

# Brazilian voters reject fascist Bolsonaro

By Martha Grevatt

The people of Brazil have shown remarkable courage, in the face of extreme right-wing terror, in voting to oust fascist President Jair Bolsonaro. Former president and labor leader, and candidate of the Workers Party (PT), Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva defeated Bolsonaro by over 2 million votes.

Lula, as he is affectionately known, had 50.9% of the vote to Bolsonaro's 49.1% in the Oct. 30 runoff election, held after the Oct. 2 general election with its numerous candidates, which ended with no single candidate getting more than 50% of the vote.

Lula had the strongest support — over two-thirds of the vote — among poor, rural voters in the northeast part of Brazil. When Lula was president from 2003 to 2010, poverty was reduced, but that has shot up under Bolsonaro since his Jan. 1, 2019, inauguration.

Bolsonaro had essentially declared war on the 300+ Indigenous communities of Brazil, vowing to impose hydroelectric dam projects and other developments that threaten their culture and sovereignty. Under Lula and Lula's successor Dilma Rousseff, 100 new Indigenous territories were established. This compares



Young Brazilians cheer news that Lula won presidential election, Oct. 30.

to zero under Bolsonaro and his predecessor Michel Temer, who replaced Rousseff when she was impeached.

The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs reported that Bolsonaro's government "has been responsible for one of the most significant setbacks in the demarcation of Indigenous Lands, promoting an integrationist vision that focuses on 'civilizing' the Indigenous Peoples."

Anti-Black police violence is widespread, prompting a Black Lives Matter

movement in Brazil, where 15 million people in the most recent census identified as "African" and 43% of the country's 212 million people as "mixed race."

## Bolsonaro and Trump

Bolsonaro is a Brazilian version of Donald Trump. His approach to the COVID-19 pandemic mirrored that of the U.S. ultrarightist, leading to almost 700,000 deaths. Like Trump, Brazil's defeated president has shown disdain for the environment and the climate crisis,

promoting deforestation in the Amazon. Under Bolsonaro, more than 16,000 square miles of the Amazon was destroyed, an area larger than Switzerland, according to Brazil's National Institute for Space Research, which tracks fires in the Amazon. (npr.org, Oct. 28)

Pro-Bolsonaro elements employed violence and intimidation in an effort to shift the outcome of the election. Multiple PT campaign workers were assassinated; journalists covering the election, especially women, were repeatedly harassed. In the northeast, the Federal Highway Police set up blockades Oct. 30 that prevented busloads of rural voters from getting to the polls. This was a violation of orders issued by the Superior Electoral Court barring such actions.

This is the climate in which Lula will take office. Implementing his promised reforms will be difficult, with the makeup of the legislature where Bolsonaro's conservative allies hold a majority. And a fascist coup attempt remains a possibility, given Bolsonaro's large base of support, demonstrated by the election results. Brazil was under a U.S.-backed military dictatorship from 1964 to 1985.

As with the recent elections of leftist presidents Xiomara Castro de Zelaya in Honduras and Gustavo Petro in Colombia, Lula's electoral victory does not mean the working class now holds state power. These progressives hold office but capitalism and imperialism have not been overturned. That creates an ever-present danger of a right-wing backlash and puts limits on what any president can do.

Nevertheless, the election of Lula in a climate of extralegal and state-sponsored terror is a positive result. Lula is expected to reverse Bolsonaro's policy of open hostility toward the governments of Venezuela, Bolivia and Cuba. Lula offers hope for the workers, especially for the poorest and most oppressed.

With Brazil the fifth-largest country in the world area-wise, and the seventh-most populous, this development has ramifications for the global working class. Significant gains, however, will require a continued mobilization of that sector of Brazil's population that elected Lula. □



One of the demonstrations in North America Oct. 29 demanding an end to the U.S. blockade of Cuba. New York City.

WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

TEAR DOWN  
THE WALLS

No justice at Mumia  
Abu-Jamal hearing

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# Honor Day of Mourning – support Workers World

Workers World honors Indigenous peoples on their commemoration of the 53rd National Day of Mourning Nov. 24, on so-called “Thanksgiving.” On that special day, Native people pay homage to their ancestors and tell their true histories as the original inhabitants of this country, while exposing European colonialists’ massive crimes against Indigenous people, including theft of their lands and food sources, obliteration of their culture, racism, oppression and genocide.

In 1970, the United American Indians of New England gathered in Plymouth, Massachusetts, site of the original “Pilgrim” invasion, and observed the first National Day of Mourning. Only Indigenous people speak at these solemn events.

WW has attended the Day of Mourning commemorations every year since 1981 and has reported firsthand on these events in our pages.

WW applauds Indigenous peoples in the U.S., and globally, who fight oppression and lead struggles to save lands, forests and rivers from capitalist destruction. Our newspaper hails courageous Native water, land and forest protectors who lead these movements, often putting their lives on the line to confront rapacious corporations, which in their reckless drive for profits harm the planet.

We honor those who have lost their lives in these struggles, including Indigenous organizer and Lenca leader, Berta Caceres, of Honduras.

We say “Free Leonard Peltier!” This member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians has been unjustly imprisoned for over four decades, far from his family and people. Recognized globally as a political prisoner, Peltier was nominated for the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. The U.S. government has violated its own laws by denying parole to this ailing 78-year-old.

WW calls on our readers and supporters to support these movements and commemorate the National Day of Mourning.

### Your donations matter!

Workers World relies on our readers’ backing. The WW Supporter Program was founded 45 years ago to help build this socialist newspaper. Since the early 1990s, the fund has supported the website workers.org, where articles are posted daily and the PDF of the weekly paper is displayed.



Plymouth, Massachusetts, Nov. 25, 2021. PHOTO: SUMMER TACCETTA

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles, and is a resource for political activists. Posted at the website are firsthand accounts by writer-activists in many countries, translated by our staff. Timely articles by worker-organizers keep the newspaper current on U.S. union drives, along with reports on anti-racist and other progressive movements.

The pandemic caused us to reduce the number of printed issues to once a month. But the weekly online newspaper has never been skipped during this 2 ½-year health crisis. While WW’s staff is voluntary, the printed issue and the website incur expenses. Although many online publications require payment to read their articles, WW does not. Our articles are free to all readers.

**Join the WW Supporter Program.** Can you donate \$50, \$100, \$200 or more per year? Contributing \$50 or more will entitle you to 12 print issues a year, and a copy of the book “What road to socialism?” (Notify us.) You are entitled to receive WW articles in your email inbox several days a week.

By donating to this fund, you can help get class truth to more readers. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email to Workers World, 147 W. 24th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011.

We appreciate your support. □

## Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and

worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. □

### If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994

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On the picket line

WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN!

By Marie Kelly

Rail union signal workers reject federal tentative agreement

A second railroad workers union, Railroad Signal workers (BRS) representing over 6,000 signallers, has now rejected the tentative agreement negotiated by the Biden-appointed Presidential Emergency Board (PEB). Maintenance of Way track workers (BMWED), a division of the Teamsters, rejected the agreement last month. Four unions representing 69,200 workers have yet to vote on the tentative agreement; the unions’ joint-bargaining coalition represents over 115,000 freight rail workers.

The unions will return to negotiations, and no strike action can move forward at least until mid-November. The tentative agreement fails to consider the railway workers’ demands over safety and quality-of-life issues. Lack of paid time off and unsafe staffing levels on freight lines remain the 11 rail unions’ main concerns; the work-force had been heavily cut before the pandemic.

BRS President Michael Baldwin expressed the lack of respect that freight carriers have for their workers in a statement on the union’s website: “For the first time that I can remember, the BRS members voted not to ratify a National Agreement, and with the highest participation rate in BRS history. I have expressed my disappointment throughout the process in the lack of good-faith bargaining on the part of the NCCC (National Carriers Conference Committee), as well as the part PEB 250 played in denying BRS members the basic right of paid time off for illness.

“The NCCC and PEB also both failed to recognize the safety-sensitive and highly stressful job BRS members perform each day to keep the railroad running and supply chain flowing. Without signal [workers], the roadways and railroad crossings would be unsafe for the traveling public, and they shoulder that heavy burden each day. Additionally, the highest offices at each carrier,

as well as their stockholders, seem to forget that the rank and file of their employees continued to perform their job each day through an unprecedented pandemic, while the executives worked from home to keep their families safe.” (tinyurl.com/2z68jbdy)

Chicago City Colleges teachers threaten strike

Faculty and staff at City Colleges of Chicago have been working without a contract since July. The Cook County College Teachers Union authorized a strike by a 92% member majority. The strike date was set for Nov. 2 if negotiations did not result in a contract that met workers’ demands. A tentative agreement was announced Oct. 31, but no details are available as of this writing.

The 1,500 educators and staff last struck in 2004. In 2019, the threat of a strike forced Cook County to get serious about negotiations. Union members held a rally Oct. 27 and were joined in solidarity by Chicago Teachers Union President Stacy Davis Gates and Illinois Federation of Teachers President Dan Montgomery.

“All Chicago students deserve access to a quality community college system. Cook County College Teachers Union faculty and professionals are fighting for classroom investment to ensure that Chicago’s working-class students have real opportunities to succeed,” said Tony Johnston, president of Cook County College Teachers Union Local 1600. (WTTW News, Oct. 25)

Santa Clara doctors strike threat wins tentative agreement

A strike by Santa Clara County physicians was averted when a tentative contract agreement was reached Oct. 28 between that California county and the Valley Physicians Groups. The membership will next vote the tentative agreement up or down. A four-day strike was scheduled for Nov. 1 to 4. VPG represents over 450 physicians who staff the county’s public health clinics and hospitals.

The union had accepted the salary proposals but wanted workloads and staffing addressed. Their demands include more dedicated time for completing the mounds of docu-



Santa Clara hospital workers hold picket Oct. 19.

mentation required by a bloated insurance-based health care system and decreasing schedules to two fewer patients a day. “Negotiating demands from Santa Clara County physicians are modest and reasonable but would make huge improvements in patient care,” according to the union’s Oct. 27 news release. (San Jose Inside, Oct. 27)

Nurses’ unions join forces

The New York State Nurses Association voted to affiliate with National Nurses United Oct. 20. NYSNA is the oldest nurses union in the U.S. and one of the most powerful. Its 42,000 members will increase NNU membership to 225,000 registered nurses. NNU affiliates include the Nurses Associations of California, Michigan, Minnesota and the District of Columbia. The pandemic highlighted the needs of nurses across the country for a stronger voice to fight corporate culture in health care today. “Nurses are stronger when we work collectively,” said Bonnie Castillo, RN and executive director of National Nurses United.

Safe patient-to-nurse staffing ratios, proper protective equipment and occupational standards are common goals for all nurses. By affiliating with the national union, the New York nurses can fight for change on the federal level as well as the state and local levels. NYSNA Secretary Nella Pineda-Marcon, BSN, RN-BC, said, “NYSNA and NNU share the goal of transforming our health care system, so that it puts patients over profits and delivers quality care to all. We are also committed to address and heal the broader social, economic, racial and climate injustices that fuel illness in our patients and society.” (tinyurl.com/4hs7b23p) □

Letter carriers surprise Postmaster General DeJoy

By Dave Welsh  
San Francisco

Over the Oct. 22-23 weekend, the U.S. Postal Service workforce learned that Postmaster General Louis DeJoy would be paying a visit to the 180 Napoleon Street postal facility here on Monday, Oct. 24. Special crews were hustled in to clean and spiff up the place to prepare for the boss’s sudden visit. The drafty warehouse is where 250 workers in six carrier stations come every morning to prepare the mail for delivery on the streets of San Francisco.

But three off-duty letter carriers surprised management by showing up at the building early Monday morning. There they passed out a leaflet with some urgent questions for their top

boss, since he was coming all the way from Washington, D.C.

DeJoy was late, finally showing up at 2 p.m., five hours after he was scheduled to come — by which time all the carriers were out delivering their routes. A postal custodian, and member of the postal workers union, did get a chance to shake DeJoy’s hand, describing it as a “weak and hurried” handshake.

In a leaflet the letter carriers had, they asked Postmaster General DeJoy the following five questions:

1. Why are you deliberately delaying the mail??? Why did you reduce service standards, so people get their mail days late?
2. Why are you severely short-staffing post offices, so workers have long hours

of mandatory overtime, day after day, with no time left for our families???

3. Why do you plan to cut 50,000 postal jobs and close our post offices? ... Why are you moving the work to centralized “sorting & delivery centers” — often far away from carriers’ delivery routes and far from their homes?
4. Why are you constantly harassing, micromanaging and bullying the postal workers?
5. Is this a plan to destroy [U.S.] America’s popular and efficient national Postal Service — worsening conditions for the workers and delaying our mail? Is this all to set the stage for privatization of the USPS??? □



For over two hundred years, through wars and pandemics, the US Postal Service has delivered medications, letters, payments, and packages on time, to every household. Now privateers are eager to bust unions, slash services, and close post offices. But 500,000 US postal workers have **big plans**—expand business hours, hire more workers, add basic banking services, free broadband access, and more.

Community Health Over Shareholder Wealth

CREDIT: DOUG MINKLER AND GAIL WILEY



# High Tech, Low Pay

## A Marxist Analysis of the Changing Character of the Working Class

By Sam Marcy with an updated introduction by Fred Goldstein, author of *Low Wage Capitalism*.

Read it at [workers.org/hightechlowpay](https://workers.org/hightechlowpay)

# Abu-Jamal hearing: racism the elephant in the room

By **Betsey Piette**  
Philadelphia

It has been just over 40 years since Mumia Abu-Jamal was subjected to a racist frame-up and unjustly sentenced to death row. The Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia held a hearing on his case Oct. 26, where Judge Lucretia Clemons was scheduled to render her decision on whether the new evidence found in December 2018 was sufficient to warrant a new Post-Conviction Relief Act (PCRA) hearing.

Outside the court building, over 100 demonstrators kept up a spirited rally for almost four hours. The atmospheres inside the courtroom and outside were like night and day. Inside the court, it was clear the state’s intent was to bury the truth and continue to suppress evidence of the blatant racism that has permeated this case. Outside, powerful oppressed and working-class speakers, of all nationalities, spoke truth to power — exposing the racist and class-based oppression of the court system and the capitalist state.

## Police, prosecutorial and judicial misconduct

A Black Panther Party veteran, community activist and revolutionary journalist, Mumia Abu-Jamal was framed for the murder of a Philadelphia cop. As a result of police, prosecutorial and judicial misconduct in a highly contested trial, Abu-Jamal was given the racist death sentence in July 1982. Since 1981, he has been incarcerated under inhumane and illegal imprisonment—including 29 years in solitary confinement on Pennsylvania’s death row.

But the court hearing did not consider any of these points, as Abu-Jamal still sits behind bars.

Judge Clemons only considered three narrow arguments, based on evidence found in 2018 in six hidden file boxes in the District Attorney’s office, which had never been previously disclosed to the defense. A letter from the prosecution’s key witness, Robert Chobert, to Prosecutor Joseph McGill indicated Chobert expected to receive money from the Commonwealth in exchange for his testimony. McGill extensively tracked and monitored another key witness, Cynthia White, whose pending criminal cases were all dropped following her testimony for the prosecution.

The defense petition also documented

the abhorrent and unconstitutional practice of striking Black jurors from Abu-Jamal’s original trial in 1982. McGill’s handwritten notes, found in the hidden files, showed he was tracking prospective jurors by race.

Clemons delayed hearing Abu-Jamal’s petition, while she heard several cases involving parole violations. When she finally opened the hearing on Abu-Jamal’s appeal, the defense attorneys



Gabe Bryant (with bullhorn) leads crowd in “Free Mumia” chants at rally, outside courthouse in Philadelphia, Oct. 26.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

and the prosecutor were asked if they had additional points to raise.

Judith Ritter, Sam Spital from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and Brett Grote from the Abolitionist Law Center represented Abu-Jamal. Assistant District Attorney Tracey Kavanagh was scheduled to represent the state, but ADA Grady Gervino appeared instead. Gervino has a reputation as a hack who argues for procedural barriers to avoid any claims with merit, which works to prop up corrupt decisions that have enabled decades of police, prosecutorial and judicial misconduct.

## Claims evidence not ‘material’!

Judge Clemons dismissed the documented request for money by the state’s eyewitness Chobert as not “being material,” meaning it would not have affected the jury’s verdict. She dismissed all the records showing that McGill had dropped existing cases pending against Cynthia White as irrelevant. In doing so, Clemons is following in the footsteps of her predecessor, “Hanging” Judge Albert Sabo, who prevented evidence questioning Chobert’s and White’s credibility from being heard during Abu-Jamal’s earlier PCRA hearings.

At the time of the shooting that Chobert claims to have witnessed, he was on probation and did not have a license to drive

his cab. Photos from the Philadelphia Bulletin, taken by photographer Pedro Polakoff, prove that his cab was not parked directly behind the officer’s car, as he had claimed. But PCRA hearings allow judges to dismiss critical evidence through a time-bar limitation clause.

In 1981, Polakoff offered his photos as evidence to the prosecutor, who never used them. As a result, the photos were never shown in any court hear-

ing. (Polakoff’s photos are available at [tinyurl.com/yemaszuy](https://tinyurl.com/yemaszuy).)

At a 1996 PCRA hearing before Judge Sabo, Veronica Jones, a police informant who was working as a sex worker at the crime scene, testified that police had coerced her and Cynthia White to claim they had witnessed the shooting, even though White was nowhere near the scene. Sabo had Jones jailed immediately after the hearing ended.

## Striking Black people from the jury

The most disturbing of Clemons’ actions was her dismissal of the claim that Black potential jurors were struck from the jury on procedural grounds, without addressing the merits of the claim. Noelle Hanrahan from Prison Radio stated: “Clemons adopts the prosecution position that the defense had the opportunity to receive these notes by merely asking the prosecution or cross-examining ADA McGill in prior court proceedings.

“This is a key and deliberate misreading of the record. At no time were these crucial notes and the motivations that guided ADA McGill ever available to the defense. McGill struck Black jurors at a 71% rate, significantly higher than the strike rate for white jurors. His reasons for seating some white jurors and not seating nonwhite jurors were not on the record; they were in his notes.”



Clemons ended the hearing by producing a 31-page notice of her intent to dismiss the defense petition. Abu-Jamal’s attorneys were given 20 days to respond, after which the Commonwealth has 10 days to reply. The next court date is set for Dec. 16.

Prohibiting a new hearing denies Abu-Jamal’s attorneys the opportunity to question Chobert and McGill about the newfound evidence. By upholding Sabo’s patently unconstitutional misconduct, Clemons is showing that racism reigns unabated in the U.S. justice system. Her decision exposes how the cops, courts and prosecutors have conspired to make sure the truth in this case doesn’t see the light of day — in particular, the issue of racism in jury selection.

## Peoples’ Corner — taking over in the spirit of our people

Meanwhile, outside the courthouse, activists and supporters of Abu-Jamal established a “Peoples’ Corner” and rallied for close to four hours, providing political education to all who listened. Supporters came on buses from New York City and northern New Jersey, while others drove from Washington, D.C., and Detroit. In several U.S. cities and in Mexico and Europe, people held watch parties to view the live stream video provided by Sunny Singh on Mobilization4Mumia’s Facebook page. ([tinyurl.com/2p7385xh](https://tinyurl.com/2p7385xh))

The rally ended when those in the hearing came out to give a report. Johanna Fernandez, with the Campaign to Bring Mumia Home, explained what happened inside: “What we see emerging is that this lower court is taking as facts and truth the evidence and findings of the original prosecutor, the police and lower courts — corrupt to the core, who concocted, manufactured and hid evidence.

“Because of the laws of this country, this judge is accepting as fact those findings of the lower court. Yet of the 35 police officers involved in this case, 15 were subsequently convicted of manufacturing evidence and framing people the courts convicted. We have the proof in the training tape made by prosecutor Jack McMahon that district attorneys were instructed how to limit participation of Black jurors.

“We saved Mumia in the streets. We need to continue to do that.” □

# When incarceration is housing policy

By **Ted Kelly**

In 1987, the notorious racist Frank Rizzo was trying to claw his way back into Philadelphia City Hall. He had lost his reelection for mayor seven years earlier. Rizzo’s election platform could have been drafted by the Ku Klux Klan, who had endorsed the tyrannical cop 10 years earlier.

What was the tentpole issue of his campaign? Arrest all homeless people in the city for vagrancy. “Vent people,” he called them. “They can’t make their own decisions.”

At that time there were 15,000 people without housing in Philadelphia. Then-President Ronald Reagan’s disastrous neoliberal austerity policies had contributed to putting nearly 7 million people out of work across the country. Philadelphia

was one of many cities gutted by deindustrialization. Joblessness, poverty and anger were visible on the streets.

“It’s only a humane act to get them off the streets,” Rizzo told KYW Radio that year. “We can’t have them lying out on the



Homeless people and supporters, defending an encampment at Avenue D and Ninth Street, were arrested when cops swept through to demolish the living space in the East Village, New York City, April 6.

streets.”

Few bought Rizzo’s bleeding heart gambit to push through mass lockups. His reelection bid failed, and he died only a few years later, suffering a massive heart attack after walking through one of Philadelphia’s historically Black districts. But his policy prescriptions survived him.

In 1987 alone, over 100,000 people were locked up in prisons and county jails across the state of Pennsylvania. According to the state’s own statistics at the time, on the average a person detained there would remain under lock and key for 443 days — over a year.

Thirty years later, cops and sheriffs from Philadelphia to Los Angeles are committing Rizzo’s brand of police cruelty, as they carry out so-called “homeless sweeps.” Even liberal-minded proponents of this forced removal of the poorest

## WW COMMENTARY

members of our class claim the arrests are done out of compassion, as well as public safety. But that two-faced humanitarian rhetoric doesn’t change the inhumanity of the policy.

And no defender of this Rizzo-like approach to the housing crisis can answer this simple question from the unhoused: “Where are we supposed to go?”

We know that jails across the country are full of people awaiting trial, whose only crime is not being able to afford bail. The average annual income of people inside Philly jails is \$4,500, according to a Citations Needed podcast.

Incarceration is not the solution to homelessness. It is one of the causes.

When a person goes to jail, for even one night, they are immediately at risk of losing their job and their home.

*continued on page 5*

# Bay Area protest demands ‘Free Mumia Abu-Jamal’

By Judy Greenspan  
Oakland, California

October 26 — A large group gathered in front of the U.S. Federal Building in Oakland to support today’s legal action for a new trial for Mumia Abu-Jamal. The protest, which included a rally and picket, was organized by the Labor Action Committee to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal and demanded his immediate freedom. Oakland has a long history of support for Abu-Jamal. Gerald Smith, a

member of the Labor Action Committee, recalled the early actions of the Oakland Education Association, this city’s teacher’s union, to educate students about this political prisoner’s case. Jack Heyman, a retired executive board member of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10, recalled his union’s decades-long support for Abu-Jamal. David Newton, the nephew of Dr. Huey P. Newton and a member of ILWU Local 10, compared the state violence against the Black Panther Party with the bombing

of the MOVE family. He said that the time has come for Mumia to be free! (Dr. Huey P. Newton was a founder and leader of the Oakland Black Panther Party.) Organizations supporting today’s rally included Haiti Action Committee, Code Pink, Workers World Party, ANSWER, Mobilization to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, Alameda County Peace and Freedom Party, and many others. □



David Newton, nephew of late Black Panther Party founder Huey P. Newton, addressing Oct. 30 rally in San Francisco to free Mumia Abu-Jamal.

# Cleveland communities unite to stop police killings

By Martha Grevatt  
North Royalton, Ohio

Six years ago Jun Wang, a Chinese immigrant struggling with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, was brutally murdered by police in North Royalton, a suburb of Cleveland. Wang’s sister Julia Rielinger stood a few feet away when North Royalton Police Department officer Kip McDonald shot her brother, after he had already been shot and was handcuffed.



Jun Wang’s sister Julia Rielinger speaks at an Oct. 28 candlelight vigil.

McDonald and officer Jason Kimmel were assigned to assist in carrying out a probate court order to transport Wang to the hospital, but instead Kimmel canceled the call to the Emergency Medical Service. The Jun Wang Foundation marked the anniversary of Wang’s execution Oct. 28 with a rally and vigil near the NRPD headquarters. Cleveland area activists spoke, including members of the Wang

Foundation, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, Greater Cleveland Immigrant Support Network and the American Indian Movement, as well as a supportive minister and people who have lost loved ones to police violence. Rielinger described the painful experience of Wang’s murder, where she was locked in a squad car by herself during the 30 minutes it took the EMS to arrive. Had they arrived sooner, her brother’s life might have been saved. “Mental illness is not a crime” was one of the main themes of the vigil, which demanded McDonald and Kimmel be fired. Rielinger has found strength and support from others in the Cleveland area

who have lost loved ones to police violence, especially Samaria Rice — the mother of 12-year-old Tamir Rice, killed by Cleveland cops in 2014. Along with other members of her family, Rielinger attended a protest Oct. 22 in the suburb of Maple Heights with the family of 22-year-old Datwuan Catchings. Maple Heights police killed Catchings May 30. The Cuyahoga River divides Greater Cleveland between the predominantly African American East Side, where Maple Heights is located, and the West Side, which includes North Royalton. But communities on both sides of the river, in the city and the suburbs, are uniting to stop police lynchings. □

# When incarceration is housing policy

continued from page 4

In California as of 2018, there are almost 92,000 people who currently have no form of shelter or housing at all; 70% of them — nearly 65,000 poor workers — have been incarcerated at some point in their lives. It is estimated that over 25,000 people who had been released in the prior year are now living on the street. (California Health Policy Strategies, 2018)

We can extrapolate this figure for the entirety of the U.S. Across the country, formerly incarcerated people are 10 times more likely to become homeless than the rest of the working class. Some 5 million people pass through U.S. prisons, jails and detention centers each year. The National Alliance to End Homelessness estimates there are over half a million — 582,000 people — homeless and unhoused workers in the U.S. at any given time. Rebecca Jackson, the director of Cameo

House, an alternative sentencing housing program for women in the San Francisco Bay Area, told the Los Angeles Times: “We’re poor, we’re Black, and we have a criminal history,” she said. “Stacked against stacked against stacked.” Women and gender-nonconforming people are much more likely to become homeless due to incarceration than men; all Black and Latinx people are more likely to be without shelter than their white counterparts. (prisonpolicy.org)

According to the Aug. 2 Los Angeles Times, “Tenants are often at the mercy of private landlords who conduct criminal background checks. Regulations restrict people from accessing federally subsidized housing if they’ve been convicted of certain crimes, including drug and sex offenses.” We therefore can be sure that two things are true in the United States: that incarceration accompanies homelessness, and that homelessness is an arrestable offense. This isn’t just a paradox. This is policy. □

## The Philippines

# SIM Card Registration Act poses a threat

By Monica Moorehead

The newly elected president of the Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos Jr., signed the SIM Card Registration Act into law Oct. 10. This law requires that all Filipinos register their SIM cards, which keep all the data in their cell phones, along with other government-issued documents — all in the name of combating “fraud.” Marcos is the son of the late president, Ferdinand Marcos, a cruel dictator and close ally of U.S. imperialism during the 1980s. Marcos Jr. replaced another dictator, Rodrigo Duterte, who as president carried out a massive genocidal campaign against so-called “drug dealers.” In reality, this heinous campaign resulted in massacres of thousands of people, mainly people only addicted to drugs and leftist opponents of his regime. Duterte vetoed the SIM card law before leaving office in June, labeling it an “infringement” of constitutionally protected rights. Here are some key components of the bill:

- The law requires telecommunications companies (telcos) and direct sellers to ask for a valid identification document first before selling SIM cards.

- Those who already own a SIM card would be required to register with telcos within a given time period. Failure to do so would result in deactivation of SIM cards.
- The law directs telcos to disclose the full name and address of SIM card owners upon a subpoena or order of a court.
- Law enforcement agencies which conduct probes on crimes committed through phones may also request telcos to ask for details of the SIM card’s owner.
- Telecommunications entities are required to maintain a SIM card registry of their subscribers. Companies must submit a verified list of their authorized dealers and agents nationwide to the National Telecommunications Commission, with updates every quarter of the year.
- The use of false or fictitious information, the use of fictitious identities and the use of fraudulent documents or identifications to register a SIM Card will be dealt with by appropriate penalties. (tinyurl.com/2p8aus5y)

With the knowledge that this dangerous law could easily infringe on anyone’s personal and private data, there is a more sinister reason why this law was passed at this particular time. The poverty rate in the Philippines rose by 2.3% from 2018 to 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 18% or close to 20 million people live in poverty in a country of 111 million people, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority. The PSA defines people in poverty as those Filipinos whose per capita income does not cover basic food and non-food needs. (Reuters, Aug. 22) Where there is hunger and dire poverty, there is always the potential of mass protests and rebellions. And the Philippines has a deep history of resistance and fighting back that continues today. This SIM card law could target any progressive organization or individuals who seek to communicate with others, especially over social media, to build resistance to the neoliberal policies of the Marcos Jr. government. His government



Poverty in Manila, the capital of the Philippines

continues the tradition of doing the bidding of the rich Filipino comprador bourgeoisie and U.S. imperialist interests. Before this law was passed, some well-known Filipino activists had been banned from returning to the Philippines for their opposition to the Duterte regime. Moorehead visited the impoverished Kaingin Bukid urban area in Quezon City, Philippines, in July 2011 as part of the International Women’s Alliance delegation. Read the article at [workers.org/2011/world/eyewitness\\_philippines\\_0818/](https://workers.org/2011/world/eyewitness_philippines_0818/).

# Election week threats part of a long, bloody history

Here is what’s happening in the ramp-up to the “democratic” midterm elections.

Every few minutes during the World Series baseball games, hate ads were run against migrants, trans people, Black people. These were bankrolled by “Citizens for Sanity,” an extreme right-ring group whose funders range from a Schlitz beer heir to a Silicon Valley tycoon.

Right-wing conspiracy theorists have staked out drop-off ballot boxes in Arizona. Armed and wearing military-style tactical gear, they are stopping and threatening voters. A federal judge ruled this did not “fall into any traditionally recognized category of voter intimidation.” (huffpost.com, Oct. 28)

Clearly this judge ignored the history of voting in the United States — the ugly, racist, violent, deadly denial and suppression of voting rights of oppressed people and people of color.

In the aftermath of the genocidal theft of Indigenous lands, the U.S. powers-that-be fought from the beginning to limit who could vote. In the 1780s, that generally included only property-owning or tax-paying white males, about 6% of the population. No enslaved people and no women had the legal right to vote. Through immense mass struggle to gain

Constitutional Amendments, African American men won the vote in 1870, women in 1920.

For 10 years after the end of the Civil War and the emancipation of enslaved people, there was battle after battle in the countryside and small towns of the South. The African American population, and some white allies, fought to liberate the land they had worked for generations as forced labor, for no wages and in chains.

Winning the right to vote — on which local self-government was based — was essential to this struggle. With every act toward that freedom, people risked life and limb. One witness recounted seeing Black voters in Mississippi marching to the polls “after the manner of soldiers, armed with clubs and sticks, some of them with old swords and pieces of scythe blades.” (James Allen, “Reconstruction: the Battle for Democracy 1865-1876”)

But voting rights continued to be denied widely by white supremacists and capitalist bosses. Starting after the Civil War, specific laws — literacy tests, poll taxes, Jim Crow laws — were passed to keep oppressed people from voting.

Vigilante and state forces threatened ordinary working people at the polls with violent intimidation and arrests,

sometimes with lynching.

Only through massive civil disobedience and the bloody sacrifice of many lives did the Black-led Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s ultimately win the Voting Rights Act of 1965 — a law that is now being systematically dismantled by racist reactionaries.

Though this country calls itself a democracy, it is in fact a capitalist democracy. All debate and decisions in the U.S. elections are subordinated to money and power — and that includes the right to vote.

Poor people, workers, women and gender-variant people, people of color, migrants, people with disabilities will never be truly represented through the election system of a capitalist democracy.

In a bourgeois election in the U.S., the right wing of the ruling class pushes propaganda as far to the right as possible, in order to split and intimidate people. And whoever gets elected will ultimately carry out war and class repression to benefit the ruling class. This is what bourgeois elections are.

We defend the right to vote in elections — just as we defend the right to vote for a union at a workplace — as a basic act of self-defense by working people and oppressed people.

But in the barrage of election



Election night, Lowndes County, Alabama, Nov. 8, 1966.

propaganda, the hate-filled ads, the intimidation at the ballot box, this is the crucial question:

For the last 350 years in the U.S., what class has been killing and enslaving people, in both chattel slavery and wage slavery? Taking their land, kidnapping them from their homes, refusing to pay any wages or any livable wages, sacrificing people at work to injury, illness, danger, ordering the Klan or the cops to kill them if they rebel or strike, refusing health care or housing, degrading the environment until we are in climate crisis, or —

You add your own indictment to this list. You know that the answer to the violence being done will not come from a few minutes at the ballot box. We must answer with lifelong dedication to build a new system of mutual aid: socialism. □

# California protest says ‘Hell no!’ to U.S. troops in Haiti

By Judy Greenspan  
San Francisco

October 26 — Protesters here said “Hell no!” to President Joe Biden’s threat to send U.S. troops to Haiti, a threat implied by his administration’s proposal for intervention to the United Nations Security Council earlier in October. (CNN, Oct. 15).

At a loud and angry rally outside this city’s federal building, organized by the Haiti Action Committee (HAC), speaker after speaker made it clear that no U.S. intervention would be tolerated.

Robert Roth, a member of HAC, opened the rally with a short history of U.S. and United Nations occupations and intervention in Haiti. He charged that the U.S. is contemplating sending troops to put down a new uprising of the Haitian people. Roth cited the current economic



Pierre LaBossiere, co-founder of the Haiti Action Committee, speaks out about the uprising of the Haitian people.

crisis, with the rapid and intolerable inflation of gas and food prices, as a major cause of the current uprising.

Pierre LaBossiere, a co-founder of the Haiti Action Committee, exposed the role of the Haitian police in murdering,

repressing and imprisoning the Haitian people who oppose this intervention. “In many Haitian cities, people are being disappeared by these police,” LaBossiere said. He explained further that the Haitian police have been trained by U.S. and U.N. forces.

According to LaBossiere, the economic crisis in Haiti is spiraling out of control. Many workers make less than \$3 a day, and gas prices in some places are approaching \$20 a gallon. “How can they live? How can they survive on so little money?” he asked. “But the people are energized, they are demanding a change,” LaBossiere noted.

“It is so important that you are here today to say, ‘Hell no! We are not going to accept this!’” LaBossiere continued. “Hell

no! We are going to stand with the Haitian people in their demand to have a better life, in their demand to be human beings.”

The Haitian activist called for an end to the deportations of Haitians. He accused both the U.S. and the U.N. of creating a “burning house” that Haitians are forced to flee. When the Haitian people try to come to the U.S., according to LaBossiere, they are thrown back into the burning house that is Haiti.

Speaker after speaker, from such groups as Black Alliance for Peace, Veterans for Peace, Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, Workers World Party, ANSWER and Code Pink, spoke out against any U.S. or U.N. military intervention and reiterated the call for freedom for the Haitian people.

Today’s demonstration was in response to an international call for protests against possible U.S., Canadian or U.N. intervention in Haiti. □

# Solidarity groups’ letter demands no Haiti intervention

*The following letter calls upon Sacha Llorenti, Secretary General of ALBA-TCP, to warn CARICOM-Caribbean Community member nations that the threat of U.S. intervention in Haiti is a threat to the sovereignty of the entire region. The letter is signed by various Caribbean and Latin American solidarity organizations.*

Dear Secretary General Llorenti,  
We write to you today to warn of a grave threat to the Caribbean region generally and the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America — Peoples’ Trade Treaty in particular.

You, as ALBA’s Secretary General, are in a key position to warn CARICOM member nations of the peril and pitfalls of going along with the U.S. effort.

The United States of America has begun a campaign to base its armed forces in Haiti for at least a decade, thereby establishing yet another precedent for violating the sovereignty of Latin American nations and creating a forward position for aggression against regional popular uprisings and ALBA member nations, particularly Cuba and Venezuela. This is Washington’s fourth invasion of Haiti in a century. Since 1804, one excuse after another

has justified decades of U.S. sanctions on Haiti. It appears that China and Russia will block Washington’s gambit to get [United Nations] U.N. Security Council approval for another military occupation of Haiti. Luis Almagro is not likely to gather the 23 votes necessary to trigger the military intervention clause of the OAS “InterAmerican Charter.” [Almagro is Secretary General of the Organization of American States.]

However, the U.S. may try to form a Caribbean alliance similar to their tactic to provide a fig leaf for its 1983 invasion of Grenada.

The U.S. currently has no other way to get its troops into Haiti, which is a pilot case for implementation of the U.S. Global Fragility Act. It aims precisely to station U.S. troops in various countries on a bilateral basis, all under the guise of “humanitarian” aid.

The plan has already made headway, creating a grave situation. The U.S. has convinced the United Nations Security Council to place Haiti once again under Chapter 7 control, hence stripping Haiti of its sovereignty. Furthermore, like the U.S., the Security Council has begun placing sanctions on individuals in Haiti, as the U.S. has done against individuals in Venezuela,

Nicaragua and Cuba. This is a gross violation of Haiti’s sovereignty and a threat to the sovereignty of every country in the region. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Berthony Dupont  
Director of Haiti Liberté  
October 25, 2022

Co-signers:  
*Bolivarian Circles of North America; Observatorio por los Derechos Humanos de los Pueblos/ People’s Human Rights Observatory (International coalition, headquarters in Oaxaca, Mexico); Coordinador Americana por los Derechos de los Pueblos/ Coordination for the Americas for the People’s Rights (International coalition, headquarters in Argentina); Bolivarian Circle of North America, New York and New Jersey; Cuba Sí Coalition; The Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA); Honduras Solidarity Network; Nicaragua Solidarity; Alliance for Global Justice (AFGJ); Sanctions Kill Campaign; International Action Center; United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC)*

# Progressive Caucus reversal

## Not even a whisper against Ukraine war allowed in Congress

By Sara Flounders

The cynicism of “Congressional Progressive Caucus” Democrats was exposed in their humiliating retraction this week of a letter sent to President Joe Biden calling on him to engage in direct diplomacy with the Russian government.

After the backlash from Congressional Democrats, including some signers of the statement, in less than 24 hours, the mild statement signed by 30 of the 101 CPC members was replaced by a more hawkish message calling for “victory” in NATO’s war in Ukraine.

The Progressive Caucus are representatives from the largest urban centers, elected on promises to fight for reduced military spending and promote Medicare for All, a living wage, cancellation of student debt, a Green New Deal and an end to mass incarceration.

Their retraction clarifies, once again, that no anti-war message, even with a polite, nonthreatening voice, is permitted in the established two-party system. War funding consistently sails through Congress with almost unanimous votes. Essential social programs are symbolically proposed, then left in the dust.

The initial publicized letter from the Progressive Caucus to President Biden was no antiwar statement. The letter opened by praising Biden: “We write with appreciation for your commitment to Ukraine’s legitimate struggle against Russia’s war of aggression.” (tinyurl.com/mrxes8m4)

The Progressive Caucus Democrats reaffirmed enduring support for the “military and economic support the United States has provided to Ukraine,” adding, “Your administration’s policy was critical to enable the Ukrainian people, through their courageous fighting and heroic sacrifices, to deal a historic military defeat to Russia ...”

Then the Caucus politely encouraged a “proactive diplomatic push.”

Even this timid suggestion of direct talks with Russia was attacked and labeled as a “dramatic shift” in an Oct. 24 Washington Post tweet and full article. (tinyurl.com/nh4enewk, tinyurl.com/mr9rrk7t)

The Caucus stated Oct. 25: “The Congressional Progressive Caucus hereby withdraws its recent letter to the White House regarding Ukraine.”

This second statement hastens to clarify that Democrats “have strongly and unanimously supported and voted for every package of military, strategic and economic assistance to the Ukrainian people.” The Caucus claims the previous day’s statement was

“released by staff without vetting.”

They want to make it especially clear that they are not “somehow aligned with Republicans, who seek to pull the plug on [U.S.] American support for President Volodymyr Zelensky and the Ukrainian forces.”

Republican Party statements raising questions on war funding are just as duplicitous as the statements of Democrats. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy hastened to clarify a day later that Republicans weren’t “planning to abandon Ukraine aid and were just calling for greater oversight of any federal dollars.” This means they want a seat at the table when billions of dollars are being distributed. (tinyurl.com/eh4pmhhc)

### Loyal to corporate profits

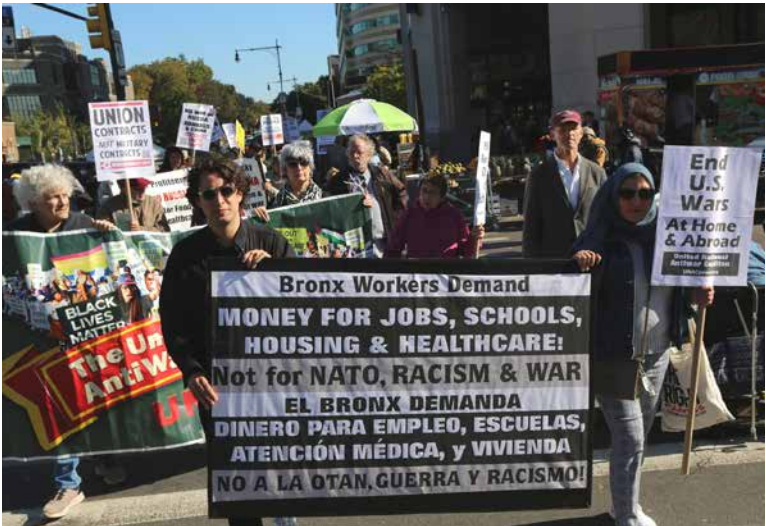
This is the traditional, well-scripted role played by the two-party system in U.S. politics. Both Republicans and Democrats again and again pledge their loyalty to U.S. imperialism and its relentless wars. When the White House is held by a Republican, Democrats will raise “concerns and challenges.” The roles are reversed when a Democrat is in the White House — then Republicans challenge some aspects of whatever current war is underway.

Both imperialist political parties routinely vote for the full Pentagon budget, a budget larger than the combined military budgets of the next nine largest military spenders. Even after the annual U.S. military budgets sail through with increases averaging 4% each year over the last five years, there are additional legislative packages providing tens of billions of dollars in supplemental military funding.

All House Democrats — including all members of the Progressive Caucus, despite years of vehement denunciations of war expenditures — voted without apology or explanation for the largest military aid package in two decades.

Members of the Progressive Caucus were elected based on promises to change direction and fund essential programs that are desperately needed by working people. Its members routinely criticize the bloated military budget that is the largest government program. Yet Progressive Caucus Democrats, other Democrats and Republicans cynically and routinely accept campaign donations from the largest military profiteers.

There is no mention in either CPC statement of the



Antiwar protest, the Bronx, New York City, Oct. 15.

WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

30 years of NATO expansion eastward nor any reference to NATO’s efforts to militarily surround and dismember Russia. There is not even a muted criticism of the regime in Ukraine that came to power in a U.S.-backed coup with fascist support.

A regime that bans trade unions and political parties is hardly a free and independent government. The Kiev regime is a U.S. and NATO creation that is totally dependent on the U.S. and NATO for military advisors, trainers, contractors and an endless supply of weapons.

At the same time as the packages of over \$60 billion in funding to Ukraine each passed on a day’s notice, without debate or scrutiny, the promises of student loan relief were shaved, cut and legally challenged. The student loan cancellation would cost about \$24 billion per year.

None of the promised programs of these “progressives” have passed successfully, despite Democratic Party control of both Houses of Congress and the White House.

As the capitalist economy totters on the edge of total collapse, the only bailout under discussion in Congress is endless war and billions to military contractors. Even the most basic gains are blocked; U.S. imperialism is unable to make concessions to the working class in the U.S. or to any countries resisting U.S. domination.

The social democrats and the traditional liberal Democrats of the Progressive Caucus, despite their campaign promises, will betray the workers, who elected them with great hope. The only way to fight imperialist war is by strengthening the movement in the streets. □

## U.S. activists say: End criminal blockade of Cuba!

Special to Workers World

*Demonstrations were held in Los Angeles; Phoenix; Minneapolis; Washington, D.C.; and other U.S. and Canadian cities to demand an end to the U.S. blockade of Cuba. Below are two reports.*



WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

Maddi from Workers World Party on the bullhorn.

Hundreds of people gathered for a rally in Times Square, which was then followed by a march to the United Nations in New York City Oct. 29, to demand an end to the economic, commercial and financial U.S. blockade against Cuba. On Nov. 3, the U.N. General Assembly, for the 30th time, will overwhelmingly

vote to end the criminal blockade, which continues to prevent needed medicines, food, fuel and other resources from reaching Cuba, causing great harm to the Cuban people.

In 2021 as per usual, the U.S. and Israel were the only countries to vote against an end to the blockade, with three abstentions — Colombia, Brazil and Ukraine.

Activists, students and community members

in Portland, Oregon, protested the U.S. economic blockade of Cuba on Oct. 29. The rally and march were organized by the Portland Stop the Blockade of Cuba Coalition. John Waller, the coalition’s secretary, said, “For 60 years, Cuba has been the victim of

bombings and other violent acts committed by U.S. citizens acting with the backing of the CIA. Cuba has never committed a terrorist act against the United States.”

Maddi, from Workers World Party, remarked, “Cuba shows how much you can do with very little, as long as you’re willing to serve the people. When Hurricane Ian struck Cuba last month, it destroyed the power grid, tobacco farms and as many as 100,000 homes. But only three people in Cuba were killed. In the U.S., however, the hurricane has caused 118 deaths so far.”

Maddi talked about the passage of Cuba’s new family code: “LGBTQ+ couples can get married and adopt children.



New York City, Oct. 29

WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

... Cuba has had strong trans rights for a while now, including free gender-affirming surgery. [Gestational] surrogates are legalized, so long as they aren’t doing it for a profit.”

Sarah Kowaleski, Portland Jobs With Justice organizer, said sanctions on Cuba “have created incalculable damage, to the tune of \$150 billion in damages. Biden has doubled down on the embargo, tightening restrictions. We join the U.N. General Assembly and world community once again in calling for this to end!”

Lyn Neeley, Brenda Ryan and Bill Sacks contributed to this article.



Congreso del Partido Comunista de China, octubre de 2022

## Congreso del Partido Comunista de China

# ‘El muerto que ustedes mataron goza de buena salud’

Por Sergio Rodríguez Gelfenstein

Muchos temas trascendentes se debatieron en el recientemente finalizado XX Congreso del Partido Comunista de China (PCCh). Analistas chinos y de otros países han escrito profusamente sobre el tema. Como casi siempre cuando se opina sobre China, los análisis versan en su mayoría sobre los temas de Estado que —en este caso— se discutieron en el evento.

Pero si a mí me preguntaran que fue lo más resaltante de este acontecimiento, no tendría duda en afirmar que la magna cita del partido comunista de China tuvo una afanada orientación hacia el fortalecimiento interno de la organización para que pueda jugar su rol de conductora de la sociedad china en su camino al socialismo.

En ese marco, me parece necesario destacar el fuerte contenido ideológico de los debates de este Congreso en el que, dando continuidad a discusiones sostenidas en el pasado y en anteriores eventos similares, se ha hecho una sólida reivindicación del marxismo-leninismo como parte del soporte fundamental que ha permitido al partido Comunista de China... “dominar integralmente la gran lucha, la gran obra, la gran causa y el gran sueño ...” que “... ha dado cima a la tarea histórica de la culminación de la construcción integral de una sociedad modestamente acomodada y el consiguiente cumplimiento del objetivo de lucha establecido para el primer centenario [año 2021], y ha emprendido la nueva expedición de la construcción integral de un país socialista moderno rumbo al objetivo de lucha fijado para el segundo” [2049].

Según los documentos debatidos en el Congreso, el lugar que ocupa el partido comunista de China en este momento, se entiende como un proceso continuo sustentado en los 5.000 años de existencia de la civilización china, los casi 170 años desde el fin de la ocupación extranjera, los poco más 100 años desde la fundación del PCCh, los 73 años desde que fue creada la República Popular China y los 44 desde la implementación de la política de reforma y apertura.

Con esta última decisión, también dio inicio a la construcción del socialismo con peculiaridades chinas que es considerado como parte de la evolución del socialismo en el mundo. Tras el enunciado del socialismo científico por parte de Marx y Engels hace 170 años y su fusión con el movimiento obrero que posibilitó el triunfo de la Revolución de Octubre en Rusia en 1917, otras naciones de Europa y Asia, entre ellas China (al finalizar la segunda guerra mundial) emprendieron también la construcción del socialismo, creándose el campo socialista que se aglutinó con las luchas antiimperialistas y anticolonialistas del siglo XX para lograr un equilibrio general en el mundo.

Pero tras la desaparición de la Unión Soviética y el campo socialista en la última década del siglo pasado, muchos países del sur se vieron obligados a seguir

el modelo político y económico occidental, lo cual significó una gran derrota para el socialismo.

Sin embargo, se debe entender que tal como dijo Lenin al referirse a la epopeya de octubre de 1917 cuando se conmemoraba su cuarto aniversario: “... la primera victoria no es la victoria final. Apenas se ha comenzado”. China ha comprendido que no importa cuándo, en qué fecha y en qué hora los proletarios completarán ese proceso, pero existe plena certeza de que llegarán victoriosos a la última etapa.

En este momento, cada vez más, el modelo chino se ve con admiración por muchos países del sur, toda vez que el socialismo con peculiaridades chinas es una bandera de desarrollo del socialismo científico en el siglo XXI. China se ha propuesto un plan de revitalización de su socialismo por lo que el PCCh ha asumido la responsabilidad y tiene la confianza y la capacidad para contribuir al desarrollo del socialismo científico.

Para ello, es necesario mantenerse fiel a las aspiraciones que dieron origen al Partido así como a la misión fundacional de éste. En su discurso, Xi Jinping ha sentenciado que: “Somos comunistas y revolucionarios, por lo tanto no debemos perder nuestro espíritu revolucionario”.

El PCCh ha refutado aquellas opiniones que dicen que ha pasado de ser un partido revolucionario a transformarse en un partido gobernante. En este sentido Xi Jinping ha dicho que la continuidad de la lucha ha llevado al Partido a la conducción del pueblo chino en la guerra revolucionaria, en la construcción de la primera etapa del socialismo y en la política de reforma y apertura. Y en este proceso ha pasado de ser un partido que

dirigió al pueblo a la toma del poder a ser un partido que dirige el pueblo a ostentar el poder y a gobernar permanentemente. Es, en definitiva, un partido gobernante marxista, al mismo tiempo que un partido revolucionario marxista.

El XX Congreso del PCCh ha destacado que el marxismo “es el pensamiento guía fundamental en el que se sustentan nuestro Partido y nuestro país y [el] que los vigoriza. La práctica nos ha indicado que la razón de que sea competente el PCCh y bueno el socialismo con peculiaridades chinas es, en último análisis, que el marxismo es válido y lo es el marxismo chinizado y adaptado a nuestros tiempos”.

En este sentido, el magno evento partidista ha llegado a la conclusión de que ante las diferentes vicisitudes y dificultades que atraviesa el mundo en esta época, China sólo podrá responder exitosamente si se preserva “el vigor exuberante y la vitalidad pujante del marxismo” integrado a la realidad concreta de China y su cultura, bajo las visiones del materialismo dialéctico y del materialismo histórico.

Para lograr este objetivo es necesaria la incesante promoción “de la innovación teórica basada en la práctica” que demanda en primera instancia “comprender correctamente la concepción del mundo y la metodología propias del pensamiento de Xi Jinping sobre el socialismo con peculiaridades chinas de la nueva era”. Así mismo, se deberán preservar los principios fundamentales y sostener una mirada sistémica aceptando el carácter multiverso del planeta a fin de abrirse a un mundo más amplio sobre la base de la “chinización del marxismo y a su adaptación a nuestros tiempos”.

Estas definiciones son de suma impor-

***El XX Congreso del PCCh ha destacado que el marxismo ‘es el pensamiento guía fundamental en el que se sustentan nuestro Partido y nuestro país y [el] que los vigoriza.’***

tancia porque, sin regresar a la guerra fría, colocan la lucha ideológica en el centro de la confrontación estratégica mundial. Las luchas del futuro, en particular las que ha desatado Estados Unidos contra China deberán encararse obligatoriamente en un marco de enfrentamiento sistémico entre modelos de desarrollo que emergen de propuestas ideológicas antagónicas.

A pesar de que Occidente canto loas a la muerte del socialismo tras la desaparición de la Unión Soviética anunciando que la “historia había terminado”, la República Popular China, su partido y su pueblo, en este Congreso, han hecho patente que el “muerto que ustedes mataron, goza de buena salud” recordando aquella famosa frase de la traducción al español de la comedia francesa El Mentiroso, escrita por Pierre Corneille.

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## No a la intervención de Estados Unidos en Haití

*La siguiente carta pide a Sacha Llorenti, Secretario General del ALBA-TCP que advierta a los países miembros del CARICOM de la amenaza de intervención de Estados Unidos en Haití como una amenaza a la soberanía de toda la región.*

*La carta está firmada por 14 organizaciones latinoamericanas y caribeñas de solidaridad.*

**25 de octubre de 2022**

Estimado Secretario General Llorenti,

Les escribimos hoy para advertirles sobre una grave amenaza para la región del Caribe en general y la Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América — Tratado de Comercio de los Pueblos en particular.

Usted, como Secretario General del ALBA, se encuentra en una posición clave para advertir a los países miembros del CARICOM sobre los peligros de seguir el esfuerzo de Estados Unidos.

Los Estados Unidos de América han

iniciado una campaña para basar sus fuerzas armadas en Haití durante al menos una década, sentando así otro precedente para violar la soberanía de las naciones latinoamericanas y crear una posición de avanzada para la agresión contra los levantamientos populares regionales y las naciones miembros del ALBA. particularmente Cuba y Venezuela. Esta es la cuarta invasión de Washington a Haití en un siglo. Desde 1804, una excusa tras otra ha justificado décadas de sanciones estadounidenses contra Haití.

Parece que China y Rusia bloquearán la táctica de Washington para obtener la aprobación del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU para otra ocupación militar de Haití. No es probable que Luis Almagro reúna los 23 votos necesarios para activar la cláusula de intervención militar de la “Carta Interamericana” de la OEA.

Sin embargo, EE. UU. puede intentar formar una alianza caribeña similar a su táctica para proporcionar una hoja de parra para su invasión de Granada en 1983.

Actualmente, EE. UU. no tiene otra forma de llevar sus tropas a Haití, lo cual es un caso piloto para la implementación de la Ley de Fragilidad Global de EE. UU. Su objetivo es precisamente estacionar tropas estadounidenses en varios países de forma bilateral, todo bajo el disfraz de ayuda “humanitaria”.

El plan ya ha avanzado, creando una situación grave. Estados Unidos ha convencido al Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU para que coloque a Haití una vez más bajo el control del Capítulo 7, despojando así a Haití de su soberanía. Además, al igual que EE. UU., el Consejo de Seguridad ha comenzado a imponer sanciones a personas en Haití, como lo ha hecho EE. UU. contra personas en Venezuela, Nicaragua y Cuba.

Esta es una grave violación de la soberanía de Haití y una amenaza para la soberanía de todos los países de la región.

Gracias por su atención a este asunto urgente.

**Berthony Dupont,  
Director de Haití Liberté**