

WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

COMMISSION OF EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA (CENA)

CENA COORDINATION

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FINAL STATEMENT – REGIONAL SEMINAR OF THE CENA OF WFDY ***"The youth struggle in former European socialist countries against the imperialist offense of European Union and NATO"***

The World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) and the youth organizations CYA Albania, EDON Cyprus, FDJ Germany, JCP Portugal, KJO Austria, KNE Greece, KSM Czech Republic, Left Front – Communist Youth Alliance Hungary, RKSM(b) Russia, SZM Slovakia, SO Croatia, UJCE Spain, UTS Romania, YCL USA, and YTKP Turkey, which participated in the seminar under the title "*The youth struggle in former European socialist countries against the imperialist offense of European Union and NATO*" that was organized by the Commission of Europe and North America (CENA) of WFDY and hosted by the Left Front – Communist Youth Alliance, in Budapest, Hungary, on May 20th 2007, after an extensive and fruitful discussion reaffirm that as all people of the world witness, the imperialist "*new world order*" is nothing else but a brutal way of the deployment of the capitalist system. This is even more obvious with the restoration of capitalism in the ex-socialist countries of Europe and the exploitation that the people are facing.

It is a reality that our estimations, after the change in the correlation of forces in the world in the early 90's, on the situation that will exist in the ex-socialist countries of Europe and to all over the world, as a subsequent, have been realized in its worst way. Attacks against the civil and human rights, against the social welfare state, against the vested rights and interest of the people are the everyday reality in our world, with the goal to expand markets, enlarge the space of concurrency and exploit cheaper manpower. The ex-socialist countries of Europe as well as their people are in the core of exploitation, especially after the accession of many of such countries in the EU as member states. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the restoration of capitalism these countries have been a place of savage competition of multinational companies, of implementation of the Neo-liberal policies and implementation of the military plans and formations of the US and NATO.

The abovementioned organizations have come to the agreement that the ex-socialist countries in Europe have an extremely important geo-strategic position for imperialism; therefore it is using its entire political, economic, military and ideological offensive to implement its interests.

Imperialist aggression against these countries has been increasing brutally since the end of the socialist system:

- ❖ Many of the ex-socialist countries in Europe have lost their political, economical, military, and social sovereignty, enslaving these countries and obstruct people and especially the young generation to determine their future.
- ❖ The war in ex-Yugoslavia and its dissolution, the military and political interventions in sovereign states in the Balkans as in Serbia for the creation of separate states that will serve the imperialist interests, such as Montenegro and Kosovo, are obvious violations of the sovereignty of independent states and international laws.
- ❖ The expansion of NATO in most of these countries and the change of its strategic concept (emerging it clearly as an aggressive organization, giving itself the right to intervene anywhere in the world, wherever it feels its interests are threatened), its attempt of establishing new military and missile bases such as in Czech Republic,

Poland, and Balkans, and the presence of US army in several of these countries indicate its geo-strategic importance in the global war on controlling the energy resources and pipes roots.

- ❖ Imperialist interventions of US and EU with the use of political, legal or economical instability, with the service of different NGO's and colorful revolutions are exercised under the name of "*democratization*" of the countries such as Ukraine and Georgia. On most of these occasions the elected governments are subject to the control of imperialist forces serving their interests instead of their people. As part of the imperialist aggressions we witness as well clear threats of EU against the Belarus sovereignty.
- ❖ Anticommunism and criminalization of communist ideology such as in Baltic countries, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, , violation of the democratic rights and liberties such as the "*Law on Terror*" and the "*Biometric Data*" on passports, prosecutions of organizations and people that do not conform with the ruling ideology's directions is the way of EU "*democratization*" that also promoted anti-democratic and anti-communist resolutions and memorandums of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe.
- ❖ At the ideological level imperialism uses the media, the educational system, art, recreation and other mechanisms to unfold a sophisticated offense to the dominant ideology serve its interests and prevent disputes of its rule. The central goal – in the sphere of ideas – is to mystify, mask and legitimize imperialism's exploitative and oppressive character, to discourage the anti-imperialist struggle and to generate and shape ideas that can serve and support the ruling class. On this regard imperialism also blanks, revises and rewrites the history. This also goes on with the equalization of Nazism atrocities against humanity with the sacrifices and offer of communists and it is accompanied with destructions of monuments symbolizing the victories of people against imperialism.

People in ex-socialist countries in Europe face phenomenon which never existed before:

- The neo-liberal restructurings, the Lisbon Strategy and monetary policies in these countries attacked the most advanced welfare state that ever existed, which was a guarantee for the rights and conquests of the working class all over the world. The conquests and rights of workers, the national sovereignty of the states and the national wealth of the people are under threat from the expansion of multinational capital.
- Thousands of people face unemployment; they are exploited as cheap labor force, or are obliged to move in other European countries to work so that they find a better life for them and their families. Even within Europe the displacement of companies – as part of the international division of work – to countries where imperialism finds new ways to exploit labor, often with concessions by national governments for their installation, is a reality nowadays. The younger generations are hugely affected, both in terms of the young victims of exploitation in the countries where delocalized companies install themselves, and of the young people who become unemployed in the countries from which these companies have withdrawn. Precariousness, work insecurity or job flexibility are the new characteristics of employment wished by imperialism, ways that safeguard no working rights or conquests for the working class, at the same time that they try to destroy the worker's class organizations.
- Poverty, hunger, drugs, prostitution, and human trafficking, are some of the main characteristics of the societies.
- Public and free health and education system have been privatized in the name of freedom of movement of capital, services and commerce against people's most elementary rights. Schools and universities based on the Bologna process function in the service of capital, with books of historical lies and anti scientific distortions, imposing fees and class obstacles for the majority of youth, permitting only an elite to obtain the high level education and knowledge
- Immigration of tens of thousands people to more developed capitalist countries of Europe in search of a better life. They are not only being most brutally exploited by capital as cheap labor force, but they are also used as a pretext to reduce the salaries,

undermine the rights and conquests of the working class, and implement reactionary measures to the detriment of all people.

The above-mentioned organizations declare that the restoration of capitalism in the ex-socialist countries in Europe and the new imperialist world order, aim to make young people subjugated in the hands of the ruling class, to create a new generation deprived of any type of rights, conveying the idea that rights are benefits from the past that cannot be granted anymore, and to convince people that their future can be imagined only in an inhuman world that is based on inequality and exploitation.

We have all been convinced that the only way forward is the mass organized struggle, which comprises the road to resistance to overturn all of the anti-popular, anti-democratic, oppressive and exploitive measures and policies.

- To strengthen the organized struggle even further, especially our own organizations which, on a national level – always connected to daily life at school, at work, in the neighborhood –, are those from where resistance can be better expressed against the representatives of the current system. The national level anti-imperialist organizations are those that with well-intended guidance must awaken the people, increase youths' awareness, strengthening the student and youth associative movement and the fair and correct demands of the youth masses for the transformation of the concrete reality, and be in the pioneer position of changing the existing system, increasing our actions against the capitalist globalization.
- To continue our concentrated efforts for the withdrawal of NATO and other imperialist military forces and bases from our countries all over the world, for the dissolution of NATO, EU army or any other imperialist political-military blocs. To oppose all the attempts for the creation of new imperialist military bases such as the ones in Czech Republic, Poland, the establishment of new bases in Balkans, as well as the expansion of the US base of Vicenza. For the cancellation of militarism and all other forces of imperialist domination at the expenses of the people and the nations.
- We commit to defend the right of resistance and struggle, the right of political expression and activity. The right of people to choose the system that they want to live and also the implementation of the decision of the peoples. Against the attempts for bringing back a new EU constitutional treaty that deeply attempts against people's rights.
- To defend the liberties and democratic rights, against the attempt to criminalize the progressive and communist ideals and projects. To reinforce the fight against the attempts to falsify, distort and rewrite the history and forget the people's heroic resistance and conquests. To oppose all the policies and actions which open the ground for the cultivation of racism, xenophobia, nationalistic chauvinism, neo-fascism and promote the common ideas and internal principles of freedom, independence, democracy, friendship, international solidarity and world peace, which only can be truly achieved with the a profound change of policies and social transformation.

We are committed that through and along with WFDY we will continue to resist and organize our struggle. We hold that the democratic and progressive traditions of the WFDY strengthen our determination to continue to strive for a better world in which humankind will fully emancipate itself. In this collective effort the youth will be the vanguard, will remain at the forefront, for as long as it takes, in order to materialize our vision.

20th of May 2007
Budapest – Hungary