

# Stalinism: Its Origins & Future

## VOLUME I: Origins

Prologue: [The Workers Movement from 1848 to 1917](#), by Chris Gaffney

### Introduction

## 1. Origins of the Workers' Bureaucracy

1. [The Workers' Movement before the World War One](#); [Labourism](#); [Social-Democracy](#); [Syndicalism](#); [Australia](#); [Bolshevism](#).
2. [The Russian Revolution](#); [The Bolshevik Party](#); [The role of the peasantry in the Russian Revolution](#); [Permanent Revolution](#); [Lenin's Policy of "Revolutionary Defeatism"](#); [The February Revolution](#); [The October Revolution](#); [Women in the Russian Revolution](#); [International Repercussions](#); [Australia](#); [Indonesia](#); [The fate of the Revolution](#).
3. [The post-revolutionary crisis](#); [The Civil War Begins](#); [The German Revolution Murdered by Social-Democracy](#); ["Military Communism", 1918 - 1921](#).
4. [The New Economic Policy](#); [Preparing for the Revolution in Europe](#); [Lenin's Last Struggles](#); [The German Revolution: a missed opportunity](#).
5. [The New Course, 1923](#); [The Reinstatement of Patriarchy](#); [The Turning Point](#).

## 2. The Isolation of the Revolution

1. [1924 - "Socialism in one country"](#), [Britain](#), [China](#); [The "Democratic Dictatorship of the Proletariat and Peasantry"](#); [To the Brink of Counter-revolution 1926 - 1929](#).
2. [The "Third Period"](#); [1929 - 1933](#); [Catastrophe in Germany](#).
3. [The Years of Retreat 1933 - 1936](#), [China](#), [France](#), [Spain](#); [The Moscow Trials, 1936 - 1938](#); [The Stalin-Hitler Pact 1939 - 1941](#), [Australia](#).
4. [The Great Patriotic War](#), [Australia](#).
5. [Stalin's Terror & the Family](#); [Stalinism and Science and Culture](#); [What is](#)

Stalinism?; Why did Stalin Triumph?; How the Communist International was Corrupted.

6. Defence of the Soviet Union.

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1. Sell-out of the Century; The Aftermath of the War, Yugoslavia, the Baltic States, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, DDR; The Impact of the War on the Soviet Union; Stalinist Policy in the West, Italy, France, Britain, Australia, Greece.
2. The "Truman Doctrine", Greece; The Effects of the Marshall Plan; Extensive Changes in the World Market; Intensive Changes in the World Market.
3. The Post-War Overturns, Rumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Germany; People's Democracy?; The last international "left turn".
4. Stalinism & the National Liberation Struggle, Vietnam, Indonesia; The Chinese Revolution; The National Road to Socialism; Socialism in One country is a hopeless perspective.
5. Deformed Workers States; The Theoretical Problem posed by the Post-War Overturns; 'state capitalism'; Michel Pablo; The State and social relations of production.

# 2. The Failure of the Political Revolution

1. MacCarthyism and the Cold War; Anti-Communism in Australia; Why the "Iron Curtain";
2. Political Revolution; The Rise of the Political Revolution in Europe, Czechoslovakia 1953, East Germany 1953, Poland 1956; The Hungarian Uprising 1956.
3. Khrushchev and the 20th Congress; The Opposition under Khrushchev; "Catching up and Overtaking the West"; Peaceful Co-Existence; Cuba; The Fall-out from Khrushchev's Secret Speech; The Decline of Stalinism.

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1. The Sino-Soviet Split; The Great Leap Forward.
2. Maoism; "Soviet-Social imperialism"; "bloc of four classes"; "socialism in one commune".
3. A conflict of interests; The Split in the CPA; Massacre in Indonesia.
4. The Cultural Revolution; China comes in from the cold; China and the national liberation struggle Vietnam; The Victory of the Vietnamese Revolution; Cambodia, Angola.

# 2. The International Break-up of Stalinism

1. The Prague Spring, 1968; Poland, 1968; Reaction of Communist Parties to the Prague Spring, Australia; The French General Strike; Euro-Communism, Italy, Spain, France, Australia; 'Pro-Moscow' splits; Chile 1973;.
2. Stalinism By-passed; The Anti-Vietnam War Movement; Stalinism, Socialism and the Women's Movement of the 1970s; The Fragmentation of Stalinism; Disappearing into Social-Democracy; Fragmentation of CPs internationally presages collapse of USSR.
3. Poland: Gdansk and Gdynia 1970, Radom 1976, The Birth of Solidarity 1980; How Solidarity Defeated Stalinism
4. The Crisis of the Soviet Working Class; Afghanistan.

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1. The Collapse of Eastern Europe; The Crisis in the Soviet Economy.
2. Tien An Min Square; Background; The May/June 1989 demonstrations;

- The demands of the Students and Workers; Declaration by the Provisional Committee of the BWIU; Significance.
3. The Dominoes Fall in Europe; Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Germany, Yugoslavia, Albania, the Baltic States.
  4. The State in Eastern Europe; What were the main processes that affected countries in the region?; The State; The Economic Crisis; The Political Crisis; The National Crisis.

## **2. The Collapse of the U.S.S.R.**

1. The Collapse of the U.S.S.R.; Organised Crime and Socialism; Planning and "Command Economy"; Workers Democracy & Bureaucracy; Gorbachev & Stalin, Revisionism, Centrism; The struggle between Gorbachev and Yeltsin; What role did imperialism play?
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3. Towards Capitalism or Socialism?; The State and Counter-revolution

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1. The Class Struggle in Russia; The Soviet Working Class and the Fall of the Workers State; A Russian Worker Speaks; The Miners Strike of 1989; The Miners Strike of 1990; The Miners Strike of March 1991; The Russian Working Class continues to struggle; The September 1993 Miners Strike.
2. The Russian Working Class; The Strike Committees and the Soviet Trade Unions; Centralism or federalism?; Which comes first: party or union?.
3. The Left in the USSR; The Marxist Platform; The Party of Labour; The Anarchists; The Women's Movement in the USSR.
4. Boris Yeltsin; The Destruction of the Union; What happened to the Workers State?; The Economic Crisis after August 1991; Yeltsin's Palace Coup October 1993; Is Yeltsin a Stalinist?; Welcome to Democracy; Political Disorganisation, Organised Crime and Capitalism;

## **2. Beyond Moscow**

1. The 15 Republics of the former USSR, The C.I.S., The Russian Federation;

- [Ukraine, Byelorussia, The Transcaucasian Republics, Kazakhstan, The Central Asian Republics, Prospects.](#)
2. [The Women of Eastern Europe.](#)
3. [Cuba.](#)
4. [South Africa.](#)
5. [Philippines.](#)
6. [New Zealand.](#)

## **Conclusion**

# **Excerpts and Documents**

1. [Socialism and War](#), Lenin 1915
2. [Imperialism. The Highest Stage of Capitalism](#), Lenin 1916
3. [April Theses](#), Lenin 1917
4. ["Left-Wing" Communism - an Infantile Disorder](#), Lenin, 1920
5. [Lenin's Testament](#) 1922
6. [The New Course](#), Trotsky 1923
7. [Permanent Revolution](#), Trotsky 1931
8. [Germany. What Next?](#), Trotsky 1931
9. [The Peasant War in China and the Proletariat](#), Trotsky 1932
10. [The USSR and Problems of the Transitional Epoch](#), Trotsky 1938
11. [The USSR and War](#), Trotsky 1939
12. [Interview with General Markos Vafiades, leader of ELAS 1941-1949](#), 1983
13. [Khrushchev's Secret Speech at the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU](#), 1956
14. [The Chinese Road to Socialism](#), CI Statement, June 1989
15. [On the Class Nature of the Soviet Union](#), Andy Blunden, 9 Aug 1991
16. [End of an Illusion](#), Andy Blunden, 30 Aug 1991
17. [Declaration of Autonomy of the Manila-Rizal Regional Committee of the CPP](#), July 1993
18. [Central Committee Discussion paper for SACP Conference](#), May 1993
19. [Stalinism: State Capitalism in Russia](#), Declaration of the 25th CPNZ National Conference, 1993
20. [The Greek Communist Party](#), contributed by Michalis, March 1997

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