Debate

Thu, 23/04/2009 - 13:29

**Presidential elections in France: the ?Unitary Left? shatters** [1]

Tue, 13/03/2007 - 23:00

The campaign for the French presidential elections, due on 22 April and 6 May, is now in full swing. The two front-runners: Nicolas Sarkozy for the right wing UMP party and Ségolène Royal for the Socialist Party (PS) have already launched their campaigns. Sarkozy is in the lead. These elections come on the heels of intense class struggles over the last two years – the successful campaign against European Constitution, the uprising by youth in the banlieues (the neglected outer suburbs of French cities) and the mass youth struggle against the CPE in 2006. [Read more...] [1]

**Daniel Bensaïd and the ?Return of Strategy?** [2]

Thu, 08/02/2007 - 23:00

Luke Cooper reviews Daniel Bensaïds article *A new debate is opening; the Return of Strategy* International Viewpoint, No. 386, February 2007, ([read online]) [3]

All quotes below are from this article unless otherwise stated. [Read more...] [2]

**SWP: The road to Respect** [4]

Luke Cooper Tue, 06/02/2007 - 14:40

The origins of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) lie in the programmatic disputes in the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP), the British section of the Fourth International, in the period after the Second World War. Before his assassination in 1940, Trotsky had anticipated that Stalinism in the Soviet Union would not survive a war with Germany and that the war itself would lead to the kind of revolutionary upsurge that had followed the First World War. In such conditions, the Fourth International, with its record of maintaining the revolutionary tradition of the Bolsheviks and the early Communist International and armed with a programme that called for political revolution in the Soviet Union to regain control of the planned economy and a social revolution based on workers? councils and workers? militia in the imperialist countries, would be able to play a similar role to that of the Bolsheviks at the end of the First World War. [Read more...] [4]

**French left fails the test** [5]

Mon, 01/04/2002 - 22:00

By the time this paper goes to print, Jacques Chirac will have been re-elected President of the French
Republic, most likely with a percentage of votes unheard of in democratic elections. Read more... [5]

**Palestine and Israel: two states is no solution** [6]
Fri, 30/11/2001 - 23:00

The latest pamphlet from the Alliance for Workers' Liberty (AWL) group argues for a “two states” solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. Read more... [6]

**Faction fight in the IST** [7]
Wed, 31/05/2000 - 22:00

At a membership meeting in London on 13 May, members of the British Socialist Workers Party (SWP) assembled to discuss the results of the London Socialist Alliance election work. But for most of the meeting they were treated to a long attack upon the International Socialist Organisation (ISO) by Alex Callinicos, leading member of SWP central committee and international organiser for the International Socialist Tendency (IST). The ISO is the SWP’s long time fraternal organisation in the United States, with around 800 members. Read more... [7]

**Fraccion Trotskyista: failing to break with centrism** [8]
Wed, 30/06/1999 - 10:59

Four years of discussions between the LRCI and the Latin American based Fraccion Trotskyista have failed to produce revolutionary unity. Keith Harvey sums up the lessons and explains the principled basis for international left regroupment Read more... [8]

**Trotsky’s critics: recycled rubbish** [9]
Wed, 30/06/1999 - 10:59

In late 1998, Resistance Books published Trotsky's theory of Permanent Revolution, A Leninist critique. The book's author, Democratic Socialist Party veteran Doug Lorimer, claims to subject Trotsky's writing to a “sustained critique” and show that “Trotsky’s theory is wrong on the fundamental questions” of revolution in colonial and semi-colonial countries. In fact most of the arguments in this self proclaimed "pioneering essay" were pioneered by Stalin and his apologists in the 1920s, as they conducted their campaign against Trotsky's 'original sin', the theory of Permanent Revolution. The DSP has again recycled these Stalinist arguments, supplemented by a few of their own, to distort and discredit the views of Trotsky and Trotskyism. Read more... [9]

**Socialist Party: Anyone for another reformist party?** [10]
Mon, 03/03/1997 - 17:40

February 1997 saw the official launch of the Socialist Party, formerly Militant Labour. The weekly paper Militant has changed its name to The Socialist. The party has declared its intention to stand 25 candidates at the general election and published a Socialist Party Manifesto. Read more... [10]
Lesley Day analyses the political differences behind the recent splits in the SWP (Britain) and its sister organisations worldwide Read more...