Book Review: Shane Burley (ed.), *No Pasaran!: Antifascist Dispatches from a World In Crisis*. **Oakland, CA: AK Press, 2022. ISBN-13 978-1849354820 (paperback). 564 Pages. $25.**

Reviewed by Temitope Peters[1]

In a world of sensationalized media, political groups from all over the spectrum are trying to find the next phrase or term to weaponize and fight against – mostly because this strategy is effective at instilling fear among the general public and inciting hatred their political opponents. From moral panics over "Critical Race Theory" to the supposed "fight for our children," it has become a very efficient tactic to find a term or idea, skew its meaning, and turn it into a 'boogeyman' to instill fear and hatred to supporters. Another term, which is the focus of 'No Pasaran!,' is "antifa" – this term has been very important in the United States political landscape since Donald Trump's election and specifically with the reemergence of the Black Lives Matter Movements and protests. Antifa, which is an abbreviation of antifascism, has become another term that United States conservatives have adopted and turned into something that their supporters should be afraid of and do everything in their capacity to eliminate. Because the term has been so popularized and the general public knows very little about the actual meaning, nor its origins, it is crucial for leftists to change the narrative.

'No Pasaran!' provides an in-depth explanation and history of antifascism and methods for combatting fascism. Since antifascism is such a broad term and covers so much history, has intersections with race, and is inherently in opposition to fascism – a movement that is not easily defined – there is a significant scope to be covered. Shane Burley divides the book into 6 distinct parts that cover much of the material that is really needed to understand the essence of antifascism. Each author takes on a unique piece of antifascism and comprehensively dives into it.

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To begin, Talia Lavin and Shane Burley give an extensive definition of antifascism and discuss why it is difficult to define and easy to misconstrue. The foreword and introduction also directly and indirectly debunk many myths surrounding antifascism and antifascist movements and groups. In addition, they give specific scenarios of how the movement has come together to combat the rise of fascism in the US and the push-back (violent/physical and political) against antifascism.

The following chapters feature several authors that give their accounts on what antifascism is and different ways to view its existence. For example, Matthew N. Lyons provides three ways that anti-fascism is viewed then explains the shortcomings of the first two that he introduces. Another author, Jeanelle K. Hope writes about Black antifascism and how it came about – this part really provides another extensive look at a more niche part of antifascism that might not immediately come to mind when the topic is brought up, in part because Black antifascism has historically been ignored in popular histories. Emily Gorcenski explores antifascism through the lens of transgender identity and Benjamin S. Case views it through the lens of antisemitism.

Overall, the book gives an extensive and comprehensive dive into the topic of antifascism. Using various social lenses, such as race and gender identity, the authors allow the reader to view the idea of antifascism in an atypical manner. The authors also use other means like historical references and first-hand accounts of antifascist and fascist movements/protesters to really get to the core of antifascism and to destroy any preconceived notions the average person might have about the idea.