

Amendment to Convention Resolution "Organizers are Agents of the National Organization" Mike P.

Change title to: "Some Aspects of Cadre Functioning in a Democratic Centralist Organization"

In first four paragraphs change "organizer" to "cadre".

In Paragraph 4 delete the word "staff"

Add at end: It has been decided by the organization that we will recruit on a very wide basis and develop cadre inside the organization. We aim that this process of cadre development should take place as rapidly as possible. In part this involves developing the politics of collective struggle and the practice of carrying out the democratically determined politics of the whole organization.

Motivation: The convention resolution on "Organizers are Agents of the National Organization" has little to do with the EC position in the past debates except it uses the word "agents" and some of its supporters claim that it is simply a reaffirmation of the old position. The debate used to be over whether organizers were agents of the EC on internal questions as well as external. The resolution put forward here talks about the organizers as agents of the national organization, and of implementing democratically determined policy as well as providing feedback. The resolution, as it is stated, (and not what some of its supporters believe) is a good statement and a good step forward in resolving the issue. Just so that there is not mistake, I agree completely with what the resolution says about Organizers.

The reasons for the amendment is that the resolution is misleading about the responsibilities of all cadre members--all who are leaders of the organization. The same responsibilities that the resolution lists should be expected of all cadre whether they have leading positions in trade union work, serve on local execs, are public spokespersons at conferences or are on the Workers' Power staff.

The problem with the resolution as it is presently written is that it tends to place the organizer in an adversary relation to other cadre, as if the organizers are responsible for carrying out the national policy and other cadre are not.

If a branch is resistant to carrying out a campaign (such as South Africa) it is the political responsibility of the branch leadership, whether they be trade union leaders, leaders in other arena work, education directors, Workers' Power coordinators or branch organizers, to carry the national campaign in the organization. If exceptional local circumstances require exceptions this must be worked out with the center.