

WORKERS' VOICE

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What We Stand For

WORKERS' VOICE is the publication of Workers' Voice / La Voz de los Trabajadores, a revolutionary socialist organization founded with the fusion of Socialist Resurgence and Workers' Voice in March 2022.

We aim to build a strong, working-class, multinational revolutionary party that defends the principle of class independence and is capable of providing theoretical and political coordination for the struggles of exploited and oppressed communities.

Our ultimate goal is to build a socialist society—one in which productive resources are collectively owned and controlled by the people, not by corporations and the rich ruling elite; where wealth and knowledge are invested in human needs (food, health care, housing, education, and culture) and not in creating profits for a handful of exploiters; and where government is controlled democratically by workers, not by capitalists and their political regime. Building a socialist society means distributing wealth equitably, dismantling all forms of oppression (including but not limited to racism, sexism, heterosexism, transphobia, and ableism), ending wars of plunder and conquest, and protecting the environment.

We do not believe these aspirations can be achieved under capitalism, which is a system rooted in exploitation and inextricably linked to inequality, war, and environmental destruction. Thus, we reject capitalist parties like the Democrats and the Republicans, whose political projects openly protect business



WORKERS' VOICE

interests at the expense of workers.

Workers need a party of their own. We call for an independent and militant labor party that will break from the Democratic Party.

We fight for the immediate material needs of workers and oppressed people (such as better wages and benefits), as well as for social and democratic reforms that benefit the working class. But we must go further. To bring about a truly free and just society, we must mobilize the working class, along with all oppressed and marginalized peoples, to take political power and replace the capitalist order.

We actively support the new unionization drives, while working toward building a class-struggle left wing in the trade-union movement to take on the bosses. We think unions should be democratically run, rely on collective action such as strikes, and operate independently from the bosses and the State. Unions should fight sexism, racism, and all forms of oppression in the workplace and society at large.

Climate change is the biggest threat that humanity and all life on this planet face

today. "Green capitalism" and individual consumer choices are entirely insufficient to tackle the catastrophe facing the planet. Fossil-fuel-driven capitalism must be abolished and replaced with a planned socialist economy based upon renewable energy, mass transit, and the shared and carefully planned use of resources for the public good. As a major step toward that goal, the energy industry needs to be nationalized under workers' and community control in order to convert it to renewable energy sources.

Sexism, racism, Islamophobia, anti-immigrant sentiment, homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of oppression and discrimination are the product of capitalism's drive toward the lowest wages, most meager living standards, creation of an auxiliary work force, denigration of unpaid labor, and the disunity that prevents an organized resistance to these conditions.

Therefore, we support the struggles of those who are specially oppressed under capitalism—women and the LGBTQI+ communities, and those suffering national oppression. We support and help build movements for the oppressed with a class-struggle perspective so that such movements can articulate their own demands and develop political consciousness as a group.

The unpaid labor of women and other caregivers is vital to the functioning of capitalism, which privatizes and atomizes the labor and costs associated with raising, nurturing, and maintaining workers. This is why, beyond demanding full reproductive rights and bodily autonomy, the liberation of women and transgender and gender non-conforming individuals rests upon the overthrow of the capitalist system and its replacement with socialism.

We stand against all forms of racism, and we demand open borders and the immediate closure of immigrant detention camps. We support the right of the oppressed and exploited to defend themselves from racist and fascist violence. Defeating the far right requires a mass mobilization of broad social forces, including the labor movement ranks. We support self-determination for Black people and for Native Americans—both of whom are oppressed nationalities in the United States. We support Native American demands for recognition of treaty rights, confronting the epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous women, and full nationhood.

We understand that the United States is an imperialist, colonial power, and we defend the right to self-determination for the peoples of U.S. colonies such as Puerto Rico, Guam, and Samoa. The process of building a revolutionary party in the U.S. is inseparable from the struggle for a revolutionary *international* party. Workers' Voice is a sympathizing section of the International Workers League. ■

Our 10-point program

1) Defend unions and workers' rights to organize! For an independent labor party based on a democratic, fighting labor movement! No support for Democrats and Republicans!

2) Stop all deportations now! Equal rights for immigrants! Close the camps!

3) Black Lives Matter! Jail killer cops! Dismantle the racist police and the criminal "justice" system! Reparations and self-determination for Black people, Puerto Ricans, and all indigenous and colonized communities!

4) Reproductive justice: Free, accessible contraception and abortion on demand.

5) Free quality universal public health care now! Quality free public child care and elder care for all, 24-7! Free education for a lifetime!

6) Full civil and human rights for the LGBTQIA+ community!

7) For climate justice! Public ownership of the energy industry under workers' and community control to achieve emergency conversion to 100% renewable energy!

8) No U.S. military intervention abroad! Dismantle the war machine! End U.S. aid to Israel! End sanctions on Venezuela, Iran, and Cuba! For a free and democratic secular Palestine!

9) For the full integration of disabled people into social, political, and economic life.

10) Public ownership, under workers' control, of big industry, transport, and the banks! For a workers' government and a planned economy—for socialism!

Get involved! Join Workers' Voice!

**To learn more about
Workers Voice —**

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By ERNIE GOTTA

Unionized federal employees are facing a real crisis due to serious attacks by the Trump administration. These attacks threaten the very existence of federal unions and collective bargaining rights that provide good wages and working conditions. This threat should put all union workers on notice!

The Trump administration wants to smash the federal employee unions. The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) alone represents over 820,000 workers in nearly every agency of the federal and D.C. governments, spread across 900 local unions. AFGE and other unions that organize federal workers represent a massive obstacle to the anti-worker/pro-corporate project being carried out by Trump that was first outlined by the Heritage Foundation in “Project 2025” and is being realized with Executive Order 14251.

What does Project 2025 recommend? It proposes to eliminate 1 million federal jobs, privatize federal agencies, make deep cuts to federal worker pay and benefits, and discriminate against people of color and LGBTQIA+ people. But in order to do this they have to smash the federal employees’ unions. The Trump administration often keeps these Reduction in Forces (RIF) notices secret. Some agencies have made cuts by incentivizing departures or natural attrition. The State, Veteran Affairs, Education, and HHS departments are all moving forward with mass layoffs. The total number of agencies that will be impacted is unclear but ranges from between 40 to 70 RIF actions that will impact 17 to 19 agencies.

Jobs on the chopping block

Citing Executive Order 14251, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has moved forward with terminating the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) of the majority of union members in the department. In a press release on Aug. 6, VA Secretary Doug Collins said, “Too often, unions that represent VA employees fight against the best interests of Veterans while protecting and rewarding bad workers. We’re making sure VA resources and employees are singularly focused on the job we were sent here to do: providing top-notch care and service to those who wore the uniform.”

AFGE President Everett Kelley responded, “The real reason Collins wants AFGE out of the VA is because we have opposed the Trump administration’s plan to dismantle veteran health care through the cutting of 83,000 jobs, successfully fought against the disastrous and anti-veteran recommendations ... that would have shut down several rural VA hospitals and clinics, and consistently educated the American people about how private, for-profit veteran health care is more expensive and results in worse outcomes for veterans.”

Billionaire Secretary of Education Linda McMahon has put the Department of Education on the chopping block. While she wants to completely dismantle the department, the Supreme Court has cleared the way for the Trump administration to slash 1400 jobs, or nearly half of the workforce. AFGE Local 252 President Sheria Smith responded in a statement on the union’s website, “Let’s be clear, despite this decision, the Department of Education has a choice—a choice to recommit to providing critical services for the American people and reject political agendas. The agency doesn’t have to move forward with this callous act of eliminating services and terminating

What’s at stake with Trump’s attacks on federal workers?

Josh Morgan / USA Today



dedicated workers.”

On July 15, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), headed by conspiracy theorist Robert F. Kennedy Jr., is planning a new round of layoffs on top of the 10,000 workers who lost their jobs on April 1. In total, HHS is planning to lay off some 20,000 workers. According to *The Guardian*, nearly 3000 positions at the State Department have been eliminated through layoffs and voluntary departures this year. More than 250,000 federal employees overall have already left government service via early retirements or buyouts.

What are the union attacks about?

These attacks are not about curbing government spending. The Trump administration is lavishing huge amounts of money on war, deportations, and policing. The government is setting itself to spend loads of cash through Trump’s “Big Beautiful Bill.” The bill shells out \$150 billion, giving ICE a larger budget than most of the world’s militaries. Mike Winters of CNBC reports, “President Donald Trump’s ‘big beautiful tax-and-spending bill, which he signed into law on July 4, is forecast to increase federal deficits by at least \$3.4 trillion over the next decade, according to the Congressional Budget Office. That’s on top of the gross federal debt, which has climbed to more than \$36 trillion, up from about \$23 trillion in early 2020—an increase of over 50% in just five years, driven by pandemic relief, rising entitlement costs and persistent deficit spending.”

Taking away the CBA will allow government agencies to more easily fire or lay off workers, slash wages, and cut benefits. The attacks on the federal unions

(Above) Federal workers protest at U.S. Capitol.

can serve as an opening volley that will provide the bosses an opportunity to go after state and private sector workers in order to maximize profits for the capitalist class. How can trade unionists stop this process?

A way forward for federal workers

The AFGE and other unions are relying on Democrats and a capitalist court system to fairly address their grievances. Historically, however, the Democrats and U.S. court system have often ruled in favor of the corporate bosses. Courts have leveled injunctions against picketing workers, arbitrated in favor of the bosses over unjust firings, and much more.

Democrats continue to tell unions to focus on legislation or trust in the courts. While the unions exhaust the path through the courts, they also have a responsibility to wage a mass struggle in the streets. Why are there no picket lines, strikes, fundraising, education, and mass marches? Why have the AFGE and the AFL-CIO not made a call for every union worker to go into the streets to oppose Trump’s attacks?

Today more than ever we need fighting and democratic trade unions that uplift the voices of rank-and-file workers, break their reliance on Democrats and the courts, and build an independent working-class movement. We need a movement that is able to link the attacks on federal workers with the broader social struggles and win over industrial, logistics, and other workers in the private sector that can have a big impact by shutting down capitalist profits at the point of production. ■

Trump's Police State Ambitions



— ICE Expansion & Troops in DC —

By JOHN LESLIE

Trump's first months in office have seen an unrelenting assault on democratic rights, workers' rights, immigrant workers, and LGBTQ people.

In August, Trump announced a federal takeover of the District of Columbia police and deployed close to 2300 National Guard troops to the city, claiming the need to crack down on criminals and homeless people. Trump tried to bolster his claims of widespread crime by alleging that Washington, D.C., is "dirty, disgusting" and full of "drugged-out maniacs." Trump also stated his intention to "take back" other cities, singling out Chicago for military occupation, along with San Francisco, Baltimore, and Oakland.

On Aug. 25, Trump issued an Executive Order (EO) that further escalates the use of the military against domestic civilian populations. Particularly alarming is the creation of a "standing National Guard quick reaction force," which could be deployed at the order of the president "to ensure public safety and order" in U.S. cities.

While signing the EO, Trump told the press that "a lot of people are saying, 'Maybe we like a dictator.'" He quickly followed this remark by assuring the reporters, "I'm not a dictator. I'm a man with great common sense." However, at a cabinet meeting the next day, Trump again referred to the term "dictator" while denying that there might be any limitations on his "right" to send troops to Chicago: "Not that I don't have ... the right to do anything I want to do. I'm the president of the United States."

This use of the military, coupled with the massive increase in funding for U.S. Immigration and Customs and Enforcement (ICE), is a demonstration of Trump's authoritarian ambitions.

In an effort to side step the 1878 Posse Comitatus Act, which forbids the use of military forces for civilian law enforcement, Trump issued a memo on April 11 that declared a 60-footwide strip of land spanning three states along the southern border as a "military installation" to "address the emergency." This allowed troops who are stationed there to act as de facto border police.

Trump has taken the tools given to him by past administrations and directed them into a mass deportation regime using a myriad of federal agencies, including the FBI, ATF, and the Postal Inspection Service to augment ICE and Border Patrol efforts. FBI field offices were directed to shift personnel from other investigations to immigration enforcement.

ICE, which is supervised by Trump loyalist Kristi Noem, is an unaccountable, rogue organization acting as Trump's political police. Despite Trump's campaign rhetoric about targeting so-called "criminal aliens," ICE is going after immigrants without any criminal records, snatching people as they go to citizenship hearings and separating children from families as they arrest the parents. The round-up of immigrant workers is designed to terrorize immigrant workers and their allies.

The white supremacist nature of



David Pashee

Trumpism is revealed in the way immigration policy has targeted Black and Brown people, while the regime brings in white South African farmers with fake claims that genocide is taking place against white people in that country.

The budget bill signed by Trump in July contains a massive increase in funding for ICE, making ICE the largest U.S. law enforcement agency, with the addition of up to 10,000 more agents. According to *The Independent*, funding for ICE "surpasses the annual military budgets of Iran, Turkey, Spain, Mexico, Iran, and at least 23 countries."

Education requirements for agents, which required a bachelor's degree, have been relaxed. On Aug. 6, the Department of Homeland Security posted on X, "Serve your country! Defend Your Culture! No undergraduate degree required!" in an open appeal to white racism. Trump has already emboldened white nationalist groupings with his rhetoric, and after years of complaints regarding white supremacist infiltration of police at all levels, there are legitimate concerns about fascist infiltration

of ICE. In February, James Joseph Rodden, assistant chief counsel for ICE in the Dallas area, was exposed as the administrator of a white supremacist X account. Additionally, the administration is planning to deploy 1700 troops to assist with immigration enforcement and detention. ICE could also subcontract enforcement to mercenary companies.

The budget bill also allocates \$45 billion to building new detention facilities. According to the Brennan Center, the new funding will "approximately double immigrant detention capacity, from about 56,000 detention beds to potentially more than 100,000. Private prison companies—including many that were significant financial supporters of GOP candidates for Congress as well as the president's election campaign—will reap major financial benefits from this spending, as nearly 90 percent of people in ICE custody are currently held in facilities run by for-profit firms."

Mass arrests and mass detention of immigrant workers will undoubtedly lead to more abuses, with reports already citing overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, forced labor, lack of beds and bedding, inadequate food and water, and exposure to extreme temperatures. There are also allegations of racism, sexual assaults, medical neglect, and physical abuse, with 14 reported deaths in ICE custody in 2025.

The Guardian reports: "Migrants at a Miami immigration jail were shackled with their hands tied behind their backs and made to kneel to eat food from styrofoam plates 'like dogs.'" Detainees at the "Alligator Alcatraz" in the Everglades are held in cages and exposed to mosquitoes with bright lights on at all times. A federal judge has ordered the facility to be closed down.

Working people must build a robust mass defense of immigrant communities and against ICE and military occupation. We must build a unified fight-back on multiple fronts to push back Trump's immigrant round-up and to thwart attacks on free speech and the right to organize. This also means building a campaign not just to hold police agencies accountable, but to abolish these repressive forces entirely.

Community defense and emergency response networks, based on participatory and democratic assemblies, can be a crucial component of the infrastructure of resistance. Community defense, combined with united front mass actions, must involve the ranks of the unions and all other social forces opposed to Trump's authoritarianism.

Another urgent task is preparing a break with the capitalist Democratic Party. We cannot afford illusions in a party that is complicit in waging genocide in Palestine and has been a key factor in the growth of the repressive apparatus. ■

By ERWIN FREED

Immigrant defense requires action by the whole working class

Antonio Brandon Bell / Getty Images

Immigrant workers continue to find ways to survive and build new communities. Now, in the face of ICE becoming the largest federal law enforcement agency, the question is posed for all of us—how can militant workers build movement organizations capable of mobilizing a real defense of immigrants?

A current tactic is that of “Rapid Response Networks.” These networks can take many different forms. Some versions are more in line with the goal of building a movement that can connect immigrant self-defense with the broader labor movement, while others tend to miss opportunities at building mass actions and collective organizing.

Perhaps the most common type of “Rapid Response Network” is a collection of groups and individuals who maintain a phone line for people to report ICE and other immigration activity. Ideally, reporting ICE sightings allows at-risk community members to avoid potential contact with La Migra.

Although Rapid Response Networks of this type have value, they are short of what is politically needed to defeat the whole deportation machine. They generally do little to create the types of broad and democratic grassroots organizations that are capable of politically empowering immigrant and non-immigrant workers.

At the same time, it should be recognized that mass reporting methods of this type are already prevalent in many immigrant communities. Facebook groups, WhatsApp threads, and even phone trees where people reported ICE activity were common well before Trump.

These existing and emerging networks are one place to look for potential militant leadership in working-class immigrant communities.

Deportations and immigration policy are fundamental parts of capitalist class rule. Police harassment, cruel detention centers, and constant uncertainty all work to make undocumented workers nervous about fighting back. Working-class leaders are targeted with raids, arbitrary arrest, and often torture. These methods of subjugation are then used to discipline the rest of the working class when it gets too unruly.

Unity between native-born workers and immigrants is on the order of the day. Unions must begin dedicating resources to not only running campaigns against deportations but giving real working-class support to immigrant communities. Formations



based on deep, person-to-person organizing—like the community defense watches in Los Angeles—provide a model for what the working class can create. Neighbors in that city are organizing themselves to join community members watching for and quickly protesting ICE presence.

These concrete experiences show the possibility of organizing rapid mass mobilization response committees that combine organized labor, immigrant community activists, and the broader social movements—all of which have much overlap.

In moments like these, demands such as “open borders” and “papers for all” can become rallying points to move forward. Connecting broader political demands with deportation defense, community patrols, and mass, on-the-ground, political education campaigns are tools for building a real fightback to police terror. ICE’s strength comes from lawlessness and secrecy; ours comes in our numbers and social position. Workers and students must understand that their fates are tied in with the undocumented community.

If driven forward through enthusiastic coalition building, principled separation from Democratic Party control, and actively organizing behind the immigrant working class, these community defense efforts can fundamentally shift the terrain of class struggle in the United States.

Student walkouts against school members’ immigration arrests point

the way for broader struggles. Heroic and important examples of high school students leading their entire schools in walkouts show the embryo of the movement that we need.

Unfortunately, the labor movement has been frustratingly hesitant in this moment of ruling-class onslaught. At a time when all unions should be calling for a general strike in defense of public-sector workers, there are only harsh words and symbolic actions.

Millions of rank-and-file workers are looking for the opportunity to mobilize and organize for a better world. All over the country, non-immigrants are showing that they are willing to put themselves at risk in defense of their immigrant neighbors.

Unions can make use of this enthusiasm for struggle. Organizing union participation in defense of immigrants will largely depend on shop-floor discussions on the current situation. It is at this level where clear connections can be made between local ICE activity, the national situation, and the ongoing attack on working-class living standards.

Just as important as shop-floor discussions is movement organization. There is a need for inspiring events to which workers can go who are interested in learning more about the struggle and getting involved in it. Every new escalation from Trump, every capitulation by the Democratic Party, every new excess by ICE demands urgent forums, discussions, and mobilizations. ■

Trade unionists can bring defense cases to union meetings, raise money for defense funds, and stand in political solidarity with detainees. They can connect with other locals and community networks and begin to mobilize in the streets, with picketing and other forms of collective public action.

Maintaining this level of mobilization and organization is not easy—but it is necessary. When speaking with our coworkers on the shop floor, it’s important to explain that labor action is both possible and necessary.

The surest method of pushing back the tide of ICE terror would be for the unions to engage in political strikes. But such steps will require enormous pressure from the ranks to push the unions into motion, and a fundamental transformation in their current organizing methods.

A labor movement capable of taking strike action in defense of immigrants is a labor movement with rich internal discussions and a high level of democratic functioning.

Now, as many thousands are yearning to fight back, the moment for action is ripe, and the need is urgent. Trump’s overextended political and repressive measures are beginning to remove the blindfolds that surround bourgeois culture. Experiences in working-class organizations of struggle can reveal the full reality—both the rot of capitalist society and the endless capacity of workers to run things in a better way. ■



European ‘recognition’ of a Palestinian state is a mirage

By JAMES MARKIN

With the crisis in Gaza caused by the Israeli military’s genocidal onslaught becoming increasingly dire, Israel’s diplomatic standing globally has continued to disintegrate under the pressure from public pressure and social movements across the globe. Nowhere has this been more apparent than in Europe, which was once one of the friendliest regions in the world for Israel.

After almost two years of genocidal war, the European public has become increasingly firm in demonstrating its displeasure with European governments’ closeness with Israel. This June, for example, tens of thousands marched against Israel in Europe. In Berlin alone, on June 23, 50,000 marched against the genocide. In August, huge demonstrations were carried out in other European cities like Amsterdam, Madrid, and Geneva.

These protests are significant because they show the outrage of the European working class despite increasingly aggressive repression by European governments in an attempt to destroy the Palestine solidarity movement. For example, at demonstrations in support of the banned group Palestine Action in London in August, hundreds of protesters were arrested. Similar arrests and police violence against protesters in Germany has become a common occurrence over the last year, according to reporting in the independent outlet *Unicorn Riot*.

Now, amidst rising reports of starvation and killings at food distribution centers, many European

governments have begun to take action to show the public their desire for a “diplomatic solution” in Gaza. Israel’s movement to take over Gaza City and to build another 3400 housing units in the West Bank increased their concerns.

In response to Israel’s belligerent actions, the Italian defense minister, Guido Crosetto, publicly mused about the possibility of sanctions. Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever had already made similar threats in July along with a push for the EU to take action against Israel. Spain has made a similar push at the EU level. At the same time, the Irish Dáil (Parliament) is preparing to pass the long-awaited Occupied Territories Bill, which would make it illegal to import goods from Israeli settlements into Ireland. Most shockingly, German Chancellor Mertz, a close ally of Netanyahu, announced that Germany would no longer approve the sale of “offensive weapons” to Israel in the wake of the new plan. However, Mertz also said that Germany’s basic approach towards Israel has not changed, and it seems clear that Germany still plans to back Israel, although maybe not as much as before.

The most highly touted action taken by European states recently was the move to formally recognize a Palestinian state. France, Malta, and Portugal, as well as non-European allies Australia and Canada, announced that they planned to formally take this step at a UN meeting in September.

A despicable moment occurred when British Prime Minister Keir Starmer joined the chorus, saying that he would recognize Palestine in September as well,

although he made the recognition contingent on an ultimatum to Israel. Starmer stated that his recognition would occur “unless the Israeli government takes substantive steps to end the appalling situation in Gaza, agree to a ceasefire, and commit to a long-term, sustainable peace, reviving the prospect of a two-state solution.”

Making the recognition of the independence of an oppressed nation contingent on the behavior of their genocidal oppressor is obviously abhorrent, although not shocking when coming from Starmer and the British government.

French plans to “recognize a Palestinian state” and push for a two-state “solution” are no better and are merely cover for a different imperialist plan for Palestine. The documents put forward by France and its allies clearly outline a plan, not for Palestinian sovereignty, but instead for a “demilitarized” Palestinian puppet state.

This is clear in the French and Saudi joint statement on the recognition of a Palestinian state that was released on July 29. While the statement does condemn Israeli crimes that it says “long since ceased to have any military or political justification,” it also calls for Middle Eastern states to normalize relations with Israel and to recognize it.

In a further statement at the United Nations on the same day, French representatives made clear what political resolution they support in their “recognition” when they stated: “Governance, law enforcement and security across all Palestinian territory must lie solely with the Palestinian Authority, with appropriate international support. We welcomed the ‘One State, One Government, One Law, One Gun’ policy of the Palestinian Authority and pledged our support to its implementation, including through the necessary DDR [Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration] process that should be completed within an agreed mechanism with international partners and a set timeframe.”

A plain reading of their statements shows that France, Britain, and the European imperialists don’t want to create a Palestinian state that truly represents the will of the Palestinian people; rather they want to empower a regime akin to that of the historic Norwegian prime minister, Vidkun Quisling. Quisling, who was the head of the officially independent Norwegian state, in reality was merely the face of the Nazi occupation of the country. Similarly, the Franco-Saudi push for “recognition” of a Palestinian state repeatedly calls for the disarmament and dissolution of all armed forces in Gaza, to be replaced by the leadership of the Palestinian Authority, which receives its funding and marching orders from the State of Israel.

The reality is that there is no possibility of an independent and sovereign Palestinian state as long as the Israeli Defense Force remains a heavily armed proxy for U.S. imperialism. The truth of the two-state “solution” is that any “independent” Palestinian state, even if it is not disarmed and directly controlled by Israel, would be completely under its dominance. This is clear from the recent political histories of other neighboring counties, like Lebanon and Syria, which have been totally shaped by Israeli military interference.

The only solution that will allow sovereign Palestinian, Lebanese, and Syrian states is the destruction of the IDF, and ultimately, the State of Israel, from which it operates. In its place instead must be created a democratic Palestine with equal rights for those of all religious, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. ■

Imperialists circle like vultures as Ukrainians fight on

By CARLOS SAPIR

Over the past months, international press teams rushed from junket to junket as U.S., EU, and Russian imperialists met to exchange pleasantries and discuss how to carve up Ukraine. While imperialists dine together and do banal publicity stops, Ukrainians continue to fight on the front against the invasion, determined to preserve their independence.

On Aug. 15, two war criminals met in Anchorage, Alaska, to speak briefly in private. With much fanfare and little new to show for it, it is clear that the ultimate purpose of this summit was for Putin and his entourage to flex Russia's diplomatic clout and recite their self-serving pablum about "denazifying" Ukraine with the smiling endorsement of the U.S. president. For his part, Trump likely expected that it would help pressure Zelensky into making more economic concessions.

Like countless imperialists before them, from Kissinger to Woodrow Wilson to Hitler, Trump and Putin took great pains to present themselves as men of peace. Standing in front of a facade emblazoned with the words "Pursuing Peace," Trump and Putin got to pretend that they were solving a thorny problem, when in reality they are working to subjugate Ukraine and clear the way to launch the next war of their choosing.

But even as Putin and his allies like Viktor Orbán try to project that the war is already as good as over, reality is not quite so accommodating. Even the location of the summit betrayed this: More typical and convenient U.S.-Russia summit locations like Iceland, Finland, or the capital cities of the U.S. and Russia themselves are off-limits, due to European countries and Canada having closed off their airspace to Russian planes. Meanwhile, Ukrainian drones and cyberattacks have forced airports in European Russia to repeatedly shut down for extended periods of time. Even in Anchorage, where Trump rolled out the red carpet, hundreds of protesters also showed up to greet Putin with a sea of Ukrainian flags.

Following the summit, Trump went on to meet with Zelensky and EU leaders, making murky promises to them while siding with Putin's demand that Ukraine make territorial concessions "for peace." Of course, this proposal is a farce, as there is no peace for Ukrainians for as long as their country remains occupied by an imperialist power.

Trump vaguely promised U.S.-backed security commitments for Ukraine, a phrase that should cause déjà vu and skepticism among Ukrainians following the proceedings: After all, the U.S., Russia and Britain promised the same thing in 1994 when they signed the Budapest Memorandum, promising to guarantee Ukraine's independence in exchange for Ukraine giving up its nuclear weapon arsenal, at the time second in size only to those of the U.S. and Russia themselves. Ukraine committed to its promises; the imperialist states did not.

Since the beginning of the war, Ukraine has been desperate to arm itself in order to fend off the invasion. Rather than dedicating its domestic production to the war effort and nationalizing Russian assets in Ukraine—which even now are still owned by and generate profits for Putin's bourgeois allies—Ukraine's government chose to pander to NATO's imperialists



begin to address the injustices committed.

Workers' solidarity

At the same time, international worker to worker solidarity can help mitigate the shortfalls that Ukraine's neoliberal government won't address. While modest for now, efforts like the Ukraine Solidarity Network's current medical equipment fundraiser for Ukrainian nurses' union Be Like We Are! both provide direct aid to workers standing up to the Russian invasion and build the international political ties needed for Ukrainian workers to decisively confront their own government, to be able to fight for an independence that actually means something to working-class people.

As demonstrated by the anti-corruption protests in July, Ukrainians, hardened by the war, are more than willing to stand up to their own government and to force concessions when it tries to strip away their rights. Trump and Putin have the time and resources to put on a show and pretend that Ukraine doesn't exist. But they have not been able to actually make Ukrainians disappear, or to make them abandon the fight that began with marches in the streets against Putin's lackey Poroshenko, and which continues more than a decade later in the trenches fighting against Russia's mercenaries. ■

and accept their impositions of debt, austerity budgets, and profit-driven production in the name of "fiscal responsibility." Almost immediately after taking office, Trump further extorted a mineral resources deal from Zelensky.

Debts and one-sided trade deals imposed on Ukraine while it is under the duress of an invasion are the essence of imperialist politics. They are morally unjustifiable, and must be denounced. The cancellation of all these debts and deals benefitting the U.S. and other imperialist states and their banks would only barely

Support Ukrainian Workers!

The Ukraine Solidarity Network, a national coalition of organizations and individual activists in the U.S., has embarked on a fundraiser to raise \$38,000 for the Ukrainian nurses' union. The union, Be Like We Are! (Будь як ми!), is trying to raise the funds for the purchase of two medical diagnostic machines in partnership with the Ukrainian-American nonprofit, Kryla.

This campaign is a vitally important opportunity to build real worker-to-worker solidarity with the

Ukrainian working class. In this time of war, while Russian imperialism is ruthlessly bombing civilians, our solidarity takes on critical importance.

Resources:

GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-krylas-lifechanging-mission>

Donate to Support Ukrainian Nurses! on the USN site: <https://www.ukrainesolidaritynetwork.us/donate-to-support-ukrainian-nurses/> This site includes downloadable literature and social media cards. ■

Big Tech's Honeymoon with Trump



By HERMAN MORRIS

The Trump presidency opened with the biggest explicit political embrace of a party and president ever by tech capitalists. While previous presidents would court the tech industry's support, Trump's second term saw explicit political donations to his inauguration fund, personal appearances on the campaign trail, and a now infamous photo lineup of most of the biggest names in the tech industry attending his inauguration as guests of honor. Undoubtedly, tech CEOs were expecting to get something for this brazen display of allegiance.

Through the power of the executive, these wins have been plain to see: Trump rebuffed the nativist wing of his party to protect the H1-B program (an important source of cheaper labor for tech industrialists), repealed Biden's executive order to regulate the AI industry, and began forming a strategic crypto reserve.

Beyond the executive orders, Trump's biggest giveaway to the tech industry was installing Elon Musk at the head of DOGE and allowing him to carry out a massive attack on federal workers, including layoffs, slashed budgets, and ripping up union contracts. After the measures were tied up in the courts for some time, the Supreme Court has given Trump the go-ahead for continuing the layoffs of federal workers. While it will take some time to fully assess how many jobs were cut by Trump, *The New York Times* estimates so far that more than 130,000 jobs have been removed and there are an additional 140,000+ cuts planned.

While the DOGE program failed in its goal of eliminating a trillion dollars in government spending, it still achieved many strategic victories for Trump and the far right to empower the executive branch



to unilaterally redefine and destroy sections of that branch on a whim, and to force over a hundred thousand workers off their jobs, lowering the value of labor across the U.S. by spiking unemployment.

Somewhat behind the scenes has been the continuation of awarding defense and aerospace contracts to tech companies. For years now, tech companies have been more heavily involved in government contracts domestically and abroad. These include JEDI (a military cloud contract with the U.S. and Microsoft), NIMBUS (a cloud contract with the IDF and Google/Amazon), and project Maven (an AI surveillance contract between the Pentagon and Palantir). Trump has continued with this trend: over \$600 million in contracts to Anduril (an autonomous weapon and software firm), \$200 million each to Google,

OpenAI, and xAI for AI services, an additional \$795 million to Palantir for continuing Maven work, and billions in contracts for space exploration to SpaceX. Beyond this, the data of the federal government has been thrown open for AI companies to dig through and access, including OpenAI, xAI, and Palantir. These new sources of AI training data are important in the land-rush stage of AI tool development, as the open internet as a source of information for AI data is rapidly running out.

All that money; nowhere to go

These giveaways to the tech industry are important not only for tech companies, but for the continued dominance of the U.S. economy as it is currently constructed. While most major tech companies regained high profits after their drop from the COVID bubble, their stock evaluations come from the larger argument they make to investors that they will continue to increase their profits by opening up new markets and more deeply embedding themselves into the U.S. economy.

These speculative promises are key to the companies remaining as highly valued as they are. In the case of Tesla, with its recent failures with the Cybertruck and declining sales, this dynamic is exposed, and we can see nearly a 50 percent drop in the company's value over a period as short as a few months.

As crypto and AI markets have yet to demonstrate consistent profitability on their own terms, tech companies are increasingly having to run to the state to deregulate and provide more public funding and resources to prop up the losses they incur through speculating on new markets. On top of that, they have now ripped off the band-aid of regular layoffs for workers, even during profitable periods, as tech CEOs are having to reduce headcount in their older divisions to justify hundreds of billions of dollars they are pouring into AI investments that have no line of sight to profitability. For the near term, this strategy has panned out for the big tech companies (Tesla excluded), whose profits are at a rate they are comfortable with while they continue to invest in AI speculation.

Long term, this strategy is going to run aground without AI showing profit potential. Financially, competition between bigger tech companies in legacy businesses that lack a monopoly are going to drive profits down (cloud services, smartphones, advertising), and layoffs can only go on for so long

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before critical business operations begin to be impacted. More importantly, there is a political cost of continuing to prop up a system that siphons an ever-larger amount of social wealth with an increasingly small pool of business leaders, with the crumbs of high-paying work now beginning to dry up for tech workers who are facing >6% unemployment coming out of college, 2% higher than the national average.

A crack up? Not quite!

The latest budget bill has appeared to be a major break between the GOP and tech leaders. Trump has feuded with Musk in a very public fashion over the 2025 budget bill, particularly around the ending of EV tax credits, which Tesla relies on, spiking the national debt, and now the landmark AI amendment to prevent any state-level regulations on AI tools—which has been dropped from Trump’s budget following a break from GOP representative Marjorie Taylor Greene and a 99-1 vote to drop it in the Senate. This was a surprise for those watching the GOP budget process, as the second Trump term up until this bill was largely a collaboration with the big tech owners. The actions of Republican lawmakers demonstrate that even within the GOP there are still divisions over what stance to take towards the tech industry, and the anxiety that other layers of the capitalist and middle classes in the U.S. feel toward the continuing dominance of the tech industry.

Also of note is the impact that tariffs will have on the material inputs needed to fulfill the capital expansion proposed by the tech industry today. Trump’s ongoing attempts to raise state funds through taxing imports have the potential to incur massive downstream cost inflation for new hardware and data center construction, both through advanced chip tariffs and on tariffs for construction materials. While tariffs on semiconductors have been paused in the past, the situation for tariffs is changing on nearly a daily basis and can help drive cost inflation for the already massive capital expenditures tech companies are taking on to build out their AI infrastructure.

While these divisions are notable, the Trump White House itself is still firmly embedded with tech capital, even if on occasion it doesn’t get everything that it wants. The vice president is still a former tech venture capitalist with direct ties to Peter Thiel, and Trump is now beginning to circumvent Congress through executive orders by banning any DEI influence in AI development, implicitly trying to pre-empt any discrimination-based regulation of AI tools.

While Trump’s and Musk’s feud cannot be denied, a U.S. president will always have a door open for one of the wealthiest men in the world, who also controls vast amounts of industrial production and manufacturing. Even if this feud were to last, in the past when Trump has feuded with a tech capitalist, he had no qualms working with a different CEO, still giving the industry a leg up. This was the case of the JEDI contract controversy in the first term, when Trump is alleged to have intervened to award Microsoft a contract over Amazon due his feud with



Bezos. Trump also further entrenched the crypto market into traditional finance through the signing of the GENIUS Act, setting the stage to allow for stable coins to be traded as traditional financial assets, but without the same regulations.

As inequality continues to deepen in the United States, and the tech industry continues to try to take over more of the economy, it should be expected that the twin capitalist parties of the U.S. will have more members who come out against tech capitalists. Working people need to understand, however, that both Democrats and Republicans have zero interest in redistributing the ill-gotten gains of the tech industry to its workers, nor the resources it exploited and the data it stole from people who used their services. At most, these politicians want to see anti-trust action that ensures that profits will trickle down to a few more middlemen.

Ultimately, only working people can be trusted to have their own class interests at heart. Through working-class institutions and tactics like unions, labor councils, mass mobilizations, and strikes, workers can be organized against this coalition of big business leaders. Elements of this can be seen in the No Kings protests, as well as the ongoing Tesla Takedown protests and the mobilizations to protect immigrants. However, tech workers, whether in the factory or in the office, are by and large unorganized, even by the abysmal unionization standards of the U.S.

For the tech industry and its cozy relationship to the power of the U.S. state to ever really be challenged, workers at these corporations need to enter the union movement as the strike power they wield at companies like Amazon, Tesla, or Google has the potential to hurt these companies in their bottom line, along with tying up potentially massive sections of the U.S. economy, which is increasingly reliant on software and delivery services provided by big tech companies.

Tech CEOs and the far right seem powerful now

with the vast power of their corporations and the U.S. state backing them up, but that power is only possible through the work of factory assemblers, delivery drivers, programmers, and other IT workers. Most of these people will only see a crumb of the profits currently being posted by the tech industry, and their worsening labor conditions give them a material interest in wanting to take on these companies and the ways in which they are exploiting both workers and society at large. Only through getting these people in touch with the historic labor movement and mobilizing against the assault on working people everywhere that tech is waging, can the real basis of a fight back to tech’s dominance be built.

Moreover, the massive consolidation of economic control within technology production, maintenance, and research points to the necessity of nationalization and workers’ control of the tech industry. The decisions that happen at the top levels of the big tech companies impact the livelihoods and working conditions of millions, and these decisions are made to raise profits for an increasingly small group of business executives and investors.

The backbone of internet communications, technology production, and research should not be left up to an un-elected and unaccountable bureaucracy of industry leaders. Instead, control should be placed in the hands of the working people who operate and use these tools each day. Questions like how much to invest in AI development, where it should be deployed, and what kind of safety tools to be built into them all can only be resolved on a rational basis amongst working people who manage the negative consequences that new technologies can bring when deployed onto the job site or in their community. Because of the material interests that working people have, workers’ control of industry is the only political vehicle that can truly realize the emancipatory power that science and technology propose. ■

Hospitals shut the door on trans youth



Emma Williams / Austin Monthly

BY ROSA AURELIA

On July 24, Yale Medicine and Yale New Haven Health announced that they would be ending their surgical (and medication-based) gender-affirming health care for patients under the age of 19. This decision came immediately after Connecticut Children's Medical said it would do the same. These developments have grave implications for trans people and their allies in Connecticut. As clinics close their doors, the clients of the ones that remain will experience longer and longer wait lists, and this fact will inevitably lead to the (preventable) death of the state's most marginalized youth.

Motives & strategies of anti-trans reaction

From Brazil to Britain and from Hungary to China, we're seeing the agents of capital adhere to anti-trans sentiment because it aids in their goals of dividing the working class along gender lines and because it diverts responses to crises of capitalism onto the already marginalized Queer community.

Strategically, the ruling class can repurpose sentiments of discontent toward the liberal education and health-care systems to scapegoat trans people for the failures incurred by decades of neo-liberal policies. This strategy is especially effective on people who know intimately the state of the gutted social services but who see no independent working-class alternatives in their elections.

In the U.S. we have seen Attorney General Pam Bondi announce that she will be going after these industries for "defrauding" the American people. This framing allows the administration to appear as if it is fighting against the interests of the "elite."

The Justice Department has also sent subpoenas to about 20 medical providers demanding that they turn over to the government sensitive records about their young transgender patients—including dates of birth, Social Security numbers, and addresses—as well as billing documents, communications with

drug manufacturers, etc.

In addition, Robert Kennedy Jr.'s Department of Health & Human Services sent a letter in April to state Medicaid directors, urging them to "strictly limit" their services for gender-affirming care. Three days later, the department issued a form for whistleblowers to report to the government their "complaints" against providers of such services as long as they have a "good-faith belief" that the medical practitioners "violate professional or clinical standards." In describing these standards, the document references Trump's anti-trans Executive Order 14187, titled, "Protecting Children from Chemical and Surgical Mutilation."

Meanwhile, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is going after "gender ideology" by attacking the rights of clinics and doctors. What we are witnessing is a paradigm shift in corporate oversight of medical practices, and it shows how the right aims to prosecute their offensive against trans people. There is no doubt that the same strategies employed now against trans people will be used to enforce abortion bans in the future. Though this strategy plays into the working class's distrust of the health insurance industry and the medical industrial complex, it cannot actually solve the problem that workers are saddled with enormous medical debt, paying an arm and a leg for insurance, and unable to access the services they need.

The right's characterizations of trans health care prey upon a valid distrust of the establishment's failing health-care system while effectively concealing the fact that Queer people are far more likely than their cis-hetero counterparts to experience the marginalization that leads to difficulties in accessing health care. The right wing claims that the crisis in the U.S. health-care system is caused by the "transgender industrial complex," and not their \$880 million in cuts to Medicare.

These right-wing narratives are codified by the

FTC, the office of the AG, and especially by the Supreme Court's recent decision in *United States v. Skrmetti* to uphold Tennessee's ban on gender-affirming care. And now we see that through these actions they are successfully pressuring supposedly "blue state" liberals in the upper echelons of the medical industry to make the very destructive decision to abandon trans youth entirely.

Nationally, we are only going to see this crisis for trans people worsen as surveillance of health-care providers increases, and as the FBI goes after providers who stand up to these pressures. Though they may start with providers and clinicians, this will no doubt expand to trans people themselves; as we saw earlier this year, they have already removed the language barring the FBI from surveilling people purely based on their gender identity.

This form of domestic spying is merely the first step along a path toward the expansion of the medical surveillance apparatus, which will allow the ruling class to police all bodies, and especially those of pregnant people, by monitoring things like their health app data and period tracking apps.

Our strategy for the fightback

Obviously, such grave circumstances can be scary and demoralizing for the trans community. Trans people might be tempted to respond to the increased surveillance and unavailability of gender-affirming care by moving into underground networks. But these strategies, especially if they are manifested in underground Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) distribution networks, will have an enormous potential to be infiltrated by police or the FBI. In that way, they could put trans people in a position to be further repressed. To defend ourselves, we need broad and public solidarity that prevents the government from isolating and attacking us as criminalized individuals.

Building robust and effective defense campaigns can be aided when the trans community participates in other movement spaces, such as within the immigrant rights movement, the climate movement, the Palestinian solidarity movement—and in the unions. Campaigns organized by unionized workers might eventually be able to put credible strike action on the table, which could shift the balance of power in our fight.

The mass action of the working class is enormously powerful. For example, it was only when Black Lives Matter protesters started raising the slogan "Black Trans Lives Matter" that we saw the conservatively led Supreme Court issue an opinion that protected LGBTQ workers from being fired based on their sexual or gender orientation, *Bostock v. Clayton County*. But today they feel less of an immediate threat—so we get *Skrmetti*. The difference between the Court that made that ruling and the one we see today is the strength of our solidarity.

To build such solidarity we must follow the example set by protesters outside of NYU Langone Health

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By BRIAN CRAWFORD

Black people make up a quarter of workers in the U.S. “gig economy.” This sector of labor represents just over a third of U.S. workers. Temporary work, individual contractors, freelancers, the side hustle, and gig economy are all terms that describe a form of labor increasingly favored by capitalism. This is labor that is unregulated, without benefits, disposable and thoroughly exploited.

“Side hustles” are common as a means of supplementing income, but for many this is their only employment.

In Africa, *most* people are trapped in these jobs. Africans have experienced centuries of super-exploitation and always fought against it. Workers on the continent are continuing to organize against their current conditions.

A significant development emerged from Kenya, an outsourcing hub for the tech industry. Workers who perform artificial intelligence training or content modification for companies such as Open AI and META formed the African Content Modification Union. They are demanding an end to the exploitation of African workers by U.S. companies.

Content moderators who have been diagnosed with PTSD and depression after viewing content on the platform have sued META. Besides psychological damage, the members of the tech industry are not credited for their work and are grossly underpaid (\$2.20 an hour).

Facebook has attempted to silence Daniel Montaug, who helped organized the moderators union after he became a whistleblower. Color of Change president Rashad Robinson told *Time* magazine that Facebook thinks “Black people are property to be controlled.” Frances Haugen, a whistleblower who leaked Facebook documents, did not face this pressure to be silent. Haugen is white and Montaug is Black. There is no subtlety here. This is an effort to keep Blacks, in this case Africans, in their place.

Online platforms have attracted many urban workers with the promise of freedom and independence with flexible hours. But while it saves them from unemployment, in reality there is no freedom. Companies outsource work and use this to shield themselves from any legal responsibility for labor practices. While this arrangement lowers production costs, the companies provide no overtime pay and no benefits, and they expect plausible deniability

AFRICA AND THE GIG ECONOMY



of all that takes place in the shop.

The flexible schedule means workers can be called in at any time. Regulations that apply to workers' safety, wages, labor disputes, and benefits such as health care are not available. These workers are more likely to experience greater incidences of injury and poor physical and mental health.

While these workers are classified as independent contractors, they have no control. Everything is dictated by the company, which does not consider them employees, while it profits from their labor. The tech industry, the press, and governments portray this as a way to pull yourself up by your bootstraps. No boots are provided.

Globally, 61% of labor is performed by workers in the gig economy. In Africa these workers represent 85% of the workforce. The rate is over 90% in Zimbabwe, Nigeria, and the Central African Republic. According to the Brookings Institute, “The global gig economy market size was estimated at \$556.7 billion in 2024, with Africa experiencing significant growth.”

Roots of underdevelopment

Africa's position in the world economy has had a direct impact on labor. Colonization left the continent underdeveloped. Low levels of infrastructure and industry have prevailed since. This has hampered advancement toward large scale manu-

facturing. In post-colonial Africa many countries' economies were dependent on one export such as agriculture or its mineral wealth. To a degree some countries such as oil producers could manage for a time but when the price of these commodities fell so did the country's fortunes. International Monetary Fund and World Bank conditions for the loans meant cuts to social spending such as education. While poverty reduction was one of the stated goals the opposite has been the case. There has been increased inequality, and cuts to education has meant low level of skills and high unemployment.

Work and struggle

Agricultural work, the self-employed, seasonal workers, family enterprises, tech workers are employed in the gig economy. These are not transitional jobs for workers on the continent. Young Africans represent one in five people looking for their first job globally. Their anger and frustration have been expressed in protests against poverty, unemployment, and the implementation of austerity measures. In Kenya and Nigeria there were mass protests last summer. In both cases, these mass mobilizations were met with armed violence, resulting in the death of dozens. The response is typical of the state's contempt for workers in general.

Drivers for online platforms are challenging working conditions and pay in Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. They are organizing strikes against ride-share companies such as Uber. In large countries—South Africa and Nigeria—unions have made an effort to organize and negotiate on behalf of these workers. Individually, African unions cannot face these tech companies. Nigeria's Amalgamated Union, which represents ride-share drivers, joined with unions from other countries, including in the U.S., to form the International Alliance of APP-Based Transport Workers. Representatives from 23 countries attended the founding convention in 2020. This approach can be a part of the solution.

Capitalism will always devise means of exploiting labor. As artificial intelligence grows, together with contract employment, workers must organize. The power of the African working class can only be realized through the development of class consciousness and organization founded on this basis. ■

... Trans youth

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in New York and in Michigan earlier this year, where trans activists united with hospital workers to oppose concessions on trans health care that had been made by liberal health-care industry executives. And when California's Kaiser Permanente said it would stop providing surgical care to treat gender dysphoria in people under 19, the largest nurses' union in the nation stood up to condemn those actions.

When these forces united, we saw that they won their respective battles, effectively setting back the right-wing anti-trans movement. We know such solidarity is possible because as trans people we don't just want to fight for trans health care; we want to fight for *all* health care, and the rights of all health-care workers.

When a mass movement of workers and the oppressed takes to the streets with slogans as strong as “Black Trans Lives Matter,” we will be able to go beyond defending the most basic gender-affirming health care for minors and fight for full liberation. ■

¿De qué se tratan los ataques de Trump contra los trabajadores federales?

Josh Morgan / USA Today



Por ERNIE GOTTA

Los empleados federales sindicalizados se enfrentan a una verdadera crisis debido a los graves ataques de la administración de Trump. Estos ataques amenazan la propia existencia de los sindicatos federales y los derechos de negociación colectiva que garantizan buenos salarios y buenas condiciones de trabajo. Esta amenaza debería poner en alerta a todos los trabajadores sindicalizados.

¿Por qué necesita Trump acabar con los sindicatos de empleados federales? La Federación Estadounidense de Empleados del Gobierno (AFGE) por sí sola representa a más de 820 000 trabajadores de casi todas las agencias del gobierno federal y del Distrito de Columbia. La AFGE y otros sindicatos que organizan a los trabajadores federales representan un obstáculo enorme para el proyecto antiobrero y proempresarial que está llevando a cabo Trump, originalmente desarrollado por la Fundación Heritage en el Proyecto 2025, y que se está materializando con el Decreto Ejecutivo 14251.

¿Qué propone el Proyecto 2025? Propone eliminar un millón de empleos federales, privatizar agencias federales, recortar drásticamente los salarios y prestaciones de los trabajadores federales y discriminar contra las personas racializadas y las personas LGBTQIA+. Pero para todo eso tienen que acabar con los sindicatos de empleados federales. La administración Trump intenta mantener en secreto estos avisos de reducción de efectivos (RIF, por sus siglas en inglés). Algunas agencias han realizado recortes incentivando las bajas voluntarias y aumentando la atrición. Los departamentos de Estado, Asuntos de Veteranos, Educación y Salud y Servicios Humanos

están llevando a cabo despidos masivos. El número total de agencias que se verán afectadas no está claro, pero oscila entre 40 y 70 medidas de RIF que afectarán a entre 17 y 19 agencias.

Los ataques profundos

Citando la Orden Ejecutiva 14251, el Departamento de Asuntos de Veteranos (VA) ha avanzado en la rescisión del contrato colectivo (CBA) de la mayoría de los miembros del sindicato del departamento. En un comunicado de prensa del 6 de agosto, el secretario del VA, Doug Collins, dijo: «Con demasiada frecuencia, los sindicatos que representan a los empleados del VA luchan contra los mejores intereses de los veteranos, al tiempo que protegen y recompensan a los malos trabajadores. Nos estamos asegurando de que los recursos y los empleados del VA se centren exclusivamente en la labor que se nos ha encomendado: proporcionar una atención y un servicio de primera clase a quienes se pusieron el uniforme».

El presidente de la AFGE, Everett Kelley, respondió: «La verdadera razón por la que Collins quiere sacar a la AFGE de la VA es porque nos hemos opuesto al plan de la administración de Trump de dismantelar la atención médica para veteranos mediante el recorte de 83 000 puestos de trabajo, hemos luchado con éxito contra las recomendaciones desastrosas para los veteranos... que habrían cerrado varios hospitales y clínicas rurales de la VA, y hemos informado constantemente al pueblo estadounidense sobre cómo la atención médica privada y con fines de lucro para veteranos es más cara y da peores resultados para los veteranos».

La multimillonaria secretaria de la Educación, Linda McMahon, ha puesto al Departamento de Edu-

cación en la picota. Aunque quiere dismantelar completamente el departamento, el Tribunal Supremo ha allanado el camino para que la administración de Trump recorte 1400 puestos de trabajo, casi la mitad del departamento. La presidenta del sindicato AFGE Local 252, Sheria Smith, respondió en un comunicado publicado en el sitio web del sindicato: «Seamos claros, a pesar de esta decisión, el Departamento de Educación tiene una opción: volver a comprometerse a prestar servicios esenciales a la población estadounidense y rechazar las agendas políticas. La agencia no tiene por qué seguir adelante con esta cruel medida de eliminar servicios y despedir a trabajadores dedicados».

El 15 de julio, el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS) de Estados Unidos, dirigido por el conspiracista Robert F. Kennedy Jr., tiene previsto una nueva ronda de despidos que se sumará a los 10 000 trabajadores que perdieron su empleo el 1 de abril. En total, el HHS tiene previsto despedir a unos 20 000 trabajadores. Según *The Guardian*, este año se han eliminado casi 3000 puestos en el Departamento de Estado mediante despidos y bajas voluntarias. Más de 250 000 empleados federales en total ya han abandonado el servicio gubernamental mediante jubilaciones anticipadas o indemnizaciones por despido.

¿A qué se deben los ataques a los sindicatos?

Estos ataques no tienen como objetivo reducir el gasto público. La administración de Trump está gastando enormes cantidades de dinero en guerras, deportaciones y la policía. El gobierno se está preparando para gastar mucho dinero a través de la «Gran y Hermosa Ley» de Trump. El proyecto de ley destina 150 000 millones de dólares, lo que da al ICE un presupuesto mayor que el de la mayoría de los ejércitos del mundo. Mike Winters, de la CNBC, informa: «Se prevé que «el gran y hermoso» proyecto de ley de impuestos y gasto del presidente Donald Trump, que firmó el 4 de julio, aumente el déficit federal en al menos 3,4 billones de dólares durante la próxima década, según la Oficina Presupuestaria del Congreso. Esto se suma a la deuda federal bruta, que ha aumentado a más de 36 billones de dólares, frente a los aproximadamente 23 billones de principios de 2020, lo que supone un aumento de más del 50% en solo cinco años, impulsado por las ayudas por la pandemia, el aumento de los costes de las prestaciones sociales y el déficit persistente».

La eliminación del contrato sindical permitirá a las agencias gubernamentales despedir o cesar más fácilmente a los trabajadores, recortar los salarios y reducir las prestaciones. Los ataques a los sindicatos federales pueden servir como una primera salva que proporcione a los patrones la oportunidad de ir tras los trabajadores estatales y del sector privado con el fin de maximizar los beneficios de la clase capitalista. ¿Cómo pueden los trabajadores sindicalizados detener este proceso?

¿Qué camino deben seguir los trabajadores?

La AFGE y otros sindicatos confían en los demócratas y en un sistema judicial capitalista para que resuelvan de manera justa sus reclamaciones. Históricamente, los demócratas y el sistema judicial estadounidense han fallado, a menudo a favor de los dueños de las empresas. Los tribunales han impuesto medidas cautelares contra los trabajadores en piquetes, han arbitrado a favor de los dueños en casos

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El espejismo del «reconocimiento de un Estado palestino» por parte de Europa

Por JAMES MARKIN

Con la crisis en Gaza provocada por la genocida ofensiva militar israelí cada vez más grave, la posición diplomática de Israel en el mundo ha seguido desintegrándose bajo la presión de la opinión pública y los movimientos sociales de todo el mundo. En ningún lugar ha sido esto más evidente que en Europa, que antes era una de las regiones más favorables a Israel.

Tras casi dos años de guerra genocida, la opinión pública europea se ha mostrado cada vez más firme en su rechazo a la cercanía de los gobiernos europeos con Israel. Este mes de junio, por ejemplo, decenas de miles de personas se manifestaron contra Israel en Europa. Solo en Berlín, el 23 de junio, 50 000 personas se manifestaron contra el genocidio. En agosto se llevaron a cabo grandes manifestaciones en otras ciudades europeas como Ámsterdam, Madrid y Ginebra.

Estas protestas son importantes porque muestran la indignación de la clase trabajadora europea a pesar de la represión cada vez más agresiva de los gobiernos europeos en su intento de destruir el movimiento de solidaridad por Palestina. Por ejemplo, en las manifestaciones en apoyo al grupo prohibido Palestine Action en Londres este mes, cientos de manifestantes fueron detenidos. Las detenciones similares y la violencia policial contra los manifestantes en Alemania se han convertido en algo habitual durante el último año, según informes de la prensa independiente *Unicorn Riot*.

Ahora, en medio de las crecientes denuncias de hambre y las matanzas en los centros de distribución de alimentos, muchos gobiernos europeos han comenzado a tomar medidas para mostrar al público su deseo de una «solución diplomática»

en Gaza. Los anuncios israelíes de planes para tomar la ciudad de Gaza y construir otras 3400 viviendas en Cisjordania han sembrado aún más dudas entre las cúpulas europeas. En respuesta a las noticias sobre las acciones israelíes en Gaza y Cisjordania, el ministro de Defensa italiano, Guido Crosetto, reflexionó públicamente sobre la posibilidad de las sanciones. El primer ministro belga, Bart De Wever, ya había formulado amenazas similares en julio, junto con un impulso para que la UE tomara medidas contra Israel. El Estado Español ha realizado un impulso similar a nivel de la UE. Al mismo tiempo, el Dáil (Parlamento) irlandés se prepara para aprobar la tan esperada Ley de Territorios Ocupados, que ilegalizaría la importación de productos de los asentamientos israelíes a Irlanda.

Lo más impactante es que el canciller alemán Mertz, aliado cercano de Netanyahu, ha anunciado que Alemania ya no aprobará la venta de «armas ofensivas» a Israel a raíz del nuevo plan israelí. Sin embargo, Mertz también dijo que el enfoque básico de Alemania hacia Israel no ha cambiado, y parece claro que Alemania sigue planeando respaldar a Israel, aunque quizás no tanto como antes.

La medida más publicitada adoptada recientemente por los Estados europeos ha sido el paso de reconocer formalmente a un Estado palestino. Francia, Malta y Portugal, así como los aliados no europeos Australia y Canadá, han anunciado que planean dar este paso formalmente en una reunión de la ONU en septiembre.

Los planes franceses de «reconocer un estado palestino» e impulsar una «solución» de dos Estados no representan nada nuevo ni mejor, ni son más que una tapadera para el plan imperialista para Palestina. Los documentos presentados por Francia y sus aliados esbozan claramente un plan, no para la soberanía palestina,

sino para un Estado títere palestino «desmilitarizado». Esto queda claro en la declaración conjunta de Francia y Arabia Saudí sobre el reconocimiento de un Estado palestino, publicada el 29 de julio. Si bien la declaración condena los crímenes israelíes que, según la declaración, «hace tiempo que dejaron de tener justificación militar o política», también pide a los Estados de Oriente Medio que normalicen sus relaciones con Israel y lo reconozcan.

En otra declaración ante las Naciones Unidas el mismo día, Francia dejó claro qué resolución política apoya en su «reconocimiento» cuando afirmó: «La gobernanza, la aplicación de la ley y la seguridad en todo el territorio palestino deben recaer exclusivamente en la Autoridad Palestina, con el apoyo internacional adecuado. Acogimos con satisfacción la política de «un Estado, un Gobierno, una ley, un arma» de la Autoridad Palestina y nos comprometimos a apoyar su aplicación, incluso mediante el necesario proceso de desarme, desmovilización y reintegración, que debe completarse en el marco de un mecanismo acordado con los socios internacionales y en un plazo determinado».

El momento más despreciable de esta farsa se produjo cuando el primer ministro británico, Keir Starmer, se sumó al coro y afirmó que también reconocería a Palestina en septiembre, aunque condicionó el reconocimiento a un ultimátum a Israel. Starmer declaró que su reconocimiento se producirá «a menos que el Gobierno israelí adopte medidas sustantivas para poner fin a la terrible situación en Gaza, acepte un alto el fuego y se comprometa a una paz duradera y sostenible, reavivando la perspectiva de una solución de dos Estados». Condicionar el reconocimiento de la independencia de una nación oprimida al comportamiento de su opresor genocida es obviamente abominable, aunque no es

ninguna sorpresa que sea eso la posición de Starmer y del Gobierno británico.

Al leer de manera directa las declaraciones, se ve que Francia, Bretaña y los otros imperialistas europeos no quieren crear ningún Estado palestino que represente verdaderamente la voluntad del pueblo palestino, sino que quieren empoderar a un régimen similar al del histórico primer ministro noruego, Vidkun Quisling. Quisling, que era el jefe del Estado noruego oficialmente independiente, en realidad no era más que la cara visible de la ocupación nazi del país. De manera similar, la presión franco-saudí por el «reconocimiento» de un Estado palestino exige repetidamente el desarme y la disolución de todas las fuerzas armadas en Gaza para ser sustituidas por el liderazgo de la Autoridad Palestina, que recibe su financiación y sus órdenes del Estado de Israel.

La realidad es que no hay ninguna posibilidad de un Estado palestino independiente y soberano mientras que el ejército israelí siga siendo un proxy fuertemente armado del imperialismo estadounidense. La verdad de la «solución» de dos Estados es que cualquier Estado palestino «independiente», hasta en el caso en el cual no estuviera desarmado y controlado directamente por Israel, estaría completamente bajo su dominio militar. Esto queda claro cuando se recuerda uno de los otros países vecinos, como el Líbano y Siria, que han sido totalmente moldeados por las intervenciones militares israelíes.

La única solución que permitirá la existencia de Estados soberanos palestino, libaneses y sirios es la destrucción del ejército de Israel y, en última instancia, del Estado de Israel. En su lugar, debe crearse una Palestina democrática con igualdad de derechos para todas las personas, independientemente de su origen religioso, étnico y cultural. ■



(Foto) Marcha de solidaridad en Londres.

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de despidos injustos y mucho más.

Los demócratas siguen diciendo a los sindicatos que se centren en la legislación o que confíen en los tribunales. Mientras los sindicatos agotan la vía judicial, también tienen la responsabilidad de librar una lucha masiva en las calles. ¿Por qué no hay ya piquetes, huelgas, recaudación de fondos, educación y marchas masivas? ¿Por qué la AFGE y la AFL-CIO no han hecho un llamamiento a todos los trabajadores sindicalizados para que salgan a las calles a oponerse a los ataques de Trump?

Hoy más que nunca necesitamos sindicatos combativos y democráticos que eleven la voz de los trabajadores de base, que rompan su dependencia de los demócratas y los tribunales, y que construyan un movimiento independiente de la clase trabajadora. Necesitamos un movimiento que sea capaz de

hacer la conexión entre los ataques contra los trabajadores federales y las luchas sociales más amplias, y ganarse a los trabajadores industriales, de logísti-

cas y de otros sectores privados que pueden tener un gran impacto al paralizar las ganancias capitalistas en el punto de la producción. ■

La Voz de los Trabajadores

(Workers' Voice)

— Quiénes somos —

La Voz de los Trabajadores es un grupo de activistas y obreros en los EEUU que está dedicado a la liberación de los trabajadores y los oprimidos. En solidaridad con la Liga Internacional de los Trabajadores, buscamos construir los movimientos sindicales, estudiantiles, ambientalistas, contra-guerras, anti-racistas, anti-machistas, y otros.

En este proceso esperamos traer junto al pueblo obrero de sus fondos diversos y unirlos en un partido revolucionario de los trabajadores que puede lograr en la lucha contra los ricos.

Nuestra meta final es la construcción de una sociedad verdaderamente democrática, organizada para cumplir con las necesidades de la humanidad y no para ganar lucros para los ricos

¡Si usted quiere luchar por el socialismo, contacte a nosotros! ¡Únase a La Voz de los Trabajadores hoy!



(Foto) Tropas de la Guardia Nacional en Washington, D.C. garantizaron la seguridad de la toma de posesión de Joe Biden en enero de 2021. Ahora han sido enviadas de nuevo para supuestamente hacer frente a los delincuentes y las personas sin hogar.

campaña reaccionaria y racista no es solo capturar a «delincuentes», sino aterrorizar a los trabajadores inmigrantes y a sus aliados. La naturaleza supremacista blanca del trumpismo se pone de manifiesto en la forma en que la política de inmigración se ha centrado en las personas negras y morenas, mientras que el régimen trae a granjeros blancos sudafricanos con falsas afirmaciones de que se está produciendo un genocidio contra los blancos en ese país.

ICE: la policía política de Trump

Trump ha tomado las herramientas que le han dado las administraciones anteriores y las ha dirigido hacia un régimen de deportaciones masivas utilizando una miríada de agencias federales, incluyendo el FBI, la ATF y el Servicio de Inspección Postal para aumentar los esfuerzos del ICE y la Patrulla Fronteriza. Las oficinas locales del FBI recibieron órdenes de transferir personal de otras investigaciones a la aplicación de la ley de inmigración. El ICE, supervisado por Kristi Noem, es una organización deshonestas, que no rinde cuentas, y que actúa como la policía política de Trump.

El proyecto de ley presupuestaria firmado por Trump en julio contiene un aumento masivo de la financiación del ICE, lo que lo convierte en la mayor agencia policial de Estados Unidos, con la incorporación de hasta 10 000 agentes más. Además, la administración tiene previsto desplegar 1700 soldados para ayudar en la aplicación de la ley de inmigración y la detención. El 6 de agosto, el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional publicó en X: «¡Sirve a tu país! ¡Defiende tu cultura! ¡No se requiere título universitario!», en un llamamiento abierto al racismo blanco.

Trump ya ha envalentonado a los grupos nacionalistas blancos con su retórica y, tras años de quejas sobre la infiltración de supremacistas blancos en todos los niveles de la policía, existen preocupaciones legítimas sobre la infiltración fascista en el ICE. En febrero, James Joseph Rodden, asesor jurídico adjunto del ICE en el área de Dallas, fue desenmascarado como administrador de una cuenta de X supremacista blanca.

El proyecto de ley presupuestaria también destina 45 000 millones de dólares a la construcción de nuevos centros de detención. Según el Brennan Center, la nueva financiación «duplicará aproximadamente la capacidad de detención de inmigrantes, pasando de unas 56 000 plazas a más de 100 000».

Las empresas privadas de prisiones, muchas de las cuales fueron importantes patrocinadoras financieras de los candidatos republicanos al Congreso y de la campaña electoral del presidente, obtendrán importantes beneficios económicos de este gasto, ya que casi el 90 % de las personas bajo custodia del ICE se encuentran actualmente en instalaciones gestionadas por empresas con ánimo de lucro».

Según *The Independent*, la financiación del ICE «supera los presupuestos militares anuales de Irán,

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El Estado policial de los sueños de Trump

Por JOHN LESLIE

— ICE se refuerza mientras tropas van marchando en Washington D.C. —

Trump ha anunciado la toma de control federal de la policía del Distrito de Columbia y ha desplegado más de 2000 efectivos de la Guardia Nacional en la ciudad, alegando la necesidad de tomar medidas drásticas contra los delincuentes y las personas sin hogar. Trump intentó reforzar sus afirmaciones sobre la delincuencia generalizada diciendo que Washington D. C. es «sucio, repugnante» y está llena de «maníacos drogados».

Trump también declaró su intención de «recuperar» otras ciudades, señalando a Chicago, Los Ángeles, Baltimore y Oakland como posibles objetivos de una ocupación militar. Anteriormente, Trump invocó su poder como presidente para sofocar «insurrecciones» con el fin de desplegar más de 5000 marines y efectivos de la Guardia Nacional en Los Ángeles contra manifestantes pacíficos.

El 12 de agosto, el *Washington Post* informó de que la administración Trump está evaluando planes para crear una «Fuerza de Reacción Rápida contra Disturbios Civiles Internos». Estaría compuesta por unos 600 efectivos de la Guardia Nacional estacionados en espera para ser desplegados rápidamente con el fin de sofocar protestas o disturbios. La Fuerza contra Disturbios Civiles podría estar operativa en 2027, según el informe.

Este uso del ejército, junto con el aumento masivo de la financiación de la Oficina de Inmigración y Aduanas de Estados Unidos (ICE), es una demostración de las ambiciones autoritarias de Trump. La rápida expansión del ICE no hará más que agravar el actual abuso de poder por parte de agentes federales enmascarados, que aterrorizan a las familias. A pesar de la retórica de la campaña de Trump sobre la persecución de los llamados «extranjeros criminales», el ICE persigue a inmigrantes sin antecedentes penales, detiene a personas cuando acuden a sus audiencias de ciudadanía y separa a los niños de sus familias al arrestar a los padres delante de ellos. Lugares que antes eran inaccesibles para el ICE, como las iglesias, ahora son los objetos de las redadas.

En un intento por eludir la Ley Posse Comitatus de 1878, que prohíbe el uso de las fuerzas militares para el cumplimiento de la ley civil, Trump emitió un memorándum el 11 de abril en el que declaraba una franja de tierra de 60 pies de ancho que abarca tres estados a lo largo de la frontera sur como «instalación militar» para «hacer frente a la emergencia». Esto permitió a las tropas estacionadas allí actuar como policía fronteriza de facto.

Los primeros meses de Trump en el cargo han sido un ataque implacable a los derechos democráticos, los derechos de los trabajadores, los trabajadores inmigrantes y las personas LGBTQ. Las redadas contra los trabajadores inmigrantes tiene implicaciones que van mucho más allá de lo que afecta directamente a las comunidades inmigrantes. El objetivo de esta

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Turquía, [Estado] Españ[ol], México y al menos otros 23 países». Esto convierte al ICE, supuestamente una agencia policial interna, en uno de los 20 ejércitos mejor financiados del mundo.

Las detenciones y los encarcelamientos masivos de trabajadores inmigrantes provocarán sin duda más abusos, y ya hay informes que citan hacinamiento, condiciones insalubres, trabajo forzoso, falta de camas y ropa de cama, comida y agua insuficientes y exposición a temperaturas extremas. También hay denuncias de racismo, agresiones sexuales, negligencia médica y abusos físicos, con 14 muertes registradas bajo custodia del ICE durante 2025.

The Guardian informa: «Los migrantes de una cárcel de inmigración de Miami fueron esposados con las manos atadas a la espalda y obligados a arrodillarse para comer en platos de poliestireno «como perros»». Los detenidos en la llamada Alligator Alcazara, una prisión al aire libre en los Everglades, están recluidos en jaulas y expuestos a los mosquitos con luces brillantes encendidas en todo momento.

¡Abolir el ICE! ¡Oponerse a la ocupación militar!

Los trabajadores deben construir una defensa masiva y sólida de las comunidades de inmigrantes y contra el ICE y la ocupación militar. Debemos construir una lucha unificada en múltiples frentes para hacer retroceder la redada de inmigrantes de Trump y frustrar los ataques a la libertad de expresión y al derecho a organizarse. Esto también significa construir una campaña no solo para exigir responsabilidades a las agencias policiales, sino para abolir por completo estas fuerzas represivas.

La ocupación militar de las ciudades debe ser respondida con resistencia masiva a todos los niveles. Las redes de defensa comunitaria y respuesta a

... El Estado policial de Trump

Sebastián Hidalgo / Block Club Chicago



emergencias, basadas en asambleas participativas y democráticas, pueden ser un componente crucial de la infraestructura de la resistencia. La defensa comunitaria, combinada con acciones masivas de frente único, debe involucrar a las filas de los sindicatos y todas las demás fuerzas sociales que se oponen al

autoritarismo de Trump.

Otra tarea urgente es preparar la ruptura con el Partido Demócrata capitalista. No podemos permitirnos ilusiones en un partido cómplice del genocidio en Palestina y que ha sido un factor clave en el crecimiento del aparato represivo. ■

... La defensa de los inmigrantes

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portación, las patrullas comunitarias y las campañas de educación política masivas son algunas de las herramientas que tenemos para construir una verdadera lucha contra el terror policial. La fuerza de la migra proviene de la ilegalidad y el secretismo; la nuestra proviene de nuestro número y nuestra posición social. Los trabajadores y los estudiantes deben comprender que su destino está ligado al de la comunidad indocumentada.

Si se impulsan mediante la creación de coaliciones entusiastas, la independencia del control del Partido Demócrata principista y la organización activa detrás de la clase trabajadora inmigrante, estos esfuerzos de defensa comunitaria pueden cambiar fundamentalmente el terreno de la lucha de clases en los Estados Unidos. Las huelgas estudiantiles contra las detenciones de miembros de la escuela señalan el camino para luchas más amplias. Los ejemplos heroicos e importantes de estudiantes de se-

cundaria que lideran huelgas en toda su escuela muestran el embrión del movimiento que necesitamos.

Lamentablemente, el movimiento sindical se ha mostrado vacilante en este momento de embestida de la clase dominante. En un momento en que todos los sindicatos deberían estar convocando una huelga general en defensa de los trabajadores del sector público, solo hay palabras duras y acciones simbólicas.

Millones de trabajadores de base buscan la oportunidad de movilizarse y organizarse por un mundo mejor. En todo el país, los no inmigrantes están demostrando que están dispuestos a arriesgarse en defensa de sus vecinos inmigrantes.

Los sindicatos pueden aprovechar este entusiasmo por la lucha. La organización de la participación sindical en defensa de los inmigrantes dependerá en gran medida de los debates en los lugares de trabajo sobre la situación actual. Es en este nivel donde se pueden establecer conexiones claras entre la actividad local de la migra,

la situación nacional y el ataque continuo contra la calidad de la vida de la clase trabajadora.

Tan importante como los debates en los lugares de trabajo es la organización del movimiento. Se necesitan eventos inspiradores a los que puedan acudir los trabajadores interesados en aprender más sobre la lucha y en participar en ella. Cada nueva escalada de Trump, cada capitulación del Partido Demócrata, cada nuevo exceso del ICE exige foros, debates y movilizaciones urgentes.

Los sindicalistas pueden llevar los casos de defensa a las reuniones sindicales, recaudar fondos para la defensa y mostrar su solidaridad política por los detenidos. Pueden conectarse con otras redes locales y comunitarias y comenzar a movilizarse en las calles, con piquetes y otras formas de acción pública colectiva.

Mantener este nivel de movilización y organización no es fácil, pero es necesario. Los trabajadores de base de la educación, la industria, la salud, la logística y todos los demás sectores esenciales tienen un poder extraordinario en esta sociedad.

Un movimiento obrero capaz de llevar a cabo huelgas en defensa de los inmigrantes es un movimiento obrero con un rico debate interno y cierto nivel de funcionamiento democrático. Se necesitará una enorme presión desde las bases para impulsar a los sindicatos a la acción, y una transformación fundamental de sus métodos de organización actuales para llevar a cabo huelgas políticas. Sin embargo, este es el método más seguro para hacer retroceder la ola de terror de la migra. Hay que aprovechar todas las oportunidades en los lugares de trabajo para dejar claro que la acción obrera no solo es necesaria, sino posible.

Ahora es el momento, ya que miles de personas quieren luchar, y la necesidad es urgente. Las medidas políticas y represivas excesivas de Trump están quitando las vendas de los ojos de la cultura burguesa, pero solo a medias.

Las experiencias de las organizaciones de lucha de la clase trabajadora pueden revelar toda la realidad, tanto la podredumbre de la sociedad capitalista como la capacidad infinita de los trabajadores para gestionar las cosas de una manera mejor. ■

LA VOZ DE LOS TRABAJADORES

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La defensa de los inmigrantes requiere toda la clase trabajadora

Matt Stone / MediaNews

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Por ERWIN FREED

Los trabajadores inmigrantes siguen buscando formas de sobrevivir y construir nuevas comunidades. Ahora, ante la conversión del ICE en la mayor agencia de policía federal, se nos plantea a todos la siguiente pregunta: ¿cómo pueden los trabajadores militantes construir organizaciones de movimiento capaces de movilizar una verdadera defensa de los inmigrantes?

Una táctica actual es la de las «redes de respuesta rápida». Estas redes pueden adoptar muchas formas diferentes. Algunas versiones están más alineadas con el objetivo de construir un movimiento que pueda conectar la autodefensa de los inmigrantes con el movimiento obrero más amplio, mientras que otras tienden a perder oportunidades para construir acciones masivas y organización colectiva.

Quizás el tipo más común de «red de respuesta rápida» es una agrupación de grupos e individuos que mantienen una línea telefónica para que la gente

informe sobre actividades de la migra y otras actividades relacionadas con la inmigración. En teoría, informar de las redadas de la migra permite a los miembros de la comunidad en riesgo evitarlos. Aunque las redes de respuesta rápida de este tipo tienen su valor, no son suficientes para derrotar políticamente toda la maquinaria de deportación. Por lo general, hacen poco por crear el tipo de organizaciones de base amplias y democráticas capaces de avanzar políticamente a los trabajadores inmigrantes y no inmigrantes.

Al mismo tiempo, hay que reconocer que los métodos de informe masiva de este tipo ya son habituales en muchas comunidades de inmigrantes. Los grupos de Facebook, los hilos de WhatsApp e incluso las cadenas telefónicas en las que la gente informa de la actividad de la migra eran comunes mucho antes de Trump. Estas redes existentes y emergentes son un lugar donde buscar un posible liderazgo de lucha de clases en las comunidades de inmigrantes de clase trabajadora.

Las deportaciones y la política de inmigración son partes fundamentales del dominio de la clase capitalista. El acoso policial, los crueles centros de detención y la incertidumbre constante contribuyen a que los trabajadores indocumentados se sientan nerviosos a la hora de defenderse. Los líderes de la clase trabajadora son objeto de redadas, detenciones arbitrarias y, a menudo, tortura. Estos métodos de sometimiento se utilizan luego para disciplinar al resto de la clase trabajadora cuando se vuelve demasiado rebelde. Los salarios, las prestaciones y los derechos políticos de todos los trabajadores son inseparables de las condiciones legales, políticas y sociales de los trabajadores inmigrantes.

La unidad entre trabajadores e inmigrantes está a la orden del día. Los sindicatos deben empezar a dedicar recursos no solo a organizar campañas contra las deportaciones, sino también a brindar un apoyo verdadero de la clase trabajadora a las comunidades de inmigrantes. Las formaciones basadas en una organización profunda y de

persona a persona, como las guardias de defensa comunitaria en Los Ángeles, proporcionan un esqueleto y un modelo de lo que la clase trabajadora puede crear. Los barrios de esa ciudad se están organizando colectivamente para unirse a los miembros de su comunidad que vigilan y se manifiestan rápidamente contra la presencia de la migra. Estas experiencias concretas muestran la posibilidad de organizar comités de movilización masiva rápida que combinen a los trabajadores organizados, los activistas de la comunidad inmigrante y los movimientos sociales más amplios, todos los cuales tienen mucho en común.

En momentos como estos, demandas como «fronteras abiertas» y «papeles para todos» pueden convertirse en puntos de encuentro para avanzar. Conectar las demandas políticas más amplias con la defensa contra la de-

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