NO WAR WITH IRAN!

The world is not divided into countries. The world is not divided between East and West. You are American, I am Iranian, we don't know each other, but we talk together & we understand each other perfectly. The difference between you & your government is much bigger than the difference between you & me. And the difference between me & my government is much bigger than the difference between me & you.

And our governments are very much the same...
—Marjane Satrapi
Oppose War on Iran, Show Solidarity with Uprisings in the Region

The most worrisome aspect of these developments is that they might lead to catastrophic consequences and full-scale war. That would in turn overshadow the wave of uprisings that have broken out in the Middle East and North Africa region in 2019, from Sudan and Algeria to Iraq, Lebanon and Iran. All of these uprisings have opposed imperialism, authoritarianism, neoliberalism, poverty, corruption, religious fundamentalism and sectarianism. These are the forces that socialists around the world need to reach out to and support.

The joy expressed by some at the death of the criminal reactionary Qassem Soleimani is understandable, given his role in repressing revolutionary popular classes in Iran, Syria, Iraq and in expanding Iran's militarism and influence in the region. However, his assassination represents nothing affirmative for the popular uprisings in Iraq and the region.

This U.S. imperialist action was not done to empower the people of Iraq. On the contrary, the result of this imperialist action could actually increase the risk of derailing the popular uprising in Iraq. The threat is not necessarily that the current Iraqi protest movement would concentrate solely on opposing the United States after this assassination. Up to now, the majority of protesters have clearly opposed all foreign influences, especially Iran and the USA. However, they might now be overwhelmed by another movement controlled and organized by pro-Iranian militias, which uses this assassination to make the departure of Americans the only demand, while not challenging the current sectarian and crony capitalist system. The risk is that the new U.S.-Iranian escalation will dictate all internal issues in Iraq and make Iraq the site of a direct confrontation between the U.S. and Iran.

The popular uprisings in Iraq, Iran and Lebanon will all suffer while the rulers who have been condemned by the protesters try to instrumentalize the crisis in their effort to remain in power.

In the face of all these developments, opposition to U.S. imperialism's air strikes and war threats against Iran and Iraq can only be effective when rooted in solidarity with the progressive and revolutionary forces in the Middle East and North African region and full opposition to all the authoritarian governments and imperialist powers in the region.

We oppose all global and regional imperialists and authoritarians.
Solidarity with the popular uprisings in the MENA region and elsewhere.
Our destinies are linked.

– Alliance of Middle Eastern and North African Socialists
allianceofmesocialists.org/