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Environment

Environment: Cost of fuel, what ecosocialist responses?

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The war is fuelling the profits of fossil fuel companies while aggravating the ecological and social crisis. Faced with exploding prices and organized dependence on all oil, it is urgent to impose immediate measures while breaking with fossil capitalism.

To go to work, to take the children to school, to visit the doctor to do your shopping... For many, today, the car is not a luxury but a necessity, and each increase in fuel prices eats a little more into already tight budgets.

War, a jackpot for climate criminals

The instability inherent in the fossil economy offers magnificent opportunities for surplus profits to oil companies. When, as is the case today, supplies are severely disrupted or even interrupted, prices soar. But pre-existing reserves, acquired before the increase, are being sold at a high price. A golden opportunity (in dollars!) for fossil capitalists!

At the same time, the increase in fuel prices is hitting budgets hard, especially those of the poorest. To avoid this trap, there is an urgent need to impose immediate measures to alleviate the consequences, which are all the more serious as incomes are low, while wages are hardly increasing and have even fallen in real terms since 2020.

The best fuel is the one you don't burn

First of all, an obvious one, but always good to remember, the cheapest and least polluting fuel is the one that is not burned.

In the immediate future, free public transport must be demanded everywhere, as at the time of pollution peaks. Impose, in companies and administrations, measures, such as the extension of teleworking, company shuttles... decided and implemented with and under the control of employees to meet their needs.

Other measures can reduce road transport, which is becoming increasingly important: speed reductions, particularly on motorways, targeted bans on lorry traffic and so on.

In addition to these immediate emergency measures, it is essential to reorient transport policy, with the aim of drastically reducing the circulation of cars and lorries: stopping all new road projects, the road network is sufficient, priority is given to public transport useful for daily travel and rail and river freight, relocation of production as close as possible to the places of consumption.

Freezing prices by taking profits

But there are many who cannot escape the petrol pump, whatever the price displayed, no matter how high it may be.

The shaping and organization of the territory by the automobile and the lack of public transport force the use of the private car on a daily basis.

If the freezing of prices, by taking from the profits of oil groups, is necessary as an immediate measure, it must be associated with the demand for transparency on their accounts and control of distribution and stocks by employees and users.

Climate criminals, imperialist criminals

Fossil capitalism, which is the main culprit of the ecological crisis, is at the heart of imperialist wars of aggression, from Venezuela to Iran.

Against the oil companies Total and others... More than ever, what is on the agenda is to disarm them, to take away their power of life and death, to expropriate them. As long as they have the power, they will extract every last drop of oil, a crumb of coal, a molecule of gas, sowing war on peoples and living things! Only the socialization of this sector will make it possible to regain control, to leave the fossils in the ground.

Translated by **International Viewpoint** from : [L'Anticapitaliste](#)

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