

LENINISM, THE GENERAL INTELLECT AND WORLD REVOLUTION TODAY

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This paper starts from a recent essay by Antonio Negri entitled 'What to do Today with What is to be Done, or Rather The Body of the General Intellect' published in 2008.¹ Given the deepening capitalist economic crisis and growing threat of inter-imperialist war it takes up Negri's surprising view that a revived Leninism is necessary to overcoming the crisis. By Leninism I mean in the first place placing the question of revolutionary political change on a world scale at the core of discussion and viewing such change not as the product of some predetermined scheme but the outcome of a test of strategy, organization and political will between contending classes nationally and on a global scale. It means focusing on the weak links in the global capitalist system and organizing a political attack on such vulnerable points. It means finally reconsidering the whole process of party building in a way that could bring about the reign of the democratic general intellect.

¹ Lenin Reloaded 197-207.