

Latin American History • Political Studies  
Critical Currents in Latin American Perspective  
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**Praise for the First Edition**

“This short study of the ideology of Che Guevara is an excellent companion to the many anthologies of his life and work. . . . The book gives one a clear understanding of the relationship of Guevara’s thought to traditional Russian and Marxist philosophy. This work should prove useful to anyone interested in either contemporary Marxist thought or the Cuban Revolution.” —*CHOICE*

“Michael Löwy’s brief but penetrating book takes Che Guevara not as a romantic adventurer but as a serious revolutionary militant, as a Marxist who sought to develop an anti-dogmatic body of Marxist theory that would transcend both reformism and Stalinism and return Cuban Marxism ‘back to the living sources of revolutionary communism.’” —*Telos*

“A foreign correspondent interviewing Che Guevara shortly after the revolution had taken over Havana asked him if he was a Marxist. Sensing the covert malevolence of the query, Guevara replied, ‘I don’t know enough to be a Marxist.’ This book proves he remedied that. He might be called a creative Marxist rather than a rigid follower or one who seeks quotations merely to further his own dogmatism. It provides us with the picture of a great, flexible, and searching mind.” —Carleton Beals

In this seminal exploration of Che Guevara’s contributions to Marxist thinking, Michael Löwy traces Che’s ideas about Marxism as they relate to both Latin America and to more general philosophical, political, and economic issues. Now revised and updated, this edition includes a chapter on Guevara’s search for a new paradigm of socialism and a substantive foreword by Peter McLaren on Che’s continued relevance today. This book eloquently captures his views on humanity, his contributions to the theory of revolutionary warfare, and his ideas about society’s transition to socialism, offering a cohesive, nuanced introduction to the range of Guevara’s thought.

**MICHAEL LÖWY** is research director emeritus in sociology at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and guest lecturer at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales. His many publications include *The War of Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America*.

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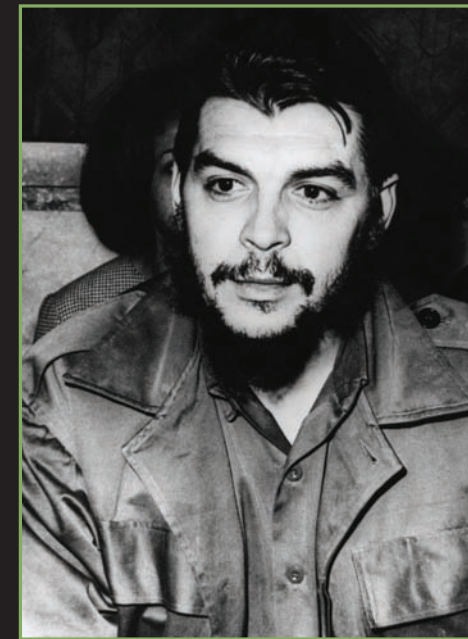


LÖWY  
THE MARXISM OF CHE GUEVARA  
SECOND EDITION

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# THE MARXISM OF CHE GUEVARA

## Philosophy, Economics, Revolutionary Warfare



Second Edition

Foreword by Peter McLaren

# MICHAEL LÖWY