

Beat: Business

## COMMITMENT To The COMMUNITY And SOCIAL SOLIDARITY

### Two FRENCH BOOKS About SOLIDARITY

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**USPA NEWS** - There are a Myriad of Challenges that face the Schools, Neighborhoods, Families, Workplace... in our Community. Much of what we have taken for granted (a shared understanding and commitment to the importance of community infrastructure) is no longer a given. We face potentially serious cuts to many Services delivered by non-profit Community Organizations with Government Support. Working together, we are supposed to have a real impact on the direction of our City and Communities.

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Why and under what conditions People are willing to share risks collectively and accept the resulting distributional implications, exploring whether these conditions will change because of Individualization, Ageing, and Globalization. Will these Trends erode Social Solidarity and therefore also the Institutional Basis for Sustaining Pensions Income ?

- Le Souffle D'Octobre 1917. L'Engagement des Communistes Français'. Book written by Bernard PUDAL & Claude PENNETIER and Published in FRANCE by Les Editions de l'Atelier. Although its Electoral Support has declined in Recent Decades, the PCF (Parti Communiste Français- French Communist Party) retains a Strong Influence in French Politics, especially at the Local Level. Founded in 1920 by the Majority Faction of the Socialist French Section of the Workers' International (SFIO), it participated in Three Governments. It was also once the Largest Party on the Left in France in a number of National Elections, from 1945 to 1960, before falling behind the Socialist Party in the 1970s. The PCF has lost further ground to the Socialists since that time.

The Party gained representation in the French Parliament in Successive Elections, but also promoted Strike Action and opposed Colonialism. With the rise of Fascism their Policy shifted after 1934, and the PCF supported the Popular Front, which came to power under Léon Blum in 1936. The Party helped to secure French Support for the Spanish Republicans during the Spanish Civil War, and opposed the 1938 Munich Agreement with Hitler. The Party was banned in 1939 on the Outbreak of World War II. Under Comintern Direction the PCF opposed the War and may have sabotaged arms production. The Leadership, threatened with execution, fled abroad. After the German Invasion of 1940 the Party failed to persuade the Occupiers to legalise its activities, and while denouncing the War as a struggle between Imperialists, began to organise opposition to the Occupation....

The PCF was a Highly Disciplined and Centralized Party with a largely Working-class Base. It controlled the Largest Trade-union Organization in France, the General Confederation of Labour (Confédération Générale du Travail), and published the Daily Newspaper L'Humanité (Still existing). By the late 20th Century, however, the PCF had lost many of its Traditional Working-class Supporters following the Collapse of the Soviet Union ... In this BOOK, we go through the different stages transforming what was at first October 1917 Russian Revolution's inspiration for a Worldwide New Hope, touching everyone. Who were the Activists and why so many People involved ? How can we explain that this Wave was touching all Business sectors and All Social Status ?... The Authors propose Autobiographical Narratives coming from Russian Archives reflecting the Weight of Discipline inside the Organization. Analyzing those testimonies, we can surely understand that the People's Engagement wasn't born from a simple Illusion....

- 'Militants de la Solidarité. Une Histoire de la Mutuelle Familiale' written by Marc Zamichiei and published by Les Editions de l'Atelier. 'La Mutuelle Familiale' is a Family Insurance Company having 80 Years of Existence and born in 1937 created by CGT Unionists in the wake of the Popular Front (Front Populaire). Dissolved by Vichy's Regim (Nazi Occupation) and to reborn in 1946 under the name of 'Mutuelle Familiale des Travailleurs de la Région Parisienne'.. In 1987, it will become 'Mutuelle Familiale'. Definitely, involved in the fight of defending the French Social Security (La Sécurité Sociale) since its creation in 1945, this 'Insurance Company' was at the forefront of every Social Fights, such as Women's Emancipation, promoting Contraception, the Abortion, Painless Childbirth... This BOOK is a Tribute to 'Mutuelle Familiale' highly valuable to understand the Historical Evolution of the Activism behind it.

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