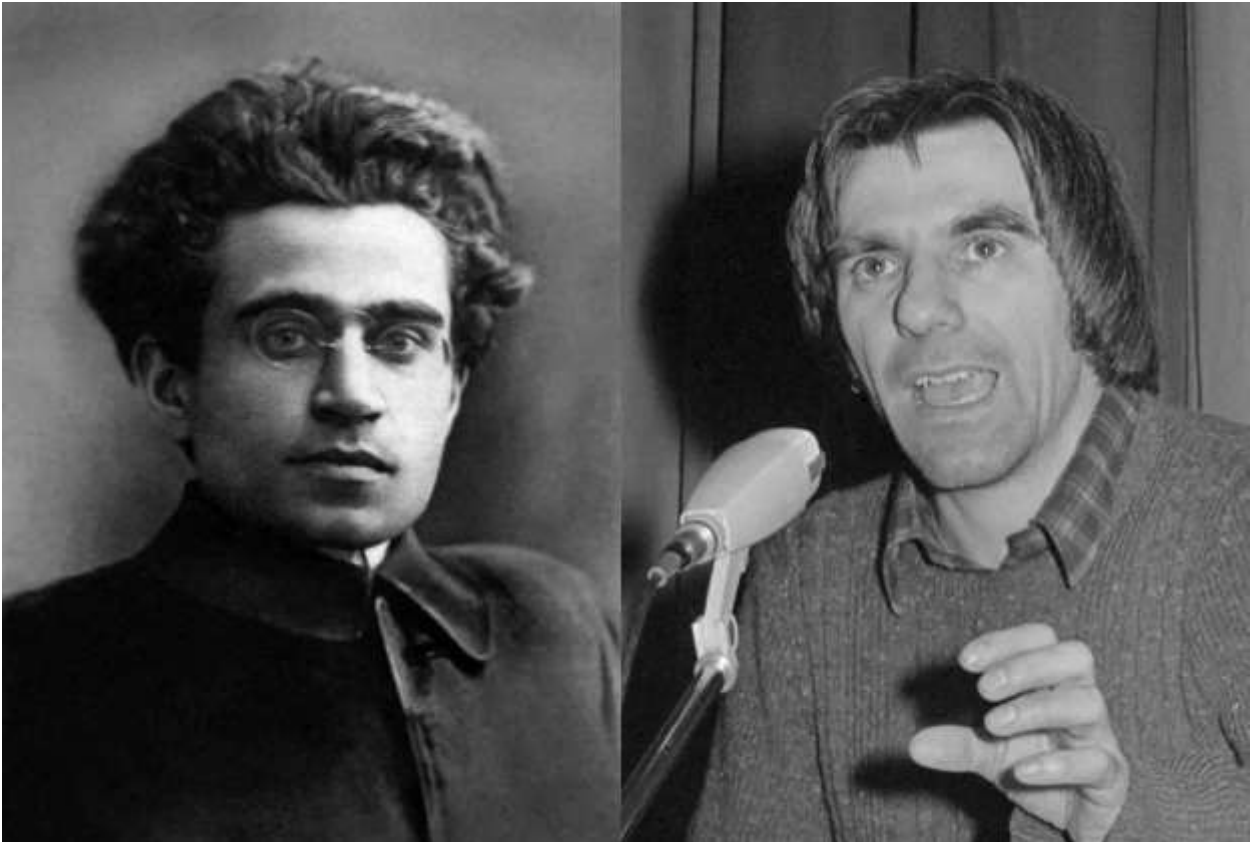


FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: The Marxist Takeover of Higher Education

Knut Holdhus
October 31, 2025



Antonio Gramsci (left) and Rudi Dutschke



[Sekai Nippo](#)

Gramsci, the "father of cultural marxism", and the marxist capture of American universities after a "long march through academia"

Tokyo, 31st October 2025 - Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper [Sekai Nippo](#). Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#).

[Series] Trump vs. America's Elite Universities - part 4

The Battle Against "Cultural Marxism"

Gramsci's Strategy Achieves Great Success

by Toshiyuki Hayakawa (早川 俊行)

See also [Politics Fueled Japan's Attack on Federation](#)



Bill Ayers in Zuccotti Park, New York at "Occupy Wall Street" in March 2012

See also [Communist Strategy Against Religion and Family](#)

Among the connections former U.S. President Barack Obama built during his years in Chicago is a man named Bill Ayers - one of the founding members of the far-left militant group Weather Underground, which carried out multiple bombings of federal buildings such as the U.S. Capitol, the Pentagon, and police stations during the Vietnam War.

After evading federal prosecution, Ayers transformed himself from a terrorist into a professor of education at the University of Illinois (now retired).

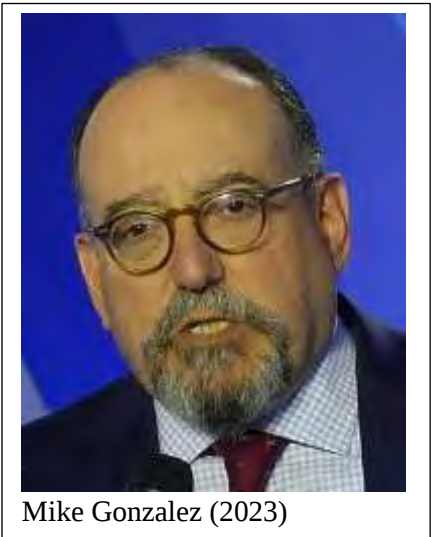
In 1995, it was Ayers who hosted a reception at his home to introduce Obama to key local figures when Obama decided to run for the Illinois State Senate. In other words, Obama's political career began in the home of a former far-left terrorist.

Ayers can be described as a figure who embodied the theories of Antonio Gramsci, the Italian thinker

who called for a shift from violent revolution to cultural revolution. Ayers even quotes Gramsci on his personal website and makes no effort to hide his admiration.

Gramsci, often regarded as the "father of Cultural Marxism", witnessed firsthand the limits of Leninism - which could maintain its regime only through terror - during his exile in Russia. Based on that experience, he concluded that in Western societies, where civil society had developed between the state and the people, a violent "war of maneuver" (mobile warfare) to seize state power would not succeed.

Instead, he proposed a "war of position" (trench warfare) [See editor's note below]: infiltrating civil society and gradually undermining existing culture and values over time in order to gain power.



Mike Gonzalez (2023)

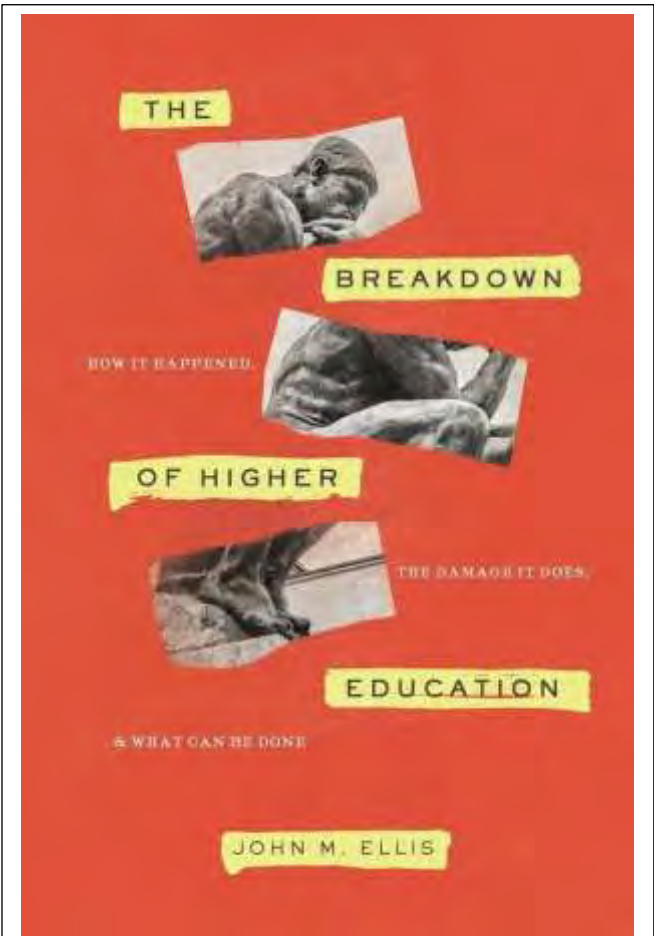
This revolutionary strategy of Cultural Marxism was later popularized in the 1960s by German student activist Rudi Dutschke, who coined the slogan "The Long March Through the Institutions". Borrowing the term from the Chinese Communist Party's "Long March" of the 1930s, Dutschke called not for the destruction of the existing system, but for patient infiltration from within - steadily expanding influence. This idea became a guiding principle for revolutionaries in the United States.

Radical organizations like Ayers's Weather Underground began to lose momentum by the early 1980s. In line with the "long march" slogan, Ayers shifted to academia and established himself as an authority in the field of education.

According to Mike Gonzalez, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation,

"Teaching was one of the most sought-after professions among members of the New Left."

Many radical leftist students from the 1960s became professors in the 1980s, and universities rapidly grew more left-leaning.



Cover page of "The Breakdown of Higher Education" by John M. Ellis, 2020.

John M. Ellis, professor emeritus at the University of California, Santa Cruz, presents data in his book *The Breakdown of Higher Education* showing how faculty positions became dominated by the left after the 1960s.

A 1969 survey found that 45% of professors identified as left-wing, while 27% identified as conservative. By 2006, however, left-wing professors made up 80%, and conservatives only 9% - a dramatic widening of the gap. Moreover, over half of those on the left identified as far-left.

Once the left gained control of hiring decisions, they appointed leftist successors to replace retiring conservatives. This accelerated the growth of left-wing faculty - a trend that appears to have widened even further today.

The 2006 survey also found that one in five social science professors identified as "Marxist". According to Ellis, many avoid the term "Marxist" due to its negative connotations, preferring labels such as "socialist" or "progressive". For that reason, he estimates the actual number of Marxists to be significantly higher.

Ellis laments the current state of universities,

saying,

"While only a tiny fraction of ordinary Americans call themselves Marxists, among social science professors they represent an enormous faction - showing a deep divide between academia and the real world."

In short, Gramsci's "war of position" strategy has been realized with stunning success in America's universities.

See also [Politics Fueled Japan's Attack on Federation](#)

See also [Communist Strategy Against Religion and Family](#)

[Editor's note: "War of maneuver" and "war of position" are Gramsci's own metaphors, but they come from Italian military terminology, not from Japanese or later reinterpretations. "Mobile warfare" and "maneuver warfare" are just English renderings of guerra di movimento - the phrase Gramsci himself used.

In his Prison Notebooks (written between 1929 - 1935), Gramsci uses two military concepts: "guerra di movimento" - literally "war of movement" or "war of maneuver" - and "guerra di posizione" - "war of position".

These were drawn from early 20th-century military theory (particularly World War I strategy), but Gramsci repurposed them as political metaphors for revolutionary strategy.

In Gramsci's thought, war of maneuver (guerra di movimento) referred to a direct, frontal attack on state power - like the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, where the old regime was overthrown through a relatively rapid and violent insurrection.

War of position (guerra di posizione) means a prolonged struggle for ideological and cultural dominance within civil society - slowly eroding the existing order's moral and intellectual foundations from within (schools, media, religion, etc.).

Gramsci argued that in Western Europe, with its strong civil societies, the "war of maneuver" (violent revolution) could not succeed as it had in Russia. Instead, revolutionaries needed to wage a "war of position" - a cultural and ideological struggle.

In English translations of Gramsci, "war of maneuver" and "war of position" are the standard academic translations. But some translators also use "mobile warfare" and "trench warfare" for guerra di posizione, emphasizing its slow, entrenched nature.]

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Press release issued by the [Family Federation of Japan](#) 29th October 2025 concerning the [Family Federation](#) establishing a Compensation Committee that will operate independently from the [Family Federation](#) to review and determine the contents of compensation for claimants neutrally and fairly. See [original article](#) in Japanese.

Out of reflection on the fact that our [organization](#) had faced numerous civil lawsuits in the past, we issued a **Compliance Declaration in 2009** [See [editor's note 1 below](#)], and since then we have continuously worked toward **church reform**.

After the incident [assassination] involving former Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe**, we further strengthened our reforms, such as by establishing specific procedures for receiving donations.

As a result of these efforts, the number of lawsuits and complaints related to donations has **decreased dramatically** in recent years.



Faithful believer offering donation.
Illustration by Microsoft Designer Image Creator 14th July 2024.

However, given that

1. there are individuals participating in the so-called **“group mediation”** [See [editor's note 2 below](#)] who continue to raise claims of harm, and the Tokyo District Court’s [dissolution order](#) stated that “the existence of unmanifested damage cannot be denied,” and
2. we have received recommendations from the members of the **Compensation Committee**,

we have decided to **change our previous policy** and move forward toward becoming a **religious organization that is open to society and trusted by the public**, offering peace of mind and confidence to the people of Japan.

Specifically, we will shift away from our previous approach – which was based strictly on law and evidence – and will now **face those who claim harm in the group mediation process directly**, going **beyond the legal framework** to pursue an **early resolution**.

In addition, to respond appropriately to the above-mentioned [court decision](#), we have asked **independent and impartial lawyers** – who can make fair and just judgments from a standpoint separate from [our organization](#) – to form a **Compensation Committee**, and we have begun efforts to resolve the issue through this new framework.

The Compensation Committee will operate independently from [our organization](#), reviewing and determining the contents of compensation neutrally and fairly, from the standpoint of social appropriateness.

[Our organization](#) will, of course, accept the committee’s decisions, and will fully cooperate by providing necessary materials (such as donation records) for the committee’s reviews and deliberations.

(According to the committee, decisions on compensation will not be made solely on the presence or absence of records; rather, the committee will conduct hearings and other inquiries to assess the plausibility of donation facts from multiple perspectives.)



Masaru Wakasa, lawyer and politician. Photo 2023.9.11.11.11.11

As for the members of the



Toru Hashimoto, Japanese TV personality, politician, and lawyer. giving a campaign

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speech 11th July 2013 in Kyoto during a regular election for the House of Councillors. Photo: 雪融 / Wikimedia Commons.
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Compensation Committee, in addition to four lawyers from the Hashimoto General Law Office (Representative: Attorney Toru Hashimoto – 橋下徹), we have heard that Attorney Masaru Wakasa (若狭勝) will participate in specific examinations as an advisor. Attorney Kazuya Maruyama (丸山和也) is providing neutral, fair, and comprehensive guidance.

The Compensation Committee will be based in Osaka, where it will handle all administrative matters, and plans to launch a compensation application website on 31st October. Applications will generally be accepted until 31st March.

For details on the specific compensation framework and procedures, please refer to the announcements from the Compensation Committee.

Featured image above: Two Japanese men shaking hands in front of [Family Federation](#) logo. Illustration: ChatGPT, 30th October 2025.

[Editor's note 1: The **2009 compliance declaration** of the [Unification Church of Japan](#) (now the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#)) was a formal commitment by the [organization](#) to reform its practices in response to longstanding public criticism and legal challenges.

The [Unification Church](#) in Japan had faced numerous allegations related to recruitment tactics and donation solicitation, termed "spiritual sales" (霊感商法) by a hostile network of activist lawyers who had declared the [religious organization](#) an enemy. These issues led to multiple lawsuits orchestrated by the activist lawyers and significant media backlash. This prompted the [organization](#) to take measures to restore its reputation and demonstrate compliance with legal and ethical standards.

The [religious organization](#) pledged to stop possibly unethical donation practices, including what the hostile network of lawyers claimed amounted to "pressuring members into making large financial contributions under spiritual pretexts."

This was in response to accusations from the same activist lawyers that followers "were being manipulated into giving away substantial amounts of money or property."

The [Unification Church](#) stated it would enhance internal oversight to ensure compliance with ethical and legal standards. Measures included better training for leaders and stricter guidelines for evangelization and solicitation of donations.

After this compliance declaration, there was a significant decrease in the number of lawsuits against the [Unification Church](#) – since 2015 called the [Family Federation](#). The [religious organization](#) has used this as evidence that it has improved its practices and should not be subject to [dissolution](#).]

[Editor's note 2: The group mediation referred to here is a mediation process between the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) in Japan and a network of activist leftwing lawyers called [National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales](#). The hostile network of lawyers represents a group of 186 petitioners.

On 28th October 2025, the [Family Federation](#) of Japan issued a press release about the group mediation, writing,

"With respect to the **group mediation** currently being conducted between [our organization](#) and the **National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales** (hereinafter, 'the Lawyers' Group'), we hereby report that **a settlement has been reached with a portion of the petitioners**.

[Our organization](#) has, from the beginning, responded to each of the **186 mediation cases** sincerely and individually.

We have conducted **thorough fact-finding investigations** and promptly submitted the results to both the petitioners and the court.

We have also provided, to the fullest extent possible, all materials in our possession that the petitioners requested for submission and have earnestly engaged in discussions.

Under these circumstances, beginning this year, the Lawyers' Group requested **urgent resolution** for certain petitioners, such as those **aged 80 or older** or suffering from **serious**

illnesses.

In response, our organization decided to **significantly change its approach** – shifting from handling each case individually to **pursuing early resolution** as a general policy.

After multiple mediation sessions, on 27th October, we successfully reached **settlement agreements with 39 petitioners** who are elderly or have other special circumstances.

Our organization will continue to face each petitioner with sincerity and will remain committed to achieving an **early and comprehensive resolution** of this matter.”]

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