

Beyond Trump and exchange

Last week's Strategy Note 313 said we shouldn't want return to pre-Trump conditions because that era didn't serve most people well.

Instead we should build many mutual aid organizations to provide products and services without exchange. We also need to develop ways to coordinate among them.

Within our current workplaces and unions we should discuss how we might guide our work once free from exchange.

Does the "need" for our current work disappear with exchange? For example, banking, insurance, stock markets, and most advertising will disappear. Farming, telecommunications, healthcare, and much manufacturing will continue but with changes. Talk with your co-workers about your work and how you want to change it.

Labor union members especially should discuss these topics. We have more experience than most people in thinking and acting collectively about workplaces. *And* we will need to overcome our exchange-based conditioning, assumptions, and habits.

The oligarchs who believe they benefit from exchange might not meekly negotiate a contract for their surrender. Far too much union work has focused on negotiations and contracts. We must get good at additional methods of standing up for all working people and making the transition to solidarity.

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