

IMMIGRATION AS A WEAPON OF WAR

In the internecine struggle waged between the various imperialist powers, anything goes. The proletariat, the reserveless, we are nothing but cannon fodder used for their interests. In this struggle, all the bourgeois states are equally criminal and murderous.

In September 2021, nearly 14,500 people crowded under a bridge at the US border on the Rio Grande. They were chased on horseback by US police to keep them out of the country. Most of them were Haitians, but they did not come from Haiti, but were living elsewhere in Latin America. They slept among debris and feces; on the crossing several were killed, in addition to having been raped. The US quickly sent them directly back to Haiti, filling several planes a day, regardless of whether they no longer lived there, returning them to a place where they had no roots left. In 2018, the various migrant caravans that departed mainly from Honduras and Mexico to the US came to agglutinate some 10,000 people. These caravans are managed by Mexico; mostly through Tapachula, the Mexican town bordering Guatemala. There they imprison, beat up, torture the immigrants and send them back across the border or let them leave for the U.S., not without extortion, depending on the interests of the Mexican bourgeois state: when they want to claim more money from the U.S., they let them continue to generate a problem at the U.S. border, when they receive the money, they do not let anyone pass. **These caravans are not organized spontaneously; in order to mobilize such large groups of people at the same time, it is necessary to have the means and a coordinated network.** The Spanish bourgeois newspaper El País reported last September that in the current caravan a Haitian commander was mobilizing the majority: *"Commander Lempira can no longer look back. He was one of the visible faces (...) of the caravans in recent days. He mobilized hundreds of Haitians and Central Americans desperate to flee Tapachula through WhatsApp groups and public calls in the central park"*. (El País, 13-09-2021). In 2018 the Catholic Church provided the means (lodging and food) so that the immigrants could move towards the USA. Last August alone, 209,000 immigrants were detained in the U.S. and this figure is lower than in July. (El País, 20-09-2021).

9,000 people, in the month of May and in a single day, were thrown by the Moroccan bourgeois state to cross the border between Morocco and the Spanish capitalist state, arriving at Ceuta. The criminal Spanish state sent the army which, together with the police, the same day were returning them to Morocco, chasing them through the water and along the beach. The following days the repressive forces of the bourgeois state went hunting, as if they were animals, those they did not manage to drive out; the immigrants even hid in the sewers so as not to be sent back. The minors who stayed in Ceuta were and still are crammed in barracks, in filthy conditions. The bourgeoisie had the shamelessness to publish in May (El País, 13-05-2021) that they would stop undressing and exploring the genitals of minors to determine their age (which means that they have been doing it for years) and that they would stop tying to their beds those who had "behavior disorders", that is, those who rebelled against their imprisonment in the minors' centers and the infamous conditions in which they keep them.

In 2020, about 23,000 immigrants arrived on the island of Gran Canaria in the Spanish state by small boats (the majority, about 15,000, arrived from August to November). There were days when more than 2,000 immigrants arrived in total in small

boats on the route from the Moroccan ports of Al-Aaiun and Dakhla. In the centers where they are locked up there are no basic services, they are unhealthy and the food they are given is scarce and bad, which is why they have been rioting in centers on one island or another with the consequent brutal repression by the Spanish police who, after each riot, take several immigrants prisoner. On the island of El Hierro, where the small boats arrive, the Red Cross was in charge of locking them in a barrack in an inaccessible place on the island and guarding it so that no one could approach and see the conditions in which they were being held. The criminal Moroccan state uses them as a weapon to put pressure on the Spanish state and the European Union in its position towards the Sahara and to give it more money to contain them. The criminal Spanish state persecutes them and imprisons them until it expels them without a second thought.

The route by sea from Algeria to the Spanish state is being reactivated since 2019. Nine corpses were found on the beaches of Almeria in September, including a child. In 2020, more than 11,000 immigrants arrived by that route. The Algerian bourgeois state also pressures both the European Union and the Spanish state to receive more money and in its relationship with Morocco; rival power in North Africa.

It is clear that all these states allow and give carte blanche to the so-called mafias to take the boats out to sea or move the immigrants through the deserts. The real mafia is each and every bourgeois capitalist state.

In March last year, the Turkish capitalist state threw over 130,000 people over the border into Greece. In this case the thuggish Turkey openly declared it was opening the borders so that the EU would make good on promised payments to contain the refugees; the Greek army directly shot and gassed them, killing several migrants. When the migrants enter Greece by sea, the Greek police send them back to Turkish waters in inflatable rafts that the police themselves puncture so that they sink, when they enter through the Evros river the Turkish and Greek police play a macabre ping pong with the migrants who are sent back and forth several times.

In 2015 more than one million refugees arrived in Europe and the result was the pact with Turkey to be paid 6 billion euros in exchange for its services as a paid jailer and thug. Turkey has not yet received all this money and every time it throws human flesh at the EU borders, the EU releases a little more. In Turkey it is known that refugees are used to work in textile workshops from sunrise to sunset living in crowded refugee camps. In the "humanist" Europe they put them and continue to put them in refugee camps that quadruple the capacity for which they were built, like the one in Moria in Greece, which burned down in 2020 with 12,000 people living there when it was built for 3,000. There the bourgeoisies lock up the surplus population, whom they continue to exploit in the worst conditions, until they are not even useful to them and end up making soap with their ashes.

The Belarusian state is organizing the arrival of migrants at the borders of Europe through Lithuania, Latvia and Poland to lobby against the sanctions and blockades carried out by the EU. More than 3,000 people have tried to enter Lithuania so far this year. Are they Belarusians or from a neighboring country? No, they are mainly from Iraq, transported to be sent against the EU borders. The Lithuanian, Latvian and Polish states

have brought the army into the border areas, declaring the state of emergency, arresting the migrants and sending them back or leaving them in the forests where they end up freezing to death. Poland has approved the construction of a wall and Germany is deploying its border police to make sure that Poland does not do the same to them.

The French bourgeois state also has no qualms about pressuring the United Kingdom across the English Channel by letting immigrants cross to the English side; the response of the English bourgeoisie has been to put a warship on patrol in the waters of the Channel and like other neighboring countries, to propose to pay third countries located on another continent to send there all those who request asylum.

The EU has set up its own border police (Frontex), with its own budget, with a thousand agents that will be increased to ten thousand, for the pushback of immigrants, as a demonstration of its ever-closer imperialist union in the military sphere and as a demonstration that the EU is shaping itself as a single state with a common external border.

The bourgeoisie is interested in controlled immigration in order to be able to lower the price of labor power and carry out a fierce exploitation of the immigrant working class without papers at the moments of the economic cycle that interest them, but their massive and uncontrolled arrival is a problem for them.

In order to control this mass of immigrants, the bourgeoisie counts on NGOs and "humanitarian" organizations whose function is that of gendarme and jailer. They are in charge of making the inventory of the number of immigrants arriving, controlling their confinement, repressing rebellions, making sure that they go to work for free wherever the bourgeoisie needs them, imposing the harsh conditions in which they are locked up, and they are the police's informers. All this at the cost of subsidies and millionaire donations. **This is the true criminal character of these organizations despite all their tearful and altruistic verbiage.**

The official figures of deaths on the migratory routes given by the bourgeoisie cannot be taken into account. Officially they say that some 4,000 people die a year, but who can count all those who have been swallowed up by the sea, the deserts, the mountains, rivers and forests and all the murders that the border police and mafias hide?

These masses of people used by the various bourgeoisies as battering rams are made up of an amalgam of social strata ruined in their countries of origin, a mixture of proletarian and petty-bourgeois origins. Often, the exorbitant prices charged by the "coyotes" and various mafias cannot be paid by the proletariat, only by the petty bourgeoisie. This petty bourgeoisie is proletarianized and ends up working in the countries of arrival with high exploitation in sectors in which the bourgeoisie imposes very low working conditions (farm laborers, cleaning, meat processing, hotels, construction, etc.). One of the reasons why, in spite of these asphyxiating working conditions, there are not more explosions in the working centers is that an important sector of these proletarianized petty bourgeois elements have not renounced to continue being what they were in their countries of origin, petty bourgeoisie. Their dream is to save to set up a business in their country of origin, buy a house, etc. and to fulfill this petty bourgeois dream they accept the worst working conditions, making it difficult to polarize the struggle in the workplaces. To this is added the influx of the local ruined petty bourgeoisie itself, with the same results: "(...) in every capitalist country, side by side with the proletariat, there are always broad strata of the petty bourgeoisie, small proprietors.

Capitalism arose and is constantly arising out of small production. A number of new "middle strata" are inevitably brought into existence again and again by capitalism (...). These new small producers are just as inevitably being cast again into the ranks of the proletariat. It is quite natural that the petty-bourgeois world-outlook should again and again crop up in the ranks of the broad workers' parties." (Marxism and Revisionism, Lenin, 1908).

Opportunism is characterized by making the proletariat defend the views of the petty bourgeoisie, instead of the ruined petty bourgeoisie renouncing its views and embracing those of the proletariat.

This mixing of proletarianized masses of the world in the centers of capitalist exploitation, at the immediate level, feeds the petty bourgeois ideologies of origin, combined with the dream of escaping proletarianization. But **at the same time, it is an opportunity to overcome national narrowness and to reintroduce communist positions in the countries of origin.** Historically, many communists have been formed in immigration. As an example, the Chinese Communist Party (the original Marxist one, not its later Maoist degeneration) was founded by engineers who went to learn in French factories and came into contact with communist ideas there, later introducing them in China.

The task of the communists is to denounce the criminal use of the proletarianized masses as a weapon between imperialisms, to combat the spread of the views of the petty bourgeoisie (wherever it is or comes from) among the proletariat, to teach these proletarianized layers that in capitalism there is no place for them as "middle classes" and that they must embrace the revolutionary views of the proletariat, to organize jointly for the immediate struggle the proletarianized masses overcoming any nationalism or language division, to spread the positions of Marxism in the place of action and to introduce them in the places of origin of the immigrant workers, taking advantage of the relations they still maintain with these countries.

Only once in history has there been a country in which any worker in the world, without the need for any formalism, was automatically a full citizen: Russia after the October Revolution, before the Stalinist counterrevolution destroyed the class character of that revolution with the lie of "socialism in one country".

Only the anti-capitalist social revolution will be able to bring forth, from the ashes of criminal capitalism, a classless society, without state or borders, without forced or illegal immigration, without wars or hunger, without private property, money or wage labor: Communism.