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Regrettably, war is still being waged and racist demagogy even surpasses previous held boundaries. We continue the struggle. Despite the obvious reactionary constraints, and not so obvious impediments. ‘Not so obvious’ because several progressives tell us we are mistaken (or trapped in a ‘false consciousnesses’); others have replaced racist islamophobia with new
euphemisms as ‘freedom of speech’. I started to believe that some of the ‘armchair left’ were seriously confused when some even conflated outright populist rhetorics with axioms of Voltaire (the Muslim bias became a bit too obvious). Alas, the struggle goes on with or without their blessings—with the ‘pessimism of the intellect and the optimism of the will’ as Gramsci brilliantly noted. On this note, some say comradeship is one of the strongest relationships. I shared tough and inspiring times with many activists of Internationale Socialisten; they gave me the stamina and conviction to see that another world is possible. So to Bart, Pepijn, Peyman, Michiel, Sylvia, Maina, Johannes, Karima, Mahmoud, Wael, Karwan, Ruth, Catherine, Peter, Hamid, Hans, Bram, Angela, Pat (who first introduced me to Marxist politics in New Cross), John Rees, Sabby Sagall, and many many more: power to the people, united we stand!

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