

The New Constitution and Socialist Property

by Hans Luft and
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The socially-owned means of production as economic basis of the National Economy of the GDR and of the state is at the same time the most important economic category of the new socialist Constitution. The socialist ownership of the means of production means for every member of the working population enjoying equal rights in the socialist society an objectively conditioned identity between producer and proprietor. The author proves the deduced superiority of socialism to capitalism: the possibility of equal real-political exercise of power by all working people as members of the socialist society under the leadership of the working class and its party; the unitary and planned management of the National Economy by the socialist state; the abolition of the expropriation of men by men and conditioned by this the fundamental changes of the class structure of the society; the development of universally educated socialist personalities of the socialist community who are conscious of their abilities; the increasingly better satisfaction of the demands of the society as the aim of social production.

In the new socialist Constitution socialist property is constitutionalized as a dynamic quantity in the process of reproduction which is to be secured and increased. The use of the property does not only require an aimed acting of every individual member of the working population but that of all owners of the means of production as a community. Thus the state is obliged by the constitution to use national property with the aim to obtain highest possible results for the society. The use is principally exercised by the nationally-owned factories and public institu-

tions in which the working people directly work to increase social wealth. At the same time the factories and branches are linked in a unitary whole by the national property on the basis of the principle of democratic centralism and an increasing self-responsibility.

The national property also determines the character of the co-operative property as a common property of working collectives and therewith as consequently socialist property and it is the basis of the joint effectivity of all forms of property in the planned shaping of the socialist society.

The author argues with the theory on the "delegated group property".

The Constitutional Basic Rights in the fields of Socialist Labour

by Frithjof Kunz

The socialist basic rights reflect the attained level of development and correspond at the same time with the task to shape the social system of socialism. The development of the basic rights in the fields of labour belongs to the most essential achievements of the working people in the socialist revolution. Its constitutionalizing is not only of high importance for those but also for the social communities, especially the factories and for the whole society.

The basic rights concerning labour, as legally documented in the constitution of the GDR of 1949 have helped to accomplish the victory of the socialist relations of production and qualitatively to change the character of labour. In order to realize the basic rights in connection with the right to work according to article 18 a unitary labour law had to be created. This demand was realized on the basis of planning the