



Central dos Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras do Brasil

I would like to begin my speech by welcoming this WFTU initiative of doing an International Youth Congress. After our succeeded WFTU Congress in Durban we have correctly defined as one of our priorities to organize ourselves among the young workers. I believe that these meetings, like this one and the one we had in Argentina on September, are important steps toward that. We are now completing 10 years of this profundus international capitalist crisis.

A crisis that has impacted so strongly the working class, specially the youth. As always, the capitalist system tries to put the crisis only on the shoulders of the working class, by approving labor laws that loosen the rules, reduce the salaries and generate more instability in the contracts as well as the retiring reforms that intent to elevate the age of retirement. We've seen these measures all around the world at the same time we've seen the system trying to save the big banks and companies by injecting billions of dollars that could be used in education, health or infrastructure.

These ultraliberal and conservatives recipes didn't work neither for the working class nor for the recovering of the national economies. On the contrary, we have seen in these past years more poverty, unemployment, informal jobs, inequality, as well as the increase in the concentration of income and the enormous refugees crisis created by this system. Capitalism has failed and it's our job to present that to young workers of the world. In the moment we celebrate 100 years of the Russian Revolution is important to demonstrate that there is still an alternative to this unfair system. I'm going to talk about the situation in Brazil but I'm sure that many of the attacks we are suffering and the fights we are making you already faced or are facing in your countries.

As you know we suffered a parliamentary coup in 2016. The chosen of Brazil for this attack is no coincidence: Latin America has experienced in the last period a great progressive cycle of governments that threatens the presence of the North American in the region. The protagonism of Brazil in important forums like BRICS, that have a bold proposal of creation of an investment bank to be an alternative to the IMF express that. It's true that the popular governments in Brazil had its limits, but it's undeniable the achievements acquired by the poorest.

All these popular measures inflated the hate class of an elite that would do anything to destroy the little welfare State we could built in Brazil. Since the coup, the illegitimate government tries to approve a deep ultra liberal agenda. In the end of last year they approved the freezing of public investments for 20 years. This means that there are not going to be money for education, health or social programs, but of course the money to pay the debt interest are guaranteed and will be paid. We are also facing an Education reform. In the basic education it's not required anymore to study history or arts or sociology. They are trying to divide even more the kind of study the kids of rich people have from the ones the children of the working class have.

They are trying to create a reserve army, with low qualification, no sense of citizenship or criticism and prepared to receive low salaries. In the superior education, we had seen with the popular governments the foundation of many public universities. Now we are facing the lack of investments, the extinguish of the ministry of science and technologie, the difficulty even to pay the bills for the maintenance of the buildings of federal universities. One of the biggest attacks we suffered was the labor reform. It attacks three important pillars of the workers protection: the trade union movement, the labor laws and the labor justice. It tries to take away the prerogative of negotiation of unions, implementing the possibility of individual negotiation and the creation of commissions that could be elected by the enterprise to represent the workers instead the elected and representative trade unions. It allows new ways of contracts, that will generate more instability, low salaries and precarious jobs.



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It charges the workers that decide to sue justice to guarantee their rights, preventing in practice the access of justice to the majority of workers. Basic it's a law that benefits only the big enterprises and banks as you can see. At the same time, we watch our biggest public enterprise being destroyed: Petrobras, specialized in the extraction of oil. We have discovered some years ago a major reserve of oil under the seas of Brazil. A discovery that could be our passport to invest in our people and our future. The social movement accomplish to destine a percentage of the resource acquired with the extraction of oil to the public education and health. And now we are risking to lose all this.

The government is selling for a really low price this natural richness, delivering our oil almost for free to foreign enterprise and Taking away the future of millions of Brazilians. With no surprise these measures resulted in more poverty, unemployment and inequality. We achieved 13 million unemployed people in Brazil, almost 11 million people working in informal jobs, that is, without labor rights nor perspective of retiring, in total we have almost 47 million people in Brazil that are unemployed or precarious, without a horizon to themselves and their families. Unemployment and informal jobs as we know are a problem for the youth all around the world. Usually the rate of unemployment among youth is twice bigger than the adult population. The informal jobs rates behave in the same way. But this difficult situation we are facing can not let us down. Our task is to take hope back into people's lives.

Knowing that unite and fighting we can turn this game. That's why we think it's important to create great WFTU campaigns demanding decent jobs for the youth. "The youth screams for jobs!" could be the call. Neither way It's our duty to be on their side and fight for Jobs that can guarantee a present with dignity. But also fighting for a quality public education, that's the only way to assure a better future for our generation.

The other important task of young militants of WFTU is the battle of ideas. Our generation grew in a world ruled by the neoliberal ideas, which defends strongly the individualism and the meritocracy. We have to talk more and Better with the youth, discussing the importance of the collective fights and that the rights we acquired and have today didn't came for free, but with lots of fights of the organized Movement of workers all around the world. For that it's important that the Youth of WFTU participate in the debates about the formation year of WFTU, in 2018. It's necessary that we organize courses that emphasize the specificities of the Youth, with different language and programme.

We also would like to emphasize the importance in maintaining a strong solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Venezuela. With Latin America under attack is essential that we can resist with this fighting people. Venezuela has an important revolutionary process and we have to be together with them in order to recover a progressive cycle in our region. To conclude, We need the young workers on our side, fighting against all this injustice and conservative measures we have seen. Only with this prepared army on our side and with a lot of unity we can accomplish build another world, with justice, equality and dignity for all workers. Long live to the WFTU! Viva a FSM!