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## **Remember the frame-up of Slobodan Milosevic – the struggle continues**

The International Action Center sends its greetings to and solidarity with the comrades and friends from around the world who are meeting in Vienna to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the untimely and suspicious death of President Slobodan Milosevic, leader of Yugoslavia and of the Socialist Party of Serbia and a demonized target of Western imperialism, especially the United States, Germany and Britain in the years from 1990-2006, when he died in Scheveningen prison in The Hague, Netherlands.

We will leave it to the representatives from the former Yugoslavia to evaluate the overall record of President Milosevic regarding his country and all its peoples. From the center of world imperialism we will say only that the most powerful nations and militaries on earth put Yugoslavia under severe attack in their drive not only to destroy the remaining socialist country in Eastern Europe but to tear it apart so that the weakened remnants of an independent country would become the vassals of West European and U.S. imperialism. We are heartened by news that workers' strikes in Serbia are giving evidence of a potential reawakening of the struggle for self-determination in the region, which will undoubtedly again require the cooperation of the different peoples of the Balkans.

We also have to thank President Milosevic for his courageous struggle defending himself from the fraudulent attack by the phony international court – really a creation of the U.S. and other NATO forces – which was aimed at discrediting and punishing all fighters for independence of the former Yugoslavia and especially those from Serbia. His defense exposed the machinations of the NATO powers, the lies in the corporate and government media from these powers, including the pernicious role of the Vatican, and alerted at least a portion of progressive forces of just how the imperialists work: first spread the most atrocious lies and half-truths to demonize the enemy; then prepare for an alleged “humanitarian intervention” to eliminate what is now perceived as an “evil regime.” Every Pentagon invasion was preceded by a demonization of the country's leader.

We have seen this imperialist strategy repeated with the horribly destructive invasion and occupation of Iraq. Whatever the Iraqi's evaluation of the former Iraqi leader, no honest Iraqi these days will argue that the imperialist invasion of their country, the death of up to a million Iraqis and turning four million into refugees, the destruction of their infrastructure, their education system and their healthcare system, has done anything but harm to Iraq, and also to Afghanistan, whose invasion was sold as an intervention to “defend women's rights.” And the imperialists have promoted the same propaganda against other targets – Iran, the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, and in the latest example, in preparation for an imminent U.S.-NATO military intervention against Libya and an attempt at “regime change” there. So we again thank the heroic self-defense of President Milosevic for exposing these imperialist tactics and preparing us for these future struggles.

Long live the memory of President Milosevic's struggle! Long live Yugoslavia!

*John Catalinotto, Sara Flounders, IAC March 9, 2011*