

NYC May Day 2024





May Day, the international workers holiday, took place this year amid a raging genocidal U.S./Israel Zionist war against the Palestinian people of Gaza, and the continuing U.S./NATO war against Russia over Ukraine. Both wars are way stations on the road to a a third world war, a looming threat centrally aimed at counterrevolution in China, the largest remaining bureaucratically deformed workers state.

In the upcoming U.S. elections, despite their heated campaign rhetoric, both the Democratic and Republican parties of "Genocide Joe" Biden and now Kamala Harris, his partner in innumerable crimes of U.S. imperialism, and the all-round reactionary bigot Donald Trump are united in their China-bashing. This underscores Karl Liebknecht's declaration in the first imperialist world war, "The main enemy is at home." To combat the menace to the working and oppressed people of the world requires above all an internationalist proletarian revolutionary struggle.

The League for the Fourth International, virtually alone on the left, defends Russia and China against the imperialist war drive and calls for a binational Arab/Hebrew Palestinian workers state in a socialist federation of the Middle East. At the present time, the national sections of the LFI are seeking to intervene wherever possible to mobilize workers action to stop war cargo to Israel and Ukraine.

In the United States, May Day came at the height of protest encampments of solidarity with Gaza at over 100 universities. More than 3,000 protesters were arrested nationwide in the last two weeks of April. The Internationalist Group actively intervened in these protests from New York City and Boston to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Portland, Oregon, where Class Struggle Workers was able to win a number of unions to pass resolutions calling for workers action against the slaughter in Gaza.

On the night of April 30-May 1, mass arrests were carried out to clear out encampments at Columbia University and the City University of New York. Four members of the CUNY Internationalist Clubs were among those arrested. By noon on May 1, the Internationalists organized an emergency speak-out at Hunter College (photo above left) of some 200 demonstrators protesting the arrests. Many of these then joined with the May Day contingent of the IG and the Revolutionary Internationalis Youth, numbering over 75 people, making it by far the largest organized left presence in the march. ■





