

THE THREE GENERATIONS OF EUROPE'S LEFT

	OLD LEFT	NEW LEFT	NEXT LEFT
Historical period	1914-1945	1956-1977	1999-201?
Major events	Wars, Revolutions, Great Depression, Fascisms, Resistance	Decolonization, Destalinization, 1968, Working-Class Insurgence	Globalization, 9/11, Global War, Great Recession
Capital	Financial cartels	Fordist multinationals	Energy, media megacorporations
State	Liberal, clerico-fascist	Keynesian, christiano-socialdemocratic	Nativist security state, monetarist eurocracy
Labor	Industrial unionism, Anarcho-syndicalism	Militant, rank-and-file unionism	Social, transethnic Bio-syndicalism
Ideologies	Socialism, Communism, Popular Front	Marxism-Leninism, Autonomy, Feminism	Anarchy, Ecology, Queerness, P2P Democracy
Agent of change	Revolutionary party, industrial union	Students, workers, women, Third World masses	Precarious and/or immigrant youth, knowledge + service workers
Movements	Workers and Soldiers' Councils, Partisan Liberation	Civil rights, Occupied Universities, Striking Factories	Pink, Black, Green networked movements
Adversaries	Nationalism, Nazi-Fascism	Bipolar Europe, Authoritarian State, Neocolonialism	Neoliberal Empire, Carolingian Europe, Islamophobia, Securitarianism
Modes of struggle	Wildcat strikes, factory occupations, armed resistance	Civil disobedience, anti-imperialist liberation, urban guerrilla, identity politics	Media activism, street blockades, urban riots, climate action
Structures	Third International	Liberation movements, Non-aligned countries	Social forums and Countersummits
Objectives	World revolution, Defeat of European Fascism	Peace, World liberation, Gender liberation	Freedom and equality in Europe: social rights for all, end of ethnic discrimination, reversal of environmental catastrophe

Europe's Radical Movements Over the Last Three Decades

Key Points for a Social and Political History

Premise: the Never-Ending 1968 Generation and the Securitarian Legacy of the 70s

- the revolution that never was and a new generation at the heights of state, biz, tech power
- mao-leninist sects go awry: Third-World liberation, defeat of the New Left, and armed struggle in Italy, Germany, France
- the state of emergency that has crippled Europe's real democracy for three decades

The 80s: Counterrevolution or Mutation?

- Thatcher, Hayek: restoration of the right to manage and market freedom
- the reasons why the neoliberal counterrevolution prevailed
- punk, the revival of anarchy and the cultural mutation of Europe's cities
- ecologism, antinuclearism, and the pacifist fight vs the two Blocs
- Wall comes down, soviet socialism implodes, maoist capitalism thrives: communism as unfreedom

The 90s: Counterculture and Anticapitalism Reborn

- cultural resistance to moral thatcherism: raves, travellers, gay prides, techno-house
- the tertiarization of society: postfordism is to fordism, what precariat is to proletariat
- the diffusion of cyberpunk and hacking culture: digital libertarianism in a postindustrial society
- political resistance to privatization of social services: casseurs and 1995 strikes in France, labor resistance to Maastricht provisions everywhere
- the proliferation of social centers in Italy and rest of Europe: zapatism, antiracism, hip-hop culture
- second wave of environmentalism: direct-action ecology, permaculture, veganism
- the return of anarchism after the implosion/marketization of communism

The 00s: Networking, Mobilization, War, Repression, Crisis, Insurgence

- Seattle, Prague, Genoa: a european Next Left is born. It's pink, black, green.
- the Porto Alegre phase of the movement: networking reformist and radical agendas, critique of neoliberalism, north-south solidarity, antiwar movement
- '03-'06: war, security state, antibushism, and internal divisions, as reds and greens turn neoreformists
- no borders, no precarity: conflicts on banlieues, immigration and detention centers, precarization and welfare cuts, CPE and Hartz IV movements, EuroMayDay network
- the spirit of Rostock: pink, black, pirate rebellion all over Europe!
- the Great Recession strikes, while Gaza is butchered: barricades return on Europe's historical scene, as EU moves to the right of US; precarious and/or immigrant youth insurgent vs discrimination and islamophobia, student movements in Italy and France, antifascism and antiracism as political necessities, riots in London vs G20 and Bank of England and Strasbourg vs NATO and military EU

The Teens: Revolution in Europe? Who and How?

- The social question as generational (precarization of youth) and ethnic (persecution of immigrants) question; the environmental question as demonstration of capitalism's unsustainability
- Anarchy and Autonomy in the EU: Athens-style urban insurgence in all of Europe's major cities vs the political élites as deflation and unemployment spread across the region
- From flexibilization to unemployment: the mongrel precariat as social revolutionary subject
- The Next Left to the barricades: querness, anarcho-autonomy, ecology as movement practices and growing radical ideologies
- Defeating the Holy Alliance of Berlusconi, Merkel, Sarkozy, and the neoliberal/ monetarist eurocracy at their service in Frankfurt and Brussels
- Opposing the Holy European Empire of christian democracy with a countervailing Hansa-like league of free, liberated cities based on open citizenship, social mutuality, ecological sustainability, liberal mores and p2p democracy
- Overthrowing Europe's ruling élites and their system of governance