

of information on people without any relation to the commission of a crime. (...) Another of the novelties introduced by the reform is that Europol will be able to use all this data to train artificial intelligence algorithms that allow the development of tools to fight crime". (El País, 27-05-2022).

For the resumption of class struggle

On August 25th, 2022, the President of France (E. Macron) declared the "end of abundance", calling for "efforts" and "sacrifices" since *"it will be necessary to pay the necessary price to ensure our freedom"*. The militarist Josep Borrell had spoken along the same lines, saying that *"citizens must be willing to pay a price to maintain support for Ukraine and for the unity of the EU. We are in the middle of a war: these things are not free"*.

Their plan is clear: for the proletariat to tighten its belt even more and serve as CANNON FODDER at the front and

CRACKS AND FRACTURES WITHIN THE USA

Situation of the working class

The situation inside the US continues to deteriorate: more than 20 million families cannot pay their electricity bill, average life expectancy has fallen by more than a year to 76.1 years, rents have skyrocketed and evictions have increased, inflation rages on the most basic products, baby formula has disappeared for several months, the epidemic of opioid addiction (fentanyl) continues, debts for studies of sectors of the working aristocracy and the petty bourgeoisie accumulate without being able to be paid, etc.

To try to control the situation, the U.S. government is trying a series of measures of containment and social control. As a cosmetic measure, we find the tax on the 700 richest families, which is used as propaganda, but nothing more. Then we have the government spending plan, to which the Democrat senator who was blocking it has finally submitted, and which is called now the "Inflation Reduction Act". The *"student debt relief that forgives up to \$20,000 in loans" per student*" (Bloomberg, 24-08-2022) has also been approved. A measure aimed at the sectors of the petty bourgeoisie and the working aristocracy who thought their children were going to have a meteoric career and whose illusions have been frustrated by crashing into material reality. The American bourgeoisie applies what Marx already explained in the Critique of the Gotha Program (1875): *"defraying the cost of education of the upper classes from the general tax receipts"*. Among the deepest ones, we have the promotion of the straitjacket of subsidized unionism that we already analyzed in *"The US tries a reedition of the New Deal"* (The Internationalist Proletarian, No. 7, p. 19), for example, with the constitution of a union in Amazon, supported and applauded by the bourgeois capitalist government of the USA. The most intelligent part of the American bourgeoisie knows perfectly well that it needs the corset of subsidized unionism to restrain any hint of struggle and vindication of the workers and, above all, their development in a revolutionary sense.

"The organizational inefficiency of the ultra-reformist and ultra-realist unions became a danger for the bourgeois regime: their recognition and the appearance of a philo-labor legislation were indispensable conditions for the reestablishment of internal social peace, and, thus of the economic recovery itself. It was necessary (as the anti-crisis measures were being developed and were having their effect), to prepare the fold into which the disciplined, fluctuating masses, continually thrown by the crisis into the arena of social conflict, could be led. Nor could the fold be the old A.F.L. (...).

EXPLOITATION FODDER in the rear to ensure the freedom of exploitation and accumulation of French and European capitalist imperialism. The present EU is nothing other than a bloc for the imperialist struggle for the division of the world and against the proletarian revolution: *"Of course, temporary agreements between the capitalists and between the powers are possible. In this sense the United States of Europe is also possible, as an agreement of the European capitalists... on what? Only on the means of jointly crushing socialism in Europe, of defending together the stolen colonies (...)"* (Lenin, On the Slogan of the United States of Europe, 1915).

The proletariat of any of the European states cannot have ANY NATIONAL SOLIDARITY WITH THEIR OWN BOURGEOISIE, but must push and organize within each country and the EU in general the struggle to overthrow their "own" bourgeoisie.

*The old wolf has not changed his fur: John Lewis takes the initiative of the creation of the C.I.O. **only to prevent the formation of an autonomous and "red" trade union center.*** (The New Deal, or state interventionism in defense of big capital, Prometeo No. 3-4, 1952).

This type of unionism promoted by the State cannot be used to defend the working class but to control it. **Organizations of immediate struggle** founded on broad parameters of membership, but with uncompromising class character and rejection of corporatism, outside and against integrated unionism, must be reborn, and **it is the function of the International Communist Party to encourage and help them to be born, in the U.S. and around the world.**

*"The party never adopts the method of forming partial economic organizations comprising only workers who accept the principles and leadership of the communist party. But the party recognizes without reservation that not only the situation preceding the insurrectionary struggle, but also every phase of marked increase of the influence of the party among the masses, cannot be delineated without the extension between the party and the class of a stratum of organizations with immediate economic objectives and with high numerical participation, within which there is a network emanating from the party (nuclei, groups and communist worker union fraction). **It is the task of the party, in unfavorable periods and periods of passivity of the proletarian class, to foresee the forms and encourage the appearance of organizations with economic objectives for the immediate struggle, which may even assume totally new aspects in the future, after the well-known types of corporation, industrial union, company council, etc. The party always encourages those forms of organization which facilitate contact and common action among workers of various localities and of different professions, rejecting closed forms.**"* (Characteristic Thesis, 1951).

Immigration

Murderer capitalism continues to claim lives in its provisioning of illegal labor force merchandise attempting to cross the U.S. border from Mexico: 50 immigrant workers died of suffocation and heat in a truck in Texas on July 28, 2022. The police arrested three perpetrators, but, no matter how much they may be blamed, these murders will continue to be repeated because it is the CAPITALIST SYSTEM and not some isolated

individual that inevitably produces and reproduces it. Thus, the blame is assigned to the individual and the real culprit - the capitalist system - gets off scot-free from its atrocities.

The material reason for this flow is the need of the working class to emigrate in order to find a buyer for their labor force and to be able to send a contribution to their families. The wage mass of the 38 million Mexicans in the US is already equivalent to 55 percent of Mexico's GDP, which sent as remittances to Mexico 15.3 percent of their wages, reaching in 2021 "a record annual figure of more than 51 billion dollars." (El País, 15-06-2022).

The Summit of the Americas has been the scene of a tug-of-war between the US and several Latin American countries, led by Mexico. The President of Mexico refused to participate (sending instead the Minister of Foreign Affairs) because of the exclusion of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua, which was supported by "the Chilean Gabriel Boric, who will go, or the Honduran Xiomara Castro, who finally will not. But it was above all Argentina's Alberto Fernández, Mexico's ally in several political and diplomatic fronts, who made this approach his own (...) until he finally agreed with López Obrador to go and speak on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, an organization that critics of the Organization of American States want to give greater prominence." (El País, 07-06-2022).

The outcome of the Summit was a promise by the US to make new investments in exchange for curbing irregular immigration.

In the interior of the U.S., the use of immigration as a throwing weapon has been ratcheted up once again. Texas, Arizona and Florida have begun to charter free buses to send several thousand immigrants intercepted in their states to northern cities such as Washington, New York or Chicago.

Situation of the companies

The corporate situation is not much better. Corporate debt junk bonds (of companies) have grown from \$14 billion at year-end to \$27 billion and more than 8% of bonds exceed the 10% yield (meaning this is the price these companies are having to pay to finance themselves): "(...) the amount of debt that trades at distressed levels doubling since the start of the year. The value of junk bonds trading for 70 cents on the dollar or less, considered a sign of distress and a warning that a company may struggle to repay debts, has climbed to \$27bn from about \$14bn at the end of 2021. (...) More than 8% of the US high-yield bond market is now above this [10%] level. (...) There are not many companies that can finance at north at 10% for a sustained period of time." (Financial Times, 03-05-2022).

Boeing is back to a loss through June and the profits of US companies with overseas business are being hit by the appreciation of the dollar. US companies have also had to spend more due to the prolonged supply bottleneck.

In the article "The struggle of competition on the global board" (page 17 of this issue), the immediate results of the protectionist development bets on semiconductors and the electric car can be seen.

The crisis is generating internal contradictions within companies which is manifested in the growing opposition to executive pay at annual shareholder meetings: "In the year to May 15, only 61 per cent of S&P 500 companies that held annual meetings received more than 90 per cent support for executive pay, down from 71 per cent last year and 76 per cent in 2020, according to pay consultancy Fariant Advisors. At the same time, the number of companies receiving just 50 to 90 per cent shareholder support for pay has risen to 36 per cent from 25 per cent last year." (Financial Times, 05-06-2022).

To top it off, the Secretary of the Treasury, Janet Yellen, stated last December 9, 2021: "(...) right now, the best place to hide and launder ill-gotten gains is actually the United States." (US Dept of Treasury, 09-12-2021).

The fracture between currents of the bourgeoisie

In this context the division between large sectors of the big bourgeoisie and the small and medium bourgeoisie is deepening. The basic discussion is which sectors will have to be sacrificed to try to overcome the crisis.

The problem faced by the ruling fraction of the bourgeoisie is that broad sectors of the petty bourgeoisie and even of the working aristocracy, on whom they need to unload the crisis, are armed: "It is calculated that in the US there are around 400 million weapons (...) the manufacturers manufactured 11.3 million in 2020, 187% more in relation to the 3.9 million in 2000 (...) it is also noted that the police recovered 19,344 homemade weapons". (La Vanguardia, 19-05-2022).

The speech of Trump's faction at the America First Agenda Summit is aimed at that sector: "Our country is going to hell quickly (...) cities that, ruled by the Democrats, have become war zones, (...) in which Satanists who prey on children are released on bail (...) give back to the police their authority, their resources, their power and their prestige." (El País, 27-07-2022).

The delirious and reactionary rhetoric of these sectors is a reflection of the fact that they effectively perceive that they are being set aside as a social class and see themselves subjectively identified as the sector on which the crisis will be concentrated: "The petty bourgeoisie (...) is a condemned class. And suddenly it is also condemned to not being able to understand anything, it has been unable to fight: it can only blindly debate in the prey that crushes it. **Racism is not an aberration of the spirit: it is and will be the petty bourgeois reaction to the pressure of big capital. The choice of the "race", that is to say, of the group on which to try to concentrate the destruction, obviously depends on the circumstances.**" (Auschwitz or the great alibi, 1960).

Supreme Court rulings

A reflection of this fracture is the series of rulings issued by the Supreme Court, the substance of which is to discuss who can make decisions, the federal government or each state. In other words, **the very existence of the United States as a centralized state is being discussed.**

In the Ruling that prohibits the central State to legislate on the issue of abortion, the production of labor and cannon fodder for war is also discussed. After the Ruling the puppet Biden signed a decree to protect access to contraceptive drugs, but his whole focus is on trying to make electoral gain from the issue, promising to make a new Law that would leave the Ruling without effect. The Communists' position on abortion is published in the article "Against Interclassism on the Women's Question (I)" (El Comunista no. 55, page 36): "Just as above we have denounced that one cannot pretend to "emancipate woman" from her commodity character without abolishing the general commodity character of all workers and eliminating the capitalist mercantile character of the present relations of production, we have to affirm taxatively that, in these conditions of slavery, it is an **inescapable duty for all members of the working class of both sexes to fight to prevent the class of modern slaveholders from having the slightest possibility of interfering in the decision of the women of our class to become pregnant or to have an abortion at any given moment.**"

In the Ruling on the question of bearing arms, it goes so far as to allow guns to be carried in New York without the need to show cause for carrying a gun, a requirement in force since 1913. So much for the abyss separating the two fractions of the bourgeoisie and leading to the decision of one of them to allow the working class to carry arms in the fiefdom of the second. It should be noted that, in New York, *"in 2020 there were 1,530 shootings (...) more than double the previous year; in 2021, there were 1,877, the highest figure in decades. (...) the unemployment rate in New York was in December [2021] 8.8% (...) with unemployment of 15% among workers who have not gone to college and among African Americans, and 24% among young people aged 18 to 24."* (El País, 03-02-2022). Not only does the fraction of the small and medium bourgeoisie resist disarming, but it is even willing to favor that the working class can have access to bear arms in order to harm the sector of the bourgeoisie that wants to disarm them.

On another level, the Supreme Court also ruled against the federal government regulating "climate factors".

Platforms and media

Another component of the extended parliamentary circus has been the whole ceremony of Elon Musk's mock purchase of Twitter. The purchase issue is now pending in the courts, but clearly the buffoon Musk was seeking to discredit Twitter for the number of fake profiles (bots) and to denounce the platform's veto of the buffoon Trump.

The fraction of the bourgeoisie currently in power has invested a lot of money and energies to try to silence the other current of the bourgeoisie. However, they nervously observe their failure to impose the exclusivity of their disinformation. As an example, they have not been able to prevent the dissemination of a website that they thought was even closed: *"820,000 likes and shares on Facebook and 66,000 on Twitter (largely before the platform limited its links). That in turn has helped the main website pull in around 1.5 million monthly page views (...) But the real power behind Resist the Mainstream comes from the alternative-tech platforms, where its profiles have a combined follower count of more than 1 million."* (Bloomberg, 12-09-2022).

For his part, the buffoon Trump declared that the puppet Putin was "smart" and a "genius" right after Russia's entry of troops into Ukraine and, when questioned by the media, declared, *"Yes, he is smart (...) The problem is not that Putin is smart, which of course he is, but the real problem is that our leaders are dumb."* (Bloomberg, 02-27-2022).

We don't care how many points each of these "world leaders" has accumulated in the "Fools of History" contest (see the beginning of the article *"The struggle of competition on the global board"* in this issue). But what becomes clear in these demonstrations is that the sector of the bourgeoisie in favor of ceding ground at the international level and shutting itself up at home (boarding up doors and windows to keep everyone else out) was also in favor of an agreement with Russia.

They dream of a return to the division of the world and of Europe as they did at Yalta and Potsdam, without realizing that this division was based on US hegemony in military and economic power which it no longer has. This return to the past is a wish and nothing more, but it sublimates the lack of perspectives in which this whole sector and, in fact, the whole of US capitalism finds itself.

The internal confrontation is also manifested on television.

Fox justifies within the US the Russian military intervention by saying that there were chemical weapons laboratories in Ukraine and accuses the rest of the media of misinformation. From the rest of the media, there is an open request for police intervention on the Fox presenters: *"There is a case for arresting them militarily", proposed the NBC former presenter (...) "They used to arrest people for doing things like that", said the (...) co-presenter of the ABC program.* (La Vanguardia, 12-04-2022).

Closer and closer to civil war

In August 2020 we wrote: *"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."* (The Internationalist Proletarian no. 5, page 19).

Since then, the greatest attempt in a long time to unleash global military conflict and the deepening of the social fracture within the U.S. owning classes has unfolded simultaneously.

The fracture extends within the Republican Party, with Liz Cheney accusing Trump of summoning the "insurrectionists" who entered the Capitol in December 2020. But the Democratic Party is not a completely homogeneous bloc either, as evidenced by the blocking by a Democratic senator of the approval of the entire investment plan and also by the voices that have expressed doubts about the raid on the house of the Trump puppet in search of secret documents. In doing so, the US joins the global trend of trying to prosecute the previous president. Those who speak this way do not sympathize with Trump, but are afraid that Trump or his successors will win the next election and take revenge by the same means.

We saw the carnivalesque attempt to storm the Capitol, the warning signed by all the previous Secretaries of State addressed to the army warning it to refrain from intervening and recalling that the only interrupted transfer between governments coincides with the Civil War, the instructions of the military High Command not to obey the orders of the outgoing president, the statements of a general pardoned by Trump stating to applause that in the US there should be a coup d'état like in Burma, etc.

More recently, we have seen the raid on Trump's home and the rise of hashtags and statements on the networks such as: #CivilWar, #CivilWar2, #NationalDivorce, "tomorrow it can be you", "they're coming after you", etc. echoing statements from a significant number of Republican Party leaders.

Immediately after the raid on Trump's home, a man armed with a semi-automatic rifle attempted to enter FBI headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, and was shot and killed after the ensuing chase. A few weeks later, *"Republican Senator Lindsey O. Graham said there would be 'riots in the street' if Trump is prosecuted"* (The Washington Post, 08-29-2022). The raid has been followed by threats against the judge who signed the search warrant and against the FBI.

The bet of the ruling part of the U.S. bourgeoisie is risky, it is about trying to prevent Trump from running again. And the reality is that, if he runs and wins, his current may go so far as to try to dismantle the former first world power. But, even if the puppet in question does not win or is put individually out of the game, **this will not eliminate the social mass the puppet represents and the conflict will develop anyway.**

The latest bluster of the buffoon Trump was to claim on 29-08-2022 that he should be made president or that elections should be held immediately, on his Truth Social account.

This is a declamation in a vacuum, but, behind the bluster of the histrionic buffoon there is a historical process of greater depth of which this is a mere reflection and which must be investigated and studied, in the same way that K. Marx explained in 1869 in his preface to the 2nd edition of "The 18th Brumaire of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte": *"I, on the contrary, demonstrate how the class struggle in France created circumstances and relationships that made it possible for a grotesque mediocrity to play a hero's part."*

K. Marx begins that fundamental book of Marxism by saying, *"Hegel remarks somewhere that all great world-historic facts and personages appear, so to speak, twice. He forgot to add: the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce."* (The 18th Brumaire of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, K. Marx, 1851)

And how many more FARCES we have had to see since then!!!!

We, Marxists, must always bear in mind that: *"It is not the consciousness of human beings that determines their existence, but their social existence that determines their consciousness."* (Preface to the Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy, K. Marx, 1859).

Well, the *in crescendo* rupture of the social body of the different fractions of the bourgeoisie in the USA is thus manifested: if in February 2022 *"one out of three Americans says that violence against the Government can at times be justified"* (Bloomberg, 02-20-2022), in August a study of the University of California was published according to which *"half of the Americans (50.1% exactly) believe that "in the next few years there will be a civil war in the United States."* (La Vanguardia, 23-08-2022).

The only proletarian perspective

In the face of all this, the U.S. working class must refuse to allow itself to be dragged along by one or another faction of the bourgeoisie, refusing outright to be led to fight for the interests of the petty bourgeoisie. **Neither Republicans, nor Democrats!**

The only civil war that interests the proletariat and for which we must be ready to fight and die is the **REVOLUTIONARY CIVIL WAR** of the entire working class (without distinction of sex, race, origin) against the entire bourgeois class: for the abolition of private property, of wage labor, of social classes and of the capitalist mercantile system of production.

For this it is necessary that in the daily struggles in the workplaces we break with the corset of the subsidized, corrupt and institutionalized trade unionism prevailing today in the U.S. as in the rest of the world; that we break with the defense of the fatherland, of the nation and of national production (*"Workers have no country. We cannot take from them what they have not got."*, Manifesto of the Communist Party, 1848) and that we recover the class methods of struggle of the working class: the indefinite strike without minimum services and its extension to all enterprises and sectors; organizing the class union, not subsidized neither by the boss nor by the State.

Only in this way will the proletariat be able to fight for its immediate demands at the same time as it forges a **vanguard capable of organizing and leading these struggles, grouping around and shaping the International Communist Party, the indispensable organ of the class for the leadership of the revolutionary struggle, for the overthrow of the State of the bourgeoisie and the revolutionary transformation leading to the abolition of classes, through the transitory establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and culminating in the extinction of all forms of State.**

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Ante el desarrollo del mundo capitalista que hemos descrito, el movimiento de la clase proletaria sólo podrá reanudar su lucha si comprende que no se puede ni se debe luchar el estado caduco de la tolerancia liberal, de la independencia soberana de las naciones, sino que la historia obrera sólo una vía para eliminar todas las explotaciones, todas las tensiones y las opresiones: **la vía de la acción revolucionaria de clase que, EN TODO PAIS CUALQUIERA QUE SEA, alinee a la clase obrera contra la burguesía local, con completa autonomía de clase en el pensamiento, organización y comportamiento político, en la acción de combate, uniendo las fuerzas de los proletarios de todo el mundo por encima de las fronteras de todos los países - en la "paz" y en la guerra - en un organismo unitario cuya acción no se detenga hasta el completo aniquilamiento de las instituciones del capitalismo.** (pág. 24)

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"El partido es para nosotros, al mismo tiempo, factor y producto del desarrollo histórico y que, frente a las fuerzas de este último, el proletariado se comporta como una materia más plástica aún. (...) Sólo si se sabe actuar en el campo de la táctica y rechazar energicamente las falsas vías con normas de acción precisas y respetadas, el partido puede preservarse de las degeneraciones, lo que jamás logrará solamente con ordenes, reglas y sanciones organizativas." (Lévy Etienne, 1948)

La lucha de la concurrencia en el tablero mundial (pág. 14)

"[...] El capitalismo, como clase social, tiene la posibilidad de reaccionar ante esas contradicciones económicas inevitables que le son propias. Según la clásica crítica marxista, la clase burguesa no pasará jamás una teoría segura ni un conocimiento científico del devenir económico, y éste se muestra naturalista como por su propia esencia) no podrá instaurar una disciplina sobre las fuerzas irreconciliables que ella misma suscita, como el clásico orden. Incluso que no pueda darwin a las inferiores potencias económicas." (El caso belga de la economía capitalista, 1940)