



Agitación >> The magazine of Communist Youth Union of Spain

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You know who they are the ones to blame, stop them!

On August 12, coinciding with the International Youth Day, CCOO claimed that the youth unemployment rate in Spain (42%) doubles the average of European Union countries and more than 40% of the jobs they have are temporary, which certainly reflects we had nothing to celebrate that day.

The crisis in Spanish state is hitting in a very hard way for the working class, emphasizing especially in the youth sector that sees resigned how their future is getting darker while the political managers are cutting rights, services and resources.

Meanwhile, the ruling political parties act like puppets of the big business and all over Europe we see how more and more countries follow the International Monetary Fund recommendations.

The bourgeoisie is taking advantages of this situation to get more privileges and benefits, and it seems they are gaining ground in the eternal class struggle as they threaten stability in labour relations, dismantle the public services, and force the popular classes to pay the crisis while the real responsables are being rewarded with public funds.

The latest months, the PSOE government has approved and announced a series of cuttings and reforms which are the greatest threat against the working class since the Spanish Transition. As answer, the main bourgeois parties of the opposition (Partido Popular, UPyD, etc.) seem to agree on the substance of the policies imposed by financial institutions of the capital dictatorship, differing only on the social rights

and using every measure taken by Zapatero in a populist way to get a greater number of votes in the next elections.

This outlook has turned politics into a game of particular interests where there is no place for the common search of profit, turning the economic crisis into a social crisis full of the prevailing ideology in which individualism, postmodernism, and the lack of a collective perception of belonging to a class are the ideas latent in most of our neighbors and mates.

Therefore, creating "class awareness" is still the main task of communists. Only understanding who we are and what binds us together we can defeat those who act together in defense of their dominant class interests.

We must be able to explain and convince all workers what we are staking in this General Strike of September 29.

Therefore, this renewed Agitation number attempts to become a contribution to the working class awareness with sectorial analysis uncovering the ugliness of government actions (especially the labour reform), but without losing the cultural and political essence of the UJCE "megaphone" that has brought us to this eighth edition

September 29: A memorable date for the working class

On May 12, Zapatero announced a tough Adjustment Plan which drastically cuts public expense and investment. The announced measures only make deeper the causes of this crisis: the pension freeze, the social assistance reduction, the transitional arrangements for partial retirement reduction, lower wages, the cutting of public investment, the cutting of development aid, etc.. All this added to the serious attacks that many public services are suffering, such as the progressive privatization of the public health system, the absence of a public network on child education, etc.. Also the development of Bologna Process in the University means, as it was analyzed by the students movement, increases in university taxes, higher prices in the Masters degrees, less seats in many careers ... although it's not a direct privatization, we could call it the nest for it.

This way, the PSOE government (social-democrats as they call themselves) took off his mask, and instead of recovering the progressivity of the tax system,

prosecuting tax fraud of the great fortunes or reclaiming the bank part of the indecent benefits of the recent years, they prefer to attack the working class making the weakest pay for the errors that have only favor the accumulation of great wealth and have increased the differences between the rich and poor people.

This Adjustment Plan got an answer from the trade unions with a strike call of administration workers on June 8. This meant a breaking-off in the good relationship the government and trade unions had so far. It was also seen as a warning to the ruling government that unless they made any change on their policies to overcome the crisis, a general strike will go on.

After that the announcement of the approval by decree of a Labour Reform came, and all the drafts announced were going in the wrong direction so they would be faced with a General Strike call.

Finally, the proposed reform was materialized and it was even more harmful than expected on drafts, so the main trade unions called for a general strike on September 29, crashing the submissive trends in the trade union movement of the last years, dissipating the false and reactionary myth of "the social peace".

The main changes that were introduced with this reform can be divided into five points: Dismissals for objective reasons, Recruitment, Compensation, Temporary Work and Collective Bargaining. Below we will show the changes made in each of them.

1) Dismissals for objective reasons. The "objective" reasons are extended so employers would apply for them more easily. This Dismissal has an economic compensation of 20 days per year worked. The economic, technical, productive and organizational reasons are now more flexible and are becoming enough to justify dismissal in any circumstances. Opening the causes make more foreseeable the objective dismissal because it is made to prevent future "negative evolution" without requiring the company to show the "real, current and effective" difficulties.

In dismissals for economic reasons as causes are included the "anticipation of future losses" or "persistent decline in revenue" being lost from the text all drafts as "losses for six months" or "not merely short-term economic losses".

2) Recruitment. The permanent contract is being extended, widen on its conditions, leaving the ordinary contract endangered. This intends to take advantage of the dismissals for objective reasons.

In the case of a worker with an expanding employment permanent contract that would be fired by an unfair dismissal would get a compensation for 33 days (on the following section we will see that of that compensation the employer only will pay 25) per year worked instead of the 45 days of regular permanent contracts.

The Labour Reform extends the circumstances in which contracts can be substituted by internships and trainings for young people. These contracts involve a substantial loss of salary compared with other workers. The contract for work or service which it is linked to the contractors and subcontractors, is limited, but the text approved is still allowing the chain of contracts (several people may rotate in a same job) and sets a deadline of up to four years to acquire the status of fixed worker.

3) Compensation. The decree foresees the establishment of a Capital Fund in one year, which will take care of a proportion (not announced yet) of the compensation by dismissal. It specifies that this will be done without increasing the employer's contribution to Social Security, which may be understood that the money will come from the contribution of the worker or the exchequer. **This includes adopting a model in which workers pay for advance their dismissal compensations.**

As we have already explained, the reasons for dismissal have been relaxed and expanded, so from the compensation of 20 days per year worked, 8 will be paid by FOGASA (Social Guarantee Fund, by its acronym in Spanish), employers have to pay only 12 days per year. Making equal the compensation for a temporary contract that will reach 12 days per year worked from 2015. It is easy to see that as time goes by, there will be no longer difference among having a temporary contract or a permanent one.

The unfair dismissal will be funded with public money too (the employer will change from paying 45 to 37 days per year worked for regular permanent contracts, and from 33 to 25 days for the expanding employment permanent contract). This means, that after the government makes easier for the employers to fire workers and pays for part of the "objective" dismissal then the government goes one step beyond and funds unfair dismissal, in which courts have given the reason the worker and ruled that there was no cause to proceed to dismissal. This point has an interesting point of view, not only the government is stimulating the dismissal, it is also showing that it rules for employers and against workers.

4) Temporary job. The reform extends the field of action of the private employment agencies in the field of construction workers (except in hazardous tasks banned by agreement) and in the public sector.

The fact that the ETT's (private employment agencies by its Spanish acronym) come to work with the Public Service Employment Promotion means the disappearance of equal access to temporary public employment and the first step to privatize it, which will be reduced in its functions gradually.

Furthermore, legalizing employment agencies for profit, a measure that would deserve more comments about the system in which we live. Currently they already operate in the domestic sector and from this experience, we realized that these agencies only help to precarize. They charge the employee for the job search, intermediate in bids below the law and discriminate in the selection process for reasons of origin, age, and employment history in the case of people who have had conflict for claiming their rights.

5) Collective Bargaining. The measures taken involve the loss of the effectiveness of sectoral collective bargaining. Ways to break down collective bargaining are being deployed. Their aim is that everything will be negotiated at the enterprise level. It will widespread allow companies to break agreements of the upper-level, without any proof of a crisis in the company.

As we have seen, there is a great amount of reasons to attend the General Strike and to take part in this struggle, in which we have so much at risk, both as working class and as youth.

And after the general strike?

The Strike of September 29 is not an end in itself, it has emerged as an answer to the attacks mentioned above, but now, as we are immersed in a deep capitalist crisis we must consider the responsibility we have to fill these demonstrations of a youthful, anticapitalist, feminist and class point of view. We must link the struggle against unemployment and government measurements with the efforts to build an economic alternative, a social model in which the

working class won't have to pay for the excesses of the large corporations and the interests of international agencies as undemocratic as World Bank, WTO, IMF, EU, etc.

September 29 should be the starting point of a fight to the single thought to begin to regain consciousness of class and labour solidarity and march with the rest of European workers and the world in building the alternative to this criminal and irrational system in which money is freer than people.

Women on strike: an essential approach

September 29 is coming. After being demanding a general strike for ages, we take a step forward. This is not the end, but a first action, in which we have to fight and achieve our aim: turn this strike into the strike of working class.

In order to achieve this purpose, is very important to know how the situation of the working class is, including those workers that are not so known in its context. We are talking about women because they are indispensable in this fight.

The situation of women in the labour market is noticeably more precarious than the situation of men and this is going to get worse if the labour reform is approved. Besides the specific positions, easy to quantify by surveys, there are some invisible precariousities that oppress women day by day.

These facts have to be gathered by the working class to include them in our fights. This must be the strike of youth, of women, of migrants.

The situation of women in this context of fight needs a special attention. The labour reform and how it is going to influence on us and, what's more, what is the role that women have to play in this conflict, is an important point to develop before the strike.

This problem is not new for us...

We have to focus on data very carefully. Now we are really worried about the situation of unemployed people, but we have to know that women are still bearing a historic structural unemployment rates. The rate of women's unemployment has been kept about 13% since 2001, taking into account as well that the rates of women on active are usually 20 points below the men's rates.

We have to know for instance that, in 2001, the women unemployment rates raised till 15'25%, against the men rates, that was 7'62 %. Nowadays, women unemployment rates are 20'16% against the 19'96% of the men rates.

The explanation of this can't be reduced to the role of the male worker as a family supporter, because it is

essential for us to betray the traditional models and make the most of the situation to change them. Because women have always been working, not right from the 60's or 70's.

But the thing that best characterize women situation in labour market is precarity, that reaches every corner, and cover all the relations and labour realities.

Let's talk about the new Labour Reform. As we said, women suffer the biggest temporality and fraudulent hiring rates. If indefinite term contract was almost unachievable for women, things are going to get worse after the passing of this laws. Besides, the reduction in social contribution incomes force many women below the borderline of poverty. In the same way, women have a good chance to know the new "express dismissal" closely, in a sexist labour market that expels them because it is assumed that women suppose higher costs (personal, labour and familiar conciliation).

If we add the block of the collective bargaining (an essential instrument to eradicate sexual discrimination) the situation is getting more and more complex.

With regard to young women (who start working later because of the structural exclusion they suffer), the training contract suppose another handicap in their way to a decent contract.

What's more, with the common irregularities in this type of contract the precarity level is likely to remain the same.

Apart from that, the Plan for the Public Deficit affects tertiary sector, which is holded by a great number of women.

The great majority of workers in public administration are women, so the 5% reduction affect them directly. If we add the retroactivity reduction in the implementation of the Disability law (that is not put into practice in the majority of regions) that is often assigned to women, we find an important backward step in the fight against woman discrimination.

Likewise we can't forget that the delay of the retirement affects in a negative way specially to women, because 80% of part-time contracts are supported by them. It is clear that government has a false sexual equality mask, so it is essential for us to remind them that equality it is not a piece of luxury, and it mustn't be reduced under no circumstances

Invisible precarities

There are some special handicaps that women meet when facing labour market. One of these is the sexist education that we have received, that instil us a feeling of "self blame" in a higher level than men. This fact, with the strength and self-improvement ability has a probable consequence: We can face incredible amounts of work.

And that's what happens: Women support the great majority of works (remunerated and non remunerated) and we are still the ones who punish ourselves when our mind and our body can't stand any more.

The permanent demonstration of capacity, the yoke of the clock, the problem with no name (as Betty Friedan said), the uncertainty that make you almost made of plastic, mouldable; to face decisions at 230 km p/h, the dictatorship of image and the constant exhibition in public (with painful feigned smiles), the junk food and the drug food, the sexual violence in labour relations, hidden behind paternalism and control. The numerical, temporal, productive and functional flexibilities are well known by women. We have to know that these unease don't reflect inabilities, they are the result of that double, triple exploitation, the are structural uneases and we have to fight against them with that strength we mentioned before.

From the theory and the feminist praxis there are some proposals of social mobilization, and it is essential to add them to our emancipation fight. Because of this, on September 29 women voices has to be heard and taken into account to make our political approaches grow and to turn them representative of the whole working class. Woman must be the main character in this strike. Because with them, I do go!

A new year stars, and with it come new struggles.

Previously, students have had the main role in a large number of demonstrations, highlighting the recent anti-"Plan Bologna". Some have been more successful than others, but overall have shown students as a force capable of fighting for their rights and to choose what's the best for them.

Now, after implementing the first phase of the European Higher Education Space, comes the University Strategy 2015. Their drivers - in the Spanish government- want to complete this way the process of commodification and privatization of education started with the Bologna Declaration, with their eyes set in the final privatization of all public services. Facing the undemocratic Bologna experience, in which the voice of tens of thousands students and teachers that are contrary to the process was systematically ignored, the Government has raised the debate with the educational community and the social pact. But the discussion with it concerns solely on matters of form and not the basic (it agrees to discuss how commercialize / privatize education but not the commercialization / privatization itself). As for the "pact" is a euphemism for "reaching an agreement with the PP (conservative party on the opposition nowadays) above the needs of the whole society". Is a existing agreement at European level, so at the state level lacks of a real importance (in fact, the electoral rejection from PP of the proposed pact by the Ministry of Education has not affected at all the progress of the reform).

In parallel, we must highlight the irony of the coincidence between the current educational reform and the economic crisis, the largest non-military crisis that capitalism has suffered for many years. It's ironic because the crisis has been caused by (or, rather, forced and depth) the neoliberal policies which are currently underway in education.

The truth is that capitalism has entered crisis because the neoliberal model is exhausted (and its educational aspects included). Sarkozy spoke about refounding capitalism, and our current government speaks about a sustainable capitalism: will the capitalists get out of the crisis (temporarily, of course) or will they persist in the current and crumbling neo-liberal model? Let them choose how to exploit us and let us focus studying on our own problems.

It is clear that any capitalist exit to the crisis will be a temporary solution and will only benefit a minority. This minority will be both time, the beneficiary of the changes in the educational system established by Bologna University and by the University Strategy 2015. Against this, the students, we have to defend a new educative model, and this must set the quality of education and accessibility to all social classes above the economic benefit of the minority of great employers who have been exploiting university so far and will intends to exploit it furthermore. It is important to recall the need for a change in the economic system (and not just the model) so the educational system could change as well. As Marx said, "we need another education for another society and another society for another education".

We, the students, must educate ourselves in an alternative system (by the way, a socialist one) and fight for it. The fighting will develop creating partnerships, organizing, and joining the rest of groups (mainly the working class) attacked by capitalism. The first great battle of this struggle will be to the general strike on 29 September. All students will have to go to the general strike and demand another educational system as a key to a new economic and social system.

STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE STATE, TO THE GENERAL STRIKE!

Being Republican is not a crime, is a right

Eduardo and Naiara were beaten up by the State Security Forces because they were reclaiming the return of a republic in Spain. In 2010, both students received an allegation of assault by fiscal.

On May 16, 2006 the Princes of Asturias attended a guided tour in the municipality of Móstoles (Madrid). Among the people who were piling up to receive them we are going to talk about four young people who were waving flags of the 2nd Republic and had their faces painted with the colors of the flags. While the pines were passing through the young students shouted some words claiming for the republic and then leave the place. They didn't imagine what was going to happen the following hours, but they will remember them for many years.

"I will remove that purple with a beat up"

The four young people, two men and two women were moving away from "Teatro del Bosque", where the princes had come, when they were arrested by a squad of anti-riot police. They went directly to Eduardo, one of the boys. "I suppose they saw him as our leader" says Soledad, another girl who claimed for the Third Republic that day. At this point the brutality of the state security forces began. They knocked him down with a smack, and once he was handcuffed they punched and kicked him many times. "Before they started to hit me, one of the policemen told me he will remove the purple colour with a beat up" Eduardo reminded.

His sister, Naiara, tried stood in front of the policemen that had attacked her brother, and she was knocked down and suffered some attacks as well. Their mates couldn't do anything, and the Eduardo and Naira were dragged into the van that will lead them to the police head quarters. When she came, they were taken straight to prison, without being seen by a doctor, although both showed lesions due to the blows they had received during the arrest.

"I was anxious to meet a normal police" says Eduardo. On the way to the police station the agents of the UIP (Units of Police Intervention by their Spanish acronym) continued humiliating and throwing against them offensive comments about the reactions they had while they were being arrested. They called Eduardo "queer" because he broke to cry at the sight of his sister lying on ground unable to move. Some members of the police squad encouraged others to pee above Naiara because, due to fear she had peed on herself.

After a hours claiming and yelling for healthcare, they finally were taken to hospital in different cars without allowing them to see each other. They received the care needed and they asked for a list of their injuries, an official document to prove they had been beaten up. On this document appeared among others a cervical and dorsal contracture that made Eduardo unable to work for 30 days and needed further treatment and rehabilitation. In Naiara's document appeared a

contracture and a tendinitis in her wrist show up. Both accumulated bruises all over their body as a result of the beatings.

"When I finally saw myself in a mirror I discovered that I had the purple was removed indeed" recalls the young.

After receiving such care, they were taken back to jail, where they spent the whole night until the next morning they were brought to court.

Days after the arrest, they report the UIP agents for serious injuries, arbitrary detention, abuse of authority and against the moral integrity. All these charges are still under investigation.

Being Republican is not a crime

In January 2010 while their complaint against the police was still in research process, both young men received a complaint by the prosecutor to the trial court accusing both of them for faults and injuries to the anti-riot policemen. On that complaint letter was reflected that Eduardo's arrest was due because he pushed one of the agents and tried to kick him.

It also said that Naiara was arrested because meanwhile witnessing the arrest she tried to scratch the agents so she was also arrested. However, all the injuries that the agents had shown have been mild with periods of healing that never exceeded 4 days without any handicap to normal life. As consequence they received a sentence for them of up to two years in prison and a fine.

"We think " says Soledad " the policemen are trying to get rid of the charges alleging an offense of misconduct and injuries when the main reason of those arrests was being Republicans and showing it". At this point they declare that the flag of the Second Spanish Republic is not unconstitutional, not even illegal and that it defends the freedom of conscience, that freedom which was beaten when they were attacked.

The trial continues today the researches, considering the medical reports and allegations from both sides.

Being Republican is a right

Because of the brutal repression that Eduardo's and Naiara's republican expression suffered, and because the growing fear to the manifestations of republicanism the rulers have an initiative called "GANE la tercera" was created.

This could be translated as WIN the third, but this "GANE" is an acronym for People who Support Naiara and Eduardo, and "the third" ("la tercera") refers the effort to reach the Third Spanish Republic" explains Soledad, which is one of the main supporters of the initiative. The aim of this platform is to make people aware that defending a different way of ruling the state is not a reason to suffer such repressive attacks. It also attempts to analyze the causes why the republican movement in our country is being attacked so harshly.

There are many cases where certain actions had had a judicial or police response disproportionate just because it showed an ideological component of republicanism. Some of the most relevant were the censorship to "El Jueves" magazine, which showed on its cover a joke with the Princes of Asturias (heirs of the crown) and the case of a young man who changed in Madrid the flag of the current Constitution for the 1931 Constitution with a subsequent high court condemnation.

There is also a leading trend to stifle any expression of republicanism from the public life, trying to associate

it with small violent groups. One of the most important acts GANE has done was the press conference held in the federal headquarters of Izquierda Unida (the name under which the Spanish Communist Party and its allies contest in elections) . Those present were the Communist Party of Spain, the Communist Youth Union and Izquierda Unida. That act meant a direct involvement of these organizations into the initiative.

It is also remarkable the statement Soledad made in the performance of a well known spanish group, Reincidentes, in the festival which had place in Aluche (one of the most populated and working class related neighbour hood of Madrid). Thanks to her speech in this live performance the GANE movement became known to a large number of people.

GANE had celebrate as well lots of republican acts to get more support in some cities of Madrid.

Finally, Soledad added: "For me, one of the most remarkable acts was the graffiti made in the Canary Islands, that picture has become a symbol for our fight."

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Israel: Impunity as a Flag.

A Spanish proverb says "that the one who writes the laws also writes the cheat" and yhis is, beyond the wisdom of people's sayings, it's a great truth that when laws are drafted by those who hold the economic and with the precise intention of keeping it.

During the last Century specially alter WWI, imperialist Powers have been creating an International legislation intended to what they called "humanise war," under which states are barred from doing certain violent actions as to guarantee some kind of control on the excesses that can result of the use of force.

This allowed them to cover themselves in an aura of legitimacy and faux humanitarianism when they had to launch their wars of pillage or control, basing their acts in a bourgeoisie legality, apparently fair and universal.

This is the case of the State of Israel, a clear example of the hypocrisy and futility of international institutions, and the influence exercised upon them by the states that control the great parcels of the global economy or that are allies of the main stronghold of imperialism, the USA.

In a well defined media and political strategy. It can be easily observed how the same legal arguments are activated immediately to damage workers or revolutionary processes such as the ones in Cuba or Venezuela, are not activated, but any position regarding them is omitted assuming a neutral position and a complete credibility is given to the "official" version of the facts when it refers to the countries that control the economy.

Setting up the situation; at 4 am on May 31st 2010 af flotilla of six vessels chartered by international NGOs - stuffed with volunteers from all over the world, within them several men and women from the cultural sphere, including a Nobel laureate, as well as several MEPs, loaded with humanitarian aid aimed to Gaza (an area blocked since several years ago) - is attacked in international waters by the Israeli Defence Force with out any previous attack or provocation on behalf of the vessels forming the flotilla, causing a death toll of ten and at least fifty injured.

Beyond the common sensation of disgust to the obvious tragedy that the lost of ten human lives in a

heroic act of solidarity with the Palestinian people means to the majority of sensible human beings, we will try to brief a couple of legal issues:

- International law strictly and expressly forbids any interception of any kind of Wessel in International Waters, unless that it is clearly asked by the county commissioning the vessel (in this case Turkey) or that the aforementioned is committing acts of piracy or slave and drugs trade. This is established by the Geneva Convention on the High Seas of 1958 and in the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation of 1988, to both of which Israel is a member party.

- One of the deceased, Farkun Dogan (19 years old), student, born in the USA, both a national of Turkey and the USA, received five gunshots at a distance of less than 45 centimeters, one in the face, another one in the back of his head, two more in his legs and one in his back. We must remind ourselves that the crew and passengers could only defend themselves against this illegal intervention in the high seas with sticks, these facts move Furkan's assassination further away from the official version given by the State of Israel of "legitimate defence in a moment of great confusion."

Well, International Humanitarian Law states that the use of force in case of conflict or strife must "when exercised be contained and proportional with the seriousness of the crime and the legitimate objective set," as well as "to minimise damage and respect human life." The contrary is considered a Crime of War.

So, we could use several pages counting the international laws broken by Israel in this assault, as well as many others for the more than sixty year of occupation of the Palestinian Territories and the blockade of Gaza. Thousands of crimes have been accumulated by the Zionist State of Israel, and by the moment no binding action has been taken against its criminal activities.

We know that as long as the current international bodies' subsist there will not be an effective condemnation or sanction to Israel, as all declaration will be left as scraps of paper, as long as the right to veto exists in the UN Security Council. Nor will the EU sanction in any way one of its weapons buyers, y never will the USA act against its main ally in the Middle East. If this wasn't enough, the "Official Inquiry Commission" on these acts is made up of genocidal leaders of the sort of Colombia's former President Alvaro Uribe that seem to leave International Justice completely out of bounds.

Nevertheless, in the midst of everything a new Freedom Flotilla is being readied to beat the same track and to accomplish the objective forcefully denied: breaking the cruel blockade to Gaza. Despite everything, Palestine is not alone, and we are confident in the strength of international solidarity as a means of pressure on the governments of the world in the struggles against imperialism and war.

In route to the 17th World Festival of Youth and Students

Let's defeat imperialism, for a world of peace, solidarity and social transformation!

A new edition of the World Festival of Youth and Students will be this year in South Africa from 13 to 21 of December. This massive event of the progressive youth, will be organized by the Youth League of the African National Congress and by the Youth League of the Communist Party of South Africa as host organizations, both of them forged in the fighting against the apartheid regime that ruled in South Africa until 90's with a tragic legacy of death and oppression against the black majority of this country.

This 17th Festival will be, like the previous ones, an expression of unity and international solidarity of the young people of above the world against the menace of imperialistic war and the disastrous situation of the worker class caused by the capitalism in crisis.

With an expected mobilization of 30,000 young people around the world, mainly African and South African, the festival will also be a point of exchange between all countries in the world to know what struggles are taking place and what are the political views and aspirations in each of our regions. But this exchange is

not limited to politics, but the delegates which attend to 17 WFYS will have the opportunity to learn about the culture, traditions, music and dances of each region of the world as a vindication of traditional and cultural expressions of the peoples against the hegemonic culture of capitalism.

Each day of the duration of the festival will be dedicated to a region of the world, plus the last two days devoted to South Africa and the global fight against racism, fascism and xenophobia, during which there will be workshops, seminars and discussion analysis, inters-ectorial meetings (women, students, immigrants, LGBT) cultural activities in each country club, solidarity forums (with Cuba, Venezuela, Korea) etc.

In addition, during the festival we will establish the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal to trial every crime of imperialism, and will issue a verdict endorsed by the world's youth.

We, the UJCE are supporting the successful development of the festival at the international level through the preparatory meetings. But our most important work, our fundamental task is to be a mobilizing factor that makes it possible to come to South Africa as many young people of Spain, so that our work priority policy between now and December will be to explain and convince all our environment about the opportunity that we have to be participants in the history of youth movement for peace.

This movement is a path open 65 years ago with the creation of the World Federation of Youth and Students on the still warm ashes of World War II and in order that the youth of the world never will be under to the horror of war . Sixty-five years have given sixteen festivals where it has been since reknowned artists such as Victor Jara (who was a delegate to X WFYS in Berlin) or Violeta Parra (delegated to the fifth edition in Poland), revolutionary leaders like Che Guevara, Daniel Ortega, Evo Morales, Hugo Chavez or Fidel Castro, and political cadres of various generations as Julian Grimau, among others.

Likewise, all those comrades who have attended a World Festival agree that is not only a great

opportunity to learn and know about other struggles, if not that is also an important life experience for their formation as political cadres, both at training, and in the level of fighting spirit.

They say that man was born in Africa and migrated from there and took all regions of the planet. Well, this December 2010 all humanity at its best, in the form of Youth and Revolutionaries, will return to his brotherhood, without distinction of any kind on the continent where life was born thousands of years ago to confront those who, the sole purpose of profit, operating against the planet and its inhabitants. South Africa will be joining thousands of voices against capitalism and imperialism.

For a world of peace, solidarity and social transformation, we will defeat imperialism!

Come with us to make history!

Come the 17th World Festival of Youth and Students!

More information on the Web or email <http://17.fmje.org> or at info@17.fmje.org

SUF: Socialistisk UngdomsFront

"In Denmark there are other political and labour groups also involved in activities in support of the FARC-EP, and contribute economically to their struggle"

On August 7 a Socialistisk UngdomsFront delegation headed by its Responsible for International Relations, participated as guests in the Central Committee meeting of the Communist Youth Union of Spain.

Later, during the 8th and 9th of August, we had a long and productive bilateral meeting and we conducted this interview.

1. How have you experienced the implementation of Bologna process in Denmark?

In 2003, the implementation process of the EHEA in Denmark was complete; thereafter the majority of the university leaders belong to the business structures. Since 1968, internal democracy in universities has changed a lot, decisions aren't taken from the base to the leadership, but everything is decided by the leaders of the universities, which as we said are external to it.

In the last 20 years the student movement has been severely weakened, much of the students do not know what is the Bologna Process. The change of government itself, elitising education, has promoted the strengthening of these structures that were weakened, resulting in different very important demonstrations and mobilizations, some of the largest in Denmark in the recent years.

In the midst of this surge of protests we occupied for four days, the administration building of the largest university of Copenhagen. Although the mobilisations in other universities were not very notorious, it had a great impact, because it made the reform known amongst students and increased their involvement in the fight against the EHEA.

2. How is the situation of the students' movement in secondary education?

Since 2001, the attack on public services has intensified, eliminating the free provision of textbooks, increasing the number of students per classroom and decreasing the quality of education received. In 2004 movement to regain the right to access these services began.

The secondary students' movement is very important because it struggles against all these problems and have come to occupy several high schools. Our organization has great influence on secondary students, and much of our membership

holds several positions in the institutional representation of high schools. In this struggle we have converged with members of the Social-democratic Party that has its own student organization, which leads us to continuous disagreements with them.

Our relationship is like the one you can find in a trade union, because social-democracy operates from more reformist positions and our views are far more to the left. However, even from these disputes we learn and prepare ourselves politically to face future struggles in the university, since most of our secondary student membership continuing militating when they reach college. We believe that there are many hypocritical approaches, because although they are against the current government, we have no doubt that if the Social-democrats came to power, they will try to minimize student struggles.

3. In the rest of Europe we have the perception that in the Nordic countries maintain quality public services, however, in recent years they has been a clear setback. What is your perception about it?

There was a clear setback, no doubt. This setback is a logical consequence of the capitalist system: decisions do not depend on governments, but on the big transnational business, which means that, having a ceiling that is covered by the welfare state, that limit is narrowing. We believe it is something that happens also in surrounding countries.

Pensions, for example, have been severely affected by the dismantling of the welfare state. And what's more disturbing: the absences of any protection from the State, society turns right, Workers themselves have right-wing political approaches.

Since 2001, when the Right came to power, it cut with the previous social security system under the pretext that it did not work properly. Since then we have seen hasconsistently promoted the privatization of hospitals.

4. We wish you introduce us to the history of the Danish Socialist Youth Front (SUF).

Our organization was created in 2001, with two major groups that were: Rebel and the Red-green Alliance Youth Network. Our objective was to formulate an anti-capitalist program that was consistent: we wanted an address unique to an anti-capitalist and revolutionary organization.

Our organization makes its decisions independently of the party but, of course, works with it. The party was established in 1989 with three organizations in particular, the Communists Danish Party, Socialist Workers Party and Socialist Left. Currently there is no coalition between these three parties, there is no internal currents represented in the bodies of decision, but there is only one party. Our parliamentary representation is four members, and we get 2% of the votes in elections.

5. We would like you to tell us about the situation of women in your organization.

Currently 52% of our membership are women. However, not everything is perfect, because 70% of

our senior positions are occupied by men. We have a working space for women to discuss on the issues particularly affect them, which men do not attend.

By locating such contradictions we have worked on search tools to fix the position as much equal as possible. For example, in meetings and major conferences, to seek equal participation, although there more men than women with the intent to intervene, we divide equally the speaking time.

The union is also working this issue in women's groups discussed and organized for the feminist struggle in their respective jobs. Our organization usually gets involved with them and we do participate among the mass movements in the feminist manifestation on every March 8.

6. How is your experience with union labor?

In Denmark there is only one union, a federation of trade unions is huge and the whole world works there, between 80-85% of the workers is affiliated.

In our country there is no minimum wage as in the Spanish state, security and labor protections are not fixed by law but are set by agreements between this single trade union and employers. Every four years this negotiation is renewed and only in two occasions agreement have not been reached. The result is the calling for general strikes, but this is something that usually does not happen because much of union representation is taken by Social Democrats.

We fight for a democratic union built from the base, we believe it should be more active.

SUF is active in the youth sector of the union. On one hand, we organize talks to explain the youth, who mainly belong to the trade sector, their labor rights and issues affecting them. On the other hand, trying to unite the struggle of young unionist with the students movement. Recently, we convened a unitary demonstration in which participated more than 100,000 people to protest against cuts in social services.

7. SUF is being prosecuted for editing and selling T-shirts that supports the FARC-EP. How is the current process?

Some time ago, we made t-shirts to support FARC-EP. The benefits of which were intended to them. In the EU, using the list of terrorist groups we have been criminalized, but we believe it isn't clear the difference between terrorist groups and revolutionary ones, we are taking advantage to take this debate to the street and show the contradiction of the legal concepts that define them. We went to a judicial process to denounce the law that defines what are terrorist groups and we have lost.

We have come to different judicial processes at different territorial levels, local, State .. and now we are in the highest court, but they don't let us continue any further. We don't know exactly what are the reasons.

In addition, we have to pay a large fine to come to this court, and many of our militants have even been sent to prison. Our organization is facing this with many activities to self-finance to pay the fine and get back to society this debate on those considered "groups terrorists".

In Denmark there are other political and labor groups that are also involved in activities in support of the FARC-EP, and send money to their struggle, now, these groups are being battered by the media who despise this activity.

8. We would like you to tell us about the goals set out for SUF to edit their magazine, "Flowers and Barricades" (Blomster & Barrikader).

This magazine is intended for internal distribution only. To us is very useful to inform about the decisions taken in the organs of SUF, and also for the political education of our militancy. Recently, we release a section of culture where we recommend books and other materials that we find interesting.

In the magazine "Flowers and Barricades" we also publish contacts with the policy-makers, improving internal communication.

Following this internal publication, we have also taken an external distribution, where we post other things. It comes out less frequently. In particular we use it to raise awareness of our campaigns and major events. The name of this publication is a play on words in Danish, "Voices from the Front" (Frontalt), which would mean something very impressive.

9. We would like you to tell us something more about SUF and your work in Denmark.

In SUF is now around 1,200 militants, most of them are affiliated, and we could consider around 300-400 as true activists.

10. Finally, we would like to talk a bit about your journey across Europe.

In the last three months we have visited nine countries, and we still have outstanding visit three more.

We learned a lot from the situation facing these countries and we are also used to engage with people and organizations that are referents to us.

Unfortunately, in all countries visited the right has made electoral advances. That has made us realize how necessary is the unity of the left in the fight.

Film that must be watched!

The Iguazú Effect

This is a working class dignity documentary. In those days of individualized unemployment, psychiatric output for any material conflicts, we must remember what can be done by the organized working class.

That's what they were (and still are) Sintel workers, working class people who leave their work and does not aspire to be rich otherwise, organized, heavily united. They understand

that if one of them is touched all of them are.

In the documentary we see how Sintel workers fight against the fraudulent sale of their company, a subsidiary of Telefonica, to the "gusano" (nickname for members of the Cuban exile in Miami) Mas Canosa. The workers met with firings, but they didn't resign, they erected a camp in the Castellana (main street of the financial district) in

Madrid from where to vindicate their rights and alert to all workers that neoliberal capitalism is like Iguazú Falls, apparently calm, but suddenly swallows everything in its path.

The film quality (Best Documentary - 2003 Goya (main Spanish cinema awards)), and the subject dealt, make this tape indispensable in these days.

Book that must be read!

The inhabited woman, Gioconda belli

It tells the story of Lavinia, a young Latin American gentry, that after study in Europe, returns home to start an independent life. In his work she meets Felipe, partisan of the National Liberation Movement of their country with whom she initiates a relationship, and through which Lavinia knows the Movement. From then, Lavinia begins to approach it until she becomes one of their militants.

In this process, Lavinia is facing many contradictions generated by this estranged relationship between patriarchy and the revolutionary thought and action; the confusion and fear of clandestine militants, experienced differently by women and men. The relationship with Felipe, who seeks in it the "warrior's rest" rather than a partner in love and in the Movement, leads her to find

new ways to combat individually and collectively to patriarchy, to the feminization of militant action, to the enjoyment of sexuality (described by Belli with cared eroticism) or to the tension between what is expected of her as a woman, the woman who believes that Lavinia and women in who she wants to become.

Flor will be the partner with which analyze and share all of these contradictions;

Belli gives the novel a great sense of realism through Itza, an Indian woman whose spirit "lives", embodied in the orange of the house of the protagonist, and was part of Indian resistance against the Spanish invasion, also challenging the roles that family, tribe and culture imposed on her.

The two stories are intertwined by demonstrating how both in their process of construction as revolutionary women, pass through very similar contradictions. In summary it is the concretion of every contradictions to which we as women face in the struggle for the genre emancipation, combined with the commitment with the revolutionary liberation of oppressed peoples.

The Inhabited Woman thus reflects the life of a woman who rebels simultaneously against patriarchal domination and against class domination, from an initial individual response, to transform itself as part of a collective, a revolution through which to build history.

Album that must be heard! The Specials

In situations of crisis, culture sharpens and new cultural, political and social forms appear. Just as now, in the middle of a global crisis, the Jamaica of the sixties gave a new type of music, Ska. Ska was associated with the Black youth of the slums that aimed to imitate the gangsters from the films of the 50s. A music that could be easily danced was there to denounce the racism still prevailing since the independence from Great Britain.

Around twenty years later, many of these young people emigrated to the post punk blast London. Where the widespread unemployment, the industrial crisis in mining, the Brixton racial riots, Thatcher's neoliberalism, the Irish conflict, and the advancement of the British

extreme-right National Front were every day use. This raised a new wave of Jamaican euphoria, converting, reshaping and blending with the force of punk that emerged from the English working class. This was the context of this first album of The Specials.

This is how blacks and whites mixed in a band that made versions and reinvented old 60 topics while also bringing something new to the dance halls of suburban East End, Brixton and Notting Hill. Songs like Nite Club, which speaks of the nightlife young rude boys and skinheads, the harshness of the Asphalt Jungle (Concrete Jungle), or even love songs like Monkey Man and A Message To You Rudie, began to sound in both, the West Indian working-

class districts and those purely English. A less Caribbean sound than the original but with an impressive claw, emphasizing the bass lines that are stuck into the mind, made it to the top.

The influences of Prince Buster, The Skatalites and Derrick Morgan, inexhaustible sources of which The Specials sucked are noted with greater intensity on the following albums. It's out of doubt that they continued with their anti-racist messages and that they were committed with social issues. Later songs such as Free Nelson Mandela, Rat Race, or Racist Friend could be highlighted. Definitely, an album and a band up key to understand or begin to hear the Ska music. Perfect representative of party and struggle by itself.

11th Congress

The Union of Communist Youth of Spain held its Eleventh Congress the past 9, 10 and 11 April in the municipality of Casarrubuelos (Madrid), under the slogan "Learn>> Fighting>> Overcome."

In it, José León, 25, from Cartagena, was endorsed to be the new General Secretary of the Communist Youth by the 21-member new Central Committee of the UJCE, previously chosen by 83 percent of the 224 accredited delegates to Congress .

During the Congress were approved (with more than 90 percent of the votes), two documents, one political and one organizational, after the debate over 1000 amendments to issues such as the transfer of members to the PCE, the reaffirmation of the commitment of the youth in the new foundation of the Izquierda Unida (Left Wing coalition led by PCE), the strengthening of international solidarity, the struggle of young workers in the current context of crisis and the commitment against unemployment or precarization or the workplace accidents, as well as his defense of public education against the University Strategy 2015.

In congress intervened among others, José Luis Centella, secretary general of the PCE, Cayo Lara, federal coordinating officer for Izquierda Unida, Julián Sánchez de Diego, Communist Mayor of Casarrubuelos as well as Marcos Ana and other veterans of the JSU. (United Socialist Youth, it was the

union of both the communist and socialist youth during the Spanish civil war)

Congress was also attended by foreign representatives of Palestine (PFLP), Belgium (COMAC), France (MJCF), Sahara (UJSARIO), Cyprus (EDON), Greece (KNE), Portugal (JCP), Senegal, Colombia (JUCCO) and Dominican Republic. The World Federation of Democratic Youth, represented by its president, Portugal's Tiago Vieira, wished a good conference and encouraged the new central committee to future efforts to intensify the struggle against imperialism, in the XVII World Festival of Youth and Students, based in South Africa to be held in December this year.

A closure for the memory

Under the closing ceremony of the congress, was released a documentary showing the major struggles and proposals of the Communist Youth. The documentary goes over almost 90 years of history of UJCE through interviews with activists from each of the historical stages of the organization under the title "Learning, Fight, conquer."

Followed a modest tribute to fifty comrades who promote the Party and the interpretation of the historic anthem of the Communist Youth, the "Joven Guardia", by several comrades of the UJCE in Andalusia.

PCE's Festival returns to Madrid

The next 17, 18 and 19 September, the Fiesta del PCE returns to Madrid, this time to the Dolores Ibarruri Park in San Fernando de Henares. The 33rd edition of the PCE Festival will take place in a context of strong social mobilization and will serve as a prelude to the General Strike. Therefore, this year's festival will have the presence of the General Secretaries of CCOO and UGT (main Spanish trade unions), Ignacio Fernández Toxo and Candido Mendez, who will participate in the main conference of the Festival "Reasons for the General Strike, "with Marga Ferre, host of the event and member of Executive Committee of the PCE, Cayo Lara, General Coordinator of IU (a broad political coalition led by PCE) and Jose Luis Centella, General Secretary of the PCE.

In a context of strong capitalist crisis, with strenuous attacks on labor rights the centerpiece of the festival will be the Party's proposal for an Anti-Capitalist Social Alternative (ASA) that will overcome the neoliberal thesis.

In a more suitable format to the current reality of our party, the 2010 Festival is back to Madrid full of the usual activities, as symposia, lectures, concerts, gastronomy, cinema, theater, poetry, etc., and the photo contest, but as all PCE Festivals held since 1977, it comes loaded with the strong bonds of camaraderie and friendship.

As in the previous edition held in Cordoba, this year's entry to the Festival is completely free, although there are aid bonds of € 2 to help paying the costs. Similarly, in cultural terms the 2010 Festival will pay the deserved tribute to the communist poet Miguel Hernandez, in the centenary of his birth.

Thus, the only need left is that we give a massive attendance to the 2010 PCE Festival with the objective to give the final impulse to a general strike that will not only paralyze the country, but will definitively overthrow the labor reform.

The advertising has invaded our lives, has crept into the kitchen. Each television or radio show has a sponsor. In the news, the sports section is also sponsored as well as the weather time. There are ads that announce and sponsor other ads. Every movie you see on television is sponsored by some company. Each summer festival has its own retail giant, to the point of renaming the festival. The FIB, Independent Benicassim Festival now is called FIB Heineken, and this is only an example of many. There is advertising on the inside subway cars, inside the bus through its small televisions, on sidewalks, in universities, in schools, on soccer fields in the facades of buildings, on billboards in the highway and in the construction. Although you may flee to the beach to watch the sea and to stay away from the promenade and the apartment towers, believing you've found an add-free space on the seaside, the Alcampo plane will cross the horizon to remind you where to go shopping. That's the way it goes. The bastards hire fucking aircrafts, with its pilots, the fuel and the track to takeoff and land, so that not even walking to the shore with the Mediterranean as infinite, you are safe from their influence.

Underground trains and trams in which the whole car is a huge announcement that does not allow to see inside. In cities like London and Barcelona are subjects engaged to walk with a board hanging in front and another behind, announcing

a nearby restaurant or store, is the ultimate, the human ad mobile. No doubt, there'll be who opines that such great humiliation is a cosmopolitan touch to the city.

Only on television we see an average of 94 ads per day. A leakage to a remote village in the mountains will not be safe: there advertising that reaches the mobile phone via sms. Remember what life was like when there were no mobile phones? Not easy, right? It's in the air the terrifying feeling that they have always existed. How does the world worked? The contradictory impression that every individual is reachable can be alarming, there is no place to hide or direction in which to run. In theory, they make us closer to those who we love, but they keep us away from our fellows in a terrible individualism diaspora. When taking the subway at rush hour is pertinent to

note carefully around. Nobody speaks, all are glued to their mobile sending sms (Who? Where? In themselves actually ...) or playing Pac-Man and Tetris. Most are absorbed traveling without paying the slightest attention to what surrounds them, hunged from their mp3s or I pods. There is no escape or possible Logan's Run, advertising wrap us

in such way that at times the individual can not escape the ad because, simple and plain he is literally within it, as could be illustrated by the following anecdote:

The one that signed these lines was quietly dining with a female in a restaurant in Madrid's downtown, while between drinks of wine he burst his misleading and biased speech with dark and evil intentions. Suddenly the peaceful tranquility of the place was stormed by four lunatics dressed in fashionable way who from corner to corner of the room, howling to his lungs, screamed the advantages and benefits of switching to particular telephone company, showing the cellular the brand will gift you for changing your contract to that company. Thus, telephone companies hire young boys and girls (good looking of course) so that in the middle of dinner, in live performance, narrate the benefits of X company. At first it seemed funny and original to me as well as to the other diners who amazed and laughing earthy, but as the ad went on, I got the terrible anguish sense of just that: being in an ad. There was no physical distance, those present were part of the spot, we could not change channels. For a moment I considered the possibility of putting a plate of squid on as a hat to one of those models (behavior models?) but I liked the girl I was dining with me. I didn't want to look even more rare than I really am. I didn't want to have to excuse myself saying that I had the feeling of being inside an ad and how distressing was for me, and to put a plate of squid on as a hat to one of those advertisers was the closest thing to change the channel I could think, because that, for sure, will make the ad cease...

The break of reality was complete, sublime, inexorable. We were part of the ad, We were unpaid workforce. I searched for my Logan's Run, but I couldn't find it, and like the rest of forced employees, I smiled with a jerkface.

* **Opinion article of Nega, member of Los Chikos del Maíz, (a Hip Hop revolutionary band)**

Cayetano Bolívar, for the people as a medical doctor and deputy

He was born in 1898 in a family of the rural bourgeoisie from Jaén. The social standing of his parents enabled him (he became the first communist deputy in the history of Spain) to study medicine at the University of Granada, specializing in gynecology and obstetrics.

There, he achieved excellent grades, which enabled him for further studies in 1924 in the University of Leipzig. In this German city Cayetano Bolívar contacted with communist ideals, which were very strong in Germany, despite the defeat of the Spartacus in 1919.

After his return to Spain he is installed in Malaga, where he began to practice professionally. In Malaga, along with other medical doctors with republican and socialist ideology, he opens a sanatorium in "El Palo" neighbourhood to provide health care to anyone who needs it, that was quite odd in the early twentieth century Spanish society.

To ensure this attention they devised a system whereby patients with greater economical capacities contributed to the treatment of those with fewer resources. After that the people nicknamed him as "the poor's doctor".

His medical activity goes along with a broad political and intellectual activity. Thus begins the establishment of the provincial committee of PCE, weakened by the repression (dictator Primo de Rivera was ruling) and the short-sightedness of its leaders at that time. He joined the Masonic loggia of Malaga, where he is named "Lenin." In 1930 he was arrested several times for supporting strikers.

He was a candidate for councilor in the 1931 elections, which ends up with the enmity of the bourgeois forces of Malaga.

Then he escapes to Villa de Don Fadrique in Toledo, where a powerful communist movement had reached the power. Once there, he not only exercises as a medical doctor, but reinforces politically and ideologically the local communists. In 1932 Toledo provincial governor tries to remove the mayor of the town, cheered by the local bourgeois. The result, a series of near-revolutionary incidents that made that area of "La Mancha" be known as "Little Russia".

At the beginning of the repression against the communists Bolívar is arrested and taken to court, to be later sentenced to prison. There, he dedicates his

time to translate Marx's original German texts and to educate inmates in Marxism-Leninism.

To make Cayetano free, the Communists present him as a candidate for deputy of the district of Malaga in 1933, when the first round finishes, "the poor's doctor" gets a surprising first place, but he doesn't obtain the required percentage and is needed a second round. In the second round all the reactionary forces grouped their candidates in a single list called "Antimanagerial Coalition". In this situation and freed from the narrowness of its previous guidance, the PCE authorized Bolívar to create a "Popular Front", along with left-wing socialists and republicans. On this second round leftist candidates get most of the seats, leaving Bolívar third, becoming the first member of PCE to reach the parliament.

In parliament, Bolívar finds that the reactionary forces, which he called "stinking pond", start to become stronger and corrupted. There, he defends the interests of the working class, displaying an incredible activity, which faces him fiercely with the right. At that time, his long speeches became famous, reading the Capital to delay the adoption of anti-labour laws. In Madrid, he starts a friendship with the new leadership of the PCE, especially with Pepe Díaz and Dolores Ibarruri. In 1934 he was arrested while visiting a few journeymen strikers, it ended with a parliament isolation for him promoted by the same rightwing president of the Congress. The fall of the government by several corruption scandals makes clear Bolívar saying that capitalism and corruption come together.

In 1936 he is re-elected as deputy for Málaga, this time the first round in the lists of the Popular Front. At the beginning of the civil war is one of the top civilians in charge of the city defense, trying by all means to get military support to a city besieged that all the military republican leaders believed that was already lost. He managed to get away from the city in middle of one of the worst massacres orchestrated by the Nazi Fascism in Spain. Exonerated from any responsibility in the loss of Malaga he is appointed as provincial health director of his home province, Jaén. He took this position compatible with their parliamentary status. After the fall of the legitimate government, Bolívar, isolated in Jaén, is unable to go into exile and is captured in Baeza.

Once again in prison, he is brought to Granada, where a few weeks before the 13 roses and the 43 carnations, Cayetano Bolívar, "the poor's doctor" and Communist deputy, is shot.