

PROTESTS CAN BRING THE TORIES DOWN

The Tories are in crisis. Their policies have failed to deliver for millions. Wages have flatlined for ten years. Many of us can't afford decent housing. Over 4 million depend on food banks.

For the last twenty years, governments under Blair, Brown, Cameron and May have shared the same basic politics – privatisation, imperialist wars, undermining public services and increasing state racism.

Now, after ten years of austerity, those neoliberal politics are clearly bankrupt. We're seeing polarisation to the right and left.

Right-wing governments globally, and opposition

Nationalistic and reactionary governments are coming to power around the world, but they are being confronted by movements for justice. The relentless protests, rioting and strikes in France over the last months have forced concessions from neoliberal golden boy Macron, and haven't stopped yet.

The right is also on the back foot in Hungary, where thousands have joined militant demos against the far-right government. In Brazil, the fascist Bolsonaro has been elected president, threatening indigenous lives and precipitating climate catastrophe in his assault on the rainforest.

The far right in Britain: a dead end

In Britain, Tommy Robinson and the "Democratic Football Lads' Alliance" can put thousands on the streets of London and their online presence reaches even further. Recently in Manchester, the far-right English Defence League adopted yellow vests for their protest, screeching about how the government should put Muslims under stricter surveillance and attacking an RMT picket line.

If the far right are trying to co-opt the yellow vest movement, we have to prevent them. Their racism, hyper-nationalism, Islamophobia and misogyny is a dead end for any progressive movement. Their reactionary demands for more repression of migrants

and Muslims is an asset to the government. They divide us and divert the blame from the governments and corporates that ruin people's lives.

Tories try to create a racist panic

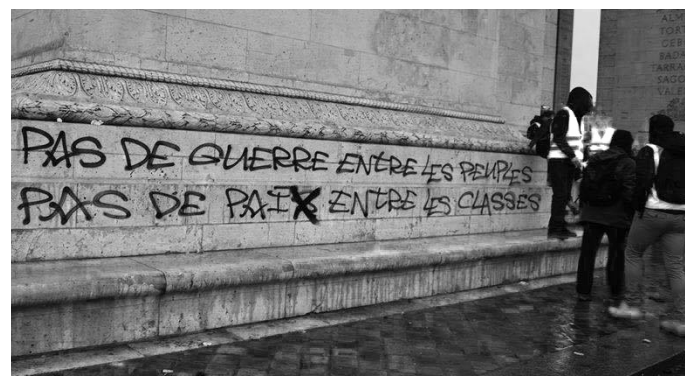
Sajid Javid has tried to create a racist panic from small numbers of desperate people crossing the Channel. The real crisis is that the border regime is dividing people and creating the conditions for violence and persecution.

Meanwhile, Jeremy Corbyn has won a huge following because he stands for an alternative to austerity. A Corbyn government could transform political life in Britain and be a sign internationally that the left is on the attack.

The movement beyond parliament is the key

Corbyn could call popular protests now which would bring down this incompetent and divided government. Instead, he's waiting for the Tories to collapse and power to fall into his lap. It's a dangerous strategy. Once he becomes PM he'll face huge pressures – Labour has already made compromises and without an independent mass movement we won't see the kind of change we need.

How is a movement built? It can't be conjured up overnight. We need political discussion about what ideas we need and how to organise. How do we make socialist ideas relevant today? Being activists but also having those debates is what we're trying to do in rs21. Get involved!



"No war between peoples, no peace between classes"

MIGRANTS ARE WELCOME HERE