



Behind the Ceuta crisis

Imperialism brings suffering to Global South migrants

On July 30, some 60,000 Moroccans crossed the Ceuta border to escape a life of poverty and no jobs in their home country.

At least 72 Moroccans reportedly lost their lives in a stampede or by drowning. (See page 3 for entire editorial.) □



The Ceuta enclave is one of the last remnants of the Spanish Empire.

Petition to U.N. to free Mumia Abu-Jamal!



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Defense team for political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal petitions U.N. to expose 45 years of "failures of the criminal legal system" in his case. Here, protest April 2026 supports Mumia. (See page 4.)



WW PHOTO: GLORIA RUBAC

Houston memorial for Carl Hampton

Ruby White (left) and John 'Bunchy' Crear, comrades of Black Liberation leader Carl Hampton, killed by Texas cops in 1970. Houston, July 25, 2026.

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The U.S. is the richest country in the
world, yet no one has a guaranteed right
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are saddled with seemingly insurmount-
able student debt, if they even make it
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The ruthless ruling class today seeks
to wipe out decades of gains and benefits
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Behind the Ceuta crisis

An enclave is a territory that is entirely surrounded by the territory of only one other state or entity. It can be an independent territory or part of a larger one. One such enclave that gained international attention on July 30 was Ceuta, Spain, a peninsula located on the coast of the North Africa country of Morocco.

On that day, upwards of 60,000 Moroccans crossed the Ceuta border to escape a life of poverty and no jobs in their home country. At least 72 Moroccans reportedly lost their lives in a stampede or by drowning.

According to most reports, when faced with the prospects of no food, water or shelter, almost all the people who crossed into Ceuta were physically forced back home either by land or water.

Spain's colonization is root cause

Morocco, now with a population over 38 million people, was a colony of Spain from 1912 until 1956. Once formal independence was won, Morocco, similar to other African countries enslaved by rich European capitalist countries, struggled to develop its own indigenous infrastructure and economy to meet the needs of its population, especially in rural areas.

According to Morocco's High Commission for Planning, "In 2024, about 72% of people living in poverty were in the countryside, compared to 79% in 2014. Rural poverty decreased from 23.6% to 13.1%, but this is still more than four times the poverty rate in urban areas, which stood at just 3% in 2024." (Moroccan World News, May 22, 2025)

This reality was substantiated by

Moroccans attempting to cross the border by swimming for hours. Twenty-eight-year-old Younes Murad said: "Our families are poor. There's no jobs in Morocco. I have a college degree and no job." Khadija Almoufi, 20, who helps support her family, said: "There's poverty everywhere. I want to live a wonderful life. There are no services in Morocco or money." (Washington Post, Aug. 1)

At the heart of this crisis is the ongoing dispute over who should control Ceuta — Morocco or Spain. Geographically, this enclave is located within Morocco close to the Strait of Gibraltar that separates the two countries. Morocco certainly has a legitimate claim to Ceuta.

An international crisis

The events of July 30 and the aftermath did not happen in a bubble. They reflect the ongoing crisis of millions of migrants located in the poorer Global South hoping to find a better life for themselves and their families in the richer Global North. For decades and even centuries, the ruling classes of European capitalist countries, like Spain, became wealthy off the backs of stolen labor and resources of African countries like Morocco by violent repression and occupation.

The situation is very similar to what is happening in the U.S., especially along the southern border, with migrants risking their lives coming by land from countries to the south like Mexico and Guatemala and from Haiti in the Caribbean. The white supremacist White House government has declared a racist war on migrants of color by unleashing



MAP: EQUAL-EARTH.COM

their attack dogs in the guise of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) armed and masked agents and the murderous Border Patrol. This war has led to illegal raids, detentions, separation of families and deaths of migrants and solidarity activists.

Incidents like the one in Ceuta are not going away. The crisis will continue to deepen for migrants as the global capitalist economic situation deteriorates across all borders, many of which were artificially created by imperialist plunder in the first place.

Workers World promotes solidarity with all migrants, who are an integral sector of the global working class. We say that the billionaires in the ruling class who profit off of the exploitation of the workers are illegal, not migrants. Open the borders! □



Moroccan migrants on the Ceuta border.

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Political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal petitions U.N.

By Betsey Piette
Philadelphia

Lawyers for Pennsylvania political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal filed a 20-page petition with the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on his behalf on July 28 outlining nearly 45 years of “failures of the criminal legal system” in his case.

The petition, filed by Brett Grote of the Abolitionist Law Center, along with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights, argues that multiple violations of international law in Abu-Jamal’s case include an “unfair trial, a biased appellate process, decades of surveillance and censorship and a death by incarceration sentence that has been recognized by the U.N. as violating international human rights standards.” (Truthout, July 28)

Abu-Jamal’s legal team is turning to the U.N. working group for support in part because the body urged the release of federal political prisoner Leonard Peltier in 2022. Following decades of struggle by Indigenous groups and other supporters of Peltier, President Joe Biden commuted Peltier’s life sentence to home confinement in 2025.

Abu-Jamal, a Black Panther and award-winning journalist, was convicted of murdering Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner in 1981. After decades of public protests, his death sentence was overturned by U.S. District Judge William Yohn in December 2001. Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams appealed Yohn’s decision, keeping Abu-Jamal on death row until 2011, when Pennsylvania resentenced him to life without parole.

Abu-Jamal has always maintained his innocence. Ironically, Williams was sentenced to five years in prison for a federal bribery charge in 2017.

Repeated denial of a fair trial

Multiple legal appeals on Abu-Jamal’s behalf to secure a new and fair trial have been denied by state and federal judges and the repeated interference of the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police. The

petition to the U.N. body points out that Judge Albert Sabo, the original trial judge, who was allowed to hear Abu-Jamal’s initial appeals, was overheard saying, “I’m going to help them fry the n----r.”



Abu-Jamal’s most recent appeal was denied in 2023 by Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Lucretia Clemons, who refused to consider new evidence only disclosed to Abu-Jamal’s defense team in 2018. This evidence was that the state’s main witness, Robert Chobert, in 1982 wrote to the chief prosecutor asking about “the money owed to me” after the trial concluded.

Decades of medical negligence by Pennsylvania DOC

Abu-Jamal is now 72 years old and suffering multiple health problems made worse by medical neglect and the denial of proper medical care. The petition to the U.N. notes that he was diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2012, which caused cirrhosis of the liver.

The petition notes that “he later ‘developed a painful, severe rash covering most of his body, potentially caused or exacerbated’ by the disease, and then went into diabetic shock ‘due to untreated hyperglycemia’ caused by steroid treatment for his skin condition.”

The petition raises U.N. human rights experts’ concern when Abu-Jamal was shackled to his hospital bed in 2021 while awaiting long-delayed heart surgery.

The petition noted the prison’s most recent denial of necessary medical care, citing medical records showing how in 2025, Abu-Jamal “began experiencing a common and easily treated complication of cataract surgery” and that he continues to “suffer from multiple, complex, ophthalmological

conditions, including proliferative diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma, that pose a significant risk of permanent blindness.” All of these conditions are treatable—however the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has repeatedly denied or delayed necessary care.

Truthout reported that Grote acknowledged that the U.N. body lacks enforcement powers but said, “We are asking for a ruling, because we think the truth of what has been done to Mumia in his case needs to be exposed in the light of day.” The U.N. has a chance to recognize how Abu-Jamal’s “continuing incarceration is in violation of international human rights norms.” (July 28)

In a telephone interview with the Guardian on July 28, Abu-Jamal, who is currently incarcerated at S.C.I. Mahanoy, said the U.N. appeal was “part of his personal and legal efforts to keep hope alive. Hope is an element of struggle, is it not? As we used to say in the old days, ‘A luta continua [the struggle continues].’” □



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

March for Mumia in West Philadelphia, April 25, 2026.

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EE.UU. utiliza las citaciones judiciales como arma contra la izquierda

Por Sara Flounders

¿Qué significa la citación judicial de la Comisión de Medios y Arbitrios de la Cámara de Representantes, en la que se exige a tres organizaciones por la paz y la justicia —BreakThrough News, The Peoples Forum y Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research— que entreguen todas sus comunicaciones internas, así como sus registros de afiliación y financieros, antes del 7 de agosto? La comisión, dominada por los republicanos, alega que se trata de una investigación fiscal.

Las citaciones se produjeron apenas un día después de la publicación, el 20 de julio, de un informe de 100 páginas del Departamento de Estado titulado «Cuba: la capital del comunismo del siglo XXI», en el que se afirma que Cuba es el centro del terrorismo mundial.

Este informe del Departamento de Estado menciona al menos a 43 personas y organizaciones. Entre ellas se encuentran los alcaldes de Nueva York y Los Ángeles, miembros del Congreso, el Sindicato Laboral de Amazon y numerosos periodistas y organizaciones de todo el movimiento. Entre ellas figuran el Gremio Nacional de Abogados, la Brigada Venceremos, IFCO / Pastores por la Paz, la Red Nacional sobre Cuba, Black Lives Matter, CodePink y los Socialistas Democráticos de América. Muchas de las organizaciones mencionadas son amplias coaliciones en las que participan cientos de otras organizaciones y activistas.

Cuatro días antes, el 16 de julio, el presidente Donald Trump y el secretario de Estado Marco Rubio convocaron una «Reunión Ministerial sobre el Resurgimiento del Terrorismo Político» en el Departamento de Estado. El encuentro reunió a funcionarios de 66 países para exigir un mecanismo de lucha antiterrorista

contra los movimientos de izquierda en todo el mundo.

La reunión del Departamento de Estado califica a todos los movimientos que se oponen al dominio estadounidense como «terrorismo de extrema izquierda» y propone que se afronten estos movimientos con «la misma seriedad y ferocidad» que el Gobierno reserva para los ataques «yihadistas». Varios departamentos del gabinete, e incluso gobiernos extranjeros, deben participar en la «represión» de la «izquierda radical». Rubio afirmó que se avecinaban nuevas designaciones como terroristas para grupos de izquierda.

Es evidente que se trata de una estrategia desesperada y coordinada para generalizar de tal manera todas las formas de disidencia que prácticamente cualquier persona o cosa que critique cualquier política gubernamental pueda ser tildada de terrorista, en lugar de recibir la protección que le corresponde en virtud del derecho a la libertad de expresión reconocido por la Primera Enmienda de la Constitución de EE.UU.

Continúa en la otra cara

Todas las personas y organizaciones que se encuentran bajo ataque deben ser defendidas por todas las organizaciones del movimiento.



FOTO: BRIGADA VENCEREMOS

La Brigada Venceremos, que lleva solidaridad y ayuda a Cuba desde EE.UU., es uno de los más de 40 grupos mencionados en el informe del Departamento de Estado que ataca a Cuba y al movimiento progresista en EE.UU.

EE.UU. utiliza las citaciones judiciales como arma contra la izquierda

Continúa de la otra cara

Rubio afirmó que Irán y Cuba dirigen a la izquierda mundial. Pero los millones de personas que salen a la calle indignadas por las redadas y los asesinatos del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) y que se oponen al genocidio israelí en Gaza, financiado por Estados Unidos, saben que el terror proviene de la Casa Blanca. Saben quién orquestó los bombardeos sobre el Líbano e Irán y los ataques contra Cuba y Venezuela.

Fox News está dando una amplia cobertura a esta campaña orquestada, cuya «investigación» afirma que existe una conspiración global, una red que abarca 2.000 organizaciones sin ánimo de lucro, grupos activistas, centros de estudios y medios de comunicación de todo el mundo. Esta conspiración estaría supuestamente detrás de las manifestaciones contra Israel, las acciones a favor de Cuba, la oposición masiva a las redadas del ICE, las protestas contra la inteligencia artificial y la oposición a los centros de datos. (Fox News, 22 de julio)

¡Cómo debe responder el movimiento!

Todas las personas y organizaciones que se encuentran bajo ataque —aquellas a las que se dirige esta medida propia de un Estado policial— deben ser defendidas por todas las organizaciones del movimiento. Cualquier persona o grupo que se niegue a acatar la citación judicial debe ser elogiado por resistirse a un procedimiento penal.

El Gobierno de EE.UU. es el centro del terrorismo. El terrorismo es política de Estado. Los terroristas están en la Casa Blanca.

Sin embargo, las guerras interminables del imperialismo estadounidense, las operaciones de cambio de régimen, las sanciones que provocan hambrunas, los asesinatos selectivos, los secuestros y el genocidio israelí en Palestina, totalmente subvencionado, se enfrentan a un obstáculo importante: la población de EE.UU. se opone cada vez más a sus guerras. Lo más frustrante para quienes se benefician de estas guerras interminables es la creciente simpatía popular hacia los países que son blanco de los planificadores bélicos estadounidenses.

Los especuladores de la guerra pretenden eliminar este obstáculo. Se preguntan: ¿cómo pueden silenciar a las fuerzas más críticas que se oponen a sus políticas criminales?

¿Cómo pueden generar miedo y silencio en lugar de oposición interna? ¿Cómo pueden preparar a las numerosas agencias gubernamentales de represión para que se centren en esta «amenaza» artificial? ¿Cómo pueden obligar a los medios de comunicación corporativos a seguir al pie de la letra esta amenaza fabricada?

El Gobierno de EE.UU. es el centro del terrorismo. Los terroristas están en la Casa Blanca.

La respuesta de los especuladores de la guerra es recurrir a las tácticas totalmente ilegales y desacreditadas de la pasada era maccarthista de finales de la década de 1940 y la década de 1950. Su problema es que aquel fue un período en el que el imperialismo estadounidense se encontraba en su apogeo en cuanto a capacidad productiva, dominio del mercado y apoyo popular. Eso dista mucho de ser cierto en la actualidad.

Además, por muy intensa y coordinada que fuera la represión de finales de la década de 1940 y la de 1950, fue derrotada a principios de la década de 1960, cuando un nuevo auge de la lucha condujo a la defensa colectiva y a que la gente se negara a dejarse intimidar.

En la actualidad, las guerras de EE.UU. están demostrando ser imposibles de ganar e impopulares. La posición económica global y la capacidad productiva de EE.UU. se encuentran en un declive irreversible. La represión interna no puede revertir este declive global.

El poder de la respuesta colectiva y la oposición unificada ante los ataques se remonta a los primeros movimientos obreros. El antiguo lema sindical, «Una ofensa contra uno es una ofensa contra todos», es hoy en día el único camino a seguir. □

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¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países uníos!



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