

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



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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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New FBI memo criminalizes many political, religious, and ‘non-traditional’ beliefs

By ERWIN FREED

The National Security Policy Memorandum-7 (NSPM-7) makes explicit the anti-speech, anti-democratic, anti-worker mood of the big billionaires and their political puppets. The assassination of Charlie Kirk was shamelessly used by his political allies and so-called friends to give “rationale” to a document that criminalizes the vast majority of U.S. residents’ political, cultural, and social beliefs.

Released Sept. 25, NSPM-7 directs the FBI’s shadowy “Joint Terrorism Task Force” (JTTF) units to “investigate, prosecute, and disrupt entities and individuals” that can be indicated by “anti-Americanism, anti-capitalism, and anti-Christianity ... extremism on migration, race, and gender; and hostility towards those who hold traditional American views on family, religion, and morality.”

As journalist Ken Klippenstein has pointed out since breaking the story (reprinted in *Truthout*, Sept. 29, 2025), mainstream news and Democratic Party politicians have been extremely slow and hesitating in first noticing and then speaking against NSPM-7. In one of the first and only mainstream investigations into these developments, Reuters journalists identified nine liberal organizations specifically targeted by the White House. These included Soros’s Open Society Foundations—ActBlue, Indivisible, and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA). Even in that otherwise sober article, the authors do not reference NSPM-7 by name.

Statements by many high-level GOP and MAGA spokespeople show that they are attempting to shape a political narrative that rationalizes strict control of liberal organizations. Notably, Mike Johnson, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, called Oct. 18 No Kings Day demonstrations “Hate America rallies” and characterized attendees as “anarchists, Antifa advocates, [and] pro-Hamas.” The latter characterization has a double effect. On the one hand, these statements obscure the fact that being anarchist, an Antifa advocate, or pro-Hamas is not illegal. On the other, by framing No Kings Day in this way, the far right is pressuring liberal organizations like Indivisible to draw a hard line between themselves and people who hold more left-wing views. The administration is hoping that instead of rallying against repression, middle-class Democratic Party activists will begin to engage in red baiting—or at least ignore it.



National Security Policy Memorandums have a long history in the bipartisan construction of mass surveillance and militarized political policing. Similar memos and legal opinions, often completely secret, gave the green light for NSA surveillance of virtually all phone and internet use in the United States. By putting this one out publicly, the Trump administration is making clear to all real and imagined opponents of its hyper-reactionary, pro-austerity, and anti-labor program that they are objects of police harassment, infiltration, and disruption.

Under Trump, the FBI, ICE, and other federal agencies are openly working to implement and rationalize the measures laid out in the right-wing Project 2025 document that recommended perspectives for Trump’s presidency. The ruling class has staffed all important offices with supporters of the “unitary executive,” while arranging mass surveillance, and cutting whatever welfare programs and workers’ protection that remains.

In order to push through these incredibly unpopular and destructive policies, capital is mobilizing the state to repress the working class and youth and terrorize entire cities under the guise of “deporting illegals” and “fighting crime.”

The basic justifications for surveillance and anti-democratic policing are baked into U.S. ruling-class propaganda, including the media and education system. Combatting “anarchism” and “communism” has been the justification for red

squad tactics for as long as there have been police in this country. Creating the myth of “violent extremists” threatening an imaginary “capitalist order” papers over the everyday violence of poverty, underdevelopment, and racist policing felt by working-class communities, particularly women and Queer, Black, immigrant, Indigenous, and disabled people within those communities.

The U.S. ruling class feels compelled to use such naked forms of political repression and official corruption because the country is facing imperial decline. Profitability was on the decline well before even the COVID pandemic, and the United States is unable to compete with China in many sectors and places internationally. Domestically, big capital is attempting to give itself additional space for accumulation by drastically slashing the public sector, attempting to restart a version of the Braceros program, and put every union in the country on the defensive.

In order to push through these drastic changes, the ruling class is trying to intimidate people against protesting and to lay down more “national security” infrastructure. NSPM-7 is one part of a long history of the so-called global war on terror. That same “war” is what produced ICE and developed all of the technologies of social control currently being used by the Trump administration.

While the attacks are very real, so are the possibilities of building public and

(Above) FBI agent in a roundup of immigrants in Denver in February.

broad opposition to them. No Kings Day on Oct. 18 was one of the largest single days of action in U.S. history. Cities that directly faced military occupation turned out hundreds of thousands of people. ICE is facing daily opposition everywhere in the country.

The basic methods and tactics of building this opposition are not new to the U.S. working class. In an interview, Ernest DeMaio, head of the United Electrical Workers Midwest District 11, headquartered in Chicago, gave one such example from his own life during the height of McCarthyism: “The big scare was in 1952 in Chicago. On September 2, we struck the International Harvester chain. That’s the day I was called by HUAC. The strike was set for midnight. At nine a.m., I’m in the House Un-American Activities Committee. Some three thousand of our guys took off from the picket line, surrounded the courthouse, and, as I was being sworn, stormed the courthouse, singing.”

Building a labor movement that responds to attacks from the state with mass mobilization has the possibility of creating the self-organization and independence necessary to win real political demands. This means keeping track of, exposing, and organizing against every attempt to further limit the democratic rights of the working class. ■



Mamdani wins NYC race for mayor

By TONY STABILE

Zohran Mamdani, a Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) member and New York State assemblyman representing parts of Queens, has won the mayoral race in New York City. His election demonstrates a groundswell of support for left political policies and may mark a new chapter for the internal politics of the Democratic Party. For the working class, his election strikes a hopeful yet ambivalent note.

Mamdani retreats from earlier policies

Mamdani entered the race for mayor as a practically unknown candidate. Polling at little over 1% in February of this year, Mamdani's focus on everyday economic reforms and social media expertise quickly helped him into the limelight. While Cuomo and Adams remained mired in various sexual and financial scandals, Mamdani outlined a social democratic vision for addressing issues such as the New York housing crisis, the high cost of childcare, underfunded public transportation, and inflated grocery prices.

Mamdani won the Democratic primary against significant odds. The Democratic Party establishment vigorously opposed his candidacy. Democratic leaders such as Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries refused to endorse Mamdani in the primary, while New York Representatives Laura Gillen and Tom Suozzi did not mince words about his politics. Gillen called Mamdani the "absolute wrong choice for New York," and Suozzi pronounced his "serious concerns" about the assemblyman. That's not to mention the tens of millions of dollars from top Democratic donors (including billionaire Michael Bloomberg) that went into the Cuomo Super PAC's attempt to defeat Mamdani in the primary.

After attaining the Democratic Party nomination,



(Above) On the eve of the mayoral election, President Trump attacked Mamdani, saying on Truth Social that he would withhold funds from New York City if the "Communist" Mamdani won. "It can only get worse with a Communist at the helm," Trump declared, "And I don't want to send, as President, good money after bad."

Mamdani's Nov. 4 victory took place in the midst of a Democratic Party sweep in many states, which was seen as a broad rejection of Trump's policies.

Mamdani's strategy in the general election saw a marked retreat from his bolder policy planks. Mamdani told Steven Colbert on the Late Show that he supported Israel's right to exist, a sentiment he also conveyed to Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla in closed-door meetings. He has backed away from substantive criticism of the highly militarized NYPD, maintaining Jessica Tisch, billionaire heiress and NYPD Commissioner under Eric Adams, in her current position. Mamdani has also intimated in private meetings that he intends to compromise on his proposed "millionaire tax"—a staple policy of his primary campaign.

After the disastrous 2024 presidential election, as well as two years of cowardly inaction in the face of Donald Trump's assault on the civil rights of immigrants, the LGBTQ community, and women, the Democratic Party finds itself once again in a moment of crisis. Neither Democrats nor Republicans can claim to represent the working class. Their anti-worker capitalist policies aside, the majority of workers do not regularly vote in any elections. What little support Democrats once had among the working-class, Black people, and Latino Americans is eroding by the day. Their bid to court affluent, college-educated voters has failed as well, as their pro-genocide and pro-austerity political program has reached historic levels of unpopularity.

Mamdani, for his part, is not quiet about his plan to revitalize the decrepit Democratic Party. On the campaign trail, to POC and immigrant residents of NYC who voted for Trump due to Democrats' support for the genocide in Gaza, their hawkish foreign policy, and inflation, Mamdani told them he wanted to make the Democratic Party "work for them again." And his rhetoric has gradually moved steadily to the right in alignment with this goal.

It remains to be seen whether Mamdani's election will change the overall strategy of the Democratic Party. However, any such change is likely to be superficial. Mamdani's increasing dependence on the support of New York's billionaires and DNC apparatus indicates that the politics of his administration will trail Democratic Party consensus, rather than lead it.

What does this mean for workers?

Since Bernie Sanders' first presidential campaign in 2016, workers in the United States have witnessed a surge in supposedly anti-establishment Democratic campaigns. Sanders' movement spawned Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who, in turn, inspired countless local, state, and federal candidates. It is rare to see a Democratic primary without a candidate of this "progressive" type. Meanwhile, despite this near-limitless supply of politicians professing anti-racist and pro-working-class policies, a growing and dangerous movement of right-wing populism persists in the U.S.

These "progressive" politicians who run as Democrats, despite their best intentions, are compelled by the demands of wealthy Democratic Party donors and the political pressure of high-ranking party officials to turn away from working-class interests at the cost of their political career. For instance, Ocasio-Cortez voted to break the railworkers' strike in 2023, and Sanders campaigned strenuously to elect Biden, who unconditionally supported the genocide in Gaza with financial and military aid. More recently, Sanders has gone so far as to voice cautious support for Trump's catastrophic immigration policies.

Mamdani's election is a powerful sign of the popularity of left-wing policies. Still, workers do not need another politician who will compromise with bosses and landlords. The Democratic Party has produced these at a rapid clip for over a century.

In our nation's largest city, working people and immigrants suffer under astronomical rents, police violence, and degrading infrastructure. Mamdani, who campaigned on alleviating these struggles, cuts back-room deals with the very capitalists, cops, and landlords who profit from them. As always, the task of working people and their allies is to create their own independent organizations and to fight the capitalist class directly, not to put their fate in the hands of yet another politician running in a capitalist party. ■

How 'Rustbelt' workers view the Democratic Party

By ERNIE GOTTA

This year a new survey spearheaded by Les Leopold of the Labor Institute, in collaboration with Center for Working Class Politics and the Rutgers LEARN labor education program, looks to break through the electoral binary by showing that working-class "Rustbelt" voters are motivated more by their real economic interests than by Trump's inflammable rhetoric.

The survey reveals clearly how far the Democratic Party has diminished in the eyes of Rustbelt voters. About 3000 people in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin were surveyed, and three major trends were revealed. First, people do not like the Democratic Party "brand." Second, working people in those states favored more "radical" or further left economic programs. Third, the majority of those polled said they'd support a working-class political formation independent of the two major parties.

Working people in the U.S. have never been able to build and sustain their own labor party or mass independent working-class political party. Despite this country's rich history of class struggle, millions of voting-age workers are asked each election year to choose which wing of the ruling

class, the Democrats or the Republicans, will rule over them.

Elections raise the question: who will rule society? Each year, the answer is the same. Democratic and Republican politicians like Trump and Biden are selected to manage the economy in the interests of millionaires and billionaires.

What then does Leopold's survey tell us about the liberal assumption that all Trump supporters are a homogeneous bloc of "deplorables?" The survey shows a more complex version of the working class. Every day, the working class is being bombarded by a growing authoritarian government that relies on illusions and lies, and creates myths about invading hoards of immigrant, Muslim, transgender Marxists.

For example, Les Leopold writes, "Our survey strongly suggests that most of the alienation is not the result of the so-called 'woke' positions that Democrats support or are loudly accused of supporting. Rather, it's more about the failure of the party to deliver. In fact, we asked these 3,000 voters if they would support 'granting legal status to all illegal immigrants who have held jobs and paid taxes for three years and not been convicted of any felony crimes.' A remarkable 63.3

percent supported that statement. (The word 'illegal' was used because we wanted to match exactly what has been used in other voter surveys since 2000.)"

While it's clear that a lot of misinformation continues to shape opinions on immigration, the survey helps us understand that the majority do not necessarily subscribe to the authoritarian shifts in government and the fascist aesthetic featured on the social media pages of the Department of Homeland Security and the White House.

The survey shows us a working class excited to support anti-corporate policies and proposals that can lead to greater economic security for U.S. workers. That is the opposite attitude of what is projected with the tariff proposals by Trump. The survey points out that 42 percent of those surveyed in Michigan would favor a policy that said, "Any corporation with 500 or more employees globally that receives Michigan taxpayer-funded contracts, grants, tax subsidies, or abatements, shall not conduct compulsory layoffs of taxpayers."

Finally, while framed around a limited economic program, the survey shows a real interest in political campaigns independent from the Demo-

cratic and Republican parties. More than 50 percent expressed support for a new independent political formation. Leopold suggests naming it the "Independent Workers Political Association."

Leopold was associated with the attempt to build a Labor Party in the mid-1990s that was spearheaded by Tony Mazzocchi, a leading official in the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW). The new party gained endorsement by nine international unions and hundreds of union locals. Unfortunately, most union officials who participated in that movement opposed running candidates against the Democrats; they saw the Labor Party more as a tactic to apply pressure on the Democratic Party than a potential vehicle to lead the struggles of U.S. workers. Today, we are a long way from even that type of momentum in organized labor, as by and large the unions remain tied to the Democrats.

We welcome this initiative from a section of the labor movement that places an emphasis on the question of working-class independence. It opens up an opportunity for a real discussion in organized labor about the need for building a labor party based on fighting democratic trade unions. ■

Joint socialist statement on U.S. attacks on boats in Latin America

Prospects of war against Venezuela are mounting; some in the Trump administration are calling loudly for President Maduro to be "forced out." Trump has mobilized a carrier fleet in the Caribbean and threatened to attack targets "on land" and to possibly seize the oil fields. U.S. capitalism is thirsting to get full control of the country's vast oil and gas resources.

We reprint excerpts from a joint statement by Workers' Voice, the Socialist Workers Party in Colombia, and Socialist Workers Unity in Venezuela.

We, revolutionary socialist workers' organizations from Venezuela, Colombia, and the United States, condemn the unjustifiable murders of sailors and fishermen from Venezuela, Colombia, and Trinidad by the U.S. Navy. Likewise, we condemn the disgusting, deadly threats and provocations by the Trump administration against the peoples of Venezuela and Colombia, which constitute an imperialist attack and a mortal danger to the entire Latin American region. ...

The claims that this is a "war on drugs" are just an excuse for a morally bankrupt imperialist maneuver. There has been no evidence that those killed by the U.S. in recent weeks were drug traffickers—and even if they were drug traffickers, it does not justify their random killing by a military fleet. The history of U.S. interventions shows that its policy has no intention of combating drug trafficking. On the contrary, U.S.

federal agencies have collaborated with drug cartels in Mexico and Colombia, and their interventions have not served to stop trafficking, but to reorganize it under U.S. control.

By accusing Nicolás Maduro, and more recently Gustavo Petro, of being involved in the drug trade without providing any evidence, Trump is clearly preparing an excuse for military intervention against Venezuela, and possibly also against Colombia. ...

In the United States, we recognize how these imperialist attacks are directly linked to the Trump administration's attacks on the American working class, as well as to the long history of U.S. interventions against Latin America and the working class in general. We need mass mobilization to stop it in its tracks, and to cancel without compensation all the neocolonial debts controlled by the U.S.

As socialists organizing in the United States, Venezuela, and Colombia, we recognize that we need to mobilize to confront the imperialist war machine with the power of the organized working class. We owe no loyalty to the bourgeois governments of Maduro and Petro. In Venezuela, we know that Maduro is not a socialist, that he keeps his people mired in poverty, and that he is even willing to hand over all of the country's natural wealth to satisfy Trump's demands. In Colombia, despite his correct denunciations of imperialist hypocrisy and interference, Petro remains committed

to paying the foreign debt and being a global partner of NATO, bound by commitments that keep Colombia under the yoke of imperialism. ...

A military intervention in Venezuela, Colombia, or any other country on the continent ultimately seeks to bring back "big stick" politics, normalizing direct military incursions to overrule our countries' policies according to the whims of U.S. imperialism and to reinforce the protection of its political, economic, and military interests in a region that is historically strategic for U.S. imperialism, and that it considers its backyard.

For these reasons, in Venezuela, we call for unified political action to defeat the threat of imperialist attacks. The working people need to mobilize in this struggle, and from there move forward and organize to defeat the anti-worker austerity measures of the Maduro government. Meanwhile, in Colombia, we call for the non-payment of the imperialist foreign debt, withdrawal from NATO, and the rejection of any imperialist threats. Throughout Latin America and around the world, we reject imperialist military intervention and demand the withdrawal of the U.S. military presence in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. We call for the broadest international unity of action, of the working class, the oppressed, and the masses in general, to defeat the imperialist offensive Yankee hands off Latin America! ■



Drive to redraw voting districts hits Black political rights

By BRIAN CRAWFORD

Texas, on the command of Donald Trump, fashioned a new congressional map with the intent of gaining five additional seats to secure the Republican Party's majority in the House of Representatives. Republican legislatures already envision permanent majorities in their states—why not in Congress? In response, governors in Democratic states, most notably California, are responding in kind. The process of drawing congressional districts to favor one's own political party is called "gerrymandering." It has been used by both political parties since the 19th century, and often Black political power is its casualty.

From Reconstruction to the present, African Americans have been engaged in a perpetual struggle for the franchise and the political power implied by its possession. While the ballot is fundamental to democracy, it has never been the main instrument of political power for Black people in U.S. history.

In order to possess the franchise, you must wage a battle against the state. From its inception, the U.S. has engaged in all manner of manipulations, legal and extra-legal, to prevent Black people from voting.

Reconstruction was a moment with revolutionary potential. It offered full rights of citizenship after abolition. But the promise of the period was squandered to reconcile with the former slaveholders. The 15th Amendment, ratified in 1870, was one of the three amendments to the Constitution addressing the conditions of the freed slaves. Section 1 states: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged

by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." But laws are reduced to ink on a page without enforcement. In the former slave states, not only were the laws not enforced, but the opposite was true. The Old Confederacy violated the letter of the 15th Amendment using various methods, including gerrymandering.

The process of redrawing districts is generally conducted every 10 years in accordance with the census. The process varies by state. In some states an independent commission is in charge while in others it is left to the legislature, which often has partisan intentions. Gerrymandering usually involves either "cracking"—splitting one or more Black districts and incorporating them into majority white districts—or "packing"—consolidating multiple Black districts. In both cases, the intent is to reduce Black influence in the electoral process.

The 1965 Voting Rights Act was a defense against gerrymandering, but in 2013, the Supreme Court removed federal oversight, which allows states with histories of racial discrimination to redraw congressional districts to their liking. Some states' minority populations have significantly increased, yet congressional districts do not reflect this change. Texas is a case in point. Districts as drawn do not represent the increase in the Latino population. Meanwhile, two Black districts disappeared with the most recent version of the congressional map.

In the meantime, in *Louisiana v. Calas*, a case that the Supreme Court heard on Oct. 15, the justices will decide the constitutionality of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. As Leah Litman writes in *The Guardian*, the Supreme Court "is being asked to find section two ille-

gal—to say that considering political equality is a kind of discrimination. The argument is that prohibiting legislatures from discriminating against Black voters, by denying them political opportunities, actually discriminates against white voters."

What is to be decided is whether race can be considered in drawing congressional districts even in cases to address racial discrimination. In the Southern states, gerrymandering for party advantage is synonymous in practice with dilution of Black political power. Steve Menendian in "Race, Racism and the Law," writes: "Racial gerrymanders are subject to strict scrutiny judicial review whereas partisan political gerrymanders are not subject to judicial review whatsoever."

States that wish to limit Black political power through the electoral process can simply argue that their intent is partisan and not racial. In essence, the legal arguments rest on how to rig an election legally. The Supreme Court, in a ruling in 2019, washed its hands of the issue of partisan-motivated gerrymandering. While agreeing it was undemocratic, the highest court in the land decided it was not an issue for the court to decide.

The California response has been to counter Texas's gerrymandering with its own. Proposition 50 would redraw congressional districts ahead of the 2026 mid-term election, overruling the commission designated for the process. The new districts would be in effect until the next census in 2030. The proposition, approved by voters on Nov. 4, would ask Congress to amend the Constitution to institute independent commissions to oversee redistricting. In their feckless efforts to inspire their base, the Democratic Party is once again mimicking the GOP. A history of rightward turns to compete with the Republican Party is the history of the last 40 years. In the heat of battle, Republicans and Democrats are seeking to entrench their majorities.

Should these efforts succeed, fewer congressional districts will be competitive. According to Fair Vote, 81% of the 2026 congressional election has already been decided. Further gerrymandering increases the number of uncompetitive districts. It will hardly revive the fortunes of the Democratic Party.

For the Democrats, postmortems of the 2024 election continue. What were the causes of its death? How can the party be resurrected? But opportunism is a malady with no cure. The Democratic Party has no program for the working class. Its efforts are expended soliciting votes from its otherwise neglected base, paying consultants millions and chasing after Republican votes.

As a party whose benefactors are billionaires that expect their interests to come first, but which portrays itself as the "party of the people," it must try to reconcile this contradiction. The problem is that it can't be reconciled. Millions of people have abandoned the party because they realize the party is disingenuous, two-faced, and has no program to alleviate their misery. Thus, rather than producing a program for the working class (we should not expect one from either party), the Democrats are engaged in a fruitless battle over gerrymandering.

Rather than ingesting the poisoned promises of politicians, we must free ourselves. The precedent has been set in the history of African American struggle; we begin and the masses follow. So must it be again within this period of right-wing consolidation of power. While the Democrats and Republicans engage in dueling election rigging, we will bring together the masses. The working class is the only agent of change. We are the answer—multiracial and independent. ■

Millions join No Kings protests: What's next?

The No Kings mobilization on Oct. 18 was historic. Some 7 million took part in over 2700 actions in all 50 states. Many of the marchers carried signs that affirmed their conviction that there is a critical need to counter the erosion of democracy in the United States. Messages ranged from “Liberty, not tyranny” to “We are the power” to “Eff off, fascists!”

In interviews, many protesters expressed their belief that an authoritarian regime has been imposed on the country. As evidence, they frequently pointed to the sending of National Guard troops to U.S. cities and the efforts of the Trump administration and its acolytes to silence dissent.

The huge turnout on Oct. 18 showed clearly that protesters have refused to be cowed by the efforts by Trump and his loyalist politicians to mock, slander, and threaten them. House Speaker Mike Johnson branded the nationwide events as “hate America” rallies, made up of the “pro-Hamas wing” and “Antifa people.”

The remarks of some politicians carried the implied threat that violence could be used against the demonstrations. Greg Abbott, the far-right governor of Texas, actually called up the National Guard to stand by in Austin, just as he did for the first No Kings rally in June. Abbott’s directive was in line with recent actions by the Trump White House, in which protests against the ICE raids in Los Angeles, Portland, Chicago, and elsewhere have motivated the administration to declare a “war” against “insurrectionists.”

Trump himself called the huge protests a “joke ... paid for by Soros and other radical left lunatics.” The people who took part were “whacked out,” Trump said. To make his diagnosis more graphic, Trump issued an AI-generated video on Truth Social, which portrayed him wearing the crown of a king and sitting behind the controls of a jet fighter. The aircraft then took off and dumped what looks like human excrement over a protest demonstration below.

Supporters of the No Kings mobilization hastened to answer the violence baiting by Trump and the right wing. “The real threat to this country isn’t peaceful protesters. It’s politicians shutting down our government to protect billionaires and corporate greed,” said Jaime Contreras, executive vice-president for SEIU 32 BJ, which represents 185,000 janitors and other service employees along the East Coast.

As it turned out, while the Oct. 18 protests were often boisterous, they remained peaceful. Many marchers came dressed as bunny rabbits or cartoon-like frogs; such animal costumes became widespread as symbols of resistance after ICE agents tear-gassed a protester wearing an inflatable frog costume in Portland, Ore., on Oct. 2.

Compared to earlier pro-democracy actions this year, Oct. 18 saw the increased presence of organized labor in some areas. In many cities, however, while union officials might have spoken from the podium, few unions made a significant attempt to publicize the actions among their members, let alone to mobilize them to attend.

If the No Kings protests are to continue to grow in size and power, activists must reach out with increased effort to organized labor—as well as to other formations that are organizing within the various sectors of the working class, such as Black and immigrant community groups.

In order to develop deep roots in workplaces and working-class communities, future No Kings events should demand measures that can achieve true economic and social justice for all people. These de-



Kamil Krzaczyński / Getty Images

mands should target the *entire* government—not just Trump and the Republicans. It would be a mistake to call for millions of people to mobilize again in the spring, while signaling that the main goal is to get out the vote in order to gain a Democratic Party majority in the 2026 elections for Congress and other political offices. History has shown that such a strategy leads

to a dead end for movement building.

If this movement can unleash the earthshaking power that it is capable of—effectively challenging the plutocratic and anti-democratic actions of the federal government—it must remain independent and in the streets.

— MICHAEL SCHREIBER

— Tradwives: A reactionary fantasy —

By LENA WANG

A recent social media phenomenon, the “tradwife,” refers to a young woman who embraces an ultra-traditional gender role and dedicates herself to domestic life. In viral videos on TikTok, Instagram, and other platforms, these women often appear in modest dresses, caring for their children, preparing their husband’s lunch for work, or tranquilly performing house chores.

Take Nara Smith, for example, one of the most popular tradwife influencers in the U.S., who has garnered tens of millions of followers for videos of herself making elaborate foods for her children from scratch—often homemade versions of popular processed foods like cereals, PB&Js, and candies.

On one hand, the popularity of tradwife content is reflective of real economic anxieties. As the cost of living balloons

in the U.S. and the prospect of having children becomes more and more unaffordable, it stands to reason that younger women might find solace in a tradwife’s vision of domestic bliss.

When faced with the realities of living paycheck to paycheck, it’s no wonder one might dream of baking cookies and looking after babies, though of course, the tradwife’s comfortable stay-at-home mom lifestyle with every top-of-the-line kitchen appliance imaginable is unattainable for working-class women.

Furthermore, such videos present a reactionary fantasy of women returning to a more “natural” way of life, subservient to her spouse and family, steeped in 1950s nostalgia. The reality of American womanhood in the 1950s was far from ideal and rife with abuse, as husbands held all control of household finances. Before the

1970s, even marital rape had not been outlawed, and women could not open independent bank accounts.

Parallel to the rise of the “manosphere” for adolescent men, tradwife content repopularizes the conservative norms of heterosexual marriage for young women, encouraging them to embrace and romanticize a world where women are confined to the home and dominated by men. The popularization of tradwife content parallels the advancement of the U.S. far-right in their regressive platform, through abortion bans, attacks against Queer people, restriction on trans health care, and censorship of LGBTQ books.

Given the cultural reach of tradwife content, it is our task to poke holes in its fantasies, name it clearly as propaganda for sexist conservatism, and offer alternative visions for women’s and Queer liberation. ■



HOW TO FIGHT ICE

By VALENTINA SALGADO

In recent weeks, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Memphis, Portland, Chicago, and other urban centers have been targeted by immigration raids, backed by federal troops mobilized under the pretext of fighting crime. The violent operation in Chicago on Sept. 8 demonstrated that neither the laws, nor the courts, nor the Constitution will prevent Trump's increasingly authoritarian regime from intensifying its attacks on immigrants, workers, youth, and the oppressed.

That morning, hundreds of ICE, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and National Guard troops, under Operation Midway Blitz (a clear reference to the lethal Nazi blitzkrieg in World War II) descended from Black Hawk helicopters onto buildings in the working-class neighborhood of Southshore, breaking down doors and smashing windows, assaulting residents with tear gas and stun grenades, zip-tying terrified children, and firing rubber bullets indiscriminately. To date, Midway Blitz has detained more than 3,000 immigrants whom the government labels as "criminals" and even several citizens.

Similar scenarios are repeated in urban centers that are "sanctuaries" for immigrants and where there is opposition to Trump's policies, in addition to "routine" raids throughout the country. According to the DHS (Department of Homeland Security, which includes ICE), so far this year, 548,000 people have been deported. Most them had no criminal record and were flown away without any legal process, while another 60,000 people remain in detention centers, surviving in inhumane conditions. All of this is possible thanks to the dramatic increase in the

budget and recruitment for ICE and CBP—more than \$85 billion this year (for comparison, Guatemala's total annual budget is \$19 billion) for more weapons, biometric software, detention centers, and tens of thousands of new agents recruited from the dregs of society.

Immigrant communities have not stood idly by in the face of this brutal escalation. They have generally responded in two ways—by forming Rapid Response Networks (RRNs) and by lobbying for legislation in municipalities and states to prohibit local police and public agencies from collaborating with ICE, using a model such as the Immigrant Trust Acts that are in effect in several states. RRNs offer Know Your Rights workshops in communities, churches, schools, and workplaces, maintain emergency hotlines for when ICE shows up, and dispatch patrols of activists who try to discourage the agents, documenting their behavior and advising those affected.

This RRN model has spread throughout the country thanks to NGOs (non-governmental organizations) such as NDLO (National Day Laborer Organizing Network), Resistencia en Acción NJ, Movimiento Cosecha, Raíces, Mijente, Sagrado Corazón, Amigos de Guadalupe, El Concilio, and many more, which currently lead the immigrant movement. RRNs attract hundreds of activists, natives and immigrants, promoting solidarity and the capacity to fight back. However, the results of these efforts are uneven: Sometimes, RRNs manage to prevent detentions and empower immigrant families by showing them support. But as small, mobile teams with changing compositions, they do not constitute a constant or numerous presence in the neighborhoods, and therefore can hardly contribute to the self-organiza-

tion and defensive mobilization of these communities.

The second strategy employed by NGOs, which involves lobbying Democratic politicians and pressuring city councils and legislatures to pass measures that protect immigrants by preventing collaboration between local agencies and ICE, has served to rally and mobilize activists, as has RRN. We should celebrate this. But at the same time, what good is a law, whatever it may be, that lacks the mechanisms or resources for its enforcement? Who will compel the police and local government agencies to refuse to collaborate with ICE? And, given their shared repressive nature and ideologies, won't the police and immigration authorities covertly align themselves when the time comes?

But the fundamental problem with this strategy is that it limits itself to asking for "protection," on the one hand, and on the other

hand, it asks for it from politicians and institutions that can never represent our interests because they belong to the parties of the rich, the Democrats and Republicans.

Wouldn't it be better to redirect those huge efforts to mobilize people to council and legislative meetings, and the time and resources spent lobbying those people for a limited goal of "protection," toward building a mass movement with our class comrades, the workers born here? Working people in this movement could bring in their unions if they have them; students, as well as Palestine solidarity activists, would also be included. Such a movement could be powerful enough to force the government into granting papers for all, and even obtain the abolition of ICE and the repressive agencies that attack all of us who are fighting for a better world.

To this end, the challenge facing the immigrant movement is the development of its own leaders, capable of proposing a political program, strategies, and tactics to win full rights for all. This is difficult to achieve when the leadership of the immigrant movement, including the RRNs, is in the hands of NGOs. First, because, although these organizations often arise from sincere activists within the communities themselves, many depend on donations and subsidies from agencies and foundations that prevent them from truly confronting the capitalist system that creates the inequality and exploitation in the first place, even while being critical of it.

And second, because in general, NGOs are not internally democratic. They are governed by boards of directors that are not elected by the community, and they transmit this mode of operation to the movement, thus hindering its political development and capacity to lead the formation of united fronts with other social sectors to fight for all our needs.

No matter how well-intentioned their leaders may be, NGOs will never be able to prepare us to face militarized operations involving dozens of heavily armed ICE and other repressive agents who will attack our communities and workplaces more and more as they

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By JAMES MARKIN

Since Trump's emissaries finalized the deal between Netanyahu and various Palestinian armed groups, the situation in Gaza has been contradictory and confusing. On the one hand, Palestinians celebrated as they were able to leave hated refugee camps and return to their homes. On the other hand, the killing has not stopped and Israel has used the opportunity to launch a bombing campaign against Lebanon.

From a diplomatic perspective, there are two parts to the current situation. The U.S. and European imperialist blocs spent the months leading up to the opening of the UN in New York to negotiate a shared vision for "peace" in Gaza. This is nothing less than a plan for full colonization under the rule of the imperialist hatchet-man Tony Blair. Then Trump strong armed Israel into accepting a "ceasefire" agreement with Hamas that required Israel to withdraw its troops and allow food into Gaza in exchange for a bilateral prisoner release. This ceasefire deal does not contain some of the more objectionable parts of the overall "Peace Plan," such as the disarmament of Hamas or the creation of an international authority to rule over Gaza in their stead.

Israel never fully implemented its part of the deal, continuing bombardments that are explicitly prohibited by the agreement and not releasing aid into the strip, another clear requirement of the agreement. Indeed, Israel has not opened the Rafah crossing, another violation.

By Oct. 18, eight days after the "ceasefire" had gone into effect, the Gaza Media Office recorded 47 separate Israeli violations of the deal. This included the murder of an entire family of 11 Gazans on Oct. 17, whose crime was to cross the "yellow line," an imaginary line drawn by the Israeli military and not published, which marks the borders of its current area of operations. Over the weekend of Oct. 18, after clashes in Rafah led to the deaths of two Israeli soldiers, Israel announced that all humanitarian aid would be suspended and launched a series of brutal bombing attacks against the civilian population of the Gaza Strip. At least 40 people were killed, according to the Gaza health ministry.

On Oct. 28, in a single night, at least 104 Gazans were slaughtered in a wave of Israeli bomb attacks. By Nov. 3, the death toll in Gaza since the "ceasefire" began had reached at least 236.

While Trump's longer Peace Plan calls for the IDF to ultimately withdraw to the borders of the Gaza Strip (minus a buffer zone), history suggests that the IDF might insist on remaining within the yellow line, essentially leaving half of the Gaza Strip under direct Israeli occupation. These fears have only become more real over the past few weeks as the IDF

The 'ceasefire' in Gaza

A rotten deal — already broken

Mahmoud Isleem / Anadolu



has begun to install yellow concrete markers showing where they believe the boundary to be.

While Hamas and its allied forces have still not agreed to the full Trump plan, they agreed on Oct. 14 to allow a "temporary Palestinian committee" of independent technocrats to run the portions of the Gaza strip that Israel does not directly control. During the recent visits by Trump and Vance to Israel, they announced the formation of the Civil-Military Coordination Center, a U.S.-run international army command based in Israel. The plan is that the international force that is to occupy Gaza will be commanded by the CMC.

The specifics of how exactly the planned "disarmament" of Hamas by the international armed force will go is still unclear. However, it is clear that the ultimate aim of this policy is to turn Gaza into essentially a U.S. colony, under occupation by this U.S.-led international force. It is clear that if this comes to

pass then the U.S. will have done what Israel could not do: eliminate armed resistance in the Gaza strip.

This is why the U.S. wants to keep the ceasefire deal alive: Both in order to maintain prestige for Donald Trump but also to enable the implementation of the plan for the international takeover of Gaza. The question remains whether Trump will maintain the pressure on Netanyahu that allowed the deal to be announced in the first place.

It is obvious that Israel will not keep the letter of the deal either way. But major questions remain about the degree to which Israel actually intends to withdraw from the strip. Israel has taken a beating diplomatically over the last year, and the public attitude toward the Zionist regime among the working public of the country's imperialist patrons is at an all-time low. It is possible that they will try to only hold to the parts of the deal that benefit them, as they successfully did when it came to previous peace talks in the West Bank, large sections of which have now been *de facto* annexed. Whether Israel's genocidal war will ultimately end up as a victory or a defeat will be determined by the terms agreed to at the end of this new negotiation process between the U.S., Arab states, the Palestinian Authority, Hamas, other armed groups, and the state of Israel.

We have already seen the impact of the heroic wave of strikes carried out by the Italian workers as part of the "Blocchiamo Tutto" (Block Everything) movement against Italian support for Israel. Ultimately, workers need to keep up the pressure on the imperialist governments that rule over them through mass demonstrations, and where possible, strikes like in Italy. ■

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get more funding for weapons and recruit more personnel. The NGO formula of RRNs and lobbying, and acts of individual heroism in civil disobedience arrests will not only be insufficient, but will prevent us from forming a unified mass movement that, starting with immigrants, also mobilizes unions and other workers' organizations to democratically decide our political goals and tactics so we can first stop government aggression and then win full rights for all.

So, wouldn't it be important for us to call for large assemblies in our immigrant communities to discuss in depth and vote democratically for what we want, how we want to organize to achieve this, with whom, and who our leaders will be? It is there that we can discuss and vote on whether we are content to ask for "protection" for immigrants or whether we would rather fight together for the right to citizenship for all. We will energetically support anyone who wants to bring this about. ■

Crisis in Farm Country



By RICHARD WESLEY

One year ago, "Farmers for Trump" signs peppered the landscape in rural America. Over half a year into the second Trump administration, the enthusiasm for the election of 2024 has considerably abated in farm country. Policy decisions coming from Washington have dealt a series of blows to rural populations.

Tariffs and instability in export markets

The on-again, off-again tariffs imposed by Trump have shaken once reliable trade markets. As far back as April, Forbes cited a report from the American Enterprise Institute on the potential impact to agriculture: "In South Dakota, 87% of the land is used for farming, including corn, soybeans, and wheat, as well as dairy and beef products. Major crops include corn, soybeans, and wheat, and the state also produces beef and dairy products. Its neighbor North Dakota is also an agricultural powerhouse that produces significant amounts of grain and other crops. Iowa, Nebraska, and Montana round out the top five states with the highest proportion of farmers. These are the states most likely to feel the pain from tariffs that impact farmers." Ironically, these are all "red" states that voted heavily in support of Trump.

The tariffs are not only affecting markets for produce (outputs), but they are driving higher prices for inputs—i.e., agrochemical imports, seeds, and farm machinery. These items face tariffs of 20% or more, making it costlier to bring agricultural products to market where they already face retaliatory tariffs. For example, costs for new farm machinery is up 60% over the last eight years—and rising, due to tariffs on steel and aluminum.

Moreover, the uncertainty of market conditions is causing once primary trade partners in the agricultural sector to seek other less volatile exporters. The most telling example of this effect is what

happened in the first Trump administration when Trump imposed tariffs on China, and China responded with retaliatory tariffs on soybeans. According to Forbes, in the period prior to the tariffs, Brazil and the United States each provided 40% to 45% of Chinese soybeans imports. After the tariffs, Chinese importers shifted their business away from the United States to Brazil. Trump tried to soften the blow to American soybean farmers with a \$61 billion relief package to farmers who suffered losses during this period. But it isn't all that easy for market consumers to return once they have established a more reliable partner in Brazil.

The same could be said of other commodities, but it is unclear how or whether the administration could provide relief as before. While farmers are being sold on the idea of tariffs bringing long-term benefits, it may simply be a ploy to defer the damage being felt by the short-term effects.

Immigration policy damage

Another source of serious harm that is being inflicted on the agricultural sector is related to the Trump administration's immigration policy. The violent ICE raids and the constant threats of arrest and deportation have terrified farm laborers and disrupted their lives. Many farmworkers and their families have been thrown into extreme financial hardship. Children who are U.S. citizens have often been separated from their undocumented parents.

Simultaneously, the wave of raids, detentions, and deportations has affected the agricultural market, as it has suppressed the supply of both skilled and unskilled workers. According to Farmonaut, a farm technology company, about 50% of agricultural workers in the U.S. are undocumented immigrants.

For example, tomato farmers in Florida have suffered a severe shortage of migrant labor, causing many to plow their crops under. As reported by *Moneywise* on July 20, Tony DiMare, who owns 4000

acres of tomato farms in Florida and California, has had to mow over his Florida tomatoes and leave them to rot, due to Trump's immigration policies.

The labor shortage means that Florida farmers must pay more for labor while, at the same time, they're getting less money for their produce due to Trump's tariffs. Farmonaut also notes that "the impact of tariffs and immigration policy will have a knock-on effect in grocery stores. If U.S. farmers don't have enough workers to harvest crops, Americans will have to buy more imported produce and pay more, due to the tariffs assessed."

A similar scenario is being played out in Oregon where cherry orchard farmers are watching a promising crop rotting on the trees. Laborers, along with those immigrants who have the skills to operate mechanized equipment for the harvest, are not showing up. Instead they have been intimidated by the prospect of ICE arrests, should they brave the journey north from California.

In dairy country (think Wisconsin and Vermont), the intensive labor required to run dairy operations has been stifled by the fear of ICE raids. Many of these workers are year-round employees and are easy targets for the quota-driven ICE agents.

Medicaid cuts cause hospitals to close

Another blow to rural America is the cuts to Medicaid triggered by the so-called "Big Beautiful Bill" signed into law by Donald Trump on July 4, 2025. This reconciliation bill will lead to a reduction of approximately \$911 billion over the next 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Of this amount, over \$137 billion will be lost in rural areas. Estimates are that 10.3 million people will lose Medicaid benefits.

In addition, when cuts to the ACA (Affordable Care Act), which created an alternative to private insurance, are included, the number of people losing their insurance rises to 16 million. As noted by Rokosz Most in the *Barn Raiser* newsletter, "This put enormous strain on rural hospitals already underpaid by re-imbursements offered by federal health-care programs, limited in the services they can provide, frequently understaffed, and frequently serving primarily those community members in or near the verge of poverty." Already, rural hospitals have suffered a wave of closings, with more to come.

Resistance in farm country

One of the first signs of farmer resistance occurred in the rural community of Hadley, in Western Massachusetts. Approximately 300 citizens gathered in late March to protest the cuts to federal programs supporting farmers. One example was the loss of funds for the Local Purchasing Assistance Program (LPAP), an allocation of \$1 billion. The LPAP helps local farms to market a wide range of produce to schools, food banks, and other food access programs, in Massachusetts amounting to \$12 million for the second half of FY2025. Due to a loss of 4,000 acres of farmland in the region during the previous two years because of a combination of both drought and floods, these funds would have helped offset production deficits.

Another farmer protested that she stood to lose \$120,000 from the breach of her Rural Energy for America contract—money she had already borrowed on the promise of reimbursement and started to spend in compliance with their contract.

Since the Hadley protest, we've seen a crescendo

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By JOHN LESLIE

Dr. Tom Alter, a respected history professor, was fired on Sept. 10 by Texas State University President Kelly Dampousse after delivering a speech during an online socialist conference organized by Socialist Horizon and Firebrand Communists. In his speech, Dr. Alter advocated for the building of a revolutionary socialist party in his capacity as a member of Socialist Horizon.

After his initial firing, a judge ordered Dr. Alter reinstated because the university had violated Dr. Alter's due process rights. He was "reinstated," but barred from teaching until a hearing had been held. The hearing took place on Oct. 6, but the university waited until Oct. 13 to tell Dr. Alter that he was permanently terminated.

The grounds for his dismissal were allegations that Dr. Alter had advocated violence during his talk. This claim was made by a self-described fascist, Karlyn Borysenko, who posted selected sound bites from the video taken of Dr. Alter's talk that she had recorded. In reality, Alter said nothing to incite violence.

After the announcement of his firing on Oct. 13, Dr. Alter stated, "My termination, in clear violation of my First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, association, and of assembly, brings shame, embarrassment and a heavy blow to the academic reputation of Texas State University. This hurts not only faculty, staff, current students and alumni but the San Marcos community as well.

"This fight did not start with me, and it does not end with me. I want to thank my unions, the Texas State Employees Union, American Association of University Professors, and Texas-AFT; the broad coalition of democratic rights supporters in the Committee to Defend Tom Alter; the Texas State chapter of the Young Democratic Socialists of America; Socialist Horizon; and all those who value basic democracy."

Soon after Dr. Alter's firing, a network of labor, community, and socialist activists formed the Commit-

Reinstate Dr. Tom Alter now!



tee to Defend Tom Alter (CDTA), with the purpose of fighting for his job and protecting his right to free speech. The CDTA has been working tirelessly to demand Alter's reinstatement and return to teaching. Local defense committees are being formed in cities across the U.S. as part of the national effort. Additionally, speaking engagements are being planned in cities and universities across the country.

Defense policy

Dr. Alter's firing comes in the context of an all-out offensive against democratic rights being waged by the Trump administration. This includes a racist anti-immigrant crackdown and a neo-McCarthyite campaign on university campuses against ideas the Trump regime deems subversive or at odds with its

"America First" agenda. This means teaching about gender, racism or anti-fascism is off limits as Trump tries to tighten his grip on academia.

This includes targeting Palestine solidarity activists, including the threat of deportation aimed at international students who have dared to speak up against Israel's genocidal onslaught in Gaza. To be clear, this assault on free speech began under Joe Biden's presidency, when the Democrats blocked with Republicans to arm and give diplomatic cover to Israel's genocide.

The U.S. left, starting with the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) and extending into the communist and socialist movements, has a long history of building broad defense campaigns for victims of state repression. For socialists, unconditional solidarity with all of those targeted by the state, regardless of any political differences, is a central principle.

Socialist Workers Party writer and educator George Novack wrote, "Let me summarize the fundamental features of defense policy which the pioneers of our movement worked out and which have guided all our subsequent activities and achievements.

"The democratic, constitutional and legal rights of the American people are the most valuable political acquisitions of their past struggles. Socialists must staunchly uphold these indispensable instruments of the workers' struggle for emancipation against any encroachment, assault or erosion by the forces of reaction. A strong defense of existing rights is the best way of extending them."

Socialists defend the democratic rights of all victims of the U.S. capitalist system and its state apparatus. This does not mean that we have illusions in their Constitution or the capitalist government's rhetoric about democracy and freedom. We know that their concept of freedom does not really extend to the working class and oppressed. The few rights we enjoy were not handed down by benevolent politicians; they were won through the struggles of our forbearers.

What you can do

There are many things that you can do to join the fight for Dr. Tom Alter's democratic rights. First, you can sign the statement issued by the Committee to Defend Tom Alter or circulate the petition. If there is a local defense committee in your area, join it and help out. Take Tom's case into your faith community, union, or student organization and ask them to endorse the campaign, contribute money, and participate in upcoming speaking tours.

If you can, make a personal donation to help Tom Alter and his family pay for their basic living expenses while we take this fight forward. Post about Tom's case on social media and follow our Instagram page. Finally, you can email or call Texas State University President Kelly Dampousse at president@txstate.edu or 512-245-2121.

Organizing resources, the petition, and contact information can be found at the CDTA website: defendtomalter.org/

... Crisis in Farm Country *(continued from page 10)*

of unrest elsewhere across the nation, with farmers showing up at town halls to confront congressional representatives in "red" districts about the damage being wrought by government policies. Recently, there has been a surge of anger over a \$20 billion bailout given to Argentina, which is a major competitor in the soybean trade with China. The bailout was given as a method of boosting the domestic standing of far-right Argentine President Milei, whom the Trump administration sees as an ally in promoting the objectives of U.S. imperialism in Latin America.

While the Trump administration keeps speaking of love for U.S. farmers, there is little evidence of that being translated into relief for the crisis which is hurting rural America. Many small farmers are unsure of being able to sustain their life in the multi-generational traditions of rural enterprise.

American consumers are already feeling the

pinch, as prices are rising for basic grocery items. Indeed, the crisis in farm country will have a ripple effect reaching the tables of working-class families. It will be up to working-class America to stand with rural partners against the greed of the ruling class—more concerned with the cuts that lead to tax breaks for their opulent lifestyles.

Moreover, rural America needs a political option that truly represents their interests. It wasn't so long ago that agricultural workers and independent farmers recognized that their real enemy wasn't the immigrant, but rather the banks and corporate entities that controlled their lives. In the early 20th century, independent socialist and radical populist parties (like the Farmer-Labor Party, founded in 1919) were strong in the rural Midwest. It is time once again for industrial workers and working-class families to unite in common cause with small farmers against the capitalist behemoth. ■



Por TONY STABLE

Zohran Mamdani, miembro de la DSA (Socialistas Democráticos de América) y asambleísta del estado de Nueva York en representación de partes de Queens, ha ganado las elecciones a la alcaldía de la ciudad de Nueva York. Su elección demuestra un gran apoyo a las políticas de izquierda y puede marcar un nuevo capítulo en la política interna del Partido Demócrata. Para la clase trabajadora, su elección supone una nota esperanzadora, pero también ambivalente.

Mamdani se aleja de sus políticas anteriores

Mamdani se presentó a las elecciones a la alcaldía como un candidato prácticamente desconocido. Con poco más del 1 % de los votos en febrero de este año, el enfoque de Mamdani en las reformas económicas cotidianas y su experiencia en las redes sociales le ayudaron rápidamente a saltar a la fama. Mientras Cuomo y Adams seguían envueltos en diversos escándalos sexuales y financieros, Mamdani esbozó una visión socialdemócrata para abordar cuestiones como la crisis de la vivienda en Nueva York, el alto coste del cuidado infantil, la falta de financiación del transporte público y el aumento de los precios de los alimentos.

Mamdani ganó las primarias demócratas contra todo pronóstico. La cúpula del Partido Demócrata se opuso energicamente a su candidatura. Líderes demócratas como el senador Chuck Schumer y el representante Hakeem Jeffries se negaron a apoyar a Mamdani en las primarias, mientras que los representantes de Nueva York Laura Gillen y Tom Suozzi atacaron directamente a su política. Gillen calificó a Mamdani como «la opción absolutamente equivocada para Nueva York», y Suozzi

La victoria de Mamdani en Nueva York

expresó su «grave preocupación» por el asambleísta. Por no hablar de los decenas de millones de dólares de los principales donantes demócratas (entre ellos el multimillonario Michael Bloomberg) que se destinaron al intento del Super PAC de Cuomo de derrotar a Mamdani en las primarias.

Tras conseguir la nominación del Partido Demócrata, la estrategia de Mamdani en las elecciones generales supuso un marcado retroceso con respecto a sus audaces propuestas políticas. Mamdani declaró a Steven Colbert en el Late Show que apoyaba el derecho de Israel a existir, un sentimiento que también transmitió al director ejecutivo de Pfizer, Albert Bourla, en reuniones a puerta cerrada. Se ha alejado de las críticas sustantivas a la altamente militarizada policía de Nueva York, manteniendo a Jessica Tisch, heredera multimillonaria y comisionada de la policía de Nueva York bajo Eric Adams, en su cargo actual. Mamdani también ha insinuado en reuniones privadas que tiene la intención de transigir en su propuesta de «impuesto a los millonarios», una política básica de su campaña en las primarias.

Crisis en el Partido Demócrata

Tras las desastrosas elecciones presidenciales de 2024, así como dos años de cobarde inacción ante el ataque de Donald Trump a los derechos civiles de los inmigrantes, la comunidad LGBTQ y las mujeres, el Partido Demócrata se encuentra una vez más en un momento de crisis. Ni los demócratas ni los republicanos pueden afirmar que representan a la clase trabajadora. Aparte de sus políticas capitalistas contrarias a los intereses de los trabajadores, la mayoría de los trabajadores no votan habitualmente en ninguna elección. El escaso apoyo que los demócratas tenían entre la clase trabajadora, la población negra y los latinoamericanos se está erosionando día a día. Su intento de cortejar a los votantes ricos y con títulos universitarios también ha fracasado, ya que su programa político a favor del genocidio y la austeridad ha alcanzado niveles históricos de impopularidad.

Por su parte, Mamdani no oculta su plan para revitalizar el decrepito Partido Demócrata. Durante la campaña electoral, Mamdani dijo a los residentes de color y a los inmigrantes de Nueva York que votaron a Trump debido al apoyo de los demócratas al genocidio en Gaza, su política exterior belicista y la inflación, que quería que el Partido Demócrata «volviera a trabajar para ellos». Y su retórica se ha ido desplazando gradualmente hacia la derecha, en consonancia con este objetivo.

Queda por ver si la elección de Mamdani cambiará la estrategia general del Partido Demócrata. Sin em-

bargo, es probable que cualquier cambio de este tipo sea superficial. La creciente dependencia de Mamdani del apoyo de los multimillonarios de Nueva York y del aparato del Comité Nacional Demócrata (DNC) indica que la política de su administración seguirá el consenso del Partido Demócrata, en lugar de liderarlo.

¿Qué significa esto para los trabajadores?

Desde la primera campaña presidencial de Bernie Sanders en 2016, los trabajadores de Estados Unidos han sido testigos de un auge de las campañas demócratas supuestamente antisistema. El movimiento de Sanders dio lugar a la representante Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, quien, a su vez, inspiró a innumerables candidatos locales, estatales y federales. Es raro ver cualquier primaria demócrata sin algún candidato de este tipo «progresista». Mientras tanto, a pesar de esta oferta casi ilimitada de políticos que profesan políticas antirracistas y a favor de la clase trabajadora, persiste en Estados Unidos un movimiento creciente y peligroso de populismo de derecha.

Estos políticos «progresistas» que se presentan como demócratas, a pesar de sus buenas intenciones, se ven obligados por las exigencias de los ricos donantes del Partido Demócrata y la presión política de los altos cargos del partido a dar la espalda a los intereses de la clase trabajadora a costa de su carrera política. Por ejemplo, Ocasio-Cortez votó a favor de romper la huelga de los ferroviarios en 2023, y Sanders hizo una intensa campaña para elegir a Biden, que apoyó incondicionalmente el genocidio en Gaza con ayuda financiera y militar. Más recientemente, Sanders ha llegado incluso a expresar un cauteloso apoyo a las catastróficas políticas de inmigración de Trump.

La elección de Mamdani es una poderosa señal de la popularidad de las políticas de izquierda. Sin embargo, los trabajadores no necesitan otro político que se comprometa con los patrones y los terratenientes. El Partido Demócrata los ha producido a un ritmo vertiginoso durante más de un siglo.

En la ciudad más grande de nuestro país, los trabajadores y los inmigrantes sufren alquileres astronómicos, violencia policial e infraestructuras degradadas. Mamdani, que hizo campaña para resolver estos problemas, llega a acuerdos secretos con los mismos capitalistas, policías y propietarios que se benefician de ellas. Como siempre, la tarea de los trabajadores y sus aliados es crear sus propias organizaciones independientes y luchar directamente contra la clase capitalista, no poner su destino en manos de otro político más que se presenta por un partido capitalista. ■

... Cómo enfrentar a la migra

(desde la página 16)

represivas que atacan a todos los que luchamos por un mundo mejor?

Para esto, el reto que enfrenta el movimiento migrante es la formación de dirigentes propios, que sean capaces de elaborar un programa político, estrategias y tácticas de lucha que sirvan para conquistar nuestros plenos derechos. Esto es difícil de lograr cuando la dirección del movimiento inmigrante, incluyendo las RRR, son las ONGs. Primero, porque, aunque estas organizaciones surjan de sinceros luchadores de las propias comunidades, muchas dependen de donaciones y subsidios de agencias y fundaciones que les impiden enfrentarse verdaderamente al sistema capitalista que crea la desigualdad

y explotación, aun siendo críticas de él. Y segundo, porque las ONGs generalmente no son democráticas internamente. Las gobiernan juntas directivas que no son electas por la comunidad, y que transmiten este modo de funcionamiento al movimiento, dificultando así su desarrollo político y capacidad para encabezar la formación de frentes de lucha masivos con otros sectores sociales.

Por mas bienintencionados que sean sus directivos, las ONGs nunca podrán prepararnos para enfrentar operativos con decenas de agentes armados hasta los dientes que irán atacando nuestras comunidades y lugares de trabajo más y más a medida que ICE se equipe y reclute más y más. La fórmula de las ONGs de las RRR y el cabildeo, y los actos de heroísmo individual en arrestos de desobediencia civil no sólo no bastarán, sino que nos impedirán convocar un

movimiento de masas unificado que a partir de los inmigrantes movilice también a los sindicatos y otras organizaciones obreras para decidir democráticamente una política y tácticas capaces de frenar la agresión gubernamental primero y conquistar los plenos derechos después.

Entonces, ¿No sería importante que convoquemos grandes asambleas en nuestras comunidades inmigrantes para discutir a fondo y votar democráticamente qué objetivos políticos queremos, cómo queremos organizarnos para ello, con cuáles estrategias y tácticas, con quién, y quienes serán nuestros dirigentes? ¿Donde podamos discutir y votar si nos contentamos con pedir “protección” o queremos exigir el derecho a la ciudadanía para todos? En la Voz de los Trabajadores creemos que sí, y apoyaremos a quien quiera luchar por esto. ■

Por JAMES MARKIN

Desde que los emisarios de Trump cerraron el acuerdo entre Netanyahu y varios grupos armados palestinos, la situación en Gaza ha sido contradictoria y confusa. Por un lado, los palestinos celebraron poder salir de los odiados campos de refugiados y regresar a sus hogares. Por otro lado, las matanzas no han cesado e Israel ha aprovechado la oportunidad para lanzar una campaña de bombardeos contra el Líbano.

Desde una perspectiva diplomática, la situación actual tiene dos elementos claves. Los bloques imperialistas de Estados Unidos y Europa dedicaron los meses antes de la apertura de la ONU en Nueva York a negociar una visión conjunta de la «paz» en Gaza. Se trata de un plan de colonización total bajo el dominio del verdugo imperialista Tony Blair.

Luego, Trump obligó a Israel a aceptar un acuerdo de «alto el fuego» con Hamás que les exigía retirarse y permitir la entrada de alimentos en Gaza en cambio por la liberación bilateral de prisioneros. Este acuerdo de alto el fuego no contiene algunas de las partes más objetables del «plan de paz» general, como el desarme de Hamás o la creación de una autoridad internacional que gobierne Gaza en su lugar.

Israel nunca cumplió plenamente su parte del acuerdo, ya que continuó con los bombardeos, que están explícitamente prohibidos por el acuerdo, y no permitió la entrada de ayuda en Gaza, otro requisito claro del acuerdo. De hecho, Israel no ha abierto el paso fronterizo de Rafah, lo que constituye otra violación.

El 18 de octubre, ocho días después de la entrada en vigor del «alto el fuego», la Oficina de Medios de Comunicación de Gaza registró 47 violaciones israelíes del acuerdo. Entre ellas se incluye el asesinato de toda una familia de 11 habitantes de Gaza el 17 de octubre, cuyo único delito fue cruzar la «línea amarilla», una línea imaginaria trazada por el ejército israelí y no publicada, que marca los límites de su zona de operaciones actual.

Durante el fin de semana del 18 de octubre, tras los enfrentamientos en Rafah que provocaron la muerte de dos soldados israelíes, Israel anunció que suspendería toda la ayuda humanitaria y lanzó una serie de brutales bombardeos contra la población civil de la Franja de Gaza. Según el Ministerio de Salud de Gaza, al menos 40 personas murieron.

El 28 de octubre, en una sola noche, al menos 104 habitantes de Gaza fueron masacrados en una oleada de bombardeos israelíes. El 3 de noviembre, el número de muertos en Gaza desde que se acordó el «alto el fuego» había alcanzado al menos los 236. Las matanzas perpetradas por el ejército israelí son especialmente graves a lo largo de la «línea amarilla».

Aunque el plan de paz a largo plazo de Trump exige que el ejército israelí se retire finalmente fuera de las fronteras de la Franja de Gaza (sin la zona de amortiguación), la historia sugiere que el ejército israelí pueda insistir en permanecer dentro de esta línea amarilla, dejando esencialmente la mitad de la Franja de Gaza bajo ocupación israelí directa. Estos temores se han hecho más reales en las últimas semanas, ya que el ejército ha comenzado a instalar marcadores amarillos que indican dónde creen que está la frontera.

Aunque Hamás y sus fuerzas aliadas aún no han aceptado el plan completo de Trump, el 14 de oc-

El «alto el fuego» en Gaza: un pésimo acuerdo, ya roto

Eye on Palestine



«Por un lado, los palestinos celebraron poder salir de los odiados campos de refugiados y regresar a sus hogares. Por otro lado, las matanzas por Israel no han cesado.»

tubre acordaron permitir que un «comité palestino temporal» de tecnócratas independientes administrara las partes de la Franja de Gaza que Israel no controla directamente. Durante las recientes visitas de Trump y Vance a Israel, anunciaron la formación del Centro de Coordinación Civil-Militar, un comando militar internacional dirigido por Estados Unidos con sede en Israel. El plan es que la fuerza internacional que ocupará Gaza esté bajo el mando del CCCM.

Aún no están claros los detalles de cómo se intenta llevar a cabo el «desarme» de Hamás por parte de la fuerza armada internacional. Sin embargo, está claro que el objetivo final de esta política es convertir Gaza en una colonia estadounidense, bajo la ocupación de esta fuerza internacional liderada por Estados Unidos. Está claro que, si esto se lleva a cabo, Estados Unidos habrá hecho lo que Israel no pudo hacer: eliminar la resistencia armada en la Franja de Gaza.

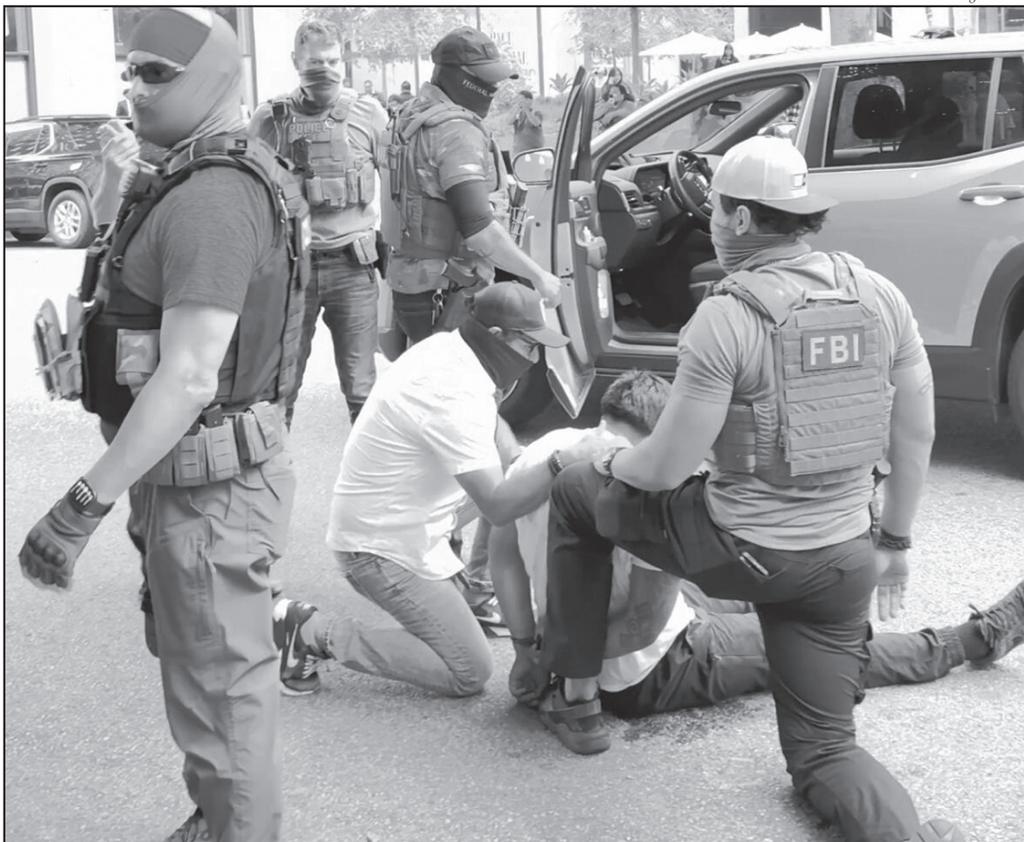
Por eso Estados Unidos quiere mantener vivo el acuerdo de alto el fuego: tanto para mantener el prestigio de Donald Trump como para permitir la aplicación del plan de toma de control internacional de Gaza. La pregunta es si Trump mantendrá la presión sobre Netanyahu que permitió que se anunciara el acuerdo en primer lugar.

Está claro que Israel no mantendrá la letra del acuerdo en cualquier caso. Pero siguen existiendo importantes dudas sobre si Israel realmente tiene la intención de salir de Gaza.

Está evidente que Israel ha sufrido un duro golpe diplomático durante el último año y que la aprobación del público hacia el Estado sionista entre la clase trabajadora de los patrocinadores imperialistas del país está en su punto más bajo.

Es posible que intenten mantener solo las partes del acuerdo que les benefician, como hicieron con éxito en las anteriores conversaciones de paz en Cisjordania, gran parte de la cual ha sido ahora anexionada *de facto*. La cuestión de si su guerra genocida termine siendo una victoria o una derrota dependerá de los términos acordados al final de este nuevo proceso de negociación entre Estados Unidos, los Estados árabes, la Autoridad Palestina, Hamás, otros grupos armados y el Estado de Israel.

Ya hemos visto el impacto de la heroica ola de huelgas llevadas a cabo por los trabajadores italianos como parte del movimiento «Blocciamo Tutto» (Bloqueemos todo) contra el apoyo italiano a Israel. En última instancia, los trabajadores deben mantener la presión sobre los gobiernos imperialistas mediante manifestaciones masivas y, cuando sea posible, huelgas como las de Italia. ■



El FBI recibe la orden de perseguir a los grupos «anticapitalistas y anticristianos»

Por ERWIN FREED

El Memorandum de Política de Seguridad Nacional n.º 7 (NSPM-7) deja clara la postura antidemocrática, contraria a la libertad de expresión y hostil hacia los trabajadores de los grandes multimillonarios y sus titeres políticos. El asesinato de Charlie Kirk fue utilizado descaradamente por sus aliados políticos y supuestos amigos para dar «justificación» a un documento que criminaliza las creencias políticas, culturales y sociales de la gran mayoría de los que viven en Estados Unidos.

Publicado el 25 de septiembre, el NSPM-7 ordena a las ocultas unidades del FBI «Joint Terrorism Task Force» (JTTF) a «investigar, perseguir y desarticular entidades e individuos» que puedan ser indicados por «antiamericanismo, anticapitalismo y anticristianismo... extremismo en materia de migración, raza y género; y hostilidad hacia quienes sostienen opiniones tradicionales estadounidenses sobre la familia, la religión y la moralidad».

Como ha señalado el periodista Ken Klippenstein desde que dio a conocer la noticia (reproducida en *Truthout*, 29 de septiembre de 2025), los medios de comunicación convencionales y los políticos del Partido Demócrata han sido extremadamente lentos y vacilantes a la hora de darse cuenta y luego pronunciarse en contra de la NSPM-7. En una de las primeras y únicas investigaciones convencionales sobre estos acontecimientos, los periodistas de Reuters identificaron nueve organizaciones liberales

específicamente señaladas por la Casa Blanca. Entre ellas se encontraban las Open Society Foundations de Soros, ActBlue, Indivisible y la Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA). Incluso en ese artículo, los autores no mencionan la NSPM-7 por su nombre.

Las declaraciones de muchos portavoces de alto nivel del Partido Republicano y de MAGA muestran que están intentando crear una narrativa política que racionalice el control estricto de las organizaciones liberales. En particular, Mike Johnson, presidente de la Cámara de Representantes, calificó las manifestaciones del 18 de octubre Día Sin Reyes como «manifestaciones contra Estados Unidos» y describió a los asistentes como «anarquistas, defensores de Antifa [y] pro-Hamás».

Esta última caracterización tiene un doble efecto. Por un lado, estas declaraciones ocultan el hecho de que ser anarquista, defensor de Antifa o pro-Hamás no es ilegal. Por otro lado, al enmarcar el Día Sin Reyes de esta manera, la extrema derecha está presionando a organizaciones liberales como Indivisible para que tracen una línea divisoria entre ellas y las personas que tienen opiniones más izquierdistas. La administración espera que, en lugar de movilizarse contra la represión, los activistas de clase media del Partido Demócrata comiencen a participar en la caza de comunistas o, al menos, mirar para otro lado en que se cazan.

Los memorandos de política de seguridad nacional tienen una larga historia en la construcción bipartidista de la vigilancia masiva y la policía política

militarizada. Memorandos y dictámenes jurídicos similares, a menudo completamente secretos, dieron luz verde a la vigilancia por parte de la NSA de prácticamente todo el uso del teléfono y de Internet en Estados Unidos. Al hacer público este memorándum, la administración Trump está dejando claro a todos los oponentes reales e imaginarios de su programa hiperreaccionario, proausteridad y antiobrero que son objeto de acoso policial, infiltración y perturbación.

Bajo Trump, el FBI, el ICE y otras agencias federales están trabajando abiertamente para implementar y racionalizar las medidas establecidas en el documento de derecha Proyecto 2025, que establecía las perspectivas para la presidencia de Trump. La clase dominante ha llenado todos los cargos importantes con partidarios del «ejecutivo unitario», al tiempo que organiza la vigilancia masiva y recorta los programas de bienestar social y de protección de los trabajadores que aún quedan. Para impulsar estas políticas increíblemente impopulares y destructivas, el capital está movilizándose al Estado para reprimir a la clase trabajadora y a la juventud y aterrorizar a ciudades enteras con el pretexto de «deportar a los ilegales» y «luchar contra la delincuencia».

Las justificaciones básicas para la vigilancia y la policía antidemocrática están integradas en la propaganda de la clase dominante estadounidense, incluidos los medios de comunicación y el sistema educativo. La lucha contra el «anarquismo» y el «comunismo» ha sido la justificación de las tácticas represoras desde que se formó la policía en este país. La creación del mito de los «extremistas violentos» que amenazan un imaginario «orden capitalista» encubre la violencia cotidiana de la pobreza, el subdesarrollo y la actuación policial racista que sufren las comunidades de clase trabajadora, en particular las mujeres y las personas LGBTQ+, negras, inmigrantes, indígenas y discapacitadas de esas comunidades.

La clase dominante estadounidense se ve obligada a recurrir a formas tan descaradas de represión política y corrupción oficial porque el país se enfrenta a la decadencia imperial. La rentabilidad estaba en declive mucho antes incluso de la pandemia de COVID, y Estados Unidos es incapaz de competir con China en muchos sectores y lugares a nivel internacional. A nivel nacional, el gran capital está intentando darse más espacio para la acumulación recortando drásticamente el sector público, intentando reiniciar una versión del programa Bracero y poniendo a todos los sindicatos del país a la defensiva.

Para impulsar estos cambios drásticos, la clase dominante está tratando de intimidar a la población para que no proteste y de establecer más infraestructura de «seguridad nacional». El NSPM-7 es parte de una larga historia de la llamada guerra global contra el terrorismo. Esa misma «guerra» es la que dio lugar al ICE y desarrolló todas las tecnologías de control social que utiliza actualmente la administración Trump.

Si bien los ataques son muy reales, también lo son las posibilidades de construir una oposición pública y amplia contra ellos. El 18 de octubre, día en que se celebró el Día Sin Reyes, fue uno de los días de acción más importantes de la historia de Estados Unidos. Las ciudades que se enfrentaron directamente a la ocupación militar movizaron a cientos de miles de personas. El ICE se enfrenta a una oposición diaria en todo el país.

Los métodos y tácticas básicos para construir esta oposición no son nuevos para la clase trabajadora

(*vea la página 15*)

Desde Venezuela y Colombia hasta EEUU, denunciamos los ataques de Trump en el Caribe

[Extraído de la declaración completa.]

Nosotros, organizaciones de trabajadores socialistas revolucionarios de Venezuela, Colombia y los Estados Unidos, repudiamos totalmente los asesinatos injustificables de marineros y pescadores de Venezuela, Colombia y Trinidad por la armada yanqui. Igualmente, las asquerosas y mortíferas amenazas y provocaciones del gobierno de Trump contra los pueblos de Venezuela y Colombia, que implican un ataque imperialista y un riesgo mortal para toda la región de América Latina. ...

El historial de las intervenciones yanquis muestra que su política no tiene la menor intención de combatir el narcotráfico. Por el contrario, las agencias federales de EE. UU. han colaborado con los carteles narcotraficantes en México y Colombia, y sus intervenciones no han servido para parar el tráfico, sino para reorganizarlo bajo control yanqui.

Al acusar, sin mostrar pruebas, a Nicolás Maduro y recientemente a Petro, como un líder de los narcos, Trump claramente prepara el pretexto para una intervención militar contra Venezuela y no se puede descartar también contra Colombia. Por su parte, el intento de Trump de presentar a Maduro y Petro como inmorales e ilegales "líderes del tráfico de drogas" ignora la propia participación de su gobierno y gobiernos anteriores de EE. UU. en el narcotráfico, tanto como sus conexiones personales con el famoso traficante de mujeres, Jeffrey Epstein.

Trump, o cualquier presidente estadounidense, no tienen ninguna autoridad moral para denunciar a presidentes o incluso países enteros

de América Latina como traficantes de cualquier tipo. El intento del gobierno estadounidense es utilizar la "diplomacia de cañoneras"—que puede llegar a ser invasión plena—para avanzar en una política imperialista de rapiña y opresión para todos los pueblos de nuestra América.

En los Estados Unidos, identificamos como estos ataques imperialistas están directamente ligados a los ataques del gobierno de Trump contra la clase trabajadora norteamericana, e igualmente con el largo historial de intervenciones de EE. UU. contra América Latina y la clase trabajadora en general, y alentamos la movilización de masas para frenarlo totalmente, incluyendo la anulación sin pago de todas las deudas neocoloniales que controla EE. UU.

Como socialistas que nos organizamos en Estados Unidos, Venezuela, y Colombia reconocemos que necesitamos movilizarnos para enfrentar la maquinaria de guerra imperialista con el poder de la clase trabajadora organizada. No tenemos ningún compromiso con los gobiernos burgueses de Maduro y Petro.

En Venezuela, sabemos que Maduro no tiene nada de socialista, que mantiene a su pueblo sumido en la pobreza y que incluso está dispuesto a entregar toda la riqueza natural del país para satisfacer las demandas de Trump. En Colombia, a pesar de sus denuncias correctas ante la hipocresía y la injerencia imperialista, Petro sigue en el marco de pagar la deuda externa, y de ser socio global de la OTAN, atado a compromisos que mantienen a Colombia bajo el control del imperialismo.

Nuestro compromiso es con la clase trabajadora de Venezuela y Colombia, reconociendo que el intento de derro-



car a Maduro con la presión militar imperialista no va a hacer nada para mejorar las condiciones de vida del pueblo venezolano; cualquier sanción de Trump contra Colombia afectará a los trabajadores; la injerencia imperialista solo dejará a los países más empobrecidos y dominados por el imperialismo. Tal como lo muestra el largo historial de intervenciones militares yanquis en nuestro continente y en el mundo.

Una intervención militar en Venezuela, Colombia o cualquier otro país del continente, de última lo que persigue es reinstalar el método del garrote y de las incursiones militares directas para determinar los rumbos políticos de nuestros países según la conveniencia del imperialismo norteamericano y reforzar el resguardo de sus intereses políticos, económicos y militares, en una región históricamente estratégica para el imperialismo yanqui y que consideran su patio trasero.

Por tales razones, en Venezuela, llamamos a la acción política unificada para derrotar la amenaza de los ataques imperialistas. El pueblo obrero necesita movilizarse en esta lucha, y desde allí avanzar y organizarse para derrotar los ajustes antiobreros y antipopulares del

gobierno de Maduro. Mientras que en Colombia, llamamos a no pagar la deuda externa imperialista, salir de la OTAN y al rechazo de cualquier chantaje imperialista. En toda América Latina y en todo el mundo, rechazamos la intervención militar imperialista y exigimos el retiro de la presencia militar yanqui en el Mar Caribe y el Océano Pacífico.

Llamamos a la más amplia unidad de acción internacional, de la clase trabajadora, los oprimidos y el pueblo en general, para derrotar la ofensiva imperialista. Es un hecho que el pueblo estadounidense ya se moviliza contra su gobierno, con los 7 millones de personas que se tomaron las calles el 18 de octubre, y se necesita profundizar y organizar este sentimiento popular para que tenga la fuerza de la clase de hacer huelga general; y en los países latinoamericanos es necesario movilizarse ampliamente de la misma manera para defenderse tanto de los ataques yanquis como de los amos de nuestros países que nos entregan a los mismos imperialistas. Estas luchas de nuestra clase incluso necesitan incorporar la lucha de los inmigrantes por el derecho de vivir en paz y unirse a la lucha mundial contra el saqueo imperialista en general. ■

(desde la página 14)

estadounidense. Ernest DeMaio, el jefe del Distrito 11 de United Electrical Workers Midwest, con sede en Chicago, dio un ejemplo de su propia vida durante el apogeo del macartismo: «El gran susto fue en 1952 en Chicago. El 2 de septiembre, hicimos huelga en la cadena International Harvester. Ese fue el día en que me llamó la HUAC. La huelga estaba prevista para medianoche. A las nueve de la mañana, estoy en el Comité de Actividades Antiamericanas. Unos tres mil de nuestros com-

pañeros abandonaron el piquete, rodearon el juzgado y, mientras yo prestaba juramento, irrumpieron en el juzgado cantando...».

La construcción de un movimiento sindical que responda a los ataques del Estado con movilizaciones masivas tiene la posibilidad de crear la autoorganización y la independencia necesarias para ganar demandas políticas reales.

Esto significa hacer un seguimiento, denunciar y organizarse contra todo intento de limitar aún más los derechos democráticos de la clase trabajadora. ■

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.

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Cómo enfrentar a la migra

Sage Fios Mace / Mission Local



Por VALENTINA ARANGO

En las últimas semanas, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Memphis, Portland, Chicago y otros centros urbanos han sido el blanco de redadas de la migra, respaldadas por tropas federales movilizadas so pretexto de combatir el crimen. El violento operativo en Chicago iniciado el 8 de septiembre demostró que ni las leyes, ni los tribunales, ni la constitución impedirán que el gobierno de Trump agudice sus ataques a inmigrantes, trabajadores, juventudes, y oprimidos.

Esa madrugada, cientos de efectivos de ICE, CBP y la Guardia Nacional con el Operativo Midway Blitz (una clara referencia a la letal guerra relámpago nazi - blitzkrieg - en la segunda guerra mundial) saltaron de helicópteros de guerra sobre edificios del barrio obrero de Southshore, derribando puertas y rompiendo ventanas, agrediendo a los habitantes con gases lacrimógenos y granadas de estruendo, maniatando a niños aterrorizados, y disparando balas de goma por doquier.

Hasta la fecha, Midway Blitz continúa con sus brutales ataques, y ha detenido a más de 3000 inmigrantes que el gobierno califica de "criminales" y varios ciudadanos.

Escenarios similares se repiten por todos los centros urbanos "santuario" para inmigrantes y donde haya oposición a las políticas de Trump, lo cual se

suma a las redadas "de rutina" por todo el país. Según el DHS (Ministerio de Seguridad Nacional, que incluye a ICE) en lo que va del año, ya deportaron a 548.000 personas, la mayoría sin antecedentes delictivos sin proceso legal alguno, mientras que en los centros de detención tienen a unas 60.000 personas en condiciones inhumanas.

Todo esto es posible gracias al aumento dramático del presupuesto y reclutamiento para ICE y CBP: más de 85 mil millones de dólares (compárese con el presupuesto anual total de Guatemala, de 19 mil millones) para más armas, servicios de biometría, centros de detención, y miles de nuevos agentes reclutados entre la escoria de la sociedad.

Las comunidades inmigrantes no se han quedado cruzadas de brazos ante esta escalada brutal. Han respondido de dos maneras, en general: formando Redes de Respuesta Rápida (RRR) y cabildeando a favor de leyes en municipios y estados que prohíban la colaboración de las policías locales y agencias públicas con ICE, con un modelo como el del Immigrant Trust Act en varios estados. Las RRR dan talleres sobre derechos civiles que en teoría tenemos todos, mantienen líneas telefónicas de emergencia donde llamar cuando aparece ICE, despachan patrullas con activistas que intentan ahuyentar a los agentes, documentando su conducta y asesorando a los afectados.

Este modelo de RRR se ha difundido por todo el

país gracias a ONGs (organizaciones no gubernamentales) como NDLON (National Day Laborer Organizing Network), Resistencia en Acción, Movimiento Cosecha, Raíces, Mijente, Sagrado Corazón, Amigos de Guadalupe, El Concilio y muchas más, que actualmente dirigen el movimiento inmigrante.

Las RRR atraen a cientos de activistas, desde estudiantes a amas de casa, nativos o ellos mismos también inmigrantes, promoviendo la solidaridad y la capacidad de lucha. Sin embargo, los resultados de este modelo son desiguales: a veces, las RRR logran impedir las detenciones, e infunden fuerzas a las familias inmigrantes al verse apoyadas. Pero al ser pequeños equipos móviles de composición cambiante, no constituyen una presencia ni constante ni numerosa en los barrios, y por ello difícilmente puedan contribuir a la autoorganización y movilización defensiva de estas vecindades.

La segunda estrategia de las ONGs, la de cabildar a políticos Demócratas y presionar a los consejos municipales y legislaturas para que aprueben medidas que amparen a los inmigrantes impidiendo colaboraciones entre agencias locales y ICE, al igual que RRR ha servido para convocar y movilizar activistas. Eso debe celebrarse. Al mismo tiempo, ¿de qué sirve una ley, sea la que sea, que no tenga mecanismos o recursos para su ejecución? ¿Quién obligará a la policía y las agencias gubernamentales locales a rehusarse a colaborar con ICE? Y, si la policía y la migra "son la misma porquería", ¿no se alinearán más o menos disimuladamente llegado el momento?

Pero el problema fundamental con esta estrategia es que se limita a pedir la "protección", por un lado, y por otro lado en que la pide a políticos e instituciones que jamás podrán representar nuestros intereses porque pertenecen a los partidos de los ricos, los Demócratas y Republicanos.

Esos enormes esfuerzos de movilización a las reuniones de los consejos y legislaturas, ese tiempo y esos recursos gastados en cabildar a esa gente para un objetivo limitado de "protección", ¿no valdría la pena redirigirlos a construir ese movimiento de masas con nuestros compañeros de clase nativos, los trabajadores de acá, con o sin sus sindicatos, con los estudiantes, con los activistas de solidaridad con Palestina que sea capaz de conquistar los papeles para todos, e incluso, la abolición de ICE y las agencias

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