

OCTOBER

E-NEWSLETTER

STRUGGLE AND RESISTANCE

IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Produced by:
Friends of the Earth Latin America
and the Caribbean (ATALC)



**Amigos de
la Tierra
América Latina
y el Caribe**

OCTOBER: STRUGGLE AND RESISTANCE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



<https://www.celag.org>

Recently, the Latin American region has experienced difficult and complex moments as a result of the strides and attempts to restore the neoliberal model involving a combination of fascist strategies in various countries, including coups d'état, militarization, states of emergency, violence against women, racism, police violence, and all the atrocities developed by the right-wings in their eager pursuit of economic and political accumulation.

However, despite the injustices endured by the Latin American peoples, the spirit of struggle and internationalist solidarity, including electoral victories of hardened peoples like the Bolivian, has also reemerged. There is a widening range of resistance struggles –including the Chilean peoples' victory in their process to change the Constitution imposed under the Pinochet dictatorship, the movement for and organization of a Referendum in Uruguay against the Omnibus Law (LUC) passed by the current right-wing government, the new wave of social mobilization in Colombia, among others-, and a series of actions that give continuity to the democratic uprisings for dignity that emerged last year in the region in response to the attempts for hegemonic control by transnational capital and its corporate-captured governments.

With this e-newsletter, Friends of the Earth Latin America and the Caribbean (ATALC) wishes to recognize the work of the social movements that have not relinquished their efforts in support of the organizations and peoples who have needed it so badly in the past months to confront the State of emergency and the authoritarianism it has brought, and who have proven the strength of the popular classes in confronting adversities and working collectively and with internationalist solidarity for a dignified life.

We also want to share within the region and with other continents the experiences of struggle and resistance that have been carried out and organized by ATALC groups, as well as together with or by allied organizations. We know solidarity will fortify our efforts and underpin the construction of popular emancipatory projects, even more so if we manage to learn collectively from the exchange of our experiences and strategies, and disseminate them widely.

We are especially grateful to the Continental Platform for Democracy and against Neoliberalism, to all its organizations, for their constant commitment and joint work in defense of peoples' rights, territories and livelihoods. And for their contributions to the construction of democracy and their defense of it in the countries that have preserved it or conquered it confronting the transnational corporate mandate and the coordinated attacks of the region's fascist right.

OUR ACTIONS

1. EL SALVADOR: PRESENTING THE BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND PROMOTION OF URBAN AND SUBURBAN AGROECOLOGICAL HOME VEGETABLE GARDENS



■ CESTA / Friends of the Earth El Salvador

On October 7th, representatives from the Movement of Victims and Affected Peoples by Climate Change and Corporations (MOVIAC) presented the Salvadorian Parliament with a Bill for the Establishment and Promotion of Urban and Suburban Agroecological Home Vegetable Gardens.

For additional information on this initiative supported by CESTA/Friends of the Earth El Salvador, please see:

<https://atalc.org/2020/10/14/cesta-at-el-salvador-y-organizaciones-sociales-proponen-ley-de-fomento-a-la-agroecologia/>
<https://www.diariocolatino.com/sistema-alimentario-en-el-pais-debe-retomar-agricultura-criolla-moviac/>

2. DEBATE ON PUBLIC DEBT IN EL SALVADOR, IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GLOBAL WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST DEBT AND IFIS



■ CESTA/Friends of the Earth El Salvador

On October 13th, CESTA/Friends of the Earth El Salvador held a Public Forum on “Public Debt in El Salvador and the Role of the Popular Movement”, in coordination with RACDES. The activity was convened as part of the Global Week of Action Against Debt and IFIs.

To follow the session and the full recording of the debate please see: https://fb.watch/1tnxnP_YVp/

In addition, you can also see: <https://www.diariocolatino.com/piden-anular-deuda-publica-porque-incrementara-pobreza-y-desigualdad/>

3. GLOBAL WEEK OF ACTION FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS



■ Carol Ferraz – Friends of the Earth Brazil

In the context of the Global Day of Action for Food Sovereignty and Against Transnational Corporations on October 16th, ATALC underscored the urgency of creating an agrifood system that gives precedence to the needs and rights of the peoples rather than the economic interests of big business, based on Food Sovereignty as defined by [Vía Campesina](#).

The current global agrifood system is itself the cause of hunger and misery. **Food Sovereignty, agrarian reform and agroecology** are the path to transformation.

To further strengthen the actions generated by La Via Campesina, **ATALC** developed activities in six countries that provide a source of inspiration to (re)think how to advance peoples Food Sovereignty

Amplía la información del trabajo realizado por nuestros grupos en la Semana de Acción Global en:

[Uruguay](#), [Argentina](#), [Brasil](#), [El Salvador](#), [Guatemala](#), [Honduras](#).

For additional information on the overall framing of the Action please see: <https://atalc.org/2020/10/12/atalc-fortalece-la-semana-de-accion-global-por-la-soberania-alimentaria-y-contra-las-transnacionales/>

4. VIII SKILL-SHARE ON PEASANT AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, SEEDS AND EXPERIENCES IN EL SALVADOR



■ CESTA/Friends of the Earth El Salvador

On October 16th, MOVIAC (of which CESTA/Friends of the Earth El Salvador is a part of) convened the VIII Skill-share on peasant and indigenous knowledge, seeds and experiences in the framework of the Global Week of Action for Food Sovereignty and Against Transnational Corporations.

Photo gallery of the skill-share in: <https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story>

5. PREPARING FOR THE WEEKLONG SESSION OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR A UN BINDING TREATY ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS



■ Friends of the Earth International

On Wednesday, October 21st Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) organized a webinar in collaboration with ATALC to discuss the main points that the Federation would bring for discussion and positioning to the sixth round of negotiations for a Binding Treaty on transnational corporations and human rights that took place in Geneva, Switzerland, October 26 to 30th. The webinar addressed the challenges ahead in the process of building a strong Binding Treaty with an ambitious scope, which can become a reference point to end the corporate impunity enjoyed by transnational corporations.

A crucial element was discussing the second revised draft of the proposed Treaty. To learn more about this, please visit:
<https://www.stopcorporateimpunity.org/2nd-revised-draft-of-the-un-binding-treaty-global-campaign-statement/>

6. INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR ON CORPORATE POWER AND PEOPLES SOVEREIGNTY



<http://www.udapt.org/>

This online webinar, held on October 22nd, was co-organized by FoEI, ATALC, Corporate Accountability, Centrale Sanitaire Suisse Romande, CETIM, Entrepueblos, CEDES, Transnational Institute (TNI), the Global Campaign to Reclaim Peoples Sovereignty, Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity (comprised of more than 200 organizations from all around the world) and the <http://www.udapt.org/>

The event was convened to commemorate the 27 years of struggle by the Ecuadorian Amazon's indigenous population demanding justice and compliance with the sentence issued against Chevron Texaco for the environmental, economic, cultural and social damage caused in their ancestral territories.

An important framing and point of reference for the seminar was the UN Human Rights Council Resolution 26/9, which six years ago established a working group to negotiate the Binding Treaty on Transnational Corporations and Human Rights, in an effort to bring to an end the corporate impunity that shields companies that incur in human rights violations.

The webinar can be viewed at: <https://fb.watch/1sjWmEuTfs/>

For additional information on UDAPT's struggle in Ecuador please see: <http://www.udapt.org>

7. INTERNATIONALIST SOLIDARITY WITH AMAZONIA



■ Friends of the Earth Brazil.

Held on October 23, this webinar was an opportunity to discuss the present conflicts facing the Amazon region with the current ultra-right-wing, conservative, genocidal and neoliberal government of Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil. It also allowed for an exchange of ideas on ways to strengthen the resistance in favor of a political project that puts life at the center, embedded in the insights of popular environmentalism and advancing towards a system change that breaks away from the capitalist, racist and patriarchal system.

What is really happening in Amazonia?

<http://www.amigosdaterrabrasil.org.br/2020/05/31/que-pasa-realmente-en-la-amazonia/>

We invite everybody to learn more about the latest materials published on that region, and to disseminate them widely through your networks:

The new report “Burning Amazonia: A Global Corporate Crime - A warning to stop the Mercosur-European Union Free Trade Agreement”:

https://www.foei.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Burning-Amazonia_Friends-of-the-Earth-International_EN.pdf

Website:

<https://www.foei.org/resources/publications/burning-amazonia-eu-mercosur-free-trade-agreement>

“The military model destroying the Brazilian Amazon”:

<https://www.foei.org/news/militarisation-amazon-brazil>

8. 'JUST ENERGY TRANSITION AND FEMINISM' WEBINAR



■ Courtesy of Friends of the Earth International (FoEI).

This webinar aimed at supporting the construction of a transformative feminist just transition coalition was held on October 27, in close collaboration with feminist and women’s rights groups from the global South and the global North; indigenous women, black women, women suffering from racism, peasant women, environmentalists, (informal) woman workers and immigrants, contributing thereby to a feminist framing of a just transition, on the basis of a holistic and popular perspective. The webinar included the participation of ATALC, WMW, TUCA, [Grassroots Global Justice Alliance \(GGJ\)](#), the [Latin American Coordination of Rural Organizations \(CLOC-Via Campesina\)](#), the Movement of Affected by Dams (MAR and [MAB-Brazil](#)) and the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN).

Additional information and elaboration of the results of this webinar and of the main follow up plans for the continuity of this process will soon be available at: <https://atalc.org/>

OUR

OUR

OUR ALLIES



1. PUBLIC MATTERS IN PUBLIC HANDS



**LO PÚBLICO EN
MANOS PÚBLICAS**

**FORO SINDICAL DE LAS AMÉRICAS:
En defensa de los empleos, las empresas
y los servicios públicos de calidad**

**7 de Octubre de 2020
11:00 de Montevideo**

Jornada Mundial Trabajo Decente en Las Américas, en defensa de un nuevo contrato social.

Logos: CSA TUCA, ITF, IndustriAll, UAI Americas Global Union, PSI, FORO SINDICAL EN DEFENSA DE LAS EMPRESAS PÚBLICAS

■ Courtesy of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA).

“*Public Matters in Public Hands*”, a Trade Union Forum of the Americas in Defense of Quality Public Sector Jobs, Companies and Services was convened on October 7 by the International Trade Union Federations and the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA). It was held within the framework of the World Day for Decent Work and the Continental Days of Action for Democracy and Against Neoliberalism. It mobilized thousands of workers with the goal of sharing the trade unions’ experience in defending public companies, quality public services, dignified and decent work for public-sector workers in the region, and to strengthen the workers movement organizing efforts against privatization of public companies in various sectors.

For additional information and the Forum’s final declaration please visit: <https://csa-csi.org/2020/10/09/trabajadores-de-las-americas-se-unen-en-defensa-de-las-empresas-y-los-servicios-publicos/>

2. WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN'S 5TH INTERNATIONAL ACTION



■ Cortesía de la Marcha Mundial de las Mujeres.

The 5th Action began on March 8th and ended on October 17th. It was held on the year that the World March of Women (WMW) celebrates the 20th anniversary of struggle and existence. The pandemic did not stop this powerful movement, exactly the opposite happened: today more than ever before, in light of the authoritarian and reactionary offensive of capital: **“we resist to live, we march to transform!”**

Please see the Final Declaration here: <https://marchemondiale.org/index.php/2020/10/17/declaration-for-the-5th-international-action-2020/>

On the basis of three online workshops held during July and August with the participation of 40 women comrades, WMW Americas prepared the regional closing document of the 5th International Action, called “Women of the Americas in Resistance”.

The text is the result of those workshops and the intense process of elaboration of a political synthesis, carried out throughout the 5th International Action. It addresses the challenges of social movements and feminism in the Americas, with a particular focus on what it means to place the sustainability of life at the center of our practices and proposals for transformation.

To download the text please visit: <https://marchemondiale.org/index.php/2020/10/15/women-of-the-americas-in-resistance/>

3. SEMANA DE ACCIÓN GLOBAL POR LA ANULACIÓN DE LA DEUDA

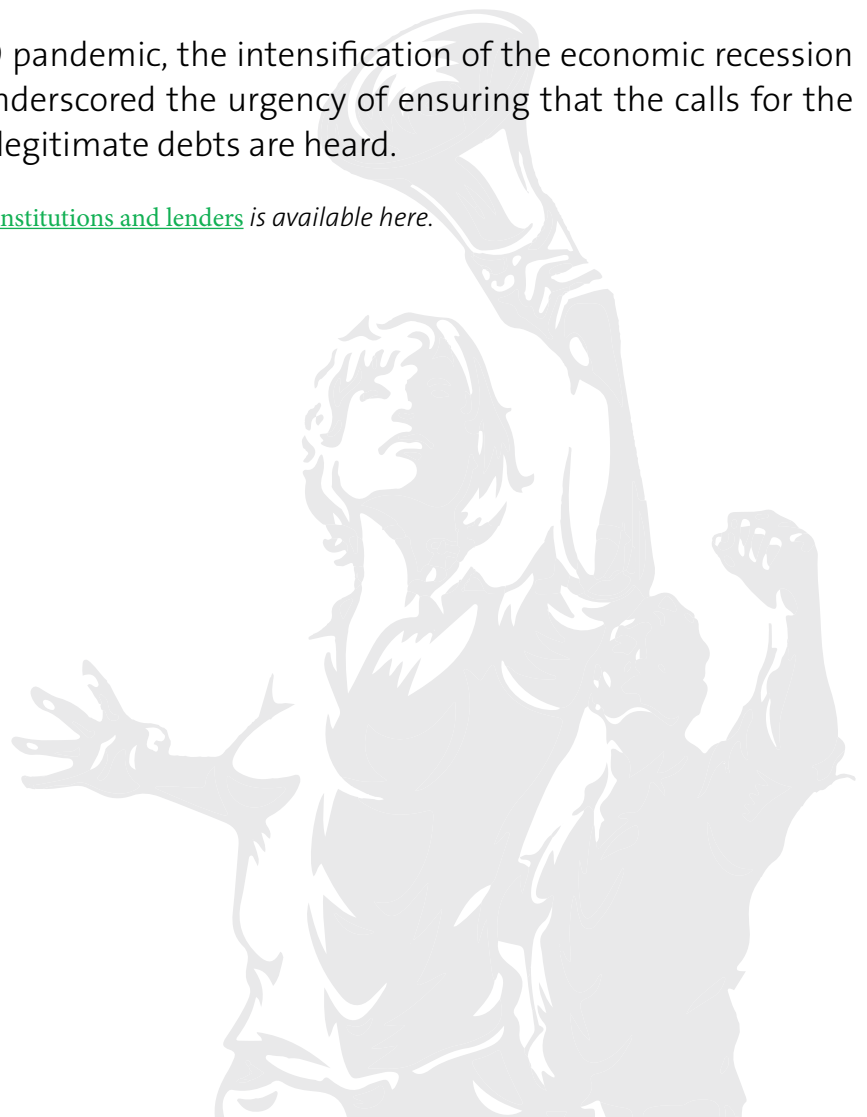


<https://www.pressenza.com/es/2020/>

Coordinated and convened by social movements and organizations, the Global Week of Action for Debt Cancellation was held October 10-17, with actions all over the world against indebtedness. In the Americas it was mainly promoted by the [Jubilee South/Americas](#), network, in alliance with popular movements and organizations of women, environmentalists, workers, peasants, among many others.

The multiple crises of the COVID-19 pandemic, the intensification of the economic recession and the climate emergency have underscored the urgency of ensuring that the calls for the cancellation of unsustainable and illegitimate debts are heard.

The [Open letter to all governments, international institutions and lenders](#) is available here.



ATALC condemns the murder of Orlando Gutiérrez in Bolivia

<https://rmr.fm/documentos-posicionamientos-politicos/atalc-condena-el-asesinato-de-orlando-gutierrez-en-bolivia/>

UN resumes negotiations on transnational corporations and their human rights violations:

<https://rwr.fm/news/un-resumes-negotiations-for-urgently-needed-binding-treaty/>

The story of a social victory: possible reasons behind Swedish oil company's decision to withdraw expansion project

<https://rwr.fm/interviews/social-victory-in-sweden-oil-company-preem-drops-plans-to-expand-oil-refinery/>

The minga crosses Colombia: steps for a new country

<https://rmr.fm/testimonios/minga-colombia-balance-cna/>

Democracy restored in Bolivia:

<https://rwr.fm/news/democracy-restored-in-bolivia/>



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