

ASSESSMENT OF «WIDERSTANDSVERNETZUNG» ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN ROJAVA AND SYRIA

As «Widerstandsvernetzung», in recent years we have taken changing circumstances as an opportunity to share our assessments of the revolutionary process and the current historical phase from an internationalist perspective. We believe that another such shift in circumstances is taking place today, shaped by the ongoing war, the integration process of the self-administration in Syria, and the hard-won military balance that has been achieved through struggle between the guerrilla forces in the mountains and the fascist Turkish state, as well as the current process unfolding there as a result.

- Status quo -

It was US imperialism, together with its allies in Great Britain and the EU, that paved the way for the HTS henchmen so seize power in Syria in the first place. Their aim was to create a unified Syria subjugated to imperialist interests. HTS was strengthened in order to guarantee the complete opening up and domination of the Syrian market to imperialist exploitation. Distinct from the "Shiite Axis of Resistance", it is the revolutionary project in Rojava that has stood, and continues to stand, in opposition to these objectives and must therefore be fought.

As a result of the attacks of a genocidal nature, the Rojava Revolution was confronted with an existential threat. Consequently, within the dialectical relationship between political and military struggle, the political dimension gained the upper hand. Thanks to the resistance on the ground, the support of other parts of Kurdistan, as well as to international solidarity around the world, the democratic forces in Rojava gained greater leverage in negotiations. As a consequence, we now find ourselves confronted with the integration processin which we must defend every single achievement of the Rojava Revolution, millimetre by millimetre, and stand shoulder to shoulder with our friends and comrades on the ground. And we must do so with the same determination and enthusiasm with which we, as revolutionary internationalists, have stood alongside the revolution in Rojava from the very beginning!

- Internationalism & Solidarity -

When the Rojava Revolution was still in its infancy, a call came from there to join the revolution, following the example of the internationalist brigades in Spain. On the ground, this resulted in the formation of the International Freedom Battalion (IFB), of which we, as internationalists, were a part. For us today, the theoretical development of revolutionary internationalism is also a result of this experience. Our independent organisation was accompanied by close cooperation, characterised by mutual recognition, solidarity and an awareness of the ideological differences with the Kurdish movement. The aim was never to emphasise these differences, but rather to put what we had in common at the centre and to take an active role together in the struggle for the liberation of the peoples of Rojava. Our relationship with the movement there, both then and now, has been shaped by this approach and by a profound sense of solidarity.

Accordingly, as «Widerstandsvernetzung», we understand ourselves as part of the revolutionary process in Rojava. We were able to participate in the struggles both there and internationally. In doing so, we were able not only to learn from the numerous achievements, as well as the tactical and strategic debates, and thereby become part of a process that has advanced far beyond what we have achieved here, but also to make our own modest contribution through close cooperation.

Today, we want to continue along this path, with the aim of responding to the current historical process and phase while carrying forward the revolutionary line we have developed. This means seeking to ensure its continuity and further developing our strategic approaches in order to understand how and where revolutionary internationalism can continue to take shape.

- Revolutionary Continuity -

Revolutionary processes are not straight paths leading from A to B without obstacles, ruptures or barricades. They unfold through historical phases, each shaped by different contradictions and therefore requiring different approaches. They do not progress in a linear, one-dimensional movement from the bottom upwards, but experience setbacks as well as victories. From a revolutionary internationalist perspective, one cannot simply walk away from such a process overnight, at some arbitrary point along the way. It is difficult to determine the stages and their outcomes while still in the midst of them. And if one leaves the field of struggle during such a stage, it becomes impossible to understand the revolutionary process while it is still unfolding, let alone to position oneself in relation to it or to engage with it. In this sense, even today, certainly in times far from being rosy, it remains essential to stand alongside the revolution, alongside Rojava, and to demonstrate solidarity.

- Autonomy & Internationalist Practice -

It is precisely the autonomy of revolutionary internationalism that makes this possible. There, we were and continue to be part of the movement. However, we are not integrated into its structures, but maintain a relationship based on solidarity and on the understanding that the revolutionary process in our own country remains of central importance to us. We have always maintained that our main enemy is at home. The core of revolutionary internationalism, we have argued, lies in connecting the revolutionary process there with the one here. Today, the revolutionary process in Rojava is facing new circumstances, just as it has in the past. Nevertheless, it continues to exist and can, indeed should, be connected to the revolutionary process here. The enemies of the revolutionary process, those attacking the achievements of the Rojava Revolution – from the fascist Turkish state to the jihadist gangs backed by imperialism – have their war machinery and financial resources based here, among us. We can therefore connect the different revolutionary processes in a very concrete way through our internationalist practice by confronting these structures and forces.

And so we continue to say:

Smash Turkish Fascism! Smash Imperialism! The main enemy is in our own country!

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