

of exploitation and with all the crimes perpetrated on the backs of the world proletariat. As we Marxists have said so many times: *"It is in these strips of encounter between peoples, in these bilingual zones, that proletarian internationalism must give proof of its value, rejecting the flags of all nations in favor of the red flag, the only flag of the social revolution."* (Proletariat and Trieste, Battaglia Comunista No. 8, 1950). The immediate slogan of the Communists in the Middle East can only be:

NO CONCESSIONS TO NATIONALISM! NO SUPPORT FOR ONE'S OWN BOURGEOISIE! BREAK-UP OF THE NATIONAL FRONT!
INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKING CLASS!
FRATERNIZATION WITH THE PROLETARIAT
OF ALL RACES AND LANGUAGES!
JOINT ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNISTS IN THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST PARTY!

U.S. PERIPLUS TO FORM AN ALLIANCE AGAINST CHINA

The fraction of the U.S. bourgeoisie that emerged victorious from the last presidential elections has begun to try to regain ground in the international relations level in an attempt to form an anti-Chinese bloc.

On March 12th, 2021, the Quad, considered the embryo of a possible Indo-Pacific NATO, made up of the U.S., Japan, India and Australia, met. This meeting was followed on March 19th, 2021 by the meeting in Alaska between the Chinese and U.S. delegations, which began with a confrontation at media theatre level, but did not prevent them from discussing their business at length outside the press conferences.

This was followed by a series of sanctions by the U.S. and the other Quad members, joined by the EU, against China. China's response was to sanction the sanctioners at its turn and to organize a general boycott to European clothing brands, which still makes them shiver: *"For the third day in a row, H&M stores in China were a wasteland deserted of shoppers. The Swedish firm has hundreds of stores and a turnover of billions in the Asian giant, but it has become a pariah because of the controversy over its refusal to buy cotton from the province of Xinjiang for the alleged use of forced labour. (...) all of a sudden, it has run out of customers, its products are not on e-commerce platforms and even references to its stores have disappeared in Chinese mapping and geolocation applications. A total deletion of the Chinese internet."* (La Vanguardia, 28-03-2021).

Evolution of the relationship between the USA and the EU

The EU is moving closer to the USA because its economic interests are gradually coming into contradiction with China, which is increasingly penetrating its backyard (Ukraine, Bulgaria, Belarus, Hungary, Slovakia, the Balkans). The latest steps are the creation of a Chinese university campus in Hungary: *"The Fudan University, based in Shanghai, will offer master's degree programs in Budapest to up to 6,000 students; and will receive 2.2 million euros in funding from the Hungarian government"*. (La Vanguardia, 25-01-2021) and the deployment by the Serbian Government of *"(...) a system composed of a thousand cameras with a 'software' capable of identifying citizens in real time developed by Huawei"* (El País, 18-06-2021). The EU has redoubled the blockade of Belarus after the recent military forced landing of a Ryanair plane in Belarus in order to detain an opponent. This blockade against Belarus is a blockade against Chinese development plans in Belarus and, at the same time, pushes Belarus further into Russia's hands. As a sign of this contradiction between the EU and China, in May 2021 the aforementioned reciprocal sanctions on several individuals have served as an excuse for the European Parliament to block for now the implementation of the trade agreement signed with China in November 2020.

In addition, the USA has proposed and agreed with Germany

and France in the framework of the G7 a tax on multinationals with which they will put an end to a series of disputes between them, trying to ensure a common playing field, to which they will try to submit the other countries that compete with them with lower taxes: Hungary and Ireland. Let no one believe that it is a question of raising taxes on large multinationals, but of making them pay in some countries and not in others. The general trend in corporate taxes is not exactly upward.

The U.S. and the EU have also reached an agreement on the reciprocal cancellation of tariffs arising from the Boeing and Airbus dispute (7.5 billion on European exports and 4 billion on U.S. exports). Bilateral trade between the U.S. and the EU remains *"the largest trade and investment relationship in the world, that represents the 42% of both world GDP and global trade in goods and services."* (Expansión, 16-06-2021).

"However, the tariff peace will be partial, as the EU and the U.S. still have an open conflict over aluminium and steel." (Expansión, 16-06-2021).

Both imperialisms had already jointly declared in the previous truce to this agreement that *"the global overcapacity is mostly driven by thirds parts", in a clear allusion to China, and pointed out that the distortions it generates "set out a serious threat" to both U.S. and European industries"*. (Expansión, 18-05-2021).

The current dominant fraction in the U.S. is, despite the bluster of the former buffoon and the decrepit appearance of the current puppet, the most bellicose and warlike fraction. As part of its attempt to regain global ground, the conference to revitalize NATO was held. Its message to the world has been: *"Russia and China threaten the international order based on rules"* and *"China is a systemic threat"* (Expansión, 16-06-2021). At this meeting there was Germany which asked to *"find a balance"* with China and there was also Turkey, NATO's second army, which plays an ambivalent and oscillating position between the U.S., the EU and Russia as a way of having an independent role. Turkey is trying to extend its imperialist influence in Central Asia by trying to maintain itself in the Kabul airport when the U.S. troops withdraw from Afghanistan (La Vanguardia, 15-06-2021).

The U.S. has also succeeded in joining the EU in its campaign for a new WHO investigation of the origin of the SARS-COV-2 virus in China.

This EU-U.S. approach is full of contradictory interests. The hand extended by the U.S. to the EU is far from unconditional and, at any moment, the U.S. can resume pressure against the EU, pressure that previously has had as a result the Brexit.

In December 2020, the U.S. recognized Moroccan sovereignty over Western Sahara in exchange for Morocco's recognition of the state of Israel and in March 2021 conducted military manoeuvres with Morocco: *"The Ike Battle Group participated, between the 3rd and 5th, in bilateral manoeuvres with the*

Moroccan Armed Forces, which provided a frigate, four F-16 and F-5 fighter jets and a helicopter." (El País, 16-03-2021). On May 17th, 2021, Morocco promoted the criminal launching of immigrants against the Spanish border. This was no less criminally repressed *manu militari* by the Spanish state, currently governed by the left of capital (if they even get to that): PSOE and Unidas Podemos. This action is part of Morocco's struggle to play an imperialist role and consolidate its control of the Sahara, as well as to pay the price to be the bully against immigrants that the Spanish state rejects. Now, however, the U.S. has deliberately cooled its support for Morocco to facilitate rapprochement with the EU: *"The Foreign Affairs Commission of the House of Representatives, controlled by the Democrats, has for several months blocked two key initiatives contained in the agreement by which Morocco suddenly saw its long-standing aspiration for recognition of its sovereignty over Western Sahara realized: the opening of a U.S. consulate in the disputed territory, subordinate to Rabat, and the sale of armed MQ-9B drones to the Alawite kingdom."* (La Vanguardia, 13-06-2021).

The U.S. has also slowed down the withdrawal of troops from Germany: *"The Democrat made his first speech on the subject, in which he announced the halt to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Germany ordered by his predecessor"*. (El País, 05-02-2021). Shortly after: *"Germany has notified NATO of a military expenditure of 53.03 billion euros for 2021, which represents so far, the largest defense expenditure of the German government, (...)"* (Europapress, 07-02-2021).

On the other hand, the EU hasn't renounced in any case to play an autonomous role and tries to get closer to the U.S. while at the same time extending its influence (signing treaties with Japan in 2019 and restarting negotiations in 2021 to do so with India) while trying not to clash head-on with China

The EU has been able to overcome the difficulties to authorize its debt issuance. These difficulties have been placed in this case by a fraction of the German bourgeoisie itself through its Constitutional Court (against which the European Commission has recently open and infringement proceeding for this meddling), but also by part of the countries that are typically used as leverage by the U.S. against the EU from within the EU: Poland and Hungary. The Brexit wound is still bleeding in Northern Ireland where the UK refuses to carry out the agreed controls and where there is no solution that can content both sides.

To facilitate its rapprochement with the EU and in particular

with Germany, the U.S. *"(...) renounced on Wednesday to apply sanctions against Nord Stream 2, the Moscow controlled company that is building a gas pipeline between Russia and Germany, a project that Washington had previously declared a geopolitical risk for the security."* (France 24, 20-05-2021). The other side of the story is that, with this gesture, the U.S. is admitting that it has not succeeded in stopping the construction of this pipeline *"(...) which is more than 95% complete."* (France 24, 20-05-2021).

Developments in Russia's relationship with the U.S. and China.

The U.S. has met with Russia. Despite U.S. threats of "devastating" consequences if the Russian opponent Navalny dies or to respond with the same coin if cyber-attacks against U.S. infrastructure were repeated, Putin described the meeting as *"efficient", "constructive" and "allowed us to glimpse trust and hope"* (Expansión, 21-06-2021). This confident cynicism of the representative of Russian imperialism only shows that the U.S. is not in a position to frighten to Russian imperialism in the current situation.

The reality is that Russia and China have been mutually supportive until now and the U.S. has nothing to offer Russia, while their interests are contrasting on points such as the extension of NATO. Russia continues with the deployment of 150,000 troops on Ukrainian territory while the Ukrainian army conducts joint manoeuvres with NATO and calls for its integration. In this context, the United Kingdom intends to provoke Russia by sending a warship to Crimean waters which was repulsed with salvos by the Russian army.

Another element of collaboration between Russia and China, as well as an area where the U.S. and EU risk falling behind is the deployment in the space domain: *"Russia has announced that it wants to end more than twenty years of relationship with the United States on the International Space Station (ISS) (...) The announcement comes after Russia turned down last year's offer to join the Artemis lunar exploration program headed by NASA. Instead, Russia signed a memorandum of understanding with China last March 9th to develop a lunar base."* (La Vanguardia, 24-04-2021).

The U.S. and China have reached Mars with their respective probes this year 2021, but the Chinese technological deployment has shown itself to be superior. The rest of the imperialisms will have to think long and hard before joining in a serious alliance with the most likely losing horse.

U.S. TRIES A REEDITION OF THE NEW DEAL

In capitalism, the market is the one that commands and the U.S., which has lagged behind, has to try to re-occupy the place that young capitalisms have taken away from it, but the situation inside is a huge encumbrance. The infrastructures in the U.S. are crumbling and they are not prepared to face the natural disasters that are happening. In February, 14 million people did not have running water and 100,000 were without electricity and heating due to the cold wave in Texas (La Vanguardia, 21-02-2021).

The security systems of their companies are also not prepared for other "disasters" such as cyberattacks. The pipeline that goes from Texas to New York had to be temporarily closed due to the introduction of a virus into its computer system by the Dark Side hackers (protected by Russia). The pipeline company had to pay \$5 million to unlock the system, but there was still a gasoline

shortage.

A cyberattack against the meat plants of the JBS company forced the closure of 20% of U.S. meat production. They have also hacked into the systems of a U.S. federal government provider to send emails that appeared to be authentic to more than 3,000 accounts of more than 150 organizations that regularly receive communications from the U.S. Agency for International Development. It is not the first time: *"it is the same group that was behind the attacks on SolarWinds (...) That attack was developed from the spring of 2020 and during the following six months, which allowed foreign agents to be infiltrated in different organizations of the U.S. Government. During that time, they were able to intercept the daily work of at least six departments, including Defense, State,*