

# Bulletin 1/22



For the Information of Communist Forces in All Countries  
Excerpts and synopsis from the publications of „Gegen die Strömung” –  
Organ for the building of the Revolutionary Communist Party in Germany:  
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Appears in **ENGLISH** and Turkish

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*The subject of the leaflet from January/February was:*

## **First statement from the beginning of March 2022: Russian imperialism's war against Ukraine and the attitude of German imperialism**

For many years, the conflicts between Russian imperialism and the major imperialist powers of the West have been intensifying. There is the expansion of NATO on a large scale to the east by admitting former Soviet republics (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) as well as East European countries (Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Croatia, the Czech Republic and Slovakia). There are large troop deployments of Western imperialist countries directly to Russia's border, the expansion of Russian imperialism into Crimea and parts of Ukraine over the last eight years with fierce military operations at the local level, especially in eastern Ukraine. All these were omens of this military conflict, which now culminated in the invasion of the territory of influence of the Western imperialist great powers by the troops of Russian imperialism, through the invasion of the independent state of Ukraine.

German imperialism, which is increasingly expanding its role vis-à-vis US imperialism, is seizing the opportunity. A gigantic expansion of the aggressive Bundeswehr (100 billion euro plan) has been decided. Its foreign missions, including the bombing of Serbia and its capital Belgrade from March to June 1999, have so far been largely linked to the troops of other imperialist states.

### **Sharpening of the contradictions between the imperialist great powers**

Without question, the world situation has changed. Through the advance of the Western imperialist great powers in the last decades, also with the help of military operations up to imperialist wars like in Yugoslavia in 1999 or in Afghanistan from 2001, they succeeded in expanding their areas of influence at the expense of imperialist Russia.

The attempt of the Russian imperialists to overthrow the government there with their war against Ukraine and installing a pro-Russian regime, possibly conquering Kiev, occupying and seceding parts of the country, is part of this global struggle of the major imperialist powers for spheres of influence.

An increase in the danger of direct war between major imperialist powers is developing at a rapid pace.

The problem is that in the 21st century, as in the 20th century, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to occupy another country with ground troops for any length of time.

In Afghanistan, neither the Russian troops nor the imperialists nor the USA imperialists with their allies, including German imperialism. Where regimes have been removed, as in Iraq and Libya, a confused situation has arisen of rival mercenary forces of different states fighting over the resources there. This is not a stable solution for imperialism either. However, this will not stop the imperialist great powers from continuing to invade and occupy other countries in order to secure areas of military influence in the global competition.

Even if the Western imperialist great powers are currently demonstratively united against Russian imperialism, the rivalries in the struggle for the largest spheres of influence in Eastern Europe and elsewhere are also coming to a head among the Western imperialists, especially between the USA imperialists and the imperialist great powers in Europe, and here in particular also the German imperialists.

### **Solidarity with the truly democratic-revolutionary forces in Ukraine and Russia**

In both Russia and Ukraine, democratic and revolutionary forces are not only confronted with harsh state repression.

In Russia under Putin's government, a Nazi-fascist movement has existed for more than 30 years, which is largely tolerated, even partly used as a mercenary force in military battles such as in Ukraine, and which also forces democratic and revolutionary forces into violent and armed confrontations. This is especially true in the big cities, but also in rural areas.

In the struggle against these Nazi-fascist gangs of murderers, a by no means small group has emerged, especially of young people, who see cooperation between the state apparatus of Putin's government and these Nazi-fascist organisations. Here is a potential for a democratic-revolutionary alliance with anti-Nazi forces in Ukraine.

In Ukraine, it is by no means news that Nazi-fascist groups are engaged in armed struggle, especially in eastern Ukraine.

Yes, they have become part of the reactionary Ukrainian state apparatus, like the so-called Azov regiment. Nazi forces have helped to break up democratic protests and are a real danger to all democratic-revolutionary forces. In addition, Stepan Bandera, who is known as a Jew-hating Ukrainian nationalist and leader of Ukrainian nationalist Nazi collaborators in the mass murder actions of Nazi fascism in Ukraine is today honoured throughout Ukraine, with hundreds of street names and several monuments, even in large cities, without these monuments being torn down.

For German imperialism, Ukraine was already a preferred object of exploitation in the time of the First World War and afterwards. The crimes of German imperialism during the invasion of the socialist Soviet Union, especially in Ukraine, have by no means been forgotten. These crimes show that despite the strong cooperation of parts of the Ukrainian population with the Nazis, especially in the mass murders of the Jewish population in Ukraine, a much larger part of the Ukrainian population, of which more than 200,000 were partisans, fought together with the Red Army against the Nazi-fascist mass murderers. The liberation of Auschwitz on 27 January 1945 was led by a Ukrainian detachment of the Red Army.

It is clear: even today there is not the slightest reason to condemn the Ukrainian population as a whole as reactionary and nationalistic.

On the basis of this historical development, it is necessary to fight against any influence of German imperialism on Ukraine. This is what we have to fight for, this is our task - without illusions in Russian imperialism or the reactionary Ukrainian state and its government.

### **The expansion of the Bundeswehr - German militarism**

In the situation of military confrontation between the Ukrainian army and the Russian army inside Ukraine, the hour of German militarism strikes. The current government of German imperialism, with the support of the so-called opposition from the CDU/CSU, has approved the supply of arms to the Ukrainian state in an open war zone and plans to station more soldiers and fighter-bombers on the border with Russia. Above all, a plan has now been pulled out of the hat with €100 billion and a huge increase in the annual military budget. The aim is to massively strengthen the German arms industry and to build up a Bundeswehr that is as effective as possible and that is especially prepared for foreign missions on a large scale.

This is a new stage in the militarisation of Germany, a great danger for the people of Europe and the whole world.

The current mood in Germany, with gigantic support for the current imperialist government as well as European-chauvinist slogans like "For European Values", must be recognised as a huge danger and fought against. Let us not forget that Russophobia, which has a long tradition in Germany, is being massively activated and strengthened again. Let's also not forget that Ukrainian border guards prevent people who look "non-European" from boarding trains to flee across the border.

It may be that every analogy has its problems. But it is worth remembering the bluster with which German social democracy warned of the danger of Russian tsarism in 1914: In the face of Russian imperialism, German imperialism would allegedly cut a more progressive figure. Therefore, it would be necessary to

support the struggle of the German imperialists against dangerous Russian tsarism. It was a man like Karl Liebknecht, it was a woman like Rosa Luxemburg, who opposed this social-democratic-imperialist and German-nationalist enthusiasm for war still as a very small group. They made a great contribution to the fact that the mood, especially among the proletariat in Germany, changed thoroughly in the next few years and mass struggles developed on the streets and in the factories against the imperialist First World War. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg recalled August Bebel's old phrase: "Not a man or a penny for this system!". Applied to today, this means:

**Not a single Euro to this system of German imperialism and no support whatsoever for the Bundeswehr!**

This is an indispensable democratic demand in the struggle against the danger of war and systematic German nationalist and militarist incitement of the population in Germany.

*The leaflet contained the following further contributions:*

### **1. Solidarity with the democratic struggle in Rojava against the murderous attacks of the Turkish army and the IS fascists**

The democratic and revolutionary Kurdish forces in Rojava (Northern Syria) are militarily attacked every day from Turkey and also from the areas in Northern Syria occupied by the Turkish reactionary army.

In early February 2022, the reactionary Turkish regime intensified its attacks on Rojava and also on Kurdish areas in northern Iraq. The Turkish air force - simultaneously bombed the village of Teqil Beqil near Dêrik in Rojava (Northern Syria), several targets in Şengal and the Mexmûr refugee camp in northern Iraq. The fighter jets took off from the Turkish military airport in Amed (Turkish Dyabarkir). Bombing, artillery shelling and drone attacks continued throughout February. Many people were killed and injured. However, democratic resistance fighters shot down a drone belonging to proto Turkish mercenaries over the village of Beluniye near Tel Rifat.

The timing of the intensified Turkish military attack, called "Winter Claw", is not coincidental. It came shortly after the large-scale attempt by IS fascists to free thousands of captured IS fascists from the Sina prison in Heseqê. There, 5,000 IS fascists are imprisoned under the supervision of the Kurdish Democratic Self-Government in Syria. This was the biggest attack by IS since 2019. It was a well-prepared and long-term planned action. The outbreak of the IS fascists could only be prevented after several days of fighting with heavy losses.

The Turkish army and the IS fascists - and various other fascist mercenary troops in Syria and Iraq - are de facto allies. Their primary goal is to use all means to destroy the democratic power structures that have emerged in recent years, especially in northern Syria, and their organised base among the population. Democratic resistance fighters are repeatedly murdered by drones, such as the co-chairman of the executive council of the democratic self-government of Şengal at the end of 2021. According to human rights organisations, since the beginning of the Turkish invasion four years ago, almost 8,500 people have been abducted from the area of Efrin, where there was a democratic power before the occupation by the Turkish army. About half remain disappeared.

Immediately after the invasion of Russian imperialism in Ukraine, the reactionary Turkish regime pushed for its military attacks on Rojava. The Turkish military bombed the villages of Til Şenan, Um Elxêr and Deşîşe on 27.2.2022 and carried out threat attacks around Tel Rifat.

The German imperialists support the Turkish murderous attacks by supplying weapons. This includes the annual arms exports worth millions for the Turkish state. For example, the sensor heads of the drones used by the Turkish army are produced by the German company Hensoldt. The German state has shares worth millions in this company. Leopard 2 tanks as well as pistols and rifles from Heckler and Koch have also been part of the Turkish military's armament for a long time. The - criminalisation and repression of the progressive Kurdish population in Germany is also a direct support of the Turkish reactionary regime in the fight against Kurdish democratic and revolutionary forces.

In recent weeks, rallies and demonstrations against the Turkish aggression against Rojava (Northern Syria) have taken place in various cities in Germany as well as in other countries.

**Let's strengthen solidarity with the democratic revolutionary forces in Iraq and Syria!**

Sources: <https://anfdeutsch.com>, <https://civaka-azad.org>, <https://barrikade.info>

### **2. The lies of the Putin government and its anti-communism**

In several speeches, all of which can be found on the internet, both in 2014 on the annexation of Crimea and now shortly before the invasion of Ukraine by Russian troops, Putin, that anti-communist and counter-revolutionary, has found the cause of the whole problem: Who is to blame for everything? Lenin! Why is that?

Yes, Putin explained, because Lenin recognised the right to state independence of the Ukrainian nation, like the Finnish nation and all nations in the Tsarist empire. And regardless of whether leftists or rightists were in the majority in such a state, the socialist state in Russia under Lenin's leadership guaranteed this state independence, for example for Finland, which was a stronghold of reaction at the time.

Why did Lenin do this? Because otherwise he would have continued the Tsar's policy, the policy of Tsarism, of militarily oppressing other countries and discriminating against the population and preventing them from developing economically and culturally according to their decisions. Putin still fears Lenin today, and rightly so!

By declaring Lenin to be the main culprit and adding that he would enforce "decommunisation", i.e. an even stronger anti-communist basic position in Ukraine, Putin has proved that the real model for him is the tsarist Great Russian Empire, in which there is no room for small nationalities to develop, for nations no right to state secession. It is hard to believe, but true: the old tsarist ideology has supremacy over regulars' tables and the government in the new imperialist Russia. It is a weapon of the Putin government to serve and foment Great Russian nationalism in order to carry out imperialist plans.

### **3. On the fascist or Nazi movement in Russia**

There has been a fascist or Nazi movement in Russia since the beginning of the 1990s. This consists of different levels. There are legal or semi-legal organisations or parties that also take part in elections, fascist and Nazi gangs of thugs that attack democratic and progressive forces, as well as paramilitary Nazi gangs and military mercenary organisations that commit Nazi murders and attacks, train Nazis from all over the world and murder and plunder for Russian imperialism in war zones. Here are just a few highlights:

\* The "Liberal Democratic Party of Russia" (LDPD), founded in 1989, is one of the oldest fascist parties in Russia. Its founder and leading figure to this day is Vladimir Zhirinovskiy. The - LDPD has as its ideological basis extreme Russian nationalism with the slogan of the "rebirth of Russia" as well as racist hostility against everything "non-Russian". In 2019, according to its own figures, it had almost 300,000 members and also participated in the Duma elections. In these, for example, it achieved over 13 per cent in 2016 and almost 8 per cent in 2021.(1)

\* The fascist organisation "National Liberation Movement (Russia)" (NOD) was founded in 2011 and according to its own information has 170,000 members in Russia. Hostility towards Jews, extreme Russian nationalism and anti-Americanism are its "trademarks". In addition to fascist propaganda, the NOD's mission is to attack progressive and democratic forces on the streets and disrupt their events. The NOD is not only active in Russia, but also in eastern Ukraine as a group of thugs in the service of Russian imperialism and is well networked internationally with, among others, the Le Pen fascists in France and the Nazis of the "Reichsbürger" in Germany. Y. A. Fedorov, a member of Putin's government, is the leader of NOD.(2)

\* A characteristic of the Nazi movement in Russia is that for years it has been armed not only with baseball bats, clubs and gas pistols, like the Nazi hooligans,

who still number thousands of members in Russia today. Rather, it also has quite massive firearms (pistols, rifles) and explosives. These armed Nazi terrorist groups - have been active in Russia for many years, such as the "Russian Reich Movement", which was founded in 2002. It has long been part of a larger coalition of fascist groups in Russia formed under the name "Russians". This included, among others, the "National Socialist Initiative". (3) The "Russian Reich Movement" is well networked internationally, including with Nazis from Sweden, the USA and Germany, such as the Nazis of the "III Way". It trains its members militarily in training camps set up especially for this purpose. Other Russian and foreign Nazis are also militarily trained there, including members of the NPD youth organisation and Nazis of the "III Way". Members of the "Russian Reich Movement" have also taken part in military hostilities in eastern Ukraine on the side of Russian imperialism since 2014. In total, thousands of Nazis and fascists are organised in such or similar Nazi organisations.(4)

From 2004 to 2020 alone, at least 625 people were murdered by these Nazi murder gangs and more than 4,300 were injured, some of them seriously, according to the civic-democratic information centre "Sova". According to "Sova", the number of unreported cases of Nazi terror is enormous. This Nazi murder terror is directed against people from Central Asia, against people with "non-white" skin colour, against the LGBT scene as well as against Jewish people and Muslims as well as against anti-fascist and democratic forces.(5)

\* The number of military mercenary troops in the service of Russian imperialism has grown massively, especially with the start of the Syria war from 2011 and after the start of the war in eastern Ukraine in 2014. Many of these organisations are Nazi mercenary troops, openly professing Nazi fascism with Nazi symbols such as the Hitler salute, swastika and SS runes.

There was the "Russian National Unity", a Nazi organisation that had a swastika in its coat of arms, was founded as early as 1990 and is said to have had up to 200,000 members in the 1990s.

In 2014, it sent military-trained Nazi cadres into eastern Ukraine, which spread hostility towards Jews and all "non-Russians", murdered and tortured.(6) Currently, probably the best-known Nazi mercenary gang in the service of Russian imperialism is the so-called "Wagner Group", which emerged in 2014. Dmitry Utkin, the founder of the mercenary gang, professes Nazi fascism with tattooed SS runes. The group uses the swastika and Hitler salute as well as SS runes on combat vehicles and uniforms. In total, up to 6,000 fascist "Wagner" mercenaries murder and pillage for Russian imperialism, whether in eastern Ukraine, Crimea, Syria or Libya.(7) Several hundred "Wagner" Nazis are said to be taking part in the current war of Russian imperialism.

#### Sources

(1) Steffen Kailitz, Andreas Umland: Why fascists took over the Reichstag but have not captured the Kremlin: a comparison of Weimar Germany and post-Soviet Russia, December 2016, Nationalities Papers, Volume 45, Issue 2, March 2017, pp. 206-221. (2) Mares, Miroslav; Larys, Martin; Holzer, Jan. Militant Right-Wing Extremism in Putin's Russia, New York 2019, 164f (3) Ibidem, pp. 58f., Marlene Laruelle: Russian Nationalism: Imaginaries, Doctrines, and Political Battlefields. Routledge 2019, pp. 167, 202f. (4) <https://www.zeit.de>, 5.6.2020 (5) <https://www.sova-center.ru/en/> (6) See: Kuzio, Taras: Putin's War Against Ukraine: Revolution, Nationalism, and Crime, footnote 151 (7) See on this: <https://www.belltower.news> and "Kämpfen, foltern, töten - Russische Söldner im Ausland", WDR Dokumentation, 2.2.2021

#### 4. On the fascist or Nazi movement in Ukraine

Irrespective of the question of what influence these groups have in Ukrainian society as a whole, it remains to be said: From 2014 onwards, the fascist or Nazi movement in Ukraine received a massive boost.

The most important actors at that time were the party "Svoboda", which had also achieved temporary success in elections and was involved in the Ukrainian transitional government with four ministers, including the vice-president, the paramilitary organisation "Right Sector" and the Azov movement. All these organisations follow the tradition of the Nazi collaborator and Ukrainian fascist Stepan

#### **The subject of the leaflet from March/Avril was:**

**For 1 May 2022:**

## **Fight against the current! Against imperialist "war logic"!**

Like in a burning glass, the invasion of imperialist Russia on its neighbouring state, Ukraine, does not only concentrate a wealth of the big economic, political and military contradictions of the imperialist big powers and small reactionary states. It also concentrates a whole plethora of questions for the truly demo-

Bandera and the Ukrainian Nazi collaborators from the OUN and the UPA army. These fought alongside Nazi fascism against the Red Army and the Soviet partisans after the Nazi invasion of the USSR from 1941 onwards and were involved in mass murder actions against the Jewish and Polish populations in Ukraine. Today's Nazis in Ukraine also place themselves in the tradition of the SS murder gang "Galicia", in which thousands of Ukrainian Nazi collaborators fought.

Today, the Azov movement is the most influential politically and militarily.

The Azov Regiment, a militarily armed Nazi murder gang, had been fighting alongside the Ukrainian army in eastern Ukraine for several months in early 2014 and by then already included hundreds of members. The Azov Regiment was officially attached to the National Guard of Ukraine in the same year and remains under the authority of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to this day. As of 2019, the Azov Regiment was again deployed in eastern Ukraine with about 1000 soldiers.(1) Ukraine's Interior Minister appointed Vadim Troyan, the regiment's deputy commander, as head of the Kiev police in 2015 and even as deputy head of the Ukrainian police in 2019.(2) This secured funding and equipment for these Nazis. Starting with military "basic equipment" and ending with heavy artillery and reconnaissance drones, they have the most modern means of war. The training of Azov military cadres also takes place, for example, at the "Hetman Petro Sahaidachny National Academy" (NAA), the most renowned military school of the Ukrainian state. This is also financed by Western states such as the USA and Germany. A Nazi group with links to the Azov Nazis has been active there since 2018.(3) It is estimated that the Azov movement can draw on at least 2,500 active Nazi military cadres and thousands of "veterans".

In total, there are over 80 paramilitary "volunteer" units in Ukraine. Many of these are pro-Nazi or Nazi.(4) In addition, there is the political party "National Corps", founded in 2016, and a Nazi vigilante group ("Centuria"), which is part of the Azov movement. Members of the Azov movement wear Nazi symbols and SS runes. In photos they show the Hitler salute as well as swastika and NATO flag together.(5) Their organisational badge consists of the "Wolfsangel", which was also used by the SS, such as the 2nd SS Panzer Division "Das Reich".

Tens of thousands are organised in these legal organisations, supported by tens of thousands more sympathisers.(6) These Nazis organise their own publishing houses for Nazi literature, Nazi meeting places such as the "Cossack" house in Kiev, summer camps for young people, marches such as the "memorial marches" for Stepan Bandera in many cities, sometimes with several thousand, even tens of thousands of participants.

They attack democratic forces, terrorise the LGBT scene in Kiev, such as with brutal attacks like in late November 2021,(7) as well as Roma settlements. In 2018 alone there were five attacks in two months against Roma families in Lviv with one Nazi murder and many injured.(8) Internet forums, chat groups, but also the "National Socialist Black Metal" scene serve as recruitment tools for the Azov movement.(9) The Azov Nazis also maintain good connections with Nazi groups across Europe, whether "Nordic Resistance", an amalgamation of Nazis from Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway, or the "III Way" and the "Identitarian Movement" from Germany. The Azov Regiment also militarily trains Nazis from abroad including German Nazis from the "III. Weg", for example. It also accepts them into its own ranks so that they gain "combat experience".(10) In the current war between Russian imperialism and the reactionary regime in Ukraine, members of the Azov movement are militarily training volunteers, massively trying to recruit new members and militarily fighting alongside the Ukrainian army.(11)

#### Sources

(1) Colborne, Michael: From the fires of war: Ukraine's Azov Movement and the Global Far Right, Stuttgart 2022, p. 62 (2) Ibid, p. 85 (3) <https://www.belltower.news> (4) Ibid (5) <https://de.crimethinc.com> (6) Colborne, Michael: From the fires of war: Ukraine's Azov Movement and the Global Far Right, Stuttgart 2022, p. 65, 67 (7) <https://www.belltower.news/> (8) Ebenda (9) Ebenda (10) Colborne, Michael: From the fires of war: Ukraine's Azov Movement and the Global Far Right, Stuttgart 2022, p. 121ff., <https://antifainfoblatt.de>, 7.6.2020 (11) fr.de, 15.2.2022

cratic, revolutionary and communist-oriented forces in Germany. The main question is how to fight above all against our main enemy, German imperialism, which obviously does not play a main role in the current war in the present situation.

#### **Imperialism means war**

It is not exactly news that the system of imperialism with the imperialist great powers at the top, which constantly send even small reactionary states into proxy wars, is the real cause of reactionary wars. The imperialist First World War was prepared with small wars. The Second World War, also rooted in imperialism but of a different character, was also prepared by a series of occupations by German

imperialism, the Nazi fascism of the time. And after 1945, the series of reactionary wars continued: wars against the revolutionary liberation movements in Greece, Korea, Algeria or Vietnam, for example. Colonial wars in Africa and Asia not only by US imperialism, but also by French and British imperialism. German imperialism, our real main enemy, played an increasing role in this world political constellation, but not a decisive one for the first decades after 1945 the defeat in the Second World War had been too clear.

### **German imperialism as the main enemy**

Why does this have to be said at all? Because the idea that German imperialism can only be the main enemy if it plays the decisive role on the world political stage is fundamentally wrong. It is one of the opportunistic mechanisms to refer to the strength of other imperialist great powers that are currently pursuing war policies and wars on this or that issue. Consequently, the imperialist great power Germany, which has further expanded its position of great power since 1990 at the latest, is classified as an alleged "small power" in order to defend "Germany" or even to offer it as a coalition partner to other imperialist great powers - in short, in order to support German imperialism.

Against this, two fundamental points must be made clear:

First, it is the obligation to denounce in "one's own" country above all the crimes of "one's own" imperialism, no matter how small or large the crimes. The reference to other, even greater crimes of other imperialist great powers is from the outset an unacceptable German-nationalist basic position, which must be fought with all determination. Clearly, all crimes must be denounced, but not in order to play down German imperialism.

Secondly, above all, from the fundamental perspective of preparing and carrying out the socialist revolution in one's own country, it is clear that the question of state power must be posed: Whoever holds the state apparatus in his hands, which must be violently smashed by a socialist revolution, is the main enemy. And in Germany this is without question German imperialism.

### **The basic problem of imperialist hypocrisy**

In the imperialist propaganda battle, it is normal that the imperialist great powers accuse each other of what they themselves do. At the beginning of the 20th century, the British colonial imperialists accused the German colonial imperialists of exploiting, robbing and massacring the African population in their colonies. And the German colonial imperialists have accused the English imperialists of exploiting, robbing and slaughtering the African population in their colonies. When robbers quarrel, the truth comes out. And so it goes on: the us imperialists have accused the Russian imperialists of invading Afghanistan. After their withdrawal, the us imperialists invaded Afghanistan and listened to the corresponding hypocritical accusations of the Russian imperialists.

The countries organised in NATO, including Germany, carried out the bombardment of Belgrade in the so-called Kosovo war, took a leading part in the dismemberment of Yugoslavia and hypocritically referred to the "right of self-determination of nations". The Russian imperialists are expanding their influence in the Syrian war, the NATO countries with German imperialism are expanding their power influence throughout Eastern Europe. Each accuses the other of expansion. Imperialist war logic! It is similar today, when the Russian imperialists, in order to legitimise their invasion of Ukraine, hypocritically invoke the right of self-determination of the population of Crimea and parts of eastern Ukraine and point out that NATO did the same in the Kosovo war. Imperialist war logic!

### **Racist-chauvinist Europe-ideology of the German master race**

The imperialist proxy wars are raging all over the world and it should only be bad if there is a war in Europe? What is going on in various regions of Africa, in Yemen, in Syria, in Libya? What kind of wars are these? Whether in Iraq or Libya, almost everywhere it is about rivalry between the imperialist Great powers in the struggle for spheres of influence (from raw materials to military bases) at the expense of the population of all these countries. Sometimes there is one imperialist coalition, sometimes there is another imperialist coalition, which then breaks up again and breaks into rivalry even between French, British and German imperialists in Libya, for example.

All these are, in the European chauvinist view, "trifles" compared to the war that is now going on "in Europe", in Ukraine. What hypocrisy!

It is not about not taking the suffering of the Ukrainian people seriously; it is about showing the terrible hypocrisy that prevails when imperialist warfare is supposedly only bad in Europe and is otherwise more or less passed over in silence. This is exactly what is racist and nationalist in Germany (and also in other "European countries"). The racist and nationalist attitude is also reflected in the distinction between "wanted" and "unwanted refugees".

### **The Hypocrisy of German "Refugee Aid"**

Well, it is already whistling from the rooftops with what scrupulous hypocrisy the German imperialists welcome the Ukrainian refugees, integrate them into the labour market, propagate a "culture of welcome" as if there had never been other tasks in the past and present. This is also German-European chauvinism: Frontex, with the participation of the German imperialists, continues to let the refugees in the Mediterranean drown, they are deported daily, while the European "brothers and sisters" (unless they are not "white" enough) are warmly welcomed. Again, it goes without saying that the suffering-tested fled Ukrainian population is entitled to asylum - that is not the point. It is about the hypocrisy towards the refugees from Africa and all other regions of the world that are not called "Europe"!

### **A lesson in imperialist rivalry**

Even though it is difficult to assess the details of the current war between imperialist Russia and Ukraine, it is clear that it is important to consider who will benefit the most in the end after a break, such as a temporary cessation of fighting. It cannot be ruled out that by the entry of Finland and Sweden into NATO and the incorporation of Ukraine into the European Union, the NATO states and German imperialism will gain an extremely high strategic profit, even if the Russian imperialists are possibly compensated with this or that piece of territory in Ukraine. The problem is that in such wars, truly precise, unambiguous assessments easily turn into petty speculation in the face of so much conflicting information. But to observe closely how things are developing is certainly the task in order to better understand the hypocrisy and the imperialist logic as a whole. The fact that the USA imperialists are strongly affecting the "good relations" of the German imperialists with the Russian imperialists, are now exporting gas to Germany themselves and are boosting their military exports to Germany - this is only one side of the coin. On the other side, German imperialism is intensifying its efforts in competition and rivalry with USA imperialism to expand its independent army and to look for energy sources all over the world in order to be able to fight USA imperialism.

### **The worldwide armament of the imperialist great powers and small reactionary states**

One thing is clear, however: this is not the last reactionary war neither in the whole world nor in Europe. The imperialist companies with their imperialist states, which are oriented towards achieving maximum profits, are looking for raw materials and markets more and more aggressively. The imperialist states are testing their war machine in small wars and continue to arm. German imperialism has officially announced, without batting an eyelid and with the approval of a frighteningly large part of the population, a 100 billion euro military supplementary budget in order to strengthen and expand its position in the struggle of the imperialist great powers, especially in Europe.

For the democratic, revolutionary and communist-oriented forces, all this means to denounce the dreadful, inhuman, reactive wars as a decisive point. It has to be made clear that it is capitalism, that it is imperialism, which has led to these imperialist massacres all over the world, to the current imperialist massacre in Ukraine and will lead to further imperialist wars. It is crucial to demonstrate clearly and convincingly, on both a small and a large scale, that the imperialist wars with all their misery can only be ended through the overthrow of imperialism in revolutionary struggle in every country worldwide.

The task here in Germany is the overthrow of German imperialism, side by side with the revolutionary forces of the whole world. And this is not only valid on May 1st - it is valid every day!

**Second statement from 12.4.2022**

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(This translation is certainly not without error. As always, we welcome any comments about errors and problems.)

Contact thru: E-mail: [gegendstroemung@web.de](mailto:gegendstroemung@web.de) Homepage: <https://gegendstroemung.net> (... but don't underestimate the secret Services)

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