STOP THE G20: MAKE**CAPITALISM**HISTORY

The G20 is one of many groups that have been set up as a forum for world leaders, bankers & corporations to discuss the state of the world and how it affects them and their interests. This years G20 theme - 'Building and Sustaining Prosperity' - is a clear outline of the purpose of the event - delegates representing the 20 separate interests meet up and discuss how they can make more cash, and more importantly, how they can maintain that wealth. But the issue here is not that 20 people who want to make money get together and divulge their dirty little secrets; no. The G20 is a body made up of 19 developed nations, and the European Union (which represents all European countries without their own specific seat). These aren't corporations - these are our own governments. This forum purposefully excludes less affluent nations, and even the represented nations own citizens, and as a result doesn't discuss the real issues of the world - like global warming, poverty & how the working class can avoid working like mules for the rest of their lives just to put bread on the table - instead, they discuss 'building and sustaining prosperity'... prosperity for themselves and their associated interests - not for the people they claim to represent.

They discuss reforming the IMF & World Bank - two bodies that need to be abolished, not reformed. The IMF is a body which acts as a tool of the US Treasury, which isn't surprising given the US holds almost 17% of the organisations shares. About the only thing the IMF has managed to achieve since its inception is to further impoverish third world nations, while remaining hostile to human rights, labour rights, and democracy as a whole - and lets not forget its funding of military dictatorships friendly to US & European corporations. The World Bank is similar in its approach, and the results aren't a lot better. It seems that the best thing they could do is sit in their offices, quietly sipping their Hankey Banister whiskey and leave developing nations alone.

The participants of the G20 in Melbourne represent 85% of global GDP - and about 80% of world trade. These delegations are almost entirely finance based, with central bankers from 'leading' nations, our very own Peter Costello hosting it, and Paul Wolfowitz, the president of the World Bank, and managing director of the IMF in attendance.

The importance of these forums is that they represent capitalism at its most nasty & its most obvious - A privileged few that sit around a room planning the economic futures of themselves and their interests, not of the people they claim to represent. This is not democracy - this is the world's biggest board room; the clearest possible division of the rich and the poor, the people and their governments interests.

The G20, like the WEF, G8, and other economic forums is the armored codpiece of capitalism - it's a filthy forum full of middle aged men, whose sole purpose is to protect capitalist interests from harm.

Now is the time for action. It's time for us to unite as workers, as students and as youth, and tell these arseholes who benefit from our exploitation that enough is enough. We need to be organising to blockade these forums, and make sure the delegates know they are not welcome in our cities - they are not welcome to plan our futures behind their closed doors, behind their barricades and lines of police protection.

Today, we're a strong voice on the streets of Melbourne, but we need to become stronger if we're to make ourselves heard. We need to work in solidarity with those who oppose the G8 in Germany next year, and start building for the APEC conference in Sydney. Together, we can send the worldwide message that we want our governments held accountable, and we want our streets free of neoliberal scum. The G20 is not about making poverty history - it's about securing the wealth and power of the 20 nation bodies it represents. The only way to make poverty history is to make capitalism history. One solution!



