

## **Towards an antinationalist-antimilitarist/ anti war/ anti nato campaign in April**

We wish to make clear that the political framework that follows is simply the common ground that the collective “Peloto” from Xanthi and the “collective of anarchist from the east side” in Thessaloniki presented at the informative assemblies that took place in various cities in Greece.

The following text is where we expressed our agreements on the subjects we discussed. However, we want to stress the fact that in order to participate in this campaign it is not necessary to agree completely with our views. Any group is welcome to add any points they wish to include in this campaign and they are welcome to enrich the campaign with their participation.

One of our goals -which could not be hand in hand with strict agreement on our political thesis- is that this campaign will serve as a point where we will meet with social and class formations, so that it won't remain in the narrow limits of an anti-war campaign organized solely by anarchist groups, but instead it will receive the characteristics of a wider social movement.

### **Political thesis**

For a long time we have witnessed the intensification of transnational conflicts in the general region of the Balkan peninsula and the South East Mediterranean. Based on the duration and the intensity of transnational rivalries, as well as the understanding of global economy/political reality, we estimate that the situation is going to get worse. In spite of the confirmations of the contrary, global economic crisis continues with the same intensity. The global debt is in higher levels than it has ever been before, while the IMF forewarns the outbreak of another capitalist crisis, while new economic powers claim a better position of power at the expense of others.

We think it is necessary to analyze and understand the relations of dominance, co-operation and conflict that exist between the states in the general region. Not so that we painlessly target an external enemy that is away from our reality but precisely in order to seek the repercussions of these relations and the way that they effect our everyday lives at the place and time that we live and struggle. Under these conditions we believe that we should target the grand energy projects that pose geopolitical interest, increasing the odds of an intervention from rival powers at the expense of our natural habitat and local societies.

We must rise against the upgrade of military armaments, on the one hand so that we can sabotage the continuous war preparation of the Greek state and on the other so that we can ensure that our “injured” social needs are met.

We must attack the increasing militarism and the army's involvement on social matters (immigrants handling, technical projects, medical control).

We must block the Greek state's war preparation and NATO's upgraded presence in the region. A transnational warfare formation which multiplies its bases and the powers it has on Greek ground. Greece has clear interests from the deepening of its relations with NATO since it leads to an upgrade of its role in the region. Considering all the above, we want the political contents of this movement to be:

**CLASS**, since war in capitalism is the highest state of surpassing economic conflicts or dead-ends that the dominating class meets at the expense of the exploited, who have nothing to gain and everything to lose from such a development.

**INTERNATIONALIST** so that we will be able to disprove -in action- the concept of national unity -on the basis of which the contemporary capitalist states were founded and on the name of which we are called to kill each other- and to be able to forge unity and solidarity between the exploited of each nation. For it is through our common struggles and far from the made up national and religious divisions, that we will manage to perceive the common fate that states and capital have in store for us.

**ANTISTATE** and **ANTICAPITALISTIC**. Because as long as states and capitalism exist, whether it is in times of peace or at in times of war, they will not stop preparing new slaughterhouses for humanity, nor will they end the rampant depredation of our natural habitat. As far as the specific points-goals that we want to set, they are as following:

## **Against NATO**

NATO, as a transnational alliance, aggressive by nature with the USA as its dominant power, tries to empower its presence in the Balkan peninsula with the ultimate goal of setting up a solid west-friendly front. The Greek state plays an important role towards the realization of this strategy since it plans -and to a large extent has already achieved- to convert its total domain to a huge NATO's base. The intensity of rivalries in the South East Mediterranean and in the Balkans has gathered a portion of the US army fire power that seeks a permanent presence in the region. The completion of the aforementioned plans will multiply war operations in the general region with troops deployed from bases on Greek ground (as is already happening in Souda).

After all the continuously increasing military presence in our region hides several risks and definitely does not enhance "security" as the dominant propaganda would have us believe. On the contrary it implicates the lower social layers in the warfare games of the capitalist hyperpowers and act as a catalyst for the intensification of transnational rivalries and prepares the ground for the development of nationalisms. A characteristic example is the intentional storage of nuclear weapons in the air base of Araxos, at one of Greece's most earthquake-prone areas.

## **Against war**

The Greek state is nothing but idle under the conditions analyzed above. As a member of the political-military formation of NATO following loyally its central strategy of Intensification and also as an individual power which tries to exploit any gaps, chances and dead-ends that are produced by the central contrasts in order to empower its position in the area. The latter is easily observed if we study its coordinated moves in the Balkans where it tries to be a front runner in NATO'S strategy of forming a firm west-friendly front (EEZ with Albania, name of Macedonia) but also in eastern Mediterranean and the strategic co-operation of Greece-Cyprus-Israel-Egypt (natural gas mining, pipelines, common military exercises). In this context it amplifies tension with Turkey pushing forward a delimitation of EEZ with which it excludes Turkey from the coming depredation of the Mediterranean subsoil but also by declaring the expansion of the territorial sea to 12 miles, which means that it is up to the Greek state to decide whether a foreign ship could cross it.

These moves by the Greek state are accompanied by an intense war preparation in its interior. This preparation includes the movement and reclassification of military powers, daily state and transnational exercises, the implication of the army in social life, the upgrade and supply of armaments, the contingency of the increase of the military servitude.

## **Against nationalism and militarism**

At the same time there is a clear direction by the dominant propaganda. After all it is known that the first step towards war preparation of a nation is its firm establishment internally. Everyday the media is overrun with images of war ships, fighting planes, maps with altered borders and the troop movement. The cultivation of a war climate aims to get people to accept the fact that the contingency of a war is very much likely. On the other hand, the notion of national unity is the umbrella under which the exploited and oppressed of each nation are supposed to stand side by side with their oppressors. But of course the exploited are the ones who are going to be sent at battlefields in order to kill each other for the interests of their oppressors.

From the tail of permanently under attack state that everyone wishes to harm it, to the diffused irredentism and from the empowerment of fascist groups, to the upgrade of the role of the army the goal is the same: the eradication of any resistance whenever (if) the Greek state choses to be implicated in a war.

A glance at our neighbors in Turkey has much to teach us. Turkish middle class made sure to silence any voice who would doubt its war-plans in its interior, while it prepared to take action in Syria. By conducting mass imprisonments and persecutions of revolutionary organizations, political rivals, journalists and minorities, by applying the strategy of tension, by empowering the national backbone and by spreading fear to wide parts of the Turkish society, it managed to impose a sterile scenery in the country's interior.

## **Towards the construction of an antiwar movement**

Under these circumstances it is our responsibility to construct a firm, combative antiwar movement that targets middle class's interests plans as well as its foreign allies. It is our duty to defend our class's interests, our organizations,

foundations, struggle communities and people against any attack. We do not conform with the interests and adventurism of any upper class. We do not fight for any transnational rivalry. It is our duty to build a strong transnational movement against war, against the contemporary totalism. We ought to build relations with the struggling people worldwide, to set common goals in our struggles and to sabotage in action every war plan that has in store the same fate for all of us, independent of which side of the border we stand on. We must construct a wide international front for the struggle against war, fascism,, exploitation, poverty, impoverishment, racism, patriarchy, state and by-state terrorism.

The above are connected with the intensification of social and class struggles. The more active the social movements are, the more open they are with their affiliation with anti-war speech. At the same time a strong social/class movement within the borders would make any middle class think twice before it handed weapons to the exploited before it send them to kill each other.

### **About our open call**

For several months many anarchist collectives across Greece have developed anti-war speech and action. We think that a coordinated mobilization will bring us closer to the goals we set above. As we have already mentioned, the Greek state's strategy is the increasing conformity with NATO's demands. We believe that in the present circumstances this particular transnational organization plays a key role in intensifying competition between nation, in configuring a pre-war climate, in spending money on weapons and in the rise of nationalism.

The 70th anniversary since the foundation of this organization, the strong increase of military presence in the wider region and particularly in our country, as well as the current combat operations, motivated as to take the initiative to make this open call.

We believe that anarchists and anti-authoritarians are the first that ought to fight against transnational organizations with a clear orientation towards warfare. This struggle needs to be given from a transnational, class, anti-state and anti-capitalistic point of view. A struggle that aims towards the cooperation of the exploited of this world, in order to fight together for a society without states and classes, without inequalities, without division of people according to their gender, nationality or race.

### **About the procedure**

Obviously, each collective, each city, each region will have total initiative of their actions at all levels, from the political frameworks that may be more than one, to the precise movements and the way of organizing.

Each region will decide what is the best way to take public action and social address, which for us is necessary. We wish that each initiative will overcome - the last-minute internet calls -assuming there is adequate time.

It is up to each region to decide whether an open assembly will be formed for the issue or if it is going to remain a call between collectives, or whether various coordinations are formed with a based on political agreement and how these formations will coordinate with one another. Independent of which form each region is going to use to organize its campaign, we believe that a common assembly between all the formations that call for a demonstration in the same base so that the co-organization of certain practical issues will be possible.

Each region will determine which social and class formations could be actively involved in this struggle (unions, neighborhood assemblies, student groups etc) enriching it with a wider social dimension.

It is up to each region to decide the terms of the contact and the coordination with organizations that are not anarchist. However, we would like everyone to respect that for us it would alter the terms of our movement if we stand side by side with organizations like "People's Unity (ΛΑΕ)", "Freedom of Liberty" and "KOE". The reason we point this out is not because of a "left-phobia" but because of their political analysis which -for a while now- has crossed over to the other side, the side of Greek nationalism (they formed committees for the "Skopjan issue", they denounced Turkey's aggressiveness without referencing to Greece's aggressiveness, political boost of Russia, presence at the rallies for how "Macedonia is Greek").

### **To rap this up**

The precise actions that will emerge through the local processes will be determined over the next few weeks. Our initial effort is to realize public meetings/interventions/demos on April 6 in the cities that each collective/initiative/assembly takes action. And on the 13th of April we would like to focus on demos at NATO's bases if that's possible (Alexandroupoli, Larissa, Araxos or other places wher NATO bases have been established).

NATO BASES AND NATIONALISMS CREATE WARS IN EARTH

AGAINST MILITARISM, NATIONALISM, WAR,  
AGAINST NATO AND ADVENTURISM OF GREEK UPPER CLASS  
AGAINST THE STATE, CAPITALISM AND THEIR SO CALLED CAPITALIST "PEACE"

STRUGGLE FOR A WORLD WITHOUT NATIONS, EMPIRES, ARMIES AND WARS

STRUGGLE FOR A WORLD WITHOUT CLASSES, DISTINCTION, EXPLOITATION AND  
OPRESSION

STRUGGLE FOR A WORLD OF SOLIDARITY, FREEDOM, EQUALITY, COMMUNALISM

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