### International Journal of Social Science And Human Research

ISSN(print): 2644-0679, ISSN(online): 2644-0695

Volume 06 Issue 05 May 2023

DOI: 10.47191/ijsshr/v6-i5-11, Impact factor- 6.686

Page No: 2595-2598

### The Concept of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on Proletarian Internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" and the Construction of Proletarian Internationalism in the Current Context



### Pham Thi Van

Ho Chi Minh City Cadre Academy, Vietnam

**ABSTRACT:** Proletarian internationalism, the important theoretical system of Marxism-Leninism on the principles and mottos of action in carrying out the working class's worldwide historical mission - the factors that ensure the successful implementation of the historic mission of the working class. In the current context, the impact of the modern industrial revolution, the globalization process, the "new liberalism" and modern nationalism... has made human labor workers and the working class's interest relationship with the national interest closely linked in terms of productive forces. Still, there is also a deep division in production relations. This practice poses new requirements for continuing to build Proletarian Internationalism to meet the tasks of the new situation.

KEYWORDS: proletarian internationalism, working class, Communist Party, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels

### INTRODUCTION

The "Communist Manifesto" was written and published by Marx and Engels (February 1848) in the context that capitalism had developed at a high level, maintained its dominance in Europe, and began to expand power to Africa, and Asia with brutal conquests. At that time, the "Communist Manifesto" was not only a sharp indictment of capitalism but also the first revolutionary program of the world proletariat, a torch to light the way for the class. The proletariat and the oppressed peoples rose up to fight to break the chains and all oppression and injustice in the capitalist society. With the slogan "Proletarians of all countries unite!" Marx and Engels publicized their international character and called for the unity of the proletarian revolution. The above slogan has become a banner guiding the will and action in the class and national struggles of the countries against the oppression and enslavement of the bourgeoisie. The world revolution changes both in quantity and quality. The slogan "Proletarians of all countries unite!" is considered the clearest reflection of Marx and Engels' views on proletarian internationalism. The article analyzes the views of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on proletarian internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" and the construction of proletarian internationalism in the current context.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The views of Marx and Engels on proletarian internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto"

The "Communist Manifesto" was written and published by Marx and Engels (February 1848) in the context of capitalism developed at a high level, retaining its dominance in Europe, and beginning to expand its influence into Europe. Africa, and Asia with violent conquests. At that time, the "Communist Manifesto" was not only a steely indictment of capitalism but also the first revolutionary program of the world proletariat, a torch to light the way. for the proletariat and the oppressed peoples to rise and fight to break the chains and all oppression and injustice in the capitalist society. With the slogan "Proletarians of all countries, unite!" Marx and Engels openly declared their international character and called for the solidarity of the proletarian revolution. The above slogan has become a banner guiding the will and action in the class struggle, the national struggle of countries against the oppression and enslavement of the bourgeoisie, and at the same time promoting the development process. The development of the world revolution changed both quantitatively and qualitatively. The slogan "Proletarians of all countries, unite!" is considered the clearest reflection of Marx's and Engels' views on proletarian internationalism.

According to Marx and Engels, the basic content and the leading principle of proletarian internationalism is the solidarity and unity of the will and team of the working class. The basic contents of the unity that the working class all over the world needs to achieve are the unity of interests, unity of ideology, unity of goals, unity of organization, and unity of action.

First, proletarian internationalism is the consciousness of the unification of class interests of the proletariat all over the

world.

# The Concept of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on Proletarian Internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" and the Construction of Proletarian Internationalism in the Current Context

From specifying the position of the proletariat in the capitalist relations of production by Marxism, Fangengel believes that the consciousness of the unification of class interests of the proletariat around the world comes primarily from their socioeconomic status. Marx asserts that it is the capitalist mode of mass production that is the objective cause of this attribute. "In general, the large industry creates everywhere the same relations between social classes and thereby abolishing the distinct character of different peoples. And lastly, while the bourgeoisie of each nation still maintains its national interests, the great industry creates a class that shares the same interests among all nations, levels are no longer ethnically distinct" (Marx & Engels, 1995, vol.3, p. 87-88). That unity also forms the basis for an equal relationship of interests and responsibility with the common cause of the working class in all nations: "I want peoples to be able to unite, they must have common interests. For their interests to become the common good, existing property relations must be abolished, because existing property relations enable some people to exploit others; only the working class is eager to abolish existing property relations. Only it can do this. The victory of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie means at the same time overcoming all the national and industrial conflicts which now breed enmity between the people. Therefore, the victory of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie is at the same time a sign of the liberation of all oppressed peoples" (Marx & Engels, 1995, vol.4, p. 526-527).

Second, proletarian internationalism is the unity of thought among the working class

The world working class may come from different countries and ethnicities, but they are all people with the same economic status in capitalism, the same fate, the same enemies, and the same goals. Therefore, the proletariat soon identified the role of alliance, team unity, and class solidarity. However, to realize this, the working class itself has to go through a long process of practical struggle. At first, it stemmed simply from sympathy between those who were jointly exploited by the bourgeoisie, but then this awareness was enhanced with the development of the intellectual, and political enlightenment of the bourgeoisie workers through internal ideological struggles and revolutionary practice. In the Preface to the German version of the Communist Manifesto of the Communist Party, reprinted in 1890, Engels emphasized: "To achieve the final victory of the principles outlined in the "Declaration", Marx only useful in the intellectual development of the working class, which is bound to bring about by joint action and common debate" (Marx & Engels, 1980, vol.1, p. 524) Affirming the need for an international working class union, Lenin later asserted: "The domination of capital is international. Therefore, the struggle of workers in all countries for self-liberation can only be successful if workers work together against international capital" (Lenin, 1976, vol.2, p.115). The working class in all countries needs to unify this basic ideology, and consider the alliance and class solidarity on the international scale as a condition to ensure victory for the cause of common liberation, "The victory of the revolutionary revolution." The world proletariat demands that the working classes of advanced countries have great trust in each other, very closely fraternal solidarity, and be very dense in their revolutionary actions" (Lenin, 1976, vol.38, p.132).

Third, proletarian internationalism is the unification of the international goals of the working class with their becoming the representative class of the national interests.

Unification on the goal of struggle (class liberation, national liberation, and the liberation of the entire human race from all oppression, exploitation, injustice, poverty, and backwardness...) at the international level will lead to unity in the will and actions of workers. The internationalism of the working class is of fundamental interest to the progressive trends of the modern national question. In the Preface to the publication of the Communist Manifesto in Italian in 1893, Francis considered the task of solving the problem of national independence as a premise for the working class to well implement internationalism: "Without restoring independence and unity for each people, it is impossible internationally to realize the solidarity of the proletariat and the peaceful and voluntary cooperation among those peoples to achieve to a common goal" (Marx & Engels, 1980, vol.1, p. 534). Therefore, the working class must become a class representing the interests of the nation, attaching its historical mission to the cause of liberation for all nations, first of all, towards their national interests. liberate the oppressed working people in general and benefit the majority.

Fourth, proletarian internationalism is the unification of the theoretical perception of the world-historical mission of the working class.

Stemming from the socio-economic and political-social status of the working class, from the experience and practice of the political struggle movement of the working class, Marx and Engels came to affirm class The workers are the only class with the historical mission to carry out the cause of their liberation and the liberation of the whole society "...the history of that class struggle has now developed to the stage in which the class The exploited and oppressed, i.e. the proletariat, can no longer liberate themselves from the yoke of the exploiting and oppressive class, i.e. the bourgeoisie, if not simultaneously and forever. whole society from the yoke of exploitation, oppression, class division, and class struggle" (Marx & Engels, 1980, vol.1, p. 517). Therefore, to carry out that common liberation cause, the working class cannot be alone, they need to gather around themselves the great revolutionary forces of the whole society. And the historical mission of the working class can only be completed when it receives support and active participation in the struggle of a large number of working people in countries around the world. Thus, it can be seen that the awareness of the historical mission of their class is the nucleus for the solidarity of workers around the world.

Fifth, proletarian internationalism is the coordination of revolutionary actions of the working class in countries all over the world. A clear understanding of the theory of the common historical mission of the class will lead to voluntary and active participation in class solidarity and coordinated action. "Proletarians of all countries unite" This slogan has many layers of

# The Concept of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on Proletarian Internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" and the Construction of Proletarian Internationalism in the Current Context

meaning: first, workers should unite in unions to better promote such demands as wages and working conditions. job; second, that workers should foresee unions according to their different occupations and unite against the capitalist system; and third, that workers of different countries have more in common with each other than workers and employers of the same country. The international organization of the working class is the first manifestation of the coordinated action of the proletariat, which is born out of class enlightenment. The formation of an international center to lead the struggle of the working class in different countries, thereby promoting the birth of the working-class political party in each country is the primary mission of the organization international of Communists. The "Communist Federation" is the first organization established based on the scientific socialist theoretical enlightenment built by Marx and Engels. The Manifesto of the Communist Party (February 1848) is considered the "birthstone" of this first international organization. The principles that Marx and Engels present in this work are the ideological foundation and guideline for the entire operation of the international communist and workers' movement. Since then, in terms of an international organization, the working class and communists all over the world have had many innovations in the organizational form: from organizations such as the I International (1864 - 1889), International II (1889 - 1914), International III (Comintern 1919 - 1943) to equivalent forms of international organizations such as the International Information Bureau, the International Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties, The annual forum of international communist and workers' parties... Marx, Engels, and Lenin are the leaders who have devoted a lot of effort and wisdom to building the first international organizations and defining developed the fighting program, the guiding theory for the world workers' movement - a vivid expression of proletarian internationalism.

Thus, according to Marx, proletarian internationalism is a theoretical system that guides the international working class in politics, ideology, organization, and action in the process of jointly realizing its historic mission struggle to abolish capitalism and build it into socialism and communism on a worldwide scale.

#### Building proletarian internationalism in the current context

The current new context, the context of the industrial revolutions, the development of the industrial revolutions with shorter and shorter cycles, and more multifaceted requirements have made the modern working class able to many rapid changes. On the other hand, in the new political context with new challenges and difficulties from the global strategy of imperialism, from "new liberalism" and modern nationalism - nationalism... This also makes proletarian internationalism in the new period subject to many changes and should be further consolidated with new and more appropriate measures.

Under the impact of the new context, the working class in the world today fluctuates according to two basic trends: The purely professional trend goes hand in hand with socio-political positivity. Considering each worker himself, due to the characteristics of industrial workers and the working positions they hold, the first requirements that must be met are expertise, technical level, and ability to work in groups. In the harsh environment of modern industrial labor, meeting professional standards or not will be associated with employment, income or not. Stemming from that fact, in many industrialized countries now, a large proportion of workers tend to be "pure expertise", they are mainly interested in expertise, and skills and have specific characteristics current apathy, the decline in political activity, and little interest in socio-political issues. Besides, the tendency of the working class to actively participate in socio-political organizations, movements, and activities against injustice and inequality in society to protect themselves is also increasing day by day. Even more diverse, today they not only join the Trade Union and workers' parties, but they are also very active members of movements for social progress, people's livelihood, and democracy. These are issues that need to be appropriately addressed in the current building of proletarian internationalism.

The trend of localization and nationalization goes hand in hand with the internationalism of the working class. Engels once advised when approaching the theory of the working class to "stand firmly on our real land" to "localize" Marxism and realize the general theory in international cases of particular ethnic groups. The development of the working class itself, the current workers' movement is also following this trend. The working class is "becoming a nation", imbued with its culture, history, and national identity, with the aspiration to develop the nation, rising to become the pioneer class and representing the interests of the nation. In addition to the trend of localization and nationalization, today's capitalist globalization is also the basis for the internationalism of the working class that is no longer nationalistic" (Marx & Engels, 1995, vol.3, p. 87-88). So the emancipation of labor is no longer a local or national issue but a social one, covering all countries, and its resolution depends on cooperation, on practical and theoretical aspects of the most advanced countries.

From the current practical context and the above changing trends and working class, to continue building proletarian internationalism, the world's Communist and workers' parties have been making unremitting efforts to strengthen organizations and forces, increasingly expand international cooperation relations and enhance their role and influence in the socio-political life of countries. However, in reality, there are still some shortcomings such as the scale of cooperation is still small, the influence is not wide, some activities are still formal, and experience in organization, management, and governance is still limited to distributed power, not unified internally...

# The Concept of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels on Proletarian Internationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" and the Construction of Proletarian Internationalism in the Current Context

To improve the efficiency of building proletarian internationalism in the current context, it is necessary to focus on synchronously implementing the following solutions:

First of all, to raise political consciousness and class enlightenment for the working class in other countries. Political consciousness, class enlightenment that is a theoretical understanding of "what we are and what we should do with history" is concentrated in the awareness of the historical mission of the working class. Political consciousness and class enlightenment are considered basic factors for the working class in other countries to be proactive and active in building proletarian internationalism. To carry out this task it is necessary to establish many socio-political organizations that represent, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of workers and attract workers to voluntarily participate, typically the trade unions, and professional associations... through the healthy and democratic political environment of the organizations to carry out propaganda, education, and enlightenment for workers.

Second, enhance the role, position, and influence of the Communist Party in the socio-political life in other countries. To perform well this task requires each communist party and workers to constantly rise, renew themselves, sharpen their theoretical tools, and supplement their experience and practical knowledge in leadership to run the country, to meet the new requirements and demands of the situation

Third, the working class and the Communist Party in each country must become the center of the national unity bloc based on a solid union of workers - farmers - intellectuals. In the current context, when the interests of classes and classes are intertwined, both cooperate and struggle; when capitalism is making many adjustments to adapt and survive... the building of solidarity and alliances with classes and classes needs to be done flexibly and flexibly.

Fourth, strengthen and diversify forms of international cooperation relations between Communist and workers' parties at all levels bilaterally and multilaterally. Typical forms such as the exchange of delegations, exchange of information, documents, theories, sharing of experiences, attending congresses, attending seminars, conferences, and forums,... these activities should be organized periodically and annually to help the Communist Party of countries strengthen close cooperation, quickly update new experiences and initiatives to coordinate actions. The diversity of forms of association and gathering among Communist parties in the world is a premise for the development of each party and the development of the entire movement.

Thus, to adapt to the new context, to build proletarian internationalism in the current period, it is necessary to pay attention to and implement synchronously many solutions, in which special attention should be paid to promoting the role of proletarian internationalism subjects of the working class in each country, ethnicity, the leadership role and influence of the Communist parties in other countries and the strength of the alliance between the working class and other classes and classes other in society. These are the basic solutions for proletarian internationalism to continue to consolidate and promote its role.

#### CONCLUSION

Proletarian internationalism is the law of movement, development, and successful implementation of the worldwide historical mission of the working class, under the influence of a new context - global strategy, "new liberalism" and modern nationalism - nationalism, the transformation of the working class..., and proletarian internationalism are currently facing many difficulties and challenges, especially the lack of unity in the whole country awareness and action. That fact requires each Communist Party and the entire world workers' movement to raise awareness, actively innovate the method of gathering, building, and developing the movement; faithfully and creatively apply proletarian internationalism based on steadfastly realizing the common goal - successfully building socialism towards communism.

#### REFERENCES

- 1) Lenin, V.I. (1976). Complete volume, vol. 2. Moscow: Progress.
- 2) Lenin, V.I. (1976). Complete volume, vol. 38. Moscow: Progress.
- 3) Marx, K., & Engels, F. (1995). Complete volume, vol. 3. Hanoi: National politics.
- 4) Marx, K., & Engels, F. (1995). Complete volume, vol. 4. Hanoi: National politics.
- 5) Marx, K., & Engels, F. (1980). Collection, vol.1. Hanoi: Truth.
- 6) Thao, N.V., & Ninh, N.A. (2019). The Marxist-Leninist view of proletarian internationalism. <u>https://dangcongsan.vn/tu-lieu-tham-khao-cuoc-thi-trac-nghiem-tim-hieu-90-nam-lich-su-ve-vang-cua-dang-cong-san-viet-nam/tu-lieu-cuoc-thi/quan-diem-cua-chu-nghia-mac--lenin-ve-chu-nghia-quoc-te-vo-san-532779.html</u>



There is an Open Access article, distributed under the term of the Creative Commons Attribution–Non Commercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0)

(https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits remixing, adapting and building upon the work for non-commercial use, provided the original work is properly cited.