



**Geopolitical Evaluation of the Situation in Rojava**

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by a comrade on the ground

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## Introductory Thoughts

In order to correctly understand and classify the current political-military situation in the region of the Middle East as a whole and in Kurdistan in particular, it is necessary to correctly examine, situate and analyse the daily political changes and developments – the news that we can see every day – in the context of the overall trend of the political process and its different main lines.

An analysis which cannot go beyond little more than a list of current events will never be able to give us an insight into the true nature of the situation and the real situation. The danger of an attack against Qandil or the other liberated areas is more than serious, because it is not only Turkish fascism that continues to push the KDP to attack the liberation movement. It is above all also the USA and Israel who insist on further weakening the Kurdish liberation movement.

## **Analysis of the Situation of the Kurdish Liberation Movement**

### **The Situation in the Qandil Mountains**

Regarding the further Turkish occupation plans in Southern Kurdistan and in the region, the Zîne Wertê region in particular has been on the agenda of the Kurdish and regional public in recent weeks.

Zîne Wertê is the name of a small village situated on a bottleneck between the Karox and Qandil Mountains in the defensive areas, i.e. the base and retreat areas of the guerrillas. The area itself is of strategic importance because from there the access routes to the Qandil Mountains controlled by the guerrillas can be controlled. The Qandil Mountains are used by various organisations of the liberation movement which somehow subscribe to the idea of democratic confederalism developed by Abdullah Öcalan; first and foremost, of course, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK. The area is used to form, organise and strengthen their own ranks and is, so to speak, the heart and brain of the movement.

The Zîne Wertê area marks not only the entrance to the Qandil Mountains, but also the border between the areas controlled by the KDP, the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, led by the feudal family clan Barzani, and those controlled by the YNK, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan of the Talabani family. While YNK controls the southern region of the Autonomous Region of Kurdistan in Iraq around the city of Silemanî, the KDP has its stronghold around the city of Hewlêr (Erbil) in the more northern part. The area was established as a buffer zone between the KDP and YNK after the end of the civil war in 1998, and officially fell under the control of the PKK liberation forces after the war of 2000 on the basis of the ceasefire agreement.

After a short time, the PKK first granted the civilian population the right to return, and later the KDP and YNK were also allowed to cross the area for transfer and transport, including for military purposes. Finally, with the agreement of the PKK, a small unit of YNK-loyal Peshmerga units was stationed in the area.

Since the beginning of April 2020, the KDP, which is collaborating with Turkey, has been moving new units into the region, trying to get the strategic hill and mountain peaks under its control in order to be able to cut off the route from Hewlêr to Qandil. The KDP claims that the units are sent to the region for preventive measures against the corona virus. In return, smuggling and traffic across the Iran-Iraq border should be stopped. However, this border is 50 km away. The Corona virus serves as an excuse to conceal the real intentions of the KDP and the forces behind the KDP.

Together with the Peshmerga units, large units of the Turkish secret service MIT are already entering the area and are trying to find the guerrilla positions in order to have them bombed from the air. The local villagers report of unknown Turkish speaking men, equipped with walkie-talkies and headphones, wandering around the villages trying to gather information.

The KDP itself is apparently not too concerned to pass on information to the Turkish secret service and to get dirty with the blood of Kurdish youth: Only a few days ago, three guerrilla fighters fell in the Turkish air force bombing, after their positions were betrayed by local KDP commanders.

As a delegation, the three fighters had visited the KDP's newly established base in the region and tried to persuade the KDP to withdraw through a diplomatic solution. They pointed out to them that their presence in the region had no legitimacy whatsoever, but the KDP held on to its position, refused to withdraw from the region and shortly afterwards showed its true intentions with the subsequent deceitful, cowardly and cold-blooded murder of the three young fighters. After the three young fighters had left the post, the KDP passed on their coordinates to the Turkish air force, which killed them.

## **KDP: A History of Betrayal**

So far, the Kurdish liberation movement has been pursuing a very cautious and mediating strategy. This was implemented by both, the civilian organs under the umbrella of the KCK (Community of Kurdistan Societies), and by the military (HPG and YJA Star). This was intended to prevent an internal Kurdish fraternal war like the one in the 1990s.

This is also because such a conflict would ultimately only serve the interests of the enemy, the nation states of the region and the imperialist powers. Letting Kurds be killed by Kurds has always been the favourite game of the occupiers. At the same time, it was made very clear to the KDP that the PKK could not be held responsible for a war if the KDP continued to provoke, take further positions or make attempts to occupy areas in the direction of Qandil.

This is because the PKK cannot accept that the security of Qandil would be endangered in any way. This is also because the area has been used by the organisation as a centre for decades. The PKK will defend Qandil at all costs.

It can be assumed that the recent troop movements are the forefront of the Turkish occupying army, as was already the case in other areas, in Xakurke or in Bradost last year.

In recent years, the KDP has often enough demonstrated that it is not acting in the interests of the Kurdish people, but that the Barzani family clan would also be prepared to sell all of Kurdistan to the occupation if it only served the interests of its own family and clan.

The history of the KDP was ultimately, with the exception of a few upright people who were also in this party, always also the history of betrayal and collaboration. The goal of eliminating inner-Kurdish competitors was pushed so far that the KDP also cooperated with the so-called Kurdish butcher Saddam Hussein: with his help, the YNK lost control over Hewlêr (Erbil).

In the 1980s, the KDP and its Peshmerga units on the side of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards even fought against the KDPI, a branch of its own party in Iran, while at the same time thousands of Kurds were executed by the Islamic regime. In the 1990s, the Barzani family, together with the Turkish occupying forces, tried to prevent the PKK's presence in South Kurdistan, which failed, however. Since the 1970s, the KDP and its military units have been supported and trained by the Israeli secret service Mossad. Even today, they still serve the interests of the Zionist state and US imperialism and form a very strong alliance with them.

Turkey recognized the Kurdistan Autonomous Region of Kurdistan only after they received the promise of joint action against the PKK through the mediation of George W. Bush in 2007. This promise is still valid for the KDP today and it is making every effort to satisfy the Turkish colonists. In addition, all natural resources and riches of Kurdistan are plundered by Turkish companies and the market is flooded with Turkish cheap products. The KDP is also militarily supporting the gradual occupation of Southern Kurdistan.

## **The KDP in Rojava and Shengal**

In Rojava, too, the KDP was active on the side of the enemies of the Kurdish cause and the Rojava revolution. It supported various agent organizations that had been carrying out the work of a counter-guerrilla since the beginning of the revolution: these included bomb attacks, the assassination of Kurdish revolutionary politicians, the building of armed groups that fought against the self-administration, and also the direct support of the Islamist occupying gangs that attacked Kurdish cities in northern Syria.

In Shengal, the KDP, together with the Turkish secret service, organized attacks against Yezidi self-defense units in 2017, which cost the lives of many fighters after the area fought independently against the Daesh troops in 2015, without the help of the Peshmerga.

### **The KDP's Cooperation with Turkey**

Recently, the leadership of the KDP said that the presence of the PKK in Southern Kurdistan is illegitimate and called for its withdrawal. They also claimed that the PKK is responsible for the massacres against the civilian population, as recently in the refugee camp Maxmur where three civilians lost their lives in Turkish air strikes. At the same time, the Turkish occupying army maintains at least 27 official bases in the so-called Kurdistan region, not to mention the countless secret service posts, whose legitimacy or illegitimacy the KDP naturally does not speak about.

Since the Turkish fascism began with renewed occupation operations in the mountains of Southern Kurdistan in spring 2018, the KDP has been supporting the Turkish maneuvers there too, sometimes overtly, sometimes covertly. Especially in the Xakurke region this has been the case very often in recent years. The Turkish vanguard of secret service and ground intelligence forces is moving under the protection of the KDP Peshmerga units.

At the same time, the KDP further restricts the guerrillas' freedom of movement with the establishment of specially constructed bases and checkpoints on the streets. The KDP's secret service with the cynical name "Parastin" (defense) is responsible for the assassination of numerous leading Kurdish revolutionary politicians and commanders by Turkish drones and air strikes. After all, it is they who carry out the ground intelligence and pass the information directly to their Turkish patrons. This dirty cooperation has intensified further since the offensive around the Xakurke area in May last year. After two patriotic Kurdish youths punished and executed two high-ranking agents of the Turkish secret service in Hewlêr last summer for their crimes against the Kurdish people, the KDP immediately set about arresting the alleged culprits. Two youths accused of the crime were captured by the KDP security forces and have since been sentenced to death by the enemy justice through the KDP. They even claimed that the order for the assassination had been given from the Maxmur refugee camp. This camp is mainly inhabited by Kurdish families who fled from Northern Kurdistan in the 1990s before the Turkish annihilation policy and who are mostly close to the Kurdish liberation movement. It is self-governing and built according to the principle of democratic confederalism. With this accusation, the KDP legitimized the subsequent Turkish air strikes on Maxmur. They also set up a total blockade with the aim of wearing down the population, forcing it to surrender and ultimately dissolving the camp. This blockade has now lasted almost a year.

Looking at the work the KDP has done so far in the service of the Turkish occupiers, one can assume that behind the recent troop transfers there is nothing other than the Turkish army's intention to clear the way to Qandil. The KDP's policy cannot be explained by ideological differences or its particular interests. It has absolutely nothing to do with the Kurdish cause, the interests of the people, and in fact not even with the nationalism they themselves proclaim. Today, the KDP has no other role than that of the extended arm of Turkish colonialism and that of a faithful servant of US and Israeli interests in the region.

### **The Current Phase: The Third World War**

Accordingly, the current shifts in the Middle East must always be examined in the light of the Third World War and the contradictions and fronts shaping it.

The intensification of regional and global conflicts and the chaos into which capitalist modernity has plunged human society and nature makes it increasingly clear how right the freedom movement is. This is particularly true with its definition of the phase we are in as a phase of global confrontation, as the Third World War.

This confrontation, this Third World War, is manifesting itself differently in different regions. In the Middle East, it manifests itself as an armed conflict between different forces, different quasi-state and social actors, in Europe in other forms. No matter how this Third World War manifests itself, the fundamental contradiction never runs between the states, the power and between the monopolies, the different factions of capital. The fundamental contradiction is always between society and the state, between the oppressed and the oppressors.

In its analysis, the freedom movement speaks of three different fundamental conflicting forces in the region, of three essentially contradictory forces. On the one hand, there are the nation states, including Syria, Iraq, Turkey and Iran. On the other side, the imperialist intervention forces are led by their vanguard, the imperialist superpower, the USA.

The third force are the democratic, revolutionary forces. It is important for us not to forget that this analysis is a political analysis that examines the tactical circumstances. It is right and it is necessary, for example, to examine and, in the interests of the revolution, to exploit the tactical contradictions between the nation states and between the interventionist imperialist powers.

### **Competition between Nation-states and Imperialists**

It is clear that from a tactical point of view, the nation states of the region and the imperialist intervention powers have conflicting interests. They are in competition with each other.

On the one hand, the imperialist intervention powers are trying to redesign and reshape the region according to their interests. They want to overthrow the existing nation-state autocratic regimes, transform them, decentralise the existing nation-states, federalise or even selectively smash them. On the other hand, the existing nation states and regimes are trying to defend their statehood. They try to keep themselves in power, to maintain the status quo that was created in the region after World War I.

On the other hand, the imperialist interventionist powers are trying to redesign, rebuild the colonial order that France and Britain created after World War I in order to give it new stability. Of course there are contradictions between these different states. If we look at the situation superficially, the war in the region looks like a conflict between these two forces. Then it seems that the main contradiction is between Syria, Iran etc. and the USA; in other words, always between the nation states and the imperialist intervention powers. However, this is not the case.

### **Capitalism vs. Socialism**

When we analyse the tactical conditions, it is important to make this distinction, but if we want to evaluate the conditions strategically, we must ideologically, globally and regionally, start from two basic lines, from two basic systems that are in conflict with each other. On the one hand, capitalist modernity and on the other hand, democratic modernity. On the one hand there are the forces of capitalism and on the other hand the forces of socialism.

We must start from a struggle between revolution and counterrevolution. Ideologically and strategically, we must consider this above all as the main contradiction. Only by evaluating the revolution and the democratic forces in the Middle East as a factor of power in its own right will we be

able to properly understand the policies of the imperialist powers and the nation states towards the revolutionary and democratic forces.

When we speak about democratic forces, we speak about women, we speak about the youth of the Middle East, we speak about the oppressed ethnic and religious groups in the region, we speak about the labouring peoples of the Middle East. These are the fundamental forces. We are talking about all those who took to the streets in 2011, who stood in Tahir Square in Cairo in 2011, who started the uprising in Libya and Syria, who tried to find a third way beyond imperialist domination and the reactionary regimes in the region. This also includes the revolutionaries, the left, the socialist organisations of the region.

### **Rojava as Continuity of the 2011 Uprisings**

Today, the vanguard of the democratic forces is expressed in the Rojava revolution and in the Kurdish freedom movement. This is because, they succeeded unlike the uprisings in other countries in the region, which started very promisingly but were drowned in blood after a very short time. Many uprisings were appropriated by Islamists or crushed by the existing reactionary regimes. Others were appropriated by the imperialist powers and were used as pawns. Unlike the uprisings in the other countries of the region, the revolution of Rojava was able to assert itself and today it represents the continuity of the uprising of 2011, the spring of the peoples.

In this way it plays a pioneering role for the democratic forces in the region. The revolution was able to assert itself in the course of this process and continues to exist today. In past analyses, we have spoken a great deal about the role of the revolution as an independent factor in the region.

### **Uniting the Enemies of the Revolution**

Ideologically and strategically, both the nation states and the imperialist interventionist powers are united by a common interest against the revolution. They also act as such. If one wonders why countries which have conflicting interests, which are in fierce competition with each other, can unite against the revolution, we can only answer this by looking at the situation ideologically and strategically. The occupation attacks of Turkish fascism against the liberated areas of Kurdistan and the attitude of the hegemonic powers, the USA and NATO as well as the Russian Federation only gain their full significance against this background. Turkish fascism in the form of the AKP-MHP regime, no matter what they do, is never an isolated actor.

There are always different forces behind them, some of which control or support their actions, or at least prepare the basis for the attacks politically, diplomatically, militarily or economically.

### **The Recent Events in Southern Kurdistan**

In order to evaluate the current situation in the region, it is important to take a look at the recent events and shifts in the liberated areas in the mountains of Southern Kurdistan (Northern Iraq).

Despite constant attacks, daily clashes on all fronts between the occupying forces and the defence units of the revolution, the front lines in the north of Syria still remain largely static. In northern Iraq, however, the war threatens to reach a new level of escalation. Every beginning of spring in Kurdistan also means that the conflicts between the guerrilla and the forces of Turkish fascism are entering a new round. Just as nature renews itself every year and is turning green and the last snow of

the winter disappears from the peaks, the time of new offensives begins in Kurdistan. These are both offensives by the enemy and by the revolutionary forces. The guerrilla forces of the HPG and the YJA Star, the People's Defence Forces and the units of the Women's Guerrilla welcomed the year of struggle 2020 already now and started effective actions, especially in the occupied North and South of Kurdistan, which already caused hundreds of victims among the occupation forces. The actions, which were really carried out with a very high professionalism and in a militarily impressive way, are signs of the continuing professionalisation and reorientation of the guerrilla forces according to the conditions of the 21st century and are presenting the fascist AKP-MHP regime in Ankara with massive internal political problems.

### **Turkey's Domestic Politics**

Even if the enemy tries to hide its losses, hundreds of killed soldiers cannot be hidden and the continuous attacks have a strong effect of wearing down the enemy's fighting power. The war morale in one's own ranks, in one's own party, but above all in one's own population is declining.

Particularly since the beginning of the new occupation offensive in Rojava, the fire and sabotage attacks by the various revenge units and smaller independent organizations have continued in western Turkey, inflicting severe blows on the Turkish war economy. Practically every night factories of the strategic industry of Turkish fascism burn down, be it in Adana, Ankara, Antalya or Izmir. This, of course, has an enormous impact on the domestic political and economic situation of the Turkish state.

On the other hand, the situation of the regime has worsened. From a domestic political point of view, this is due to the offensive of Turkish fascism concerning the occupation of Idlib in the northeast of Syria in March of this year, which was very costly and much criticised. In addition, the Corona virus, which especially through the worsening of the economic crisis has further worsened the situation of the working population within Turkey.

Erdogan and his associates are of course well aware that their regime can only maintain itself in power if it can achieve military successes against the declared national enemy, namely the Kurdish freedom movement led by the PKK. Nothing has such an internally unifying and mobilising effect as successful operations against the PKK in northern Iraq or eastern Turkey, or occupying attacks against the revolutionary forces in northern Syria. The regime's actual main driving force to mobilise its own people was, is and will be the war against the Kurdish people and against the democratic forces at home and in the whole Middle East. The recent events and troop movements in northern Iraq are a clear indication for us that Turkish fascism is currently planning new offensives and will possibly soon put them into practice.

### **The Role of the USA**

In order to understand exactly the role that the USA and Israel play in this conflicting situation, it is necessary to take a closer look at the overall situation in Iraq and in the entire Middle East region. Especially since the elimination of the Iranian general Kassem Soleimani by an American air strike in January this year, the tensions between the Iranian regime and North American imperialism have increased further, especially in Iraq but also beyond that in the whole region.

After the superficial exchange of blows in January, the various forces have repositioned themselves. They used the time to make preparations. Iran was able to gain massive political gain with the Iraqi parliament's decision on the withdrawal of American troops. At the same time, three officially



independent new organisations close to the ideology of the Islamic revolution have entered the stage in Iraq. Even if there is no direct evidence at present, it must be assumed that these are Iranian proxy forces, or at least forces supported by Iran. These groups were responsible for the latest missile attacks on bases of the international coalition in Iraq, which claimed the lives of US soldiers.

Drone images are circulating on social networks from the heart of the Green Zone in Baghdad, the highly secured US area where the US embassy is located. This was accompanied by clear threats. While the North American imperialists are threatening with retaliation, they are also making concrete preparations for war on the ground. This has become more and more visible especially in the last weeks.

### **The Apparent Partial Withdrawal of the US from Iraq**

In recent weeks, US troops have handed over the majority of their bases to units of the Iraqi central government. What appeared to outside observers to be a partial withdrawal from Iraq was in reality a repositioning of their own troops in preparation for a further escalation with the Iranian groups of the self-appointed Axis of Resistance.

Neither the central government troops nor the Americans themselves have so far been able to defend their troops against the repeated rocket attacks. Or perhaps there was no real political will to do so. A presence scattered throughout the country makes one vulnerable when confronted with groups using methods of irregular war, of guerrilla warfare. That is why, in the end, this transfer of troops took place.

The military bases hit by missile attacks have been evacuated and the majority of American troops have been moved to the areas of the autonomous region of Kurdistan in the last few weeks. Recently, the Americans also stationed Patriot air defence systems there to defend themselves against possible air attacks, presumably mainly against Iranian ballistic missiles. Even before that, individual US politicians have said that in case the Iraqi central government demands the withdrawal of its forces, it would be easy to retreat to Southern Kurdistan. With the KDP-dominated government in Southern Kurdistan, the USA have also the perfect collaborators to maintain its presence in the region.

Of course, it is also conceivable that in return for support in the fight against the Iranian groups in Iraq, the USA will hold talks with the KDP about the future status or even a possible statehood of Southern Kurdistan. The recent transfer of the patriot systems to the region was accordingly also perceived by the Iranian side as a clear threat, and the tone between the two sides has become increasingly tense again. We can say that the situation in Iraq is extremely fragile and can escalate at any time through a single initiative of one or the other side.

### **Division of Labour between the USA and Israel**

Already a few months ago, the USA and Israel made a clear division of labour. Israel assumed responsibility for weakening Iranian influence in Syria.

This manifests itself in air and drone strikes against Iranian revolutionary guards and the groups of the so-called Axis of Resistance allied with them, now taking place weekly. The part of the US-American forces is about delivering heavy blows to Iran in Iraq. Therefore, it is to be expected that the USA will continue in the near future to come up with targeted air strikes against Iranian militias and carefully plan assassinations of their leaders, which could escalate the conflict.

In all probability, the USA will not engage in an open ground conflict, but will try to win over proxy ground troops and send them into the field. Instead, they will take action against the Shiite

Islamists in Iraq from the air and with intelligence investigation. Therefore, South Kurdistan seems to be chosen as a safe hinterland. However, the USA knows only too well from its own experience that interventions and the destabilisation of the region that comes with them can have unexpected consequences. They can also develop their own dynamics, which in this case may already have happened.

The examples in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Afghanistan are still well remembered and are still relevant. Wherever the forces of the status quo, i.e. those of the regional nation states, are weakened by imperialist interventions, democratic revolutionary forces can also profit from the situation and gain strength, provided they develop the right political line and do not wrongly take sides.

### **The Politics of the Third Way**

The best example that we can see at the moment is certainly the revolution of Rojava, where the revolutionary forces, thanks to their high level of organisation and their good logistical and military preparation, succeeded in filling the power vacuum in 2012, thus giving birth to the biggest revolution of the 21st century.

In doing so, they conducted a skillful policy of the "third way", that is, a way beyond the despotic regimes and beyond the interests of the imperialists, which is in the interest of the peoples and the democratic forces of the region. Thus, they succeeded in consolidating the revolution and taking an influential position in the region. We must not forget that the revolution in Northern Syria led to making the Syrian question impossible to solve for the regional, global, hegemonic powers, for Syria, for Turkey, for Russia, for Iran, for the USA, and for the whole of NATO. If the conflict were just between them, a solution in the interests of one side or the other would probably have been reached long ago. However, because the revolution is an unpredictable factor in the whole conflict, the situation became insoluble for them. This is also what we mean when we emphasise that the revolution must be regarded as a factor in its own right.

In the past years, the US imperialists have repeatedly tried to push the liberation movements not only in Syria or Iraq, but in various countries of the Middle East into a confrontation with the Iranian forces in order to use them as foot soldiers for their own plans. In this way, they are trying to force a collaboration upon the movement, which is a capitulation to the interests of the USA.

For the Kurdish liberation movement, it is clear that it will not engage in any struggle that is contrary to the interests of the revolution and the peoples of the region. At the same time, the USA is aware of the capacity and strength of the Kurdish liberation movement, especially the PKK, to intervene quickly in Iraq and change the situation to the advantage of the democratic forces wherever a vacuum opens up. In order to prevent the revolutionary forces from using a possibly unforeseen situation in the conflict with Iran to further strengthen the revolution in the region, their forces should be weakened as much as possible before further intervention. This is not only in the interest of the USA, but also of Israel. Also, the other NATO states up to the regional nation states and Russia can very well participate in such a concept for weakening the revolutionary forces.

### **Conspiracy against the Kurdish Liberation Movement**

In this context we speak of an international conspiracy, that is, the unity of the counter-revolutionary forces against the revolution in the Middle East. The recent Turkish occupation attacks in northern Syria in October 2019 must also be seen in this context. Just as the international conspiracy in the 1990s, which culminated in the abduction and imprisonment of Abdullah Öcalan, must be seen as a

prelude to the occupation of Iraq in 2003, so the second phase of the international conspiracy, which we are currently witnessing, only acquires its full significance in the context of the intervention efforts against Iran. At that time, the imperialists' aim was to bind Turkey and the other regional collaborators to themselves, to put their own ranks in order and to weaken or even completely liquidate the strongest and most influential revolutionary force in the region, the freedom movement led by the PKK.

Today, for example, the intensified isolation against Abdullah Öcalan must be seen in this context and must be evaluated as a method of special warfare. By isolating Öcalan, the voice of freedom should be silenced. The movement is to be kept headless and without orientation and thus made vulnerable. Isolation is part of this war and the plot and must be countered accordingly. The fight for the freedom of Öcalan must therefore not be regarded as a secondary issue. The attack is not only directed at Öcalan as a person, but also at his philosophy and the political theory developed from it.

Therefore, in order to avert the danger and thwart the imperialist plans, it is essential not only to defend the revolution in the North-East of Syria or Qandil. Defending the revolution is only possible by lifting the isolation, which is why the struggle against it must be carried out consistently. Just as the war in 2015 began with the tightening of the isolation against Öcalan, so today the tightened prison conditions are the preconditions for further attacks and show us very clearly the enemy's intentions.

Anyone who is really prepared to work for a peaceful solution to the Kurdish question and to work towards a democratisation of the Middle East will seek dialogue with Öcalan. However, anyone who is out for further escalation and is looking for a military solution will cut him off from the outside world, the people and the movement.

### **Rojava and Qandil Belong Together**

Therefore the danger of an attack against Qandil must be taken very seriously. Qandil today is more than just an area controlled by the guerrillas, it is the heart, the brain, the headquarters of the revolution in the Middle East and of the democratic confederal movement also on a global scale. Therefore, an attack against Qandil, carried out by whomsoever, by the KDP or Turkey, forced by the United States or even by other states, must be evaluated as an attack on all revolutionary forces worldwide and answered with all determination.

The global resistance movement, which took to the streets last autumn to defend the revolution of Rojava, must recognise the connection of the struggles and must not consider Rojava isolated from Qandil, or Qandil isolated from Rojava. Today, the revolution in the Middle East has become a decisive factor in the struggle for control in the region. However, thanks to the global resistance movement, it has also gained a global position that cannot be ignored and cannot simply be disregarded.

### **Two Forces in Defence of the Revolution**

In the defence of the revolution today we must, therefore, start from two basic subjects.

On the one hand, there are the revolutionary forces of the region, the revolutionary defence forces, the guerrillas, the armed people, who are fighting against the occupation, colonialism and foreign rule with all means. On the other hand, there is the global resistance movement, which is putting pressure on the politics in the imperialist countries with its actions. They analyse the crimes of the ruling classes and attack them openly. An important factor for them is that they see the defence of the revolution as more than a distant struggle. In the common resistance, they also see the defence of their own hope, they have recognised the revolution as their own revolution.

An escalation in Northern Iraq will also serve this year to prepare for another occupation offensive against Rojava. Also, the enemy already attacked last year, first in Xakurke and later in North-East Syria. Turkey's preparations are now also continuing at full speed. The necessary diplomatic talks are being held behind closed doors. With the last proposal of the Erdogan regime to the US and Russian imperialists to divide the oil of Northern Syria among themselves, it is only a matter of time until the superpowers will once again clear the way for Turkey.

Despite the withdrawal of the self-defence forces from the northern border of Syria, despite all efforts to maintain the ceasefire, the Turkish fascists continue to mobilise against the revolution, and the war that we are currently facing at low intensity could soon flare up again. At the moment it is not clear where the next target of the occupiers is. Various information is circulating, but we must assume the worst, namely that all the areas still free, all the liberated areas of North-East Syria from Shehba to Kobanê, to Tirbespi and Derik are currently under acute threat of another occupation attack.

The enemy uses the time of the Corona virus, which is the focus of world public attention, for unnoticed preparations. Armament is underway, including with Islamist auxiliary troops in the areas of Gire Spî and Serêkanî, and as soon as a favourable situation arises, they will not hesitate to strike. The only thing still missing are diplomatic preparations to rearrange the balance of power in the region. Once these preparations are made, they will strike.

## **Resistance**

On the other hand, the resistance against the fascist regime is also growing, in Turkey as well as in Syria and Iraq. As the occupiers and imperialists prepare for new offensives, the peoples of the region are also arming themselves to defend their lives, dignity and freedom. Nobody will simply accept the Turkish occupation. Just as in Gire Spî and Serêkanî, the resistance in the other areas will continue.

Whether in Qandil or in Northern Syria, wherever the occupiers advance, they will meet fierce resistance and it will not be a piece of cake for them. Neither in Northern Iraq nor in Northern Syria will it be easy. The greater the attacks of the occupiers become, the greater the resistance against them will be. If we succeed in uniting the forces of resistance and of revolution in the whole region and fight with united strength against the occupiers, we will also witness great developments and revolutionary progress of unprecedented dimensions this year. However, in order for the revolution to achieve a breakthrough in the whole region of the Middle East, the fascist AKP-MHP regime, which is currently the biggest stronghold of counter-revolution in the region and prevents the revolution from achieving its breakthrough, must be eliminated.

With the revolutionary people's war as a weapon, the peoples and oppressed of the region will be able to resist any attack and defeat Turkish fascism. Of course, there will be individual defeats, but this does not mean losing the war. Even if Efrîn, Gire Spî and Serekanî are currently under occupation, the revolution cannot be defeated so easily. Even if a step backward has to be taken again and again, the next offensive is always prepared.

## **The Role of the Global Resistance Movement**

In the context of this situation, the global resistance movement must, of course, recognise the seriousness of the current situation, but also the opportunities arising from it, and take action with determination.

Today the time has come to deliver the final blow to Turkish fascism. The resistance movement throughout the world must also play its part in this. It is not the time to wait and watch. If we wait for

the next attack on Rojava to become active, it will already be too late. The war is now, the war has already started, the war has never stopped. On the surface, a theatre about the armistice is performed, but the war continues without interruption in Northern Syria as well as in the other parts of Kurdistan. It is not the time to sit at home and wait for the next big invasion, already now it is time to stand against this occupation war with all necessary means.

Let us, therefore, attempt together to let the games of the conspiracy powers, the imperialists, come to nothing before they can be put into practice.

Let us fight together for the victory of the revolution in the Middle East.

*Long live international solidarity!*



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