

Some key dates in the history of Australian communism to 1943

- 1916 IWW declared an unlawful association (December)
- 1917 Bolshevik Revolution (7 November)
- 1919 formation of the Communist International (March); Red Flag demonstration, Brisbane; Zuzenko deported from Australia (March); other Russian activists deported (September)
- 1920 CPA founding conference (October, reconvened November and December)
- 1921 failed CPA unity conference (March); Simonov leaves Australia (September)
- 1922 ineffectual 'All-Australian Unity Conference' (February); CPA unity conference (July; Zuzenko attends); CPA accepted as the Australian Section of the Comintern (9 August); Zuzenko deported from Australia for the second time (September); Jock Garden elected as candidate member of ECCI (September)
- 1925 Baracchi advocates liquidation of the CPA, then resigns (December); Jack Kavanagh becomes CPA Secretary at Fifth Conference (December)
- 1926 ECCI examines 'the Australian question' (April-May)
- 1927 ECCI examines 'the Australian question' (October)
- 1928 ECCI examines 'the Australian question' (April); Kavanagh elected as a candidate member of ECCI (September)
- 1929 Wall Street stock market crash (October), Great Depression ensues; Ninth Annual Conference (December); major change in leadership
- 1930 Herbert Moore arrives in Australia (April)
- 1931 CPA Tenth Annual Congress (April); Herbert Moore departs Australia (July)
- 1933 Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany (January)
- 1935 Lance Sharkey elected as a candidate member of ECCI (August); CPA Eleventh Congress (December)
- 1937 Anglo-American Secretariat considers 'the Australian question' (July)
- 1938 CPA Twelfth Congress (November)
- 1939 German-Soviet Non-aggression Pact (August); Second World War declared (September)
- 1940 CPA declared illegal (15 June)
- 1941 German armed forces invade the Soviet Union (22 June)
- 1942 CPA's legality reinstated (December)
- 1943 Comintern disbanded (May)