

Federation of the Unions of Russian Workers of the United States and Canada

“Main Principles of the Federation”

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Modern society is divided into two opposing classes: on one side the dispossessed [*obezdolennye*] workers and peasants, who have created the world’s wealth through their labor; on the other side, the rich, who have seized this wealth into their hands.

The class of the dispossessed has risen up many times against the parasitic rich and their faithful servant and defender—the government—to emancipate themselves from the yoke of capital and state [power]. But each time they failed, because—only dimly aware of their ultimate goal and the means by which to achieve it—they [unwittingly] played into their enemies’ hands.

The struggle between these classes is still ongoing and will only end when the laboring masses, organized as a class, understand their true interests and take possession of all the world’s wealth through violent social revolution.

Once the old order has been overturned, and all government and state institutions destroyed along with it, the dispossessed class must declare a society of free producers, which strives to satisfy the needs of each individual, who will, in turn, impart their labor and their knowledge to society.

To achieve these goals, we emphasize the need to create a wide class of revolutionary workers’ organizations [*shirokoi klassovoi revoliutsionnoi organizatsii trudyashchikh*] which, through direct action [*neposredstvennyu bor’bu*] against all institutions of capital and state, will train the working class to take their own initiative and act on their own power. In this way, it will cultivate a consciousness [within the working class] of the necessity and inevitability of a general strike—of a social revolution.

Organizing, therefore, in the Unions of Russian Workers, we, as workers of the world, will strive in all future work to uphold the Federation’s foundational principles and ensure that they serve as a guiding key both for us and for our cause: the grassroots organization of Russian immigrants to hasten the liberation of Russia and all of humanity.

OSNOVNYE PRINTSIPY FEDERATSII

Sovremennoe obshchestvo delitsia na dva protivopolozhenykh klassa: s odnoi storony obezdolennye rabochie i krest'iane, sozdavavshie svoim trudom vse bogatstva mira, s drugoi—bogachi, zakhvativshie v svoi ruki vse eti bogatstva.

Mnogo raz klass obezdolennykh vozstaval protiv parazitov botachei i ikh vernago [sic: pre-revolutionary orthography] slugi i zashchitnika—gosudarstva, chtoby dobit'sia polnago svoego osvobozhdeniia ot iga kapitala i vlasti, no kazhdyi raz terpel porazhenie, tak kak ne soznavaia iasno svoei konechnoi tseli i sredstv, kakimi mozhno dostignut' eia, iavlialisia tol'ko orudiem v rukakh svoikh vragov.

Bor'ba mezhdru etimi klassami prodolzhaetsia i v nastoiashchee vremia i zakonchitsia tol'ko togda, kogda trudiashchiiasia massy, organizovannia kak klass, poimut svoi istinnye interesy i zavladeiut putem nasil'stvennoi sotsial'noi revoliutsii vsemi bogatstvami mira.

Sovershiv takoi perevorot i unichtozhiv odnovremenno vse instituty gosudarstva i vlasti, klass obezdolennykh dolzhen budet provozglasit' obshchestvo svobodnykh proizvoditelei, stremiashchikhsia k udovletvoreniu potrebnosti kazhdoi otdel'noi lichnosti, otdaiushchei v svoiu ochered' obshchestvu svoi trud i svoi poznaniia.

Dlia dostizheniia svoei tseli my vystavliaem na pervyi plan neobkhodimost' sozdaniia shirokoi klassovoi revoliutsionnoi organizatsii trudiashchikhsia, kotoraiia, vedia neposredstvenniu bor'bu so vsemi institutami kapitala i vlasti, dolzhna priuchat' rabochii klas [sic] k initsiative i samodeiatel'nosti vo vsekh ego vystupleniakh, razvivaia v nem, takim obrazom, soznanie v neobkhodimosti i neizbezhnosti vseobshchei stachki—sotsial'noi revoliutsii.

Organizuias' poetomu v soiuzy russkikh rabochikh, my, kak chast' trudiashchikhsia vsego mira, budem stremit'sia vo vsei dal'neishei svoei rabote k tomu, chtoby printsipy, polozhennye v osnovu Federatsii, vseгда byli dlia nas rukovodiashchei nit'iu i v dele organizatsii shirokikh mass russkikh immigrantov dlia skoreishago osvobozhdeniia Rossii i vsego chelovechestva.