

PROLETARIANS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

ΡΙΖΟΣΠΑΣΤΗΣ

JUNE 2003

ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREECE

Dear comrades,

You're welcome to the great demonstration of Popular Anti-summit, which is organized by the movement "Action: Thessaloniki 2003". This great popular river manifests its willingness and resolution to resist in the decisions of the EU Summit and its imperialistic policy. It forms one further step towards coordination efforts and common activity of all anti-imperialistic anti-monopoly forces of the popular movements, which fight the capitalistic internationalization that, particularly in Europe, is expressed into an imperialistic European Union; that demands social and political changes in the countries and fight for national, political sovereignty, against famine and poverty, against the conformity with the demands of the international capitalistic unions, against exploitation.

The European Union and its member countries heighten its aggressive policy against people, take part in imperialistic conflicts, reduce workers's rights and people's liberties, intensify state terrorism and do anything they can for the reinforcement of capitalistic power. The people's common anti-imperialistic, anti-monopoly action will become more effective when it's combined with the development of class warfare in every country on purpose the power of the people, and the opening of a path for a society free of exploitations.



Why we demonstrate in Thessaloniki in June

The tens of thousands of workers, people and youth gathered in Thessaloniki and Chalkidiki from every corner of Greece and Europe, in June 2003 do not demonstrate and protest against windmills and abstract phantoms, do not search for the famous "globalization" in order to accuse it and return to their homes.

It is not about another appointment with "revolutionary tourism", but a co-ordinated and organised, mass and class - popular action against the Summit of Euro - imperialists, so that their decisions are not implemented. Decisions that will bring even more profits for multi nationals and monopolies and even bigger poverty and misery for workers, the unemployed, pensioners, farmers and youth.

On June 20th - 22nd in Thessaloniki and in Chalkidiki masses of people will demonstrate under the banners of the "ACTION: Thessaloniki 2003", against



the draft Constitution of the EU, which aims at its further reactionarization, with the domination of its hard core and multi national capital.

In the "PEOPLE'S COUNTER SUMMIT" of Thessaloniki, we will rise our voices against the plans for further "restructuring" of the West Balkans, namely

the third phase of the plundering of the wider area, aiming at the complete submission and conformity of these people with the economic and political aims of the USA - EU and their "well wishers".

In Thessaloniki and Chalkidiki we want to uncover the criminal silence and consent of the EU about

the genocide of the Palestinian people, when the same European "humanists", in view of the new US plans for the Middle East, are now rushing to contribute to the promotion of the same plans, obviously claiming a share of political saying and influence.

The "ACTION: Thessaloniki 2003" is mobilising

for the prevention of the first mission of a section of the Euro - army outside of Europe, in Kongo, a fact that opens dangerous roads for new interventions and adventures in future.

The "ACTION: Thessaloniki 2003" is seeking for all the above mentioned in the middle of huge mobilisations of farmers and workers in many countries of Europe, against the anti-worker and anti-people measures of the EU and its governments.

The "PEOPLE'S COUNTER SUMMIT" in Thessaloniki will constitute a gathering together of the insubordinate militants and their organisations, it will also send an answer to the G-8 meeting of Evian, where Mr. Simitis participated in admirable harmony. The condemnation of the EU and the Greek presidency will also be expressed in Thessaloniki, for their dirty plans to attack against socialist Cuba, following their recent statements.

What is it all about and

The EU leaders will meet in order to impose new anti-popular measures. The political representatives of the multinationals have selected Thessaloniki in order to symbolically underline the role bestowed upon it as a "base of operations" city for the promotion of their economic, political and military interests and aspirations in the Balkans, Central Asia and the Mediterranean.

On the other hand there is the Thessaloniki of the people: the Thessaloniki of the zealots, of the Socialist Federation, of the events of May '36, the city of Lambrakis, Niki-foridis, Tsarouchas, Chalkidis, of the great struggles against the dirty war by NATO and EU on Yugoslavia.

The campaign "Action: Thessaloniki 2003" derives from these popular and militant roots. It is a campaign that rallies parties, trade unions, farmers, student and women organizations, intellectuals and scientists. It was launched on April 2002 in order to coordinate and promote the efforts and mobilizations of the popular movement during the Greek presidency of the EU and to organize the peoples' counter-EU Summit to be held on June 20-22, 2003

We would like to thank all of you that have participated so far in the activities of our campaign.

The successful demonstrations against the EU ministerial councils in Greece, the demonstrations against the imperialist war, the rallies against the EU enlargement summit on April 15-16 have been successful also because of your solidarity and support.

Those struggles, along with the recent big anti-war anti-imperialist mobilizations all around Europe, have strengthened our conviction that the people and their movement are able to provide a strong anti-imperialist militant response to the policies of EU and NATO; that we can build a mighty front of struggle against the monopoly capital and its institutions and the governments and political

forces that serve its interests; that there is no superpower in the world that can compete the united will of the popular movements.

Today, all movements are more mature and experienced than a few months ago. The aftermaths of the imperialist war and occupation in Iraq, the competitions between EU and US for the looting of Iraq, the threats against other countries in Middle East, the increasing aggressiveness against Cuba and Korea, the EU onslaught on the labour and democratic rights, the further militarization of EU, its expansion and the built-up of new structures of domination as described in the Convention paper, put before us new tasks. The need for a coordinated action against the policies of EU, NATO and our governments is becoming more urgent day after day.

"Action- Thessaloniki 2003" has been for months now in preparations for the peoples' counter EU summit events in the city of Thessaloniki. In this framework certain arrangements have been made for the accommodation of participants, facilities of lodging and local transport. Tens of Organizations, involved, from all Greece, with the "Action: Thessaloniki 2003" are preparing themselves to participate in massive way in all the mobilizations during the "counter summit"-actions.

The city of Thessaloniki will be during the 19th-22nd June the major appointment for all the organizations and movements which are fighting back the reactionary policies of the EU and the Multinational corporations like in all other previous EU- summits, it will be the venue of resistance and militant response to the war plans of Imperialism and their willing governments and political forces.

Following you will also find the tentative program of the



events. You will find also some background information about our campaign and actions so far.

More details will be soon available at our website. www.action-salonika2003.org

Main International Activities of Action-Thessaloniki 2003 so far

-21 June 2002. Seville. Delegation of "Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in the demonstrations during the EU meeting.

-7 to 10 November 2002. Florence. Delegation of "Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in the European Social Forum in Florence and in the anti-war demonstration

-16 November 2002. Thessaloniki. European preparatory meeting for the actions during the EU summit with participation from Greece, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Russia, Slovakia and Turkey.

-20 to 21 November 2002. Prague. Delegation of "Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in the anti-NATO demo organized by the CP of Bohemia and Moravia.

-12 December 2002. Copenhagen. Delegation of



"Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in the demonstrations in Copenhagen, upon invitation of the Danish campaign "Stop the Union".

-23 January 2003 Athens. Counter summit organized by PAME on "Workers vs the Lisbon Strategy" with participation of representative of WFTU and unionists from Cuba, Cuba, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Russia, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Ukraine, Venezuela

-February 15. Delegations of "Action" participate in the anti-war demonstrations in Berlin, London, New York, Rome and Stuttgart.

-February 16. Copenhagen "Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in meeting with anti-EU movements

-February 28, Athens. Panspoudastiki KS hosts coordination meeting of student syndicalists from Greece, Turkey, Norway, Italy, Bulgaria.

-March 1, London. "Action-Thessaloniki 2003" participates in the international coordination meeting of the anti-war movements.

-March 15-16, Thessaloniki. Counter-summit with title "No to militarism, no to the imperialist interventions. For a peaceful Europe without NATO, Euroarmy, US Bases and nuclear weapons" with participation of parties and movements from Albania, Belgium, Britain, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Moldova, Netherlands, Italy, Hungary, Latvia, Russia, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

-March 22, Bruxelles. Participation in the demonstration in Brussels against the European Council.

-April 5, Athens. Meeting on "The Policy of EU towards Colombia" with the participation of Carlos Lozano, member of the leadership of Colombian Communist Party and member of the "commit-

what it aims at?



tee of wises” for the peace negotiations between FARC-EP and the Colombian Government.

-April 5-6 Larissa. Peasants’ Counter Conference on the reform of CAP with participation of peasants unionists from Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus and Portugal
Next Events

- May 3-4, Thessaloniki: Conference on the Future of Europe. The meeting addressed issues such as the “European convention”, the consequences on the social and civil rights, the CFSP. Parties and movements from the Balkans and Europe were invited and participated in the meeting.

- May 31 Athens. Meeting on the policy of EU towards Cuba.

A flashback on the activities of “Action-Thessaloniki 2003” so far

-April 2002: Establishment of Action-Salonika 2003

-5, June, 2002. Thessaloniki: National Meeting of “Action-Thessaloniki 2003” discusses outline programme of actions

-24 July 2002. Athens.

Athens Committee holds public event on “One Year After Genoa: conclusions and goals in front of the EU summit in Thessaloniki on June 2003”

-August 2002. Government plans to relocate the EU summit away from Thessaloniki

-7 September 2002. “Action-Thessaloniki 2003” organizes mass demonstration of workers and peasants at the International Fair of Thessaloniki on the occasion of the presence of the Greek PM

-17 October 2002. Letter of protest to the PM of Italy against the plans to put obstacles to activists that want to participate in ESF in Florence.

-31 October 2002. Big popular demonstrations against the war on Iraq all around the country.

-17 November 2002. Anti-imperialist demonstrations in all cities of Greece

-12 December 2002, Athens. Demonstration against NATO and EU on the occasion of the EU summit in Copenhagen.

-24 January 2003 Nafplion. PAME and “Action-Thessaloniki 2003” inaugurate the demonstrations against the ministerial meetings with a

huge workers’ rally.

-February 14. Athens Anti-war activities promoting the demos on 15. In Athens symbolic occupation of the UN office

-February 15. Hundreds of thousands participate in the anti-imperialist demonstrations all around the country. 200.000 people march to the US embassy in Athens. Participation in the Demos of Berlin, London, New York, Rome and Stuttgart.

-February 19-20. Piraeus. Popular demonstrations prevent the approaching of the NATO fleet to the Port

-February 23. Action. The local committees of EEDYE siege the US base in Action

-February 28-March 1. Demonstrations of students, teachers and workers against the meeting of Ministers of Education.

-March 14, Athens. Siege of the Minister of Defence

-March 15-16. Anti-war, anti-NATO demonstrations in major cities

-March 19. Anti war demos and vigils outside the US embassy in Athens and the US consulate in Thessaloniki

-March 20. Big anti-war demons all around Greece with impressive participation of secondary school students

-March 21. National Strike

upon initiative of PAME

- March 22: Demonstrations against the imperialist war all around Greece. Main demand: No facilitation to the imperialists, main motto “Greece out of the War”

- March 23. Anti-war demonstrations in front of NATO and other military installations

- March 25. Students turn the parades for the celebrations of the anniversary of the national revolutions of

Greece into symbolic anti-war, anti-NATO manifestations

-March 28-29 Veria: Counter Meeting to the JUSTICE & HOME AFFAIRS meeting on Migration policy

-April 12. Day of actions against the war and the Greek participation in all cities

-April 15-16. Thousands of people demonstrate against the EU enlargement summit, protesting the presence of Aznar, Blair & Berlusconi as well.

- May 1. Mayday’s workers’ demonstrations

- May 5, Athens. Demonstration against the Ministerial meeting on ENVIRONMENT

- May 9. A press release of “Action-Salonika 2003” greets the anniversary of the anti-fascist victory of the people and denounces the distortion of history by EU and the Greek presidency and the alleged “day of Europe”

- May 12-13, Corfu. Peasants’ demonstrations against CAP and the ministerial EU meeting on AGRICULTURE

- May 16-18. Various ports: Manifestations by longshoremen and sailors against the Ministerial meeting on Transport & Merchant Marine

- May 18. The Marathon peace march. The Greek Committee for International Peace and Detente holds

the Marathon March. This year coincides with the 40th anniversary of the first marathon march that took place on 1963 by the left MP Grigoris Lambrakis who was assassinated the same year. More than ten thousands of people, mostly youngsters, marched the 40 km till the centre of Athens where the manifestation concluded with a mass rally and concert.

Trade unionists, mayors and town cancelors joined the march. A representative of the Association of Palestinian Students in Greece also addressed the demonstration. Similar demonstrations took place in all major cities of Greece, especially where exist US & NATO military installations.

- May 24, Thessaloniki: Cultural Festival against the Ministerial meeting on Culture

- May 25, Thessaloniki: With main motto “Stop imperialism” the peace movement of Thessaloniki and the Action-Salonika 2003 hold a peach march, commemorating at the same time the peace fighter Grigoris Lambrakis who was assassinated 40 years ago in that city.

- June 2, Alexandroupoli: Demonstration against the Ministerial meeting on Development Cooperation

-June 5. All major cities. Demonstrations and manifestations against the recent massive lay-offs of workers in a series of enterprises.

-June 4, Thessaloniki. Manifestation of Solidarity with Cuba.

-June 9, Athens. Big rally of solidarity with Cuba organized by the Federation of Construction Workers denounces the interventionist and aggressive policy of EU towards Cuba.

PROGRAMME of the 4-Days EU-Counter Summit Activities

The events of the "Peoples/ EU-Counter Summit" organised by "Action: Thessaloniki 2003" will begin in the city of Thessaloniki from Friday 20th of June and will be completed on Sunday 22nd of June.

- The multiform activities of ACTION will be held throughout the coastal Nikis avenue, where all these days will be running 3 stages in front of the main gate of the Harbour, at the Aristotle's Square and in front of the White Tower.
- The anti-imperialist youth camping of ACTION with the participation of thousands of young persons from Greece and Europe, this will give their own juvenile input and colour in our events.
- During the events of the "Peoples' EU-Counter Summit" and apart from the big demonstrations-rallies in Chalkidiki and Thessaloniki, there will be held 3 international meetings and various cultural events and celebrations.
- In this framework it is of special importance that foreign delegations of parties, organisations and movements from more than 60 countries from all the world will attend the program.



The demonstration map

Useful telephone numbers and contacts in case of need:

Action: Thessaloniki2003

Press Office
69 Egnatias St. 5th floor
e-mail:
info@action-salonika2003.org
Telephones:
2310 286994, 2310 286580
Mobile phones:
6944 345820 (George Havatzas)

Legal team:
Telephone:
2310 288233
Mobile phones:
6977 639331,
6977 703180,
6977 327569,
6945 230259

First Aid:
Telephone:
2310 286568
Mobile phone:
6977 697518

Anti-imperialist Youth Camp at the Municipality of St.Paul
Mobile phones:
6977 605268,
6977 697523

Radio Station supporting "ACTION: Thessaloniki 2003" broadcasting information in English:
90,4 FM
Telephone:
2310 237841



More concretely the program of the events includes the following:

Thursday 19 June

- All day:** arrival, reception and accommodation of participants at the Youth camp
- 20:00** International Meeting organized by KNE and the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) about the Euro-army near the camping site at St. Paul's Municipality
- 23:00** inauguration-party of the anti-imperialist camp

Friday 20 June

- 10:00** various happenings are taking place in the area of the upper city
- 12:00** Start of the program at the different stages
- 12:00** Departure by buses to Chalkidiki
- 14:00** Rally at the city Marmara of Chalkidiki near the venue of EU-Summit. Demonstration in the streets of city.
- 18:00** Return to Thessaloniki
- 19:00** **INTERNATIONAL Trade-unions' Meeting** of "All Workers' Militant Front" (PAME) and of the "World Federation of Trade Unions" (WFTU). The meeting will be carried out in the Trade Unions' Centre of Thessaloniki, 32 Aristotle's St, in the city center.

YOUTH CAMP

- 20:00** Concerts with popular & rock music
- 23:00** Rebetiko Party

STAGES

- 20:00** Program with speeches, greetings of foreign delegations.
- 21:00** Musical program - popular party

Saturday 21 June

- 10:00** Opening of the program at the stages
- 10:00-13:00** **International Meeting** of parties and movements on the subject: "We continue the struggle against the imperialist institutions, for a Europe without wars, poverty and oppression", at the Museum of Musical Instruments, 12-14 Katouni St (near the Harbour)
- 15:00-17:00** Speeches, cultural program, greetings by Foreign Delegations

17:00

START OF THE BIG INTERNATIONAL MARCH-DEMONSTRATION: "STOP NATO, USA and EU"

- 20:00** POPULAR CONCERT at the Aristotle's Square

Sunday 22 June

- 11:00** CONCERT of SOLIDARITY with the peoples of CUBA, PALESTINE, SYRIA, IRAQ, DPRKOREA, Music from the entire world
- 14:00** End of events of "Peoples' EU-Counter Summit"

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE:

- 20:00** Meeting with KNE. Information about the programm and the "History" of Antiimperialist youth summer activities. Cultural Programm in the Camp.

THURSDAY 19 JUNE:

- 11:00 - 13:00** Workshop : "Solidarity with the youth and the peoples of Middle East" with the participation of organizations from Middle East.
 - 13:00 - 15:00** Workshop : "The antiwar mobilizations and the youth movement".
 - 20:00** International Youth Meeting about "The Euro-army and the militarization of EU." organized by the World Federation of Democratic Youth and KNE. The meeting will take place in the "Gardens of Pasa" a place in the centre of the municipality of Agios Pavlo near the camp.
- INTRODUCTIONS: Miguel Madeira president of WFDY , UJCE - Spain SDAJ - Germany Greek Committee for the International Detente & Peace)

The evening: inauguration party of the anti-imperialist camp

ALL THE OTHER DAYS THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CAMP WILL FOLLOW THE MAIN PROGRAMM OF THE "PEOPLES' COUNTER-SUMMIT"

12th Antiimperialist youth camp