

The election of Syriza in Greece: Marxism vs. the pseudo-left

A lecture series by David North

2 April 2015

The recent elections in Greece are of immense international significance. The Coalition of the Radical Left, or Syriza, was able to exploit the mass discontent produced by brutal austerity measures imposed since 2010 on the Greek population. Within days of the election, however, Syriza completely repudiated its program and adopted as its own the demands of the European banks and political institutions.

To understand the nature and role of Syriza, it is necessary to examine the trajectory of a whole international trend of left—or, more accurately, pseudo-left—organizations. In the aftermath of the Second World War, and particularly following the events of 1968, this tendency repudiated Marxism, developing a “left” politics that was increasingly divorced from, and opposed to, the working class and socialism.

With the elevation of Syriza in Greece to the pinnacles of state power, these forces have been fully integrated into the state. They are playing an increasingly critical role not only in the implementation of the dictates of the banks but also in the promotion of imperialism—including support for the US-backed operations in Syria, Ukraine, Libya and Iraq.

In this lecture, *World Socialist Web Site* International Editorial Board Chairman David North will examine the politics, social interests and theoretical conceptions behind the rightward trajectory of Syriza and its international backers and promoters.

Meeting Details

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wednesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.

Rapson Hall Room 54

89 Church Street SE, Minneapolis MN 55455

Map

Berkeley, California

Thursday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Genetics and Plant Biology Building, Room 100

Map

San Diego, California

Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 p.m.

San Diego State University

Physics Building, Room 144

Map

San Diego, California

Wednesday, April 15, 6:00 p.m.

University of California, San Diego

Social Sciences Building, Room 101

Map

Los Angeles, California

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.

California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA)

University-Student Union, San Gabriel Room

5154 State University Dr., Los Angeles

Map

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Socialist Equality Party visit:

<http://www.wsws.org>