

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Austin Smith (R-29)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Friday, January 19, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Representative Austin Smith Condemns ASU's Support of Communist Organization Meeting

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona State Representative Austin Smith today issued a firm condemnation of an upcoming Communist organization meeting being hosted this Sunday, January 21, in [Discovery Hall](#) on the Tempe Campus of Arizona State University (ASU). According to a distributed promotional flyer (attached) which displays a sketch of Vladimir Lenin, the five-hour event will present two sessions, “War and Imperialism” and “The Need for a Revolutionary Party,” in an effort to recruit attendees. Representative Smith calls on ASU and the Arizona Board of Regents to take immediate action to remove the meeting from the public campus.

Statement from State Representative Austin Smith:

I am deeply disturbed that members of a communist organization called “Socialist Revolution” are being permitted to host organizing sessions on the campus of Arizona State University.

Lenin, as the head of Soviet Russia, established a totalitarian regime that oversaw the mass killings and political repression of dissidents during his reign of terror in Russia and beyond. The Marxist ideology that inspired his dictatorship is responsible for the estimated deaths of millions across the globe, and some of the worst human atrocities known to man.

A responsible society which values freedom must protect those freedoms from abuse at the hands of enemy combatants who cry “liberty” while fighting to overthrow the very system under which they seek refuge. Communist organizing is not free speech. Communist organizing is used to plan for disruption, intimidation, agitation, or violence to achieve a desired outcome. As a matter of public policy, the State of Arizona [rejects communism](#) in all its forms and we will not tolerate this type of activity on taxpayer funded Arizona universities.

I am calling on ASU President Michael Crow and the Arizona Board of Regents to immediately and fully condemn this Marxist organizing and the threat it poses to students, faculty, and staff. Moreover, ASU should prohibit the meeting from occurring on the university campus by whatever means are required to protect the safety of all students, staff, and faculty.

The United States of America stood strong in the face of evil for over 40 years during the Cold War under the leadership of Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon, Reagan, and the millions of brave Americans serving in our armed forces leading to the fall of the Soviet Union and the liberation of Eastern Europe.

If these Bolsheviks want to live under communist rule they can organize in their mother's basement and, afterwards, buy a one-way ticket to Cuba, North Korea, or China.

No citizen or civilization with an ounce of self-respect or patriotism can or should tolerate brazen Marxist organizing activities such as the proposed "revolution" marching towards Tempe.

These vile, disgusting, and un-American ideals deserve a fiery fate atop the ash heap of history. And if we fail to defeat the threat of Marxism, soon we'll find our great nation fallen there as well.

Your move President Crow — act wisely.

Austin Smith is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 29 in Goodyear, Surprise, El Mirage, Youngtown, Wittmann, Morristown, and Allah. He serves as Vice Chairman of the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee and is also a member of the Municipal Oversight & Elections, and Ways & Means Committees. Follow him on X/Twitter at @azaustinsmith.

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ARE YOU A COMMUNIST?

**SESSION 1
WAR AND
IMPERIALISM**

**SESSION 2
THE NEED FOR A
REVOLUTIONARY
PARTY**


THEN GET ORGANIZED!

JOIN US: 100 YEARS OF LENIN

JANUARY 21ST, 2024

9 AM - 2 PM W/ 1 HOUR BREAK

DISCOVERY HALL @ ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
250 E Lemon St, Room 250 Tempe, AZ 85281

SOCIALIST  REVOLUTION