

<https://www.internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article4177>



Greece

Fourteen organizations of the Greek Left call for mobilizations around the country against the new memorandum

Publication date: Monday 17 August 2015

- IV Online magazine - 2015 - IV487 - August 2015 -

Copyright © International Viewpoint - online socialist magazine - All rights reserved

The developments in Athens are dramatic and their pace is accelerating. In the next few hours the Greek parliament will vote the new, third, Memorandum agreed between the Syriza government and the Europeans following the now standard express procedure of a single-day (and night...) "debate". The MPs of Syriza's Left Platform have already announced that they will vote no and the number of other Syriza MPs who will do the same is still unknown. Among them there will certainly be Zoe Kostantopoulou, the president of the Greek parliament who is currently waging a desperate fight for the ultra-minimal procedures of the parliamentary debate to be respected. Her attitude has triggered a tremendous media attack which is now openly backed by members of the government and pro-government Syriza MPs.

Another major development was the call issued today for the popular mobilization and the constitution of committees against the Memorandum across the country by the leaders of Syriza's Left Platform (Panagiotis Lafazanis of the Left Current, and Antonis Davanelos of DEA/Red Network) and leading figures of twelve other organizations of the Greek radical Left. Among them two (ARAN and ARAS) are founding components of Antarsya. This is widely considered as the first public step towards the constitution of a new political front that will regroup a large range of forces of the radical Left opposing the new Memorandum and the neoliberal U-turn of the Syriza government.

The Memorandum will certainly be voted by a broad majority in Parliament, thanks to the support of the centre-right and rightwing parties. However it is highly likely that the government will lose support among its own parliamentary group and will call for snap elections in a month's time. The main rationale for this unprecedented move is to prevent the emerging leftwing opposition to its policy to organize and also to be able to hold elections before the concrete impact of the new austerity measures starts biting. In any case, these elections will be the first test for the new anti-austerity front that is crystallizing around the Left Platform. The next few days will be crucial.

Aghios Nikolas Fokidas, August 13, 2015

No to the new memorandum Call for struggle and mobilization across the country

The undersigned, representing a wide range of forces and organizations of the Left reject the new third memorandum submitted today to the Parliament and call for large unitary struggles to overturn all memoranda and impose a new progressive orientation for the country.

The signing of a new Memorandum by a government that was elected to abolish the previous two, amounts to a major disaster for the Greek people and democracy. The new Memorandum means even more austerity, further restriction of the rights of the citizenry and the perpetuation of the country's regime of tutelage. The new Memorandum is a complete reversal of the mandate of the Greek people who rejected in the referendum of 5 July in their entirety the neoliberal policies of austerity and of neocolonial dependency.

Throughout the last five years the people opposed in every possible way the fear and blackmailing and struggled for an independent, just, reconstructed, democratic and sovereign Greece. As was the case for the previous ones, this Memorandum needs to be met with the wider militant resistance of a cohesive and determined society. We will continue down the path of July 5 until the end, until the overthrow of the policies of the Memoranda, with an alternative plan for the next day, for democracy and social justice in Greece.

The fight against the new Memorandum begins now, with the mobilization of the people in every corner of the country. For this fight to develop and win, it is necessary to build up popular organization at all levels and in all social areas.

We call for the constitution of a broad political and social nationwide movement and for the creation to of committees of struggle against the new memorandum, against austerity and against the tutelage of the country. This will be a unitary movement that will justify the aspirations of the people for democracy and social justice.

The fight that led to the triumph of "No" of July 5 continues and will win!

Thursday, August 13, 2015

- Panagiotis Lafazanis (Left Platform - Left Current)
- Alekos Vernardakis (Communist Renewal)
- Nikos Galanis (Leftwing Intervention)
- Dimitris Kavouras (Communist Organization Reconstruction) [1]
- Kaltsonis Dimitris (Association Yannis Kordatos) [2]
- Panagiotis Mantas (DIKKI – Socialist Left) [3]
- Anthonis Davanelos (Left Platform –DEA)
- Andreas Pagiatsos (Xekinima) [4]
- Spyros Sakellaropoulos (ARAN – Left Recomposition)
- Dimitris Sarafianos (ARAS – Leftwing Anticapitalist Regroupment)
- Maria Souani (Workers Struggle) [5]
- Themis Tzimas (Former member of PASOK National Council)
- Lambros Heetas (Initiative of the 1000)

[1] The Communist Organization Reconstruction and the Association Yanis Kordatos are regroupments of former KKE (Greek CP) activists

[2] The Communist Organization Reconstruction and the Association Yanis Kordatos are regroupments of former KKE (Greek CP) activists

[3] DIKKI –Socialist Left is a regroupment of former PASOK activists that was part of the Syriza coalition

[4] Xekinima is the Greek section of the CWI

[5] Workers Struggle is a network of activists who are still in their majority members of the KKE