

Basics 1:31

If you can conceive of a world without America—without everything America stands for and everything it does in the world—then you've already taken great strides and begun to get at least a glimpse of a whole new world. If you can envision a world without any imperialism, exploitation, oppression—and the whole philosophy that rationalizes it—a world without division into classes or even different nations, and all the narrow-minded, selfish, outmoded ideas that uphold this; if you can envision all this, then you have the basis for proletarian internationalism. And once you have raised your sights to all this, how could you not feel compelled to take an active part in the world historic struggle to realize it; why would you want to lower your sights to anything less?

Revolution #169, June 28, 2009
(quote originally published 1985)



Revolutionaries march in Harlem, NYC, 2009.

Basics 2:12

The achievement of [the necessary conditions for communism] must take place on a world scale, through a long and tortuous process of revolutionary transformation in which there will be uneven development, the seizure of power in different countries at different times, and a complex dialectical interplay between the revolutionary struggles and the revolutionization of society in these different countries...[a dialectical relation] in which the world arena is fundamentally and ultimately decisive while the mutually interacting and mutually supporting struggles of the proletarians in different countries constitute the key link in fundamentally changing the world as a whole.

Originally appeared in *Phony Communism Is Dead...Long Live Real Communism!* 1992 (Second Edition, 2004). Cited in "Revolution and A Radically New World: Contending 'Universalisms' and Communist Internationalism," *Revolution* #157, February 22, 2009



Protesters in Lebanon at border with Israel mark the Nakba, the uprooting of the Palestinian people, May 2011.

Internationalism — The Whole World Comes First!