

VIENNA, SEPT 3 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- HEATED DISCUSSIONS MONDAY MARKED THE FIRST DAY OF THE 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY, CONVENING IN VIENNA FROM 2ND TO 9TH SEPTEMBER.

DISCUSSING "MARX AND CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY" IN THE OVER-CROWDED AUDITORIUM MAXIMUM OF THE VIENNA UNIVERSITY, 14 LECTURERS INCLUDING SOVIET, EAST GERMAN, CZECHOSLOVAK AND YUGOSLAV PROFESSORS, EXCHANGED THEIR OPINIONS SO HARSHLY THAT IT NEARLY LED TO A BREAK-UP OF THE DISCUSSION.

STATEMENTS MADE BY SOVIET AND EAST GERMAN LECTURERS, STRESSING THE "HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF MARXISM" WERE STRONGLY OPPOSED BY PHILOSOPHERS FROM YUGOSLAVIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND BIAFRA WHO ADVOCATED "THE EDOM TO CRITICIZE MARX FOR THE SAKE OF SOCIALISM."

THE DISCUSSION OPENED WITH A LECTURE GIVEN BY SOVIET PROFESSOR T. OISERMANN WHO SAID THAT "COMMUNISM MARKS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE HISTORY OF MANKIND." THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BECAME ANIMATED AFTER A REPRESENTATIVE FROM BIAFRA ASKED WHETHER THE SOVIET, THE CHINESE OR THE CZECHOSLOVAK VERSION OF MARXISM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED CORRECT.

CZECHOSLOVAK PROFESSOR V. SKOREPOVA SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE SOVIET INTERPRETATION OF MARXISM, ESPECIALLY THE SOVIET REFUSAL TO ADMIT THAT MARX WAS NOT ALWAYS RIGHT.

"MARX PRESENTED A PROFOUND ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN HIS TIMES BUT HE MUST BE CONSIDERED A RATHER BAD PROPHET," SKOREPOVA SAID, STRESSING DIFFERENT CONDITIONS IN HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AS WELL AS MARX ERRORS CONCERNING THE EVOLUTION OF CAPITALISM.

"MONOPOLISTIC CAPITALISM AS DESCRIBED BY MARX SUCCEEDED IN ESTABLISHING ITSELF IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WHERE WORKERS ARE WITHOUT POLITICAL POWER AND HAVE NO RIGHT TO STRIKE", SKOREPOVA SAID.

YUGOSLAV PROFESSOR S. STOJANOVIC POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS IN THE TEACHINGS OF MARX AND SAID THAT "THE GREATEST DAMAGE TO MARXISM WAS DONE IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE MARXISTS HAD TAKEN OVER.

"THE SHARPEST CRITICISM OF MARXISM IS THE PRE-CONDITION FOR ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT," STOJANOVIC SAID.

AFTER SHOUTS FROM THE AUDIENCE, POLISH PROFESSOR A. SCHAFF APPEALED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS "TO KEEP THEIR EMOTIONS UNDER CONTROL AND NOT TO TURN THIS LEARNED ASSEMBLY INTO A POLITICAL MEETING."

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