

Amendment to the OC's Overall Workplan:

The NSC discussed the overall workplan put out by the EC. We agreed upon the importance of the OC having a realistic, concrete workplan to push forward the political work of the OC. If the plan is unrealistic, OC forces will just say it's impossible, disregard it, and tend to retreat to their small circle's agenda. Obviously, this would hold back the theoretical work of the OC. Overambitious workplans tend to create subjective reactions, e.g. demoralization. Whereas, if we establish a realistic workplan and comrades do not try to carry it out seriously, there will be a solid material basis for criticisms of such failures.

Based on a clearer understanding of both this--the necessity of a realistic workplan-- and what phase the OC process is in, the NSC decided to make a revision in the overall workplan. We decided to make it a 16-month plan consisting of four 4-month periods.

Basically, we're in a transition phase from being in a period where local circles predominate to a period where local centers predominate and are guided by national leadership and a national theoretical agenda. Concretely, many local and regional centers are just getting off the ground. This means that in most cities, theoretical work is still done primarily within local circles, according to each circle's theoretical agenda. We are gradually trying to transfer much of this theoretical struggle, e.g. around the centrality of racism, ultra-leftism, the next steps in party-building, from behind the walls of small circles to open, movement-wide struggle-- particularly onto local center agendas that are consistent with a national theoretical agenda.

For our goal is that the OC, then the IC, be the primary arena for theoretical struggle, and it prioritize and centralize our theoretical tasks so that OC forces in every city, every OCIC center, focus on the same, most important theoretical questions at the same time. And while we have to assert the primacy of building an ideological center in our party-building process, we have to recognize that the OC is not the sum-total of the party-building process, i.e. we need to allow time for comrades to participate in local, regional, or national directing centers for practice (local organizations, national fractions, etc.) We support the positive role these formations play in the party-building process.

Given the above understanding, we realized the need for a more realistic workplan to allow this transition to take place. The kind of retreat to each small circles' agenda that could be caused by an unrealistic workplan would clearly not further the establishment of the OC as the primary arena for theoretical struggle.

So, as said above, we decided to make the workplan a 16-month one, extending each 3-month period to a 4-month period: 1st period- Feb. 1-May 31; 2nd period, June 1-Sept. 31; 3rd period, Oct. 1-Jan. 31; 4th period, Feb. 1- May 31. (Everyone should revise the dates in their workplan accordingly.) In other words, we're establishing that regional centers meet at least once/4mo instead of once/3mo. And we're establishing that local centers meet at least once/6wks. (Of course, where possible, we think that local centers should meet once/mo.) We are trying to take into consideration also that for the next 6-9mo there will be a study of the 18 principles in every

city, meeting once/2 wks, which a number of local center members will be involved in. By the end of this transition phase of 16 months, we should be able to achieve our goal of local centers meeting once/mo, regional centers, once/3 mo. However, during these 16 months, if it becomes clear that we can move towards that goal sooner, we will consider revising the schedule.