

# An Emergency Conference on the **Social Crisis & War**

## The fight for a socialist alternative

A year and a half after the onset of the world economic crisis, any prospect for a peaceful restoration of capitalist equilibrium has been shattered.

Governments around the world are confronting massive budget deficits created by the bailout of the financial system. Greece, Spain, Ireland and Portugal are planning austerity budgets. Behind these countries stand looming debt crises in Italy, France, Britain and, above all, the United States.

In the United States, the full burden of the crisis is being placed on the backs of the working class. Millions of jobs have been wiped out. Workers are being forced to work longer hours for less pay and benefits. Schools are being closed throughout the country and teachers laid off. Tuition at universities is soaring. Hundreds of thousands face utility shutoffs or home foreclosures because they are unable to pay their bills. Meanwhile, executives at the

top banks and corporations are walking home with record pay.

For millions of people in the US and internationally who hoped that the election of Barack Obama would bring change from the hated Bush administration, the past year has come as a shock. With unbridled cynicism, Obama has pursued the most right-wing agenda—from the bank bailouts, to war, to the attack on education, health care and Social Security.

Workers in the US and internationally confront the failure of an entire system—capitalism. The working class must impose its own solution to the crisis, but this can be done only through the revival of an international socialist movement, dedicated to the transformation of the world economy to meet social needs, not private profit.

This conference has been called to discuss a new socialist program and perspective for the working class.

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**Saturday & Sunday, April 17-18**

10AM to 5PM

Palmer Commons | Great Lakes Room | 4th floor

100 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI

**Register to attend @ [socialequality.com/conference](http://socialequality.com/conference)**

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& World Socialist Web Site • [wsws.org](http://wsws.org)**

- 1. For an emergency public works program! Jobs for all who can work!**
- 2. End all utility shutoffs and home foreclosures!**
- 3. Reverse all cuts in funding for education and social programs!**
- 4. Nationalize the banks and major corporations! Increase taxes on the wealthy!**
- 5. End militarism and war! Withdraw all troops from Iraq and Afghanistan!**
- 6. For the international unity and political independence of the working class! Break with the Democrats and Republicans!**
- 7. For socialism and equality!**