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Anniversary of Russian Special Military Operation: A victory for Russia will be a victory for the international working class!

written by Marxists Speak Out
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Graphic: Henry Wong

Marxists Speak Out has been working since February 2022 to bring together the communist forces internationally that support a Russian victory over NATO and support the Russian-speaking territories that have chosen to break from Ukraine. We have done so through joint statements, panels and promoting protests.

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Feb. 24 will mark the first anniversary of Russia coming to the aid of the people in the Lugansk and Donetsk People's Republics, defending those in the Eastern Ukraine region that had seceded in 2014 due to the Kiev regime's Neo-Nazi ties.

German fascism was the spearhead used by imperialism to try and destroy the Soviet Union workers' state in World War II. Fascist forces have once again been utilized by imperialism within Ukraine, this time to target the people of the Donbass and capitalist Russia. Now that the U.S./EU/NATO bloc have dropped their policy of limited intervention for open escalation, the world is once again on the brink of a destructive war between nuclear-armed powers.

For 30 years, NATO has lied to the Russian people and closed the distance between NATO-aligned countries and the Russian border. Russophobia has been a convenient cover for imperialism as it dismisses any concerns about NATO's ambition to place weapons on the border between Russia and Ukraine as Russian aggression. We now know that every step of so-called diplomacy of the Minsk Agreement was nothing more than broken promises and opportunities to further prepare for imperialist war. Angela Merkel and former Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko have both admitted the Minsk agreement was aimed to stall Russia so NATO could supply Ukraine with weaponry.

The fascist militias and battalions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces terrorized the citizens of Donbass between 2014 and 2022, killing thousands of civilians and ultimately leaving Russia no choice but to launch an offensive in the region to protect the Russian-speaking population. Russians have never forgotten how many of their ancestors, who fought as citizens of the Soviet Union, died to defeat Nazi Germany during WWII. Given this history, it was intolerable for many Russians to see the resurgence of the likes of Stepan Bandera gaining a foothold to threaten Russia at the behest of imperialism.

Ukraine has been propped up by imperialist forces from the beginning of the conflict and Zelensky is increasingly calling for more aid from the West: first long-range missiles, then tanks, and now fighter jets. There appears to be no "red line" the Western imperialists will not cross as they escalate the conflict. In addition to the

billions of dollars in weapons, the imperialists have stooped to terrorism over the past year, blowing up the Nord Stream pipeline and launching terrorist attacks within Russian territory.

The U.S./EU/NATO alliance is prepared to destroy the working class of their own countries to undermine Russia, destabilize the region and make way for territorial conquest. Many citizens are feeling the real consequences of rampant militarism in the U.S., UK, France, and across all of Europe in the form of austerity and inflation. As many liberal forces bay for war, it is the working class that pays the price. U.S. President Joe Biden has overseen upwards of \$100 billion in equipment sent to Ukraine, at a time when Americans are facing layoffs, pay cuts, and growing unrest.

A victory for the U.S./EU/NATO bloc in the current war would spell devastation for the world anti-imperialist struggle. It would likely lead to the break up of Russia and the opening up of its resources for full exploitation by Western imperialism. The removal of Russia as a military obstacle would accelerate the war drive of the U.S. against the People's Republic of China to complete its aim to dominate the Eurasian landmass. The proxy war against Russia is inseparable from the war drive against China.

The failure of so many Marxist groups across all traditions to oppose the imperialist war against Russia has been an historic failure. However, out of this failure comes the opportunity for genuinely anti-imperialist forces to join together, overcoming traditional sectarian divides. In this way, building the struggle against the war against Russia is a stepping stone to rebuilding and uniting the international communist movement and towards the ultimate victory of socialism!

Defeat for the NATO-led imperialist alliance! Victory to the resistance! No cooperation with imperialist war!

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If you would like to sign the statement, send your endorsement to:
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Source: [*Marxists Speak Out*](#)

