

A/Synechia

Greek Communists are for an International Council

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Transcription, Editing and Markup: Paul Saba and Sam Richards

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To: Editorial Board of Northstar Compass, Organizing Committee for an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People

Dear Comrades:

First of all we want to thank you for sending us your publication, which is a precious source of information to us about the situation and the struggles going on in the Soviet Union. We hope that you also receive without any problems our International Bulletin, the only publication of our organization in English. Our 5th issue was dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, while the last one was devoted to the class struggles in Greece.

We will let your readers know as to who we are. We are the Revolutionary Marxist Party A/Synechia. Our roots are in the revolutionary traditions of our people and the communist movement in Greece. The Greek communists have a long history in their struggles for national and social liberation of our people. And we also have a long history of accomplishments in our internationalist duties in the international communist movement and the Soviet Union. Our party in Greece has suffered, since the formation of the Communist Party of Greece in 1918, the most barbaric and murderous attacks on behalf of all the imperialist forces and of the local reactionaries. Tens of thousands of the best daughters and sons of our people gave their lives in the struggle against the reactionary regimes of the Nazis, British and US imperialism and their local lackeys.

Our dedicated Communists were the first to be attacked by the revisionists, already at that time (after 1953) when the leadership and the big majority of members of the Communist Party of Greece were persecuted because of their unwillingness to accept the "cult of personality" expounded by Nikita Khrushchev and others. At this time, thousands of Greek Communists were living in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries after the military defeat of the revolutionary movement of 1946-1949. Our comrades living in the USSR

opposed the revisionist machinations and they resolutely defended the achievements of the world communist movement, supporting Stalin and the very principles of Marxism-Leninism. The Secretary General of the Greek Communist Party at that time, Comrade Nikos Zachariadis, and many other honest communists had been exiled by Khrushchev to Siberia, accused of being "unrelenting Stalinists." About 80% of the rank-and-file communists had been expelled from the party under the direct orders of the revisionists, because they were supporting the legitimate actions of the Communist Party of Greece and they opposed the revisionist attacks against Stalin and the revolutionary line. Many of them have been persecuted, even physically, for decades. But they never gave up to the revisionists, Khrushchev or Brezhnev and company.

The Secretary General of the Communist Party died in Siberia in 1973, during his third hunger-strike, protesting against the revisionists and their policies and interventions. The Greek and Soviet revisionists said at that time that he died of a heart-attack.

In the interior of Greece, the honest Communists fought against revisionism and its destructive policies. The communist political prisoners were in the forefront of the struggle in defense of Marxism-Leninism. But at that time, there was no organized resistance against revisionism on an international scale, so precious time was lost. In 1958, the revisionists of Greece officially liquidated the party's organizations in Greece and integrated a broad left coalition, which served as support of the "democratic" fraction of the bourgeoisie. It was in the sixties that veteran communists and young militants had been working in order to form the Organization of Marxist-Leninists of Greece and start the regroupment of a genuine left force in our country. The US-led military coup of 1967 and the 7 year-long fascist dictatorship that followed gave a hard blow to the self-sacrifice of thousands of Greek Marxist-Leninists and their devotion to the cause of the people. The Communist Party of Greece (Marxist-Leninist) was re-established in 1975. These dedicated Marxist-Leninists played an important role in the development of the anti-imperialist, labor and youth movements, despite the problematic leadership of the party. These Marxist-Leninists faced the barbarous repression of the "democratic" regime and unspoken provocations and attacks from the revisionist "communist" party, which tried to "calm down" the militant spirit of the masses in order to be accepted by the bourgeoisie as a "responsible political force". But in the early 1980s the Communist Party of Greece (Marxist-Leninist) had been liquidated, mainly because of the opportunist stand of its leadership at that time. During those difficult years, a handful of cadres and militants restarted the effort to reconstruct our movement. After a period of general preparation, the Revolutionary Marxist Organization A/Synechia was formed and strengthened, while other left parties/movements were fading from the scene and flirting with revisionism, Trotskyism and many other "radical" currents.

This process was decisively facilitated by the participation and direction of our organization, since the late 1980s, of Comrade Yannis Hotzeas, the most outstanding Greek Marxist-Leninist, whose theoretical and practical contribution exceeds the limits of Greece. Comrade Yannis Hotzeas, a veteran communist leader who struggled since the 1950s against revisionism and all deviations, passed away in 1994.

Since the 1980s, our own organization covered a long and difficult, but fruitful course. Today it is active in tens of Greek cities and towns, and in the labor and youth movement through its front organizations, respectively the Union of the Working People and the Left Mass Formations of the Youth. It publishes the journal "Aristera!" ("Left!") and a theoretical-political organ, as well as many Marxist works. It has an active internationalist attitude, organizing every year several nation-wide campaigns with the participation of delegations from the revolutionary movements of Philippines, Mexico, Peru, Turkey, Congo and many others.

In May 1998 the Revolutionary Marxist Organization A/Synechia successfully held its First National Conference, an important step towards the reconstruction of the communist movement in our country, which was attended by 30 Communist Parties and Revolutionary Movements from the world. In the last Greek municipal elections, our lists in 4 major cities gathered 4% of the votes of the population. This was a significant result of the everyday work of our members and sympathizers. We are determined to welcome the year 2000 with the construction of the Communist Organization in Greece! Based on the principles of the revolutionary Marxism, on the assimilation of the positive and negative historical experiences of our movement, and also on the concrete analysis of the contemporary national and international conditions, we are convinced that we will contribute our part to the accomplishment of the duties that we all have towards the past and the future generations: to repulse the imperialist attacks. We shall renew our dedication to the reconstruction of the International Communist Movement and the creation of the International Community of the Peoples!

Dear comrades:

We are following with great interest the important work that you accomplished during the past years. We agree with you that it is the duty of all of us to support in every possible way our Soviet comrades, and we consider that the creation of the International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People will greatly contribute to this cause. We also agree with your analyses and exposure of the social-democrats and revisionists like Zyuganov and others, who present themselves as communists in order to fool and manipulate the Soviet people (the same happens in our country as well). While we know that the Soviet communists themselves must solve the problems of orientation and unity in their movements, we cannot give the slightest credit and tolerance to "old" and contemporary revisionism, which destroyed the socialist camp and the international communist movement and restored capitalism. This insidious revisionism is still dangerous.

Taking all this into account, we are responding positively to your invitation and support the idea of an International Council and we intend to send our representatives to the Congress where the International Council shall be elected. Please keep us informed about this process. We send all of you our warmest comradely greetings and we hope that we shall meet soon!

For the Executive Committee
E.F.
International Relations