

Russian Socialist Movement

Russian Socialist Movement (Russian: Российское социалистическое движение) is a radical left-wing political organisation in Russia. It was created in 2011 by the merging of various left-wing, socialist, anti-capitalist and communist organisations.

Contents

Foundation

Ideological principles

Activities

Allied organizations

References

External links

Foundation

The Russian Socialist Movement was officially created at the founding conference on 7 March 2011, by the fusion of Socialist league Vpered (Forward, Russian section of the Fourth International) and Sotsialisticheskoye Soprotivleniye(Socialist Resistance). The sixth congress of Socialist league Vpered and a separate Sotsialisticheskoye Soprotivleniye conference were held a day earlier on March 6, where it was decided to proceed with a merger of the two organisations.^{[1][2][3]} Shortly afterwards, in April 2011, the Perm branch of the Revolutionary Workers' Party also joined. A group of members of the Fourth International was formed within the RSM, which has become the new Russian section of the Fourth International.^[4]

The founding conference supported the draft "road map" for the integration of the left and its focus on building a broad anti-capitalist left party, together with representatives of other Russian left-wing organizations and social movements. The founding conference of the RSM was attended by representatives of the Institute of Globalisation and Social Movements, the Federation of Socialist Youth from St. Petersburg, the Peter Alekseev Resistance Movement, and the French New Anti-Capitalist Party.^{[1][2][3]} There was support for the inclusion of the Central Council representative of the Left Front in an advisory capacity. In turn, the Left Front will include in its Executive Committee one representative from the unified organization with an advisory vote. This kind of exchange of ambassadors in the governing bodies of two of the key actors of the Russian left is intended to demonstrate a broad alliance, and the seriousness of the left's intentions of unification.^[4]

Ideological principles

The main policy documents of the organisation are the manifesto of the Russian Socialist Movement, entitled 'Revolution - Democracy - Socialism', and a political statement entitled 'Towards the construction of an organisation of the anti-capitalist left'. These documents contain an analysis of the Russian political and economic systems and a left-wing alternative for the development

Russian Socialist Movement
Российское социалистическое движение



Leader	Collective leadership (Central Council)
Founded	2011
Headquarters	Moscow, Russia
Newspaper	<i>Socialist</i>
Ideology	Socialism, Marxism, Trotskyism, Eco-socialism, Feminism
Political position	Far-left
International affiliation	Fourth International
Colours	Red
Website	
anticapitalist.ru	
Politics of Russia	
Political parties	
Elections	

of these systems.^{[5][6]} According to the manifesto, the RSM defines itself as an anti-fascist, revolutionary, democratic, socialist organisation.^[5]

As stated in the Manifesto, one of the key objectives of the RSM is "all-round support to all forms of workers' struggle and self-organisation, primarily through militant trade unions. Defending the interests of the labour movement as a whole, the RSM will develop and strengthen independent and grass-roots trade union movements, focusing itself on a decisive struggle for democratic and anti-capitalist demands."^[5]

Activities

After the unification of left-wing organisations, the RSM included more than ten regional branches with centres in Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Kaluga, Novosibirsk, Perm, Saratov, Yaroslavl and other cities.^[1] The organisation is actively involved in various social movements, in particular trades unions and urban, environmental and women's movements. Of particular note is the participation of RSM activists in a campaign against the limitation of women's right to abortion, during which actions were staged in many Russian cities.^{[7][8]}

Members of the organisation were prominent in the campaigns to save the Khimki and Siverskiy forests, due to be destroyed to construct a new highway. During the defense of Khimki forest, the RSM and other leftist and anarchist organisations came out in favour of giving the campaign an explicitly left-wing character and stood in opposition to the participation of liberal and right-wing politicians in the campaign. The RSM also acted as one of the organisers of a training camp for defenders of the forest, which was attended by anarchists and representatives of other leftist organisations.^{[9][10][11][12][13][14]}

The RSM publishes the newspaper *Socialist*.

Allied organizations

- Federation of Socialist Youth
- Institute "Collective Action"
- Left Front
- Resistance Movement named after Petr Alexeev (DSR)
- Russian Social-Democratic Union of Youth
- What to do?

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External links

- Official website
 - Russian Socialist Movement in International Viewpoint
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