

## ARTÍCULO

*The international character of the revolutionary combat of the Bolivian proletariat*

**Once more the Bolivian working class shows the path of struggle for the international proletariat  
To defeat the attack of the capitalists, it is necessary to defeat the treacherous leaders of the working  
class!**

**It is necessary to generalise the lessons of the revolutionary combat in Bolivia for the world  
proletariat!**

The world capitalist crisis continues, the capitalists deepen their attack, they need to smash the proletariat, they need new wars and counterrevolutions. This epoch of crisis, wars and revolutions is sharpening more and more. It is an epoch of counterreformism, where the reformists can not offer any reform and what confronts the world proletariat at every step is revolution and counterrevolution.

Once more the Bolivian proletariat is the shows the way forward for the world working class. The character of its combat is deeply internationalist. **It has posed before the workers in struggle of the whole world that it not possible to win, nor to conquer the most minimal of the demands, without defeating the treacherous leaders of the working class who make pacts and support the bourgeoisie, its regime and its government. To achieve the most minimum demands of the working class, the working class must take power in its own hands.**

The combat of the Bolivian working class must become the beacon for the world proletariat to launch a revolutionary mass counteroffensive against the imperialist catastrophe.

As the world capitalist crisis deepens, as inter-imperialist rivalry sharpens, pushing the minor imperialists to the wall, temporary pacts between the imperialist rivals conspire to push up world food, petroleum and electricity prices as an artificial means to increase the rate of exploitation of the world working class. Although the French, US, UK, German and Japanese banks are bitter rivals, they work together through the cartel of Total, BP, Exxon Mobil, Caltex, Shell to push the price of a barrel of oil to over \$90 whereas its real price is closer \$4. When Morales increased the price of petroleum by 83% on the 26<sup>th</sup> December 2010 he was acting as the agent of imperialism to force the burden of the crisis onto the backs of the Bolivian working class. This increase came after a wave of strikes where the Morales regime forced a wage cut (a 5% increase of public sector wages). The workers marched on the union offices, kicked down its doors and expelled the main trade union leader, Montes, who was the champion of tying the workers to the regime and thus to imperialism.

The working class revolts in Madagascar, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and more recently in Greece, France, Britain, Rumania, Ukraine, Thailand, Tongva & Linzhou, South Africa, Mozambique, Tunisia, Algeria, Kyrgyzstan, reflect a change in the mass psychology of the world proletariat. There is a growing realization of the irreconcilability between the working class and capitalism-imperialism and the growing realization of the treacherous role of the leadership within the workers' movement. The masses are increasingly realizing that these leaders in the workers' movement are the main agents of imperialism for controlling the masses. The masses have long been prepared to fight to the end against the imperialist onslaught but each time their leaders hold them back and allow the burden of the capitalist crisis to be placed on the backs of the working class. After an extended period when hundreds of millions of workers have been dismissed without a fight by the working class organizations, the outbreaks of working class revolts show that the masses are breaking from their traditional leaderships. Imperialism is desperately trying to build, rebuild new concentrations of counter-revolutionary leaderships that could again betray from within. Such attempts need time and while the grip of imperialism is being broken they turn to increasing fascistic methods to smash the working class. What is new in the current class war is that in Bolivia, the masses have begun to expel their worker leaders, kicking down the doors of the union offices, sticks of dynamite in hand, demanding that a general strike be called. What the vanguard in Bolivia is expressing is a realization that the treacherous worker leaders are propped up by imperialism, by force, and that the task of removing such leaders requires the armed resistance of the working class, in other words, the fight to remove the treacherous leaders in the workers movement is a fundamental task of the fight against imperialism. Further, the task of preparing a general strike, goes hand in hand with the task of building an armed workers militia. When imperialism realized that the industrial workers were going to join the mine workers, dynamite sticks in hand, in a strike on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2011, under the slogan of 'Evo and Goni, the same crap!' [Goni was the previous President ousted by the revolutionary masses in 2005 while Evo Morales is the current President], the masses having expelled the leader of the union bureaucracy, they realized that they were faced not with an economic strike but a political general strike which would have split the army, with the lower ranks joining the workers and the officer caste being exposed as being total lackeys of imperialism. A workers revolution, taking over all imperialist assets, expropriating them, is what imperialism realized they faced. This would have been a beacon to the world proletariat about how to fight high prices, cuts in education, cuts in wages and pensions, mass unemployment. This spark in El Alto could have

set fire to Caracas, Habana, New York, London, Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, London, Athens, Madrid, Belfast, Tunis, Algiers, Palestine, Beijing, if not many other corners of the planet. It has been a qualitative change in the world's balance of class forces in favour of the world proletariat. This is what forced imperialism to instruct Morales to cancel the petroleum price increase; this is what forced imperialism to instruct the trade union leader Montes to 'resign' as if he had not been expelled; anything for imperialism to regain the initiative and control once again. The LOR-CI poses as being for the Fourth International but playing the role of Stalinism, turning the workers fight for power into a fight for temporary economic demands.

The LOR-CI poses the question of 'soviets' in the form of a struggle to set up 'factory committees'. But every workplace has a committee of the COB. This means that the fight of independent workers councils (soviets) can only be posed in the form of a fight for the expulsion of the union bureaucracy from top to bottom and linking this with the task of the moment of setting up workers militia at every workplace as preparation for the COB to take all power in its hands. This means creating a dual power which takes the struggle for workers power as its central task. We should guard against those who come among the working class who call general stoppages and marches under the banner of 'general strikes' but who really want workers to blow off steam, to tire us and not to take over the factories, the land, the banks and mines.

We are reminded of the first workers state conquered in October 1917 in Russia. The imperialists launched a war on virtually all fronts to attempt to smother the Soviet Union. Such a prospect would await a Bolivian workers state. The conquest of power in the Soviet Union created a holding point from which the Bolsheviks hoped that the socialist revolution would succeed in one or more of the imperialist centres. This would open the path for the development of Socialism. Such is the perspective if workers were to take power in Bolivia; socialism would only be conquered if the working class takes power in one or more of the imperialist centres. Thus the fight for workers power in Bolivia goes hand in hand with the immediate call for an Organizing committee to refound the Fourth International, meeting in Bolivia uniting fighters from around the globe, not least from the French workers, the Greek vanguard, the Palestinian working class youth, the British and Irish working class youth, the working class youth from Tunisia and Algeria, among others, who share the same programmatic perspective outlined above. We must guard against the World Social Forum perspective who separate the struggles in the semi-colonies, such as Bolivia, from the struggle for the working class to take power in the imperialist centres, such as France and the USA.

### **In Greece, France and in the whole Europe it is necessary to fight as in Bolivia!**

This is the way for the Europe and working class that is resisting and confronting the attack from imperialism in crisis. Even with the enormous combat of the exploited masses in France, Spain, Britain, Italy, Ukraine and Greece, the working class was not able to defeat the attack from the bourgeoisie. In Greece, the exploited masses carried out 8 huge general work stoppages although the Papandreaou's government continues to deepen its anti-workers offensive. This is because the workers' bureaucracies and aristocracies, together with the Stalinists of the CP (KKE) and the renegades of Trotskyism have divided the European proletariat country by country, to submit it to the policy of pressure on the governments to make them "rectify" the attack. Traitors! The Greek masses are already taking the same conclusions than the Bolivian working class: **To defeat the attack of the capitalists it is necessary to defeat the bureaucracy, the CP and the reformist leaderships! It is necessary to commence the struggle for the working class to take power into its own hands.** Defeating the treacherous leaders, expelling them from our struggle organizations, is the way to conquer the unity of the workers' ranks, we will defeat the governments of the imperialist bourgeoisie and we will destroy the imperialist Europe of Maastricht with a single socialist revolution. The struggle of the European working class must win! The Bolivian working class has posed for the French workers to expel the union bureaucracy of the CP, Lutte Ouvriere, NAP and to occupy the workplaces as in May 1968. But this time the French workers should take power in their own hands, calling for workers across all the French colonies and ex-French colonies to expropriate all imperialist assets, without compensation, under workers control and thereby conquer bread and work, real independence from imperialism.

The working class of the imperialist countries have the key for the defeat of the imperialist plunder of the colonial and semicolonial world and the military occupations as in Iraq, Palestine, Afghanistan and Haiti. It is necessary to fight in the whole world as the Bolivian working class does!

### **It is necessary to generalize and to expand the combat of the Bolivian workers to the whole America! For the revolution to come back!**

In Bolivia, the proletariat has declared war to the farce of the "Bolivarian revolution" of Chavez, Castro, Lula, Kirchner and Correa, expropriators of the workers' and peasants' revolution. They made pacts with Obama and imperialism and allowed the massacres in Colombia, military coups as in Honduras and they support the imperialist occupation of Haiti, contributing with "Bolivarian" troops. Today they command the attack against the exploited masses. The Bolivian working class has unmasked them. It is necessary to break with the Bolivarian bourgeoisie in

the whole continent to defeat the offensive of Obama and imperialism! Down with the leaderships that support the Bolivarian governments!

The Bolivian working class fights in El Alto and La Paz but it also combats in Argentina as the vanguard of the struggle for land and decent housing. In Soldati, the first days of December, thousand of working families occupied the lands of Parque Indoamericano to conquer decent housing. They attacked the property of capitalists to resolve this elementary demand of the whole working class. The Bolivarian government of C. Kirchner, together with the fascist governor Macri, sent the police repression and the fascist gangs to smash the workers. The Bolivian, Peruvian and Paraguayan –the heart of the working class- together with the Argentine workers, resisted the attack of the bosses with their self-defence. The state assassinated two Bolivian and one Paraguayan fellows. Before this enormous combat of the South American working class, fenced and isolated by the bureaucracy both of the CTA and of the COB, the government of Evo Morales attacked the Bolivian workers as “criminals” “come back to Bolivia and we will give you land. Lies! Evo Morales is responsible of the rich land of Bolivia to still in the hands of the landowners thanks to his pact with the fascists of the Media Luna. He makes pacts with the landowners and repress and hunger the workers and poor peasants! This counterrevolutionary attack of the Bolivarian government of C. Kirchner in Soldati, is what encouraged Evo Morales to launch his gasolinazo. Although, he found a third attack of the revolution, this time against the “rosca” of Morales.

The Bolivian working class is confronting the farce of the Bolivarians to make the revolution come back. Their combat is for the coming back of the Argentina of 2001 but this time for the working class to take power in its own hands; the workers’ and peasants’ commune of Oaxaca to be extended to all Mexico; the anti-imperialist struggles of the Venezuelan masses to extend to expropriate all imperialist assets without compensation, under workers control; to let the workers’ and peasants’ Peru rise up for workers’ power; for the US working class to stand up breaking with Obama, taking power in its own hands and thereby freeing the world proletariat.

In the present struggle of the Bolivian working class, the revenge for the killing of the workers in Parque Indoamericano began; as well as the revenge for the assassination of more than 30.000 Mexican workers; of the Honduran resistance; the massacre against the immigrant workers in Rio Bravo; of the Colombian resistance. The combat of the Bolivian proletariat has also begun to break the fence imposed by the ‘Bolivarians’ imperialist agents and the reformist leaderships against the workers’ and peasants’ revolution. This is the way to break the fences around the revolution in Madagascar and the heroic Palestinian masses that confront, under siege surrounded by walls, the Zionist-fascist state of Israel, gendarme of imperialism!

The combat of the Bolivian proletariat must be a spark for the Cuban masses for them to defeat the capitalist restorationist attack of the Castro brothers and their 500 thousand dismissals and the privatizations, which are all objectively in the service of imperialism. These are the forces to defeat the military occupation of Haiti and defeat imperialism across the whole continent.

**Down with the pacts of the ‘Bolivarian’ bourgeois governments with imperialism! The workers’ and peasants’ revolution must come back on the whole American continent! Expropriate all the multinationals! Down with the farce of the “Bolivarian revolution” of Evo Morales, Castro, Chavez and Kirchner, expropriators of the Latin American revolution!**

The workers organizations of the world must be on high alert. We are all Bolivian workers! We must be on alert for any counterrevolutionary attack from imperialism and the ‘Bolivarian’ armed forces against the proletariat of the Altiplano.

**All the forces to Bolivia for a continental congress in El Alto to conquer the internationalist unity of the working class and to defeat the offensive of imperialism and its ‘Bolivarian’ servants!  
All forces for a world Congress in Bolivia to refound the Fourth International!  
For the working class to live, imperialism must die!**