

The conference of European CPs

Significance for the proletariat

July 12, 1976

Marxism differs from bourgeois sociology not only because it is a superior method of social analysis. It differs from all other ideologies in that it is a doctrine of the revolutionary struggle. As such, it is fiercely partisan in the presentation of its viewpoint—the viewpoint of the proletariat. It of necessity must defend the proletarian view of all social phenomena and in particular its view of political struggle the world over. In doing so, it defends its view as against the prevailing view, relentlessly pushed by the bourgeoisie.

Because bourgeois ideology is centuries old and has inherited a great deal from previous possessing classes, and since the mode of bourgeois production is still the prevalent mode, the working class outlook has an uphill struggle in gaining ascendancy even over vanguard elements of the working class. In an era such as we are passing through now, which is characterized by widespread defections from revolutionary Marxism, and in which reformism and revisionism have regained considerable ground, it is all the more necessary to be on guard, not to be taken in tow by the sweep of the new reformism—and, of course, by the assiduous efforts of the