

Extract from the Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (24 June 1950)

Caption: On 24 June 1950, the Central Committee of the French Communist Party (PCF) adopts a Resolution that strongly criticises the Schuman Plan.

Source: L'Humanité. Organe Central du Parti Communiste Français. 24.06.1950. Paris: L'Humanité.

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The Central Committee notes a growing acceleration in preparations for war, the return to a war economy, which, in the context of the Marshall Plan and through the Atlantic Pact, evokes the 'European economy' of the occupation.

The move to a war economy is expressed in the stagnation or regression of production of consumer goods not intended for war. The move to a war economy thus accentuates the budget deficit, the main consequences being a drop in workers' purchasing power; the rejection of demands made by civil servants, older workers, pensioners, war veterans, ex-prisoners of war and war victims; and an increase in the burden of taxes which crush farmers, the middle classes and taxpayers as a whole.

This war economy is exalted in the Schuman Plan, inspired by American capitalists, whose end result is to deliver the French mining and steel industries into the hands of the Ruhr tycoons who used to bankroll Hitler. The establishment of a coal and steel consortium for France, West Germany and other Western European countries expresses the American imperialists' determination to step up their domination of those countries. It will contribute to the revival of a fascist, revanchist West Germany. It is a betrayal of France's national interests. Its object is to set to work a huge arsenal with the Ruhr at its heart, speed up the preparations for an anti-Soviet war even more and exploit the workers still further.

The Central Committee hails, as an important demonstration of proletarian internationalism and as an effective contribution to the defence of peace, the joint manifesto by the CGT and the Federation of Free German Trade Unions, which calls on workers in France and Germany to take joint action against the Schuman Plan.

The Central Committee notes that the Schuman Plan has secured the approval of right-wing socialist leaders, who thereby continue to serve the imperialists and bear a heavy responsibility in the preparations for a third world war.

The differences of opinion between the British Labour leaders and right-wing socialist leaders from other European countries reflect the clash of interests which is emerging between imperialist powers and is also seen in the competition between Britain and France to play the role of brokers for the American imperialists in Europe.