

**The killing of Soleimani: a blow to Iran and a terrorist warning addressed to the Iranian, Arab and Middle Eastern masses.
Let's go again to the streets against the new wars in gestation, against the Conte government which is complicit in these preparations, for the immediate withdrawal of all Italian troops abroad!
Unconditional support for the Arab and Iranian squares boiling against imperialism and against their oppressive regimes!**

The killing of gen. Soleimani by the Pentagon is not directed only against a man and a political regime that in recent years had been able to skillfully erode spaces, in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, the United States of Obama and Trump and their allies. It is a terrorist warning addressed to the masses of the Arab world and the entire Middle Eastern area boiling in Sudan, Algeria, Lebanon, Iraq and elsewhere so that they keep in mind who is in charge in that region, and keep in mind that US interests are untouchable. This warning goes together with the attempt to revive the false division between "Sunnis" and "Shiites" which has benefited so much the interests of the global and local ruling classes.

It is not a case that Trump immediately rushed to clarify two things:

1. "we don't want a regime change in Iran, we don't want to bring down the Islamic regime" - the goal is to limit its sphere of influence and make it more malleable at the negotiating table;
2. if there is a strong Iranian response, the US counter-response will be "disproportionate".

The imperialist terrorism of the United States and NATO - of the same kind as that which Israel carries out against the Palestinian masses - aims not only to give a warning to the rulers of Tehran and other Arab capitals friendly with Russia, but also to generate fear among rebels who have been filling the squares of this area for two years to radically change their condition by breaking down their respective regimes. Because this radical change can only be achieved by cutting the nails, wings and finally the head of imperialist domination over the area.

Obama's America was against the fall of the various Mubarak, Ben Ali, Saleh in 2011. Similarly Trump's America is today against the fall of the current Arab and Middle Eastern regimes (including Assad) – it is not a case that Trump Administration has immediately recognized Tebbouni as the new president of Algeria, despite the mass desertion from the ballot box and the Algerian *Hirak* in place for a year. Washington no longer cultivates, perhaps, the crazy dream of having regimes built in total image and likeness of its interests. He knows that this is no longer possible because of the hatred and discredit the US has accumulated in the region and in the world. But it uses all the means at its disposal - wars, secret services, sanctions, diplomacy, private armies, mass media, bribes - to condition and force these governments not to harm

US interests. And if in this action it stands as a "protector" of the interests of an "ethnic" minority, it does so only for the cynical game "We love them, we use them, and in the end we disburden them". The case of the Syrian Kurds should have definitively clarified it.

For their part, the regime of Tehran and its allies in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine have seized the opportunity given by Soleimani's killing to revitalize their "anti-imperialist" proclamations, and from now on they will use the excitement that this assassination has aroused to throw the brutal blackmail against the great popular movements that have been going on for months in Lebanon, Iraq, Algeria, Sudan: anyone who rebels against their governments is playing the game of America and the imperialists. For those shaky regimes, what a golden opportunity to recover breath and support in this way!

We are on the side of the Middle Eastern masses that burn with anti-American, anti-Israel and anti-Western sentiments. But we are just as resolutely against bourgeois oligarchies, whether or not they have religious robes, that in Tehran, Baghdad, Beirut, Algiers exploit these sentiments to consolidate their despotic and corrupt regimes. Regimes that, by praising Islam, actually deal with very earthly interests of enrichment, hoarding of state funds and class and clan privileges. Regimes that have systematically crushed every attempt by the working class and the exploited to free themselves from a generalized condition of poverty and over-exploitation. Regimes that, in one way or another, have applied the IMF economic policy recipes, also recently imposing heavy additional sacrifices on their already exhausted populations.

These powers will try to put one against the other the sacrosanct mass hatred against imperialism and the anger that accrued and exploded against them in 2011-2012 and again in 2018-2019. On the contrary we see this hatred and this anger as complementary forces, to be welded in a single front of international and internationalist struggle at the same time anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. No opposition between Baghdad's Tahrir square which rightly refuses to consider the repressor Soleimani his own hero (and how could he?), and the mass of other demonstrators who shout in other squares "death to America". Trump and the Ayatollahs, the Pentagon's super-gangsters and the Soleimans are two sides of the same coin.

As for Italy, the Conte-bis government has covered Trump's adventurist and warmongering action, whose furious Islamophobia is totally complicit. His invitation to "caution", to "responsibility", to "moderation" certainly does not stem from love for "peace", of which there is no trace in the Middle Eastern area (ask the Palestinians, the Iraqis, the Kurds). It expresses the exhausting attempt to get its own share of booty in North Africa and the Middle East in the competition between the United States and the European Union, and not

to compromise its good trade relations with Iran and many Arab countries. But this positioning cannot hide the total complicity of the Italian state and of all Italian governments, of any color, with the endless war that western imperialism has unleashed for decades on Arab and "Islamic" peoples and is filling this vast area of the world of mourning, destruction, forced emigration, driving it back, first of all Iraq, as Baker promised, "to the Stone Age".

It is equally impossible to hide that, Salvini or not Salvini, the Italy of Mattarella, of the Cinquestelle, of the Democratic Party, etc., is on the side of dependent bourgeois regimes that in Cairo as in Tunis, in Algiers as in Khartoum, oppress their working classes and use an iron fist against their returning uprisings. The Italy of ENI, Federmeccanica and the other hundreds of companies that make huge profits in this area, is also the Italy of the troops deployed in Iraq, Lebanon, Niger, to prepare for other wars and train police and special troops riot.

It is impossible to predict whether the killing of Soleimani and what will follow as a response to it will trigger an uncontrollable chain reaction, generating a general war in the Middle East between the United States, Israel, the EU, petrol-monarchies on the one hand, Russia, Iran and their allies on the other - testing ground for the formation of two opposing capitalist sides in view of a new world slaughterhouse of unimaginable destructive capacity for humanity and nature. The revitalization of militarism in the West as in the East, in the North as in the South of the world, the war for space, the explicit decision by NATO to put China in its sights, leave no doubt that in the dominant circles people think concretely to this possibility to resolve an economic crisis despite everything unresolved, and respond with tried and tested reactionary recipes to a crisis of legitimacy and hegemony of the capitalist system of ever wider scope.

We are already on this inclined plane. And it would be childish to imagine that the art. 11 of the Italian Constitution, which for Italian rulers has been waste paper from the beginning, could be a concrete shield against new wars. The word must pass to the squares, to a broad and determined struggle against the new capitalist-imperialist wars in gestation and those already underway. Enough of hesitations! Enough also with the idea, said or unspoken, that the Russia-China-Iran front in formation is all in all preferable to the hateful US-NATO-EU deployment. Although divided by conflicts of interest with the western one, the Russia-China-Iran front has nothing preferable for the working class, it does not promise anything different from what it already does today, daily, on "its" workers: exploitation, exploitation, exploitation.

So let's go again to demonstrating with the slogan of protesters from San Francisco and other cities in the United States: "**No war, but class war**". No to the wars between capitalists and capitalist regimes, for capitalist ends of

oppression of labor and plunder of nature; yes to the global class war between exploited and exploiters.

Of course, we don't put the United States (or the EU) and Iran on the same plane. The United States, however declining, is always the imperialist country n. 1 in the world. Iran of the Ayatollahs is a simple area power - rightly hated for its anti-worker action by many proletarians in Iran (where just a little over a month ago there were widespread popular protests crushed in blood), in Iraq (where the militias headed by Soleimani have been shooting street demonstrations since October) and in Syria (where they have also distinguished themselves for similar "humanitarian" actions).

So: now and always against US imperialism, as guide and coordinator, as far as he can, of global capitalism. And above all **now and always against "our" imperialism and the Conte government**, its handling of "peace" and war, underhand but no less effective within the NATO and EU alignment, which will inevitably fall on the shoulders of the working class. Never, however, with the Ayatollah capitalist Iran, which confiscated and crushed in blood the great popular and proletarian uprising of 1979, and is deployed today with its militias and its political-ideological influence against the popular uprisings taking place in Arab world.

Revolutionary internationalists stand **i - n - c - o - n - d - i - t - i - o - n - a - l - l - y** on the side of the uprisings of the oppressed and exploited masses of the Arab world, the Middle East and Iran against imperialism and against their regimes, that are in one degree or another integrated with global capitalism and global counter-revolution.

Down with capitalist militarism and capitalist and imperialist wars!

No to the Yankee and Western aggression against the Iranian, Arab and "Islamic" exploited!

No credit openings to Iran, Russia, China, capitalist regimes and worker oppressors as much as Western democratic regimes!

Unconditional solidarity with the oppressed and exploited Arab and Iranian masses in revolt!

For the rebirth of the political organization of the exploited around the world!

Militant proletarian internationalism! International socialism!

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Il cuneo rosso (The red wedge) – **Gruppo comunista rivoluzionario**
(Revolutionary communist group) – **Pagine marxiste** (Marxist pages)
Revolutionary internationalist tendency - tend.int.riv@gmail.com