

Kronstadt at 100

October 4, 2021



The City of Kronstadt



The City of Kronstadt

In March 1921, sailors at Soviet Russia's Kronstadt naval base rose up against the new government and were suppressed. This rebellion represented a crisis for the Bolsheviks and the Soviet government, leading to dramatic changes in the party and the society. It led as well to controversies and debates about the nature of the ruling party and the state.

On the 100th anniversary of the Kronstadt events, *New Politics* is hosting a symposium on the historic tragedy, its meaning and significance, and its implications for today's socialists.

In "The Kronstadt Revolt of 1921 as a part of the Great Russian Revolution," Alexei Gusev portrays Kronstadt as part of a broader revolutionary situation involving workers, peasants, and soldiers across Russia.

In "Kronstadt, an Unavoidable Tragedy," Samuel Clarke traces the events to the hierarchical relations produced by the Bolsheviks' revolutionary methods.

In "Beyond Kronstadt," Paul LeBlanc asserts that understanding Kronstadt requires going beyond Kronstadt.

In "Beyond Tragedy: Postscript on Kronstadt at 100" responding to the three above essays, *New Politics* editorial board member Daniel Fischer proposes a synthesis of the rebels' "third revolution" and Trotsky's "permanent revolution."

Board member Tom Harrison will be offering another view in his response, which will be posted shortly.

We welcome further responses.