Solidarity with Greek prisoners in Struggle

International Call for Solidarity from members of Revolutionary Struggle

Comrades,

We are three political prisoners, members of the armed group Revolutionary Struggle [Epanastatikos Agonas], and we send you militant greetings from the Greek prisons.

We were arrested in April 2010 along with three other comrades who are being accused of involvement in the organization. Since then, we have been on pretrial detention (under the terrorism act), waiting to be referred to a trial in the first months of 2011.

In an ‘open political letter to society’*, the three of us claimed political responsibility for our participation in the organization of Revolutionary Struggle. In this way, we defended our actions which were directed against Capital and the State, and contributed through practice and speech towards the overthrow of the State and capitalism, aiming at social revolution, at a non-statist, anti-authoritarian, communal and communist model of governance.

By claiming political responsibility, we also want to defend the armed struggle, and to highlight its timelessness and importance within the broader struggle for the overthrow and social revolution. Most importantly, we want to highlight its relevance and necessity for our times. It is our belief that the appropriate objective conditions for the overthrow of capitalism have developed in this era of global economic crisis more than in any other time since the Second World War.

Also, by undertaking political responsibility we wanted to restore the memory and honour of our comrade Lambros Foundas, who was a member of the Revolutionary Struggle and was killed in an armed clash with cops in March 2010 during an attempted expropriation of a car – a preparatory action of a wider action plan of our organization.

The political, economic and social environment in which the Revolutionary Struggle was formed and has developed its action is very different from that of the Western-European urban guerrilla groups, which were active from the 1970s and 1980s up until the early 1990s. Back then the bipolar competition between the US-USSR and their political-economic systems was dominant. It was the time when the model of Keynesianism was sinking into crisis and political devaluation, as Capital regained its strength against the proletariat, governments of Western countries one after the other abandoned state intervention in the economy – the so-called ‘economics of demand’ – and replaced them with ‘economics of supply’, while the States began the assault on labour and social gains, defending the interests of the economically powerful and imposing the neo-liberal financial and political model of governance.

The economic and political environment in which the Revolutionary Struggle was formed was set by the USA hegemony, economic globalization, neo-liberalism and the fight against terrorism, which is the peak of the political-military globalization. Because, for us, both the ‘fight against terrorism’ and the totalitarianism of the markets are two sides of the same coin; they are the political and economic nature of globalization.

Whenever and wherever globalization is not able to be imposed by the weapons of the capitalists and international financial institutions (IMF, WB, WTO, ECB, FED), by the financial tools of international stock markets, by poverty, hunger and marginalization, it is imposed by the sharpening of state violence and power, by repression, war and military incursions, by fire and iron.

The period from 2003, when the Revolutionary Struggle started its action, up to 2007, while the growing social crisis was creating strong social dissatisfaction, the neo-liberal consensus was strong, due to the fact that capitalist development continued ‘smoothly’ using the bank loans, as a global scale bubble growing against the successive financial crises that were shaking the planet (Southeast Asia crisis, economic collapse in Argentina, Dot.com crisis in the US).

Since 2007, year of the first ‘bursting of the bubble’ of the residential mortgage loans in the US, which gave the onset of the global financial crisis, the failure of the neo-liberal consensus started, leading to a deeper and deeper political and social scorn for the regime.

During its first period the Revolutionary Struggle set as cutting-edge issues the ‘fight against terrorism’ with the military operations of the US and their Western allies to the countries of the region, and with the intensity of state violence, repression and terrorism in the countries of the capitalist centre and the semi-periphery, in which Greece substantially belongs (rocket attack against the US Embassy, attack against the former minister of Public Order, against police targets and courts etc), the neo-liberal invasion, the marketization of all the economic and social functions left, the attack of Capital against labour gains (bomb attacks against Ministries of Employment and Economy).

Then, since 2008, the global financial crisis was a true challenge for us in order to upgrade our action, making attacks against economic structures and

*(For the full text of the letter see 325#8 / 325.nostate.net)
institutions such as the stock market, Citibank and Eurobank. Our ambition was to hurt the vulnerable – due to the crisis – system as long as possible, to strongly sabotage the political choices of the Greek government and the ‘rescue-of-the-country’ plans imposed by the troika (IMF, EU, ECB).

This was the reason that the PASOK (Socialist. ed) government was so afraid of the Revolutionary Struggle, since – according to the statements of a member of the government – the organization ‘could blow up the financial measures’. That’s why our arrests, which took place a few days before the IMF, the EU and the ECB entirely take the reins of power in Greece, were characterized by the Greek government and other European and American political factors as a great success.

For us, the financial crisis we live in today is the first truly global crisis in history and the only one since the Great Depression of the early 1930s that affects so intensely all the countries of the capitalist centre, while its character is systemic; it concerns the nature of the capitalism itself and the nature of the market economy, and it is multi-dimensional, because other than financial it is political, social and environmental.

On the occasion of the current crisis, both economic and political elites around the world conduct a frontal attack against societies; former achievements of the labor movement are permanently buried in the name of competitiveness, the welfare state is long past, while institutions of the system such as the nation state lose their importance, concepts such as sovereignty have no real meaning, and representative democracy in many countries such as Greece, which come under the supervision of the transnational elite and economic institutions (IMF, Central banks, etc.) is humiliated, since in fact a series of constitutional provisions are cancelled, and it becomes the vehicle for the establishment of a globalized totalitarianism, that of markets, multinationals, bankers and their political institutions.

Against this charge of the political and economical elites there is no room for the implementation of Keynesian experiments and reforms. This has been obvious by the governments’ respond to the crisis, by unleashing their widest neo-liberal attack against the middle and lower classes, against the willing of the majority of people. On the occasion of the financial crisis, they forward the greatest robbery and looting in human history and the greatest transaction of wealth from the base to the top of the social hierarchy, driving more and more people to hunger, poverty and death.

For vast parts of the societies both of the periphery and the centre of the capitalist world, the neo-liberal model of development has gone bankrupt alongside the general economic regime. Next in line to fall is the political system of representative democracy.

The lack of social consent doesn’t stop the European governments from a series of political coup d’etat with the excuse of glossing over the crisis which is supported only by the ruling minority. In this way, they provoke the rage and exasperation of the social majorities, which quite often are expressed in violent ways on the streets of European cities (of France, England, Greece, Ireland, Italy…).

All the above record a series of political and social conditions that, for us, are the most appropriate in order to put into practice the international proletarian counterattack, to accomplish the overthrow of capitalism and the State, to undertake the revolution. Because today the dilemma of the fighters but also the people repressed is one: social revolution or total submission and death.

Our obligation is to create the subjective circumstances, namely to contribute to the creation of a polymorphic revolutionary movement at national and international level that will form the conditions for the realization of the social revolution.

Within this political and social situation, the armed struggle can be of particular importance and may hold a central role, as it may reflect the overall political conflict with the regime, to herald the armed proletarian counterattack of peoples and to propagate in the most dynamic way the overthrow and social revolution.

We want our trial to be a political step to express in public this political positions; we want it to be registered in history as a moment of the struggle for freedom. To highlight the importance of the social revolution as the only answer to the crisis that condemns the largest parts of society to economic and social devastation.

For us, that would be the best expression of solidarity; to make this trial a cry for freedom.

Pola Roupa
Nikos Maziotis
Kostas Gournas

The comrades welcome cards of solidarity and contact:

Panayiota “Pola” Roupa
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T.K. 18110
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Nikolaos “Nikos” Maziotis
Dikastikes Filakes Korydallos
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Konstantinos “Kostas” Gournas
Klisti Filaki Trikalon
T.K. 42100
Trikala, Greece
As revolutionaries we do not recognize any interrogating authority. So, we were bound to refuse to apologize to cops and investigators, since our revolutionary position only before the public and comrades we feel as a duty to promote.

We declare ourselves, therefore, hostages of the revolutionary war, proud members of the revolutionary organization Conspiracy Cells of Fire.

We do not regret anything and we support all communiques and actions of our organization, as well as those that will happen from now on, which made us and will make us proud.

We support with all our soul the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire, because it is also a part of our soul. We pride ourselves in our selection to find ourselves in a position of attack against the system.

Even through the difficult conditions of detention we will not stop showing never our clear views and positions on armed violence, urban guerrilla warfare and the revolution.

Comrades, let us not allow them to take from us even a drop of land. Comrades, lets break the apathy and social stupefaction.

Let’s blow up the regularity of society once and for all.

P.S. There is no more beautiful way to show solidarity and the widening of the revolutionary consciousness than the continuation and intensification of diverse guerrilla action. So we send our most sincere comrade greetings to the guerrillas, which in spite of the times, continue to shine with fires of hate the miserable nights of the metropolis.

In the campaign for international solidarity to foreign organizations and imprisoned fighters, a communiqué of the organization will follow.

NOTHING IS OVER THE WAR CONTINUES

Conspiracy of Cells of Fire – Commando Practical Theory

Gerasimos Tsakalos
Panagiotis Arigrou

WHOEVER DOES NOT ARM HIS DENIALS, DIES IN HIS CONTRACTS

On 01/11/2010, after we have already delivered two incendiary packages to Suisse Mail on Astidamantos street and to ACS on Spirou Merkouri street; in Pangrati, sent to the Mexican embassy in Athens and the address of Eurojust (EU Police agency) in the Hague, we are surrounded by police officers of the DIAS group (motorbike task force) and arrested.

In our possession were found two more packages of incendiary parcels destined for the presidential residence of Nicolas Sarkozy in France and the Belgian Embassy in Athens.

As revolutionaries we do not recognize any interrogating authority. So, we were bound to refuse to apologize to cops and investigators, since our revolutionary position only before the public and comrades we feel as a duty to promote.

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On the 17th January 2011 in Athens, will be the trial for the case of our revolutionary organization. In this are being tried some our proud members, some revolutionaries and other anarchists because of personal relations with the accused. It is of no value to speak of the trial, since we define ourselves outside the limits of judicial authorities. What has substance is the expression of aggressive solidarity to the comrades that are accused and are in prison for this case. For us, despite the manhunt that has been unleashed against us by the police, as well as the recent arrest of our 2 members, nothing can stop the continuous and evolutionary course of our action.

In our decision to promote a battle to the end, WE CALL in Greece, Europe, Chile, Argentina, Mexico and to the whole world to the comrades and guerrilla formations to send their attacking signals to the judges and the Greek authorities, as well as a greeting of solidarity to the hostages of the new urban guerrilla warfare. Let this trial become another reason for action in the Revolutionary War.

CONSPIRACY OF CELLS OF FIRE

Ongoing mass prisoners hungerstrike in Greece

Since Monday 29th November the prisoners in Greek jails have begun an abstention from meals, which is to escalate into a hunger strike, as a protest against the political indifference that they are experiencing. The prisoners, with a press release of the coordinating bodies of all the prisons-hellholes in the country, submit their demands (analytically in the enclosed list) for de-congestion of the prisons, improvement in the conditions, real justice, less imprisonment:

Demands:
1. To stop the abuse of pre-trial detention.
2. Reduction of the statutory upper limits to continuous imprisonment
3. Abolition of devastating sentences and wider application of the measure of probation/remission and conditional release
4. Legislation setting the upper time limit of the statute of limitation for disciplinary sentences at 6 months – for these not to be used as restraining factor for conditional release.
5. The abolition of the anti-terrorism law and the special terms of detention for political prisoners
6. Abolition of under age prisons and the establishment of structures of protection for underage offenders
7. Immediate release of prisoners with special needs and those who suffer from chronic serious illnesses
8. Immigrant prisoners: (a) immediate and unconditional practice of their right to serve their sentence in their country of origin (b) immediate release of all those who are held for judicial or administrative deporta- tion, (c) immediate trying of all trials of greeks and immigrants in all degrees
9. Leave of absence: (a) granting of leaves of absence with the same preconditions for all, no to the unequal and discriminatory treatment, no to arbitrary rejections of applications. (b) increase in the duration of leave in all cases, c) granting of leaves at the 1/5th [of the sentence] for all offences and for all prisoners, including those who are serving sentences for drugs.
10. Improvement in conditions of imprisonment: (a) the right to dignity, health, education, communication, development of personality, free speech, exercise (b) the right to work, immediate opportunity of employment for those who wish to do so, without restrictions due to disciplinary measures c) increase of jobs and increase in the percentage accounted for the days worked [which is subtracted from the sentence] (d) application of measures alternative to imprisonment – expansion of the institution of rural prisons to include female prisoners (e) banning of physical examinations, especially vaginal and anal, (f) improvement of the conditions within holding areas, of transfers and of means of transport.
11. Abolition of monetary sentences (fines).

The Initiative for the Rights of Prisoners stands in solidarity with the just struggle of the prisoners and makes a call for individuals, collectives and organizations to an open meeting to coordinate our actions for the organisation of acts of solidarity for the prisoners’ struggle.

http://www.keli.gr/

Dark Nights is an irregular anarchist & anti-prison publication of resistance reports and repression news.

325.nostate.net

For a world without borders, prisons or financial markets.

Contra Info
http://contrainfo.espiv.net/

Act For Freedom Now:
http://actforfreedomnow.blogspot.com/

Non Serviam:
http://blognonserviam.wordpress.com/

Athens IMC
http://athens.indymedia.org/