

60 YEARS, SAFEGUARDING THE GAINS OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION pdf

1: October Revolution - Wikipedia

60 years, safeguarding the gains of the great October Revolution: Report by the Minister of Defence of the USSR at the meeting marking the 60th Army and Navy.

Marxism and war 60 years ago on September 3rd World War broke out for the second time in 25 years. The horrors of the trenches of Flanders and Mons were never supposed to be repeated again. The Great War of was meant to be the war to end all wars. Yet only 21 years later a second and still more terrifying conflict erupted. Between and 55 million were slaughtered and civilisation itself was brought to the very brink of extinction. In the second half of this century however, war appeared to be an aberration rather than the norm, at least if you lived in the advanced west. The majority of humanity, living in the gutter conditions of the third world, experienced hardly a day of peace throughout these years. But at least in the advanced industrialised capitalist countries war appeared to have become a thing of the past. Surely today civilised men and women sit around a table and negotiate themselves out of a conflict? In short, workers in the west have grown used to peace. Yet a brief study of our own history reveals that it was this temporary peace which was the aberration. In fact as the Russian anarchist Kropotkin put it a century ago, "war is the normal condition of Europe. The relatively short period of uncertain peace in international relations has dramatically ended. On a world scale we have entered a new epoch of wars, revolutions and counter-revolutions, an epoch in which ultimately the fate of humanity will be decided. The crisis of capitalism is a two-sided coin, not only private ownership of the economy, but also the division of the world into competing nation states has outlived itself. As a consequence there will be mighty battles between the classes in society and also between nation states. Such great events put every tendency, and every theory to the test. They shake society from top to bottom, they make history. In a dramatic and explosive period such as this it is necessary to go back to basics on every question if we are not to be blown off course. What attitude do Marxists take towards war? But what exactly does it mean? In reality it is an extremely profound expression which more accurately divulges the inner meaning of war than the million and one potted histories and psychological profiles which litter the bookshelves of every library. War as we all know refers to military conflict, between nations, or within nations. The "means" are obviously violent. But what "policy" is being continued? If war is merely the continuation of a policy adopted in peace time then why should we have a different attitude toward that policy in time of war? In the same vein Leon Trotsky explained that "foreign policy is an extension of home policy. The peacetime policy of capitalism is determined by their class interests, profit, privilege and prestige. This policy is continued in war, which simply carries the horrors of capitalism to their limits. We can have no confidence in the capitalist system in war any more than we can in peace. For some, even those who call themselves Marxists, the minute war breaks out, all sense flies out of the window. Apparently acknowledging the class division of society in time of peace, suddenly they rush to find one side in any conflict more progressive than another, they then wave their banners and scarves like fans at a football match, supporting their team. While thousands, or even millions die. Everything is either black or white, good or evil, and it is this empirical outlook which condemns them to sit in the camp of one reaction or another, rather than maintaining a position based on the interests of the working class. Yet we all know that these individuals, the first to clamour for a fight, would run a mile at the first sight of any real conflict. On the other hand the most pacifist of Labour leaders can become the crudest of warmongers once conflict breaks out as Labour Lefts like Ken Livingstone and Michael Foot demonstrated during the recent conflict in Kosovo. It should come as no surprise meanwhile that the Blairites, whose policy is no different to the Tories in peace time, whose home policy is based on the interests of capitalism, should maintain that same policy in war. The reformists of all shades refuse to see the class division of society and it is this that blinds them to the realities of war. Surely though the war against Hitler was a just war? We could not sit idly by and allow Hitler to slaughter his way across Europe. British and later US imperialism did not fight the Second World War because they were horrified by the ghoulish regime of the fascist madmen, any

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more than they had fought the First World War to save "poor little Belgium. In reality the Second World War was a continuation of the first, Germany required a redivision of the world. Fight Hitler Marxists were entirely in favour of fighting a war against Hitler, however [http: It was clearly in the interests of all workers to defeat Hitler, but not to prop up Churchill or the rotten system which had allowed fascism to gain power in the first place. In short Hitler is to rule Britain by proxy. But it means the abandonment of the class struggle and the subservience of British workers to their own employers. In fact we would go further than Bevan. The attempt to unite British workers behind their own ruling class in war could only have succeeded in rallying German workers behind Hitler. British workers understandably and correctly wanted to fight the fascists. The Marxists too wanted to fight Hitler, the question was which class can be trusted to lead that fight. In order to carry the war to its conclusion, to defeat Hitler, and the rotten system which had propelled him to power in the first place, it would be necessary to change the class in power. In the same way in Britain Marxists demanded that Labour break with the Tories and introduce a socialist programme. The only forces the working class can depend upon in war or peace are their own. In the war between British and German imperialism we were opposed to Hitler but we did not support any imperialist power. The position of the Soviet Union however is somewhat different. Despite the filthy lies of the Stalinists depicting him as a fascist agent, Trotsky maintained a class position in relation to the war and stood for the unconditional defence of the Soviet Union in the face of an imperialist threat, while at the same time arguing for a political revolution to overthrow the monstrous Stalinist bureaucracy. Initially, Stalin signed a pact with Hitler, once again betraying the interests of the international working class, demonstrating just how far their national and reformist degeneration had gone, a process concluded in with the dissolution of the Communist International. Soviet foreign policy had become an extension of their home policy, the defence of the position of the bureaucracy. This had nothing in common with the spotless tradition of internationalism of Lenin and Trotsky. Soviet Union When the Soviet Union entered the war in , its military firepower was actually superior to that of the Wehrmacht. To begin with Stalin paralysed his own troops by ordering them not to resist during the first 48 hours. As a result their advantage dissolved and thousands of Red Army soldiers were captured. These were what Trotsky insisted must be defended. In the end it was these gains, principally the nationalised planned economy, which saved the Soviet Union. Very rapidly, once its attention was focused on the war effort, the Soviet economy was able to build tanks and guns not only in greater quantity but also of superior quality to those of both Germany and the allies. Even in terms of planes the Soviet economy was at least able to match Germany who, remember, had the combined resources of Europe behind it. In the Second World War the superiority of planning was demonstrated not in the pages of Capital but in the language of production, even capitalist nations like Britain were forced to introduce large elements of planning into their economies. The Red Army drove the Wehrmacht all the way back to Berlin. The Second World War turned out to be a giant miscalculation by all the imperialist powers, the victory of the Soviet Union leading to the loss of half of Europe for capitalism. For Marxists, the defence of the gains of the Russian revolution was in the interests of the working class. However, to quote Nye Bevan again, "It is not enough to offer to the people of Belgium, France, and this country merely the defence of the institutions of democracy against the threat of Nazi dictatorship, because they recognise that, after all, it is that sort of democracy that brought Europe to war. They were defending nothing more profound than their material interests. Writing in Leon Trotsky pointed out that "Truly one must have an empty head to reduce antagonism and military conflicts to the struggle between fascism and democracy. Under all masks one must know how to distinguish exploiters, slave-owners and robbers. In other words for profit. That is the "policy" being continued. However left like this we would have a pretty vulgar view of war. In many cases it may be difficult to perceive the immediate economic gains to be made in a conflict. What can be seen however are the class interests which lie at the heart of all conflicts, in peace time and in war. It is these class interests with which we must concern ourselves. In wars between capitalist nations to capture markets, raw materials or spheres of influence, whether fought by major powers or, as so often today, by smaller powers acting as the proxies of greater nations, there is nothing progressive to be found.

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Such wars are reactionary on all sides. Our attitude to war cannot be determined simply by the undoubted horror of suffering and death it entails for both the civilian population and the ranks of the troops, but only by the class interests of those waging war. Marxists are irreconcilably opposed to any war waged by the capitalist ruling class. The working class has nothing to gain from capitalism in peacetime or war. Oppressed Where an oppressed nation fights against imperialism it is of course rational to support the defeat of imperialism, that is in the interests of the international workers movement. Would this not also have been the case in relation to the Falklands war? The "which side are you on" gang invariably supported Argentina on the grounds that it was a colonial country facing imperialist aggression. These people never allow reality to interfere with their clever schema. Argentina is a highly developed economy. The landowners are bourgeois not feudal barons, the vast majority live in the cities where there is a powerful centre of finance capital, and in Buenos Aires a famous stock exchange. Above all it was the social crisis in Argentina which prompted the invasion of the Falklands in an attempt to divert the anger of Argentinean workers against British imperialism rather than their own regime. The Labour leaders in Britain simply tail-ended the Tories, painting Galtieri as the aggressor and posing as the defenders of the Islanders. Although there are only around of them, the rights and interests of the Islanders have to be taken seriously. The Islands had been in British possession for years, the population was entirely English speaking and of British descent. Galtieri would probably have been unable to invade in the first place were it not for the incompetence of Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Carrington. They would probably have been willing to reach a compromise with Galtieri even after the seizure of the Islands in order to help prop up his regime. But they had forgotten the importance of prestige in international relations. If it had been in the interests of British imperialism the Islanders would have been sold out as blatantly as the people of Kosovo.

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2: Women and Capitalism

7 November, the anniversary of the October Revolution, was the official national day of the Soviet Union from onward and still is a public holiday in Belarus and the breakaway territory of Transnistria.

The great patriot of Cuba, one of the most outstanding political leaders of the second half of the 20th and early 21st centuries, died at the age of Fidel Castro is the legendary leader of the Cuban Revolution. The name of Fidel Castro is associated with truly grandiose events that shook the world in the mid-century. He was not yet 30 when he became the leader of his people fighting for their liberation. Under his leadership the Cuban patriots accomplished what seemed to be unthinkable. For the first time on the American continent, within 90 miles of the coast of the main citadel of imperialism, there appeared a state that took the course for socialism. Yes, the Cuban Revolution, the rebellious people had a great leader. Castro went down in history as a man who made an epoch, a true popular leader. His energy infected anyone who was by his side. Being the head of state, he never lost strong bonds with the people, breathing the same air with them and feeling with them. These qualities could not but earn him respect. Even his enemies recognized it. Having raised the banner of Lenin and the Great October Revolution, Fidel remained loyal to the revolution throughout his life. The tiny Island of Freedom riveted the attention of the whole progressive mankind. The Cuban people set a priceless example showing that American imperialism is not all-powerful, that the fearlessness and dedication of communists could defeat it. Those great events have long become a legend. Having taken on board the ideas of socialism, Cuba marched confidently forward. The Freedom Island gave the world a brilliant example of building a just society that guaranteed free quality education and healthcare, a high level of science and culture. The achievements of the Cuban people became the dream of common people in many countries which seemed to possess greater economic potential. The example of Cuba inspired national liberation struggles of many peoples of Asia, America and Africa. Fidel Castro and his fellow-revolutionaries came to their rescue. Cuba quickly became a moral super-power. It became a leader of the Non-Aligned Movement which included dozens of states. Cuba hosted major international fora. It became a great sporting nation which did very well at Olympic Games. His name became a symbol of revolutionary dedication, ideological and moral staunchness. It became a symbol of valiant struggle against the world order which the advocates of capitalist globalization had been seeking to impose on the Planet for decades. His life hung in the balance more than once. He survived many assassination attempts. But he continued to lead his people to the victory of the human spirit, Truth and Justice. He was bitterly hated by the American globalists and enjoyed boundless love of millions of people the world over. He was seen as a symbol of victorious battle for social justice and hope for getting rid of poverty and disfranchisement. They hoped that the country which, owing to the exploits of Fidel and his followers, was known as the Island of Freedom, was doomed to become a mediocre puppet state controlled by transnational capital. But the Island of Freedom stood its ground. It confirmed at the most difficult of times that it deserved its proud name. Cuba did not cave in to the pressure of severe economic sanctions and ceaseless political provocations of its enemies. It staunchly upheld the socialist gains even in the midst of an ocean of anti-communist lies and betrayal. In the direst of conditions it managed to preserve genuine sovereignty and safeguard the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere, which was the second most heroic deed accomplished by Fidel Castro and his supporters since the Cuban Revolution. Castro was not only an outstanding statesman, but a great thinker. Proceeding from Marxism-Leninism, he was able, amid the chaos of events, to identify key trends, quickly size up the situation and take the right decisions. Fidel had extraordinary personal charm and at the same time exceptional modesty. All his aspirations were aimed at making happy the life of ordinary Cubans who put their trust in him. He lived up to their hopes. The Soviet Union always stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Cuba in the struggle against imperialism. Fidel Castro was a great friend of the Soviet people, a loyal and courageous ally of our country. For those who lived in the USSR and those who today value justice and independence he will forever remain a close and loved person. Today,

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the example of the Cuban Communists is particularly important for Russia which has experienced a capitalist comeback. Comrade Castro has left us. Russian Communists grieve together with the Cuban people. But Fidel Castro has left behind a powerful Communist Party tested in battle and in peaceful endeavor. He left behind the Cuban people which is inspired by the brightest of ideals. He has left behind a memory in the minds and hearts of hundreds of millions of people the world over. The sun of freedom will shine over Cuba.

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3: Romania during World War I - Wikipedia

The October Revolution is one of the two historic events that took place in the Russian Revolution in ; the other was the February Revolution. The latter was born from World War I demonstrations which eventually overthrew Nicholas II.

I would like to ask you your opinion on the influence of the Great October Revolution. The October Revolution had an impact on the entire world, on all continents, on all peoples. And, of course, it had a great influence on Cuba. A few years had elapsed since the end of our wars of independence. The North American monopolies seized our fundamental resources. As a result of that, there was great frustration, great unhappiness among our people. By then, the ideas of Marx and Engels had already been disseminated in some labor and intellectual circles of our country, so the October Revolution had a great impact on our people. We can say that the immense majority of our workers, peasants and intellectuals welcomed it with great sympathy and experienced a profound solidarity with the October Revolution. This caused the awakening of a much greater interest due to social problems, increased the class struggle and the study of textbooks by Marx, Engels and Lenin and gave a great impetus to the formation of the first communist party in Cuba. That was the immediate influence. That influence remained prevalent over the years, and above all it continued following the consolidation of the revolution and the establishment of the first socialist state. It continued for decades. Thus, the vanguards, the more conscious elements of the working class and the intellectual circles were greatly inspired by the October Revolution. Because of this, we can say that the event which had the greatest influence on the Cuban revolution was precisely the glorious October Revolution. Soviet reporter begins a question and is interrupted by Castro I must add that without the October Revolution it would have been absolutely impossible to carry out the Cuban revolution some 42 years later, because the October Revolution precisely created the conditions and the historical circumstances and the correlation of forces that made the Cuban revolution possible. In other words, the process initiated by the October Revolution and which continued with the building of the first socialist state in the world—the 1, times heroic struggle of the Soviet people against imperialist aggressions and against the fascist aggression—precisely created the conditions that made the triumph of the Cuban revolution in possible. That is, the internationalist spirit with which the October Revolution came to the world had not weakened after more than 40 years, but had actually been strengthened. We are a very small country situated on this side of the Atlantic, next to the United States. The United States thought that it could easily crush the Cuban revolution, first through economic blockade measures and later on by military aggression. This was a small and underdeveloped country. They thought it was easy. This must be said. The Soviets created a market for the products which we were exporting to the United States and which the United States refused to buy. The Soviets supplied us with essential raw materials, such as machinery, fuel and foodstuffs. They supplied us the arms needed for the defense of the country. This made it possible for the Cuban revolution to survive. It was an extraordinary demonstration of internationalist spirit which in turn implanted in our people the internationalist spirit that we practice today. Because this is some sort of chain. I can truly say with the strength that facts, reality and truly provide that the relations between the Soviet Union—a large, mighty and developed country—and our country are exemplary in every sense. In all forums, everywhere in the world, we always point out these relations as an example and as the type of relations that should exist between developed and underdeveloped countries. We have no complaints about the manner in which these relations have developed and which today, after nearly 20 years of revolution, have been extraordinarily consolidated. I believe this will remain in the history books as an example of internationalism and of the relations that should exist between peoples. I would like to ask you to say something about the influence of the Great October Revolution with respect to the world revolutionary movement. It has had a really decisive influence. It is impossible to say in just a few minutes what the October Revolution has meant for the world. Without the October Revolution, fascism and imperialism would have dominated the world for a long period of time. Without the October Revolution, this colossal movement of

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national liberation, which put an end to colonialism and brought independence to nearly new nations of the world, would not have been initiated. Without the October Revolution, it would have been impossible for countries like Cuba, isolated in this hemisphere, to carry out a socialist revolution. It would have been impossible for countries like Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Vietnam and many others to find themselves today building socialism. Without the October Revolution, mankind would have never been able to hope for peace, because capitalism and imperialism were characterized by wars of exploitation and by the division of the world to serve their own interests. It must be said that, following the October Revolution, the consolidation of the Soviet state and the defeat of fascism, for the first time ever in the history of mankind those wars of exploitation ended and a true possibility of attaining peace was created. Thus, we can say that without the October Revolution today there would be not even the slightest possibility of survival for mankind. I would like to ask you to say something to the Soviet people on this anniversary. First of all, we would like to say that even though all countries have their own national commemorations, the glorious date of the October Revolution is a universal commemoration. That is why in our country, as in the rest of the world, the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution has been commemorated with the greatest enthusiasm and joy. All civilizations have in all eras great dates. The Western Christian civilization has traditional dates such as Christmas. For us, the socialist civilization, the phase of the era of socialism has its great date every year and every 10 years, and in the future not only will it be every year and every 10 years but also centennial, and that is the October Revolution. To the Soviets, we wish to convey at this time all our admiration, our love, our sympathy, our recognition and our joy in their successes. We wish to congratulate the Soviet people on the extraordinary advances attained in recent years, for their constitution, their new constitution, which is the most perfect, the most just, the most advanced of all constitutions of the world. Never before in the history of the world has any human community attained the successes of the Soviet people in such a brief period of time. The Soviet Union is the bulwark of science, of social progress, of the egalitarian and just society, that marches "we can say rapidly" toward the elimination of classes, toward communism, as established by the constitution, which is the highest aspiration of the human society. There still remain serious problems in the world, such as the fundamental and essential problem of safeguarding peace, for which the Soviet state has struggled greatly and to which our beloved Comrade Leonid Brezhnev has devoted his great energy. There are problems related to a large part of the world which is poor, suffering from hunger, illiterate, underdeveloped. There are peoples still struggling for liberation. There still remain problems and tensions that should be overcome. But what has been attained in these 60 years gives us faith, optimism and enthusiasm in the struggle and the confident and secure feeling that the human society will be capable of overcoming these obstacles and that, despite reactionary forces and imperialism, justice, equality, fraternity among men and communism will win. Mankind will owe an eternal debt of gratitude to the October Revolution, Lenin and the Soviet people.

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4: November Trade Ideas. The Great Catalan October Revolution - Online broker AMarkets

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia, which is a landmark event in the world's history. For years since the October Revolution, and.

Developments in Catalonia have finally triggered some volatility, but this is not a systemic disruption. The ECB is leaning to the dovish side which has finally pushed the euro lower. The Fed is on track for another rate hike this year. The new chair debate is of a muted importance. EM currencies are in the middle of a corrective move lower, yet now reversal here just yet. The market has run out of its patience on Catalonia. After ignoring the issue for a whole month, investors have finally woken up to the regional risk. While we do not believe it will balloon into a problem like Greece back in , there are disturbing signs. The main reason for concern is the extremely strained relationship between Madrid and Barcelona. Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy has responded to the Catalan referendum in a very aggressive manner. Of course, this had to be the hardball politics. The developments will be important to the market, but not disruptive. Should the standoff continue, volatility is going to remain heightened my modern terms , and the Spanish debt market might fall under some limited pressure. But we do not believe this will be a major issue though, for two reasons. First, the European Commission has stated that Madrid is the only partner for any dialogue. This means that a theoretically independent Catalonia will immediately be out of the EU and the eurozone. This is not exactly the will of the people, and the aim of the uprising. This is also the principal difference to the Greece situation: Spain is not going anywhere, the problem is localized to a single region, albeit a large one. Second, the monetary policy of the ECB is set to remain highly accommodative. Balance sheet expansion will continue through next September at the pace of 30 bln euro per month. Apparently, Mario Draghi has decided to fully utilize all the spare capacity. Purchasing bln worth of paper over the course of implies that the ECB will have bought all the debt that was eligible. During the press conference, Mr. Constancio both specifically stressed that the reinvestments will run long after that. Just as a reminder, the ECB entirely absorbed corporate bond issuance this year, and bought a little more debt than the companies issued. The picture is similar for the government paper. Under this environment, it is highly unlikely that we are going to see any spread widening. And Madrid will become the main beneficiary of the QE. Certainly, had there been no central bank buying, Spanish debt would have already suffered quite a bit, and we would be seeing entirely different yields across the curve and probably across peripheral markets. The speculation would be that without Catalonia the central government might not have enough budget revenues to pay off its debts. Yet the printing press is up and running, and speculative shorting in this market is useless. One way where we do see the influence is the EUR. And once foreigners sell the paper, they are normally converting all the proceeds into other currencies, chiefly into the dollar. The euro is already seeing some selling pressure. We have long expected the FX to converge with the rates market. The combination of a dovish ECB and a resurgent Catalonia is a good reason for the EUR to return to lower levels, where it really belongs. The other major issue is the Fed chair succession. The White House has communicated that the candidate will be announced this week this has not happened at the moment of writing , before president Trump leaves for his Asian tour. The market views Jerome Powell as the likeliest successor, and we would generally agree. Also, to our judgment, Kevin Warsh has a much better chance than betting markets currently suggest. Admittedly, there were reports that he had dropped out of the race, but this information remains unconfirmed. Lastly, there are numerous reasons to believe that Janet Yellen will not continue her tenure. All of them are hawks, with John Taylor leading the pack. The risk is that the new head will push for ever faster policy normalization. But there is another fact of a truly outstanding importance: The only president that appointed more people to the Fed was Woodrow Wilson, who actually signed the Federal Reserve Act in . Because of the latest resignations and previous vacancies, Trump now can fill four seats on the Board, out of seven existing. So the truly significant question is who will be picked for these slots. A faster QE unwind or aggressive rate hikes can be damaging to the markets once economic background is not as

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stellar. Also, USD shortages in the global system have been occurring over the past 3 years. So far this had to do with the changes in banking regulations after the crisis. However, if the FOMC turns excessively hawkish next year, it might add to dollar supply issues, and therefore, trigger dollar appreciation. The theme of the FOMC succession is going to be more important near-term than the actual Fed meeting. It is taking place this week, and likely to prove quite boring. The next move on the rates will most probably occur in December, once the committee has more information on how balance sheet wind down affects markets. Strategically it would be wise to wait until longer-term yields shift higher before pushing up the short end of the curve. The governors will want to avoid yield curve inversion as it dramatically alters incentives of the financial sector. Also, the phenomenon has historically served as the flashing sign that always indicated an upcoming recession, and the Fed wants to be very careful when it comes to market expectations under ZIRP. Beyond the Fed and the ECB or the dollar and the euro, the world has not really changed much. Emerging market currencies finally went into a localized corrective mode, which was long overdue. We expect this to be a mild and very slow drift down. The main cause that is keeping investors away from risk is short-term uncertainty surrounding Spain and the Fed. These could have been ignored, say, two years ago. But EM assets have gone a long way up and are currently trading at very rich levels. The trade-off between risk and potential gains is keeping real money at bay. Once prices correct lower buyers are very likely to return. One significant change that occurred last month was the shift in the Bank of Russia policy stance. BoR announced that it was moving from moderately tight to neutral monetary policy. From the practical view point this means that the terminal rate might prove lower than previously thought, and that market yields are firmly headed south. If the central bank remains in a mode of slow successive cuts of 25 bp, this nearly guarantees a low-volatility regime for the rouble. Even if some capital outflow occurs, most foreign investors will want to hold onto their existing RUB positions. They are also willing to keep the exposure in the face of potential introduction of further sanctions. If one assumes the toughest scenario – a complete ban on investing in the Russian government debt, it makes sense to preserve the portfolio in its current shape and volume. It is one of the safest and yielding much higher than most other assets. And there is the option to hold onto your paper, as any sanctions would only affect new bond issues and new investments. In the commodities universe we are still witnessing firm demand. As October was approaching its end, the demand shifted from industrial metals complex to the energy sector, and primarily oil. In previous editions of this publication on several occasions we mentioned the historical relationship between copper and crude. Last but not the least, a few words on the current market dear – the cryptocurrencies. The segment survived through October without any major events, and generally keeps on going up. Earlier we gave our estimates as to how high this is going, and there is clearly space for this bubble to balloon. But this party will not last, and we keep on warning our valued customers to lock in any profits and put their greed to rest. We will sell bounces into the 1. The euro has finally peaked and went into a full-speed corrective mode. The main driver behind this development is the fundamental deviation of the exchange rate from its equilibrium levels. In practice, this means that the difference between U. Analysts at Goldman Sachs have done an excellent job on studying historical relationship between rates and FX, and we strongly recommend those interested to get familiar with the research. We simply want to point out that the news flow was rather what pushed the EUR over the tipping point, but not a real issue for the common currency. Once the market balances out, the Spanish theme will fade away, and speculations on eventual ECB policy tightening shall resurface. The price activity will then be indicative of whether the underlying uptrend has chances to reemerge. Canadian dollar has performed quite poorly. The loonie has basically acted as a regular EM currency pressurized by the strength of the U. Generally, however, current developments go against normal price activity, and we expect them to reverse. Fundamentally, levels slightly below 1. Another advantage of getting exposure to the loonie is a very tight stop with a fairly remote target. Just like the Canadian dollar, the Russian ruble has massively underperformed, and been completely ignorant to the strong rally in crude. The currency is poised to regain part of the ground, unless oil prices retrace lower. A barrel of oil is currently worth around rubles, which is nearly two standard deviations above the mean calculated using

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data from to present.

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5: Castro on the October Revolution –“ Seventeen Moments in Soviet History

Marxist, XXXIII, 4, October-December Vera Polycarpou. The th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. This year progressive humanity is honouring in a special way the th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which, with its dynamism and example, shook the world, ushering a new era for Humanity; an era that was marked by the overcoming of capitalist.

Over a span of fifty-two months, from August to November , some 65 million men were mobilized; of those, over 8 million were killed and another 21 million wounded. At the same time, whole societies were in turmoil. In Germany sailors and soldiers mutinied, while massive strikes broke out, ranging from Berlin to Vienna, from Paris to Brussels to Glasgow, and stretching across the Atlantic to Chicago, San Francisco, and Canada. The other major powers across Europe were monarchies of one kind or another. In contrast, by , eleven states filled the territories previously controlled by the Romanovs, the Habsburgs, and the Hohenzollerns. The former areas of the Ottoman Empire were soon placed under mandates by Britain and France; the remaining Turkish heartland forged the new nation of Turkey through war. One more monarchy would appear during the interwar period, Albania , while other states devolved from fragile democracies into reactionary dictatorships. Revolutionary movements during World War I took a number of different forms, but were united by the common desire to overthrow an existing government or social order in favor of a wholly new system or set of relationships. One can identify political revolutions that created new governments, national revolutions that created, liberated, or reshaped existing countries, and social or cultural revolutions that fundamentally transformed social and cultural relationships. National and political revolutions may occur quickly and violently to create new nations and political structures, while social and cultural revolutions can more slowly transform entire societies. This approach utilized detailed descriptions of the stages of revolutions, but did not offer an explanatory model of how and why revolutions occurred. A second wave of more general theories emerged in the s and s, as scholars attempted to apply social psychology models to the problem of revolutions. These scholars analyzed the social and political structures, class-based movements, and revolutionary ideologies behind revolutions. During the s and s, new studies emerged that analyzed anti-colonial movements, guerilla wars, popular mobilizations, and the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Yet these movements still had discernible common traits, such as: Thus, a fourth generation theory would recognize that political stability is inherently fragile. It focuses on the factors and conditions that cause instability. A revolution is perceived to completely transform economic, social, or political institutions, and need not necessarily be violent. Revolutions can also fail, even after initial victories that prove to be temporary or widespread support that fails to secure power in an enduring sense. Revolutions are typically the result of widespread frustration with the existing social or political order, particularly during and after the turmoil of war. When examining the consequences of World War I, one of the questions that is most striking revolves around the issue of how, in most cases, order and stability was restored and extended revolutionary change averted. More pointedly, why did some countries tip over into a socialist or communist revolution, at least regionally, while others did not? What factors contributed to the forces of revolution and counterrevolution in European countries, both among the victorious as well as the defeated powers? The revolutionary movements generated by the war gave rise to a communist regime in Russia. In France, Bulgaria , Austria, Hungary, Germany, Italy, Greece , and Turkey, revolutionary pressures threatened to topple regimes, but in each case, moderate, conservative, or reactionary forces prevailed in the revolutionary struggle, even in cases where those forces still had political demands and aspirations of their own. This article will examine the revolutionary movements that appeared in these countries as a consequence of the war. It will offer some comparative conclusions for the relative success or failure of nation-states and the revolutionary waves that affected them. By February , military commanders in Russia concluded that morale among their troops had collapsed and the rates of desertion made entire units unreliable. In Moscow and Petrograd, the home front

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was descending into outright rebellion. In March , a series of bread riots exploded into mass revolt, as police and army forces joined workers and peasants in the streets, demanding an end to the war and to tsarist rule. A Provisional Government of civil servants and moderates was formed, and they pursued a path toward constitutional democracy. Similar Soviets sprang up within the Russian army, in other cities and towns, and even among the peasantry. Within the Provisional Government, Alexander Kerensky played a unique role. A German counterattack to the north fully broke the Russian defenses, as entire units deserted and fled the pursuing German forces. By September , the Germans had taken the city of Riga, further discrediting the Provisional Government. By October November by the western calendar , Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin now believed the time was right to strike the revolutionary blow and deliver three key demands to the Russian people: Peace, Land, and Bread. In just eight months, Russia had transitioned from tsarist rule to a provisional limited constitutional government, then to a full-scale communist revolution. Lenin sought an armistice with Germany immediately, and peace negotiations began at Brest-Litovsk in December German peace terms for Russia were harsh, demanding the former areas of Poland and retaining influence in the Baltic states. German goals for territorial expansion overlapped with national independence movements that emerged in former Russian provinces. When the Bolsheviks finally admitted defeat in March , German demands were punishing. The British and the French deployed some 24, men to secure the northern Russian ports of Murmansk and Archangel, while some 40, former Austro-Hungarian Czech soldiers interned in Siberia and eager to fight for Czech independence revolted against their captors and took control of the trans-Siberian railroad. The Japanese took full advantage of the situation, sending 72, troops with the intention of solidifying their holdings in China, while American forces numbered roughly 7, The Bolsheviks were able to engage multiple disparate opponents. In order to prevent any counterrevolutionary unity, Lenin ordered the execution of the tsar and his family in July During the first months of the Russian Civil War , both the Germans and the Allies fought against the Red Army and supported the White forces. After the armistice of November , the ensuing Paris Peace Conference negotiations forced the Germans to relinquish nearly all of their gains from Brest-Litovsk, sacrificing territory to recreate a Polish state as well as ceding territory to newly created Czechoslovakia. Emboldened by the continuing civil war in Russia, Polish leader Jozef Pilsudski launched a series of attacks against the Soviet Union , beginning in April and quickly exploiting their early successes. Pilsudski dreamed of restoring the lost Polish empire, which had once controlled much of western Russia. In June , Red Army forces mobilized against the Poles, retaking Kiev and forcing the Poles to retreat back across their own border. By August , Red Army forces threatened Warsaw. In a surprise counterattack planned with French advisors , Polish forces broke through Soviet lines, provoking a panicked retreat by Soviet troops. Soon, however, both sides were exhausted after seven months of intense fighting and concluded a ceasefire in November Poland would gain new territory at the expense of the Soviets, and the new eastern border was established some to kilometers east of Warsaw with the Peace of Riga 18 March Millions more died from disease, famine, brutality, and dislocation in the wake of the destruction. Smaller regions, such as Uzbekistan, Turkestan, and Kazakhstan, would come into the Soviet orbit by Should losses continue at the rate the French suffered in , the French army could potentially be on the verge of collapse by fall The German attack began on 21 February , with mass artillery bombardments, overwhelming numbers of German troops, aircraft , poison gas , grenades , and flamethrowers. French casualties totaled , men, while the Germans lost , over ten months of fighting. French morale was at its lowest point since Yet his achievements at Verdun and the personal support of then Commander in Chief Joseph Joffre helped to propel him into the assignment. From the outset, the plan was overly ambitious, setting bold goals for its initial objectives, without factoring in the geography or allowing for flexibility in achieving them. German forces had a clear warning of the coming attack through aerial reconnaissance. They had also captured a sergeant carrying orders that included summaries of the French attack; despite learning of this setback, Nivelle refused to revise his strategy. Reality told a different story: Yet over those same four days, French casualties numbered , 40, on the first day , and failed to capture the Chemin des Dames. Despite these setbacks, Nivelle continued to pour more men into an increasingly

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desperate situation. The battle was called off on 9 May ; total gains for the French were less than two miles. On only the second day of the battle, troops refused to obey orders to advance. During the attack and through its conclusion, twenty-six separate incidents were reported, but most were confined to small numbers of soldiers. The scale of the mutinies expanded, but they were primarily confined to May and June. A third and most volatile phase lasted from 1 to 6 June , characterized by violence and threats to end the war by desertion and flight to Paris. These two phases were in reaction to continued small-scale attacks to solidify French positions after the formal offensive was called off. In this period, 30, to 40, French soldiers were actively mutinous. Judicial courts-martial of targeted key offenders defused the most outspoken resistance. The French army as a whole conducted no further major offensives in . Of the death sentences meted out to French soldiers, only forty-nine were executed. Addressing the legitimate grievances of the men, particularly through the intervention of junior officers, allowed the time and space for morale to begin to recover. Furthermore, despite incidents that affected nearly half of the divisions in the French army, only 3, soldiers were convicted for offenses by courts-martial. By the end of the Nivelle offensive, French forces had lost nearly three-quarters of their entire number of war casualties. While this huge victory helped to buoy French morale, the absence of American soldiers in large numbers was still a concern. As of January , only , American troops had even crossed the Atlantic and arrived in France. Harvests were faltering by . The entire population was increasingly dependent upon aid from Germany. By August , Bulgarian forces were poorly equipped and had been abandoned by their allies, Germany and Austria-Hungary – both facing increasingly desperate circumstances themselves. Over a period of weeks, Allied forces used cables, winches, and tractors to move up hundreds of artillery pieces into the mountains overlooking Bulgarian positions. Serbian, French, and Greek units broke through Bulgarian defenses using flamethrowers and grenades. They advanced thirty kilometers in three days. British and Greek divisions flanked Bulgarian positions, forcing the Bulgarians to retreat or desert under threat of Allied shellfire and strafing planes. Others deserted, but a valiant defense was made for a short time at Lake Dorian, where the British and Greeks suffered 7, casualties to the 2, Bulgarian casualties before the German commander Friedrich von Scholz ordered a tactical retreat. That decision broke the back of Bulgarian morale. The defenders were forced to give up their strong position and abandon much-needed supplies. The last resistance to Allied attacks turned out to be an isolated German unit at Skopje. Deserting Bulgarian soldiers took what supplies they could; one band of mutinous deserters even attacked the German headquarters. The first soviets councils of soldiers and workers began forming in Bulgarian cities on 23 September. In the capital, Sofia, open rebellion was only checked by a German division sent from Russia. Once the armistice was signed, Bulgarian forces were demobilized. All foreign troops had to surrender or leave the country.

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6: Marxism and war

Home» » Third World Friendships» Third World Friendships Texts» Castro on the October Revolution Castro on the October Revolution Fidel Castro, Soviet Television Interview on the Occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the October Revolution.

November 7, [Question] Comrade Commander: I would like to ask you your opinion on the influence of the Great October Revolution. And, of course, it had a great influence on Cuba. A few years had elapsed since the end of our wars of independence. The North American monopolies seized our fundamental resources. As a result of that, there was great frustration, great unhappiness among our people. By then, the ideas of Marx and Engels had already been disseminated in some labor and intellectual circles of our country, so the October Revolution had a great impact on our people. We can say that the immense majority of our workers, peasants and intellectuals welcomed it with great sympathy and experienced a profound solidarity with the October Revolution. This caused the awakening of a much greater interest due to social problems, increased the class struggle and the study of textbooks by Marx, Engels and Lenin and gave a great impetus to the formation of the first communist party in Cuba. That was the immediate influence. That influence remained prevalent over the years, and above all it continued following the consolidation of the revolution and the establishment of the first socialist state. It continued for decades. Thus, the vanguards, the more conscious elements of the working class and the intellectual circles were greatly inspired by the October Revolution. Because of this, we can say that the event which had the greatest influence on the Cuban revolution was precisely the glorious October Revolution. In other words, the process initiated by the October Revolution and which continued with the building of the first socialist state in the world—the 1, times heroic struggle of the Soviet people against imperialist aggressions and against the fascist aggression—precisely created the conditions that made the triumph of the Cuban revolution in possible. That is, the internationalist spirit with which the October Revolution came to the world had not weakened after more than 40 years, but had actually been strengthened. We are a very small country situated on this side of the Atlantic, next to the United States. The United States thought that it could easily crush the Cuban revolution, first through economic blockade measures and later on by military aggression. This was a small and underdeveloped country. They thought it was easy. This must be said. The Soviets created a market for the products which we were exporting to the United States and which the United States refused to buy. The Soviets supplied us with essential raw materials, such as machinery, fuel and foodstuffs. They supplied us the arms needed for the defense of the country. This made it possible for the Cuban revolution to survive. It was an extraordinary demonstration of internationalist spirit which in turn implanted in our people the internationalist spirit that we practice today. Because this is some sort of chain. I can truly say with the strength that facts, reality and truly provide that the relations between the Soviet Union—a large, mighty and developed country—and our country are exemplary in every sense. In all forums, everywhere in the world, we always point out these relations as an example and as the type of relations that should exist between developed and underdeveloped countries. We have no complaints about the manner in which these relations have developed and which today, after nearly 20 years of revolution, have been extraordinarily consolidated. I believe this will remain in the history books as an example of internationalism and of the relations that should exist between peoples. It is impossible to say in just a few minutes what the October Revolution has meant for the world. Without the October Revolution, fascism and imperialism would have dominated the world for a long period of time. Without the October Revolution, this colossal movement of national liberation, which put an end to colonialism and brought independence to nearly new nations of the world, would not have been initiated. Without the October Revolution, it would have been impossible for countries like Cuba, isolated in this hemisphere, to carry out a socialist revolution. It would have been impossible for countries like Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Vietnam and many others to find themselves today building socialism. Without the October Revolution, mankind would have never been able to

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hope for peace, because capitalism and imperialism were characterized by wars of exploitation and by the division of the world to serve their own interests. It must be said that, following the October Revolution, the consolidation of the Soviet state and the defeat of fascism, for the first time ever in the history of mankind those wars of exploitation ended and a true possibility of attaining peace was created. Thus, we can say that without the October Revolution today there would be not even the slightest possibility of survival for mankind. That is why in our country, as in the rest of the world, the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution has been commemorated with the greatest enthusiasm and joy. All civilizations have in all eras great dates. The Western Christian civilization has traditional dates such as Christmas. For us, the socialist civilization, the phase of the era of socialism has its great date every year and every 10 years, and in the future not only will it be every year and every 10 years but also centennial, and that is the October Revolution. To the Soviets, we wish to convey at this time all our admiration, our love, our sympathy, our recognition and our joy in their successes. We wish to congratulate the Soviet people on the extraordinary advances attained in recent years, for their constitution, their new constitution, which is the most perfect, the most just, the most advanced of all constitutions of the world. Never before in the history of the world has any human community attained the successes of the Soviet people in such a brief period of time. The Soviet Union is the bulwark of science, of social progress, of the egalitarian and just society, that marchesâ€”we can say rapidlyâ€”toward the elimination of classes, toward communism, as established by the constitution, which is the highest aspiration of the human society. There still remain serious problems in the world, such as the fundamental and essential problem of safeguarding peace, for which the Soviet state has struggled greatly and to which our beloved Comrade Leonald Ilich Brezhnev has devoted his great energy. There are problems related to a large part of the world which is poor, suffering from hunger, illiterate, underdeveloped. There are peoples still struggling for liberation. There still remain problems and tensions that should be overcome. But what has been attained in these 60 years gives us faith, optimism and enthusiasm in the struggle and the confident and secure feeling that the human society will be capable of overcoming these obstacles and that, despite reactionary forces and imperialism, justice, equality, fraternity among men and communism will win. An mankind will owe an eternal debt of gratitude to the October Revolution, Lenin and the Soviet people.

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7: Cuba Celebrates the Great October Socialist Revolution | News | teleSUR English

"on raising the standard of living of the toiling people and carrying out a cultural revolution" ("On the Preparation for the 50th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution." Resolution of the Central Committee of the CPSU of Jan. 4, , pp.).

Barbara Humphries gives a brief outline of the position of women at work over the past years. The capitalist class have always had the policy of "divide and rule", on grounds of race or sex, in order to more successfully exploit the working class as a whole. Industrialisation has brought a hard and fast division of labour between home and work. In the days of the hand-loom spinner or weaver home and work had been one and the same place. This was seen during the years of the industrial revolution in Britain in the 19th century, and has been repeated all over the world. This division between home and work intensified the division of labour between men and women. At the same time however women had to work outside the home to maintain the family income. They were seen by employers as a source of cheap labour and a reserve supply of labour which could be called upon when male labour was scarce or needed elsewhere, such as during war time. Women were encouraged to work during boom times when employers needed them. When the onset of a recession occurred there were demands for women to be returned to the home and for jobs to be given to men. We have seen these familiar patterns in recent years. During the years of Tory government in times of economic downturn their party canvassed the idea of a "family wage" to be paid to male workers who would support their wives. Today, whilst the economy in Britain is still vibrant with falling unemployment the "New Labour" government has been especially keen to encourage women to work, offering beneficial terms for child care and the working families tax credit, whilst cutting benefits to lone parents who are not working. Historically this division of labour has had several implications for the working class and its organisations. Firstly the loyalty of working class women was at times to be divided between home and the struggle for better wages at work. In pre industrial times class struggle had involved women in direct action against the local landlord, parish or squire to protest about the price of bread, for example. Rioting brought immediate gains such as helping yourself to a loaf of bread, but a strike could mean sacrifice and hardship in the short term. This particularly affected women who had the responsibility for feeding the family. Secondly women who were prepared to work for lower wages than men were seen by some as a threat to their jobs and wages. Some male workers were to mistakenly see the solution as the "family wage" and the exclusion of women from the workforce rather than taking up the fight for the rate for the job. Integrating women into the trades union movement was a problem where women were actually doing different types of work. Then the main source of employment was domestic service or the cotton mills. In Britain today most women work in offices and the service sector. Rates of pay are often lower. Worldwide, in Asia and Latin America women are employed in factories in conditions which would compare with conditions in 19th century Europe before the growth of the trades union movement and factory legislation. Women in the workplace Women have had a central place in the workplace. For working class women this time was only in the days of cottage industries when work and home were one and the same place. Historically middle and upper class women did not have to work to support themselves a situation which has now dramatically changed for so-called middle class women and is part and parcel of the proletarianisation of the middle class! Working class women have always been drawn through financial necessity into the workforce at regular intervals in their lives. That is why the struggles of working women have always been tied up with the struggles of the working class as a whole. It was amongst middle class women, frustrated at their isolation from society, their dependence upon their husbands, that the ideas of "bourgeois feminism" took root. Some of the women who led the suffragette movement for instance mainly wanted equality with their husbands whose emancipation was complete. Working class women had the task of fighting for the emancipation of their class as well as their own emancipation as women. Over the past decades patterns of work have changed throughout the world and the workplace has become "feminised",

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according to current opinion. This should be looked at in historical perspective. Women working is not a new phenomenon. But the changing nature of work has meant that women employees are regarded as just as suitable as men, and in many cases more flexible. Part time employment is profitable for the bosses as it may suit women who have to juggle home and work with inadequate childcare facilities. Due to smaller families women are actually available for employment for most of their lives. Possibly this has meant a change for middle class women for whom work was seen as "not respectable" except as a stop-gap until they got married. It was a sense of pride for middle class men, and indeed some skilled workers that their "wives did not have to work". Now women in professional and white-collar jobs are mainly working out of financial necessity - in spite of their portrayal as career obsessed yuppies, who do not want to take care of their babies. The industrial revolution Before the advent of the industrial revolution industry was carried out on a craft basis, in the home. The industrial revolution changed that pattern. Weaving and spinning were taken out of the home and into the factory. The wages of handloom weavers were so depressed that they were "forced" to take work in these new factories where they were subjected to discipline of the harshest kind. Having had some control over their workplace they were now at the beck and call of the capitalist. New towns grew up alongside the factories, where housing conditions were atrocious, overcrowded and without sanitation. Hours of work for all the family destroyed home life for the working class. Such was the hypocrisy of the ruling class in relation to "family values". We see the same hypocrisy today in relation to long hours and increased pressure to work unsocial hours. In the early days of the industrial revolution women and children were recruited to work in the coal mines. This again reflected the hypocrisy of the ruling class in relation to the "so-called fair sex". An observer at the Whitehaven mine in Cumbria in had this to say of the women he saw at work: Women were used initially in the mines for jobs where it was not necessary to employ a man. They carried buckets of coal on their backs. These women suffered deformities to their legs, backs and suffered from stomach and lung complaints. When they fell pregnant they faced dire complications. In the employment of women in the mines in Britain was finally made illegal. In the employment of women was limited to 10 hours a day. This was supported by the trades union movement as a step towards the universal 10 hour day for all workers. Needless to say many employers resisted this and got round it by the introduction of shift working. Second to domestic service the main employer of women in the 19th century was the textile industry. The new textile mills employed mainly women and youth. In the s between one third and one half of the workforce was under Women formed nearly half the workforce in the mills doing the unskilled weaving and spinning jobs. The skilled jobs were reserved for men. Craft unions of spinners excluded the mass of unskilled women workers who were seen as a means of depressing wages. Conditions of work produced deformities. Mothers fearful of losing their jobs returned to the mill three weeks after giving birth and in some cases babies were brought in to the mill and had to be fed when the mother could take a break. Some women worked in the mills up to childbirth giving birth in the mills, and older children left at home might be dosed with opium to keep them quiet. Poor ventilation, long hours and constant standing took its toll on these women workers. However women working in the mills had a new status as breadwinners and gained independence. Worthies of the establishment complained of the "declining morals of factory girls". Women workers became radicalised, and took part in political movements such as Chartism, and the trades unions which were set up by the socialists who supported Robert Owen. Apart from textiles women worked in a whole variety of trades - lacemaking, metal, jute, book-binding and chainmaking in the 19th century. World War 1 saw a massive increase in the employment of women. The capitalist class in all major European countries drew on women workers to replace the men who were at the front. On the eve of World War 1 domestic service employed over one fifth of working women. Now that was set to change with women encouraged to work in the munitions plants, often in the most dangerous of conditions and of course for lower wages than would have been paid to men. In the munitions plants however speed ups were introduced to increase exploitation. This presented a major challenge to the trades union movement. Faced with the impossibility of excluding these women from the workforce the trades unions had to take up the challenge of "fighting for the rate for the job". Best efforts were

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made by the rank and file shops stewards movement on Clydeside and Sheffield and other centres of the engineering industry. Soon the metal industry and the machine tool industry were only employing women. Nearly all laws for the protection of women workers, such as the ban on night work were abandoned during the war. Employers made enormous profits out of the labour of women. Women were paid lower wages than men. It was these levels of exploitation which fuelled anti-war demonstrations in Germany in which women took part. Women were being squeezed at work and at home as they tried to feed families on poverty wages. After the war women did not want to go back to the home, or to domestic service. The high levels of unemployment in the s and s had the effect of discouraging women from working and there was a drive by governments to get women out of the workforce again. The "not genuinely seeking work clause" of one of the unemployment acts, like workfare today was used to force women to take jobs in domestic service as it was also used to force men to accept unpopular and low paid jobs. If these jobs were refused you would lose your unemployment benefit. In Nazi Germany in the s women were being physically displaced from their jobs and replaced by men. Women in Germany and Austria had borne the brunt of mass unemployment caused by the crisis. Women were under insured so also lost unemployment benefits. Even the traditional organisations of the working class, such as the unions and the social democratic parties failed to protect women and their right to work. Women employees in government were the first to be asked to vacate their jobs.

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8: November | | Official website of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation

The graph shows China's grain production during the Five-Year Plan and the Great Leap Forward. Based on the graph, what conclusion best describes grain production during the Great Leap Forward from ?

The full text of his speech is as follows: As Vladimir Lenin said, "the farther that great day recedes from us, the more clearly we see the significance of the proletarian revolution in Russia, and the more deeply we reflect upon the practical experience of our work as a whole. By absorbing power and wisdoms from the past, we can better uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Just now, a launch ceremony was held for the revised and expanded version of the second edition of the Collected Works of Lenin. Containing extensive and definitive notes on Marxism and Leninism, the books are the most reliable documents we can refer to when studying the October Revolution. The speeches by the comrades before me at the symposium were very thought-provoking, with insightful views and supported by historical details. From hypothesis to science, and from scientific theory to established systems, socialism has evolved for centuries. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels created the materialist conception of history and the theory of surplus value, based on which they developed socialism thoughts. Thanks to their efforts, socialism managed to transform from hypothesis to science, thus was able to offer us scientific theoretical guidance and guide to action for building a communist society that is free of exploitation and oppression. Scientific socialism tells us that capitalism will inevitably give way to socialism, as this is an objective law of social development. Under the guidance of Marxism, worldwide proletarians and working people have done their utmost to build a socialist society. When, at what date and time, and the proletarians of which nation will complete this process is not important. The important thing is that the ice has been broken, the road is open, and the way has been shown. Acting as a lighthouse, it has guided the following generations of proletarians towards a new era of glorious revolutions. The October Revolution turned socialism from an ideal into reality, from theory to practice. Understanding clearly the new characteristics in the development of capitalism in the imperialist age, Vladimir Lenin integrated the basic principles of Marxism with the specific situation facing the Russian Revolution to create Leninism. Led by Lenin and the Bolshevik Party, the Russian people were able to convert the bourgeois democratic revolution into a true socialist revolution. Through armed struggle and breaking up the old bourgeois state apparatus, they achieved the earthshaking victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and established the Soviet system dominated by the dictatorship of the proletariat. As Lenin said, "the Soviet system is a proof or a demonstration of how one revolution could develop into another. A socialist state was established for the first time in human history whereby socialism was translated from a theory into an actual social system. Thereafter, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led the people to give full play to the advantages inherent in the socialist economic, political and cultural system, and launched an unprecedented modern mode of governance previously unknown in world history. During the World War II, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics relied on its strong national strength to defeat the fascist threat posed by Germany, Italy and Japan, together with its allies, contributing greatly to the victory in the worldwide struggle against Fascism and peace and progress of humankind. The epoch-making historical feat of the October Revolution and the major achievements of the Soviet socialism system cannot be negated by dissolution of the Soviet Union. The reasons behind the Soviet breakup are many, including rigidity and conservatism; yet, the root cause was its turning away from Marxism-Leninism and from the socialist path created by the October Revolution. The October Revolution ushered in a new epoch in human history. Since primitive society, the evolution of social morphology and change of social system involved the replacement of one exploiting society by another with a new ruling exploiting class. The October Revolution put an end to the system of human exploitation and oppression and overthrew the rule by the exploiting class. A society without exploitation and oppression, and a social system with the people as the masters of the country, were established. From then on, socialism entered an historical stage as a brand new social morphology and social

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system, greatly influencing the developmental direction of human society. Under the influence of the October Revolution, socialism became an important choice for many countries to gain national independence, liberation and development. Socialism became the backbone for safeguarding world peace and development. It accelerated the worldwide disintegration of the colonial system created by imperialism, and altered the composition of international power and the world structure. Because of the increasingly manifested superiority of the world socialist movement and the socialist system, many capitalist countries had to make constant adjustments in their ruling strategy and seek improvement through the introduction of some measures from the socialist system so as to mitigate the increasingly sharp basic contradictions in the capitalist system. After the First Opium War, China was gradually reduced to a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society and the Chinese nation was plunged into deep suffering. Countless patriots and righteous people in China tested various doctrines and thoughts in order to find the right way to save the country and its people, but all their efforts ended in vain. Since then, by using the ideals, viewpoints and methods of Marxism-Leninism, they gradually recognized the development trend of the human society, saw clearly the reality that the imperialists were carving up the world and oppressing China, and therefore got a clear understanding of the nature of the Chinese society and the goal of the Chinese revolution. In the end, they finally sought out the fundamental solution to saving the nation in peril – the path of socialism which was opened up by the October Revolution. Comrade Mao Zedong deeply pointed out: Follow the path of the Russians -- that was their conclusion. As a result, the Chinese revolution has since then taken on an entirely new look. Under the strong leadership of the CPC, the Chinese nation indestructibly gathered and united from the state of loose sand, holding steadfastly its own future and destiny. Under the leadership of the CPC, the Chinese people fought heroically for 28 years and secured the victory in the new-democratic revolution, gaining national independence and liberation of the people. Comrade Mao Zedong said: Experts, comrades, A century ago, China was poor and weak, and it was bullied by big powers. Since then, our country has gone through many setbacks and hardships before rising up and achieving glory. Never in history have we been closer to the goal of the great renewal of the Chinese nation, and never in history have we had greater confidence and capability to realize this goal. History and reality have incontrovertibly proved that only socialism can save China, only socialism with Chinese characteristics can develop China and realize the great renewal of the Chinese nation. Today, we commemorate the October Revolution and continue to progress on the path of socialism. First, we must unswervingly uphold and develop Marxism. Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, pointed out that on the fundamental issue of upholding the guiding role of Marxism, we must maintain unswerving resolve, never wavering at any time or under any circumstances, and that if we deviate from or abandon Marxism, our Party would lose its soul and direction. Meanwhile, for Marxism to play a guiding role in practice and be enriched and developed in the process, it must be combined with the conditions of each country. There will never be an end to practice and neither will there be an end to practice-based theoretical innovation. In order to engage in the great struggle, pursue the great undertaking, push forward the great cause, and realize the great dream in the new era, we still need to preserve the theoretical character of Marxism to move forward with the times, combine it with the reform and development realities of contemporary China in a deeper way, push for theoretical innovation on the basis of new practices, strive for positive interactions between innovation in theory and innovation in practice, and open new horizons in the localization of Marxism. Second, we must be firm in strengthening socialist and communist ideals and convictions. Over the past plus years, one generation of CPC members after another have shed their blood, laid down their lives, and continued the hard work of those preceding them with unswerving resolve, in order to achieve national independence and prosperity and bring happiness to the people. They have done this because they have faith in Marxism and are determined to fulfill the socialist and communist ideals. Only by standing firm in strengthening the ideals and principles can we refrain from being arrogant and impatient in time of victories and successes, and restrain ourselves from feeling depressed and uncertain in time of setbacks and adversities. Instead, we can remain firm in our pursuit and harden ourselves into steel. When the socialist

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movement suffered serious setbacks worldwide, Comrade Deng Xiaoping, citing the restorations of monarchies in the historical process of capitalism superseding feudalism, said with full confidence: But the people have been tempered by the setbacks and have drawn lessons from them, and that will make socialism develop in a healthier direction. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China CPC , the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, upholding the ideological and intellectual banner, has stressed that the firm ideals and convictions should always be the fundamentals of communists, and should be placed well above all else. Wavering from ideals or lacking in convictions is the most dangerous. Communists should take enough "spiritual calcium" to strengthen their minds so that they can consciously resist corruption by decadent ideas. The CPC Central Committee has also stressed that socialism with Chinese characteristics is socialism and not any other doctrine. The basic principles of scientific socialism cannot be discarded, or it would not be socialism. Our current efforts and the sustained efforts of the future generations are aimed towards the ultimate goal of the realization of communism. The whole Party should have strong political staunchness in ideals and convictions, consciously become firm believers and faithful practitioners of the exalted ideal of communism and the shared ideal of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The socialist system has existed for years since the October Revolution, and socialism has been practiced in China for more than 60 years, though the consolidation and development of the system still has a long way to go. General Secretary Xi Jinping repeatedly stressed that the consolidation and development of the socialist system, and ultimately the realization of communism needs the effort of generations. Building socialism with Chinese characteristics is the historical mission of the CPC. Strong ideals and convictions will serve as the beacon for generations of Chinese people to strive in the course of accomplishing this great mission. Third, we must unswervingly uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that socialism with Chinese characteristics does not just fall from the sky, and it was achieved through the toil and sacrifice of the Party and the people. It is both a great cause we must continue to promote and a fundamental guarantee for a better future. The glorious achievements of socialism with Chinese characteristics unarguably show that destiny is determined by the choice of the path. The path of socialism with Chinese characteristics is more than just achievable, and it has proven to be a smart choice towards a better future. Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, following the people-first approach, has acted in accordance with the overall plan for promoting all-round socialist economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological development and the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy. Through the implementation of the new development concept and the great struggle with many new historical features, China has carved out a new ambit of governance and entered a new era in the development of the Party and the country. New successes in building socialism with Chinese characteristics have been achieved and both the Party and the people are more confident in our path, theory, system and culture. As Lenin pointed out after the victory of the October Revolution, socialism was an unprecedented great cause and the communists had to learn to accomplish their own tasks in a new way that conformed to the reality of Russia. We must always be based on the reality of the primary stage of Chinese socialism, taking economic development as the central task, and upholding the Four Cardinal Principles and the reform and opening-up policy in the great practice of building socialism with Chinese characteristics. We must further improve and develop the socialist system with Chinese characteristics, promote the modernization of the state governance system and capacity in governance, all of which are aimed at continuously accomplishing, safeguarding and developing the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people. We must unswervingly hold high the banner of reform and opening up, and strive to promote innovations in theories, practices, systems and in other aspects of innovation, continue to liberate and develop social productive forces, emancipate and enhance social vitality, make socialism with Chinese characteristics more efficient than capitalism, make it more able to stimulate enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of all the people, more able to achieve social justice and common prosperity, and more able to gain competitive advantages on the international stage. Socialism is not an illusory system that deviates from the

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general path of world civilizations, but a crystallization of the outstanding achievements made by human civilizations. To maintain and further develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, we need to learn from all the remarkable achievements of civilizations created by the human society. But to learn does not mean to copy by rote the paths and models of development followed by other countries. Instead, we need to stick to the right directions, steadfastly stay level-headed and stick to our own path. As General Secretary Xi Jinping said, Party leadership is the most essential feature and greatest advantage of socialism with Chinese characteristics; it is also the fundamental guarantee of the success of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Upholding the leadership by the Party is the foundation and lifeblood of both the Party and the state and affects the interests and well-being of all the people of China. Since the October Revolution, history has proved that without the leadership of the Communist Party, there would be no socialism; only the Communist Party can lead people to carry out socialist revolution, building and reform. Upholding Party leadership requires comprehensively strengthening Party discipline. The CPC Central Committee has made all-around efforts in strengthening the Party theoretically and organizationally, improving its conduct, more vigorously fighting against corruption and improving Party rules and regulations. The Party has also closely integrated its theoretical, organizational and systematic building, carried out strict and concrete Party discipline and management, and took a clear-cut stand to exercise political awareness. The Party has hence markedly improved its capacity for self-purity, self-improvement, self-innovation and self-development. To advance the great cause of building socialism with Chinese characteristics, we should more resolutely and consciously uphold the core status of General Secretary Xi Jinping in the CPC Central Committee and the entire CPC, safeguard the authority and the central, unified leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, become more aware of the need to maintain political integrity, think in big-picture terms, uphold the leadership core and keep in alignment. Fifth, we must unswervingly advance the noble cause of peace and development of humankind. Peace and development are the internal requirements and ineluctable choice of socialism. World history in the wake of the October Revolution has demonstrated that socialist countries are an important force in containing world wars and maintaining world peace. It is a determined choice that China has made on the basis of its history, reality and future, as well as a strategic option informed by its national conditions, social systems and cultural traditions.

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9: Republic of Tahrir - Frontline

This is the parade on Moscow's Red Square devoted to the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, 7 November In this year Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms of.

Protests against Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood government on June 29, Obituaries for the revolution are only now emerging. The general sense is of futility: What was the point of the uprising if the outcome is worse than the situation that existed? Millions took to the streets out of frustration. Too much had gone wrong in their country. Far too many of their friends and relatives languished in prison or hid their views for fear of imprisonment. Jobs seemed out of reach, and prices rose beyond imagination. Statues of Gamal Abdel Nasser were insufficient. Anger at Mubarak came from the youth and the workers, from the liberals and the Islamists and from the ranks of the military. The urgency with which Jimmy skimmed money from the public exchequer and doled out favours to his well-heeled friends also upset the military. The generals, perhaps more soberly than Mubarak, knew that economic inequality beside the culture of opulence would not sit well in Egypt. Mubarak and his son had to go. Tahrir gave the generals an opening. These four years of Egyptian history have been kaleidoscopic. Jubilation at the removal of Mubarak on February 11, , was followed by despair at the coup of July 3, The death toll in the fight against Mubarak did not stop with his move to his retirement villa in Sharm al-Sheikhâ€”it has actually intensified to the present day. Human rights groups are unable to give an accurate figure for those who are in prison under spurious charges and for those who have been killed in clashes and mass executions. Everyone who the government does not like, it seems, is now a terrorist. It is the term of art for dissenter. Mass social change is rarely predictable. No people rise up with the expectation that they will fail. That is why the opening of every mass struggle is deeply inspirational. It is also the case that each mass struggle results in a new order that is not capable of its original spark. Thirteen years had elapsed since the October Revolution when he published his book. The revolution was already being derided. To socialism its enemies allow only fifteen years to create and furnish a terrestrial paradise. We took no such obligation upon ourselves. We never set these dates. The process of vast transformation must be measured by an adequate scale. It is not the uprising that sets the tone, but its defeat. Cambanis, an American journalist who is based in Beirut, Lebanon, spent a great deal of time with the revolutionaries of Egyptâ€”being swept up in particular with the more liberal sections, people who wanted the rule of law to dominate the system. Two men anchor his narrativeâ€”Basem Kamel, an architect who becomes a social democratic politician, and Moaz Abdelkarim, a former Muslim Brotherhood member who flees into Turkish exile. Cambanis follows these two men through the streets of Cairo until they reach Tahrir Square and then outwards from the mythical square into the tumult of electioneering and political intrigue. Early on, it had become clear that lack of clear leadership would imperil the revolution. Cambanis has harsh things to say about the Left and derides the Russian Revolution early in his book. Since the RYC, and the Left, was not strong enough to exert its will on the revolution, that task fell into the lap of the Muslim Brotherhood. Formed in , the Muslim Brotherhood had patiently awaited its moment. Over the past 60 years, its members had gradually cemented themselves as a social forceâ€”with Brotherhood families integrally linked through their filial cells, their usra, and with Brotherhood members in professions that allowed them to develop positions of respect in society as doctors, engineers and lawyers. Prison and exile were not far from the lives of their leaders, but they persevered. Although the Brotherhood came late to Tahrir, it nonetheless entered the square as part of the uprising. Calculated deals with the military allowed the Brotherhood to insinuate itself into the political process. Its deep roots in Egyptian society and use of its networks allowed the Brotherhood to take advantage of the mass uprising. Not long after the removal of Mubarak, it had become clear that on the surface the Muslim Brothers would reap the reward. But this was on the surface alone. If there was a coup, it was then. That transitional order set aside not only the RYC but also the Muslim Brotherhood, the Constitution, the elections and Parliamentâ€”in order to reappear by as the saviour of Egypt. The liberals simply did not have the wherewithal

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to hold fast. They were professionals who had little political contact with the masses. One of the most uncomfortable facts of recent Egyptian history is that more people came out onto the streets on June 30, , to oppose the government of the Muslim Brotherhood led by Mohamed Morsi than in in Tahrir Square. All kinds of people took to the streets that day: Salafis alongside liberals, reactionaries alongside revolutionaries. And then we will start all over again. The SCAF dismissed the political process, began its campaign of imprisonment of dissent and portrayed itself as the inheritors of Nasser and stability. But tension in the Sinai began in , predating both the Tahrir uprising and the emergence of the Brotherhood to power. If anything, the emergence of terrorist cells signals the failure of the military rather than its necessity. Excitement with the demonstrations also led to a measure of exhaustion with the process. What was promised was not clear, and what was asked for seemed impossible. They wanted to become citizens in their own popular parliaments. The desire in was much the same. In , the Syrian poet Nizar Qabbani wrote: This article is closed for comments.

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