

## **TOTAL OBJECTION TO THE ARMY**

**A choice of struggle through the working class, for the working class and for the end of the exploitation  
and the wars**



**Texts of total objector to the army Dimitris Dimtsiadis**

Last week, the anarchist and total objector to military service Dimitris Dimtsiadis was notified of the imposition of the 4th (!!!) fine of 6000 euros charged to him during the last 2 years in which he has been refusing to enlist in military service of the army.

The new fine (his total debt due to his refusal to enlist in military service has reached 25000 euros?) and the new prosecution which is being prepared against him is the result of the sadistic nature of militarism that wants to exterminate anyone who resists, anyone who is unwilling to become a gear inside the big machine of death and repression called the army. Perhaps the interpretations of the obsessive vengeance against this particular objector to military service are plenty, but the essence remains the same:

Perhaps, his targeting for past political prosecutions/persecutions and his consistent position in multiform social and class struggles, in which he participates as a proletarian and an anarchist.

Besides, the personal register prepared for him by the army mechanism includes misleading news articles concerning his arrest along with other comrades in 2011.

Perhaps, this particular army recruitment office and these specific administrators that handle the case of military insubordination of the comrade apply the legislation with such rigor by calling him to any new periods for military service because of their own political and ideological positions. One way or another, either because of a political mandate of above or because of the initiative of a gallant-personnel, the comrade faces a disproportionate punishment for his political decision not to serve the national army. Tens of thousands of euros in fines, successive prosecutions, which will in turn into new financial burdens - from the fees of the trials to the buying off of the penalties - or even the possibility of his imprisonment all over again.

Despite the special characteristics of the state's policy towards the total objectors to military service that appear in this case, there is a legal framework that allows them to act the way the act against this particular companion today and probably to someone else tomorrow. As long as the financial field is concerned, the class meaning of the 6000 euros fee is more than clear. Whoever is rich enough to pay off the fee of 6000 euros for not serving the military service will not face any further consequences. The rest will be filled into debts and confiscations, and will have to struggle in order not to get their Christmas gift along with their salary so their bank account does not exceed the tax free limit.

As long as the criminal scale is concerned, there is the damn greek originality that considers the crime of not serving the army consistent and so, every time someone is called to join the army (up to 6 times a year) is being persecuted all over again. A greek originality that today's government has stated several times before and after the elections-until a year ago-that will abolish in order to pamper its alternative and youthful audiences, without of course having done so.

And this greek originality must be fought in order to eradicate it directly (and once and for all), in order to protect today's and tomorrow's total deniers of military service,

but also in order to block the rising militarism of the greek state, thus finding another opportunity to talk about every aspect of it, about its imposition on our lives.

Because at the same time that the repression of the objectors to military service escalates, many of the national army's past crimes continue to be forgotten, and we need to talk about them in order not to forget its role: slaughtering strikes at the beginning of the century, white terrorism after the ww2 occupation, participation in the Korean War, coup in Greece and Cyprus with the known results

.

While now, we have even more to say: there are discussions to increase military service, the suicides of soldiers continue, the tensions with other states in the territory rise -along with equipment spending- and the relationship between the Greek state and NATO's global war machine deepens. The bases of the alliance in the region increase rapidly, while greek mercenaries go to bases in the Balkans and Africa to export bourgeois democracy and class peace and territories of Syria are being bombarded from Souda and at the same time the Greek army conducts exercises with their counterparts of the Egyptian and Israeli dictatorship that does not stop bleeding the Palestinians, since they are the neighbors with whom we made alliances to kick Turkey out of the EEZ business.

Needless to say, that a few months ago, there was a special regulation that reduces (the term of) the military service to 3 months(!!) for "victims' of terrorism" children. And living in a bourgeois democracy, where victims of terrorism are considered to be the politically and economically powerful and their protectors who have experienced only a small amount of the violence they first forced to others, this bill comes to clarify the situation: the army, as well as the war, are tools of the rich, but the dangers and their impact are on the poor, which are destined for slaughter in times of peace as well as in times of war. And that's exactly why the militants and their bosses are bothered by the fact that there are workers who do not worship gods, nations and coat of Arms who are not willing to kill and be killed for the interests of the capital and the great ideas of the nations.

We consider this unprecedented repressive targeting as one more crossroad for the anarchist movement and further more for the exploited who have not forgotten the role of militarism as one of the pillars of state and capital. A crossroad to reflect not only on our relationship with the national army, (not on individual level but collectively - in terms of movement-), but also on the very limits of "individual choices", trying to transform the denials and the choices of struggle we make into what they should be: Battle tools and tools of critical thinking in the hands of all the oppressed here and everywhere.

Because what makes our "denials to live forever" and really worth it is the transmissiveness that their transmitters give them the contagiousness that their carriers give them, their ability to be appropriated, and their influence in the class struggle itself, propelling the case of the emancipation of the proletariat. This is for us the denial of military service: a choice of struggle to find moments of rift with militarism - from posters to apologies to military courts, moments of socialization of anti-militarism, but also a choice of struggle that we believe can have results if it becomes a possession of significant amount of the oppressed, even in the averting of a future war. No state goes to war when it does not have people willing to be killed, but also when it faces an open class front within its borders.

This is how we perceive the solidarity with total objectors to military service. This is our way of understanding and our critical approach to this particular choice of rift with militarism. Precisely so that no "heroes" and "traitors", no person-centered solidarity movements and personal pathways of facing? these persecutions are born.

So, to get away from philosophical quests and find the real life fields to clash, to stimulate, to fight. So, in order to achieve small victories, to protect our comrades, to alter associations in the field of anti-militarist struggle, and to become thousands of people who will dare to say in a conscious voice, "WE DO NOT GO TO WAR?" giving courage and a future way to our class brothers in Greece who are massively taking crazy papers and in Turkey where they sell everything they have to redeem their service, -doing very well so but also following a lonely path. But even to the young children who, under pressure or fear, enlist the army, losing their days and unfortunately sometimes their lives in the gears of hierarchy, of obedience to arms, of nationalism, of racism and sexism ...

We call on comrades to struggle to build an anti-war, anti-nationalist and anti-militarist front that will impose the end of all vindictive persecutions of the objectors to military service, that will put an end to war preparations, national tensions and NATO interventions in the wider region of Balkans and the Middle East, and will fight for the global revolution against states and capitalism.



#### IN SOLIDARITY WITH DIMITRIS DIMTSIADIS

#### IMMEDIATE AND RETROACTIVE PAUSE OF PERSECUTIONS TO ALL TOTAL OBJECTORS TO MILITARY SERVICE

*anarchist collective from the eastern neighborhoods (thessaloniki)/ anatolika.espivblogs.net*

## **Statement of total objection to the army published from Dimitris D. and Bambis T.**

We refuse to serve in the greek army and in every armed mechanism of the state and the capital. We want to share with the struggling community of our class the reasons that lead us at this decision but also why we engage it on the overall liberation project we are fighting for, as exploited who are fighting against exploitation, as anarchists. We have been fighting for several years against the causes of the wars, against the state and the capital. We are consciously conscript with the cause of the emancipation of the oppressed and exploited of this world. Our problem with the army doesn't initiated by an abstract pacifist mood.

We have a deep faith in the possibility of the people to live without wars, to live peaceful and in harmony with the natural world, but something like this can not happen under state and capitalistic domination. This can not happen if people from the lower classes of this world, people of every color, of every race, of every sex don't realize their common destiny reserved by their oppressors. This cannot happen if we don't stay united to abolish all forms of exploitation and oppression, to take in our hands the control of our lives based on the values of solidarity, freedom, communality.

### **Peace as we say war, war as we say total brutality**

North Africa, Ukraine and Middle East. Past World Wars, Iraq, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Vietnam, Korea, Northern Ireland. Napalm in Grammos, gas chambers in Auschwitz, "soft" interference with coups in Latin America, the African continent and around the world. The capital is expanding, conquering, mass murdering and plundering the nature with the army and the security services as an executive arm, that in most cases has the name NATO (probably in a while and euro-army).

However to stop this enormous circle of blood and in order to transform dream into life, our negation is not enough to the wars between states. After all, the war is just a profitable version and an imaginary continuity of capitalistic peace. Shattered human bodies, burned human bodies, destroyed cities from the high-tech bombs, each awfulness in the name of gods and nations, that are serving essentially the profit and the influence of capitalists, all of these are images of a past and a future directly ours and indeed not so far away. But it is also our present, repetitive and ever more violent, reminding us, which is the dominants' opinion about the value of our lives.

As they expect from us to die in a trench when they decide a war, similarly they expect from us to be able to die, here and now, in a notorious work accident.

As they have the demand from us to get cold on the "front line", similarly they have the demand to get cold here and now, as they cut off the power in our houses because we are not able to pay the bill.

As they will ask of us to be sacrificed for the nation into a conflict with a neighboring state, similarly they ask of us to be sacrificed here and now, in order to continue enriching our bosses.

As they will force us to shoot a soldier of the opposite side, similarly they force us, here and now, to stand against other people of our community, immigrants, strikers, stigmatized as "mentally ill", gay, struggling people.

As they will force us to spill our blood for their flag, similarly here and now, they force us to spill our sweat for their pocket.

With the same audacity that they ask of us to lose our shit-job (those we have one...) in order to join in the army and serve the obligation in our motherland, with the same audacity, here and now, they cut off our salaries to pay off the debt to "motherland".

As they consider that we will blindly obey their commanders as we serve in the army, similarly they promote that the only one solution is to obey to their laws, laws that have been made to maintain their domination. For those who think to gainsay their domination or those who aren't useful for its reproduction they reserve their extinction through persecution, money drainage and their imprisonment in prisons or in concentration camps.

The hunger and the fear of a war, are here and now, close to us and among us, while many people experience them within a “peaceful” condition.

It is the notorious peace that evoke the domination, it is the peace of the capital, a low-intensity war that involves the perpetual attack against the oppressed, the perpetual devaluation of our lives. This is the reality that we live from generation to generation, this is the reality against which we fight, against which everyone have to fight.

### **“But we don’t have war nowadays, they will not order you to kill anyone, why don’t you go to the army”**

The army doesn’t have as its only function to kill and murder massively the “barbarians” of the Balkans, as the school books have told to us for our neighborhood population. The function of the army even in times of “peace” is at the same time repressive and profitable for the dominants.

The greek army, is one of the best customers in the arms and armament industry in order to keep the “borders safe”, at the same time that many people are not able to cover their basic needs.

The greek army, called as “a big school for boys”, is the one that poison the minds of young people who have escaped from the nails of authoritarian and classicist education and nursing them within a framework of strict discipline, hierarchy, racism, historical lies, patriarchy.

The greek army is the mechanism that has killed hundreds of strugglers, strikers, rebels at the southern tip of the Balkan Peninsula. Who can impose the oblivion for the strikes that have been suppressed with the price of the workers blood, for Thessaloniki in 1936, for the brutality before, meanwhile and after the end of the greek civil war, for the tortures on junta and the massacre of 17<sup>th</sup> of November ?

The greek army is responsible for the death of hundreds of people. People who attempt to cross the borders of the “western world”, in order to escape the wars and the misery that the army creates in their homelands, and after all these the people who have crossed the borders stack on the concentration camps.

The greek army is the one who had installed the junta at 1967 for the profits of other states. It had send army for their profits in Korea and Afghanistan and it keeps secret and obvious NATO bases in various places of the country to refuel the planes that spread death in the whole planet.

Does somewhere else have the responsibility of the mass murders, the rapes, the destroyed cities for Greeks and Turks of the wars of 1897 and 1922?

More recently the army have been used as a striking mechanism at the street cleaners strikes etc but also as a supplier for cheap working hands (recently with the reinstatement of MOMA) and as a vector of unpaid job (for the conscientious objectors and the graduated).

Do the names of the soldiers who committed suicide in the greek army count in the lists of this undeclared war?

So, to hell with the greek army and national aspirations, creations of local capital, with the army and the aspirations of the states all over the world, creations of every bourgeoisie.

### **Death to the death because of love to life**

As anarchists with our struggle we aim at the destruction of the state and the capitalism, so we couldn’t but fight against the army, one of the main mechanisms of their establishment, preservation and reproduction. So nowadays when they called us to serve this mechanism we decided to take a choice that many other comrades had taken before us, the decision of total objection to army.

We recognize ourselves as a part of the struggling community of the exploited and oppressed class who, like the dominants, does not have a specific origin and speaks all the languages of the world. We count as our own dead all the oppressed who were thrown into the forefront of the battles under the threat of death, all the exploiters who die all over the world from the miserable living conditions that promote the world domination and even more to those who were assassinated in the battles of social and class war. Our story is the world’s story of the uprisings and revolutions that raised black and red flags, our anthem is the Internationale. It is worth and we must fight for these dead people, for this history, but especially for them and those who are alive today and they cannot continue living in impoverishment, in the oppression, without freedom, and they stand their ground against nations and empires.

We know very well that we will not win in this war by whining to the bosses and the states to loosen up our chains. We will not win if we beg to disarm police and army, but we will win with the only way that it is feasible: with the gun in the hand, with armed communities in every corner, that will impose the coverage of our own needs against the advantages of our exploiters, that will impose our freedom to live by sharing the social wealth against the freedom of our exploitation from the bosses. Today, as the registration, assignment and nagging eat our flesh, we say that in every workplace, in every neighborhood, and in every school, we have to set up anti-authoritarian and anti-hierarchical organizations, anarchist collectives, labor and student groups, direct action groups that will jointly compose an emancipation plan, a plan to abolish oppression and exploitation, and accelerate the high tide that follows the ebb, that will make the upcoming insurrection, a victorious revolution.

**SOLIDARITY WITH ANARCHISTS AND REVOLUTIONARIES PRISONERS AND WITH TOTAL OBJECTORS TO THE ARMY IN ALL OVER THE WORLD**

**FIGHT FOR A WORLD WITHOUT EXPLOITATION AND OPPRESSION, WITHOUT ARMIES, BORDERS, WARS**

**FIGHT FOR ANARCHY**

**October, 2016**

***Statement after the 3<sup>rd</sup> prosecution of the comrade:***

Today for the third time in less than 2 years that I have taken the decision of the total objection to the army, I am arrested because the specific crime is considered as a continued crime according to the greek laws. The last week I was assessed 6000 euros fine for the 3<sup>rd</sup> penalty. The special legal imprint that punishes continuously the army objectors is a greek innovation that wants to exhaust total objectors financially and in the penal field. Several of the current goverment had said that will alter this special legal imprint because they want to be applauded by the young people. Of course they didn't alter it, but at the same time they are discussing the increase of the compulsory military service while they increase the cost of equipment and they create more military tensions in the region. As I had said in the statement of the total objection to the army and in my apology to the military court, a few months before, my class position and my conscript as anarchist on the side of the exploited of this world does not permit me to train to kill and to be killed for the conflicts of the local and any other upper class. Does not permit me to serve a mechanism that had create only dictatorships, wars and barbarism.

While billions are spent on armaments, while our people, the people of our class, are unable to cover our basic needs ...

While the greek army carry out exercises of demonstrators' repression, as recently happened in the 113-wing battlefield in Thessaloniki .

While Greece's role in NATO's plans in the region is constantly upgrading, an option that brings us closer to potential tensions and war ...

While the Greek state is co-operating economically and militarily with Cyprus-Israel-Egypt to define the largest possible part of its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) with the blessings of global giants of extraction and transport of hydrocarbons

While the Greek and Turkish bourgeoisie, supported by bigger players, increase the tension in the area and ask us, Greek-speaking and Turkish-speaking proletarians, to spill our blood for their own profits from natural gas and oil ...

While the army, through the ages is a mechanism of enforcement in the hands of the world's dominants, whose purpose is to feed us with the poison of racism, sexism, nationalism, blind obedience...

I don't believe to the national unity, I have nothing in common with those who cause inequality, poverty, discrimination, oppression to preserve their political and economic power. I do not fight for their national aspirations, which in peace and in war times that means our own exploitation.

In the same time, I try to fight next to them and those who are exactly the same with me, even if they are black, even if they speak Turkish, even if they call them Macedonians, even if they have been baptized Muslims. Together with those who yesterday, May 1st, in all the countries of the Balkans and the World, we went down the road, with the same hopes bringing our hearts together, in -even an instant- coordination.

Because in the greek version of the Internationale, the song we once marked with a companion as our own anthem, when we said that we're not going to go to the army, there is a third stanza. Sometimes, somewhere between the taxis notifications about the extravagant, the military courts, the police stations, the police cars that carry us, someone can hear, if he/she is careful, the events themselves whistle in the rhythm:

**“Come on, our only hope is our tightened fist,**

**down with the wars and the nations,**

**Long live the liberty!”**

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**



**IN SOLIDARITY WITH D. DIMTSIADIS-IMMEDIATE AND RETROACTIVE PAUSE OF PERSECUTIONS TO ALL TOTAL OBJECTORS TO MILITARY SERVICE**