

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003

January 15, 1975

TO ALL MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is a letter from comrade Kurt Hill announcing the dissolution of the Democratic Centralist Tendency. For the information of all members, this letter should be read at the next local meeting.

Comradely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Steve Clark
YSA National Office

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January 3, 1975

National Executive Committee
Young Socialist Alliance
Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003

Dear Comrades:

The National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance, which met in St. Louis December 28, 1974 through January 1, 1975, has established the perspectives of our organization for the coming year. Following a full, democratic internal discussion and debate of the disputed issues both on a local scale, and at the Convention, the majority of delegates voted to reject the proposals of the Democratic Centralist Tendency, and those of the supporters of the International Majority Tendency. The majority voted to re-affirm the decisions of the NEC.

Thus, the democratic aspect of our internal norms has been fully complied with. It is now necessary to implement the centralist aspect of these norms. Those of us who supported the positions of the DCT view the deliberations of the Convention as authoritative, and we accept each of its decisions as legitimately reflecting the views of the majority of the YSA membership.

We pledge to you, and to the national membership, that we will support, defend, and promote each of these decisions to the best of our abilities.

Democratic-centralism requires each and every member to do his or her best to publicly defend and implement the democratically-made decisions of our organization. To permit otherwise would be a violation of the majority's right to have its decisions carried out. However, democratic-centralism does not require those who hold minority positions to renounce them, or to confess that they were in error. We therefore maintain our right to personally hold our views, and to raise them again in a manner consistent with the democratic-centralist nature of the YSA.

A tendency, by its very nature, is a temporary political formation. The DCT was formed for the purpose of raising the issue of what we considered an illegal and unconstitutional expulsion of the Internationalist Tendency. This goal has been accomplished. To maintain our tendency in the face of the democratically-made decisions of the Convention would be incorrect. Such a stance would not contribute to the internal health of the YSA.

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Therefore, the Democratic Centralist Tendency has voted to dissolve itself as a political formation within the Young Socialist Alliance.

We are confident that future events will establish which perspective was correct and which was mistaken.

Comradely yours,
s/ Kurt Hill
for the former members
of the DCT

cc: file