

must facilitate and stimulate these various processes and cannot at all substitute for them.

I would close by adding one final point, which is that in my view Trotsky's efforts to formulate a correct solution to these problems—which run through nearly all his writings, from 1905-6 to his intervention in the discussion in the Communist International about the united front, to his impassioned warnings in Germany in 1923 and again in 1930-33, to his battles on France in 1934-36—constitute one of his most important contributions to Marxism. Moreover, it would be a mistake to believe that this problematic is relevant only in the imperialist countries. On the contrary, the socio-political unification of the proletariat is at least as important in the underdeveloped countries and is a central element of the strategy of permanent revolution for that very reason—and in not a few of these countries, particularly in Latin America and the Indian sub-continent, the question of organizational united fronts with reformist workers' parties is a burning one as well.