

MULTIPOLARITY AND SOCIALISM

A panel proposed and coordinated by Annamaria Artner, Hungary (Doctor, Political Economy, Senior research fellow, Institute of World Economics, CERS, ELKH, College Professor, Milton Friedman University, Budapest).

The panel is open to individual paper presentation. Those interested in presenting a paper in the panel are invited to submit an abstract of 200-300 words before October 31, 2023, by filling-in the online form at <https://forms.gle/9JychuBgtztUsHNJ8>

Introduction to the Panel

Capitalism was invented in Europe and developed as an international system based on national and international exploitation by the European companies and states. The capital accumulation that was built on this exploitation led to the emergence of the huge transnational monopolies and their political, financial, institutional, legal and cultural rule. By today, this system become a highly organized and centralized global hierarchy led by the United States. This centralized imperialism could influence political regimes in almost all segment of the world to prevent them to disturb the interests of the transnational capital.

However, the system, as Marx said, has inevitable produced its own gravediggers. Since 1917, when the first socialist state was born, the prospect for socialism has meant the biggest and deathly threat to capitalism. The socialist organization of the economy resulted in a fast economic development and an improvement of peoples' life in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. These countries also provided help and inspiration to the anti-colonialist and revolutionary struggles of the Third world.

After the fall of Soviet Union, the US-led imperialism seemed to prevail, but this proved to be a Pyrrhic victory. Socialism survived not in some small states, like Cuba, North-Korea, the Bolivarian Venezuela, but it also in China, whose rise to a position of a global power meant a real challenge to the global hegemonic system of imperialism. The People's Republic of China has been led by the Communist Party of China that has never given up Marxism, Leninism, Maoism, and the goal of socialism. This example, together with the development effects of the Chinese investments in many countries within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, is inspiring for many people in the global south.

The economic, societal, technological, and military development of the Soviet Union and China proved that a rapid uplift from underdevelopment to the top of the world can only be achieved with a strong state that is led by the communists.

The United States has tried to preserve its global economic, financial, technological, military and ideological role in the world against these developments. However, since Russia halted the eastern push of the US/NATO, the change of the world has been accelerated. This panel aims at observing what perspectives we can expect from this change.

We invite participants, who would like to discuss related questions like for example:

- Is it a new division of the world among imperialist state that is going on or will the nature of the international relations also change with the decrease of the influence of the old imperialist states?
- Is it a multipolar or a polycentric world that is in formulation?
- What changes can the rise of more poles in the world catalyse in Africa, Asia and Latin America and Europe?
- What role the BRIC and the NAM can play in the changing of the world?
- What are the common goals of the states that actively participate in the formulation of new cooperations in the global south?
- Are the leaders of the global changes, namely China and Russia, able to build a new international system that opens to door for a socialist transformation?
- What role of the national bourgeoisies and working classes can play in the ongoing change of the structure of the world?
- How can the different social and political movements help the deconstruction of the US-hegemony and the building up of a more just international system?
- Will a multipolar or polycentric world open the way to a socialist transformation of the societies?
- What role can ideologies, like Marxism, nationalism, religion etc. play in the new anti-imperialist world?