

Foreword



Prompted by various developments, and having something of a breathing space in time, we felt ourselves compelled to devote an issue to open-ended self-reflections concerning the Anarchist movement. Not only as participants who have some experiences to share, but also as those who represent the hopes of generally pacified Northern Europe. Not as those who have the answers, but as those beginning to pose the questions, evidently begged by the present time. This stance of ours is where the world finds itself, in a certain way, as quite unexpectedly riots have been spreading everywhere in the past few years, contrary to all official denials and expectations.

For example, the struggle in Burgos, Spain against a proposed parking lot and the increasing fight against the airport in Nantes, France. In Athens the return of Greece to international bond markets on the dubious strength of a fictitious budget surplus was met with a car bomb at the Central Bank office. Also as an act we saluted in the last issue, the riots against the World Cup in Brazil have continued in spite of the arrogant imposition of the social-democrat government. As we theorized in our first issue, the new struggles concern communities struggling against the economy as such, not for its management under new owners.

And in the previous issue we noted how deaths make for riots, not by accident, but because the world itself is becoming concerned with the meaning of life. So as Berkin Elvan passed away, victim of police violence, Istanbul saw more riots to commemorate just this meaning, which is now completely linked with revolution. And as we write, further riots are spreading in Turkey because of the deaths of miners. Finding ourselves in the midst of these historic events, we have to begin to think anew the old terms and ideas. So here we find ourselves speaking of tactics and ethics, identity and the movement.

After all, the world seems to demand such an advance in the realm of theory. A moribund Marxism has no chance of reviving itself, other than as yet another iteration of social-democracy that no one believes in any longer—this besides the governmental Marxism of China that now is officially the leader of the global economy. A dying American Empire is openly decaying into the Protestant-Nazism at the heart of this entire odious project, as we theorized last issue and as is seen quite openly in the Ukraine. The world itself seems to have no more real base or project to fulfil since the economic views of Liberalism can't speak to the depth of human meaning, and at any rate, everything is crumbling away so quickly from the spurious American End of History. In this time Greek Anarchy can speak to what it has of the universal and become something world-historic. These are the times we inhabit, the waning of a world, and the expectation of something epochal to pass.

The Barbarians