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ViSiP: Gerhild Kizina (Managing Director)

"Islamism-Gauchism is an alliance between parts of the left and Islamists in the fight for a 'new Judeophobia' that is masked as anti-Zionism."

Pierre-André Taguieff (French philosopher)

The Palestinian conflict as a catalyst

Since October 2023, the so-called Gaza War has served as a pretext for increased political activity by both leftists and Islamists. They are acting together across Europe.

Pro-Palestine rallies in Germany since Oct. 23: Far-left extremists (e.g., "Palestine Solidarity Duisburg") downplay Hamas terror as "resistance"; joint mobilization with Islamists (Hamas supporters, Muslim Brotherhood). This leads to an escalation with open antisemitism: Anti-Jewish posters, attacks on synagogues; the Office for the Protection of the Constitution warns against "closer cooperation".

Anti-Israel demonstrations also in France: The far-left group "La France Insoumise" organizes several demonstrations with Islamists such as the Muslim Brotherhood; the Hamas attack is described as an "armed offensive," not as terrorism. There is a 1,000% increase in antisemitic incidents.

The red-green alliance also exists in the USA: The "Red-Green Alliance" at universities: Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) cooperates with Islamist groups; boycott campaigns (BDS) against Israel are initiated. On the left, Trotskyists are also involved, and on the Muslim side, American Muslims for Palestine are involved. Security authorities report up to 800% more anti-Semitic attacks.



Dangers and counterstrategies

Because the struggle of political Islam against Western societies in Europe and North America is framed by the left as "anti-capitalist" and "anti-imperialist," it resonates with many young people. This leads to strong radicalization in schools and universities. In Germany alone, around 27,200 Islamists encounter at least 37,000 left-wing extremists. However, the problem has a European and an international dimension in addition to its national significance.



- Inform yourself about political Islam from independent sources and alternative media.
- Talk to friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Network with others. Consider starting a citizens' initiative.
- Get in touch with the citizens' movement PAX EUROPA become a member or supporter. Every donation also helps us with our educational work.
- Order our information material by email from: kontakt@paxeuropa-bpe.de and distribute it to interested citizens in your environment.



What we observe

With the start of the Gaza War as Israel's response to the massacres by the Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas on October 7, 2023, which claimed around 1,300 victims, the Middle East conflict once again moved into sharper focus for the German public. However, the horror at the worst mass murder of Jews since 1945 and the solidarity with the Israeli people were very soon overshadowed by increasingly radical protests against the military reprisals of the Netanyahu government. Arabs living in Germany and left-wing students not only held demonstrations against Israel in Berlin and elsewhere, but also occupied various universities. This led to numerous outbreaks of anti-Jewish hatred and violence. Despite this, these excesses were supported by university administrations and professors. Politicians downplayed such incidents and found themselves in a fundamental conflict, having to navigate between historical responsibility on the one hand and uncritical Islamophobia on the other.



Left-wing extremism and political Islam have formed close alliances against the backdrop of the Middle East conflict. These pose a very serious threat to Western societies.

Alliance with a long tradition

A tactical alliance between political Islam and the left is not new. A good example is the so-called Islamic Revolution in Iran in 1979. Its leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Musavi Khomeini, would probably not have come to power so easily without the help of left-wing groups. Organizations (especially the Tudeh Party (communist), the Fedayeen-e Khalq (Marxist-Leninist, guerrilla), and the Mojahedin-e Khalq (Islamic-Marxist)) played a important role in destabilizing the Shah's regime through strikes, student protests, underground activities, and armed attacks. Without these actions by the Fedayeen, the Shah would probably have lasted longer. While the leftists seriously believed they could carry out a communist revolution in Iran with the help of the Islamists, they were merely useful idiots to Khomeini. After the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the new rulers banned all leftist parties. Their leaders and thousands of their members were persecuted and executed.



Ayatollah Khomeini used the organizational and military capabilities of the left to overthrow the Shah – and systematically liquidated them once power was consolidated.

From the RAF to the Red-Green Alliance

Cooperation between the radical left and Islamists is not new in Germany either. It began in the days of the RAF (Red Army Faction) and even then revolved primarily around the Middle East conflict. The intellectual bond is antisemitism. Left-wing extremists see Israel as an "imperialist outpost" (an anti-imperialist line since the 1968 movement), Islamists as a "Zionist enemy of Islam." Both share a reversal of perpetrator and victim roles (Israel as the aggressor, Palestinians as the sole victims).

1960s–70s: German left-wing terrorists (RAF) trained with the PLO and PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine), a secular but radical Palestinian group.

1980s–2000s: The rise of Islamism (Hamas, Hezbollah); the left supports "armed resistance" against "occupiers".

Nowadays: "Red-Green Alliance" in Europe: Woker left-wing extremism and Islamism share enemy images such as "white colonial rule" and "Zionism as racism".



What connects the left and Islam?

As Noam Petri, the former vice president of the Jewish Students' Union, observed, what unites the Western left and Islam is primarily a profound hatred of the West and, consequently, of Israel. From the perspective of fanatical Muslims, the West is decadent and unbelieving. For the radical left, the West represents capitalism, inequality, and neocolonial racism. Ultimately, however, a deeply rooted antisemitism is the lowest common denominator. In the end, both sides need the destruction of the Western societal model in order to establish their own systems; the Caliphate, i.e., an Islamic theocracy, for one side, and global communism for the other. The overlap is never ideologically deep, always merely tactical and opportunistic – and it always costs the left its head sooner or later (literally in Iran, politically in Europe). The only winner is always antisemitism at the expense of freedom and democracy as well as all other achievements of Western civilization.



The alliance between the Western left and political Islam is based primarily on hatred against Israel, which represents everything that the enemies of the free world vehemently reject.