



## Intervention of the PCI at the XXI IMCWP

Mauro Alboresi, National Secretary of the PCI

Dear comrades,

On behalf of the Italian Communist Party I thank the organisers of the XXI IMCWP for their effort in ensuring the success of this event. This event, already relevant in itself, is the more important as it coincides with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Third Communist International, a fundamental platform between the two world wars. That organisation has been a pillar of our common history and promoted the action of communist parties in a most difficult phase, supporting workers in developed capitalist systems and opening new horizons to the colonised masses. That experience showed us that the liberation of the toiling masses is not a linear process, but a long and difficult fight.

Much has happened since its dissolution and the current situation is a challenge for communist parties across the world. Few weeks ago was the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War and in such occasion the European Parliament passed a resolution on the historical memory of that event: a large majority, including Italy's main left- and right-wing parties, voted to equalise Nazism and Communism, in a shameful act of historical revisionism, and to support Europe's most reactionary Governments in banning communist parties and their symbols.

Knowing the USSR's crucial role in defeating Nazism and the role of communists in the fight against fascism, we must not think it self-evident. We must instead grasp this act of historical revisionism as part of a frontal attack against all those who do not submit to the liberal totalitarianism. The communist movement is growing again in many countries around the world and the European bourgeoisie keeps attacking because no one should dare question the bourgeoisie's divine right to power, nor promote an alternative idea of society. No one can say that capitalism triumphed at the collapse of the USSR and even proclaimed the end of the history, but that after 30 years it is bogged in a deep structural crisis and cannot go anywhere further.

In such times, we must work in an increasingly fraught international landscape: more complex, problematic and open to many different endings. Geopolitical equilibria as we knew them are largely destabilised and fluidly changing in a context of financialised globalisation and renewed imperialism. On one hand, US unilateralism accelerated under President Trump into a more aggressive foreign policy, which is ever more dictated by the military-industrial complex and which shows contempt for international law and national self-determination. Here, NATO is increasingly prominent as the US-led military infrastructure and shows new appetite to risk war for its expansion eastwards and southwards. On the other hand instead, the European Union, despite its crisis, is consolidating as imperialist block and is increasingly openly dominated by financial capital, unmasking the fairy tale of a social Europe and triggering its rejection by its oppressed people. Here we see again the emersion of ideas and behaviours which led Europe to its nadir twice in the last century.

In this landscape, communist and workers' parties must cooperate in an ever closer symbiosis. Many wrongly thought that the hope for a socialist society died in 1991, but it is instead still alive and it is necessary, driven by the reality around us and grounded in its scientific bases: the militants seeking a socialist society within their conditions and with their means across the world prove the vitality of such hope.

For obvious reasons, this is not the time for a leading country or party within the communist movement, but it is certainly the time to practice ever more internationalism as our guiding principle. The PCI is firmly convinced of the necessity to pursue the maximum unity among communist and workers' parties according to our maxim "united despite our differences". We must define common platforms and common goals for transnational and unitary battles. We must not hide our differences,

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but we must place a higher priority on our unity which, respectful of each other's political and organisational autonomy, is possible and necessary to reject the anti-communist attacks of the bourgeoisie.

The current situation tells us clearly that the need for proletarian internationalism is stronger than ever. 100 years after the foundation of the Third International, these words are not a symbolic commemoration, but a known fact for all of us.