeats, notably regarding the CNR's<sup>3</sup> program, which had it included the expropriation of the collaborationist "economic feudal lords" (the big bourgeoisie) and the purging of all traitors (the state apparatus), would have brought about a revolutionary rupture then. The Resistance, absorbed by the restored former bourgeois state, which thereby gained new legitimacy, saw thousands of men and women who had fought, forming the vanguard of the organized working class and conscious of their sacrifice, defend tooth and nail the historical truth about fascism and what had happened.

We might legitimately ask what the connection is between the Resistance, the Liberation, and the present day, except that any reactionary political offensive of this magnitude first requires breaking down all ideological barriers. In 2011, Denis Kessler, the vice-president of the Medef<sup>4</sup> and an economist, also a business leader, explained regarding the "reforms":

*"The French social model is the direct product of the National Council of the Resistance, a compromise between Gaullists and Communists. Now is the time to reform it, and the government is working toward that end. The government's successive announcements of various reforms may give the impression of a patchwork quilt, as they seem*

*so varied, of unequal importance, and with diverse scopes: civil service status, special pension plans, an overhaul of Social Security, joint management... Upon closer inspection, however, one sees that there is a profound unity to this ambitious program. The list of reforms? It's simple: take everything that was put in place between 1944 and 1952, without exception. There it is. The task today is to move beyond 1945 and methodically dismantle the program of the National Council of the Resistance!"*

"Today, the goal is to move beyond 1945": this is the key to understanding our historical context. "Moving beyond 1945," not for the sake of abstract "revenge," but rather to restructure the old state and the old society—in short, French imperialism, which is undergoing the most severe crisis in its history. "Moving beyond 1945" means destroying the "social model," on the one hand, but also crushing anything that might resist the vital demands of the financial oligarchy, which can only plunder the country and the countries of the Third World. It is for the sake of this restructuring that we "move beyond 1945", that we destroy science, public services, and all democratic freedoms, first and foremost the freedom to organize politically, and that we criminalize any speech that goes against this all-powerful financial oligarchy. We must not think that the upper class does this for pleasure, compromise is always a good thing, it is a source of stability, but it is indeed the return of the class struggle that is forcing it to dismantle the old society.

"Reactionarization" is the name given to this major restructuring process, which destabilizes the social fabric and fuels the crisis, economi-

cally by dismantling labor laws, socially by impoverishing the masses, and politically by undermining the credibility of the entire political system. Reactionarization does not resolve the crisis, it deepens it and irrevocably paves the way for fascism. If this process is particularly powerful and brutal in France, it is because it is a reaction to the high level of class struggle in a country with a long revolutionary tradition, marked by a succession of social movements that are increasingly antagonistic and, above all, political. Underlying this immense social upheaval are the maneuvers of French monopolies to secure positions in the struggle for the colonial re-division of the world, a struggle that forms the basis for a new imperialist war, a Third World War.

We recognize that we are facing a situation that is both very clear and complex, as it involves a multitude of self-perpetuating contradictions. We understand that the resolution of all these contradictions can only be either imperialist war or revolution. There is no peaceful way out for the big bourgeoisie, consequently, and inevitably, the path for the proletariat (and the masses) is to reach "the maturity of the class struggle", the struggle to seize state power, as Lenin defined it.

There is still a long way to go before reaching this maturity, on the contrary, what characterizes the current era is precisely its immaturity in the face of the situation, a reflection of its crumbling social base. Ever since the proletariat was pushed out of politics by the total renunciation of communist goals by its leaders and its Party, the bourgeoisie and the middle classes have held a monopoly on "left-wing" ideas and action. For 30 years, the overwhelming majority of political activists have come from the same academic mold, rather than from factories or the world of labor. They are the offspring of universities steeped in anti-communist ideology, the foundation of which is the rejection of Marxism, or at least of its program (the Communist Manifesto). Parasitic "ideologies" such as Trotskyism, anarchism, and spontaneism, or at least their anti-communist positions, have gained a dominant position within this social stratum by allying themselves with revisionism. The path is clearly laid out: university, and then, depending on one's connections and ambitions, either the CGT or the elections, sometimes both. We repeat: the great unifying force behind all this is anti-com-

3. CNR is the National Council of Resistance. It directed and coordinated the different movements of the French Resistance during World War II: the press, trade unions and political parties hostile to the Vichy regime, starting from mid-1943.

4. The Medef, or "Movement of the Enterprises of France", is the largest employer federation in France. It represents the interests of the bourgeoisie's top executives.



◀ A sticker calling for justice for the fascist activist Quentin Derange.



munism, not in the abstract, but with the aim of confining oneself to more or less radical reformist positions. We must not assume that reformism is necessarily pacifist, it can be violent and even armed. The key is to understand that it does not seek to bring about profound change, or at least does not intend to take the necessary steps to do so.

What does this have to do with the Quentin case? First, let us recall that we wholeheartedly support our comrades facing the consequences and turmoil, we know that the resurgent forces of the Communist Movement will support them unequivocally when the time comes. Turmoil and storms forge great sailors.

It was against this backdrop of ideological, political, and organizational decay that “anti-fascism” emerged in the 1980s and 1990s. Faced with the rise of the far right, fueled by the economic crisis, the opportunism of the Socialist Party, but above all, and this is the key point, the outright abandonment of the working class to its own device, a movement organized to try to prevent the spread of street fascism. The political rise of the National Front (FN, far-right party) has brought in its wake a multitude of fragmented fascist splinter groups whose sole driving force is hatred of foreigners and the cult of violence. Lyon’s city center is particularly hard-hit by this fascist hooliganism, which is spreading with the complicity, or even support, of the state apparatus (politicians, the judiciary, and the police). It is to oppose this takeover of the city center, the geographical aspect is very important here, that various more or less structured groups have formed, including the Jeune Garde. The problem is that all these groups are cut off from the struggle of the masses and from the working class, the only class capable of halting the rise of fascism through its communist political program. It is no coincidence that the Jeune Garde displays the symbol of German reformism from the interwar period, which placed the Nazis, the Communists, and the Zentrum on the same level... It is not so much their social background, the intellectual petty bourgeoisie of city centers, but rather the political line they have adopted, which views anti-fascism as a matter of territorial control or a small-group affair. Nor is it insignificant that this group is closely linked to the France Insoumise party, sharing the same social base, the same reformist destiny, and the same dead-end path.

The main problem with reducing fascism and antifascism to a clash between gangs is that it leads part of the new generation of revolu-

tionaries into a disastrous dead end. The challenge of our time is not the rise of fascism, but rather to forge strong ties with the proletariat in working-class neighborhoods and factories, and to reclaim the capital-labor antagonism. Metropolitan centers hold no tactical or political significance when we think in terms of class content rather than territorial occupation. Organized fascists are not found in working-class neighborhoods or factories, rather, they populate city centers. We are therefore talking about a different political approach based on an ideological conception that takes concrete form in specific organizational structures. The lives of anti-fascists will be ruined by years in prison, an unprecedented offensive is underway against anything that stands in the way of the oligarchy’s total dictatorship, all this over a dead fascist. The trade-off is definitely not worth it. All that will remain of the “anti-fascism” of the 2000s is capitulation, with the sole goal of “helping the old lady,” as stated by the former Antifa leader in Marseille, Hazem el Moukaddem, that is integration into the state through bourgeois parliamentarism or a militaristic headlong rush with vengeance as its sole destiny. These two paths are, in fact, one and the same: they are part of the problem and offer no solution.

It should be noted that this sequence has shown us that the FI cannot defend us against fascism. It is a movement that has no concrete social base among the working class and the masses. The FI’s shameful abandonment of the accused anti-fascist, its prevarication, and its calls for calm and pacifism reflect its failure to understand the times, its lack of a correct political line, and we wish to emphasize in particular, its total lack of anchoring in the working class, which reflects its thoroughly reformist program. FI is experiencing its own “German-Soviet Pact”, unlike the Communist

**The other path out of this stagnation, the only one capable of rising to this historic moment, is the one of 1941: taking on the task of rebuilding the labor movement and its core, the Communist Party**

Party, which had a powerful base among the masses and an ideological-political line, it finds itself plunged into total disarray. Despite all its proofs of genuine “republicanism”, the essence of which is total respect for bourgeois institutions, the FI is, from the oligarchy’s perspective, part of the post-1945 order. Lenin was right when he asserted that only revolutionaries can defend democratic rights.

The other path out of this stagnation, the only one capable of rising to this historic moment, is the one of 1941: taking on the task of rebuilding the labor movement and its core, the Communist Party. It means embracing the class struggle in an antagonistic sense, that is, the contradiction between Labor and Capital. In this struggle, there is no room for compromise, on the contrary, this is the true “helping the old lady” the true proletarian/popular self-defense, and the true anti-fascism. This requires a level of ideological, practical, and organizational understanding that only Marxism, as applied in the class struggle, can provide. It demands leaving one’s former life behind to live, work, and struggle alongside the working class, that is, a total break with the old world. We are talking about commitment, determination, trust in the working class, and self-sacrifice in serving the people with all one’s heart.

To defend the legacy of 1945, our social model, we must avoid a repeat of 1945, that is, capitulation on the question of state power, thus, we must return to 1941, rebuild the Glorious Communist Party, and fully embrace the revolutionary era that is dawning.

To defend 1945 is to transcend it by returning to 1941.

Propaganda poster from the French Communist Party (PCF). It reads: “Unite to crush the fascist threat”. ►



PARTI COMMUNISTE FRANÇAIS  
**UNION**

pour  
écraser  
la menace  
fasciste



PPR H. Clavel Paris - 12-61

# French Section of the Anti-Imperialist League: A successful conference and a victory for anti-imperialist unity

In preparation for the international congress, the French Section of the Anti-Imperialist League (AIL) was officially established in Paris on February 28 during a conference that brought together nearly 400 participants.

Delegations attended from Turkey, Germany, Poland, Ireland, Italy, and Tunisia. Among those present were a palestinian activist and numerous militants from the maghrebi diaspora. In a statement published the following week, the newly established Anti-Imperialist League (France) reported: “We had the honour of receiving a message of support from Mariam Abu Daqqa, a leader of the PFLP<sup>1</sup>. We also received messages of solidarity from revolutionaries in Egypt and Norway.”

The conference concluded, in particular, with the adoption of a resolution launching a broad national and international campaign for the defense of palestinian and lebanese political prisoners. This was followed by chants demanding the immediate release of Ahmed Saadat, General Secretary of the PFLP. The Conference also condemned the imperialist-zionist war of aggression led by the United States against Iran and Lebanon.

In videos released the previous week, four

1. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.



organizations had already announced their decision to join the Anti-Imperialist League (France) in order to coordinate their struggle against the domination of the French monopolies: the Réunionese and Corsican independence organizations *Ka Ubuntu* and the *Cumtatu di Ricustruzione di u Partitu Cumunistu*<sup>2</sup> (CRPC), together with the *Fédération Syndicale Étudiante*<sup>3</sup> (FSE) and the *Ligue de la Jeunesse Révolutionnaire*<sup>4</sup> (LJR).

In a powerful address, Ceini Nhyei, affiliated

2. Committee for the Reconstitution of the Communist Party.

3. Student Union Federation.

4. Revolutionary Youth League.

with the kanak independence movement<sup>5</sup>, called upon the conference to seal a pact of struggle. The speaker recalled how the encounter between the deported communards and the kanak insurgents had represented a missed historical opportunity, as the seed of proletarian internationalism had not yet taken root. The entire assembly rose to applaud the alliance between the heirs of the Paris Commune of 1871 and the Great Kanak uprising of 1878.

Last December, the presentation document of the Anti-Imperialist League (France), entitled “Anti-Imperialists of all countries, unite!”, declared:

“We are the people, and the future belongs to us. To secure it, however, we must unite against imperialism, zionism, fascism, and every form of reaction. The Anti-Imperialist League carries this project and this dynamic on a global scale. It is now our task to make it a reality in France by struggling together, through the coordination of our respective organizations and forms of expression, against our own imperialism, its class war, and its wars of plunder, in which none of our children, our brothers and sisters, or our people shall be sacrificed. Anti-imperialists of France and of the whole world, unite!”

5. Kanaky, or “New Caledonia”, is an island and a French colony in the Pacific Ocean.







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# CPES Vallès-La-Frette's first victory: The only way to prevail is to struggle!

**This article was sent by the People's Committee for Mutual Aid and Solidarity (CPES) of the Vallès-La-Frette neighborhood in Aubervilliers, in the Paris suburbs.**

After its founding during the "Septemberist" movement<sup>1</sup>, our committee is celebrating its first victory, won through struggle!

For several years now, our neighborhood has faced numerous problems related to the unsanitary conditions of outdoor common areas, specifically uncollected, decrepit trash bins. These mountains of trash serve as a haven for rats, which are multiplying in droves. We've had enough of this situation, of seeing children playing in the filth and getting bitten or scratched by rats, which constitute a real health hazard.

This situation stems from the mayor's decision to terminate the contracts that guaranteed regular trash collection in our neighborhood. Apparently, there is enough money to triple the municipal police force and install surveillance cameras throughout the entire city, but no money to ensure decent living conditions in our neighborhoods. These political reasonings are out of touch with the reality of our lives. We want dignified and decent living conditions in our neighborhood, so we've formed a struggle committee to get organized: the CPES.

After numerous attempts at dialogue, petitions, and other ways to make our voices heard, we

were met with silence and indifference from elected representatives sitting comfortably in their seats. The residents' anger expressed itself when we protested and emptied an entire dumpster full of trash in front of City Hall. The municipal police threatened to arrest us, but that doesn't discourage us, because our fight for decent living conditions is a just cause!

Following this protest, the mayor's team agreed to meet with us and to finally hear our demands. On December 5, a meeting between neighborhood residents and deputy mayors from Aubervilliers city hall took place. We laid out the demands set by residents organized within the CPES in Vallès-La-Frette, and we obtained written commitments for more frequent trash collection and rat control operations.

Since then, we have noticed the restoration of many municipal services, such as trash collection, which now takes place once a week, as opposed to once every three weeks before the rallying. Rat control operations are planned for every building in the neighborhood, as well as the hiring of maintenance staff for the common areas of the buildings.

We are happy to celebrate this victory, which proves once again that only struggle pays off, and that when you don't fight, you don't get anything!

We are well aware that in our neighborhood, it's not just about trash collection, but so many other issues as well, such as electrical maintenance, the greed of lessors who cut off our heat (to the point of causing a massive Legionella outbreak in our buildings), raise rents and utility bills, the lack of access to culture and sports for young people, the state of our

schools, public transportation... And above all, unemployment, poverty, poor working conditions, and low wages. In this sense, the victory in the struggle to preserve the Labor Hall against the city council's attacks, a struggle led by the sincere union members of Aubervilliers, is a major step forward for future struggles in our city.

We are also well aware that our neighborhood is not an isolated case. Throughout our county and across France, working-class neighborhoods are neglected and scorned by local elected officials, and primarily by the state. That is why we eagerly take part in the National Coordination of CPES. We would also like to salute all our comrades in every city, and we call on residents of working-class neighborhoods everywhere to organize within CPES in every city.

In Aubervilliers, as elsewhere, the great electoral charade of the municipal elections is beginning. Day after day, lies are being told to the people about so-called miracle solutions that will change everything. They will face opposition from the CPES and the residents, who do not believe their empty words, because we know that as long as the capitalist model of exploitation persists in the governance of the state, businesses and our neighborhoods, and as long as power remains in the hands of the rich, no politician, no matter how sincere, will be able to solve the problems in our neighborhoods. We do not believe in supreme saviors, on the contrary, it is only through the organization of our class for the struggle that we will triumph!

1. Context note: the "Septemberist" movement was a social movement calling for a complete blockade of France, starting from September 10, 2025, in response to the latest budget proposal for the country and a general push for "austerity" from the government.





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## "Give us an **organization of revolutionary workers**, and we will turn France upside down!"

**On March 7, 2026, La Cause du Peuple was invited to Limoges to cover the first National Workers' Meeting—an event that our editorial staff considers fundamental to the struggle to organize the working class for the Revolution.**

It was in the city where the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) was founded that more than 40 workers and laborers from industry, railroads, hospitals, energy, commerce, construction, transportation, and other sectors gathered for a revolutionary political meeting in early March.

Before beginning their proceedings, all participants stood in tribute to the peoples' resistance against imperialism, particularly the Iranian nation and the entire Arab world, which today stands firm in the face of unprecedented attacks by U.S. imperialism and its lapdog, Israel.

Then the fellow workers and proletarians—militant unionists—took turns introducing themselves, kicking off the event with great energy: every struggle waged by the comrades, every small victory wrested from their bosses, whether locally or nationally. Every battle won was met with vigorous applause. The participants then set about agreeing on a basic ideological and

political document of about sixty pages, as well as an organizational document. The organized workers repeatedly emphasized that it is unity of vision and unity of plan that forges our class for the struggle; that is why they studied every part of the documents in order to emerge from this meeting fully united.

On the agenda: debates on capitalism and imperialism, the situation of the proletariat in France, as well as the history and tasks of the

**"We have a responsibility to break down the factory walls that hinder the proletariat from fulfilling its tasks"**

Communist Movement, and the limitations of trade unionism for our class.

With the organizers' permission, we are sharing here a selected excerpt from the adopted ideological-political framework document:

*"We have a responsibility to break down the factory walls that hinder the proletariat from fulfilling its tasks: to be the leadership and driving force behind the defense of democratic rights and the Socialist Revolution for*

*all the popular masses. In line with what has been established in the preceding sections, we need—for the reconstitution of the Communist Party—to forge working-class cadres, that is, to elevate the working class in struggle through theory and practice, in the heat of the class struggle.*

*That is why we need an organizational structure that enables conscious workers, united by a common plan, to carry out their work. The true crucible of communists and revolutionaries is the implementation of a centralized plan and theoretical study. We emphasize "the implementation of a centralized plan," which is the very essence of proletarian organization, even under socialism with its plans for the development of production and society. We emphasize this because, for the vast majority of organizations claiming to be communist, this is where the problem lies: no one is willing to implement a plan, to submit to the collective and to leadership, and everyone wants to do as they please. We believe it is absolutely essential to put an end to this form of petty-bourgeois "activism" that has permeated all struggles, in order to impose a unified and centralized struggle—true democratic centralism. This is the guarantee of our independence from non-proletarian currents and of the pursuit of our goals despite the setbacks and*



obstacles along the way. In essence, we can summarize that a conscious worker, a worker leader, is one who actively works to organize in practice and carries out the organization's plan by submitting to it—and not merely a worker who has “fully understood” Karl Marx.”

The fundamental principles adopted following the debates are as follows:

- “1. It is the masses who make history;
2. Struggles for better working conditions and economic rights are necessary, but the main struggle is the political struggle to seize power. To achieve this, we must rebuild the Communist Party;
3. Opportunism and revisionism are the main problems within the labor movement; we must uphold the class line within the union;
4. Conscious workers must act militantly, fight for unity, and rely solely on the strength of their class;
5. Proletarian internationalism is engraved in our hearts, and we put it into practice.”

Finally, after a long day of work, debates, and discussions, the comrades voted unanimously to establish a basis for unity. The worker comrades repeatedly emphasized that “the most important thing is to apply Marxism in practice, within the class,” because “the working class needs political organization to carry out the Socialist Revolution,” following “decades of domination by opportunism and revisionism within the labor movement.” This is a line that La Cause du Peuple has fully supported since its beginnings, and one it is proud to see developing directly at the heart of the proletariat.

Following that, a tribute was paid to Pierre Semard, a great communist and labor leader; March 7 was chosen as the date in memory of the day our comrade was executed by the Nazis.

To conclude, the organizers arranged a large meal and an evening of comradeship in a sincere atmosphere of solidarity and struggle, where everyone sang workers' songs at the top of their lungs. The next steps will be forged through concrete struggles, and several initiatives are already planned.

Our reporters on the ground were themselves delighted to see that such an event could take place in France, at a time when many are betting on the “defeat” of the working class. It would seem that the working class has not yet had its final say—quite the contrary... So, forward with the proletarian counteroffensive!



## In honor of Pierre Semard

Eighty-four years ago, French Communist leader Pierre Semard gave his life to the great anti-fascist French resistance. Honoring his memory—beyond paying tribute to an exceptional model of bravery and integrity—means recognizing the central role of the workers' and Communist resistance in the fight against fascist-Nazi barbarism. Like so many others among the founding members of the Communist Party, Pierre Semard was a revolutionary trade union activist searching for answers in the wake of the carnage of World War I. In 1918, he witnessed the dawn of a new era in Eastern Europe. A member of the SFIO (French Section of the Workers' International – second international) since 1916, he voted with the majority at the Tours Congress to join the Communist International in December 1920. An exceptional union organizer, he became General Secretary of the CGT Railway Workers' Federation in June 1921, then of the CGTU (United General Confederation of Labor) Federation after the split, and again with the reunified CGT in 1936. Under his leadership, the railway workers became one of the main forces of the organized working class. In the early years of the Communist Party, the organization was undermined by outdated legalist and syndicalist ideas, which constantly swung the Party from left to right.

It was amid this whirlwind of misconceptions and internal struggles that his comrades placed their trust in him, making him the de facto first General Secretary of the SFIC (French Section of the Communist International) from 1924 to 1929. It was notably during his tenure that the Communist Party began its Bolshevization. In October 1939, Pierre Semard was arrested by the government following the ban on communist organizations. He was then handed over to the occupying forces by the Vichy authorities. Despite his internment, he managed to maintain contact with the underground unions, becoming a central figure in the anti-fascist mobilization of railroad workers. In his final letter, before being executed by firing squad, he issued a last call to action: “My final thoughts are with you, comrades in the struggle, with all the members of our Party, with all patriotic French people, with the heroic fighters of the Red Army and its leader, the great Stalin. I die with the certainty that France will be liberated. Tell my friends among the railroad workers not to do anything that might help the Nazis. The railroad workers will understand me, they will hear me, they will act! I am convinced of it. Farewell, dear friends; the hour of my death is near. But I know that the Nazis who are going to shoot me are already defeated, and that France will continue the good fight.”



Demonstration in Paris, November 11, 2025. The banner reads: "For the revolution, join the Congress of the Communist Youth!"

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# The Communist Youth's role in the revolutionary movement

Following a call from several organizations, a congress to reconstitute the Communist Youth was held in April 2026. This event has resulted from a process of development, accumulated experience, and struggle for unity that has lasted for years, and marks the culmination of youth movements that began to take shape at the start of Macron's five-year term.

## What does it really mean to rebuild the Communist Youth?

To understand why these young people have wanted to rebuild the Communist Youth, we must consider the historical significance of this organization.

The Communist Youth is a major activist organization born in the wake of the Russian Revolution, subscribing to Bolshevik ideas. It was forged in the repression of anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist movements; it sent its best members to fight in Spain against Franco; it formed the Youth Battalions during the Resistance against the fascist-Nazi occupation; and by the time of the Liberation, it had grown to 250,000 members.

The heroic deeds of the Communist Youth, though dated, continue to inspire a segment of today's youth returning to communism. Just as with the history of the International Communist Movement on the other hand, this history of organizations in France explains why,

**In recent decades, young people have never been so rebellious, never so repressed; in short, they have never embodied so much hope**

with every social movement, the "MJCF" (the youth organization affiliated with the so-called "French Communist Party") regains its strength despite the crass revisionism of its leaders and the perpetual crises within its ranks. Despite all the propaganda, thousands of young activists each year are drawn to one organization or another, as part of a dynamic of renewal.

But every process of decay goes through leaps: the Communist Youth lost its form and substance decades ago, just like the French Communist Party. It stopped being communist, stopped being revolutionary, and thus stopped being combative. And over the past ten years, this decomposition among the revisionists proceeded alongside a recomposition among the revolutionaries: sincere activists breaking with opportunism, entire branches rejecting revisionism, struggling for principles and for a genuine connection with the working class. All of this served to plow a fertile field in which to sow the seeds of reconstitution.

The Communist Youth's reconstitution does not mean recreating an exact replica from another era. It means giving back to the youth who embrace the essence of the Marxism of our time—that is, the struggle for the reconstitution of the Communist Party and for the Socialist Revolution—the form through which they can embrace it: their youth organization.

## On the youth as the Vanguard

This reconstitution must be understood as tied with the process of rebuilding the Communist Party of France, which it supports. As early as the 1910s and 1920s, the Communist Youth supported the red line within the Socialist Par-



ty, and later within the Communist Party. It is no coincidence, in fact, that the Communist Youth was founded in October/November 1920, and the Communist Party only two months later!

Thus, the upcoming Congress is not, primarily, the culmination of a process. It is the beginning of a new phase of struggle, and like the phoenix rising from its ashes to take flight, it is in this struggle that we will see that this reconstituted Communist Youth is made of a different metal than the rest, that it sees its task through to the end and carries it out successfully.

For the role of this youth movement is by no means insignificant. The Communist Youth's historic newspaper is titled "The Vanguard". Of course, according to Marxism, the Party is the one taking on the role of the vanguard of the working class, with enduring ties to the masses. It assumes political leadership. The Communist Youth cannot substitute for the Party; nor is it its "driving force," and its activists will identify as communists (and that's fine!) without necessarily being on the same level as communist cadres in terms of consciousness and actions. Furthermore, "the youth" is, as such, a vague category: young people belong to different classes; there are revolutionaries, moderates, and reactionaries among them, and class unites and differentiates them more than age does.

Talking about "youth as the vanguard" thus makes no sense unless we are specifically referring to proletarian youth, the youth of the masses, and the communist youth tied to them. It is within the struggles of the masses, through their fighting spirit, fearlessness, and organization, that this Communist Youth must play a vanguard role.

Let's take an example demonstrated by the "Septemberist" movement<sup>1</sup>: young people demand organization. Within the general assemblies, committees, and other spaces for discussion and action within the movement, several generations of masses and activists have come together.

The contrast is striking: the activist movement has lost some of its organizational principles, such as setting an agenda, democratic decision-making, implementing decisions, and collective organization. And it is young people, barely out of high school, who sometimes find themselves explaining to seasoned activists how things should be done. In the past, it was

common to view young people as "anti-organization"; today, that is completely untrue. In recent decades, young people have never been so rebellious, never so repressed; in short, they have never embodied so much hope.

This is not unique to young people: it is characteristic of the masses in France who have learned from recent movements and are fighting to reclaim their organizations. But the youth's specific contribution is their desire for change and their rejection of old ways: they dare to shake up what seems "unchangeable"; they dare to engage in "radical actions," and in doing so, they can inspire all generations of workers to do the same.

### Forward, shock troops!

So, given this portrait of a vibrant youth, what will the future Communist Youth be? It cannot be a registration office for communist cadres, a mere bureaucratic progression like what revisionism has turned it into.

When the Communist Party was fighting against the fascist-Nazi occupation, the youth

were among the first fighters (Colonel Fabien) and they organized the first networks of liaison agents (Danielle Casanova), two sides of the same coin: the Communist Party's militarized organization for armed struggle. If the Communist Youth, which is being reconstituted at the Congress, were to retain just one reference point, it should be this one.

At that time, the Communist Youth and its Youth Battalions did not train young people to hand out flyers at age 15 for a particular elected official, at age 25 to get elected themselves, and at age 35 to be re-elected. They trained activists and leaders forged in the fire of the class struggle: where one is active on all fronts, where one learns new skills one did not have before, where one experiences true comradeship, where one spares no sacrifice, because they are made for the proletariat, where one is not afraid of being arrested, beaten, or worse, because we are defending workers' emancipation: the beacon in the night that illuminates humanity.

1. Context note: the "Septemberist" movement was a social movement calling for a complete blockade of France, starting from September 10, 2025, in response to the latest budget proposal for the country and a general push for "austerity" from the government.







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# What does the **Congress** for the Reconstitution of the **Communist Youth** mean?

**On April 3, the Congress for the Reconstitution of the Communist Youth opened in Paris, and lasted four days. This event ended a process spanning more than a year and marked a decisive step toward the unity of the revolutionary forces of France's youth. It also provides an opportunity to reflect on the political and ideological significance of this Congress in the present times.**

More than eighty years after the opportunist political liquidation of the Communist Youth, 2026 marks the authentic Twelfth Congress of the Communist Youth of France. Guided by the Marxism of our era, the product of the numerous ideological and political advances achieved by the international proletariat since the Eleventh Congress, this Congress elevates the Communist Youth, as a fighting organization, to a higher ideological and political level. Throughout the history of the Communist movement in France, the youth has constituted a decisive front. In 1920, the Fédération des Jeunesses Communistes de France (FJCF) initiated the decisive struggle between political lines against Social Democracy, preparing the way for the creation of the French Section of the Communist International just two months later.

Youth has always formed the shock troops of the Socialist Revolution. Under the leadership of the Party, it has given its most heroic sons and daughters to the struggle, whether in the fight against militarism during the interwar period, in the war against fascism in Spain, or in the National Liberation War against fascist occupation, where the young Communist

**The Communist Youth is taking up its historical task of mobilizing, politicizing, and organizing the youth, which today seeks nothing more than to rebel**

Colonel Fabien fired the first shot against the Nazi occupier. In short, the Communist Youth has been one of the principal driving forces in the struggle for the liberation of humanity in our country. Why speak of reconstitution? Like the working class as a whole, the youth was deprived of its Communist Party. Once the PCF laid down its arms before reaction, the entire

revolutionary movement entered a period of dramatic retreat, the consequences of which are still being felt today. The Congress for the Reconstitution of the Communist Youth established an essential framework for the struggle between political lines, a struggle which alone can sow the seeds for the regroupment of the subjective forces of the Revolution in France.

## Unity Is Forged Through Struggle

What fundamentally distinguishes this new organization from all the others is its understanding of contradiction as the fundamental principle of revolutionary development. Unity is forged through struggle. Within the organization, those who refuse to take part in the struggle for unity inevitably adopt a centrist position that is bound to develop into a Rightist line. This necessary struggle between political lines can only be carried forward through the firm application of democratic centralism, which was one of the principal subjects of debate throughout the Congress. The high political level of the discussions and the correct application of democratic centralism by the young comrades were warmly praised by the international guests. For the first time, young revolutionaries from different organizations, and in some cases from different political traditions, were able to exchange views and engage in principled struggle together in order to achieve



a higher level of unity. Under the watchful gaze of the portraits of Colonel Fabien, Danielle Casanova, Guy Môquet, and Gilles Tautin, the delegates and participants in the plenary session debated the fundamental political tasks confronting our era.

### Rejecting Electoral Blackmail in the Name of Anti-Fascism

Against the electoralist tendencies that numb the working class, the youth made the conscious choice to follow the path of revolution and to reject the reformist temptations weighing upon progressive youth seeking genuine social change. Following intense political debates, the Communist Youth exposed the centrist illusion surrounding participation in elections and rejected the blackmail of parliamentary cretinism in the name of fighting fascism. In the face of the growing reactionary offensive, the youth arrived at a simple conclusion: the proletariat and the popular masses of France must constitute themselves as a politically autonomous class, independent of the bourgeoisie. They must cease participating in the bourgeois democratic spectacle, cease placing their trust in the laws and institutions of their class enemies, and cease relying upon

the bourgeois press and its ideological apparatus. The reconstituted Communist Youth must become the independent political organization of the youth itself. It will never serve as the ideological or political relay of any bourgeois party. Rejecting opportunist anti-imperialism, which consists of supporting either a supposedly "morally superior" French imperialism or rival imperialist powers, the youth has firmly chosen to stand alongside the peoples of the world resisting oppression. The Communist Youth reaffirms its opposition to French imperialism and colonialism, and received fraternal greetings from its Corsican<sup>1</sup> comrades of the CRPC<sup>2</sup> and its Réunionnais<sup>3</sup> comrades of Ka Ubuntu.

1. Corsica is an island and a French colony located in the Mediterranean Sea.

2. Cumitatu di Ricustruzione d'u Partitu Cumunistu (Committee for the Reconstitution of the Communist Party)

3. Réunion is an island and a French colony located in the Indian Ocean.



## Greetings from the Communist Party of India (Maoist)

**On the third day of the Congress, a young woman took to the podium to read a warm message sent by the Communist Party of India (Maoist), which is heroically waging the struggle against the fascist Indian state:**

“ Dear comrades,  
Red greetings,

To begin with, we would like to extend a very warm greeting to all the revolutionary comrades organising the Communist Youth Congress in France. [...]

We are delighted by the news of the Communist Youth Congress taking place at one of the most significant turning points in history. We regret that we are unable to be present in person on this occasion due to the severe repression and state surveillance currently in place, but we extend to you our utmost solidarity and enthusiasm. [...]

From anti-war movements in support of the

peoples of Vietnam, Afghanistan and Palestine to revolutionary movements such as the Paris Commune, the October Revolution, the Chinese Revolution and Naxalbari, students and young people have always played a significant historical role in the struggle for justice. Youth is resisting all over the world – on campuses, in the streets, and in the struggles of peasants and workers. They refuse to surrender their future to imperialist war and exploitation.

We firmly believe that the task of revolutionary student and youth organisations is to transform spontaneous resistance into organised resistance, into a conscious and militant class struggle. We have closely followed the rapid developments and actions taking place in France over recent years. The organisational work being carried out by revolutionary youth and student organisations bears witness to the development of the class struggle in the country. Our comrades in France draw on the revolutionary legacy of the Paris Commune, the May '68 movement, and the mi-

litant uprisings throughout the country's history. The popular uprisings of 2025, leading

to blockades across the country, are proof of the progress made by our comrades in France; they are an inspiration to us all. [...]

Comrade Mao Zedong said to the students and young people: “The world is yours, as well as ours, but in the last analysis, it is yours. You young people, full of vigor and vitality, are in the bloom of life, like the sun at eight or nine in the morning. Our hope is placed on you. The world belongs to you.” Claim the world that is yours, comrades. Dare to storm the heavens. Dare to struggle and dare to win.

Long live proletarian internationalism!  
Long live Marxism-Leninism-Maoism!  
Long live the World Socialist Revolution!





# Greetings from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine



**The participants to the Congress for the Reconstruction of the Communist Youth had the immense privilege of receiving greetings from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which commends their work. Here is their message:**

“Dear comrades and participants, Youth of France, vanguard of change and bearers of the banner of justice.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, on behalf of its imprisoned General Secretary, Commander Ahmed Saadat, his deputy, Comrade Commander Jamil Mizhar, and all its cadres and members both at home and in the diaspora, extends its warmest and most sincere militant greetings to your important conference. We affirm our deepest pride in this qualitative step toward rebuilding the communist youth movement in France and restoring its historic role as a driving force for both international and class struggle.

Your congress marks a decisive stage for your organization and constitutes an act of political and intellectual resistance against attempts to marginalize revolutionary thought, whilst restoring respect for the values of socialism at a time when savage imperialism is rampant and is reproducing its repressive and colonial instruments in an ever more brutal fashion. [...]

What we are witnessing today is a global struggle between two projects: the imperialist project, one of domination based on exploitation, plunder and repression, and the liberatory one, embodied by the peoples in struggle and by progressive and freedom-seeking movements. In this context, Western governments play a central role in supporting imperialist and Zionist crimes, not only through military and financial aid, but also by providing political cover for them. They are suppressing solidarity movements within their own countries

as well as attempting to criminalize any free voice supporting Palestine under the guise of fighting against ‘anti-Semitism’.

The responsibility of progressive forces in the West—and particularly in France—foremost among which is the Communist Youth, is to oppose these policies within their own societies, to denounce double standards and to transform solidarity into organized political pressure capable of bringing about change. [...]

We regard the Communist Youth of France as a vanguard force capable of bringing about change; you embody a new generation that is once again raising the fundamental questions of justice, equality and liberation in the face of a brutal global system in crisis. Your historical responsibility must not be limited to solidarity with Palestine, but must extend to the struggle to change this system which breeds only wars, poverty and oppression. Our struggles are one and the same—from Paris to Gaza, to Beirut, to Havana, to Caracas, and from every place of struggle to the next. [...]

We, the members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, once again extend our congratulations to you on the holding of your congress. We sincerely hope that its outcomes will contribute to the successful advancement of the Communist Youth’s work. [...]

We have confidence in you and in your ability to make this congress a new starting point on the path of the international struggle.

Long live the Communist Youth of France!

Long live the unity of the liberation forces throughout the world!

Long live a free Palestine, from the river to the sea!

Long live the free peoples!

Down with imperialism... Down with Zionism...

Glory to the martyrs, freedom to the prisoners and victory to the peoples in struggle!

## Three Fundamental Points of Unity

All of these decisions were made possible through the rigorous application of democratic centralism. Once again, this process demonstrated that only open and comradely struggle can forge genuine unity. This new and stronger unity has been built upon three fundamental principles:

- Democratic centralism as the method of organization, the only one capable of meeting the requirements of a genuinely revolutionary organization;
- Socialist revolution as the violent overthrow of one class by another, representing the necessary break with the reformism and opportunism that have plagued our ranks for far too long;
- The Communist Party as the leading organ of the Revolution, whose reconstitution is one of the fundamental tasks to which the reconstituted Communist Youth must contribute.

The Communist Youth is taking up its historical task of mobilizing, politicizing, and organizing the youth, which today seeks nothing more than a means of rebelling against and overthrowing the rotten old system. If it does not undertake this task, who will? Regardless of the bourgeoisie’s attempts to divide the people, its relentless attacks upon the future of the youth for the benefit of a privileged minority, and despite the pessimism and uncertainty imposed upon them, the popular youth of France possess the potential to shape its own destiny.

## Spreading Revolutionary Optimism

Following this Congress, hundreds of courageous young Communists will stand alongside the masses in struggle. They are a vibrant generation, full of life, determination, and righteous anger, committed to fighting for the working class. Through the tireless effort of their revolutionary work, they will expose the revisionist leaderships, whose own political bankruptcy has reduced them to spreading falsehoods among sincere comrades. Like Danielle Casanova, who inspired thousands of people to stand beside her until her final hours in the Auschwitz concentration camp, they will become the vanguard extending a hand to every young proletarian, student, and sincere activist who still hesitates or has been demoralized by defeatism. They will spread revolutionary optimism throughout the proletarian youth of France. During this Congress, we saw the flame burning in the eyes of a generation that will never give up until the red flag flies over the Élysée Palace.

# EXCLUSIVE Interview with the Leadership of the Communist Youth of France

**Following the election of the Communist Youth of France leadership, La Cause du Peuple was able to conduct an exclusive interview with them.**

**Cause du Peuple (CDP): Regarding the reconstitution of the Communist Youth in 2026, which political tasks are of the highest priority for such an organization among the youth of France?**

Communist Youth (CY) Leadership: We quite often quote Lenin's statement on the role of the Young Communist League as a shock force. Youth take center stage on the front lines in all kinds of struggles. We know, however, that youth cannot stand alone; they cannot claim to lead the proletariat or serve as its vanguard, but rather as its shock force. As we conceive it today, the role of a consistent youth organization is twofold: (1) educating youth in Marxism, in order to forge young people ready to rebuild the Communist Party, and (2) heightening the level of class struggle wherever we are, establishing neighbourhood associations and high school militant groups, and mobilizing our colleagues and classmates around us. France is currently experiencing a regime crisis and is accelerating its reactionarisation by relentlessly attacking all democratic rights. We must

not be fooled: attacks on individual activists or

groups serve to establish legal precedents for the further dismantling of democratic rights whenever it suits the bourgeoisie. One of the youth's key tasks is to fight to preserve the democratic rights that our predecessors won through unabashed struggle, but also to win new ones.

**CDP: The reconstitution of the Communist Youth raises the broader question of the topicality of the Socialist Revolution in France. What is the Communist Youth's position on the reconstitution of the Communist Party of France?**

CY: The reconstitution of the Communist Party as the leadership and vanguard of the Revolution must be the primary objective of each and every revolutionary. The totality of our class's experiences demonstrates the absolute necessity of the Party. Our role as the Communist Youth is not to magically transform ourselves into the Communist Party once we grow older. Our role is to educate the youth in Marxism and to advance the class struggle; to bring forth revolutionary cadres who will be capable of rebuilding a Party and of mobilising, politicising, and organising the masses around us toward that very end. This is a task that the entire revolutionary movement—across all organizations—must take on. Unity is something we hold very dear, and there is only one way to achieve it: the two-line struggle.

**CDP: Since the death of the fascist activist Quentin Deranque, we have witnessed a new attempt to rehabilitate fascism within the bourgeois political sphere—a deepening manifestation of what has been expressed through the process of the state's reactionarisation over the past years. Does the Communist Youth define itself as an anti-fascist organisation?**

CY: Among our role models are Guy Môquet, Colonel Fabien, and Danielle Casanova, figures of the antifascist and communist Resistance in occupied France. We could name the thousands of other Francs-Tireurs et Partisans, an armed communist resistance organisation, who gave their lives during the great anti-fascist war, and we fully intend to become the worst nightmare of the fascist scourge. We understand fascism

for what it is: an integral part of capitalism, just like war and poverty. Faced with the crisis and worsening living conditions, two paths lie open to the masses: that of fascism or that of revolution. The attempt to rehabilitate and normalize the activities of fascist gangs is making the 1990s model of antifascism—centered on direct conflict between groups—increasingly secondary, while making the work of education, agitation, and propaganda amongst the broad masses increasingly central. Antifascism must not be the preserve of small groups, but must deeply permeate the masses.

**CDP: The success of this Congress is a significant marker of our era, particularly in terms of the dividing lines that are emerging in the face of revisionism and opportunism. In your view, what are these dividing lines today?**

CY: As we've seen throughout the debates, lectures, and film, the question underlying all others is that of power—its conquest and its upholding. When we speak of anti-imperialism, it is clear that as long as imperialist monopolies persist, oppressed peoples will know nothing but misery, and we will be heading toward war. When we talk about the role that youth play as a political subject, it is clear that as long as imperialist monopolies remain involved in state politics, young people will continue to face ever-increasing precariousness. When we talk about anti-fascism, it is clear that it is inevitable for the bourgeoisie to resort to the scourge of fascism to maintain its position. No matter what issue we address, the result is the same: the state is the bourgeoisie's tool of domination; the army and the police are its backbone. This fact entails another simple truth: the Party is the weapon of the proletariat for the seizure of power.

**CDP: Thank you, comrades.**



► The full interview with the leadership of the Communist Youth can be found on the website of La Cause du Peuple:







▲  
The banner reads: "Lyon: Capital of the Resistance and Anti-Fascism from 1945 to Today!– Communist Youth"

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## A look back at the national campaign 'Lyon: Capital of the Resistance'

**On 8 May 2026, to mark the Day of the Victory of Communism over Nazi barbarism, the revolutionary youth of France, on the initiative of the Communist Youth, carried out a largescale campaign in the heart of Lyon. The slogan for this campaign was: 'Lyon, Capital of the Resistance'. Here is a report on the event.**

The day began at 7am in a park on the outskirts of Lyon. In the morning chill, over a hundred activists were busy preparing for the day. Until late afternoon, they would traverse the whole of the Lyon metropolitan area. 40,000 leaflets would be distributed, 250 posters put up, and 60 banners hung to carry out the 'Lyon, capital of the Resistance' campaign.

The organizing committee outlined the day's objectives: Lyon, historically the heart of the anti-fascist Resistance, is today regarded as the French capital of fascism. This is due to the growth of fascist gangs in downtown Lyon over the past decades. It would therefore have to be the scene of a day full of counter-agitation. From early morning, activists were deployed to

all corners of the city and its suburbs. Leaflets were distributed and dropped off outside malls, student accommodations, train stations and other letterboxes.

In the *Confluence* neighborhood, leaflets were distributed inside the shopping center. Once the activists had come back down, security staff immediately stopped and assaulted them. This was a disproportionate reaction to a completely peaceful and democratic action,

**40,000 leaflets were distributed, 250 posters put up, and 60 banners hung to carry out the campaign**

but one that reflects the ongoing trend towards reactionarization. This attempt at intimidation did not deter the determined young activists, who resumed their activities as soon as they had shaken off the security staff.

Several monuments to the Resistance were also visited and honored by the various action groups. In the *La Croix-Rousse* neighbo-

hood, young people honored the memory of the *Canuts*, symbolic figures in the history of the class struggle in Lyon. Mainly based in said neighborhood– which is currently undergoing rapid gentrification–the *Canuts* represented the vanguard of the working class in France in the early 19th century. Between 1831 and 1849, the *Canuts* rose up four times against the poverty imposed by the bourgeoisie. Under the slogan 'Live by working or die fighting', the *Canuts* embodied the necessary revolt against injustice, which the young activists were keen to honour.

Lyon has no shortage of monuments to the glory of the martyrs of the Resistance, and it was chiefly they who were honored that day. Yet this memory is a battleground between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat. Three years ago, Emmanuel Macron had travelled to Lyon to 'honor' the memory of its Resistance fighters, whilst the police were firing tear gas at the union rally commemorating May 8. The following year, Missak Manouchian, a Communist hero of the Resistance, was laid to rest in the Panthéon<sup>1</sup>, initially without his former comrades-in-arms from the FTP-MOI present,

1. A national necropolis located in Paris where prominent figures of the history of France are buried.



and in the presence of the far-right National Rally (RN) leaders.

It was this shameless attempt to sugarcoat history that was denounced by the activists, who, in their various speeches, emphasized that our class rose up and was the only one to rise to the challenge of the times, despite the torture, deprivation, deportations and executions. Thus, banners paying tribute and red roses were laid at the foot of the statue of Jean Moulin<sup>2</sup>, in front of *Fort Montluc*—a stronghold of torture orchestrated by the Gestapo and collaborationists under Klaus Barbie—and also on the Place of the Martyrs of the Resistance. In front of the statue of the Resistance at *Bellecour*, activists also laid a flag bearing the hammer and sickle. By bike, car, on foot or on public transport, they travelled the city and its suburbs until 5pm. Lyon's major working-class neighborhoods saw posters of leading communist figures of the Resistance—such as Colonel Fabien, Guy Môquet and Danielle Casanova—as well as posters for the event, banners and messages of support for the agrarian revolution in Brazil, spring up on their walls.

But this day was not merely a day of commemoration of the victory of the national anti-fascist Resistance. In the same areas mentioned above, banners commemorating the massacres of Sétif, Guelma and Kherrata<sup>3</sup> in Algeria on May 8, 1945, were displayed, in order to highlight the dual nature of this day. On the one hand, the youth were keen to commemorate the sacrifice of tens of thousands of sons and daughters of the working class of France, who took up arms to repel fascist barbarism. But on the other hand, they do not forget the massacres committed by French imperialism, which, in reasserting its control following the war, decided as its first act to apply the very fascist methods and massacres that it had itself suffered during the Occupation. In a necessary anti-imperialist spirit—for the struggle against fascism is not an exclusively national cause—commemorating the barbarism of the French bourgeoisie and the heroism of the peoples in the same breath is a major political and historical necessity. It is also in this spirit that several banners of the Anti-Imperialist League were seen in various parts of the city, paying tribute to the organization's founding Congress. The day concluded with a commemoration of May 8, 1945, held jointly with the CPES (Popular Committee for Mutual Aid and

2. One of the most famous figures in the French Resistance, although not a communist. That's why is frequently cited by the French bourgeoisie as an embodiment of the Resistance.

3. Massacres committed by colonial France.



Red roses and a flag at the base of the statue of the French Resistance.

Solidarity) in the *États-Unis* neighborhood, bringing together more than 175 people.

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**In a necessary anti-imperialist spirit—for the struggle against fascism is not an exclusively national cause—commemorating the barbarism of the French bourgeoisie and the heroism of the peoples in the same breath is a major political and historical necessity**

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What are the key takeaways from this day? Firstly, that revolutionary youth remain determined to defend the memory and achievements of the anti-fascist Resistance, won through the sacrifices of resistance fighters and communists, even in the so-called strongholds of the fascists. Whilst the latter proclaim everywhere that the city is fascist, more than a hundred people proved the opposite. In

a broader context, the reactionary bourgeoisie is constantly trying everywhere to make people believe that the majority of the French population shares their ideas. On this day, nothing could be further from the truth, as a large proportion of the masses encountered during the event welcomed the mobilization with interest and approval, amidst a context of growing reactionary tendencies. Anti-fascism in our time must be a tool for struggle, mobilization and organization of the masses, across all sectors of their lives, in working-class neighborhoods, in workplaces and public spaces, and on university campuses. Without the combative mobilization of the masses, we will always remain vulnerable both to the rise of reaction and to the fascists. Such mobilization cannot come about without thorough mass work in every town and village across France, and without breaking away from the activist milieu that is too detached from the masses. This campaign is the first step towards a broad campaign to defend democratic and union rights, which cannot be resolved by legitimizing the current political regime. Today's antifascism will be achieved with the masses, in the fiery heat of the class struggle, by shattering the electoral consensus – or it will not be achieved at all. Lyon has been, is, and will forever remain the capital of the Resistance!

► You can watch the Communist Youth's video looking back on this great day on Instagram:





# Toulouse: Residents, students and school staff united in a strike

On May 4, following a call to action by the *Écoles du Mirail en lutte* (“Le Mirail Schools in struggle”) coordination group, a major strike took place in Toulouse (South of France), bringing together parents, local residents, students from the University of Le Mirail, youth workers, AESH workers<sup>1</sup> and teachers. This strike is the result of consistent, united efforts that have been underway for over a month.

From the university to the schools in the popular neighborhood of Le Mirail, and from Bagatelle to Bellefontaine (two nearby neighborhoods), a major struggle has been underway during the spring of 2026 against the anti-people austerity measures affecting them. Everywhere, people are speaking out against budget cuts, shortages of youth workers, support staff and teachers, as well as class closures. This is the case throughout France, but as usual, working-class neighborhoods such as Le Mirail are particularly hit hard. In response, numerous banners have appeared on top of schools and, for the first time, parents, local residents, youth workers, special needs assistants, teachers and students have united in a common struggle, bringing together several schools in the neighborhoods, from Bagatelle to Bellefontaine.

## A united strike

This two-tiered organization (including various schools from different parts of Le Mirail and the University, as well as different sectors of the masses) is the result of consistent and organized work carried out by local residents, supporters and members of the CPES<sup>2</sup> of Le Mirail, joined by students from the *Fédération Syndicale Étudiante*<sup>3</sup> (FSE) at the University of Le Mirail and revolutionaries from the newly reconstituted Communist Youth<sup>4</sup>.

From the school blockades organized by parents and school staff during the May 4 strike, the CPES had to be present at every protest,



The banner reads: “Classes being closed, a shortage of support staff and activity leaders... We want resources for the children of Le Mirail, not for war!”

in every school in the neighbourhood, to talk to people, make more and more contacts, and set up a WhatsApp group to bring everyone together. This group that now numbers around a hundred people. At every protest organised in the schools of Le Mirail, copies of *L'Écho des Coursives* (the newspaper of the CPES of Le Mirail) were being passed around; parents had already contributed articles to it detailing their struggles.

## Breaking down the walls of universities in practice

On the initiative of the CPES, some local residents and teachers, door-to-door visits were organized to invite residents to an initial meeting. Teachers from a local primary school, teaming up with a youth worker from the same school, as well as students from the FSE joined up to go around the buildings in the neighbourhood, finding out what residents had to say about the school issues and inviting them to the meeting. This was a concrete example of how to break down the walls of universities by putting oneself at the service of the people! Residents and school staff have, in fact, repeatedly praised the students' mobilization and their participation in the struggle. An important struggle is unfolding there, with students having blocked the road and occupied the university administration building over the past few months to protest against the impending catastrophic cuts in funding.

As a first sign that this campaign was on the

right track, a mother who had taken part in a meeting with a National Education inspector said: “The inspector had expected to meet only parents from one school and was very surprised to see parents from several school groups, united around the same cause. The meeting lasted about an hour, as planned. We began by reading the letter drafted by “Le Mirail Schools in struggle” collective. Dialog was made possible and the inspector took notes. The message we conveyed was clear and was heard. It now remains to be seen what the next steps will be and what concrete actions will follow.”

The first meeting of the “Le Mirail Schools in struggle” collective subsequently brought together the various demands, summarized as follows: “Against the closure of classes, against the lack of AESH workers, against the lack of activity leaders, against the lack of resources in Le Mirail schools. Against the militarization.” To turn words into action, and demands into concrete struggle, it was collectively decided, without any prior call from a trade union, to turn the day the schools are to reopen after the holidays into a “Free School” day: combining a strike with community activities.

There was a real sense of enthusiasm; leaflets and posters were printed and distributed on a massive scale. Here, a teacher asks the group to collect leaflets and posters for them. There, an organizer suggests handing out leaflets at the market. Some parents joined the group af-

1. AESH workers are support staff for students with disabilities.

2. People's Committee for Mutual Aid and Solidarity.

3. Student Union Federation.

4. Read pages 8 to 11.

ter receiving a leaflet via their child's school diary. From grocery shop windows to the walls of the university, the strike poster quickly became a familiar sight. Leafleting and poster-putting campaigns were organized in nearly nine schools across the neighborhood.

### Revolutionaries must work with the masses

Activists from the newly reconstituted Communist Youth have become involved in this struggle. The task of revolutionaries is to mobilize, politicize and organize the masses by raising their level of consciousness and organization in the struggle. Today, it is clear that the central task of revolutionaries is to place themselves at the service of the people by carrying out work with the masses. They must act as the great unifiers of the various sectors of the masses involved in the struggle (in this case, the proletariat including youth workers, educational support staff and parents; and the petite bourgeoisie including teachers and students); they must forge unity around the proletarian line. This can only be achieved through combativeness, that is, by breaking down any corporatism that may exist, by elevating the spontaneous and demand-based struggles of the masses, and by politicizing them (as in this case) by linking them to the growing combativity and the proletarian nature of Le Mirail neighborhood.

This struggle is an example of how the Communist Youth should act amongst the struggling masses, learning from them, developing their skills and proving themselves to be capable organizers (through planned work) and trustworthy individuals.

### A militant and political strike

The rally, attended by the FSE, the CPES, the Mirail Local CGT Union, the Communist Youth and numerous parents, children and school staff, was a great success. On the morning of May 4, after handing out leaflets outside the Mirail University campus and a school, tables began to be set up in a place in the heart of the neighborhood. The rally was soon joined by a group of around thirty children, parents and teachers from a nearby school, carrying protest placards. A total of 60 people gathered for the breakfast organized by the action committee, along with a dozen striking workers from four different schools in the neighborhood, including youth workers, AESH workers and teachers.

Far from being servile and foolish, as the bourgeoisie would have us believe, the children showed a high level of awareness for their age. They even took part in painting the banners and placards.

Let's not be fooled: the stakes go beyond the school system. Not content with demolishing our homes and treating us like second-class citizens, the bourgeoisie is now attacking our schools, spreading ever more of its war propaganda to prepare young people to fight and to produce for its own profits. As for the Simone Veil school, they want to close two classes; yet in Toulouse, they are opening 29 'Defense' classes. These are classes that directly prepare pupils for military training and war. Of course, the underlying aim is above all to build an ideological consen-

sus around imperialist war, to make the broad masses accept everything this will entail in terms of the reorganization of production, restrictions on freedom and sacrifices.

The high cost of petrol, wars that are intensifying and multiplying, a lack of prospects, overcrowded classrooms, budget cuts... The residents of working-class neighborhoods, especially young people, experience all of this on a daily basis. Far from being isolated incidents, these are symptoms of the state's growing reactionary tendencies.

*"Reactionarization is the name given to this major process of restructuring, which is destabilizing the system and fueling the crisis: economically by dismantling labor laws; socially by impoverishing the working class; and politically by undermining the credibility of the entire political system. Reactionarization does not resolve the crisis; it deepens it and irrevocably paves the way for fascism. If this process is particularly powerful and brutal in France, it is because it is a reaction to the high level of class struggle in a country with a long revolutionary tradition, where social movements follow one after another, becoming increasingly antagonistic and, above all, political. Underlying this immense social change are the maneuvers of the French monopolies to secure positions in the struggle for the colonial redivision of the world—a struggle which forms the basis for a new imperialist war, a Third World War."<sup>5</sup>*

There is only one way to defeat this process: to organize collectively to stand united in the workplace and in working-class neighborhoods, and to take the struggle there. Working-class neighborhoods are home to the workers who keep this country running. Only when society is in the hands of the working class will we be able to prevent war and ensure fair working conditions for school staff, free, high-quality education for all our children, and a university that serves the people!

In Le Mirail, on 4 May, a clear, united and combative message was delivered to the Local Education Authority and the Town Hall. This is only the beginning of the struggle, which will continue until victory is achieved!

5. Read the article « The Quentin Case and the 1941 Path » on page 14.



◀ Photo taken after the occupation of a school in which about twenty parents (the vast majority of whom were mothers) participated. In their hands, *L'Écho des Coursives*, the newspaper of the CPES of Le Mirail.



“  
The night before his death  
Was the shortest of his life  
The thought that he still lived  
Burned the blood in his wrists  
The weight of his body sickened him  
His own strength made him groan  
It was there, at the very depth of this horror  
That he began to smile  
He had not ONE comrade  
But millions and millions  
To avenge him, this he knew  
And the day rose up for him.

— Paul Eluard, “Avis” (1944)



la Cause  
du peuple