

# Lenin on Centralism

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**While, and insofar as,  
different nations  
constitute a single state,**

Marxists will never, under any  
circumstances, advocate either the  
federal principle or decentralisation.

**The great centralised state is a  
tremendous historical step forward**  
from medieval disunity to the future  
socialist unity of the whole world, and  
**only via such a state** (inseparably  
connected with capitalism), **can there  
be any road to socialism.**

- Vladimir Lenin,  
*Critical Remarks on the National Question*

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But while, and insofar as, different nations constitute a single state, Marxists will never, under any circumstances, advocate either the federal principle or decentralization. The great centralised state is a tremendous historical step forward from medieval disunity to the future socialist unity of the whole world, and only via such a state (inseparably connected with capitalism), can there be any road to socialism.

Vladimir Lenin, "Critical Remarks on the National Question"

Original article