

Against Imperialist Occupation, Zionist Aggression, and Fascist Massacres: Unity, Struggle, Victory!

The working class and oppressed peoples of our region must view both of these forces as enemies and fight to overthrow them. However, we must not remain indifferent to the struggle for supremacy between these two reactionary forces.

18 June 2025

*[**Explanation:** The following assessment of the war between Israel and Iran is the editorial of Özgür Gelecek, a publication in Turkey that follows a Marxist-Leninist-Maoist line]*

Developments on the international stage are causing the agenda to change very rapidly. When we add to this the developments taking place in our region, which have escalated into war, every statement made about the political agenda quickly becomes outdated. Therefore, in today's conjuncture, it is necessary to rely more on the guidance of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, the most advanced science of the international proletariat and the oppressed peoples of the world, in order to produce and defend a correct political line.

The current state of imperialist capitalism has led to intensified attacks by the world reaction against the international proletariat and the oppressed peoples of the world, while also exacerbating the contradictions within the imperialist capitalist system itself.

This, as an objective situation, is causing the 'acceleration of history' in today's conditions and the realisation of decades of developments within a few days. One agenda is rapidly being replaced by another.

For example, following the murder of Comrade Basavaraju, General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Maoist), the vanguard and leading party of the Indian proletariat and oppressed people, along with 27 members of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army in late May, Indian reactionary forces carried out a new massacre. We have learned that seven communists, including Comrade Sudhakar, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Maoist), were captured and murdered.

While the fascist Hindutva Indian state has launched an attack campaign against the Maoists, on one side lies the unrestricted plundering of India's natural resources by imperialist and comprador capital, and on the other side stands the struggle led by the HKP (Maoist), which constitutes one of the most advanced positions of the international proletariat and the oppressed peoples of the world.

Imperialists and their regional reactionary lackeys are using all their means and resources to eliminate communist and revolutionary resistance centres, which they see as a close and real threat to themselves. For this reason, world reaction is engaged in an all-out offensive on the international stage.

The aggression of imperialist reaction and fascist repression campaigns are not limited to semi-colonies. For example, with the re-election of D. Trump in the United States, the 'anti-immigrant' policy that has been put into action more actively has led to immigrant uprisings in some US states. The widespread and mass terror campaign against immigrants in one of the centres of imperialist capitalism is an extremely important political development that will affect the coming years.

A similar situation is unfolding in Europe, where extremely aggressive policies against immigrants are being implemented.

The fundamental motivation behind these developments is, as we have often pointed out, the imperialist system's rapid preparations for a new war of division. In the capitalist centres, on the one hand, budgets are being allocated to armament under the guise of 'defence,' while on the other hand, racism, hostility towards immigrants and fascism are rapidly gaining ground under the banner of the 'far right.'

Undoubtedly, the fundamental cause of this objective situation is the economic crisis within the system and the increasingly fierce competition and struggle between imperialist monopolies. The 'New World Order' led by US imperialism has come to an end. In the current situation, the imperialists are divided into two main camps.

On one side is the camp comprising US, British and EU imperialism, which can be broadly referred to as 'Western imperialism'; on the other side is the camp led by Chinese social imperialism and Russia, with states such as Iran acting as their reserves. The two imperialist camps are not a monolithic whole.

While they agree and compromise on some points, they also have internal contradictions. Alongside the relationship that the US has established with Russia since Donald Trump became president, and the contradictions that have come to light with the imperialists of the EU, we are now witnessing statements from China and Russia that directly target the US.

Indeed, on the 80th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany by the USSR, Russia and China issued a joint statement accusing 'certain countries' of 'attempting to interfere with the victory' of World War II and clearly stated: *'The United States and its allies are undermining regional peace, stability, and*

prosperity by encouraging NATO's expansion eastward and into the Asia-Pacific region, seeking to create "small circles" in this region and to win over regional countries to their "Indo-Pacific strategies."' (10 May 2025)

Currently, the market struggle between these two imperialist camps continues in various forms and contents, including war, as in Ukraine and the Middle East. However, it is clear that the imperialists are preparing for a new war of division among themselves. Moreover, they are openly declaring this.

For example, German Defence Minister Karsten Breuer has stated that NATO members must be prepared for a possible attack from Russia in the next four years: *"Analysts' assessments point in this direction – 2029. So we need to be ready by 2029. Now, if you ask me, is there a guarantee that it won't happen before 2029? No, I would say no. That is why we must be able to fight tonight."* (1 June 2025) The spokesperson for British imperialism, Prime Minister Keir Starmer, stated that the UK is currently facing 'the most serious, sudden and unpredictable threats since the Cold War' and that they will be 'ready for war.' (2 June 2025)

Zionist Israel and the Iranian Mullah Regime: The Regional War of Two Reactionary Forces

As can be clearly seen, the current state of the system and the intensifying contradictions between imperialists are triggering new occupations and conflicts. This situation is evolving into direct war between imperialists, as seen in Ukraine, and is leading to the regional aggression of Zionist Israel (the other being NATO member fascist Turkey), one of the two forward outposts of the Western imperialist alliance in our region, as seen in the Middle East.

The Zionist Israeli regime's aggression in response to the Palestinian national resistance's 7 October 2023 offensive, along with the genocide and displacement of the Palestinian people in Gaza, has continued with attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon, the overthrow of the Assad regime in Syria, and the handover of Damascus to Salafi jihadists, with the ultimate target being Iran.

While 'nuclear negotiations' between the US and Iran were ongoing, Israel launched a 'pre-emptive, decisive and united attack' against Iran. The reason given was to prevent Iran from building nuclear weapons (Israel itself possesses nuclear weapons) and to destroy ballistic missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles.

The attack dealt a significant blow to the military command of Iran's Mullah regime. Iran retaliated against Israel's attacks and struck the entire country with ballistic missiles.

The mutual attacks killed not only military personnel but also civilians.

While the mutual attacks between these two reactionary regional powers, which have 'strategic relations' with two imperialist camps, continue, there is a risk that the process could escalate into a new imperialist war of division in the region. However, it is clear that the mutual attacks between these two reactionary powers are not new.

However, it should also be noted that a new threshold has been crossed with the latest attack by Zionist Israel. In particular, Zionist Israel's attack on Iran's nuclear facilities is an act of recklessness that even bourgeois law would consider a 'war crime.'

Undoubtedly, this attack by Zionist reactionaries must be evaluated as a continuation of its aggression against Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria, from the perspective of 'its own existence and regional interests.' However, behind this aggression lies Western imperialism, led by the United States. It is understood that Turkey also provided intelligence support to Israel through NATO aircraft departing from Konya and Incirlik, primarily through the use of the NATO Kürecik radar base.

Iran has been a target of Western imperialist powers, particularly the United States, for a long time. The aim is to overthrow the 'Mullah' regime and open up Iran's market, as well as its underground and above-ground resources, to Western imperialist capital without any restrictions.

In this sense, it is a well-known fact that Western imperialism, led by the United States, aims to change the regime in Iran. The recent attack by Zionist Israel against Iran should be evaluated within this context.

At this point, it should be emphasised that the attacks that have taken place do not mean that the 'Mullah' regime has an 'anti-imperialist' line. It is clear that the 'Mullah' regime in power in Iran has no problem with private property and capitalism; it is a murderous and reactionary state, primarily against its own working class and people, but also against the peoples of the region. It must be understood that we are talking about a regime that massacred five thousand revolutionaries in prisons in a single night, openly opposes women, and has carried out massacres targeting oppressed nations, ethnic groups, and faiths, particularly the Kurdish and Baloch peoples.

The Iranian 'Mullah' regime is undoubtedly not a puppet structure like the Shah regime of the past. However, Iran's socio-economic structure remains dependent on the capitalist system despite all embargoes and sanctions. The relationship that the 'Mullah' regime developed with French imperialism after the overthrow

of the Shah regime in 1979, and furthermore, the relationships it has developed with Chinese and Russian imperialism today, are well-known historical facts. The Iranian 'Mullah' regime has no fundamental problem with the imperialist capitalist system. Its problem is with US imperialism.

The Iranian 'Mullah' regime stands as an obstacle to the expansion of US imperialism and the establishment of its spheres of influence in the region. This situation does not make the 'Mullah' regime progressive; rather, it positions it as a reactionary regional power in the imperialist struggle for interests.

Iran's targeting by Western imperialism and Zionism is related to the 'Mullah' regime's 'anti-American' stance. Indeed, the 'Mullah' regime has close strategic relations with other imperialist camps led by China and Russia, which oppose Western imperialism. For example, Iran and Russia signed a 20-year 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement' at the beginning of this year. The 'Mullah' regime signed a similar agreement with China in March 2021.

With this agreement, which was signed in 2021 (despite the sanctions imposed on Iran by the US and EU imperialists) and whose contents were kept secret from the Iranian people, China became a partner in 7 oil refineries in Iran with a 25-year investment of \$400 billion. In doing so, China has sent a clear message to Western imperialism while also asserting its presence in the Middle East amid imperialist rivalry.

The urgency of organising an anti-war movement!

Russia and China have signed comprehensive 'defence' agreements with Iran. How and to what extent they will be able to support Iran in the face of such an attack will become clear in the process. This situation will also reveal whether the mutual attacks between Israel and Iran will escalate into a regional war and, furthermore, whether this regional war will lead to a third imperialist war of division between imperialist powers.

The war between Israel and Iran is a struggle for regional hegemony between two reactionary powers. However, the fact that two imperialist camps stand behind Zionism and the Mullah regime raises the possibility that this conflict could trigger a new imperialist war of partition.

Undoubtedly, Zionism's attack on Iran, backed by Western imperialism, primarily the United States, must be condemned. It is also clear that this bloc is using the reactionary Mullah regime in Iran as a means to legitimise imperialist intervention and is striving to make the dynamics within Iran its reserve force. The Iranian Mullah regime must be overthrown, but this justification does not legitimise or justify any imperialist-Zionist attack.

In the face of an imperialist attack on Iran from outside, it is necessary to insist that the reactionary Mullah regime in Iran can only be overthrown by the just and legitimate struggle of the Iranian people.

The nature of the reactionary Iranian regime does not legitimise any imperialist aggression, occupation or war. Such aggression will clearly bring further massacres, destruction and displacement, primarily for the Iranian people but also for the peoples of the region. Moreover, it is clear that such attacks provide and will continue to provide a pretext for the regime to massacre its opponents and revolutionaries within Iran.

On the other hand, it is clear that behind the Iranian Mullah regime's war with Zionist Israel (and the 'Great Satan America') lies a struggle for regional hegemony between its own imperialist powers and those it supports. Therefore, with certain nuances, Israel is to the US imperialism what Iran is to the Russian-Chinese bloc in the region. For this reason, from the perspective of the working class and oppressed peoples in our region, choosing one of these two reactionary cliques is out of the question.

The working class and oppressed peoples in our region must view both as enemies and fight to overthrow both. However, one must not remain indifferent to the struggle for hegemony between these two reactionary forces. In the name of opposing US imperialism and Israeli Zionism, one must not fall into the camp of the Iranian Mullah regime and the Russian and Chinese imperialism behind it.

Undoubtedly, in this situation, the sharp end of the spear must be directed against US imperialism and Israeli Zionism, but we must also remain vigilant against the Iranian regime and the other imperialist camp behind it.

Developments both internationally and in our region urgently demand the creation of an anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist, anti-war movement and work towards this end.

In addition to the rapid organisation of an anti-imperialist war front internationally, it is necessary to take a stand against Israel's regional aggression, particularly against Palestine, and its latest aggression against Iran, and against the danger of a 'regional war'. It is necessary to take a stand against this, unite with the broadest possible organisations and circles, and take action by calling for action units, an 'anti-war coalition,' etc.

In today's reality, it has become even more important for the working class and oppressed peoples to say yes to revolutionary civil wars in order to prevent and end unjust wars.

Turkish: <https://ozgur gelecek55.net/politik-gundem-emperyalist-ismallere-siyonist-saldirganliga-fasist-katliamlara-karsi-birlik-mucadele-zafer/>