



## **Marx Now**

### **Albert Scharenberg, Co-Director, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung New York**

Please note: Due to the not always accessible sources, the quotation below may vary from the one read in the video.

“The discovery of gold and silver in America, the extirpation, enslavement and entombment in mines of the aboriginal population, the beginning of the conquest and looting of the East Indies, the turning of Africa into a warren for the commercial hunting of black-skins, signalled the rosy dawn of the era of capitalist production. These idyllic proceedings are the chief momenta of primitive accumulation. [...]”

These methods depend in part on brute force, e.g., the colonial system. But, they all employ the power of the State, the concentrated and organised force of society, to hasten, hot-house fashion, the process of transformation of the feudal mode of production into the capitalist mode, and to shorten the transition. Force is the midwife of every old society pregnant with a new one. It is itself an economic power.”

(Capital, Vol. I, Chapter 31)

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/ch31.htm>

[www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de)

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