

Defend the Sudanese Revolution!

[BULLETIN#1] 30.10.2021

Sudan: Down with the Military Coup!

For committees of action, general strike and popular insurrection to defeat the putschists!

Statement by the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 25 October 2021 (UTC 18:30)

1. Today, the Sudanese army command carried out a coup d'état. Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, five senior government figures and others have been arrested and transferred to unknown places. General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the coup leader, later announced the dissolution of the transitional government and the sovereign council and declared a nationwide state of emergency. He also announced the removal of state governors, saying elections will be held in July 2023!

2. In response, tens of thousands of protesters have taken to the streets of the capital, Khartoum, its twin city of Omdurman as well as other cities. They are building barricades, blocking streets, and setting fire to tires. Sudan's central bank employees have already started a strike and others will follow soon. Among the most popular slogans are "*The people are stronger, stronger*" and "*Retreat is not an option!*". Unions support the protests, and the Communist Party calls on workers to go on strike to stop the "*full military coup*". At least three demonstrators have been already killed by repression forces and dozens injured.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) denounces the military coup and fully supports all forms of mass struggle. It is crucial that workers and popular organizations all over the world build an international solidarity movement with the mass protests against the coup. There can be no doubt that this is a serious attempt by the army command to liquidate all remaining achievements of the revolution in 2019. We demand the immediate release of all those arrested. We think it is urgent to build *committees of action and armed self-defense units in workplaces and neighborhoods*. In order to defeat the coup, it is important to launch a *general strike* and to prepare for an *armed uprising*. Likewise, activists should develop *agitation among the soldiers* in order to split the army.

4. Our defense of the Sudanese government against the coup does not mean that we support their politics in any way. Quite the opposite, for more than two years the government of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok worked hand-in-hand with the same generals who have carried out the coup today. They called the people to stop the mass mobilizations in summer 2019. They signed agreements with the imperialist International Monetary Fund which deepened the colonial subjugation of the country. They also supported the cynical policy of "normalization" with the racist Apartheid state Israel. In other words, the forces supporting the Hamdok government are politically responsible for the aborted revolution in 2019 and now they have become victim of their own failure.

5. Albeit no public information has appeared so far on this issue, we have no doubt that the coup has been secretly supported (or even instigated) by Egypt's dicta-

torship of General Sisi as well as by the monarchist rulers of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. These powers have very close relations with Sudan's army command, and it is nearly impossible that General al-Burhan would have moved without approval by his closest ally. These forces were also behind the recent coup in Tunisia, the coup in Egypt in July 2013 and General Haftar's reactionary civil war in Libya. It is also at least noteworthy that the coup took place only days after US Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Jeffrey Feltman, visited Sudan and met with military and civilian leaders.

6. The coup is a powerful lesson that a revolution which stops in the middle can easily end in a counterrevolution. The RCIT warned already in summer 2019 that the failure to complete the revolution and to smash the criminal repression apparatus would leave the reactionary ruling class in power. In a statement on 8 July 2019, we warned against the deal of the leaders of the *Forces of Freedom and Change* with the army command: "*The Glorious Revolution is in danger of being sold out!*" We said: "*We repeat what we said in our last statement that "any negotiations with the army command are a dangerous diversion. Authentic freedom and democracy cannot be achieved through a collaborative effort with the army command – but only by defeating and removing it!" Given the fact that the army command retains a very strong position in the transition council, that all generals remain in place, and that they retain a monopoly of weaponry – they can remove the opposition representatives at any time.*" (See links below)

7. The only way forward is to stop the coup and to replace it with an *authentic workers' and peasants' government based on popular councils and militias*. Such a government would serve the interests of the popular masses and would remove power and wealth from the hands of the small corrupt elite of super-rich politicians, businessmen and army generals. It would also expropriate the foreign imperialist corporations which are exploiting semi-colonial Sudan.

8. The RCIT draws attention to the fact that only three months ago, Tunisia's President Kais Saied carried out a similar coup and currently tries to build a dictatorship which threatens the democratic liberties resulting from the Revolution in January 2011. Add to this the military coup in Burma-Myanmar in February this year, the brutal suppression of the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong by the Stalinist-capitalist dictatorship in Beijing, or the repression of right-wing governments against popular protests in Chile and Colombia. All these events reflect a similar global process: in a period of deepening crisis of global capitalism and the decay of the old imperialist world order, the vanguard battalions of the counter-

revolution attempt to consolidate the power of the ruling class by suppressing democracy for the people by brutal and totalitarian means. Hence, it is crucial to link the mass struggle against the coup in Sudan with the popular resistance against dictatorships in other countries in the Arab world (e.g. Egypt, Tunisia, Syria) as well as in other regions of the world.

9. Another expression of the same counterrevolutionary offensive is the series of attacks on democratic rights which takes place all over the world under the pretext of the pandemic. The policy of *COVID Counterrevolution* – Lockdowns, Green Pass, compulsory vaccinations, etc. – is not based on considerations of public health. In fact, faced with the worst economic depression since nearly a century and growing political instability, the ruling class is determined to increase the control over the popular masses via expansion of the chauvinist bonapartist state apparatus. Furthermore, it exploits the pandemic in order to raise the profits of Big Pharma, the biotech and IT corporations, the military-industrial complex, etc.

10. The counterrevolutionary offensive of the ruling class all over the world is even more incited by the fact that there have been a series of class struggles and popular uprisings in the past two years. First, the global wave of mass struggles which started in summer and autumn 2019: This was briefly interrupted by the Lockdown offensive in spring 2020. But since the Black Lives Matter uprising in the U.S. in summer last years, we have seen again numerous mass struggles. The crisis, the tensions between the imperialist Great Powers and the upswing of class struggles are the main factors which drive the capitalist class all over the world to rely increasingly on state repression, bonapartist regimes and dictatorships.

11. The task of revolutionaries is to stand in the forefront of the struggles for the defense of democratic rights and to advocate a transitional program which links such struggles with the struggle for working class power. We denounce those false “socialists” who, in one way or another, support such counterrevolutionary attacks (e.g.

the Lockdown and Green Pass policy, defense of the bonapartist regimes of Russian and Chinese imperialism). Such “left-wing” forces objectively serve the counterrevolutionary bourgeoisie and discredit the very idea of socialism!

12. The RCIT calls activists in Sudan to unite and to work for the formation of a *revolutionary party*. Without such a party, any struggle will lack a clear perspective and direction. Such a party should be built as part of a new *revolutionary world party* as political and economic developments in Sudan are closely interrelated with global capitalism. We call upon revolutionaries to join forces on the basis of an unambiguous socialist program of action. Join the RCIT!

International Bureau of the RCIT

The RCIT has published numerous documents on the Sudanese Revolution. We draw reader’s attention to the following statements:

RCIT: Sudan: The Deal with the Military Council is a Sell-Out of the Revolution! <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/sudan-the-deal-with-the-military-council-is-a-sell-out-of-the-revolution/>

RCIT: Sudan: Fight Back against the Generals with a General Strike! International solidarity with the Sudanese people! 04 June 2019, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/sudan-fight-back-against-the-generals-with-a-general-strike/>

ISL: What’s behind the Israel-Sudan Normalization Deal? 24.10.2020, <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/what-s-behind-the-israel-sudan-normalization-deal/>

For more statements see the following sub-page: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-2nd-wave-of-great-arab-revolution/>



RCIT AFRICA PROGRAM

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

Adopted at the 2nd World Congress of the RCIT in November 2017

Introduction * Foreign Exploiters – Out of Africa! * The Wealth to Those Who Create It! Economic Freedom Now! * Down with the Capitalist Dictatorships and Corrupt Pseudo-Democracies! * Organize the Workers and Oppressed for the Mass Struggle! * For a Government of Workers and Poor Peasants! For a Socialist Revolution! * For Pan-African Unity! For the United Socialist States of Africa! * For a United Front of Struggle! Overcome the Crisis of Leadership – Build a Revolutionary Party Nationally and Internationally! * Appendix

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

From our Archive: On the Sudanese Revolution in 2019

Sudan: Deal with Military Council is Sell-Out of the Revolution!

Emergency Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 08 July 2019

1. The Glorious Revolution is in danger of being sold out! The leaders of the *Forces of Freedom and Change* – formally representing the mass movement against the dictatorship – have made a deal with the Military Council. According to the agreement both sides will form a joint military and civilian sovereign council to lead the country during a transition period of three years and three months. The council will include five civilians representing the opposition and five military members. An 11th seat will go to a civilian chosen by both sides. A military leader will preside over the council for the first 21 months, followed by a civilian after that.

2. This agreement has been reached under massive pressure from the imperialist powers and their regional allies. According to a report by the *Associated Press*, the Trump Administration as well as the dictatorships of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates demanded that representatives of both the opposition and the military reach such an agreement. (AP: Sudanese say US pressure was key to reaching transition deal, 08.07.2019) The report quotes a Sudanese military official: “The Americans demanded a deal as soon as possible. Their message was clear: power-sharing in return for guarantees that nobody from the council will be tried,” he said, referring to the June 3 crackdown where at least 128 people were killed. The efforts of these reactionary powers culminated in a secret meeting on July 29 at the home of a Sudanese businessman in Cairo. It was attended by protest leaders, Generals Burhan and Hemedti, as well as officials from the U.S., Britain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates where the deal was reached. As a consequence, the opposition leaders have cancelled protest marches against a ruling Military Council that has slaughtered hundreds of activists over the past several months.

3. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) strongly warns that this power sharing deal is a dangerous sell-out by the leaders of the protest movement! We repeat what we said in our last statement that “any negotiations with the army command are a dangerous diversion. Authentic freedom and democracy cannot be achieved through a collaborative effort with the army command – but only by defeating and removing it!” Given the fact that the army command retains a very strong position in the transition council, that all generals remain in place, and that

they retain a monopoly of weaponry – they can remove the opposition representatives at any time. Their key supporters are all piloting barbarous dictatorships in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the UAE! Even if they keep the agreement, they have more than three years to create the conditions where any serious opposition force can be weakened, bought-off, or liquidated. If the deal is implemented it would effectively mean that the bourgeois leaders of the opposition will be integrated into the ruling elite and they will sell-out the goals of the glorious Sudanese Revolution in exchange for subordinate positions and personal privileges. It will mean that a new, unelected, military-civilian regime takes power without a shred of democratic control for more than three years.

4. The most important goal for the ruling class – and the most important setback for the people – is that the opposition leaders are now winding down the mass protest movement. Once the workers, youth and poor peasants have been demobilized, the pressure on the elite to make any serious concessions will disappear. It will then be easier for the army command – which will still retain the monopoly of arms – to arrest and suppress any serious opposition.

5. The RCIT strongly denounces the capitulation of the leaders of the *Forces of Freedom and Change* – including those of the misnamed *Sudanese Communist Party* (that has been part of this alliance from the beginning).

6. It is urgent that all activists and organizations that seek the democratic goals of the Sudanese Revolution reject this betrayal. They must join forces to continue the mobilizations of the popular masses. They should support efforts to organize workers, youth and poor peasants in popular resistance committees arising in the work places, neighbourhoods, and universities. Likewise, it is urgent that the popular masses build self-defense committees to resist the vicious attacks by the paramilitaries.

7. Most importantly, all revolutionary activists should unite on the basis of an action program and build a revolutionary party as part of a new International. The RCIT looks forward to collaborating with you!

** Remove the generals!*

** For a Revolutionary Constituent Assembly!*

** For a workers and poor peasants government!*

This Bulletin is published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Russia, Nigeria, Britain, Germany, and Austria.

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Sudan: Rally against the Military Coup of General Burhan

Report (with Photos and Video) from a Rally in Vienna on 26 October 2021, Austrian Section of the RCIT

More than 100 Sudanese migrants assembled in the centre of Vienna to protest against the military coup in Sudan which did take place on the day before. We expressed our solidarity with the Sudanese people who are protesting on the streets of Khartoum and other cities.

The rally was a lively mixture of speeches and chanting of slogans against the regime. A remarkable feature of the assembly was the fact that nearly all chants were led by women.

Activists of the Austrian section of the RCIT were invited to participate and to address the rally. In his speech, our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the

RCIT, sharply condemned the coup and called for international popular support for the mass protests in Sudan. He emphasized that the coup could not have taken place without the support by Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt's General Sisi as well as Israel. He stated that the regime must be toppled and replaced by a workers and peasant government.

See photos and video clip of Michael Pröbsting's speech here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rally-against-military-coup-in-sudan-26-10-2021/>

See also a longer video report on the Arab-language website INGOGRAT: https://www.infograt.com/2021/10/blog-post_152.html



Rally against the military coup in Sudan, Vienna 26.10.2021 (on the right side: Michael Pröbsting addresses the rally)

Sudan: Down with the Military Coup! Solidarity with the Popular Resistance!

Joint Statement of Revolutionary Organizations, 29 October 2021

1. The Sudanese army, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, has carried out a coup d'état on 25 October. Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, five senior government figures and others have been arrested and transferred to unknown places. The new regime announced the dissolution of the transitional government and the sovereign council and declared a nationwide state of emergency. It also announced the removal of state governors, saying elections will be held in July 2023!

2. In response, the Sudanese people have entered the streets and are fighting with the repression forces. Strikes and demonstrations are taking place all over the country. Many activists have already been killed or injured.

3. The undersigning organizations unreservedly denounce the coup d'état. We also condemn the forces behind the coup like by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt's General Sisi and Israel. We state our full solidarity with the Sudanese people and their resistance

against the military dictatorship. The struggle should be united to a single general strike and a popular uprising to smash the repression apparatus and to create a workers and peasants government.

Aluta Continua!

Signatories:

Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RCIT Section in Nigeria), <https://revolutionarysocialistvanguard.wordpress.com>

Revolutionary Socialist League (Kenya), <https://rslafrica.org/>
Pan-Afrikan Consciousness Renaissance (Nigeria), <https://m.facebook.com/pacorenaissance>

Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Israel/Occupied Palestine, Yemen, Nigeria, Russia, Britain, Germany and Austria), www.thecommunists.net