

resort to the so-called "trochas" (illegal passage), being the extortion prey for all types of criminals, in order to return to the country due to the crisis and the lack of work while they were classified as bioterrorists by the very patriotic Chavism or the army party (Infobae, 17-07-2020).

We have also been able to see how the bourgeoisie skips its own law for its own benefit, as the bourgeoisie of the Spanish state has done, with the Covid-19 excuse, by changing decrees-laws. Which allows them to hire hundreds of temporary workers, ex-ward minors, given the lack of workforce suffered from border closures. (El País, 26-05-2020).

Redoubled exploitation and increased repression has been unleashed against the immigrant proletariat, with the acceleration of forced immigrant proletarians expulsions by the Spanish state since 2019 (El País 15-07-2020), massive expulsions in the USA, the fires in immigrant fields in Greece, the fires in Lepe (Spanish state), the fires in Borgo Mezzanone

(Italian state) in the agricultural workers camp of tomatoes harvesting, the crushing of revolt of the Egyptian workers under confinement in Kuwait, the repression against Bulgarian workers in Mondragone (Italian state), the confinement of 670 Bulgarian, Polish and Romanian workers due to infections detected in the Verl slaughterhouse (German state), etc.

In Lleida (Spanish state) the local bourgeoisie refused to accommodate sub-Saharan seasonal workers, and a series of infections were given due to the overcrowded conditions at work and on the porches where they are forced to sleep. In Albacete, also in the Spanish state, workers were locked up in abandoned industrial warehouses in which they were housed overcrowded. Apparently, the measures were taken because of the local population fear to the Covid-19 transmission, but the reality is that the repressive ferocity against the undocumented proletarians is the classic method for the employer to impose draconian working conditions on them for derisory wages.

USA MAINTAINS ITS DYNAMIC OF PROGRESSIVE ISOLATION

The deepening of the crisis of capitalism is reflected inside the United States in the impoverishment of the population, in the resulting social clashes, as well as in the internal war between the different fractions of the bourgeoisie.

The United States has reached 40 million unemployed workers in the month of May 2020, this data adds up to the social situation that the United States was already experiencing, immersed in an epidemic of massive consumption of opioids and heroin that causes 192 daily deaths *"and an annual cost that exceeds \$100 billion dollars (€88 billion euros), (...) Since 1990, about 400,000 Americans have died from overdoses of these substances."* (El País, 28-06-2019) and whose consumption (whether prescribed directly or obtained on the black market), far from decreasing, will continue to increase with the worsening of the crisis, the worsening of working conditions, the increase of the unemployed workers, etc...

To this needs to be also added that there are more than 29 million people without health insurance and 58 million underinsured, whose insurance covers almost nothing (Público, 04-01-2020). In the month of July, 32% of households in the United States could not afford to pay their rent or mortgage and the forecast is that about 20 million renters will not be able to pay their rent in the month of September when the payment moratoriums decreed during the pandemic end.

In recent months, the meat supply has been threatened by the closure of meat processing plants because they did not have enough workers (most of them from Mexico, South America or Somalia) because they had become ill from the virus due to the terrible conditions in which they have to work and live (overcrowding and lack of hygienic measures in the workplace and in their homes, as in the rest of the world); at least 20 meat plants had to close temporarily *"The high businesses concentration of the sector explains that the closure of two dozen plants has caused so many problems. 60% of all pork processed in the US comes out of 15 facilities."* (La Vanguardia, 30-04-2020) and the government, through a decree, had to force the meat plants to remain open, which did not prevent the import of already processed and packaged meat from other countries.

This caused a rise in food prices: *"2.6% in April compared to the previous month, the highest monthly increase since 1974. (...) In some foods that have been affected by the closures of meat processing plants, the increase in prices has been remarkable: pork rose by 6.8%; beef by 7.5%, and chicken by 6.3%, while fruits and vegetables rose by 1.5%, cereals and bakery products*

advanced by 2.9% and dairy products increased by 1.5%." (El Economista, 14-05-2020). If that were not enough, the consequences of "natural" disasters are especially prevalent in the poorest neighborhoods and cities in the US with outdated infrastructure, badly built houses and poor or non-existent maintenance of facilities.

This social context is a powder keg and is the basis on which the street protests began last May in the United States and which were initially characterized by looting and some violence in the streets but were quickly channeled and sponsored by the democratic movement as a throwing weapon against the republican government of Trump and taken totally towards the interclassist terrain of racism vs. anti-racism. Movements like "Black Lives Matters" are financed by magnates like George Soros who has invested 220 million dollars in racial movements (El País, 12-08-2020) or like Apple that committed to invest 100 million dollars for social justice. This movement receives institutional support from the democrats who have staged televised scenes kneeling in favor of the movement. The marches and demonstrations have been constantly followed by television networks and have received all the support of billionaire athletes and Hollywood showbiz world who at the time also supported the women's march against Trump. The benefits that the bourgeoisie in general intend to obtain from the movement are the following:

- channel and control the social discontent resulting from the situation that has been exposed at the beginning.
- declass the working class: hide that society is divided into social classes with antagonistic interests (bourgeoisie and proletariat) under the lie of racial oppression in which each race is made up of both classes and race is something that equates them on their social interests' level (just as they have been insistently doing with feminism in recent years).
- that the black bourgeoisie can get more domination positions in capitalism.
- hide the true class and repressive character of both the police and the army by making the working class believe that the armed arms of the bourgeois state can be reformed to exercise their violence in a fair way.

The particular profit that a part of the bourgeoisie has wanted to get by sponsoring this movement has been to destabilize the republican government of Trump, remember that the presidential elections in the US (if they are not postponed) are scheduled for November 4th. It is no coincidence that the democrats have

chosen a female and black vice president or that the Trump administration has put an Afro-American military man as head of the Air Force to defuse tensions.

The clash between different fractions of the North American bourgeoisie is given, among other reasons, by **the policy of isolation that the republican government of Trump has carried out**, despite the bravado of the character. The social base that gave the electoral victory to the republicans (a sector of the petty and medium bourgeoisie and the labour aristocracy of the United States), is based on the illusion that they can isolate themselves from the world and this has been the policy in fact carried out.

On the one hand, the US has been abandoning various international treaties, believing that they can survive isolated from the rest of the world:

- In 2017, the US left the trans-Pacific economic cooperation agreement.
- In June 2018, the United States left the UN Human Rights Council.
- In November 2019, they left the Paris agreement against climate change.
- In April they threatened to stop financing the WHO (in 2019 the US contributed 14.67% of the WHO funds).
- In May, they abandoned the global weapon control treaty called *"Open Skies, a pact that allows 35 countries to conduct reconnaissance flights over their respective territories"* (La Vanguardia, 22-05-2020).
- In June they ordered sanctions against the International Criminal Court *"Donald Trump intends to sanction no other than the members of the International Criminal Court (ICC), an organization that his Government does not even recognize. The reason, the investigation of war crimes presumably committed by US forces in Afghanistan."* (La Vanguardia, 12-06-2020).
- On the month of August, the US remained alone in defending an indefinite extension of the weapon embargo on Iran; obtaining only the support of the Dominican Republic and where the *"three European allies, France, Germany and the United Kingdom broke the block tactics and didn't support Washington. Those were three of the eleven abstentions among the fifteen members of the executive arm of the UN."* (El País, 16-08-2020).

On the other side, the fantasy of renouncing to the use of immigrant workers in order to give work to American workers has been completely ad odds with the reality. This is the situation of the food and agricultural, health and technological sectors in the United States:

- Food factories and farms: *"The lack of workforce in the food factories and in the farms is an underestimated thread for food supply. (...) **These plants cannot count on the millions of new American unemployed to substitute the workers that get sick. Work is very hard and wages low.** In California, that produces a third of the nation's vegetables and two thirds of its fruits and nuts, farmers fear not to have enough workers to plant and harvest the crop this year."* (Expansión, 16-04-2020).
- Health sector: *"Researchers found that **16.5% of all health workers are immigrant.** The proportion increases when accounting for the health workers that help in patients' homes, since **36.5% of those employees are immigrants, the analysis highlights.** The study revealed that **28.7% of the doctors in the country are immigrant, as well as 32% of***

psychiatrists, 19.7% of surgeons and 13.6% of respiratory therapists.

Moreover, registered nurses that are immigrant represent 15.7% of the total, and among the nursing assistants 22% were born in another country." (El Periódico, 27-03-2020).

- Technological sector: *"According to the data of the Immigration and Citizenship of the United States (...), up to 420,000 foreigners applied to work in the country with the H1-B in 2018. Of this figure, 74% corresponds to India, that holds powerful technological hubs. It is followed by China, with 11%."* (Expansión, 24-6-2020); Moreover, every year around 400,000 visas are granted to students that in the future can be hired by the big techs; Amazon, Apple, Microsoft, Facebook and Google got more than 10,000 work permits for their companies on the year 2019.

The interdependence of the world market in which the USA is submerged is absolute. The USA cannot and will not be able to get out from it: the American economy completely depends on the world market even for the workforce supply.

The battle among the various fractions of the bourgeoisie has emerged in the censorship of Twitter towards the comments made by Trump and afterwards in the big companies pressing Facebook to follow the same steps as Twitter under the threat that otherwise it would lose the millions of income that this companies inject by means of advertisements. The attempt to leave the technological companies without skilled workforce either by visa restrictions for this type of Jobs or by not allowing foreign students to register in the universities that do online classes, has been frustrated by internal opposition, being forced to withdraw. On the other side, the Supreme Court has ruled a setback to the attempt of revoking the permits to the immigrants who arrived to the United States as children, 650,000 workers or future workers that the government wanted to expel.

The internal war among the various fractions of the bourgeoisie in the defense of their interests emerges inside the Republican Party itself where a current that calls for the vote of the Democrat candidate through its website "Republican voters against Trump" has been formed, or like The Lincoln Project created by the republicans and conservative on December 2018 and funded also by Democrats. Republican personalities such as Colin Powel and George Bush junior are campaigning against Trump.

If the US does not succeed in unloading the crisis in other parts of the world and triggering the third world war, the development of these internal clashes can lead to the break out of the civil war inside the country or that one day the US wakes up with the most basic infrastructures totally inoperant.

The American bourgeoisie finds itself in a very complicated historical impasse, from which it cannot get out victoriously. But this is not going to prevent it to fight – and if necessary – to die killing. With the coming elections getting closer and the inflammation of the struggle among the various fractions, we can expect whatever maneuver from now to the last moment. Any desperate attempt to avoid the elections can also not be discarded.

The last episode of the internal attack against Trump is the detention of Steve Bannon as soon as he has stepped upon American soil, accused of stealing private funds collected for the construction of the wall with Mexico. The depth of the accusation is that the "victims" of the robbery are the quintessence of their own voters, those ready to pay from their pockets for a wall to be built with bricks that hold their names.

For the time being, Trump has ignored the detention of that who had been the architect of his electoral victory and the latter has been able to avoid jail by paying a bail of 5 million dollars.

A collateral effect of Steve Bannon's detention and the eventual electoral defeat of Trump will be the funding difficulty of the parties and little figures that are precisely receiving this money in Europe: Abascal (Vox), Salvini, Orban (Fidesz), etc.

BREXIT AND EUROPEAN IMPERIALIST INTEGRATION

United Kingdom: The foreign policy of the US in Europe is aimed at trying to break the EU, to turn it from a great competitor into a series of small competitors that can be subjected. An important episode of this strategy is the so-called Brexit.

Despite the victory of the yes to separation in the referendum, the road to effective separation is being very tortuous and difficult for the English bourgeoisie. The reason is that the bourgeoisie of the United Kingdom has contradictory interests and that a part of it does not clearly believe in the siren songs of the United States.

The divisions in the British territory, between Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England, are becoming increasingly visible in relation to their position regarding leaving Europe. The Scottish and Welsh police prevent the passage of English tourists to their territory, since *"given the different degrees and policies of removal of the lockdown, at this time it is not appropriate for the English to cross the neighbors borders unless it is for work reasons or force majeure (tourism is useless)."* (La Vanguardia, 22-05-2020).

On the other hand, there is also significant resistance in significant sectors of British companies that is manifested in the assertion of "not being prepared for Brexit", with the aim of slowing down, if not stopping, the process: *"According to the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), most companies do not have the time or resources to prepare for an EU exit without a deal, and one in five say they are less prepared for Brexit than in January as a result of the disruptions caused by coronavirus."* (Expansión, 01-08-2020).

Imperialist integration of the European Union: Brexit on the one hand and the economic crisis on the other are spurring the integration of the EU. The last step towards their fiscal integration has been to agree on the issuance of common debt to form the capital injection fund to the different EU countries in the face of the crisis: *" (...) it is the first time that France and Germany have reached an agreement to finance budget spending in the EU member states with common debt" said the French minister, Bruno Le Maire* (La Vanguardia, 20-05-2020). The final result has been the agreement in relation to the so-called Recovery Fund that consists of 390 billion of direct aid and 360 billion in credits.

As a further integration measure, the European Public Prosecutor's Office has been created to monitor the funds and the collection of VAT.

Let us remember that Gerhard Schröder, the former Chancellor of Germany and current Chairman of the Boards of Directors of Rosneft and NordStream 2, stated in December 2019 that *"We are not the 51st state in the US"* at the same time that he proposed sanctions against the US: *"Shouldn't we, in the Bundestag, impose sanctions against the US (...)"*. Repeating in February *"The US attempt to seize sovereignty from other countries cannot be tolerated. Germany is not a banana republic."*

The EU imperialist power has yet to be able to finalize its military integration, towards which it has begun to take the first steps: *"In recent years, the EU has begun to implement (...):*

- *The Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) was launched in December 2017 and, as of June 2019, 25 EU Member States participate. It currently operates on the basis of 34 specific projects with binding commitments including a European Medical Command, a Maritime Surveillance System, mutual assistance for cybersecurity and rapid response teams, and a joint EU intelligence school."*

- *The European Defense Fund (EDF) was launched in June 2017. It is the first time that the EU budget is used to co-finance defense cooperation and the fund must be part of the next long-term budget (2021 -2027). (...)*

- *Strengthening the EU's cooperation with NATO in 74 areas, including cybersecurity, joint exercises and the fight against terrorism.*

- *Make the financing of civil and military missions and operations more effective. The EU currently has 16 such missions on three continents, with a wide range of mandates, and is deploying more than 6,000 civilian and military personnel.*

- *Since June 2017, a new command and control structure (MPCC) to improve crisis management in the EU. "* (European Parliament News, 26-06-2019)

This closer and more effective integration of the European Union will obviously be for **imperialist purposes and against the working class**, as Lenin established in 1915 in "On the slogan for a United States of Europe."

Belarus: Regarding the recent events in Belarus, reminiscent of those that occurred in Ukraine in 2014, we must say at least the following. The situation of the Belarusian working class, with the rampant crisis to which we are subjected at the international level, is one of the factors that has contributed to the broader mobilization against the government. The pretensions of the opposition to Lukashenko (free elections and "democracy") do not hide anything other than the old recipe of revitalizing democracy when it comes to imposing worse conditions on our class to discharge the crisis of overproduction, and from this point of view of course they do not represent any class alternative but an alternative as bourgeois and patriotic as the previous one.

It is true that until now the president of the country had been perfectly linked to the needs and interests of the Kremlin, to the point of having isolated himself from the rest of Europe at various times, and it is also true that the claim of the new potential president Tikhonovskaya may include "Open the country to the West." But it is no less true that the economic dependence on Russia, the membership of the CIS and the geographical proximity to Moscow and the peri-Russian area will make it difficult for whatever government there is in Minsk to be a government opposed to the Kremlin. These do not seem, judging by their own statements, the intentions of the Belarusian opposition, although it remains to be seen how events unfold. What is clear is that the immediate future of Belarus will depend on the shape of relations between the EU and Russia, both interested for now in their stability in view of the final deployment of the NordStream 2 gas pipeline.