

extra



Communist Party
Workers of all lands, unite!
June 2024

Unity!

TORIES OUT

Unite for workers' rights, public ownership and peace

VOTE COMMUNIST

Deeds not words!

PHIL KATZ
RED WEEKENDS

OUR CAMPAIGNING Communist Party exists to put working people in control of our society. We have all had enough of the rich bleeding Britain dry, syphoning off monopoly mega profits, ravaging local services and polluting our environment. Can something be done about all of this?

Communists say, YES something can be done. That it's in the interests and within the power of working people to make real, fundamental and lasting changes to the way we run our country and society.

What workers look for is deeds not words, as establishment parties talk 'change' but change little and are bent on keeping control over our lives.

To achieve real change, we need our community organisations and our trade unions, our youth and student associations, women's and peace organisations to work together, put away the minor differences and focus on the big picture. We need a **united front** to turn things around.

That will be the message of the Communist Party as it steps up its campaign for 'Public ownership, worker's rights and peace.'

Over the weekends of 22/23 and 29/30 June the party is mobilising to lift its campaign, with street meetings, leafleting in more than 100 city and town centres, on estates and meetings with strategic allies. It is a local community and big workplace focussed campaign and the aim is to take the message of socialism into new communities who have not met the communists for years and out into rural areas and villages.

Where there is a Communist candidate voters will be offered the Communist Manifesto **see inside**. Elsewhere the campaign is for the most left wing vote, for a ceasefire in Gaza and for socialist policies.

PHIL KATZ IS THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S 2024 ELECTION COORDINATOR

from the official opposition.

Labour looks set to win a runaway victory and the real fight is who will come second.

For the working class this is a mixed benefit. To see the back of the Tories will bring joy to working class communities throughout the land.

We live in a broken Britain where wages have shrunk as a proportion of national income for more than a generation and decades of public spending cuts have left public services on the brink of breakdown.

Privatisation has produced a crisis in the water utilities; our railways are under invested and impossibly expensive, the NHS is hopelessly underfunded and in hock to private health care operators; gas and electricity privateers leech off public subsidy and squeeze the last pound of profit out of families.

Such is the extent of poverty that millions of workers, including the working poor, turn to food banks to make ends meet.

The hopes of millions will be invested in a Labour government but Labour's leadership is more interested in reducing expectations than inspiring voters.

Gone is the heady excitement of 2017 when a genuinely popular leader and a radical election manifesto overturned a 20 point Tory lead and deprive the Tories of a parliamentary majority.

Today we have an uninspiring leader tainted with years of service to the

capitalist state and morally compromised by his backing for the genocidal regime in apartheid Israel.

But more, Labour's leadership has made it explicitly clear that they will repeat the mistake made by Gordon Brown in the turn of the century New Labour government and will stick with Tory spending limits.

Already this strategy has been rubbished by economists with the prediction that Labour in government will be forced to further cuts in services or raise taxes.

The knock on effect of this is that popular expectations that the NHS crisis will be resolved, that council houses will be built, that work will be found for the unemployed and that the social care crisis can be overcome will be dashed.

Communists argue that the long term structural problems of class divided society can only be finally overcome by socialism and working class state power. But short of the working class in power it is necessary to fight for working class interests in the here and now.

★ Restore public ownership in mail, rail, utilities and transport.

★ Tax the rich and fund our NHS, social care, education and public housing

★ Restore trade union rights and rights in the workplace.

★ Make Britain a force for peace in the world and leave NATO.

★ Fight for liberation and our personal and collective freedom.

Nick Wright
ELECTION FEVER

SHAPING UP is a full blown political crisis. The Tories – for long the preferred party of capitalist continuity – are in meltdown. When working class voters plumped overwhelmingly to leave the neo-liberal European Union the progressive left knew it would eventually precipitate a crisis in Britain's politics and set off changes in the EU. We understood that our ruling class was divided but didn't expect it to ignite the blue touch paper and set off a crisis in the Conservative Party so dramatically.

But that is what we have. A series of liars, lame ducks and lunatic Tory premiers have been replaced by the richest man in parliament and guess what? Rishi Sunak has no idea how working people think and even less of a grip on his own party and Cabinet.

With Reform UK's polling figures – on some calculations – exceeding those of the Tories the eclipse of the Tory party as we know and hate looks imminent.

Such is its collapse that it will be lucky if it wins enough parliamentary seats to



ELECTIONS&REVOLUTION

‘It would be sheer nonsense to think that the most profound revolution in history, the first case in the history of the world of power being transferred from the exploiting minority to the exploited majority, could take place within the time-worn framework of the old, bourgeois parliamentary democracy, without drastic changes, without the creation of new forms of democracy, new institutions that embody the new conditions for applying democracy.’ **Declaration of the First Congress of the Communist International.**



Communists with a manifesto for change

Unity reporter
ELECTIONS

THE COMMUNIST PARTY is contesting its highest number of Westminster seats for 40 years and the battle-cry is ‘Tories out – unite for workers’ rights, public ownership and peace!’

The aim in fielding candidates across Britain is to build a mass movement against austerity and war and to build the struggle for socialism.

The Communist Party brings popular, socialist, revolutionary and anti-imperialist politics to as many working people and young people as possible and offers this chance to join the fight to kick out the Tories and to build the Communist Party and the class struggle.

In Scotland health service worker **Drew Gilchrist** is standing in Coatbridge and Bellshill and university lecturer **Richard Shillcock** fights in Edinburgh North and Leith.

Warehouseman and tenant’s union activist **Gary Steele** stands in Glasgow North East.

Rochelle Russell – who has worked in social care, as a cleaner, an artists’ model and has performed at Glastonbury stands in Taunton and Wellington.

Pensioner activist **Ann Green** is running in Leicester South.



Solicitor **Dan Ross** is communist candidate in Bury South while **Nick Davies**, who works in an NHS community rehab team is standing in Hastings and Rye



Former postal worker and union organiser **Darren Turner** stands in Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket while retired housing expert **Lorraine Douglas** runs against Liz Truss in South West



Norfolk; hospitality sector worker **Freddie Sofar** is the youngest candidate in the East of England and is standing in Ipswich South London



stonemason **Oliver Snelling** standing in Lewisham North.



Disability rights campaigner **Emma-Jane Phillips** stands in Newcastle East and Wallsend.



Housing officer **Bob Davenport** is secretary of the trades council and stands for the Communist Party in Merthyr Tydfil and Aberdare.



Also standing in Blaenau Gwent at the Heads of the Valleys is Communist Party general secretary **Robert Griffiths**.



Are the rich winning the class war?

UNITY REPORTER
MEDIA

IN A STINGING attack on right wing consensus in the media Communist Party general secretary Rob Griffiths said: “Right-wing contentions are now presented in the mass media as unquestioned truths”.

Speaking at a special election meeting of the Communist Party’s political committee he condemned Britain’s mainstream political parties and broadcasting media for their “craven capitulation” to the Tory-supporting tabloid press.

“It now goes almost without challenge to portray taxation and public spending as purely negative factors in a party’s manifesto, to be costed and condemned” Robert Griffiths argued, “except when it comes to yet more spending on so-called ‘defence’ as Labour, the Tories and Reform UK outbid each other in their spending pledges for militarism and war”.

Similarly, the party’s general secretary pointed out, it has now

become part of a largely unchallenged consensus that immigration is a contributory factor to Britain’s chronic problems of poverty, NHS underfunding and the lack of affordable housing.

Together with Russia, China and once again North Korea, they all supposedly pose a growing threat to Britain, its borders and ‘way of life’ – as though everyone shares roughly the same standard of living and quality of life, he said.

He urged Communist Party and other left candidates in the General Election to constantly present a class analysis of society’s problems and their remedies in concrete terms that people can recognise. “Britain remains fundamentally a class-divided society, ruled by a wealthy and powerful capitalist class that exploits workers’ labour power here and around the world, always seeking to divide, divert or defame those who might challenge this reality”, he said.

Recalling the words of US billionaire Warren Buffet: “There’s class warfare, all right, but it’s my

class, the rich class, that’s making war, and were winning” Robert Griffiths said: “British imperialism has a long record of bombing, invading and occupying other countries, fomenting conflict that has driven millions of people from their homeland in search of peace, work and stability”.

“The challenge for the left now is how to expose these realities and explain the connections between ruling class policies and the real problems facing working class people and its local communities”.

Looking beyond 4 July, Robert Griffiths said the ruling class would have to decide whether to rebuild the Tory Party, switch to supporting Reform UK – an unlikely option – or try to complete its takeover of the Labour Party.

“On the other side, socialists and Communists have to work out how to build a united front that can bury the Tory Party and fight a Keir Starmer-led government to secure left and progressive policies”.

THE DENTIST CAN’T SEE YOU NOW.

WAITING ROOM



UNITY! asked comrade Mark Jones from Toothless in England to give us key points to raise with candidates in the general election.

Mark, who was one of the founders of Toothless, says the campaign’s six point charter lays out the basic dental care needs of working people who rely on the National Health Service.

He says there is a chronic shortage of NHS dentists and many people are suffering pain and all manner of health issues as a result. There is a real need for government action to ramp up the training of dentists and dental health professionals. This has to be coupled with measures to incentivise dentists to remain in the NHS.

The first demand is for an NHS dentist for everyone, Secondly a radical

reform of the dental contract is needed to encourage and retain dentists in order to provide NHS services.

A big injection of funds is necessary to cover the remaining 50% of the unfunded population.

Central to the campaign is a demand for all dental treatments to be free of charge and this is linked to a demand that privatisation of dental service by stealth must end.

At the heart of the campaign is the demand for dental health care to be free, universal and comprehensive with all dental health professionals – hygienists, therapists included and preventative treatments and routine check-ups to be made core NHS functions.

Asked if a restoration school-based dental service might help he pointed out the recent Food Foundation report which shows that our kids experience an

epidemic of poor diets, food insecurity and poverty and that they are getting shorter, fatter and sicker.

Obesity levels are up a third, type 2 diabetes has risen by a fifth. This is a long term health time bomb unless practical measures are put in place and school based dental service coupled with free school meals is a way to tackle the child health and dental crisis.

Marx says Toothless have launched 12 regional/county/city campaign groups, held dozens of street stalls, been invited to speak at a number of webinars, conducted numerous newspaper, television and radio interviews, spoken to hundreds of patients on the streets, thousands have joined our Facebook groups. organised several emergency dental treatment mobile surgeries through the Dentaid charity.

<https://toothlessinengland.org>



THE GENERAL ELECTION IS A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO REMOVE THE TORIES AFTER 14 YEARS AND TO BUILD THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND SOCIALISM IN BRITAIN

CRISIS AT HOME AND ABROAD

Working people face a deep crisis with stagnant wages, declining living standards, spiralling poverty and crumbling public services. Meanwhile, profits rise and the rich get richer. Our democratic rights and civil liberties are under attack.

Globally, war is spreading. Israel's genocide against Palestinians and the war in Ukraine continue. Britain's ruling class profits from these conflicts and is gearing up for a new Cold War against China.

THE ALTERNATIVE

The communists have an alternative to Sunak and Starmer. We have an alternative to capitalism. We can build a new society free from poverty, exploitation, and war—a socialist society.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S VISION

The Communist Party is fielding candidates across Britain to build a mass movement against austerity and war and to promote socialism. We will bring popular, socialist, revolutionary and anti-imperialist politics to working and young people in the weeks ahead.

JOIN THE FIGHT

SUPPORT THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN THE FIGHT FOR A BETTER FUTURE. VOTE FOR SOCIALISM AND PEACE ON 4 JULY 2024.

A 12-point programme for real change

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Give women full protection of the law against domestic violence and misogyny. Pension justice for WASPI women. Protect women's sex-based rights. Equal pay for every type of work. Rights to socialised child care and full employment rights for women from day one at work.

MIGRATION & ANTI-RACISM

Bring workers together at work and in communities. No scapegoating refugees or migrant workers. For an anti-racist immigration and nationality law. Oppose right wing racism and fascism. Combat antisemitism and Islamophobia.

HOUSING

Begin a mass campaign of council house building and introduce immediate controls on rent. We need affordable housing for millions—not more luxury developments for the millionaires!

DEMOCRACY

Abolish the House of Lords and reverse Tory-Labour attacks on our democratic freedoms and trade union rights. Restore powers and finances to local government, rebuild civic pride and develop modern community facilities for all.

PROGRESSIVE FEDERALISM

Restore and devolve economic and financial powers to the Scottish and Welsh Parliaments. Elect powerful Regional Assemblies in England to rescue public, create jobs and tackle the challenge of climate change.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Launch a new green industrial revolution to fight climate change. With public ownership, investment and planning this would create more than a million new jobs. We need an arms conversion programme to convert weapons of war into machines of peace. P

PEACE

Adopt an independent foreign policy for peace: withdraw from US-led NATO, support a peace policy in Ukraine, end the New Cold War against China and get rid of nuclear weapons—threatening to murder millions of civilians is barbaric.

PALESTINE

Solidarity with the Palestinian people—stop funding and arming Israel's genocide, prosecute the war criminals and recognise the Palestinian State.

AUSTERITY

End austerity and properly fund local and national public services by taxing the rich and big business monopoly profits.

THE NHS

End the creeping privatisation of our NHS and properly fund it with large scale investment across Britain. Take Big Pharma into public ownership and direct research & development—which we already subsidise—to serve the needs of the people. Support the demand of 'Toothless in England' for an NHS dentist for everyone.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

End the profiteering and take the railways, Royal Mail, water and energy sectors back into public ownership and democratic control. Nationalise the banks—not bail them out!

JOBS AND INDUSTRY

Direct public and private capital into productive industry, end economic domination by the City of London, rebuild through a regional development strategy and create high-quality and well-paid jobs and apprenticeships across Britain.

Vote Communist wherever you can on 4 July 2024, and vote to kick the Tories out. Join the Communist Party and YCL today and play your part in the fight for a better future.

Promoted by Robert Griffiths on behalf of the Communist Party, both at CPB Top Floor, Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Road, Croydon CR0 1BD





UNDER CAPITALISM

“Prostitution is the way out for the woman who fails to find herself a permanent breadwinner. Prostitution, under capitalism provides men with the opportunity of having sexual relationships without having to take upon themselves the responsibility of aring materially for the women until the grave.”

Alexandia Kollantai was people’s Commissar for Welfare in the first Soviet Government

Communist Party statement

On Prostitution

Prostitution is one of the worst forms of human exploitation. Although we recognize that some men and boys are exploited in this way it remains the case that the vast majority of those trapped in the sex trade are women and girls therefore we centre this statement on women and girls.

WE EXTEND unwavering solidarity and empathy to all those who are trapped in the sex trade and as communists it is incumbent on us to put forward a class analysis of prostitution.

Those who founded the labour and trade union movement did so in a period where millions of women and children were forced to sell their bodies to survive but they did not support prostitution as form of ‘work’. They correctly saw prostitution as a social ill to be eradicated.

‘...for the rest it is self-evident that the abolition of the present system of production must bring with it the abolition of the community of women springing from the system ie of prostitution both public and private!’

Karl Marx: *Communist Manifesto*

In keeping with the history and tradition of the Labour and Trade Union movement we reaffirm that prostitution is a social ill that should be eradicated. Prostitution proliferates in countries where economies are unstable, and levels of inequality are high. Prostitution also increases in countries where there is conflict and war- refugee women are

there is complete economic breakdown and no other opportunities. We note that it is working class women and girls and the most oppressed who end up trapped in the sex trade due to a lack of economic choice.

Women and girls should be able to secure well paid jobs, good housing, and education without the need to prostitute themselves. Prostitution is not a genuine and free choice; it is a survival behaviour, mostly engaged in by working class women and girls who suffer economic disadvantage.

While prostitution exists, there can never be true equality between men and women. The continued existence of commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls has an adverse impact on how men and boys engage in relationships with all women. There are clear and undisputed links between the male demand for prostitution, child sexual exploitation and pornography. Prostitution, by its very nature, does not constitute a relationship of equals as the man paying for sexual access to a woman’s body has full power and control.

Individuals and organisations with a commercial interest in the

campaigns both inside and outside the Labour and Trade Union movement to get prostitution reframed as “work”.

We call on trade unionists and all in society to reject the assertion ‘sex work is work’ on the following grounds:

1 Prostitution is inherently violent and requires in and of itself the subjugation of women and girls- there is no form of work where this could ever be acceptable.

2 Health and safety regulation is impossible in the sex trade- In any occupation that involves exposure to bodily fluids workers wear masks, gloves, gowns, and goggles to protect themselves. Prostitutes can never benefit from these levels of protection because of the nature of prostitution.

3 Extreme levels of violence, rape, degradation, and humiliation cannot be regulated against as they are part and parcel of prostitution. Such levels of harm against workers in work would never be tolerated. Women in prostitution experience more physical and sexual violence that women on average. A German study by the German federal ministry for Family affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth reports that 41% of women in prostitution experience physical or sexual violence or both in the context of prostitution.

4 The sexual sadism that prostitutes are exposed to causes the type of physical internal injuries and psychological trauma

that should never be accepted in the world of work.

5 The murder rate is particularly high in the sex trade. Prostitutes are almost nine times more likely to be killed than soldiers in combat. Legalisation of the sex trade does not protect the lives of prostitutes. Since the German legalisation of the sex trade in 2022 there has been 85 homicides of prostituted persons committed by clients. in addition, there have been at least 49 attempted homicides.

6 Pregnancy and even multiple pregnancies are risks arising out of prostitution which has adverse implications for the women herself, for children born out of prostitution and for society itself. This should never be accepted an overhead of ‘employment.’

7 The high levels of substance use necessary to enable prostitutes to cope with the abusive practices of the men who buy sex should never be tolerated in the world of work.

All attempts to organise prostitutes into trade unions have so far failed to effectively challenge those who profit from this form of exploitation. There are several reasons for this failure: There is no genuine employee/ employer relationship;

1 Lines become blurred between those running sexual entertainment services and those offering sexual services.

2 Strippers and others are treated as independent contractors who rent space and equipment from the clubs and as such they are freely financially and sexually exploited. If they don’t tolerate the exploitation, they are not booked therefore they are reluctant to challenge the profiteers. Stripping is closely associated with prostitution, can include full sexual services and it is an entry point into other forms of prostitution.

3 Criminal gangs and organized crime are deeply embedded into the sex trade and the trafficking of women by these gangs is widespread, a fact that is ignored by those running ‘sex work is work’ campaigns. Dutch prosecution services estimate that up to 70% of prostitutes have been forced into the sex industry. There is a strong link between prostitution and trafficking in human beings for the purposes of sexual exploitation. Trafficking is

defined by the European parliament as the recruitment, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of people through threat, force, fraud, deception, abduction, abuse of power, a position of vulnerability or other forms of coercion with the aim of exploiting them for profit- trafficking of human beings for the purposes of sexual exploitation remains the most prevalent form of trafficking in the EU.

All ‘campaigning’ across the sex trade has been limited to keeping sexual entertainment venues open which is in the interests of those who have power and control of the sex industry. It is impossible for trade unions to organise, to push for improved health and safety, to engage in talks or disputes to improve pay, terms, and conditions. The industry is fragmented, mostly unregulated, it is driven by organized crime and criminal gangs therefore rife with additional forms of criminality. There are no bargaining units, and no genuine pressure is put to bear on the profiteers and criminal gangs who have complete control of the sex industry. The light touch regulation at the legal end of the market, the strip clubs, enables the clubs to exist and does nothing to protect the women involved in the industry.

The Communist Party opposes all forms of campaigning to decriminalise prostitution. According to Europol legalization makes it easier for traffickers to use the legal system to exploit their victims and legal businesses are used to cover up exploitation with the result that this increases incentives for human trafficking. The negative consequences of the decriminalization of pimping, the purchase of sex and societal normalization of prostitution increases demand for prostitution which leads to an increase in trafficking.

We accept the extensive evidence and testimony that in countries where prostitution is legalised, conditions are even worse for those selling sex. For example, ‘menus’ are available in multi storey brothels offering sex buyers the opportunity to try out forms of extreme sexual violence on women and girls. Hard core violent pornography is played on a loop further encouraging male sex buyers to act out extreme forms of abuse on the women they pay for.

We reject the poor-quality data from the ‘sex work is work’ advocates who claim that prostitution is ‘safer’ in countries



NATURE & HUMANITY

'Thus at every step we are reminded that we by no means rule over nature like a conqueror over a foreign people, like someone standing outside nature – but that we, with flesh, blood and brain, belong to nature, and exist in its midst, and that all our mastery of it consists in the fact that we have the advantage over all other creatures of being able to learn its laws and apply them correctly.'

Friedrich Engels *The Part Played by Labour in the Transition from Ape to Man* 1876

where the industry is fully legalised. These studies are flawed as they were carried out in countries where prostitution is illegal. Prostitutes continue to suffer significant harm and are murdered in countries where prostitution is fully legalised as 2024 press reports from Austria highlight.

It is of concern that the voices of the women who have successfully exited prostitution and speak out against it are deliberately and consistently ignored. This leads to a false and misleading narrative about prostitution which is dominating public discourse. The existence of commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) has an adverse impact on everyone in society, we all have a stake in society and a right to express views and take a position on CSE. As rates of violence against women and girls are on the rise, we reject the view that only certain groups of prostitutes, pimps and pornographers who agree with the existence of the sex trade have the sole right to speak about prostitution.

The Communist Party affirms our commitment to the following ;

1 to reject the assertion that prostitution is a form of 'work.' And to oppose the idea that the sex industry provides any suitable alternative for the material survival of women and girls. It is the worst form of exploitation that divides working class people and is falsely promoted as a form of work by those seeking to gain financially from the sexual exploitation of women and girls.

2 To support campaigns opposing the licensing of sexual entertainment venues (SVE) on the grounds that the existence of such establishments diminishes the safety, security and rights of women and girls.

3 To oppose the decriminalisation of prostitution

4 To ensure that all comrades are accurately briefed on the harms and abuses that are integral to prostitution, their adverse impact on those who are exploited for commercial gain, on relationships between women and men and on wider society.

5 to fully support the Nordic model which has been successfully rolled out in other countries and has led to a fall in prostitution. The model endorses the criminalization of the purchase of sex and the decriminalization of prostitutes. It calls for investment in high quality services for women and safe exit routes from the sex industry. In Sweden where the Nordic model has been introduced the demand for prostitution fell from 13.6% to 7.9%.

6 to join the wider movement in campaigning for a decent social security safety net and public services for women so that they do not have to resort to prostitution to survive.

7 to encourage young women workers to become organisers in trade unions and lead struggles for decent jobs, decent pay, terms, and conditions.

8 to join in campaigns for affordable childcare for working women.

9 to join in campaigning to secure flexible working agreements for working women.

10 To always uphold the right of women to secure well paid jobs, good housing, and education without the need to prostitute themselves.

Reference: European Parliament – Strasbourg 2023- regulation of prostitution in the EU-its cross border implications for gender equality and womens rights

Disabilities and equality



PHIL COSGROVE
DISABILITY

THE DISABLED and workers who are unfit to work continue to be attacked by a right-wing few who deem those with disabilities as 'scroungers and milking' a failing capitalist economy.

Recent threats from Prime Minister Sunak of stripping benefits from those in need and replacing them with food vouchers is nothing more than an attack on those who need support the most in our society.

Shockingly the Prime Minister recently accused disabled people of being part of 'Britain's sick note culture', particularly those who they class as having mild mental health conditions.

Their agenda is clearly to win votes from a dissatisfied working class base who are looking for somebody to blame for the current cost of living crisis that we find ourselves in, as shown by the stirring up of hatred and causing further divisions in our communities with their threats of

deporting those who have fled from conflicts across the world and are also accused of taking advantage of a welfare system that is at breaking point already due to Tory incompetence and mismanagement.

The same tactics are being used in their attacks on those with disabilities, whom the government accuses of making false claims to avoid employment. Those with hidden disabilities will also fall under this category, undertaking more unfit-to-work assessments designed to degrade and prevent the disabled from accessing the welfare system that is there to support those in need. These unfit-to-work assessments are undertaken by health workers who aren't qualified to make these hugely important decisions that can affect a disabled person's life.

Disabilities come in all shapes and forms and affect each disabled person differently, despite professional and highly trained doctors and consultants making diagnoses and recommendations the Government still insist on challenging their

assessments to prevent the disabled person from being awarded the benefits to which they are rightly entitled to.

Those who are unfit to work feel more isolated and vulnerable with the ever-growing attacks on them, feeling like they have no voice to express themselves or raise their concerns.

Many of those with disabilities who unfortunately can't work seek advice from charities and Citizens Advice which barely exist now due to government cuts. Those who have been struck with disabilities whilst being employed sadly end up having their union membership cancelled, resulting in them feeling abandoned.

The disabled face many attacks and experience daily inequalities and very much feel part of the class struggle. A disability can strike anybody when they least expect it and turn your life upside down. As a movement, we can learn from each other and add our voices to the broader struggle.

Those who face inequalities and are able to contribute are defined by people's inability to do certain things that they are supposed to do, as good workers, to be able to produce in ways designed to maximise profit. In a society where production is self-managed and for use, it would be inconceivable to prevent people from contributing to society on the grounds of what they were unable to do, when there is a great number of things they can do.

Under capitalism, there has simply not been a surplus to allow people to go without contributing, albeit in exploitative ways. Disability impacts negatively on people's social relationships and social participation. Social oppression, exclusion and discrimination people with impairment face are not inevitable consequences of having an impairment but are caused instead by the way a capitalist society is run and organised.

PHIL COSGROVE IS MERSEYSIDE COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARY AND A DISABILITY RIGHTS

COMMUNIST PARTY EVE OF POLL RALLY



Chaired by Will Dry convenor of the Communist Party's elections commission, speakers include: **Robert Griffiths** candidate for Blaenau Gwent & Rhymney, **Emma-Jane Phillips** candidate for Newcastle upon Tyne East and Wallsend, **Rochelle Russell** candidate for Taunton and Wellington and **Drew Gilchrist** candidate for Coatbridge and Bellshill.

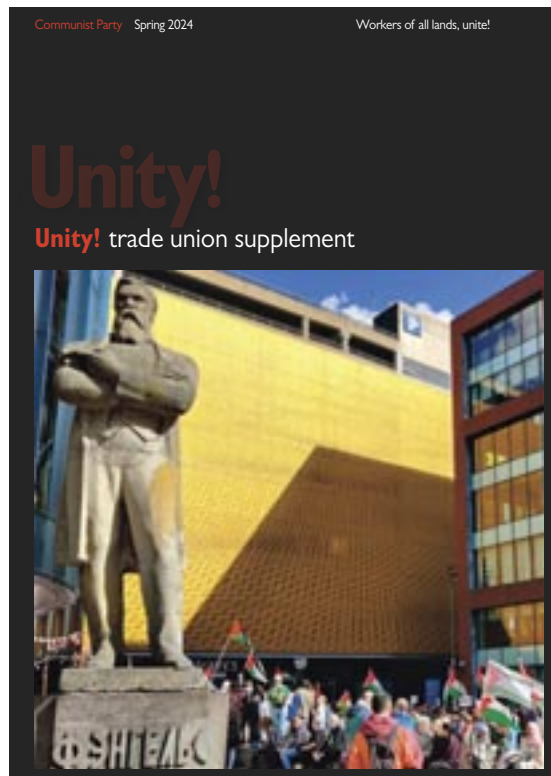
The QR code goes straight to the registration page for the rally.





INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION

It should be distinctly understood that to smash the existing unions and establish industrial unions by force is not its mission, but that on the contrary, it has come as the most intelligent and effective expression of labor unionism, that its purpose is to build and not to destroy, to help and not to hinder, thus inspiring the confidence of the workers, whether organized or unorganized, and recruiting its ranks from the most intelligent and experienced in every department of industrial activity. **Eugene V Debs Letter to Tom Mann. 1910**



Ales Gordon

INDUSTRIAL WORK

Trade union and working class activists can now access a new **Unity! Trade Union Supplement** produced by the Communist Party's Industrial Committee.

The Communist Party's historic role as the Marxist party of Britain's labour movement has never been more relevant or necessary than it is today. At its Spring meeting this year, the party's Executive Committee adopted new strategic priorities as part of our Party's industrial work:

- To raise the level and understanding of class struggle
- To build class unity and consciousness
- To weaken British imperialism and expose its links to class struggle

An organisational priority is to map and build the party's organisation among the trade unions and industrial activists are being consulted on this task.

In the meantime, this new **Unity! Supplement** is available to support and take forward the party's industrial strategy by distributing it through trade union networks, in workplaces, on picket lines and at labour movement meetings and conferences.

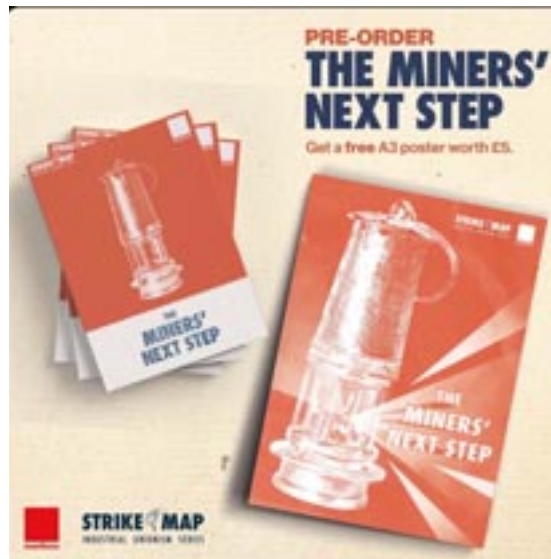
Printed copies can be obtained on request by emailing Party Centre at office@communistparty.org.uk.

ALEX GORDON IS THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S INDUSTRIAL ORGANISER



Contents include:

- ★ Escalating class struggle.
- ★ capitalist class attacks.
- ★ The workers' response.
- ★ The remaking of the British working class?
- ★ What is to be done now?
- ★ Trade unions, capitalism and the fight for socialism.
- ★ Unions in Britain today.
- ★ Communist Party role.
- ★ The history of communist organising in the unions.



Arguing the case for industrial unionism

Paul Macgee

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

THROUGH UNION reps, stewards and strike leaders network, Strike Map is committed to providing resources, peer to peer networks and places reps can seek training and support.

A key part of that is providing materials and political education that is easily accessible. That is why it is finalising a new series of pamphlets and writings, that are currently out of print, in a new *Industrial Unionism* series with Manifesto Press.

This series explores the ideas behind Industrial Unionism and what that looks like in a modern context of multiple unions per sector, and it questions how we organise in a post 2016 legislation landscape.

The first pamphlet in the series, J.T. Murphy's *The Workers' Committee An Outline of its Principles and Structure*, has already sold over 800 copies with excellent launch events held in Manchester and London.

Building on this success, Strike Map and Manifesto are publishing the second pamphlet in the series, *The Miners' Next Step* by Noah Ablett (The Unofficial Reform Committee). This seminal pamphlet in labour and trade union history, ranks alongside the 1848 *Manifesto of the Communist Party* in its revolutionary implications.

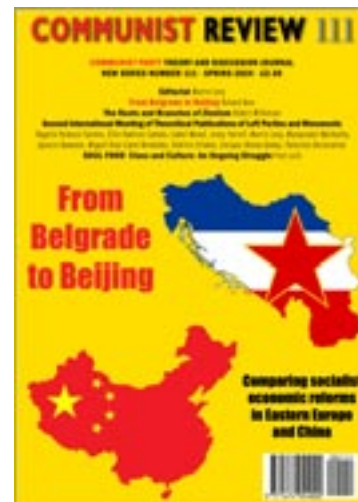
The significance of the *Miners' Next Step* today is clear. Its proposals represented a complete rupture with the cosy, consensual Lib-Lab politics, but also the parliamentary Labour Party whose deference to the state and its institutions was already self evident. With what looks like an incoming Labour government ahead, this pamphlet is an important reminder of what this means for workers. The pamphlet's own title is a vital question for our movement, who should control the future means of production? Private enterprise? The state or the workers themselves?

Our pamphlet will aim to bring these ideas to life in a modern context, including forewords from Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign, Lesbian and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM), and historian Rob Turnbull on the historical importance of this text and its application today.

Please use the order form at

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/the-miners-next-step> to let us know how many you will order.

If your organisation does not show, please choose none of the above and manually type it in. We will be launching the pamphlet at the Durham Miners Gala in July.



Editorial Martin Levy

Comparing socialist economic reforms in Eastern Europe and China Roland Boer

The roots and branches of Zionism Robert Wilkinson

2nd International Meeting of left theoretical publications

Rogelio Polanco Fuentes, Elier, Jenny Farrell, Ramírez Cañedo, Isabel Monal, Martin Levy, Munyaradzi Machacha, Ignacio Ramonet, Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel y Bermúdez, Dimitris Kilakos, Enrique Ubieta Gómez

SOUL FOOD Class and culture: an ongoing struggle Fran Lock

Don't vote for Genocide Welfare not Warfare Workplace Day of Action Thursday 27 June

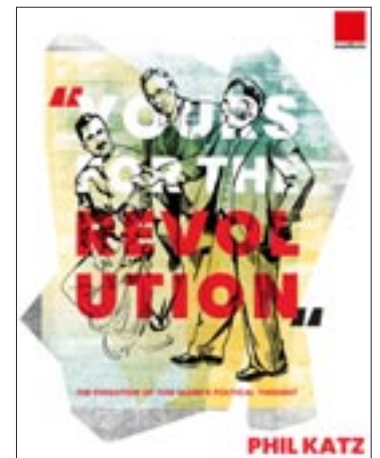
We're in the throes of a general election, and Israel's continued genocide in Gaza is very much on the ballot paper. UK arms sales to Israel, the continuing war in Ukraine, the drive for more military spending, and the increasingly dangerous world we live in must all be central to the campaign.

Solidarity with Gaza is key to defeating the warmongers' agenda so we've called a Workplace Day of Action on Thurs 27 June to raise the anti-war voice in the run up to the election.

Building for the Day of Action:

To be able to get the maximum activity on the 27th June take the first steps:

- Organise a meeting with your workmates to discuss what you will be doing on the day.
- Take a collection round your workplace for Medical Aid for Palestine.
- If your union has resources in support of Palestine, like posters and flyers take them round your workplace.
- Organise a delegation to the next national demo on Saturday 6th July and join the Trade Union bloc.



Tom Mann remains Britain's most accomplished trade unionist but each generation has to rediscover him.

Mann's theory of socialism and class organisation was forged in the fiercest and most decisive union battles, extending over a fifty year period. Yet little is known of his activity in the last two decades of his life, when he had his greatest impact and most enduring influence.

This was recognised throughout Europe, China, Australia, the USA and the Soviet Union. "Yours for the revolution" will fascinate and inspire. It covers his major strikes, organisations and the evolution of his political thought.

● Call a union meeting and put a motion in support of whatever action you decide to take on the 27th June.

● Set up a Free Palestine WhatsApp group in your union/workplace.

On the day:

Gauge what action that best fits your circumstances:

- Gather outside your workplace for a 30-minute stoppage.
- If this is not possible gather at lunchtime outside your workplace with a Ceasefire Now/Don't Vote for Genocide banner and/or posters.
- Organise a lunchtime protest inside your workplace. Find a room you can assemble your colleagues to listen to a speaker from Gaza calling for support and after take a photo of all those gathered with posters etc.
- If you don't work in an industry that has lunch-breaks as such, find out when most are free after work to meet up to protest outside your workplace.

Let StWC office know what you are organising so that we can share with others – email: office@stopwar.org.uk



SOCIALISM IN A SINGLE STATE?

'A United States of the World (not of Europe alone) is the state form of the unification and freedom of nations which we associate with socialism—about the total disappearance of the state, including the democratic. As a separate slogan, however, the slogan of a United States of the World would hardly be a correct one, first, because it merges with socialism; second, because it may be wrongly interpreted to mean that the victory of socialism in a single country is impossible. . .' *On the Slogan a United States of Europe* VI Lenin 1915

The Return of the European Question



July's general election will be the first since 2010 at which Britain's relationship with the European Union will not be central to the debates.

THAT BEING said, the issue is far from put to bed. From regular lobbying in the Financial Times, through to the review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement scheduled for 2025, and the establishment of the European Political Community in 2022, Britain's ruling class is and will be pushing for greater integration.

Given the architect of Labour's calamitous Brexit policy from the last general election is likely to be the next prime minister, this slide towards increased alignment will only increase in speed.

Why? Because Britain's capitalists never in their majority wanted to leave; indeed, quite the opposite. A principal reason that it took over three years to secure a deal is that

there was never a better deal for the majority of monopoly capital than the one it already had.

Funded again by the most pre-remain elements of the ruling class, in particular Lord Sainsbury, Labour's role as the second party of capital has been secured under Starmer's watch.

To return to the general election campaign now underway, none of the major parties is making any kind of case for what can be achieved outside of the EU.

This has the potential to create a double difficulty for socialists and communists: on one hand, we have a thoroughly establishment Labour Party and soft left looking for greater cooperation in economic and military terms, and on the other, a Conservative Party moving towards great cooperation in military and economic terms, while pretending it isn't.

What's been going on in terms of Britain and the EU recently is not that well known.

Liz Truss signed Britain up to the European Political Community in September 2022. The group was proposed by French president

Emmanuel Macron in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Nominally, it promotes greater cooperation over military, energy, climate, and migration. It's also a way for the EU to bolster its security in the wake of Brexit and with the possibility of a more isolationist Trump around the corner. Britain is set to host the organisation's fourth forum this year.

Of course, Gaza has seen greater cooperation in terms of military support, with EU member states getting more involved in funding and aiding Israel's military.

Economically, the 2025 review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement could see a Starmer government make the case for entering the European Economic Area, which would make the UK part of the Single Market again, allowing for the four freedoms of persons, goods, services and capital to be reestablished.

This would be a dangerous move for Starmer. But if he feels he can out-Tory the Tories on the small boats, it's one he might make. It's worth remembering that the British political class thought Brexit was primarily about immigration, rather

than sovereignty and control over the country's direction.

Other options on the table next year include some sort of Customs' Union. Starmer is promising the highest growth in the G7. He won't be looking to achieve that via a command economy.

There is the ongoing issue of Northern Ireland. While last year's Windsor Framework is an attempt to ease the concerns of Unionists, it also signals a thawing of relations between the British government and the European Commission.

So what do communists need to do in the coming period?

It's clear that we will need to revisit and renew the arguments we made in 2016, even within the party. There are younger and newer members who won't necessarily be aware of the absolute centrality of remaining outside of the EU to the creation of socialism in the UK. The EU, with its Single Market's strictures upon state aid and its enshrining of the rights of capital via freedom of establishment, is anathema to economic planning and control.

There is a battle for hearts and

minds in the British labour movement that still needs to be won. Seeing Brexit as emblematic of a culture war predicated upon divisions of age, race, and social attitudes is a strategy that is a substitute for the real divide in society, which is class, and the terrain on which the right wish to fight. The labour movement needs to do better, and communists must be in the vanguard of this.

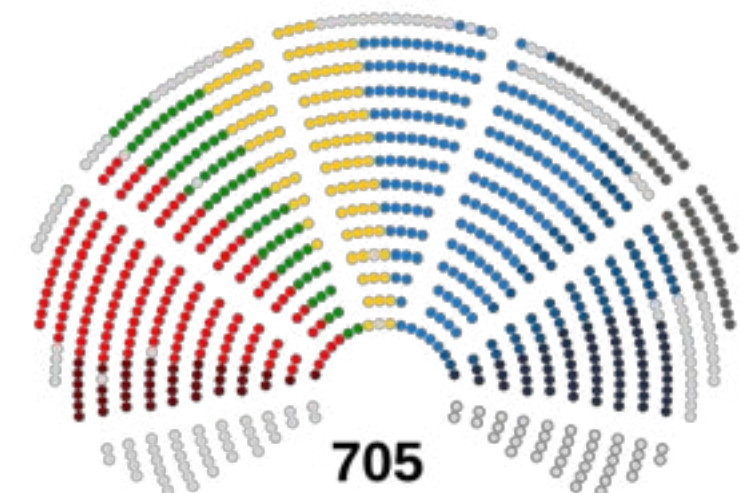
We need to emphasise the importance of a socialist analysis of the EU in political education work at every level of the party.

As a first step, the Europe Area Group of the International Commission, which I chair, will produce a pamphlet in the coming months that will arm comrades for the fight ahead.

And there will be a fight, comrades. We couldn't get ourselves to the centre of it last time, instead remaining on the periphery. Let's get ourselves well-positioned this time around.

MARTIN HALL CONVENES THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION EUROPE GROUP

Post-election confusion reigns in the European Union



NICK WRIGHT EURO ELECTIONS

THE ELECTIONS to the European parliament saw a strengthening of the right and the far right and a new set of problems for the informal alliance of conservative and social democrats that maintains a bi partisan management of the EU's neoliberal economic policies.

Although the strengthened group of xenophobic, right wing nationalist and outright racist formations hold many common positions they also reflect divergent interests and pursue contradictory foreign policies.

The European Conservatives and Reformists – where the Tories were situated before Brexit – includes the reactionary Catholic Polish Law and Justice Party and Giorgia Meloni's fascist rooted Fratelli di Italia. They faithfully follow the NATO line and are opposed to Russia.

With a fair degree of ideological overlap the Identity and Democracy group have a more ambiguous position. Le Pen's Rassemblement National secured the expulsion from the group of the German Allianz fur Deutschland but may permit something of a rapprochement in the interests of extra EU funds and clout.

The Italian Lega and Austrian Freedom parties are less enthusiastic about the EU's mirroring of the NATO posture towards Russia but have abandoned much of their ant EU rhetoric and are fully signed up to the EU's bipartisan policies on spending. Existing president of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen wants another five year term and is manoeuvring to be the candidate of the conservative and Christian Democrat European People's Party but with the now exploded French les Republicaines and Ireland's Fianna Fáil somewhat disillusioned she is scratching around for new supporters.

Her strategic problem is that the temptation to do a deal with the likes of Meloni compromises the cosy consensus with the Socialists and Democrats group and the Renew liberals that is the guarantee of the EU's austerity economic policies'.

Le Pen's Rassemblement Nationale may well be the beneficiary of Euro fanatic Macron's crazed electoral gamble and like Meloni Le Pen's anti EU rhetoric has been abandoned.

The Left and Greens took a battering during the elections. Staunch anti imperialists Clare Daly and Mick Wallace in Ireland fell before a vicious media onslaught and a pincer movement from both the right and left with a spoiler ultra left intervention in Dublin.

The Portuguese communists lost one MEP, the Greeks increased their vote substantially, Sara Wagenknecht's new party displaced Die Linke and the Belgian Workers Party won extra seats.

Communist Party Y Blaid Gomiwnyddol

Heads of the Valleys Special
Rhifyn Arbennig Blaenau'r Cymoedd

Undod! Unity!

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE VALLEYS?

Who fights for the working class?



Bob Davenport
Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare

Secretary of Merthyr Tydfil Trades Union Council, former UNISON branch secretary, fighter for jobs, public services, NHS and decent housing for all. Born in Dowlais, now living in Cefn Coed, he speaks Welsh and is an active supporter of Cymru-Cuba and the Palestine Solidarity Campaign. Alongside the communists he opposes Putin's war and NATO expansion.



Robert Griffiths
Blaenau Gwent & Rhymney

General Secretary of the Communist Party, has campaigned for Llanwern steel jobs, freehold housing and free nursery education (including Welsh-language); and against America's wars, the Newport LG fiasco and local pollution. Former Wales president of engineering union AUEW-TASS and Gwent tutor with the TUC and Workers Education Association.



Starmer's Poodle
Big Business & Banking Britain plc

Well-trained, obedient, with bark and bite removed. Will do what owner commands. Enjoys photo-ops and climbing ladders. Chases cars and cyclists but doesn't think anything should be done to stop the mass killing of Palestinians in Gaza. Will change his mind if President Biden tells him to. Loves taking voters for long walks up the garden path.

VOTE COMMUNIST

www.communistparty.org.uk



Codi treth ar y cyfoethogion ac elwau busnes mawr – buddsoddi yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd!



Challenge the fat cats
Heri'r cathod tew

The City of London is the world's biggest laundrette and casino. Put a levy on every financial transaction. Close British-run tax havens around the world



It's a cost of profits' crisis
Argyfwng 'gost o elwau' ydyw

Why the rising prices? The energy, retail and banking giants are making billions in profits every year. Nationalise them to control prices and invest in a green future for workers, young people and the planet.



Tax the rich and big business super-profits – invest in our Valleys communities!



Restore our communities
Adfer ein cymunedau

We've lost too many factories, bus services, youth centres, post offices, pubs, banks ... that's capitalism's "market forces". The Valleys need public ownership, public investment and long-term planning ... that's socialism.



Who speaks for you?
Pwy sy'n siarad i chi?

Keir Starmer has dumped pledges to tax bankers' bonuses, super-profits and the super-rich more; to renationalise gas, electricity and water; to abolish Universal Credit and lift the two-child benefit cap on poor families; to begin a £28 billion "Green prosperity plan"; and abolish tuition fees and the House of Lords.



No cold war! no more nukes!
Dim rhyfel oer! dim niwcs!

Invest £100 billions in the NHS, housing, public transport and the environment instead. For an independent foreign & defence policy, not made in the USA. Negotiate for peace in Ukraine. Stop arming Israel - justice for the Palestinian people.

If you elect them, your Communist MPs will speak and campaign for all these policies and more at Westminster!



Os ydych chi'n eu hethol, bydd eich ASau Comiwnyddol yn siarad ac yn ymgychu o blaid y polisïau hyn, ac eraill, yn San Steffan!

Promoted by Dominic MacAskill (agent, Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare) on behalf of Bob Davenport and Bernard Assinder (agent, Blaenau Gwent & Rhymney) on behalf of Robert Griffiths, c/o CPB, Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Rd., Croydon CR0 1BD. Printed by A Print, 23 Enterprise Way, Newport NP20 2AQ



CLASS AND POLITICS

“History, in general, treats the working class as the manipulator of politics treats the working man – that is to say, with contempt when he remained passive, and with derision, hatred and misrepresentation whenever he dares evince a desire to throw off the yoke of political or social servitude.” **James Connolly**



50th anniversary of the Dublin-Monaghan bombings

IRISH COMMUNISTS STATE TERROR

PÁIRTÍ CUMANNACH na hÉireann /the Communist Party of Ireland has expressed its solidarity with the families of the victims of the Dublin-Monaghan bombings on the 50th anniversary; bombings that murdered 33 and injured 300 of Irish citizens, leaving many families and individuals scarred for life both emotionally and physically.

The party statement said: “The bombings were carried out under the direction and coordination of British state military intelligence using its proxy forces – loyalist paramilitaries – on this occasion the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF).

Three bombs were exploded on two very busy Dublin streets at a time when thousands of working people were shopping or going home from work. The third Dublin bomb exploded near Kildare Street. The Monaghan bomb was detonated in the heart of the town.

“The then Irish government, a coalition of Fine Gael and the Labour Party, was one of the most reactionary governments produced by the Irish ruling class. The 2003 Barron Report into the bombings exposed the shambolic nature of An Garda Síochána’s police investigation into what was a terrorist attack on the Irish state, directed by the British state. At the

time of the attack the Irish government was instituting a regime of repression against Republicans and all those who expressed solidarity with the people in the six counties. The British state attack was a message to the Irish government and to the Irish people of the likely consequences of any support for the IRA campaign in the six counties.

“The British state continues to block and prevaricate regarding supplying all materials in relation to these events. It was in the British state’s interests to bomb Dublin and Monaghan 50 years ago, and it is still in its interests to block any further exposure of this state-directed crime. The British state has protected and continues to protect all those who planned and carried out the bombings.

“At a time when the Irish ruling class wants closer links with NATO, it should be remembered that Britain was then, and remains today, one of the most aggressive members of NATO.

The attack shows that Britain doesn’t care for Irish democracy, neutrality, and sovereignty.

The British state, then as now, continues to protect its interests and interfere in the affairs of the Irish people. The lesson of history must be learned by each generation, that British imperialism does not have friends but only interests to serve and pursue.

UNITY NEWS TEAM JULIAN ASSANGE

THE HIGH COURT ruling allowing Wikileaks founder Julian Assange to appeal against extradition to the USA to face multiple charges of espionage has been welcomed by the Communist Party.

Party general secretary Robert Griffiths told the RT television channel: ‘For a change, the English judiciary has shown a spark of independence from



No to the death penalty for Toomaj Salehi

RON BROWN PROTEST

THE CULTURE COMMISSION of the Communist Party has joined global calls to put pressure on the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to rescind the death sentence of progressive rapper and songwriter Toomaj Salehi.

In what the Committee for the Defence of Iranian People’s Rights (CODIR) has described as ‘an act of global terrorism,’ Salehi was sentenced to death by the Iranian authorities on 24 April on the charge of ‘corruption on earth.’

33-year old Saleh, who champions the fight against the vicious oppression of women (and the forced hijab) in his art and on the streets, was arrested for taking part in the 2022 Women-Life-Freedom uprising with his art and his activism.

Saleh’s death sentence has been handed down as hundreds of women have been arrested, fined and imprisoned for refusing to submit to a dominated status designated by the mandatory hijab.

Highlighting the unifying power of art and culture in the struggle for human rights and social justice, Nobel

Prize winner Narges Mohammadi has described Salehi as ‘the voice of Woman, Life, Freedom movement and its soundtrack.’

The execution of Salehi is an attack on cultural campaigners everywhere as well as a violation of human rights In Britain, CODIR and the General Federation of Trade Unions has celled on the public to write to the Iranian embassy to quash the death sentence.

The execution of Salehi is an attack on cultural campaigners everywhere as well as a violation of human rights

In Britain, CODIR and the General Federation of Trade Unions has celled on the public to write to the Iranian embassy to quash the death sentence.

In a statement the Culture Commission of the Communist Party said: “We will continue to oppose imperialist policy in the Middle East that has, historically, aided and abetted reactionary forces, encouraged regional conflict and caused humanitarian crises. The current sanctions imposed on Iran – led by the US and reinforced dutifully by the UK government – are a part of this policy. It is the people of Iran who suffer for the interests of Imperialism.

“It is the people of Iran who must decide their own future. To the Islamic Republic of Iran we say: Free Toomaj Salehi! Free all political prisoners now!

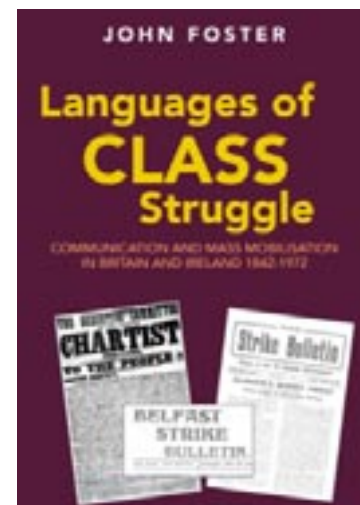
“To the UK government say No to threats or war moves against Iran!”

RON BROWN CONVENES THE COMMUNIST PARTY’S CULTURE COMMISSION

Merkel, former UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon and current French president Macron’, he pointed out.

In the interview, our Robert Griffiths also slammed the mainstream media and political parties in Britain and the West for refusing to stand in solidarity with Mr Assange – ‘with the honourable exception of the *Morning Star* and the half-hearted exception of the *Guardian*’, he added.

Insisting that the Wikileaks founder and Australian citizen had no chance of



This is a study of five key moments in the history of the British and Irish working class movements. John Foster applies some of the key insights of Soviet Marxist thinkers on language to the 1842 General Strike, the Councils of Action 1920, the Glasgow and Belfast General Strikes of 1919 and the 1972 UCS work-in on Clydeside.

£15 <https://redlettersspp.com>



In this episode Dan Ross is joined by Kenny Coyle, author of *Lies, Damned Lies and Anti-Communism*. Together they discuss common anti-communist myths (peddled by the right and some on the ‘left’) and why, despite having been repeatedly disproved, they continue to persist. Previous and future episodes are available on anchorfm, Spotify, and Google.

Free Julian Assange!

receiving a fair trial in the USA, he said the ‘only justifiable reason for Julian Assange to go there would be to receive a Congressional medal of honour for services to free speech, investigative journalism and a free media’.

Robert Griffiths has appeared on RT on several previous occasions when he has been free to express the Communist Party’s opposition to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

RT is currently banned from broadcasting in Britain.