Examination Period 3: 2017/18

HIS201318N

Module Title: Comrades and Revolutions! A Global History of the Communist Movement
Level: Five
Time Allowed: One hour and thirty minutes

Instructions to students:

- Enter your student number **not** your name on all answer books.
- Answer **two** questions: **one** from **Section A** and **one** from **Section B**.
- Section A carries 67% of the overall marks. Section B carries 33% of the overall marks.
- Begin each question in a separate answer book; label each answer book clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- Neither books nor notes may be taken into the examination.
- The same material should not constitute a substantial part of more than one question.

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No. of Pages | 4
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No. of Questions | 5
Section A

Answer one question from this section.

1. ‘The Soviet Union provided the model for all other communist states in the twentieth century to follow.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

2. To what extent were leaders of communist states in the twentieth century more interested in power than ideology?

3. How far do you agree that communist regimes could only arise in the wake of total war?

End of Section A
Section B follows overleaf
Section B

Comment on the content and the context of one of the following documents:

4. Andrei Zhdanov, September 22, 1947, Report on the international situation to the Cominform

The fundamental changes caused by the war on the international scene and in the position of individual countries has entirely changed the political landscape of the world. A new alignment of political forces has arisen. The more the war recedes into the past, the more distinct becomes two major trends in post war international policy, corresponding to the division of the political forces operating on the international arena into two major camps: the imperialist and anti-democratic camp, on the one hand, and the anti-imperialist and democratic camp, on the other. The principal driving force of the imperialist camp is the U.S.A. Allied with it are Great Britain and France.

[...] The imperialist camp is also supported by colony-owning countries, such as Belgium and Holland, by countries with reactionary anti-democratic regimes, such as Turkey and Greece, and by countries politically and economically dependent upon the United States, such as the Near Eastern and South American countries and China.

The cardinal purpose of the imperialist camp is to strengthen imperialism, to hatch a new imperialist war, to combat socialism and democracy, and to support reactionary and anti-democratic pro-fascist regimes and movements everywhere.

Section B continues overleaf
5. **Estonian Supreme Soviet, Declaration in Respect of the Sovereignty of the Estonian SSR. November 16, 1988**

To overcome the crisis, the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet sees but one specific path: the further development of Estonia must take place under conditions of sovereignty. The sovereignty of the Estonian Republic means that, through its supreme bodies of power and administration and judicial bodies, it wields supreme power in its territory. The sovereignty of the Estonian republic is one and indivisible. According to this, the future status of the republic within the Soviet Union could be determined by the Union contract.

The Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet does not agree with those amendments and additions to the USSR Constitution proposed by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet that exclude the constitutional right of the Estonian SSR to self-determination. Relying on international pacts regarding economic, social, cultural, and civil and political rights of 16 September 1966 which have also been ratified by the Soviet Union, and relying also on other norms of international rights, the top organ of the Estonian SSR people’s power - the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet - declares the priority of its laws over Estonian SSR territory before USSR laws, until the Union contract is concluded.