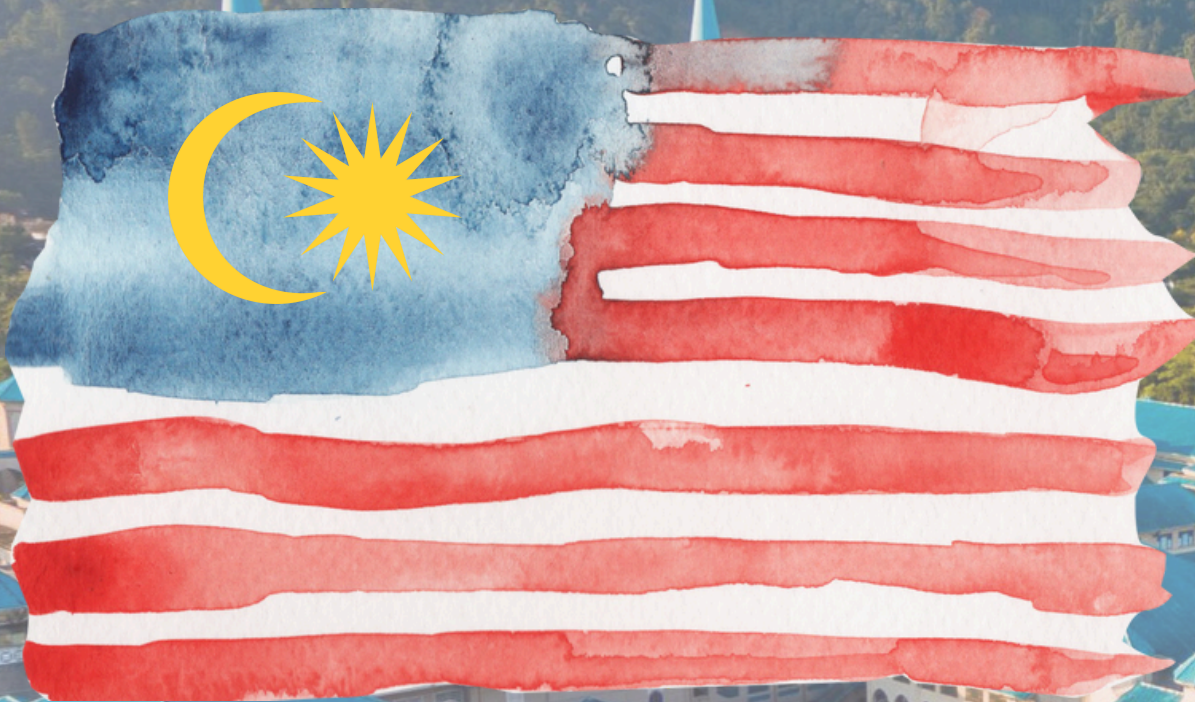


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31st of
August



THE CELEBRATION OF
MALAYSIA

INDEPENDENCE

Day

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From the Editor's Desk

Dr. Zahid Zamri

Head, Research and Publication, CENTRIS, IIUM

On Historical Bloc and Philosophy of Praxis

It is not easy to make changes, especially when it comes to the socio-economic and political structures of a society. We need to gather the different segments that are available within society, namely the non-governmental organizations, community associations, political parties, government agencies, etc. and such an effort can be made by intellectuals.

Intellectuals can become the “glue” that combines all these forces, but first, we need to ensure that these agents have the right consciousness on what are the problems faced by society and how to overcome them, and here is exactly where we can step in.

Such combinations of these social agents are vital in making the changes that we want. By sharing the same mindset, they can become a solid historical bloc or *blocco storico* (to borrow the Gramscian terminology) that can change the status quo. It is called “historical” because it has the energy and power to create a new history for society.



From the Editor's Desk

Nonetheless, throughout such counterhegemonic endeavours, we must not “dilute” our stance for the sake of practicality. Our philosophy of praxis must be clear, and we must keep on holding on to it and review it from time to time to ensure the continuation of our initial goals. Again, it is the task of the intellectuals to keep on reminding the bloc to be steadfast in its emancipatory struggles.

These are some of the strategies that we may adopt in our effort to establish a communiversity wherein different segments of society move together to achieve the better conditions that we are aiming for.

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