

Crush *Putin's war*! Crush *Netanyahu's war*! Stop the outbreak of a world war with the united power of people across the world!

The Executive Committee for the 63rd International Antiwar Assembly

- Zengakuren [All-Japan Federation of Students' Self-Governing Associations]
- Antiwar Youth Committee
- Japan Revolutionary Communist League (Revolutionary Marxist Faction) [JRCL-RMF]

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Comrades across the world striving every day to eradicate wars and oppressions from our planet! All workers, students and intellectuals!

Today, eighty years after the end of the Second World War, we are witnessing Hitler-like dictators launching wars of aggression everywhere in the world to incorporate other countries into their 'empires', thus perpetrating absolutely outrageous acts. By commonly raising the slogan 'Make our country great again', big nuclear powers — sometimes clashing head on, sometimes resorting to expedient cooperation — are frantically struggling against each other without disguising each's state egoism. Thus, today's world is assuming an aspect that must be seen as the eve of the outbreak of a Third World War.

Let us fight to break through this crisis of war weighing on the world! We call on working people all over the world to rise in unity!

We Japanese workers, students and the JRCL (RMF) are holding the 63rd International Antiwar Assemblies in Tokyo and six other cities in Japan on August 3rd. On this occasion, we are sending this overseas call, seeking solidarity with colleagues around the world who are against war.

(1)

The world today seems to have entered an age of the 'right of the strongest', where the strong that brandishes nuclear capabilities decides the fate of the weak under the deceitful banner of 'peace through strength'.

Look at the Zionist regime of Israel perpetrating



Crush *Putin's war*! Condemn the US-Israeli attacks on Iran! Denounce the genocide in Gaza! No arms expansion! Zengakuren students and antiwar workers marching in Tokyo (Jun. 29th).

genocide against Gazans, against Palestinians!

Over the past year and ten months, this regime of murderers has completely destroyed homes, hospitals, schools and other facilities in Gaza, and massacred an appalling number of people. What's worse, Netanyahu has conspired with Trump, who says, like a crooked estate agent, that he will evict the residents from Gaza to make it into a Middle Eastern Riviera. They have expelled United Nations agencies and set up US-led 'food distribution sites' at only four locations, where Israeli troops are shooting and shelling people who come for food. Is this what humans would do!

Further, this regime launched air strikes on Iran and murdered not only Iranian government officials but also many ordinary people. It perpetrated these atrocities under the pretext of suspicions that Iran was developing nuclear weapons, though Israel itself possesses nuclear weapons and refuses to acknowledge it.

This is not all. On June 22nd, in the middle of the Israeli-Iranian war that began in this way, the Trump administration of the militarist empire of America attacked this anti-American state, by shooting 14 Bunker-Busters and 30 cruise missiles at three nuclear facilities in Iran. This attack, which Trump launched under the pretext to 'end the war' in the Middle East, means that his administration will attack any countries that defy it, unilaterally and with no room for argument. It is sheer state terrorism, which unreservedly displays 'America First'.

Workers and people of the world! In order to stop the insane brutalities perpetrated by these 'Hitlers of the 21st century', let us create antiwar struggles all over the world!

(2)

The successive warmongering acts perpetrated by the Netanyahu government and the Trump administration in the Middle East tell us that nuclear weapon possessing states force defiant countries to submit in the name of 'peace through strength' and that this is becoming the norm. The danger of war in the 'dark 21st century' is ever more deepening.

What formed the turning point in the change into such an age lies, of course, in the extremely brutal war of aggression against Ukraine launched by Vladimir Putin the Czar of the Russian Empire three and a half years ago and continued to this day.

Immediately after taking office as US President, Donald Trump said '(Ukraine) should never have let that war start. The war's a loser', adding that Russia and Ukraine should stop this stupid war and make a deal. Things occupying his mind can be boiled down to the following: to make a deal on issues including the development of resources hidden in the Arctic, in exchange for bringing Russia back onto the stage of international politics; to drive a wedge into the alliance-like collusion between China and Russia and, if possible, weaken China's challenge to the United State; and to show off as the 'president of peace' who ended the Ukraine War and, by so doing, leave a legacy as the greatest president in the history of the United States next year, which will mark the 250th anniversary of its founding.

That is why Trump has refused to provide aid to Ukraine and has not agreed to the sale of air defence systems. Moreover, this fickle and easily bored president like a three-year-old child

said just recently that the end of the war shall be decided by the two great powers, i.e. America and Russia; but he is now saying 'It's not my war' and that he will step out as a mediator if the involved parties cannot come to an agreement.

Precisely because of such responses by Trump, Putin brazenly insisted in a ceasefire negotiation that it's necessary to 'remove the root causes of the conflict' and that the prerequisites of a ceasefire have to be Ukraine's 'de-nazification, demilitarization and non-membership of NATO'. Moreover, he is extending his vicious arms of aggression, besides the four eastern and southern Oblasts whose annexation he declared unilaterally, to the Sumy and Dnipropetrovsk Oblasts, while repeating large-scale, indiscriminate attacks all over Ukraine with missiles and drones every day.

Despite the fact that a million Russian soldiers have been killed and injured in this war, and despite the fact that his regime is threatened with the impending bankruptcy of its 'deathnomics', in which over seven per cent of the GDP is spent on the military, Czar Putin is pushing ahead with his war of aggression in Ukraine as if insanely. — What is the true nature of this war of aggression against Ukraine?

Some 30 years ago, the 'socialist' (in fact, Stalinist, or false Marxist) Soviet Union underwent a self-destructive disintegration. Putin describes this collapse of the Soviet Union as the 'greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century'. By so doing, this Russian ruler is seeking to restore the territory of the former Soviet Union and, if things go well, even to revive the erstwhile Soviet sphere of influence composed of former Soviet satellite states in Eastern Europe, thus attempting a westward expansion. Precisely, this constitutes the nature of the war of aggression against Ukraine.

This outrageous, historic act perpetrated by Putin and the FSB-helmed authoritarian ruling system of Russia with him on top is just like the crimes committed by Hitler and Stalin in the Second World War. They severally occupied and annexed one neighbouring country after another in Western and Eastern Europe, while colluding at first and then clashing with each other. In *modus operandi*, *Putin's war* is identical with those crimes.

Working people all over the world! Let us stand up to resolutely shatter the 'barbarism of the century' committed by present-day Hitlers!

(3)

The 'fool emperor' Trump is now pursuing extremely arrogant foreign policies which nakedly display 'America First'— partly because he is surrounded by millennials, such as Vice President JD Vance, who are completely ignorant of the fierce rivalry between the US and the Soviet Union in the latter half of the 20th century and so base their foreign policy judgment only on 'whether it makes a profit fitting for the costs'. And Putin, having hit it off with Trump, has burnt and razed Ukrainian towns and villages to the ground, thus expanding his occupation areas, and furthermore, is keeping his eye out for the 'next Ukraine'.

Caught between these two dictators, rulers of Western Europe are now living in fear.

At the NATO summit held in late June, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte and others

offered Trump the kind of flattery that set one's teeth on edge and swallowed whole his demand for boosting military spending up to five per cent of GDP — only, with a proviso that this agreement will be reviewed in 2029, when Trump leaves office. And thus, in the declaration of the NATO summit, condemnation against the aggressor Russia was deleted, and so was the phrase 'support Ukraine'.

Of course, this huge increase in military spending by European power holders is basically not for the sake of Ukraine, but is in itself intended for the survival of European monopoly capital. European governments and monopoly capitalists have now put aside the 'green economy' and have plunged into the front line of the nuclear armament race. The world has thus entered an age of enormous military buildups.

In the face of this situation, there are some in the European left wing — though a handful — who claim that the war in Ukraine is a 'proxy war', or that opposition to military buildups in Europe is 'in contradiction to supporting Ukraine', so that they are opposed to supporting Ukraine.

However, what those advocates lack is, first and foremost, to give thought to the suffering of Ukrainian people who were invaded suddenly by Russia and have since been fighting against it, for three and a half years now, and to extend heartfelt solidarity to them, is it not!?

Today, 20 per cent of the Ukrainian territory is occupied by Russia. In the four oblasts occupied at present, there are approximately five million compatriots living in actuality, 10 per cent of the Ukrainian population. They are prohibited to move freely and confined in these oblasts. Those who are not obedient to Russia are thrust into basements, where they are tortured, murdered or raped. Those who unwillingly follow occupiers' orders to obtain passports etc. are sent to the battlefield as Russian soldiers and forced to fight with their Ukrainian compatriots. More than 20,000 children have been abducted to Russia, where they are taught daily not only to forget the Ukrainian language and culture but also even to hate their own parents and their homeland. Russia regards those children as its booties, so that it declares it won't return them to Ukraine.

In occupied territories, beneath the buildings now being constructed by Russians, there lie the remains of many fighters who fell on the battlefield, believing in a bright future of their families, their compatriots, their nation and of their mother country. We must never forget the sorrow of those families who had to face the bodies of their sons and husbands that were returned in prisoner exchanges. We must never forget the women holding up their portrait photographs to the returned captives in an attempt to find out the whereabouts of their beloved ones who went to war.

That is why Ukrainian workers have been fighting resistance to defeat Russian aggression; over a million serving on the battlefield, many more engaged in critical infrastructure sectors, and still more involved in volunteer activities. But for the cooperation of these people, the success of Operation Spiderweb would not have been possible.

At this moment, the true leftists in Ukraine are fighting for the realization of a 'just and lasting peace' in opposition to the imposition of an intolerable 'peace' by Trump and Putin.

Faced with a reduction in the US and Europe's support for Ukraine, they have made up their mind to stop the invasion with their own effort at all costs. Hoisting the slogan 'For Ukraine without oligarchs and occupiers', they have started an unyielding fight with a renewed determination and conviction: 'Only a democratic socialist policy can reveal the pathway to a sustainable future for Ukraine'.

Those advocates who oppose supporting Ukraine may intend to stay close beside the workers of their own country who are suffering economic hardships. Yet we would like to put questions to them: If you don't share the anger, sorrow and resentment of the oppressed people who seem to be pushed aside to the corners of history, such as those in Ukraine or in Gaza, is it possible to create proletarian internationalism? If you don't create proletarian internationalism, is it possible to carve out our future society? Those who do not fight here and now for Ukrainian workers and for Palestinian people will close the door by themselves to the organizing of the working class of their own country as a class, thus passing on an irreparable negative legacy to next generations, will they not?

We workers, who 'tumble day after day from our fulfilled nothingness into absolute nothingness' (Marx), must transcend borders, races, languages, cultures and mental climates, and become awakened to something universal that lies at the bottom of those particularities, i.e. the universality of our own existence as wage slaves, thus creating class unity that transcends borders. We thereby must fight together against the capitalist class and its power, as well as the power of neo-Stalinist China that raises the flag of 'market socialism'. Only by so doing will it be possible for us to overcome the threat of the outbreak of a thermonuclear war impending over us due to the head-on clash between the US (-Europe-Japan) vs. China-Russia, and the danger of the extinction of humanity caused by poverty, hunger, and the devastation of the earth.

Workers of Ukraine!

Workers of Palestine!

We are deeply sorry that there is so little we can do for you. We pledge, however, to walk together with you, forever and ever, by stirring up our working class hatred towards the butchers, and by sharing your anger, sorrow, at times despair, and hope.

(4)

Just like the wheels of history rotating backward, this 'dark 21st century world', which is covered by war, oppression, poverty and the devastation of the globe, looks as if it were returning to the 20th century world that underwent two world wars.

It is the bourgeoisie and their political powers around the world that extensively propagandized the self-destruction of 'Soviet-style socialism' (it was in fact Stalinism, i.e. anti-Marxism) as the 'grand failure of the experiment of communism'. They celebrated it as the 'victory of capitalism'. However, American imperialism, puffed up and indulged in its world domination as the world's sole superpower, dug its own grave due to its armed aggressions against Afghanistan and Iraq, which bogged down. It thus invited the rise of China, a 'country

of market socialism', which 'fearlessly adopted capitalism'. Moreover, globalism that US imperialism imposed on the world was in fact nothing other than Americanization. It was this globalization that forced poverty and disparity upon workers around the world, especially upon workers in the Global South, and at the same time brought about the hollowing out of the industry of America.

Thus, the militarist empire of America, the 'sole superpower', rapidly declined. By taking advantage of the 'US-China confrontation' that came to the fore, 'ruinous Russia' set up a ruling form exactly like that of the Stalin era, though it no longer had the signboard of 'socialism' that had deceived the world, thus raising its head under the banner of the 'revival of a strong Russia'. And eventually, armed with 'usable nuclear weapons', it began to move in reality with the aim of restoring the lost territory of the former Soviet Union. Precisely this is the barbaric act of the century, an attempt to incorporate the entire nation of Ukraine and its state into Russia.

This means that reexamination of the 20th century must still be pursued — especially, the question must be investigated why the people of the world were misled and trifled by the myth that 'the Soviet Union is the fatherland of workers and the stronghold of peace', even though its real situations have been revealed today. In order to realize a truly peaceful and human society in this 21st century, we need to delve deeply into the grounds for the continual defeats in class struggle in the 20th century, which was called the 'century of war and revolution'. And firmly based on such investigation, we must go forward.

Workers and students all over the world!

We, Japanese workers and students, have always assigned the antiwar struggle as the most important struggle and have engaged in it by concentrating our energies. For the past three years or so, slogans on the banner hoisting at the forefront of Zengakuren's demonstrations have always been 'Crush *Putin's war*!' and 'Smash *Netanyahu's war*!' On the labour front, militant workers have been striving hard in the depths of trade unions to create struggles to 'crush *Putin's war*' and 'crush *Netanyahu's war*', along with those to 'oppose the strengthening of the US-Japan military alliance and Japan's massive military build-up', by denouncing the oppression of these struggles by the established union leaderships and the abandonment of struggles by the Japanese neo-Stalinist party.

We, the anti-Stalinist revolutionary Left in Japan, are determined to do our best in the fight to break through the creeping danger of the outbreak of a Third World War, a thermonuclear war, and the threat of the annihilation of humanity it causes.

Crush *Putin's war*!

Crush *Netanyahu's war*!

Prevent a Middle East war! Shatter America's participation!

Don't allow a Third World War to break out!

Comrades all over the world!

Let us fight together and advance together for creating on the earth a world with no war, oppression, poverty or exploitation.