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Program of Joint Action of the Socialist and Communist Parties of Spain

[*The National Coordination Committee of the Socialist and Communist Parties of Spain has published the following document drawn up by a commission composed of delegates from both parties.*]

1. *Raising the fighting capacity of the people's republican army.* A united people's army, abolition of what remains of the militia and other autonomous units; strict operation of universal conscription by reducing to a minimum the exceptions made hitherto; continuous increase of reserves; energetic and systematic purge of the army; promotion of commanders who come from the people and have been developed in the course of the fighting, to positions in the high command; a single high command, operative leadership of the army and all operations at the fronts; moral and practical aid to the military commissars in the fulfilment of their important duties; military vigilance against agents of the enemy; pre-conscription training for the working youth; practical, political and moral aid in increasing the fighting capacity of all types of arms; constant solicitude regarding the living conditions of the fighters in the great people's army, which has in its ranks the most heroic fighters of the people, men who deserve special attention as regards food, sanitary conditions, medical service, timely payments of wages and payment of pensions to the families of invalids and the fallen; training of invalids in new trades.

2. *A powerful war industry.* The organization and development of a powerful war industry capable of producing in sufficient quantity all types of weapons and ammunition necessary for the front and for the reserves; the immediate nationalization and adaptation to the requirements of war, of the existing munition works; increase in the productivity of labor and control of the quality of production; transfer to the authorities of all weapons and munitions possessed by different groups and organizations in the rear, and severe punishment for keeping arms without the requisite permission; explanatory campaign in trade union organizations and among the working masses with a view to rousing competition and initiative among them, to increase the output of the war industry and strengthen labor discipline in munition works.

3. *Active assistance to the fighters and the civil population in organizing fortification works.*

4. *Active assistance in the organizing and rapid functioning of transport* for the requirements of the fronts and the armies, by a consistent policy of public works based on the construction of roads and strategic railways, and also on the improvement of road transport.

5. *Coordination and planning of national economy.* A policy of the centralized coordination and planning of national economy by the creation of a National Economic Council, with the collaboration of the trade union organizations and autonomous regions; municipalization of communal services; operation of measures necessary for the struggle against abuses in connection with raw materials and manufactured products.

6. *A practical policy of systematically improving the material position, conditions of labor and living and cultural conditions of the workers of town and country.* The working class thoroughly appreciates the requirements of war; it understands that as long as the war continues, general sacrifices are necessary. However, it is clear that by improving the

national economy and coming to a better understanding as to the degree of sacrifice and efforts required—and this can be done—it will be possible to achieve a rapid improvement in the conditions of the working people. Equal pay for equal work, irrespective of sex and age; differentiated wages, to ensure the just reward for labor according to the quantity and quality of work done; adoption of the appropriate measures to combat the high cost of living.

7. *In the villages, the policy of increasing the productivity of labor, strengthening the unity between the agricultural and urban proletariat on the one hand, and the working peasantry on the other, not only for the duration of the war, but after the victory as well.* To this end it is necessary to guarantee land to those engaged on it, namely, the agricultural laborers and peasants, while recognizing their full right to select what shall be their form of labor, whether collective or individual, without any compulsion being exercised, and respecting their rights to the products of agriculture; financial, technical and commercial aid, and also help as regards exporting their products to be rendered to all voluntarily organized collective farms and individual peasants; active assistance to be given to agricultural, producing, consuming and selling cooperatives, to ensure their collaboration.

8. *A war supplies policy* to ensure first and foremost that the men at the front, the workers engaged on transport and in the war industry receive supplies; adoption of appropriate measures to ensure continuous supplies to the civil population.

9. *Recognition and observance of the legal and historic rights of the peoples of Catalonia, Galicia and Biscay*, thus ensuring a close and fraternal alliance in the common struggle of all peoples of Spain against the common enemy, Spanish and foreign fascism.

10. *A policy directed toward maintaining good relations with the trading and industrial petty bourgeoisie.* It is necessary to take account of the fact that in the system of coordination of the chief branches of the economic life of the country, the free functioning of small private enterprises—trading and industrial—constitute a necessary addition which helps to strengthen the national economy.

11. *Strict public order throughout the whole of the territory of the republic.*

Maintenance of public order exclusively through the organs of power; strict penalties in accordance with the requirements of war, to be inflicted on all persons and organizations attempting to take the place of the government, or preparing or carrying through armed action against the republican authorities; political and administrative measures to purge the rear of spies, agents of the enemy and wreckers; explanatory campaign among the masses, to train them in the spirit of real vigilance toward the enemies of the people.

12. *Strengthening the People's Front.* Bearing in mind that the policy of the People's Front is now the only correct revolutionary policy, and that it guarantees victory, the Socialist and Communist Parties must in all their activities be inspired by this policy, must strengthen the positions of the People's Front and its effectiveness, and fight against everything that can weaken the organized forces of the people and shake its unity. All anti-fascist, political and trade union organizations must in all their work render the maximum support to the policy of the People's Front and the fulfilment of decisions adopted.

13. *Trade union unity.* Bearing in mind the importance of trade union unity and the role it will play in solving various problems of our struggle and in accelerating victory, the Socialist and Communist Parties must work to strengthen contacts between the two trade union centers—the U.G.T. and the C.N.T.—on the basis of a common program of action and collaboration with the People's Front government in all spheres of production and

military affairs.

14. *Youth Unity*. Taking into account the tremendous importance of the United Socialist League of Youth, which includes in its ranks several hundreds of thousands of fighters at the front and in industry who are collaborating with the government and other organizations to solve the problems raised by the war, the Socialist and Communist Parties must render all possible support to United Socialist Youth in their political, economic and cultural demands, in order to secure for the youth a worthy and happy life, and to fight against the enemies of youth unity who at the same time are enemies of unity between the two parties, enemies of the government and the People's Front.

15. *International unity*. Faced with the open intervention of foreign fascism in our country, what is needed is a common policy by the international labor movement in aid of Spain. This policy should help us to drive out of our country the alien forces which have invaded it, and to ensure worldwide peace, which is being seriously menaced by the war that is being conducted against the Spanish people. In accordance with our policy of unity, the Socialist and Communist Parties will fight to bring about joint action between the Second and Third Internationals and the International Federation of Trade Unions, for closer and more energetic united action so as to defeat the criminal intrigues of fascism, and to bring about unity between the two Internationals as the most stable guarantee of peace and of the revolutionary gains of the workers.

16. *Defense of the Soviet Union*. The active solidarity displayed by the great Soviet people toward the international labor movement and particularly its solidarity at the present time toward our country, its steadfast support of our cause, and the policy of peace which it is energetically conducting for the well-being of all mankind—all this has roused sympathy toward the U.S.S.R. among all Spaniards worthy of the name, who see in the U.S.S.R. the most courageous fighter against fascism in all countries, for democracy and the liberty of the peoples. Hence, the Socialist and Communist Parties consider the defense of the U.S.S.R., the land of socialism, to be the sacred duty not only of Socialists and Communists, worthy of such a name. The Socialist and Communist Parties will fight their utmost against the enemies of the U.S.S.R. unmasking them before the whole of the people, frustrating their foul campaigns, overt or covert, and working for the still further consolidation of connections between the Spanish people and the Soviet Union.

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The rank-and-file organizations of the two parties must establish local and provincial coordination committees wherever such do not as yet exist, or develop them and augment their membership. Moreover, it is necessary to observe the parity principle for the two organizations. Weekly meetings must be called to guide and direct the joint activity on the basis of this program, and also to solve all questions that arise. Immediately after the publication of the present document, the committees must, on the basis of this general line, work out a program of joint action in regard to all local and provincial questions, and present it for confirmation to the National Coordination Committee.

The groups of the two parties in parliament, in the provincial and local councils, and in the trade union organizations, as well as their groups in factories, must establish close contact and coordinate their work, insofar as it is connected with the carrying out of this program, with the solution of problems that arise, and with the strengthening of collaboration between the active members of both parties. This program of joint action should be explained, popularized and defended in the press of both parties and through

special meetings called for the purpose.

We call upon all organizations and all Party workers to help us fulfil the tasks we have set ourselves, having in view the establishment of a united party in the future; we call upon them to do this with determination and enthusiasm in accordance with the general line laid down by the National Committee.

From the Socialist Party:

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