

Competition of Capitalists

Overview

Competition of Capitalists will appear continuously in the political quarterly magazine **GEGENSTANDPUNKT**. This page provides an overview of the table scheme as it has been finalized so far (updated June, 2020).

Introduction: [The system of free competition and what it is about](#)

	Chapter I <u>The elementary determinations of capitalist business: Social production for private profit</u>	Chapter II <u>Accumulation of capital: Expansion of production and commerce</u>	Chapter III Increasing growth: The productivity of capitalism	Chapter IV Growth through centralization of capital: Competitive battle to overcome competition	Chapter V The ultimate guarantee for growth and its ultimate purpose: Imperialist successes for the nation
The capitalist’s purpose and his means	§ 1 What the industrial capitalist does Accumulation of money as the purpose of production — Wage costs as a barrier to profitability, work performance as the means for it — Extra-economic preconditions for business, which bases its economic necessity and power on what political force achieves	§ 7 Growth Growth: The capitalist’s natural need, dictated by his source of revenue — The turnover of capital: The necessary requirement for additional capital as well as the source of it; Profit is reinvested, thereby guaranteeing income — This means more work, for the industrialist as well; The profession of ‘executive officer’	§ 13 Reducing unit costs The dictate of the market: reduce unit costs — The remedy: even more advanced capital so that fixed costs lead to a saving of labor costs — From the market price determining the rate of profit, to the profit-rate calculation determining the selling price — The method: transforming the production process, and systematically applying the formula to the use of wage labor and its payment	§ 19 Capital size as the decisive weapon in competition Competition over the elimination of competitors — Fight to occupy spheres of investment, old and new ones, worldwide — Strategies for expropriation, and the goal of achieving a monopoly	§ 25 The right of the capitalists to success, and to the world as a condition for their success, recognized by the guardian of rights and set on its feet: Recruitment of capital by and for the supreme power Capital growth: A question of power
The market	§ 2 The market Not an economic system, but the circulation of capital — Competition over achieving profitable prices — Supply and demand: On the free play of these forces and what it is about — The “job market”	§ 8 Expansion of the market Trusting in buyers’ ability to pay, and competing for it — How the merchant class serves the business of industrialists, and the price of this service: A new front in the competition for sales and market price — Liquidity for a growing market: Replacing money by money tokens; Bank (deposit) money — How the need for more work is served in a cost-saving way			
State and competition	§ 3 The bourgeois state Within its borders A monopoly of force for free competition — Freedom and equality: The protection of person and property — A constitutional state for all classes of citizens — The economic means of state power Beyond its borders Sovereignty beyond the state’s borders: Territorializing business — On the independence of the people — Military	§ 9 State tasks Within its borders Capitalists’ demand that society serve their needs for growth: An agenda for the public power — The first service of the bourgeois lawgiver: equipping the money interests of citizens with the necessary quantity of proper force according to their class position — First requirements for the national budget: The country and its people must be tailored to capitalists’ drive for growth — State money with a fixed exchange rate, for the liquidity requirements of money dealing; The first necessity for a national treasury — Ensuring sufficient state funds while sparing capital and its growth (1): The tax system Beyond its borders Contracts between force monopolists for capital growth beyond national borders — Government revenue from the commercial success of foreign capitalists: Tariffs — How states settle cross-border trade between each other, and the second function of the national treasury — Subjecting the globe to the necessities of growth: Imperialism & colonialism			
Credit	§ 4 Commercial credit Continuity and effectiveness of productive money accumulation as a liquidity problem and its solution — Trust in competitors’ continuous business success as a source of required liquidity, i.e., as a means of achieving anticipated business success — Productive force, and risk, of creditors and debtors trusting in the business of the whole business fraternity	§ 10 Loan capital Lever for growth by separating the expansion of production from the turnover of capital — The equation ‘capital = credit’: The two-sided business with debt — Pitfalls of the cooperation between industrial capital and bank capital — The means of circulation: From money tokens to credit tokens			
State and credit	§ 5 State support of competition that makes use of credit: legal protection for property endangered by the use of payment promises as money	§ 11 The state as creator of a national credit money Within its borders How the lawgiver recognizes and controls the use of debt as money and capital — The state as “bank of banks” with a “banknote monopoly”: Guarantor of doing private business with debt, and autonomous credit creator — Inflation (1): Necessary collateral damage from credit-financed growth — Ensuring state funds (2): State credit-tokens with the quality of money as the source of government debt capacity; Inflation (2) Beyond its borders Foreign trade on the basis of credit monies created autonomously by states — The central bank ensures convertibility of currencies — The state’s purpose for cross-border trade: Mass and quality of national credit money			
Ideologies	§ 6 Necessarily ‘false consciousness’ about money, profit, property, market, and state; both ordinary and scientific Basic pattern of how people acknowledge that source of income, capital: they invoke achievements that have nothing to do with, but endorse, its purpose — The ‘dark sides’ as a problem: poor/rich, distribution, scarcity/excessiveness — Business administration: The market economy as an inventory of factors that a company plans with or puts to use, i.e., has to decide about in line with its “economic efficiency principle”	§ 12 The dogma of growth as the good purpose of all economic activity, and the solution to all the problems it creates <i>“Growth” in popular thinking:</i> Growth is great, since it provides more of everything you need — So it's good if money works too ... — ... but bad when there is inflation, which is the government’s fault <i>“Growth” in academic thinking:</i> Business administration does its own calculations to show how a company is supposed to calculate — while growing — Economists rave about $I = S$ — On the contribution of foreign trade to growth & prosperity			