

NATIONAL LIBERATION, WORLD REVOLUTION:

ANTI-COLONIAL NETWORKS AND THE ORIGINS OF GLOBAL COMMUNISM

1914-24

International workshop

Institute of Contemporary History, NOVA University Lisbon

Almada Negreiros College | Rooms 217-219 / Zoom

26 - 27 November 2021

The IHC is funded by National funds through FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P., under the projects UIDB/04209/2020 and UIDP/04209/2020.
Arturo Zoffman is funded by National funds through FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P., under the project 2020.01776.CEECIND.

Josep Renau (1907-1982), *Compesison, delirante con les armas el Gobierno que le dio la tierra*, 1936.

INTRODUCTION

The end of the First World War and the Russian Revolution inaugurated a period of unprecedented global effervescence. Europe has often been regarded as the epicentre of these agitations and the Moscow-centred international communist movement as their protagonist. However, the upheavals of these years galvanised a variety of actors, including anti-colonialists and revolutionary nationalists, as well as activists linked to the Communist International but who retained significant ideological and political autonomy. This was especially true in the pre-Stalinist period. Unrest spread to the Americas, Africa, and Asia too, where nationalism intersected in complex ways with class conflict. While Moscow attempted to channel this ferment, alternative hubs for transnational activism emerged, often on the basis of pre-existing networks of anti-war and anti-colonial solidarity. Locations such as Mexico City, Algiers, Tashkent, Buenos Aires, and Shanghai became important coordinating centres where the Communist International coexisted with a plethora of leftist and national liberation movements. These cities became loci of socialisation for radicals from different countries and political traditions. They thus helped forge new identities, including incipient Third Worldist sentiments. The ideological and geographical contours of global activism in these years and the origins of the international communist movement were thus more diverse than has often been assumed. This conference seeks to map this complexity and its long-term significance, with special focus on non-European places and actors.

The workshop will preferentially have an in-person format at Lisbon's Institute of Contemporary History (IHC), although it will also accommodate some online presentations. It will be streamed on Zoom. Those who wish to follow the event online should contact **azoffmann@fcsch.unl.pt**.

The workshop is organised as part of the IHC's Thematic Line *Connected Histories* and the Research Group *Comparative Political History*.

Scientific committee:

Arturo Zoffmann Rodriguez (IHC – NOVA FCSH)

George Souvlis (University of Ioannina)

Daniel Kent Carrasco (IIH – UNAM)

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PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER | ROOM 217

9-11h (Lisbon time zone, GMT)

Bolshevik overflows in Transcaucasia and beyond

Burak Sayim (IHEID Geneva) - *Occupied Istanbul as a Cominternian Hub: Sailors, Soldiers and Post-Imperial Networks*

Neslisah Basaran (Istanbul Aydin University) - *War of National Liberation, Anti-imperialism and Communists in Turkey, 1919-1922*

Etienne Peyrat (Sciences Po) - *Revolutionary Hubs in the South Caucasus, 1917-1926*

José Castillo Manteca (UCM Madrid) - *The case of the brief Socialist Soviet Republic of Iran: from the struggle against Russian and British imperialism, to the establishment of a soviet republic in the province of Guilán (1920 - 1921)*

11.30-13.30h

Repression and rebellion in the British, French and Dutch Empires

Dónal Hassett (University College Cork) - *Settler Socialism and Proletarian Nationalism: Algeria's Role in Shaping Communist Anti-Colonialism in the Interwar Era*

Allison Drew (York University) - *Anti-colonial and democratic struggles in Africa, 1914-24*

Radityo Dharmaputra (Tartu University) - *Indonesia and the Russian Revolution*

Vincent Bollenot (Paris Sorbonne) - *A "United Front of surveillance and anti-revolutionary propaganda?" The control and assistance service in France for the natives of the colonies*

15-17h

Lenin meets Bolívar in Latin America

Xabier Arrizábalo (UCM Madrid) - *Anti-colonialism in the early Comintern and its Latin American influence: the case of Luis Emilio Recabarren in Chile*

Elvira Concheiro & Jaime Ortega (UAM-UNAM Mexico) - *The birth of Mexican communism: agrarian revolution, anti-imperialism, and anti-colonialism*

Erick Fishuk (Unicamp Brazil) - *The Communist Party of Brazil (PCB), military insurrections and the national liberation movements (1920s and 1930s)*

David Broder (Jacobin Magazine) - *Giuseppe Tuntar, A (Sort-Of) Italian Communist in Argentina*

17-18h

Keynote speech

Silvio Pons (SNS Pisa) - *The Colonial World and the Origins of Communism*

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 27 NOVEMBER | ROOM 219

10–12h (Lisbon time zone, GMT)

Communism in the Ottoman shatterzones

Isa Blumi (University of Stockholm) – *Integrating World Revolution into the Story of (Post)Ottoman Contexts: Albania, Turkey, and Yemen, 1908–1924*

Sana Tannoury-Karam (EUME Berlin) – *“Long Live the Revolutionary Alliance Against Imperialism”: Interwar Anti-Imperialism and the Arab Levant*

Nikos Vafeas (University of Crete) – *From banditry to communist activism during and after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire: the case of the island of Samos (1912–1935)*

Anthony Gorman (University of Edinburgh) – *Confronting Imperialism: Anarchist and nationalist activism in Egypt before 1922*

13.30–15.30h

Internationalist trajectories

George Souvlis (University of Ioannina) – *Entangled Socialist theory as a theoretical recipe for the national unification and economic modernization of Greece: The Marxism of Giorgos Skliros*

Daniel Kent Carrasco (IIH-UNAM) – *Campeño Internationalism. Pandurang Khankhoje and the Free Schools of Agriculture in post-revolutionary Mexico*

Ole Laursen (IIAS Leiden) – *Stockholm, 1917–18: Indian Anticolonialism Between the Second and Third International*

Rainer Matos (HSE St Petersburg) – *Socialist Internationalism, Colonialism, and National Classifications at the Comintern Schools (1922–1943)*

16–18h

Anti-imperialism in the metropole from Madrid to Tokyo

Tiago Matos – *Globalizing revolution: the parables of global revolution before the advent of communism. A study of Oslo, 1880–1910*

Eduardo Abad (University of Oviedo) – *Notes on the evolution of the colonial question in the Spanish communists: an unfinished balance of the first years (1917–1924)*

Julia Damphouse – *The Global Dimension of Early Anti-Imperial Pan-Europeanism*

Edwin Michielsen (University of Toronto) – *War against War: East Asia and Transnational Networks of Anti-War and Anti-Colonial Activism*