

<https://www.internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article7330>



Marxism and internationalism

# **Either-Or: Rosa Luxemburg and Internationalism**

- Features -

Publication date: Thursday 30 September 2021

---

**Copyright © International Viewpoint - online socialist magazine - All rights reserved**

---

**At many points throughout its long history, the labor movement has confronted a choice: either support nationalism, “national defense,” and war, or fight for internationalism: “Proletarians of all countries unite!” This fateful choice has determined the course of history at many decisive moments.**

PS:

If you like this article or have found it useful, please consider donating towards the work of *International Viewpoint*. Simply follow this link: [Donate](#) then enter an amount of your choice. One-off donations are very welcome. But regular donations by standing order are also vital to our continuing functioning. See the last paragraph of [this article](#) for our bank account details and take out a standing order. Thanks.

- 
- [1] Rosa Luxemburg, *Internationalismus und Klassenkampf. Die polnische Schriften*, Jürgen Hentze, ed. (Berlin: Luchterhand, 1971), 192, 217.
- [2] Rosa Luxemburg, *Die Russische Revolution* (Frankfurt am Main: Europäische Verlagsanstalt, [1918] 1963), 60.
- [3] Georg Lukács, *Geschichte und Klassenbewusstsein. Studien über marxistische Dialektik* (Berlin: Malik Verlag, 1923), 39.
- [4] Peter Nettl, *Rosa Luxemburg*, Vol. 1 (London: Oxford University Press, 1966), 296–97.
- [5] Rosa Luxemburg, “Unser Kampf um die Macht,” in *Gesammelte Werke*, Vol. 2 (Berlin: Dietz Verlag, [1911] 1972), 537. The German extermination war against the Hereros is now widely considered as the first genocide of the twentieth century.
- [6] Rosa Luxemburg, “Martinique,” in *Reflections and Writings*, Paul Le Blanc, ed. (Humanity Books, 1999), 125–26.
- [7] Rosa Luxemburg, *The Accumulation of Capital* (London: Routledge, [1913] 1951), 384.
- [8] Rosa Luxemburg, “Introduction to Political Economy,” in *The Complete Works of Rosa Luxemburg*, Vol. 1, *Economic Writing I*, Peter Hudis, ed. (London and New York: Verso, [1907–1908] 2014), 163.
- [9] Luxemburg, *The Accumulation of Capital*, 371
- [10] J.P. Nettl, *Rosa Luxemburg*, abr. ed. (London: Oxford University Press, 1969), 321–22; Rosa Luxemburg, “Militarismus, Krieg und Arbeiterklasse. Rede vor der Frankfurter Strafkammer” (February 24, 1914), in *Ausgewählte Reden und Schriften*, Vol. 2 (Berlin: Dietz Verlag, 1955), 499.
- [11] Nettl, *Rosa Luxemburg*, abr. ed., 373.
- [12] Rosa Luxemburg, “Entweder-Oder,” *Ausgewählte Schriften*, Vol. 2 (Berlin: Dietz Verlag, [1916] 1951), 550, 543.
- [13] Rosa Luxemburg, “Either-Or,” in *Selected Political Writings*, Robert Looker, ed., W.D. Graf, trans. (London: Jonathan Cape, 1972), 225
- [14] Luxemburg, “Entweder-Oder,” 542.
- [15] R. Luxemburg, “Either-Or,” p.224.

[16] R. Luxemburg, "Either-Or," p.226.

[17] R. Luxemburg, "Fragment über Krieg, Nationale Frage und Revolution" (1918), in Die Russische Revolution, pp. 82, 85.