

The British bourgeoisie run over by its own Brexit

In the evening of December 24th, 2020 the British government announced the signing of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Great Britain, which a few days after the end of the transition period post Brexit should lay the foundations for the future relationship.

With this, the campaign of ideological intoxication of the British and European proletariat coordinated by both those who defend Brexit and those who oppose it, with arguments that are equally deceitful and false, culminated. Neither one option nor the other have any progressive element, they are just two possible results of the LOOT DISTRIBUTION AMONG THIEVES. The only solution to the problems of the British, European and world proletariat is the independent class organization against the own bourgeoisie both for the struggle for immediate interests and for the purpose of the anti-capitalist social revolution. We say culminate it because even though the agreement has been signed, the ideological campaign will not end here, since the bourgeoisie will continue to need to divert the attention of the working class from its real problems.

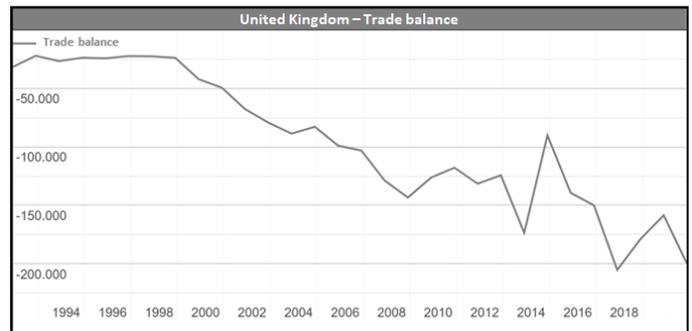
The signing of the agreement was preceded by the staging by the British government of the deployment of machine guns in the English Channel, followed by the timely "discovery" of a "new strain" of Covid 19 in Great Britain, which was the perfect excuse for European imperialism to carry out an express strangulation of the British imperialist economy. This blockade, justified by a strain that, moreover, has been found before and after throughout Europe, caused immediate queues for carriers at the border and a shortage of products in supermarkets. It was the last thrust so that the fraction of the British bourgeoisie that was driving Brexit were forced to surrender with a downward agreement. This strangulation has shown that the dream of independence of Great Britain (like any other capitalist country in the imperialist phase of capitalism) is a mere illusion: *"That route, which more than 2.5 million trailer trucks travel a year, is not only the largest freight corridor in the world. It is the most important access point of supply to the United Kingdom, an island country that is totally dependent on supplies by sea."*

About 97% of the volume of British foreign trade is handled through maritime trade. It is about 500 million tons per year. Dover is the main shipping port for trailers and containers, a long way from the second, the port of Holyhead, which connects with Ireland. Around 10,000 trucks circulate here a day, compared to 1,200 in Holyhead (...) According to the British retail consortium, the EU is the most important food source for UK supermarkets, accounting for 40% of the food consumed in the country". (Expansión, 23-12-2020).

The agreement can be summarized in the British submission to the needs and regulations of the EU so that companies can have a "privileged" access (without tariffs) that allows at the same time the Johnson government to sell it to its followers as an effective culmination of the exit, whatever the consequences they bring to themselves.

The agreement guarantees that there are no tariffs in a bilateral trade between the United Kingdom and the EU of more than 731 billion euros (Expansión, 26-12-2020). Who is the main beneficiary? The deficit of the United Kingdom's trade

balance has not stopped growing in the last decades. That is, the UK imports much more than it exports.



Source: datosmacro.expansion.com

The following table shows that the United Kingdom has a deficit in its trade balance with all EU countries, except Ireland:

United Kingdom Trade balance - World	
Countries	Trade balance
Germany	-34.101,5M.€
China	-31.067,1M.€
Netherlands	-20.838,2M.€
Norway	-13.727,8M.€
Belgium	-13.698,4M.€
Italy	-11.245,3M.€
Russia	-9.774,3M.€
Ireland	9.173,7M.€
Switzerland	-8.562,9M.€
Canada	-8.402,1M.€
United Arab Emirates	6.933,4M.€
Spain	-6.578,9M.€
Poland	-6.551,7M.€
France	-5.865,8M.€
Hong Kong	5.724,9M.€
South Africa	-5.468,3M.€
Vietnam	-4.811,8M.€
Australia	-4.794,3M.€
Turkey	-4.578,6M.€
Denmark	-4.454,5M.€
Czech Republic	-4.395,4M.€
Singapore	3.747,5M.€
India	-3.525,2M.€
Japan	-3.445,4M.€
United States	3.172,3M.€
Taiwan	-2.593,1M.€
Bangladesh	-2.495,6M.€
Austria	-2.261,3M.€
Azerbaijan	2.073,5M.€
Uzbekistan	-2.066,0M.€

Source: datosmacro.expansion.com

The tariff-free trade agreement benefits mainly the exporting countries, that is, the EU: European goods will continue to flood the British market without restriction.

The agreement on the other hand imposes restrictions on the decisions of the British government that are not subject to

European regulations, in order to avoid "unfair" competition with respect to the sectors included in the agreement. Therefore, it does not allow the British government to establish agreements in other terms with other markets (which was the illusion of the Brexiters), although granting the British that the regulatory framework is not formally established by the CJEU and the European institutions as up to now, but by newly created arbitration institutions. That is, they change the name of things so as not having to say that Great Britain submits to the decisions of the CJEU and the European institutions without participating in them, as countries such as Switzerland or Norway also do in practice.

The British resignation as regards Northern Ireland is still greater, since it explicitly remains within the European market, and in the all European regulations, in the Erasmus program (as opposed to the rest of the United Kingdom) and European citizenship is recognized for those born there if they request it. In other words, Northern Ireland is still formally part of the United Kingdom but on a practical level it is part of the European market and of all the regulations that the EU can impose.

The process has increased the contradictions between the Scottish and the English bourgeoisie, and the former loses no opportunity to demonstrate it by closing the border with England, claiming the usual excuse of the pandemic situation and promoting a second Scottish independence referendum (La Vanguardia, 21-12-20). Thus the Scottish bourgeoisie can function as a European fifth column in the United Kingdom, as Great Britain functioned as an American fifth column in the European Union.

Gibraltar was explicitly excluded from the agreement. Under the risk of collapse otherwise, it had to sign an immediately subsequent treaty promoted by Spain by which it has become part of the Schengen area (free movement and without restrictions of people, goods and services and capital). What a result for a Brexit!

To make matters worse, the agreement in question does not include the financial sector, so that *"As of today, after the celebrations, the banks, and the British financial companies have lost the "passport" that allowed them to operate in any of the 27 countries of the UE as if they belonged to one of them. In exchange, they will have to obtain "equivalences", which Brussels will grant unilaterally (and can withdraw with one month's notice) in those business segments in which it considers that British regulations, without being equal, have the same effects and do not cause distortion or unfair competition."* (La Vanguardia, 04-01-2021). With this, the EU has an additional pressure mechanism to force compliance with the agreement (or even to force compliance with the standards it considers in the financial field, although it is not included in the agreement) since *"The United Kingdom supplies the EU financial services worth 40 billion euros a year and the sector constitutes almost 7% of British GDP."* (La Vanguardia, 04-04-2021) and it *"employs a million people and contributes more than 80 billion euros to the tax collection."* (El País 26-12-2020). To which we must add that *"The Brexit without significant agreements on this issue threatens the negotiation of 569 trillion euros in derivative products, of which 75% had so far passed through the City (...) The total size of the derivatives market in the EU reached 681 trillion euros last year, when the Spanish GDP in 2020 is estimated at 1.1 trillion (...) So far, three quarters of these Instruments were traded on London-based markets: 19 of the 32 markets authorized by the end of 2020 by ESMA were there. A part of them has been registered in*

countries of the Union to try to alleviate the problems (...) Financial sources indicate that after an agonizing negotiation, the EU wants to reduce to a minimum the dependence of its 27 countries on the City services. They want the industry to continue moving to Madrid, Frankfurt, Amsterdam and Berlin among other cities" (Cinco Días, 30-12-2020). In other words, if with the current situation, in addition to having this weapon to press for compliance with the rest of the agreement, the EU can snatch a part of the financial business pie from London, it will not stop trying to take advantage of the opportunity. A blow to the jewel in the British crown.

The airlines and land transport, sectors that are included in the agreement, can only operate routes to and from their territory and not intra-community routes that are not stopovers. This has already led to, and will continue to lead to, changes in the shareholders of the airline companies to try to stop the coup by making themselves as European as it is necessary to maintain market share (on the other hand, greatly diminished by the crisis).

About fishing, with a significantly lower relevance to GDP, it is true that the British part has achieved a 25% reduction in European catches, but this is far from its initial claims and has nothing to do with full maritime sovereignty, as Brexit advocates preached, as European fishermen will still be able to fish extensively in British territorial waters.

With this agreement the United Kingdom will also lose the benefits of freedom of movement in the services sector including the recognition of professional titles, such as doctors, engineers and architects. That is to say, another blow to his petty bourgeoisie and labor aristocracy.

Finally, the agreement also includes the maintenance of commitments regarding polluting emissions and renewable energies. Another eminently European and non-British business, which the agreement guarantees will not be affected.

The development of recent events that has culminated in the EU-UK trade agreement parallel to the effective departure of the United Kingdom from the EU has done nothing but confirm what we have exposed on other occasions, namely that, **in a very dialectical way, the Anglo-American plan to tear the EU apart through a Brexit that should trigger other exits has not only not worked but has pushed a growing union at all levels:** financial, fiscal, healthcare, and, increasingly, also military ones. This has also been explicit in the very negotiation of this Brexit trade agreement, in which all member countries have maintained only one voice despite the British attempt to exploit their contrasting interests in certain matters covered by the agreement.

Both regarding the outcome of Brexit and the consolidation of European integration at all levels; the recent change of puppets in the US presidency has also contributed. This change entails at a practical level a reduction of material support to groups such as those behind the governments of Poland or Hungary, and other groups such as those behind the Lega in the Italian state, or Vox in Spanish one, that are trying to oppose further integration. In other words, the change in the dominant bourgeois fraction in the USA has weakened all movements sponsored by the current represented by the puppet Trump and led by the fallen on disgrace Steve Bannon.

The US still needs to break or greatly weaken the EU to get it to submit to an anti-Chinese front. Manifestations of intentions apart will be the economic interests that command. An example: the US needs to flood the EU with liquefied gas while the EU is building the Nord Stream2 and TurkStream gas pipelines. The US Congress has just approved (against Trump's

presidential veto) the imposition of sanctions on companies that collaborate in the construction of the gas pipeline in the same law for the approval of defense budgets, which is a direct attack on the interests of the EU. Meanwhile, on the other hand, the EU has imposed sanctions on Boeing and signed on December 30 an agreement to improve its investments in China: *"The stock of investments of Europeans (excluding the United Kingdom) in China amounts to about 150 billion of euros and that of the Chinese in the EU to 113 billion euros (...) China will eliminate the condition that until now imposed on European companies to form a joint company with a Chinese one to enter its market in certain sectors (...) The obligation of European investors to transfer their technologies decays (...)"* (La Vanguardia, 30-12-2020).

The current that has won the elections in the USA raises the need for a front with the EU against China. But this is not a question of will but of what the interests and economic needs of American capitalism and European capitalism allow it to do.

Concentration of the banking sector and consolidation of the financial integration

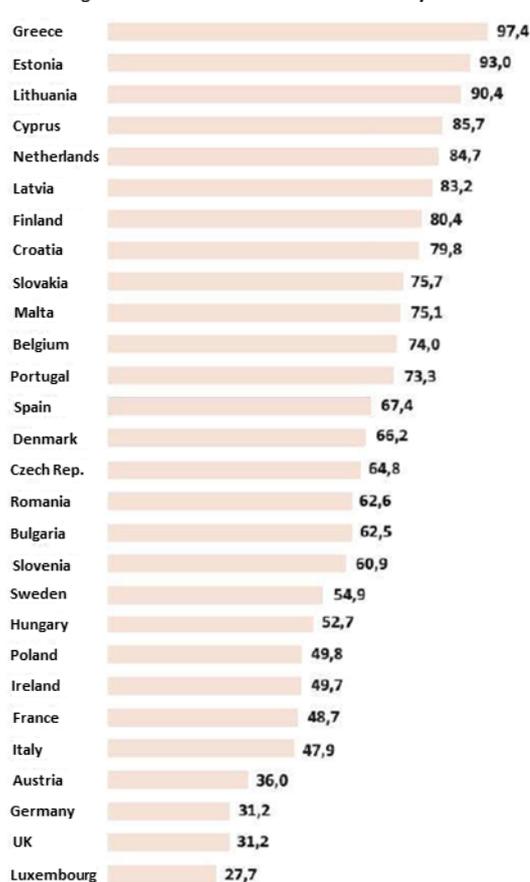
The acceleration of the European integration process is also happening in a context of accelerated concentration of the banking sector (feature of the imperialist stage of capitalism). The graphic of the next column, which shows the percentage of national market held by the first five entities of each country, reflects the level of concentration already reached on 2020 in the EU countries.

This level of concentration is going to do nothing but increase in the coming months, taking into account the already planned fusions and all the rest that are currently under preparation: *"Lagarde bets for continuing the bank fusions in the eurozone (...) both national and transnational in order to strengthen the sector in relation to its external competitors."* (Cinco Días, 07-10-2020).

In Spain, the government has already delivered to CaixaBank the head of Bankia (a fact that at its turn implies a reequilibration of forces at a Spanish level that will further reduce the nationalist soufflé at Catalonia) and the fusion of Unicaja and Liberbank has already been approved.

In spite of having a lower level of concentration compared to Spain, the situation is not different in other states such as France or Italy. *"One of the big operations might be under forge in France: the union of BNP Paribas, which tries to conquer the Swiss bank UBS and the French Société Générale. (...) In Italy, the biggest bank according to capitalization, Intesa San Paolo, announced on September its integration with Unione dei Banchi Italiani."* (La Vanguardia, 23-11-2020). The lesser concentration in the Italian case hides however the fact that, together with a high number of small entities that make up a big part of the market, Intesa San Paolo is by far the first entity, with a capitalization of 37.17 billion euros, far over the second one, Unicredit, with 17.209 billion (Il Sole 24 Ore, 27-12-2020). All that is clearing the path for inter-European fusions promoted by the ECB, progressively consolidating also the financial union through common regulation mechanisms: *"The Eurogroup approved on Monday the reform that gives more powers to the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and advanced in two years, to 2022, the kickoff of the security network to face banking resolutions."* (El País, 02-12-2020).

Percentage of assets over total banks in each country in the EU



(Source: BCE, La Vanguardia, 23-11-2020)

Obviously, one of the extra immediate reasons that push banks to fusion, in the current context of relative overproduction crisis of capitals, is the attempt to reduce expenses through the elimination of offices and staff. For instance, in Spain: *"From 2008 49,34% of offices have closed (...) From the 12 Spanish banks that the European Central Bank (ECB) monitors due to their relevant size, eight are in fusion or staff redundancy processes: CaixaBank absorbs Bankia; the union of Unicaja and Liberbank; as well as the collective redundancies set down by Santander, Sabadell and Ibercaja. And Kutxabank has also applied a pre-retirement plan. In total, 15.000 employees could leave in 2021. With this figure, the financial sector will have lost 120.000 jobs from 2008, 43% of its total workforce"*. (El País, 09-11-2020).

The European Imperialist Union goes forward in its integration

In addition to the steps towards financial integration, the excuse of Covid-19 has allowed the EU to make a big further step towards the consolidation of the integration on a fiscal level, issuing for the first time joint Eurobonds that are not issued by the national banks but directly by the European Commission in, for the time being, two successive programs: *"Between SURE and Next Generation EU, the European Commission plans to place 900 billion in debt before 2026 ends."* (Expansión, 22-10-2020). These bonds have negative or zero profitability (Expansión, 21-10-2020), a fact that will not avoid that the huge existing lazy capitals come to them, as we have exposed in this review in the article *"Deflation sets in while speculative swelling grows"*.

This debt issuing is included in a wider plan: *"On 21 July 2020, EU leaders agreed on a comprehensive package of €1,824.3 billion which combines the €1,074.3 billion*

multiannual financial framework (MFF) and an extraordinary €750 billion recovery effort, Next Generation EU (NGEU).

The multiannual financial framework, reinforced by the Next Generation EU, will be the main instrument for implementing the recovery package to tackle the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also help transform the EU through its major policies, particularly the European Green Deal, the digital revolution and resilience.

Leaders also agreed that 30% of the total expenditure from the MFF and Next Generation EU would target climate-related projects.

Together with the €540 billion of funds already in place for the emergency safety nets (for workers, for businesses and for member states), the overall EU's firepower to support the recovery amounts to €2,364.3 billion." (Council of the European Union,

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/es/policies/eu-recovery-plan/>).

The negotiation over this fund has allowed the Anglo-American block to perform the last attempt of pressing against the European integration and aiming the conditions of the future Brexit agreement, trying to use the governments of Slovenia, Hungary and Poland to block the necessary agreement of the 27 members. A pressure attempt that has been unsuccessful due to the practical need of the majority of the national bourgeoisies of those countries of approving and accessing the funds, a need that on the other side neither the US nor the UK are in the condition to satisfy. The formal reason why the governments of the mentioned countries finally accepted the agreement regarding the funds, was the stipulation that the sanction procedures against governments for allegedly not proceeding according to the European rules in relation to the so-called "rule of law", should be ratified before by the European Court of Justice. That is, a mere formality for the respective public. Everything obviously seasoned by the opportune scandals published in the bourgeois press in order to put pressure, such as what occurred with a Euro MP of the Hungarian party of Orbán (Fidesz), himself a homophobic, that was surprised by the police in an orgy with some other 20 men and accused of not complying with the confinement rules.

The joint action of the European Union has also been clear in the purchase of the famous vaccines, in which the member states have acted in a completely common way through the European negotiators, avoiding competition among them for the greater benefits of the pharmaceutical industry, and also advancing in the consolidation of the integration in the field of the healthcare business.

Struggles for influence in the Eastern European or Western peri-Russian area

Additionally, the submission of those countries to the European common policy happens also in the framework of an attempt of progressive increase of the influence of the EU in the whole area of Eastern Europe not yet integrated, that until recently was mainly Russia's backyard: "The pro-European candidate wins the presidential elections in Moldova." (El País, 17-11-2020).

The clashes that happen in the area (Ukraine, Belarus, Bulgaria) are not only explained by the interest conflicts between Russia and Europe, with the intervention of the US, but there is a fourth player: China.

Both Ukraine and Moldova have increased their economic dependency towards China over the last decade. Bulgaria, where simultaneous protests such as those of Belarus are

happening ever since the summer of 2020, organized a bilateral summit with China in 2018, against the pressures of the rest of the EU.

Until 2014, China planned to base itself in Ukraine as a way towards Europe, with multi millionaire investments planned including 10 billion dollars for Crimea's harbour. This perspective was hampered by the Maidan movement, promoted by the US, which resulted in the annexation of Crimea by Russia, as well as the territories of Donetsk and Lugansk.

China turned towards Belarus. In 2015, during Xi Jinping's visit to Belarus, contracts for a value of 15.7 billion dollars were agreed. In April 2019 China Development Bank supplied 100 million euros (110.9 million dollars) to Belarusbank, while the Export-Import Bank of China resolved supplying 65.7 million euros to the Belarussian railway. In November 2019, China Development Bank insured a 500 million dollar credit to Belarus, motivating arrogant declarations of the Belarus Finance Minister turning down the 600 million dollar credit offered by Russia: "We do not consider the credit of the government of the Russian Federation as a source of income and, in fact, we are not negotiating it." (beltandroad.news, 13-11-2019).

Russia keeps being the country with most economic interdependence with Belarus: on 2019, importation of commodities into Belarus was of almost 39.5 billion dollars, among which Russia represented 22 billion dollars, which turned Belarus into one of the major commercial partners of Russia. Relating service trade, on 2019 Russian imports were of almost 1.73 billion dollars of a total of 5.83 billion dollars. On 2019, Belarus represented 5% of Russia's total trade volume. In what has to do with Foreign Direct Investment on January 2020 in Belarus it was of 14.4 billion dollars with 4.5 billion dollars from Russia.

In March 2020, Belarus's debt with Russia was of almost 8 billion dollars, whereas its debt with China was of 3.3 billion dollars. Most of the money that Belarus received from Russia was in the energy sphere.

Starting off from a low level, the rail traffic between China and Europe through Belarus was multiplied 130 times between 2011 and 2018. It moved 330.000 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) on 2018, which supplied to Belarussian capitalism income in terms of railway services, storage and customs.



However, the most ambitious Belarussian-Chinese project is the Great Stone Industrial Park: an area of 112 square kilometers 25 km away from Minsk with a capacity for 200.000 workers. It is not only the largest foreign investment project in Belarus, it is the largest economic project of China abroad.

Belarus tries to attract foreign investors to the park by offering fiscal exemptions and access to the 183 million customers of the Eurasian Economic Union led by Russia. China, on its side, expects to turn the park into a key logistic center for the trade with the EU. Up till now, the Great Stone Industrial Park has attracted 1 billion dollars in investments and 56 foreign companies, Huawei and ZTE included. The park counts

already with a 5G tower and the plans include fully deploying 5G in the entire Belarus over the next 5 years.

These material facts explain why Russia did not immediately react in the aid of Lukashenko, why China was the first country to validate the electoral results and why the EU is interested in trying to place an allied government in order to try to control the Chinese influence in Belarus over its basis.

The explicit support of the EU to the Belarrussian opposition, the imposition of sanctions or the defection of diplomatic staff have not succeeded for the time being to unblock the situation to its favor, but it has rather resulted in the dialectical outcome of throwing Lukashenko's government to the arms of Russia, that has so far granted them a loan of 1.5 billion dollars (La Vanguardia, 15-09-2020) and police support (La Vanguardia, 28-08-2020).

This clash happened at the same time that the news about the poisoning of the Russian opposition leader Navalni were reported, a leader that even after having been allegedly poisoned with the mortal Novichok in Siberia, according to German sources, could be found fine and dandy in Berlin for a long time, giving to the EU an extra alibi for the sanctions imposed to Russia. A fact that has its complement in that Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) has not joined the condemnation of the poisoning nor the defense of the sanctions to Russia and that recently some representatives of the party were welcomed in Moscow as a *"symmetrical measure in relation to the encounters of the German government top leaders with the opposition leader Navalni (...)"* (El País, 09-12-2020).

In the background of this clash we can find the tendency towards a strategic relation between the EU (Germany) and Russia. Whereas the other episodes represent the stabs in the back among potential allies that however cannot help to be in permanent war between each other, hidden or open, since we happen to be in capitalism. In this sense it is specially relevant the project of the North Stream 2 gas pipeline. *"As to now, opposition parties such as Alliance 90/The Greens and the centrist FDP, but also some leaders of the parties of the government coalition (conservatives and social democrats), press Merkel to withdraw from the gas pipeline as an answer for Navalni's case."* (La Vanguardia, 05-09-2020).

Both from the Russian and the European (German) sides there are favorable and contrary material interests regarding this greater narrowing of the relations, from which the mentioned clashes are nothing but a reflection. Once again, as communists we must try to study the material background of the various positions and call to oppose following the siren songs of none of the imperialist sides, neither when they fight each other nor when they ally with each other. We must always remind the assessment that the Bolsheviks made on 1915 of the "Slogan for a United States of Europe" (inside which Russia would also be included): *"From the standpoint of the economic conditions of imperialism —i.e., the export of capital and the division of the world by the "advanced" and "civilised" colonial powers— a United States of Europe, under capitalism, is either impossible or reactionary."* (On the Slogan for a United States of Europe, Lenin, 1915). That is, the European unification under capitalism is reactionary from a proletarian point of view, as it is the existence of separate states. This unification can only be performed against the proletariat (and the colonies, that is, in the current post-colonial situation, in favor of the European imperialism at an international level). The eventual extension of this unification towards Russia will only be made in those – reactionary – terms or elsehow it will not

happen due to the impossibility to overcome the existing contradictions.

Imperialist tensions in the Mediterranean and the Caucasus

The EU imperialist ambitions clash, besides with Russia, with another imperialist power in its borders: Turkish imperialism.

With its more than 80 million inhabitants, one of the first metropolis of Europe (Istanbul) and the second NATO army, Turkey has raised over the last years as an imperialism that tries to play an own and distinct role, as it could be seen with its support to the Muslim Brotherhood in the Arab springs, its open support (in both trade and military terms) to Qatar facing Saudi-Emirati blockading, its role in Lybia and Syria and its recent implication (or rather leadership) in the reopening (and fast resolution) of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh or Artsakh. In Africa, Turkey holds free trade agreements with ten countries: Egypt, Morocco, Tunis, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique and Mauritius, Sudan (in its way to ratification) and in negotiations with six more countries: Congo Democratic Republic, Seychelles, Cameroon, Chad, Libya and Djibouti, as well having the army deployed in several points and a growing participation in the investments in infrastructure.

Turkey is no longer queueing to enter the EU, after the EU indefinitely discarded its candidacy in 2017. We are also not facing a Turkey submitted to the US, whose sanctions it keeps resisting. Turkish capitalism has been pushed to the reconstruction of an own Turkish imperialist block.

During 2014 and 2015 Turkey took part in massively sending refugees to the EU from Turkey itself and from Libya, that was only stopped when *"In March 18th 2016, the EU sealed an agreement with Ankara by which it agreed to return the migrants to its territory in exchange of a helping package of 6 billion euros."* (El País, 01-03-2020). In that moment Turkey was aligned with the US, as it also was in the Syrian conflict. However, the development of the conflict in Syria progressively turned its interests against those of the US (due to the support to the Kurds by the US) and progressively aligned them with Russia.

In this context, on November 24th 2015 a Turkish fighter jet shot down a Russian one. Russia's reaction did not wait and consisted in an economic blockade of Turkey. The material bases of this blockade were the economic interdependence with Russia: *"Last year 4,5 million Russian tourists visited Turkey. (...) Turkey buys to Russia 60% of the gas that it consumes (it is the second Russian market after Germany) and it has a 20 billion dollar contract with Russia to build nuclear plants."* (La Vanguardia, 25-11-2015) *"Russia is Turkey's second biggest trade partner (...) there are close to 90.000 Turks working in Russia, an amount that overcomes 200.000 if the family members are added. (...) Turkey exported in this period of the year food and agricultural products to Russia for an amount worth more than 1.06 billion dollars. In addition, according to Turkish Anadolu agency, leather, textile and clothing exports to Russia added up to 1.52 billion dollars last year."* (BBC.com, 28-11-2015).

On June the 27th 2016, *"Erdoğan apologizes to Putin for deadly shooting down a Russian fighter jet. Turkish public prosecution has reopened the case against the accused of murdering the pilot."* (RTVE.es, 27-06-2016). The Turkish bourgeoisie took note of the fact the economy rules and that, as it will be exposed later on, the shooting down of the fighter

was not a State decision but a provocation of a sector linked to the US that attempted to impede the approximation towards Russia.

Two days later, in June the 29th 2016: *"A suicide attack causes 41 deaths in Istanbul's Airport."* (El País, 29-06-2016) and on the same day: *"Russia lifts the sanctions imposed to Turkey some months ago. (...) Russian president, Vladimir Putin, had a call on Tuesday with his Turkish colleague Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, to whom it gave his condolences because of the terrorist attack and lent a hand of solidarity agreeing on immediately lifting the ban to organize touristic flights to Turkey."* (El País, 29-06-2016).

Seeing that the provocation of shooting down the fighter had not worked and that Turkey did not rectify its position after the terrorist attack, the US triggered an attempted coup against Erdoğan by means of the followers of Fethullah Gülen (residing in the US). The coup was ruthlessly stopped by the dominant fraction of the Turkish bourgeoisie, which thereupon proceeded to deeply purge all the Gülenists from the Army and the State institutions: *"To the 6.000 army members arrested on coup charges those last days, among them a third of all the generals of the Armed Forces, the two pilots of the fighter that last November shot down a Russian fighter jet, that the government states entered Turkish airspace from Syria, have to be added."* (La Vanguardia, 19-07-2016). The two pilots that shot down the Russian fighter were part of this sector, a fact that shows that the Turkish bourgeoisie had been pushed to the clash against Russia.

Another attempt to destabilize the relation between Russia and Turkey was the murdering of the Russian ambassador in Turkey in December 2016. This did not impede that: *"Russia and Turkey jointly bomb the Islamic State in Syria. (...) On January 12th 2017 representatives of the Russian Aerospace Forces and the Turkish Air Forces signed a memorandum about incident prevention and to guarantee the security of the flights of their respective air forces during the operations in Syria. This document creates the basis to perform joint actions in Syria, aiming to eliminate international terrorist groups", explains Rudskói in Moscow. "Today the Russian Aerospace Forces and the Turkish Air Forces are performing their first joint operation (...)." (La Vanguardia, 19-01-2017).*

The clashes of Turkey against the EU have also happened later due to the Turkish intervention in Libya, the payment for the cost of dealing with the refugees from Syria and for the struggle for the gas bags close to Cyprus. The clash with the EU in this case is led with special determination by French imperialism, which has deployed its army, as Turkey also has, in the waters of eastern mediterranean to defend the (Greek)Cypriot, and not Turkish, sovereignty of the gas present there, and that has even militarily clashed with Turkey in Libya, by means of their respective proxy militias of the generals that each of them support there.

This alignment has been reflected in the Turkish leadership of the boycott campaign against French products allegedly due to the anti-muslim declarations of the French government as a result of the beheading of a teacher in France, in the explicit support of the French government to the Egyptian government of Al Sisi (La Vanguardia, 08-12-2020), of a nature clearly opposed to the Muslim Brotherhood, and in the recent proposal of the acknowledgement by the French state of the Artsakh Republic (La Vanguardia, 11-12-2020), that would turn it into the only county in the world to do it, even before Armenia itself, that has never reached that point.

In relation to this latter matter, the recent Azerbaijani invasion of the territory conquered by Armenia, with Russian support, in the 1991-1994 war, has not implied Russia's opposition, the latter rather easing the path to reach a cease-fire agreement after a fast Azerbaijani invasion with explicit Turkish support, against which Armenia has been completely isolated and helpless to react. In effect: *"The agreement has the Russian seal on it, and nobody else's. It implies nothing else but the application of the so-called "basic principles" discussed during 26 years of unsuccessful negotiation or of its absence, and that were fixed in the Madrid conference of 2007. They are of a phase implementation, as Russia wished, and they leave for a future moment the legal status that the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh has to have."* (La Vanguardia, 11-11-2020). That is, Russia has agreed in not entrenching a clash that could jeopardize the supply of Azerbaijani oil through the Caucasus and towards Turkey, giving in in front of the latter in pursuit of the rest of the interests that by now, at least circumstantially, they share, such as for instance the Turkish purchase of Russian anti-aircraft S-400 systems, that at its time provoked the anger, more uttered than practical, of the US.

Turkey and Russia, in spite of their competing interests and the clashes that they had and will have, also share a big deal of material interests, as we have previously exposed.

In effect, all the mentioned events have progressively configured an own Turkish imperialist power that has gone from being completely aligned with NATO in its anti-Russian stance to cooperate in many fields with Russia.

We must continue to follow the development of the described events, which are nothing but the stance configuration of the IMPERIALIST BANDITS in order to control the WORLD MARKET, that approaches us by leaps and bounds to the sole capitalist solution to the world crisis: the THIRD INTERIMPERIALIST CONFLICT that would allow to relaunch a new accumulation cycle, if the ANTICAPITALIST SOCIAL REVOLUTION is not placed in its way, as we expect, or originates from it.



"Alternativa al sistema mercantil capitalista"

Documentary (in spanish):

<https://youtu.be/chHHqCdlkHw>