

Know Thine Enemy

Com·mu·nism¹ [kom-yuh-niz-uhm]
-noun

1. A theory or system of social organization based on the holding of all property in common, actual ownership being ascribed to the community as a whole or to the state.
2. A system of social organization in which all economic and social activity is controlled by a totalitarian state dominated by a single and self-perpetuating political party.

Marx·ism² [märk'sīz'əm]
-noun

The political and economic philosophy of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in which the concept of class struggle plays a central role in understanding society's allegedly inevitable development from bourgeois oppression under capitalism to a socialist and ultimately classless society (see Communism).

Le·nin·ism¹ [len-uh-niz-uhm]
-noun

The form of Communism as taught by Lenin, with emphasis on the dictatorship of the proletariat.

An·ar·chism² [ān'ər-kīz'əm]
-noun

1. The theory or doctrine that all forms of government are oppressive and undesirable and should be abolished.
2. Active resistance and terrorism against the state, as used by some anarchists.

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Fas·cism¹ [fash-iz-uhm]

-noun

A governmental system led by a dictator having complete power, forcibly suppressing opposition and criticism, regimenting all industry, commerce, etc., and emphasizing an aggressive nationalism and often racism.

So·cial·ism² [sō'shə-līz'əm]

-noun

Any of various theories or systems of social organization in which the means of producing and distributing goods is owned collectively or by a centralized government that often plans and controls the economy.

To·tal·i·tar·i·an² [tō-tāl'ī-târ'ē-ən]

-adj.

Of, relating to, being, or imposing a form of government in which the political authority exercises absolute and centralized control over all aspects of life, the individual is subordinated to the state, and opposing political and cultural expression is suppressed: "A totalitarian regime crushes all autonomous institutions in its drive to seize the human soul" (Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.)

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A practitioner or supporter of such a government.

¹Dictionary.com Unabridged

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