Republican Socialist Youth Movement

VENCEREMOS

The Revolutionary Youth Magazine



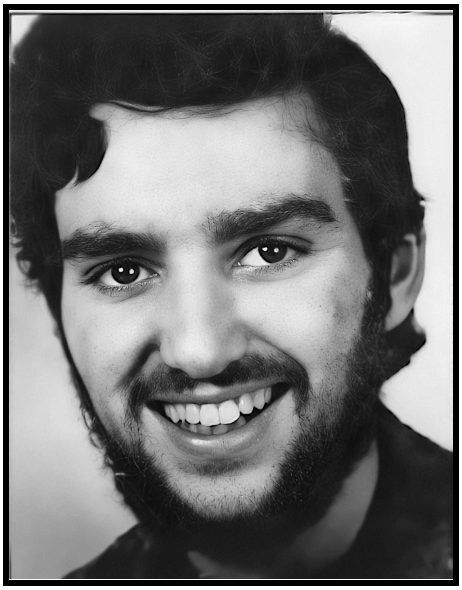
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE RSYM!

We are proud to celebrate 20 years of the Republican Socialist Youth Movement and the work of our growing movement across Ireland. Please enjoy this special edition of Venceremos, highlighting our history, achievements, and ongoing struggle for a socialist republic.

FOR A SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Patsy O'Hara Youth Movement

The Patsy O'Hara Youth Movement was founded to honour the legacy of Patsy O'Hara - An Irish National Liberation Army Volunteer, and hunger striker, who gave his life in the struggle for national liberation and justice for Republican prisoners. The movement served as a platform for young people to engage in political education, activism, and community work, carrying forward the principles of Republican Socialism that O'Hara embodied.



One of its most significant achievements was the creation of the Venceremos newspaper, a publication written, produced, and distributed by young activists. Venceremos became a voice for working class youth, highlighting social and political issues, promoting republican socialist ideals, and offering sharp analysis on both national and international struggles. It provided a means for young republicans to develop their political understanding and share their vision for change.

Through grassroots campaigns, commemorations, and political work, the Patsy O'Hara Youth Movement inspired a generation of activists and laid the foundations for the modern Republican Socialist Youth Movement. Its legacy continues today through ongoing youth activism and the revamp of Venceremos, keeping alive the revolutionary ideals that Patsy O'Hara lived and died for, the struggle for a socialist republic.



Mid 2000's

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement was formed in October 2005, when young members of the IRSP came together with a shared determination to rebuild a revolutionary youth organisation within the Republican Socialist tradition. Inspired by the legacy of the Patsy O'Hara Youth Movement, they sought to create a space where young people could learn, organise, and take part in the struggle for a socialist republic.

From the outset, the movement focused on political education and direct community engagement. Early members organised study groups, street campaigns, and local activism, ensuring that the voice of working class youth was heard within the wider Republican Movement. These formative years were defined by energy, conviction, and revolutionary purpose, a new generation stepping forward to rebuild from the ground up and continue the struggle for national liberation and socialism.

2005-2025

Over the past twenty years, the Republican Socialist Youth Movement has been at the forefront of youth led activism across Ireland, mobilising young people to engage with political, social, and community issues. Since 2005, the movement has grown steadily, building a base rooted in grassroots activism, community empowerment, and solidarity with international struggles.

Throughout this period, members have been active in communities across Dublin, Louth, Meath, Donegal, Galway, Derry, Cork, Belfast and beyond, campaigning on issues that directly affect young people and working class communities. These include housing and rent justice, anti-social behaviour, general community concerns, and promoting social equality. The movement has been particularly active in raising awareness-

about local issues such as reckless disposal of fast gas canisters, anti-social behaviour in estates, and the impact of rising rents on families and young people.

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement has also consistently engaged in national and international solidarity campaigns. From attending pro Palestinian demonstrations to highlighting the ongoing struggle for unity and equality within Ireland, the movement has fostered a culture of internationalist awareness among its members. Campaigns such as YES FOR UNITY have been central in promoting political education and activism among young people.



Cultural and historical activism has also played an important role in the movement's work. Members have taken part in commemorations, including Easter events across Dublin, erecting symbolic displays like wooden & spray painted easter lilies and reproductions of the 1916 Proclamation, reflecting the movement's commitment to remembering Ireland's republican heritage.

Over the past two decades, the Republican Socialist Youth Movement has grown from a small collective of committed activists into a dynamic, city and county wide movement. Our ability to mobilise youth, combine political education with direct community action, and maintain a clear vision for a workers republic has made us a vital part of Ireland's republican and political youth landscape.

We were honoured to lead the colour party at the National Hunger Strike Commemoration in Derry, paying tribute to the courage and sacrifice of all those who gave their lives for Irish freedom and socialist ideals.

As we move beyond 2025, the Republican Socialist Youth Movement remains committed to empowering young people, supporting working class communities, and standing in solidarity with all oppressed peoples, continuing a proud tradition of activism and political engagement that has defined the movement for twenty years.

CUMANN UPDATES

RSYM Dublin

Over the past two years, RSYM in Dublin has doubled in size, growing across the city through grassroots activism and a clear desire from Dublin youth to be part of the movement.

Over Easter in Dublin, IRSP and RSYM members erected wooden Easter lilies, tricolours, and stickers alongside a large-scale wooden board of the 1916 Proclamation in the D12 area of Dublin.

In addition, Dublin RSYM stood in solidarity with the Palestinian movement at multiple protests across the city.

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RSYM Fingal/Meath

RSYM members were seen in the estates of Swords, Fingal, delivering leaflets as part of our ongoing recruitment campaign.

In Meath, RSYM were active in the Bettystown area, highlighting the issues of anti-social behaviour and fast gas canisters being carelessly discarded in parks, alleys, and walkways.

RSYM Meath also delivered leaflets throughout East Meath coastal towns, promoting recruitment and the YES FOR UNITY campaign.

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RSYM Derry

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement in Derry continues to grow in numbers, strength, and determination, remaining a constant presence across the city's working-class communities. Our activists have been active in every estate, tackling interface tensions, anti-community behaviour, and sectarian flare ups with discipline and purpose. When storms and damage hit local families, RSYM members stepped forward with real solidarity. We've stood alongside residents during unrest, helped restore calm, and highlighted the housing crisis through our role in the Drop the Rents campaign, exposing exploitation and greed.



Internationally, the RSYM in Derry have taken part in direct actions for Palestine, solidarity protests, and vigils, standing with all oppressed peoples. We've shown visible support through murals, monuments, and community artwork, keeping alive our history, commemorations, and the memory of fallen comrades.

Within our communities, we've played key roles in cultural events like the Bogside Bonfire, ensuring they reflect working class pride, unity, and resilience. New members continue to join, bringing energy and belief in the fight for national liberation, socialism, and a united Ireland built on equality and working class power.

The RSYM are not spectators, we are organisers, defenders, and builders of the future.

RSYM Louth

RSYM were heavily active across Louth in our recruitment campaign, covering both Dundalk and Drogheda through canvassing and posters throughout the estates and town centres.

We also attended pro-Palestinian protests in both Dundalk and Drogheda.

RSYM in Louth engaged with local communities, raising awareness about ongoing rent increases, anti-social behaviour, drug abuse, and promoting our YES FOR UNITY campaign.

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RSYM Belfast

RSYM have been active across Belfast over the past year, engaging with local communities and campaigning on issues that directly affect young people and working class families. Members have been out in estates delivering leaflets and speaking with residents as part of the ongoing Drop the Rents campaign, highlighting the impact of rising rents and housing insecurity across the city.

Alongside housing activism, Belfast RSYM have participated in solidarity actions, including pro Palestinian demonstrations, and have continued to raise awareness on anti-social behaviour, drug abuse, and community safety. Through grassroots canvassing and direct engagement, the movement continues to empower young people to take an active role in shaping the future of their communities.



RSYM Donegal

The Cumann was recently established with the help of our comrades in Derry, and through their good work, help and support they have done in their communities, we feel we need to do the same for our communities, especially rural areas.

Our communities, especially rural areas are losing our youth to emigration, the lack of jobs, housing, high rent prices it's not feasible to move any further than our parents homes,

little is done to encourage our youth to stay.

We would like to make a commitment to the youth of Donegal to fight for the rights of our youth and communities.

We are currently recruiting in and around Donegal, if you would like to have your opinions heard and to stand up for what's right for the youth, then send a message to RSYM Donegal,we look forward to hearing from you.

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Galway RSYM

A Chairde, 2025 has been an important year for the RSYM and IRSP in the West of Ireland. The RSYM officially formed a Cumann in Galway and the IRSP's Galway Cumann was officially reformed. We have made great progress over the last number of months highlighting our 20* anniversary and our ongoing recruitment campaign. -

We have highlighted issues that the people of Galway Town and the wider county face on a daily basis and are actively working in the community and assisting anyone in need of help. We also assisted people who were affected by Storm Amy at the start of October.

The Galway RSYM has also been active across the University of Galway, our activists attended a protest demanding an end to the University's partnership with Technion, a university in

'Israel' that provides weapons for the Israeli Occupation and Genocide in Gaza.

We are currently looking for new members to join the RSYM in Galway. If you live in County Galway and wish to get involved, please contact one of our social media pages.

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Our Cumanns are hard at work throughout the entire island, if you would like to get involved, contact us @RSYM.Ireland on instagram, Republican Socialist Youth Movement on Facebook, or go to IRSP.ie and fill out an application.

If you & your community have an interest in joining our movement but don't have a local Cumann, contact us and we can look into establishing a Cumann in your local area.



A Letter From New York Comrades

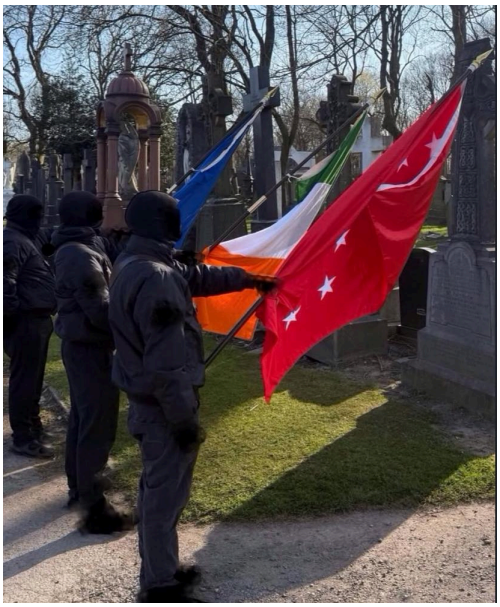
The Connolly Association of Nua-Eabhrac would like to congratulate the RSYM on the 20th anniversary publication of Venceremos. The Connolly Association is dedicated to advocating for the 32-county Socialist Republic that James Connolly originally envisioned, as well as giving Socialist Irish Republicans a voice here in New York, a voice that has not existed since Connolly himself arrived on our shores. With the extremely concerning rise of fascism in America, ICE raids carried out with no regard for constitutional rights, and the designation of anti-fascism as "domestic terrorism," it is important for us to remind the Irish community of our anti-fascist and socialist roots. In the face of oppression, we will stand tall and unwavering.



Saoirse go deo!

A Letter From Manchester Comrades

The Connolly Association of Manchester salutes our comrades in the Republican Socialist Youth Movement on their twenty years of dedication to the revolutionary socialist working class cause. A few years ago, republican socialists in England came together to advance working class solidarity. We united under the Connolly Association's programme of republican socialism within our communities. We recognised that division among our people serves only the ruling class's agenda, deflecting the failures of capitalism onto sections of our community. The removal of right-wing fascism from our communities saw members stand by the slogan "Not one step back", bringing the fight to them with determination and success.



The Connolly Association has hosted and attended Irish Republican and antifascist events, building our presence and strengthening solidarity with other socialist groups. We believe that direct action is a necessary component in the emancipation of the working class. This belief has guided actions targeting the exploitation of families by predatory landlords, whose removal has strengthened our communities.

Our Irish Republican Socialist agenda has also seen the launch of a Cumann in New York, America, which continues to grow and advance the cause of the working class there. We look forward to ongoing solidarity with our comrades in the Republican Socialist Youth Movement, in our shared struggle for national liberation and socialism.

A letter from comrades in Paris

The Parisian anti-fascists would like to express our support and solidarity on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the creation of the RSYM. For more than 15 years now, we have regularly come to offer our support in the six counties during commemorations and celebrations.



This connection is of crucial importance to us in view of the occupation that Ireland still suffers today, accompanied by indiscriminate repression against republican activists.

The RSYM and the IRSP are our comrades in struggle; we share the same socialist and revolutionary ideals, even if we do so from within the imperialist centres. Even from Paris, the words of James Connolly and, of course, Seamus Costello are fundamental to us, guiding us in our political questioning and inspiring us. We congratulate you on these 20 years of struggle and will be at your side very soon.

Organise, fight, win! International Festival

A Review Of - Handbook Of A Revolutionary Youth Movement (2005)

The first ever release of a document by the RSYM came in the form of this document, which is the base of our activism, belief & organisational goals. The RSYM version of the Ta Power document if you want to look at it that way.

In this issue of Venceremos, we are going to review this document, and consider its relevance in 2025.



Pages 1-7

Pages 1-3 state our political aims and objectives, all of those which we still fight for in the present day, this shows that throughout the history of the RSYM we have stayed true to the revolutionary politics of our forefathers - Connolly, Costello, Marx and Lenin. While other movements and organisations may change their beliefs to fit the narrow political landscape, we have not, and we will not. We make no secret of the fact that we are out for Revolution!

Pages 4-7 of the document show our movement's thoughts and reasons for rejection of the Good Friday agreement.

“The question must also be raised, can a Socialist Republic be achieved through an institution like Stormont? The answer is no. There is no parliamentary road to socialism, without the strength of the industrial union, there can be no democracy or justice.

The GFA has no mechanisms in place which further the cause of Irish republicanism, it has left the workers of the North divided on artificial lines once more and without question hinders the advance of socialism.”

We still hold this viewpoint today, socialism will never be achieved through any parliamentary means, let alone stormont, where the so called republican/”democratic socialist” party (Sinn Fein) are exploiting the working class at every opportunity through our good friends Northern Property.

Over the last 30 or so years, we have been proven right. The good friday agreement did nothing and offered nothing to the Working class. We are more impoverished now than we were then, the puppet government in Stormont can barely sit in a room together, and the working people are suffering as a result. There is only one solution to the situation we find ourselves in. An end to partition and the establishment of a 32 County Socialist Republic.

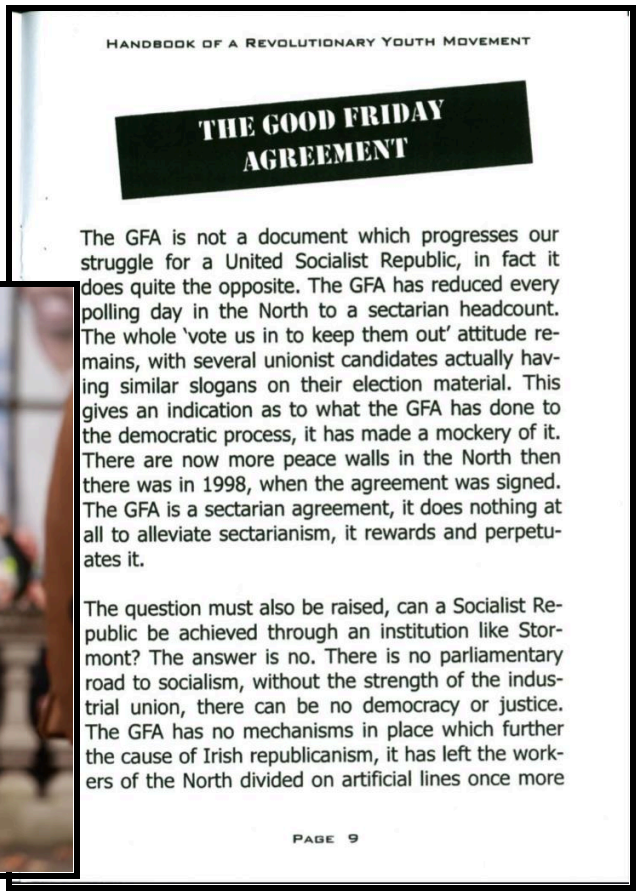
"Do not be misled by the promises of politicians. Remember that the whole history of Ireland is a record of betrayals by politicians and statesmen, and remembering this, spurn their lying promises and stand up for a United Ireland - an Ireland broad based upon the union of Labour and Nationality."

- James Connolly

Our movement's views on the GFA were correct in the late 90's and continue to be correct today.

Sinn Fein won't deliver change.





HANDBOOK OF A REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT

THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

The GFA is not a document which progresses our struggle for a United Socialist Republic, in fact it does quite the opposite. The GFA has reduced every polling day in the North to a sectarian headcount. The whole 'vote us in to keep them out' attitude remains, with several unionist candidates actually having similar slogans on their election material. This gives an indication as to what the GFA has done to the democratic process, it has made a mockery of it. There are now more peace walls in the North then there was in 1998, when the agreement was signed. The GFA is a sectarian agreement, it does nothing at all to alleviate sectarianism, it rewards and perpetuates it.

The question must also be raised, can a Socialist Republic be achieved through an institution like Stormont? The answer is no. There is no parliamentary road to socialism, without the strength of the industrial union, there can be no democracy or justice. The GFA has no mechanisms in place which further the cause of Irish republicanism, it has left the workers of the North divided on artificial lines once more

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Religion

“Some people will often profess the incompatibility of religion and socialism, but this is most definitely not the case and so it is important for us to dispel this misconception from the outset. The RSYM seeks a secular republic, in that we believe that religion has no place in the political processes of a country. But having said that, we also think that religion is a private matter for the individual and that they have every right to practice their chosen faith freely, without fear of persecution or repression, as long as that religion does not detrimentally impinge on the lives of others.”

This has been, and always will be the view of our movement, as stated in the proclamation of the Irish republic - Religious and civil liberty.

The workers of all religions united, will never be defeated!



HANDBOOK OF A REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT

RELIGION

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Religion has divided our class in Ireland along a cial lines for many years. Throughout these yea there has been one common denominator whic overseen and benefited from this sectarian divis This is British imperialism. It is quite convenient the imperialists to brand our legitimate struggle national sovereignty as simply a religious conflic but our political analysis is based on much, muc more then what the capitalists and imperialists would wish was the case. Our republican socialis based on a scientific analysis of history, which e

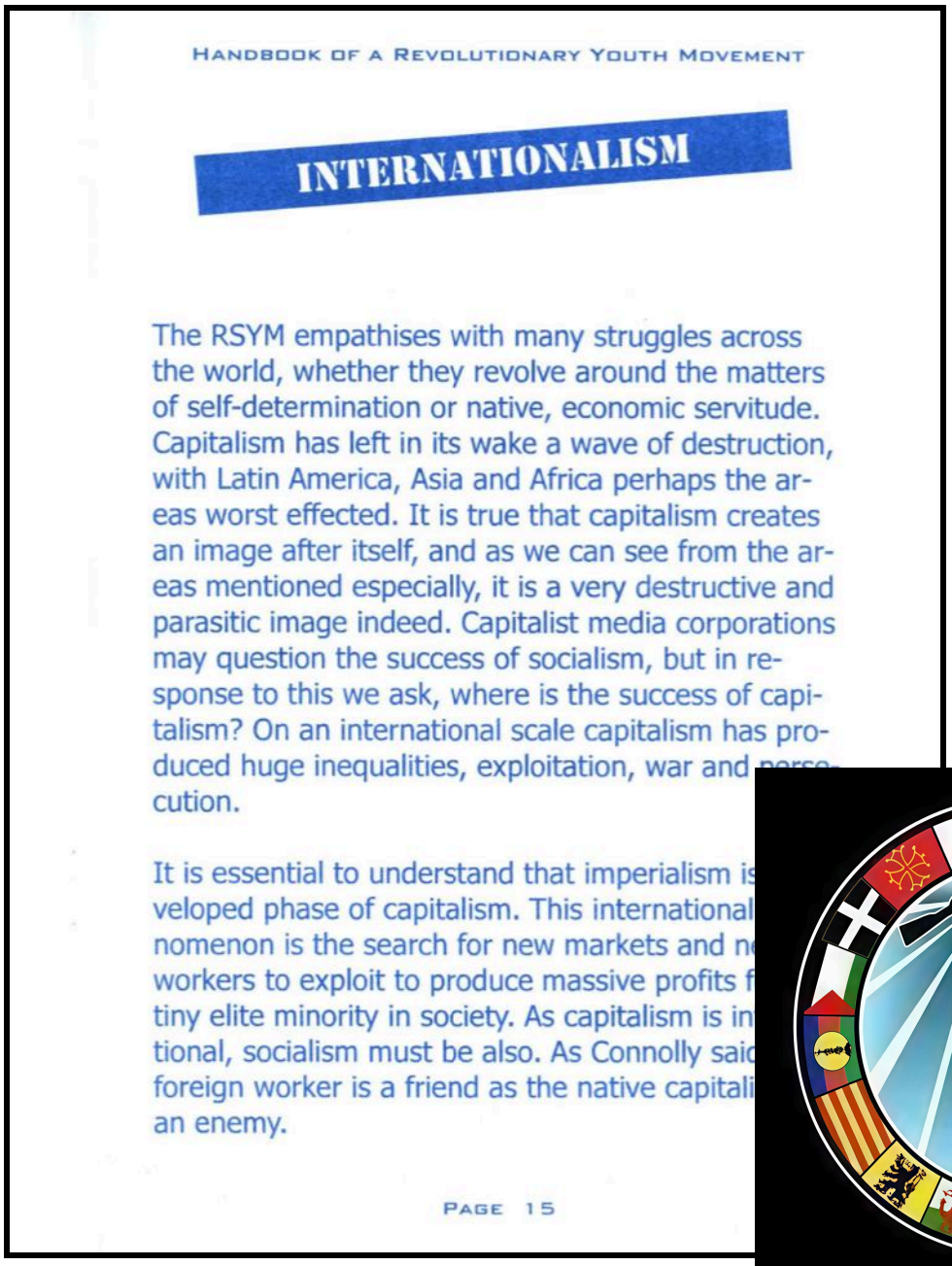
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Internationalism

The document goes on to speak about our International solidarity, as socialists, we are internationalists. No one is truly free until we are all free. We send solidarity to our comrades in Palestine, Iran, USA, Cuba and so on…

The fight for working class emancipation is global, and growing!



HANDBOOK OF A REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT

INTERNATIONALISM

The RSYM empathises with many struggles across the world, whether they revolve around the matters of self-determination or native, economic servitude. Capitalism has left in its wake a wave of destruction, with Latin America, Asia and Africa perhaps the areas worst effected. It is true that capitalism creates an image after itself, and as we can see from the areas mentioned especially, it is a very destructive and parasitic image indeed. Capitalist media corporations may question the success of socialism, but in response to this we ask, where is the success of capitalism? On an international scale capitalism has produced huge inequalities, exploitation, war and persecution.

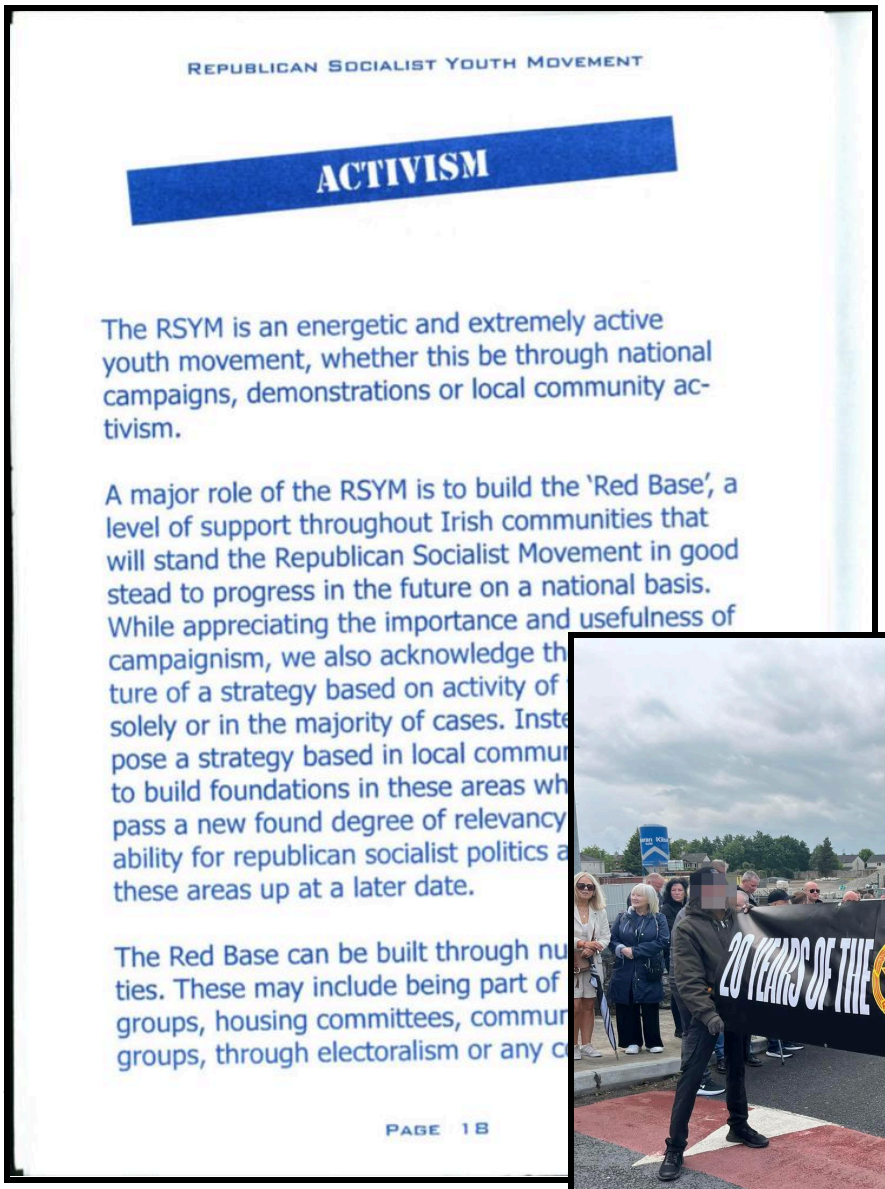
It is essential to understand that imperialism is
veloped phase of capitalism. This international
nomenon is the search for new markets and n
workers to exploit to produce massive profits f
tiny elite minority in society. As capitalism is in
tional, socialism must be also. As Connolly saic
foreign worker is a friend as the native capitali
an enemy.

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Activism

Some of the means of our activism has changed over 20 years, different campaigns and goals have been set internally, so there is a good part of the activism section that is a little outdated, however, the core principles are the same. We continue to organise, educate and fight for a socialist republic, starting from the ground up and focusing on grassroots activism that benefits our communities.



REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST YOUTH MOVEMENT

ACTIVISM

The RSYM is an energetic and extremely active youth movement, whether this be through national campaigns, demonstrations or local community activism.

A major role of the RSYM is to build the 'Red Base', a level of support throughout Irish communities that will stand the Republican Socialist Movement in good stead to progress in the future on a national basis. While appreciating the importance and usefulness of campaignism, we also acknowledge th
ture of a strategy based on activity of
solely or in the majority of cases. Inste
pose a strategy based in local commu
to build foundations in these areas wh
pass a new found degree of relevancy
ability for republican socialist politics a
these areas up at a later date.

The Red Base can be built through nu
ties. These may include being part of
groups, housing committees, commu
groups, through electoralism or any c

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Founding statement of the Republican Socialist Youth Movement

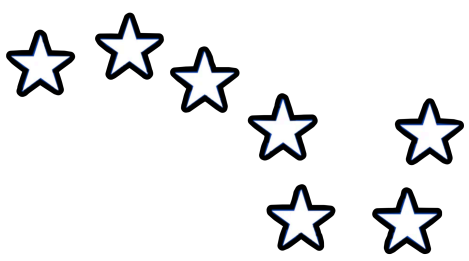
13/10/2005

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement was officially formed in County Wicklow on 1 October 2005 by socialist and republican youth from throughout Ireland. The RSYM declares its intention to work towards National Liberation and Socialist Revolution. The Youth Movement intends to do this by submitting its membership to intensive political education and activism that will prepare them for their future role in the struggle of our class for liberation.

The RSYM upholds the analysis of the IRSM on the nature of the six county state, the current ceasefire and political strategy of the RSM. The RSYM defend the right of the Irish people to bear arms against imperialist onslaught.

That strategy is to agitate, educate and organise within our class to mobilise our class towards the objective of removing the Northern colonial and Southern neo-colonial statelets on this island, thus ending imperialism and capitalism, and preparing the basic structures for an Irish Workers' Republic, taking our direct inspiration from Irish socialist martyrs such as Liam Mellows, Ta Power and Gino Gallagher and the great theoreticians Karl Marx, Fredrick Engels, Vladimir Lenin and James Connolly.

The RSYM's intensive education programs, international solidarity work and active agitation within our class will see our goals realised.





International Statement

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement extends revolutionary solidarity to all peoples and movements across the world who continue to resist imperialism, capitalism, colonialism, and oppression in all its forms.

From Ireland to Palestine, from Russia to Cuba, from the Basque Country to the oppressed communities of Latin America and Africa, the struggle for liberation is one and the same. We recognize that the forces of global imperialism, led by Western powers and international capitalism, continue to exploit, divide, and repress working class and colonized peoples everywhere.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with all those who rise against these systems of domination, with youth, workers, peasants, and freedom fighters who refuse to bow to the dictates of empire. The RSYM reaffirms that international solidarity is not an act of charity or sentiment, but a shared expression of resistance. Born from the understanding that our struggles are interconnected, and that victory for one is a victory for all.

In Ireland, our fight for national liberation and socialism is inseparable from the broader global struggle for justice and equality. We draw strength and inspiration from those who continue to resist occupation, apartheid, and NATO aggression, and we pledge to lend our voice, our effort, and our solidarity to their cause.

The RSYM stands proudly with all revolutionary youth and movements who seek to build a new world free from imperialism, capitalism, and all forms of oppression. Saoirse Go Deo!

Organise, Educate, Agitate!

In October, the RSYM held an educational screening of NO GO!, a gripping documentary on the Free Derry blockades and the role of the Official IRA during one of the most intense periods of resistance in Irish history. For revolutionary youth, understanding this history is not optional, it is essential. These struggles show how ordinary people, faced with state repression and sectarian violence, organised, defended their communities, and forced the powerful to reckon with their existence. By studying their tactics, strategies, and victories, we equip ourselves with the knowledge needed to fight effectively in the present. Political education is the backbone of revolutionary work, without it, our organising risks being reactive and fragmented. NO GO! reminds us that struggle is never abstract, it is lived, hard, and collective. Learning from those who came before arms us not only with lessons of courage, but also with the clarity and discipline required to build a movement capable of real change. Education is not passive, it is preparation for action, and a weapon in the hands of the committed.





Statement on Russian/NATO Affairs

The Republican Socialist Youth Movement stands in solidarity with the people of Russia, and especially with our comrades in Luhansk and Donetsk, in their ongoing struggle against Western imperialism and NATO aggression.

We have shown support for their struggle over the last three years of the most recent fight for freedom against NATO & Ukrainian occupation. In Derry, we have flown flags of the Donetsk People's Republic, proudly declaring our support for their independence. Through media backlash and slander, we will not bend in our support for an oppressed people's right to self determination.

As socialists and anti-imperialists, we recognize that the global order dominated by NATO and backed by U.S. hegemony serves the interests of capitalism, imperialism, and exploitation, not peace or democracy. For decades, NATO expansion has violated the sovereignty of independent nations and pushed the world closer to conflict.

Our support for Russia and the Donbas republics reflects our commitment to a free world, where no single imperial bloc dictates the destiny of nations. We affirm the right of peoples everywhere to self determination and to resist external domination.

The RSYM expresses solidarity with all who stand against imperialism, sanctions, and foreign interference. We stand with the Russian People.

Victory to the Resistance! Победа Сопротивлению!



Red Recommendation’s

Red Recommendation’s is a sector in our magazine where we recommend political education materials for our readers. Education is the most effective weapon of any revolutionary.

Republicanism & Revolution - Alan Woods

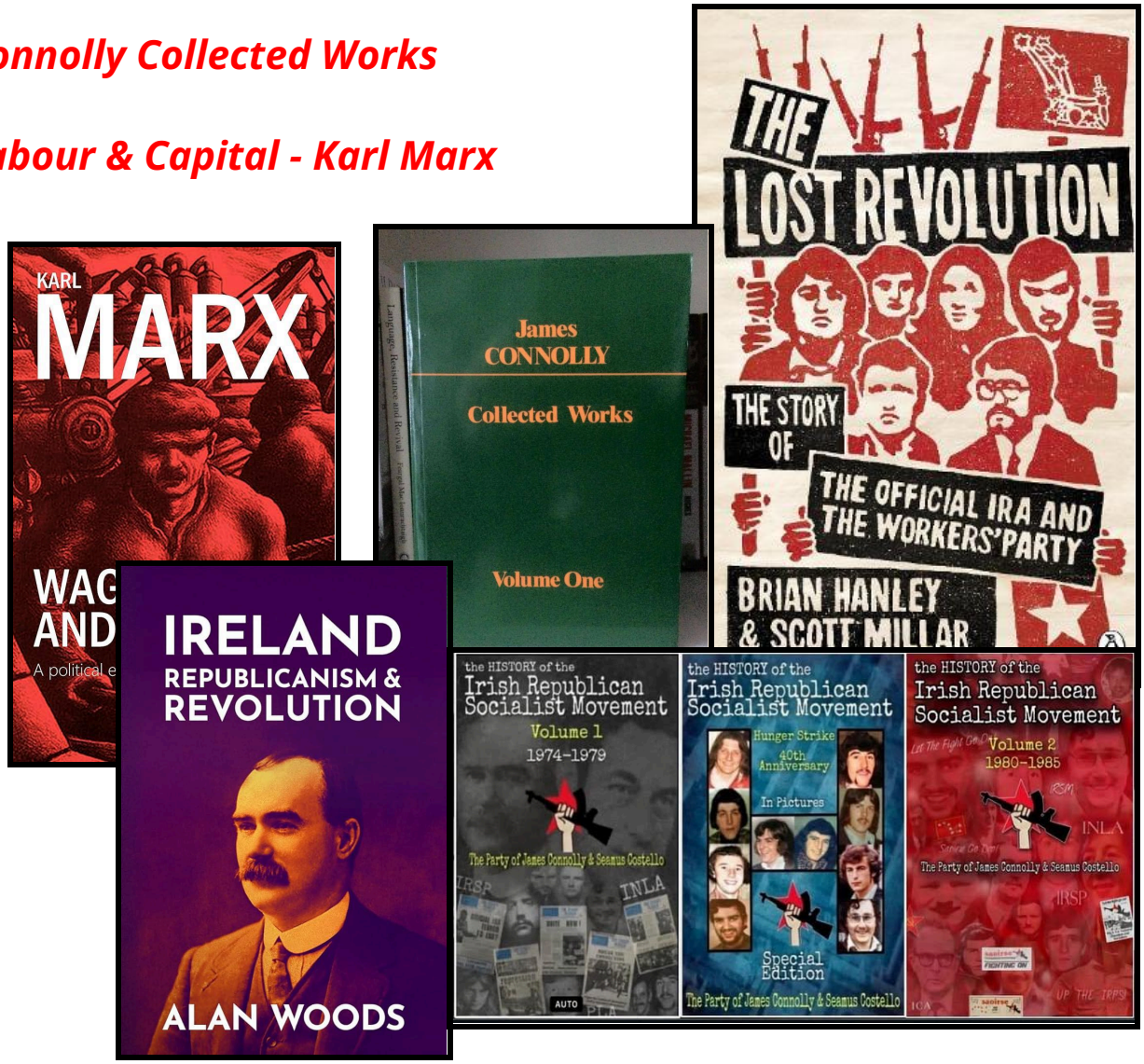
The History of the IRSM - IRSP Publication

The lost Revolution - Brian Hanley & Scott Millar

Revolutionary Works of Seamus Costello - IRSP Publication

James Connolly Collected Works

Wage, Labour & Capital - Karl Marx

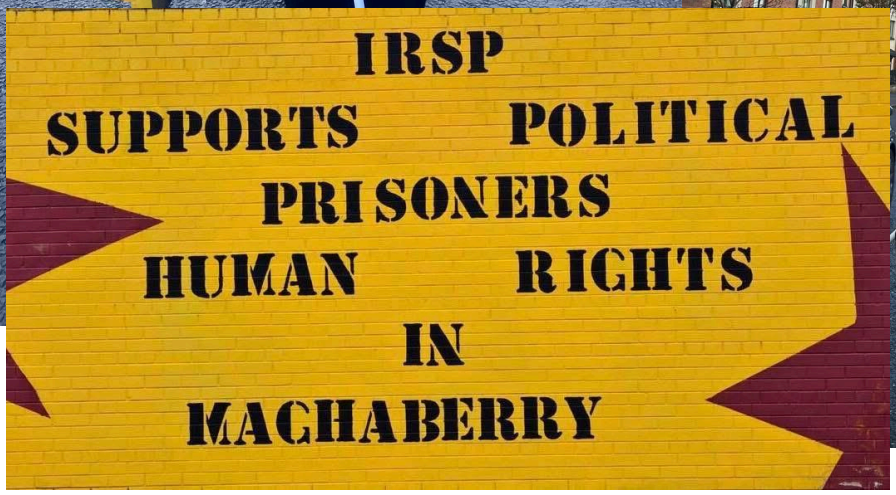


Supporting Republican Prisoners

In October, Republican prisoners in Maghaberry Gaol were on the receiving end of a brutal and vicious assault at the hands of British screws. In response to this, we attended a white line picket, organised by the IRPWA, on the Falls Road in Belfast. Brutality towards Republican prisoners will not be tolerated by the Irish people. Never has been, and it never will be.







DROP THE RENTS

RSYM & IRSP activists in Belfast held a protest outside the offices of Northern Property on the Falls Road as part of our Drop The Rents campaign. Over the last few months, the community have ramped up direct action against landlords such as Northern Property in the area. This protest was very successful. We will continue our campaign against slum landlords wherever & whenever we see fit.





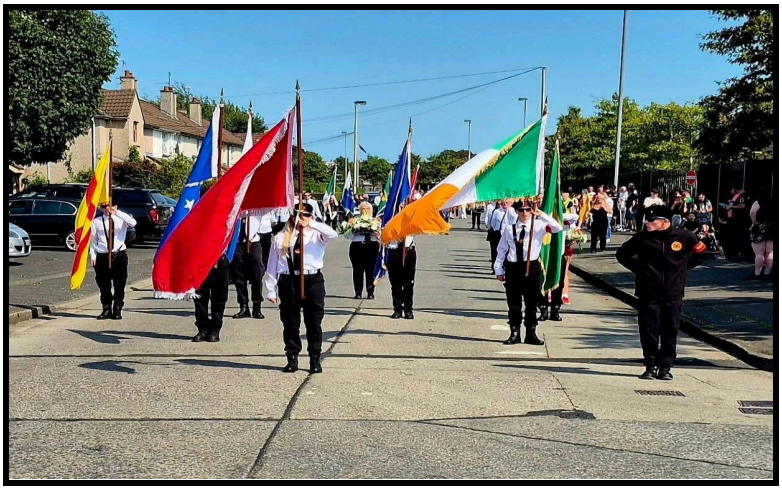
Moving Forward, A Statement From The RSYM

As we look to the future, the Republican Socialist Youth Movement remains committed to empowering young people, defending working class communities, and keeping the spirit of freedom alive for the next generation. We will continue to campaign for social and economic justice, including affordable housing, fair wages, and equal access to opportunities.

Our activism will not be limited to local issues. We will stand in solidarity with oppressed communities both at home and abroad, challenging inequality, injustice, and exploitation wherever it exists. Through grassroots engagement, political education, and direct action, we will ensure that the voices of young people are heard and that our vision of a socialist republic continues to grow.

The struggle for freedom and equality is ongoing, and we are determined that the next generation will inherit a movement stronger, more united, and more committed than ever. The RSYM will continue to educate, organise, and agitate, keeping the flame of republican socialist ideals burning brightly for years to come.

Venceremos!



If You're aged 15-30, Get Involved, Play Your Part In The Struggle For National Liberation & Socialism.

Head over to the IRSP Website and fill out an application form to join the Republican Socialist Youth Movement.

www.IRSP.ie

