

About a call for an international meeting in Iraqi Kurdistan, published in eight languages on the website myinternetpages.com.

Since July 2018, a call signed by “*comrades in Kurdistan*” has been circulating on the Internet.

Their statement starts with a triumphalist analysis about a “*current international wave of class struggle*”, an “*increasing of the proletariat*”, an “*increasing class struggle around the world [that] has exceeded its first stage of the isolated and sporadic phenomena*” what justifies that “*in honours of the constant progress of the proletariat movement, [we] invite all international socialists, communists, anarchists that are willing to develop a relationship between revolutionary individuals and groups. This progression is a real base for common international activates and such meetings may be a base for a great international conference in the nearest future.*”

Without falling into a sterile triumphalism, we know that the social situation in Iraq and especially in Iran is explosive. See the document produced by the **Class War Group** in June 2018: “**From Gaza to Iran to the whole world... down with the exploiters!**” as well as the text “**Rojava and Capitalism**”, published as a result of an international meeting in Paris in May 2016.

While it’s still relevant to encourage international meetings, to consolidate our forces against capitalism, to generalize the struggle, etc., we are also aware of the dangers of an idealistic, reformist, political approach that distorts the internationalist effort to centralize the struggles. We consider that the call of the “*comrades in Kurdistan*” does not respond to this effort. Rather than developing an existing, real community of struggle that would lead to a qualitative leap requiring more direct contacts, this call proposes an ideological approach to bringing together self-proclaimed “*socialist, communist, anarchist...*” groups that would define a line to follow at the international level.

This call is directly in line with bourgeois conferentism and tribunism, which is based on a spectacle of common struggle and supposed programmatic agreements of the participating groups, and not on reality. The “*international committee*” that would emerge from it would only be the umpteenth rigid and self-proclaimed revolutionary structure that would go beyond real contacts, genuine revolutionary activity.

The community of struggle cannot be self-proclaimed but is to be built day by day during a long and difficult process; it does not emerge from a formal international meeting, whether it is called a conference, meeting, forum... We have often criticized the bourgeois conferentist ideology. Let’s give an example:

“According to our conception, since the problem is neither to invent nor to ‘create’ a party (‘the party rises up spontaneously from the soil of modern society’ – Marx), but to structure, to formalize and to direct the real and existing force that is developing through clashes with capital. Our own voluntary and conscious activity is a product of this struggle. The main thing is not to elaborate some ‘formal platform’, but to really coordinate action.”¹

We try to assume these internationalist tasks as best we can with comrades from all over the world. We know how difficult it is in this period of social peace, even if our enthusiasm is each time revived when our class sets the world on fire here and there. We remain modest in our efforts and anyway the prospect of a world meeting of revolutionaries is not on the agenda at all.

Moreover, is this call not irresponsible as to the feasibility of this meeting in the region? What about the actual organization? What about the safety of the militants? The ideological level, the good intentions of this call, hides an obvious adventurism and politicism. For what purpose?

Since 1979 we have written many articles on the struggles in this region, in several languages, and in particular from the insurrectional movement in 1991 in Iraq.

We are aware of counter-revolutionary and dogmatic positions developed in the region, like those in this call, and we oppose them for long. They are in line with attempts to sabotage the real internationalist effort, everywhere in the world. This is why we call on comrades to be extremely careful with this initiative.

ICG, October 2018.

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¹ *“International proposition – Invariance of our international activity: Some practical elements to concretise this proposition (I.C.G.)” in Communism no.4 (Winter 1986/87). Other contributions had also been published in our central reviews in Spanish and in French.*