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FIGHT AND RESIST ICE TERROR!

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Cover Photo

Anti-ICE demonstration led by RSU and PDC in Denton, TX, January 31, 2025.

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EDITORIAL

Minneapolis Exposes Democratic Illusions

A legal observer murdered after being shot at point blank range. Civilians pulled from cars by the hair screaming. Youth workers picked up, beaten, and then shoved out of vehicles blocks away. Public schools raided and the staff, students and families attacked. People abducted without notice, leaving nothing but a broken car parked in the middle of the street as evidence of what had occurred. A reactionary government which raises the slogan "One of Ours, All of Yours," and a city under a de facto state of siege. All this and more has streamed out of Minneapolis, Minnesota, plain for all to see, since the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) "Operation Metro Surge" was launched in December 2025, and Renee Good killed in cold blood on January 7, 2026.

If nothing else, the reactionary offensive on the masses of the Twin Cities has exposed once again that the so-called "constitutional rights," "civil liberties," and "institutional protections" of American bourgeois democracy are a complete farce, an illusion created to confuse the masses into thinking that somehow the State of their own class enemy will save them. Despite the local and state government being largely Democratic, the Democrats' false "opposition" to ICE's operations in Minneapolis has so far mainly involved suing the federal government in its own court system, which of course is a complete dead end. The Democrats have been completely unable to even slightly put on the brakes on the current reactionary offensive, because in reality they are one of the key proponents and supporters of the goals and methods of that very same offensive. Even relatively moderate demands, like the elimination of ICE as an agency (its existence only dates back to the George W. Bush administration), have been sidelined by the Democratic party in favor of a repeat of the big tent "anti-Trump" coalition strategy that produced the reactionary Biden administration in 2020 and the failed Biden/Harris run in 2024.

Minnesota is no stranger to betrayal carried out under the banner of reformism and democratic illusions. Even the name of its state Democratic Party branch, the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL) is an illustration of this. The Farmer-Labor Party (FLP) of Minnesota was part of a wave of "left-wing populist" parties formed in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and was a major feature of state politics for decades. Even the Communist Party (USA), under their incorrect application of the Popular Front strategy, had sunk many resources into trying to control and lead the FLP so they could carry out electoral work though it. This all came to an end of course when the FLP merged with the local Democratic Party in 1944, and the new Democratic leadership expelled all the communists and radical workers from the party.

The Democratic and Republican parties are two sides of the same coin, two faces of one class dictatorship and one unified US imperialism. While there might be superficial or policy conflict between them from time to time, their essence remains the same, something which the working and oppressed masses of the country are waking up to year-by-year through battles and hard-won lessons. Reagan, Bush Sr., Clinton, Bush Jr. Obama, Trump and Biden; they are all

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criminals servants of a beast which can only be defeated through revolution.

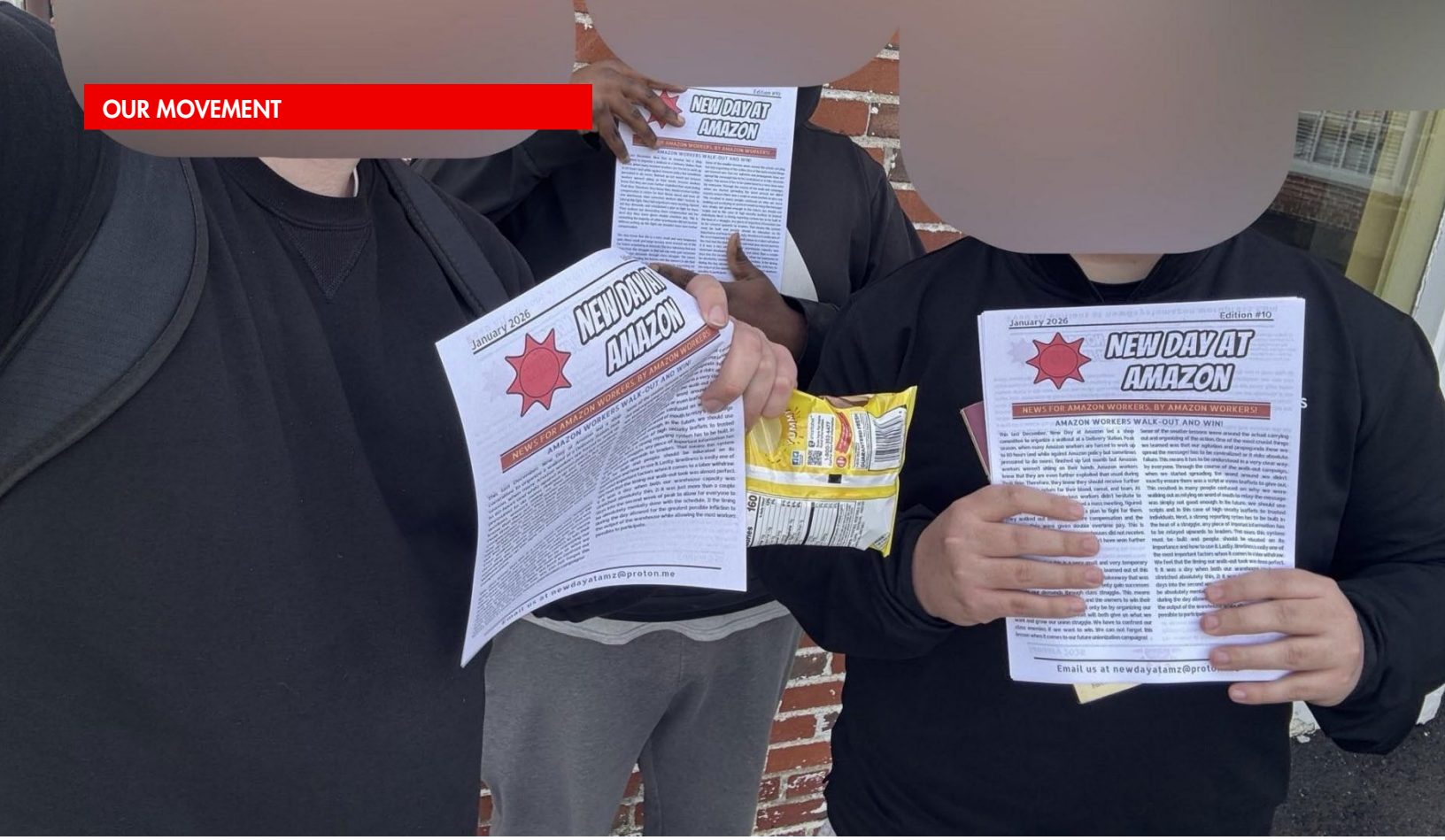
The actions of the masses in cities like Los Angeles, Chicago, and Charlotte, and the partial results they achieved, make plain that the only thing that can beat back a capitalist offensive is an equally powerful offensive on the part of the multinational working-class and its allies, not electoralism or court-maneuvering. We say partial results because although the masses have yet to truly “beat back” ICE, which maintains strategic dominance and an extensive militarized logistics system, they have been able to deal the agency temporary blows and force its hand on tactical questions in many cities. Despite their energy, these mass rebellions in response to ICE deployments, and in response to brutal repression like the murder of Renee Good, have been disorganized and their leadership has been largely dominated by opportunists and traitors.

This is why organizations like the People’s Defense Committee, who have lead actions against ICE in various cities, have raised the call of forming “neighborhood defense units” to mobilize, politicize, and organize the working masses in the street-by-street struggle against ICE, the police, and other forces of reaction in our cities and towns. The Partisan unites with this call, and with similar initiatives in universities and workplaces led by the Revolutionary Student Union and the New Labor Organizing Committee, respectively, to strengthen and consolidate to wide but disorganized wave of actions against ICE occurring throughout the country under class-conscious political leadership.

Ultimately, the ongoing wave of ICE operations around the country, such as Operation Midway Blitz, Operation Charlotte’s Web, and now Operation Metro Surge, all come as part of the process of increasing militarization and fascistization of the US. Now more than ever there is a pressing need to build up true revolutionary anti-fascism. Rejecting democratic illusions must not mean falling into the trap of tailing electoral opportunism, institutions of the class enemy, nor anarchist spontaneity. Given the rise of surveillance, policing, and general militarization of US society, revisionism cannot ever be tolerated which ever form it takes. A principled, militant, independent, and class-conscious anti-fascist movement is the only solution that can prevent future operations like that in Minneapolis from being replicated around the country.

January 29, 1975

Chicano activists **Rito Canales** and **Antonio Cordova** murdered by the police in Albuquerque, TX.



NLOC Amazon Warehouse Workers Organize Walkout

We are glad to share this important report on work conditions during peak season from the New Labor Organizing Committee-affiliated shop organization New Day at Amazon. To reach out to them, email newdayatamz@proton.me.

This last December, a New Day at Amazon-led shop committee at an Amazon Delivery Station in Ohio organized a walkout at the height of "peak season" to combat poor working conditions and pay. During peak season, which begins in late November and extends throughout the month of December, many Amazon workers are forced to work up to 60 hours in mandatory overtime shifts, leading to 12 hour work days. This extended work time occurs on top of the already brutal workload and oppressive conditions Amazon workers experience day to day. In this way they are even further exploited than usual during Peak time.

The New Day at Amazon shop committee organized a mass meeting, figured out key demands, and established a plan to fight for them. They mobilized a few dozen co-workers and walked out demanding more compensation, which was one of the primary grievances raised by the workers. The next day they were given double overtime pay, something the majority of other warehouses did not receive. It was by putting up this fight, and through the tools of mobilization and organization, that the workers won their daily economic demands. New Day at Amazon is a shop organization which is affiliated to the New Labor Organizing Committee, a national organization of workers devoted to reconstituting an independent, class-conscious and militant labor movement within the United States. Through the work of revolutionaries-in-formation on the ground, and the national leadership and the workplace-based shop paper system of the NLOC, these small battles for economic demands are linked to the broader historic struggle against the imperialist system and for the seizure political Power for the multinational US working-class.

In the January edition of the New Day at Amazon shop paper, Amazon warehouse workers explain how the intense pace of the peak season typically leads into a "ramp down" and mass lay-offs for so-called "seasonal associates" in January, and how that is linked to the lessons they have gained form the walk-out, stating:

With the New Year in full swing we are facing the ramp-down period at Amazon. Obviously a large increase in volume due to the holiday season caused Amazon to spend much more money on labor costs. Everything from simply spending more on wages due to overtime worked, to any little gifts given out, or even providing food was to keep us engaged and coming back everyday. Now after spending all that money and the inevitable decrease in sales, Amazon now looks to keep costs low to start the year. In Q4 of 2024, Amazon made $187.8 Billion Dollars in net sales. In Q1 of 2025, Amazon made $155.7 Billion Dollars in net sales. This is a pattern that occurs every single year.

For workers at Amazon, in years past this meant surprise layoffs of seasonal associates, targeted write ups and firings of veteran associates, and enormous amounts of Voluntary Time Off given out. All this adds up to losses for the workers at Amazon and

big profits for the capitalists who own and control Amazon.

This means for our organization have continue to lead a fight against Amazon. In 2026, we will need to organize shop committees among every shop and contact we come across. These shop committees will need to lean on our main principle of class struggle. Understanding we are a class against a class: the working class against the capitalist class. Or the associates versus the large shareholders and owners of Amazon. We will do this with our principles leading us. Not the other way around.

All throughout Amazon warehouses, we will need to build up to slowdowns, walk-outs, and strikes. Our aims should be to commence labor action as soon as we have the strength to do so and the timing is right. Meaning our main goal is to use the one weapon we have at our disposal: the collective withholding of our labor. All of this should give us the ability to organize our shop committees into a united union of Amazon workers. We as Amazon workers have to take the momentum we gained from 2025 and transfer it into 2026 using the same methods we used last year. First, by basing ourselves on principles of the working class. Second, by uniting in class struggle for our everyday demands. All so we can unite in shop committees and organize a union that Amazon will not be able to stop.

OUR MOVEMENT

Charlotte, NC: Mobilize to Defend Our Workplaces from DHS Raids

[*Editorial Note:* The Partisan *is happy to republish an article from* The Service Worker*, a revolutionary newsletter in the service industry.*]

Midwood Smokehouse, like many other restaurants, was affected by the Border Patrol Operation known as "Charlotte's Web", a nearly 3 week constant attack on Charlotte's Hispanic communities. Several workers in the back of house stayed home out of fear of being affected by the raids, both at work and during their commutes. The raids coincided with one of the busiest weeks of the year for the restaurant, where extra labor is dedicated towards preparing catering for Thanksgiving.

There was some speculation by workers at Midwood that Border Patrol agents ate in the restaurant during a lunch rush, but this remains unconfirmed. What is confirmed is that Border Patrol was pictured tackling a worker at a different restaurant in Charlotte. Immigrant workers were, and still are, at a risk of serving the very people who would snatch them from their families.

Keep in mind, Midwood Smokehouse does not offer employees sick or vacation time until after they have worked full-time for multiple years, then only 2 weeks of paid time off after the fact. Taking time off work to avoid a potential arrest or deportation is a severe blow to the many workers in Charlotte who are already living paycheck to paycheck. Not only that, but one worker who picked up the extra shifts reported not being paid for overtime during a week this was all going on.

The horrible conditions around payment, combined with the lack of considerable assurance that workplaces will be safe from the ICE raids, demonstrates the inability and unwillingness of FS Food Group to protect their employees. The workers at Midwood need to form committees to discuss and leverage these safety demands to the employers, and prepare worker defense leagues that rely on each other instead of the company.

Johnson City, TN: Statement Against BWXT Uranium Plant

By *The Tri-Cities Worker* and People's Defense – Johnson City

The federal government is building a uranium processing plant in Jonesborough for *nuclear weapons.* You read that correctly. The National Nuclear Security Administration is contracting Babcock and Wilcox Technologies (BWXT), the successor of the corporation responsible for the Third Mile Island incident, the worst nuclear reactor meltdown in U.S. commercial history, to construct a 300-ton high purity depleted uranium plant in the highly-populated area of Jonesborough. It will be built in a floodplain directly connected to the Nolichucky River watershed, which risks contaminating our entire water-supply. In addition, it will contaminate a 50-mile airshed covering the entire Tri-Cities and will cause radioactive material to be shipped on the railroads running throughout our communities.

Johnson City People's Defense Committee is launching a campaign to establish neighborhood defense units and tenant unions that can mobilize in opposition to BWXT's nuclear warfare in the Tri-Cities, the U.S.'s warfare abroad, and against all forms of reactionary political and economic terror like ICE raids, gentrification, and unaffordable housing. The people of Tri-Cities must rise up, organize, mobilize, and oppose the ruling class of investors, corporate owners, and government officials who could care less about the impact their profits have on our neighborhoods and communities. Join them at their mass meetings and protests to voice your demands and get organized!

The Washington County Government can restrict BWXT's development by voting down the re-zoning of a portion of BWXT's land. But we cannot stop fighting until this entire project is shut down. Tell Washington County Commissioners: "Vote 'NO' on BWXT's M-2 rezoning. Protect our air, water, farms, schools, and families." Find the call-list, read more, and sign the petition at protectjonesborough.com.

Neither *The Tri-Cities Worker* or PDJC is affiliated with the Protect Jonesborough organization.

Los Angeles: Masses Militantly Confront ICE Agents with Blockade

Thousands of protesters in Los Angeles rallied against ICE on Friday, January 30, in confrontations that led to federal agents being blockaded inside a detention center. The rally, which started at the city hall, eventually marched down to the Metropolitan Detention Center in the downtown area of the city. This came on the heels of the recent murders of Renee Good, Keith Porter Jr., and Alex Pretti by ICE agents, actions which have triggered widespread outrage and protest around the country.

At the Metropolitan Detention Center, protesters began closing in on the entrance to the building. ICE agents inside threatened to shoot the protesters, but the door was forcibly closed, preventing this from happening. A dumpster reading "FUCK ICE" was moved in front of the entrance, blocking it off.

Eventually, armed officers wielding shields emerged from the building and began attacking the combative masses gathered there. By 8:45 PM that night, Los Angeles Police Department issued a dispersal order. Many were not dissuaded, and confrontations with police ensued for several hours. At one point, police fired on the crowd with a variety of "less lethal" weapons such as pepper balls. By the following morning, eight people had been arrested; six for "failure to disperse."

Los Angeles' mayor Karen Bass was quoted as stating "I think the protests are extremely important, but it is equally important for these protests to be peaceful, for vandalism not to take place. That just hurts the city. That does not impact the administration in any kind of way that is going to bring about any type of change." This is a clear attempt to paint concrete action and mass resistance as aberrant, and actually counterproductive to the goal of ending ICE. Democratic politicians like Bass traffic in the language of protest and resistance in order to attack actual mass actions, and prevent the emergence of revolutionary leadership by funneling the masses back in the old dead ends of electoralism and reformism.

It must be emphasized that violence and struggle are key to concretely winning demands, and to ultimately succeeding in class struggle against the ruling class and for socialism. While many anti-ICE protesters today may not conceive of that struggle as linked with the struggle for socialism, it is precisely these struggles against the ruling class and its agents which will pave the way for real liberation. The emergence of revolutionary leadership develops amidst class struggle, mainly through practice and two-line struggle between the revolutionary and reformist road within the working-class movement.

Many around the country are increasingly rejecting the illusions of the State and its bourgeois democracy. It is precisely in moments like these that a principled, militant, class-conscious, and revolutionary anti-fascist movement must be built. This is done with the weapon of organization, or more precisely, is done with the organizational implementation of a correct and revolutionary political line. That is the only way to end ICE and its ilk once and for all.

Santa Ana, CA: Anti-ICE Protester Shot, Revisionists Cheer

On January 9, a 21-year-old anti-ICE protester was shot in the head by a federal agent during an anti-ICE protest in Santa Ana, CA, reported anti-imperialist organization Dare to Struggle (DTS). Protesters had surrounded the local federal building when ICE agents charged at the crowd, shooting the protester and arresting another.

The protester, Kaden Rummler, was shot at point blank range by State forces. One other protester was arrested. While Rummler was shot with a so-called "less lethal" bullet, he was forced to undergo heavy surgery and permanently lost vision in one eye.

After the shooting, Rummler was detained by federal agents overnight and refused time-critical medical care that could have saved his eye. "They dragged this person bleeding from their face into a building where they were held overnight," said DTS in a statement.

The bullet nearly struck Rummler's carotid artery. "It's going to affect every aspect of my life," said Rummler in an interview with ABC News.

As of writing, Rummler continues to face mounting medical expenses as he recovers from State-inflicted injury.

Repression and violence against the masses of Santa Ana is not unique. Numerous video and photographic evidence depicted ICE' complete disregard of US laws that it claims to defend. More than 3,000 people have been arrested in "Operation Metro Surge" in Minnesota alone, as Alex Pretti and Renee Good were murdered in plain sight and Victor Manuel Díaz died in ICE custody.

Throughout the country, numerous anti-ICE protesters were arrested and brutalized by federal agents and the police. In a strikingly similar case in Recife, Brazil, five activists protesting the US aggression against Venezuela were shot by the police on January 28. As more people join in militant struggle against imperialism, it responds with more naked reactionary violence in the vain hope of drowning the just anger of the people. These shootings, whether with lethal or "less-lethal" rounds, only serve to demonstrate the fact that the State is organized violence of the capitalist class to exert its dictatorship.

Revisionists Respond

A sinister role was played by revisionists – meaning those who are revolutionaries in name but serve imperialism in deed – to mislead the masses away from direct confrontations and to defame revolutionaries. The revisionist organization "Freedom Road Socialist Organization" (FRSO) was leading a separate, "peaceful" march when the shooting happened. FRSO forbade attendees of its protest from approaching the federal building and confronting State agents. Furthermore, its members physically assaulted protesters who tried to move closer to the building.

Most egregiously, a member of FRSO commented "let them get what they fucking deserve," in response to the shooting of Rummler.

Revisionist organizations like FRSO are long known for collaborating with the State. Despite all the revolutionary posturing, the revisionists reject and condemn class struggle with every opportunity. In its stead, the revisionists direct the masses towards "legal" and "peaceful" means set up by the very US imperialism that exploits and oppresses them.

With every popular protest movement, the revisionists rush to tail behind them with the same tired call of "join an organization," never mind the quality and conduct of such organizations. While the police and federal law enforcement agencies openly suppress the masses, revisionists like FRSO do so in a hidden manner, acting as a fifth column in the midst of the people.

Masses Advance

What began as local unrest in Minnesota has broadened into a wave of nationwide demonstrations. Organized events under banners like "ICE Out" have taken place across all 50 states, including general strikes and coordinated protests at ICE facilities and political offices. In many cases, ICE arrests of migrants were stopped by militant mass mobilizations which overpowered the agents and struck fear into their hearts.

Increased fascistization can only be defeated with increased mobilization, politicization and organization, linking the anti-ICE struggle to the struggle of the working class in general everywhere and anywhere.

Donate to Kaden Rummler's medical and legal fees!

gofundme

Scan to donate to Sarah's fundraiser
"Help Kaden Rummler After being shot by Feds"

Remembering Florencio Medrano Mederos "El Güero", Exemplary Communist

In today's mainstream discourse, the US-Mexico border is one of the sources of the country's problems. Any discussion related to it is often shrouded in symbolic cues of racism and xenophonia. Migrant encounters at the border, under the threat of death and torture, are at their lowest level in more than 50 years. Meanwhile, about 470,000 guest workers, mostly agricultural workers from Mexico, continue to cross the border every year with legal permission: they are oppressed through a complex system of trickery and abuse by the US employers and their middlemen, illegally overworked and underpaid, sometimes stripped of basic freedom of movement or even sexually abused. While the attack on immigrants intensified with fascistization, the semi-feudal and semi-colonial reality of Latin American countries continues to force workers and peasants to leave for the US and serve as cheap labor for the imperialists. In short, the existence of the border is the best illustration of the US colonial domination of Latin America.

However, 50 years ago, a small group of people once organized migrant workers across the border in direct defiance of US imperialism and its lackeys, building up support for a nascent armed struggle. They were known as the United Proletarian Party of America (PPUA) and their leader was an obscure figure by the name of Florencio Medrano Mederos.

Early Years

Florencio Medrano Mederos, nicknamed "El Güero" ("the blonde man" in Spanish), was born in a poor peasant family on October 27, 1945, in Cutzamala del Pinzón, Guerrero, a state in southern Mexico. He started working at an early age like many poor peasants, directly experiencing the harsh oppression and exploitation in the Mexican countryside. Because of this, Medrano became active in the peasant movement and quickly distinguished himself as a natural leader, charismatic and resolute. In 1967, when living and working in a nearby state, Medrano was first introduced to Marxism. Two years later, he became a founding member of the Revolutionary Party of the Mexican Proletariat (PRPM), a Party guided by Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. As a result of the Sino-Soviet split, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, and the revisionist degeneration of the Mexican Communist Party (PCM), anti-revisionists in Mexico aligned themselves with the Communist Party of China (CPC) and demarcated with the reformist practice of the PCM. The PRPM was born under these circumstances. In its first Congress, the PRPM resolved to launch the New Democratic Revolution through Protracted People's War. The PRPM quickly became recognized by the International Communist Movement led by the CPC. In May 1969, the PRPM travel to the People's Republic of China. The nine members of the group, including Medrano, received six months of political-military training in China.

However, upon their return to Mexico, several key members and leaders of the PRPM were arrested by the Federal Security Directorate for a bombing connected to an urban guerrilla organization. This terrible blow destroyed the young group. There were no serious attempts at restructuring the organization from both its leadership and membership. Florencio Medrano, however,

was the only one who continued the revolutionary struggle.

Rubén Jaramillo Colony

Florencio Medrano, living "on the run", managed to evade police persecution in different parts of southern Mexico, taking refuge among peasants. Working odd jobs and in poverty, he continued to propagate the works and ideas of Chairman Mao Zedong among his coworkers. Pedro Medrano Mederos, his brother, fondly remembered him like this:

> They invited him to go study, to prepare himself in China… when he returned to Mexico, the Mexican government began to follow him, Mexican law began to persecute him, and so he went from place to place, working with bricklayers or wherever he could find work. Then he went to Acatlipa, where he took refuge with the communal dwellers (ejidatarios), cutting roses, and from there, he was like the evangelists with their books under their arms, preaching the doctrine of Mao Zedong to the communal land workers, who will gather there to cut roses and all that. Then, as time passed, the moment arrived for Rubén Jaramillo…

Adhering to the Mass Line and the line of Protracted People's War, Medrano sought to create and consolidate a presence among the masses to build a political base that would eventually swell the ranks of a people's army. Medrano integrated his experience in China with the concrete conditions of Mexican reality, connecting the daily struggle faced by workers and peasants to the struggle against imperialism, semi-feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism. He forged a close relationship with the people and developed a clandestine core of Communists from their midst.

On March 21, 1973, Florencio Medrano led hundreds of peasants, migrants, day laborers, workers and unemployed people from Acatlipa and neighboring towns in seizing the large property of "Villa de las Flores", owned by the son of the state governor, Felipe Rivera Crespo. Previously, this property was forcibly stolen from the communal dwellers by the corrupt governor to build a luxury resort.

Once the lots were partitioned to each family, a mass assembly decided to rename "Villa de las Flores" the Rubén Jaramillo Proletarian Colony, in honor of the peasant leader and forerunner of rural guerrilla warfare in Mexico. To improve the colony, **"**Red Sundays" were established in the style of communal work days in China and the Soviet Union: these were days of collective labor where residents paved roads and built sewage systems, schools, and public spaces.

Internal norms were implemented to foster companionship and respect, ranging from the prohibition of alcohol to severe punishment for violence against women and children. Medrano's protection of women's rights and encouragement of their participation and leadership earned him great respect from the masses. The work in the colony soon attracted university students, who assisted in labor and professional practices every Sunday. The colony even created its own newspaper, *El Chingadazo*, which featured political texts, agricultural instructions, and political cartoons.

> "We must be determined, without fear for defeats nor sacrifices, and strengthen ourselves to overcome all difficulties in order to conquer victory."

The expropriation and intense political activity alerted the state government, who surrounded the colony with armed police. In an attempt to dismantle the colony, Governor Crespo offered 88 hectares in a neighboring town and jobs in local poultry farms; Medrano and the settlers declined. On May 12, 1973, the governor visited the colony undercover. He was swiftly recognized, detained by the masses, and forced to sign a document promising basic services – a promise he never kept.

On the night of September 28, 1973, the Mexican Army stormed the Rubén Jaramillo Colony. Under the pretext of searching for weapons of the Party of the Poor, a revolutionary organization waging armed struggle, they looted and destroyed homes of the masses. The attack signaled the beginning of a new wave of repression in the region, including the mass arrest and destruction of multiple class-conscious and democratic organizations in the region.

People's War and the Southern Border

Again forced into clandestinity and relocating throughout Mexico, Florencio Medrano patiently summed-up the successes and failures of the previous period and continued the struggle. On September 23, 1974, he led a preparatory meeting to found the United Proletarian Party of America in Puebla (or Mexico City) with a small but dedicated group of 40 Communists. On January 10, 1975, the PPUA was formally founded. The Congress elected Medrano as the Chairman and established various organs of the Party, including a Central Committee and a Military Commission. Subsequently, the United People's Liberation Army of America (EPLUA) was established under the leadership of the PPUA.

Since its founding, the PPUA maintained the seizure of political Power through armed struggle as its central and immediate task. In a statement entitled "Who We Are", the PPUA explained: "As part of the poor of Mexico and the world, we have not taken up arms because of a love for war, but we have seen that it is the only way the rich will leave us in peace." It formed a national structure and was not limited to solely being active in the southern states.

The PPUA was unique in two ways: firstly, it was the only organization that attempted to develop a People's War through the line of encircling the cities from the countryside; secondly, it places a great emphasis on proletarian internationalism and the need for unity of the Americas in defeating US imperialism, while acknowledging that the struggle in each country must be decided according to their own conditions. In the words of PPUA, "if they [imperialists] are united to exploit us, we must also realize only by uniting and coordinating our struggle with the struggle of all the peoples of America and the world, we will be able to defeat our powerful enemies."

The General Program of the PPUA established the following main tasks:

1. Clandestinely organize and develop our Party in order to expand it throughout the country.
2. Clandestinely organize and develop our Army of the Poor which, due to the immense revolutionary force of the peasantry and the weakness of the enemy in the countryside, will continue the strategy of struggling from the countryside to the city and to advance in waves to different directions until the cities, interlacing the rural struggle with the urban struggle.
3. We must strengthen ourselves to build and consolidate mass organizations that gather around the majority of the population. In the case of the armed intervention of imperialism, the Anti-imperialist Democratic National Broad Front shall be formed, which unites all social classes, always under the leadership of the Proletarian Party for the defense of the Fatherland.

Under the leadership of Medrano, the PPUA established links with migrant workers and revolutionaries in the United States to internationalize the struggle. Mario Cantu, a Chicano restaurant owner formerly jailed for harboring undocumented immigrant workers, played an important role in this process. Cantu's group of supporters, majority of which are Chicano and included Vietnam veterans based in San Antonio, provided financial support to the PPUA and smuggled weapons to the Oaxaca highlands. Likewise, Members of the La Raza Unida Party such as Ramon Chacon were tortured by the CIA and imprisoned in Mexico for their revolutionary activities linked to the PPUA.

Between 1974 and 1978, the PPUA carried out expropriations and numerous military actions against the Old State. Most notably, a detachment of the EPLUA kidnapped Sarah Martinez de Davis, the wife of an American capitalist in Mexico in exchange of a hefty amount of cash ransom. In October, 1978, Medrano was seen leading the more than 600 peasants armed with guns and machetes in invading 1,800 hectares of land in Oaxaca owned by the big landlords.

The PPUA carried out its mass work through armed actions and armed propaganda. Publications of the Party, such as *El Comunero* and *La Lucha del Pueblo,* were distributed by the EPLUA fighters. Everywhere they went, the EPLUA fighters agitated the workers and peasants by insisting the key link of class struggle, transforming poverty into revolutionary anger. Speaking on the reason for joining the EPLUA, a veteran remarked in an interview with the Mexican magazine *Pie de Página*: "[I was] about 20 years old, but we already knew about the class struggle. We grew up in the village with sandals, without clothes – we were just kids."

Exemplary Communist

In early 1979, while planning a land invasion in Oaxaca, Florencio Medrano was martyred in an army ambush. He was only 34 years old. Like Lucio Cabañas, leader of the Party of the Poor, he was betrayed by an informant posing as a revolutionary. Although the PPUA-EPLUA attempted to reorganize, many members were eventually captured, tortured, and killed.

Some sources have speculated that remaining members later joined the Revolutionary Workers' Party-Union of the People-Party of the Poor (PROCUP-PDLP) – an effort to reorganize the old Party of the Poor after the death of Lucio Cabañas at the hands of the Old State. The PROCUP-PDLP would be reorganized into the Revolutionary People's Democratic Party in 1996, which would continue in the path of armed struggle in Mexico until this day.

The PROCUP-PDLP would be reorganized into the Revolutionary People's Democratic Party in 1996, which would continue in the path of armed struggle in Mexico until this day.

The life of Florencio Medrano Mederos was full of hardship and failures. Despite this, he has never lost faith in the working class, its all-powerful ideology, and the revolution for a second, always fighting and resisting in the shining trenches of class struggle. In the Declaration of Principles of the PPUA drafted by Medrano in 1976, he declared with both precision and revolutionary optimism: "the future is bright and the struggle we have taken up is difficult. As members of the PPUA, we swear to consecrate our whole lives to the cause of the proletarian revolution of Mexico and America, we must be determined, without fear for defeats nor sacrifices, and strengthen ourselves to overcome all difficulties in order to conquer victory."

Florencio Medrano dedicated his entire life in service of the people and the World Proletarian Revolution as an exemplary Communist and a model for all revolutionaries to emulate. At the same time, he was an outstanding proletarian internationalist who always adhered to the slogan of "workers of all countries, unite!" His story was the story of revolutionary unity between the working class and oppressed people in Mexico and the US. As revolutionaries-in-formation in the United States, it is our job to take up his work and follow in his footsteps, to defeat the developing tendency towards fascism and the renewed offensive against the Latin American people and immigrant masses with resolute and militant struggle. At the same time, waging socialist revolution here will be our highest and best contribution to the oppressed people of Latin America.

It is appropriate to conclude this article with these words written on the last page of a copy of the PPUA Program, confiscated by the Old Mexican State:

"For the destruction of the borders and the reunification of the free people of America in their struggle for socialism. The rich use violence to exploit the people, the people will use violence to liberate the people!"

Mass Activists Mobilize in Defense of Venezuela Nationwide

Following the bombing of Venezuela's capital Caracas on January 3, we at *The Partisan* issued a call to all workers, revolutionaries, and progressives in the United States to immediately take to the streets and reject the imperialist war of aggression against the Venezuelan people. Class-conscious activists around the country immediately mobilized in response.

The following day, on January 4, a coalition of organizations in **Columbus** comprising People's Defense Columbus, RSU Columbus, Columbus New Labor Committee, and Central Ohio Revolutionary Socialists led over 100 people in a rally and march at the Ohio Statehouse. During the rally activists spoke about the need to let the Venezuelan people determine their own future free from US imperialist aggression, as well as the need to build an independent and class-conscious mass movement in the US. Activists from People's Defense Columbus noted the connection between the fight for the rights and freedom of migrants to imperialist aggression overseas, stating:

> The U.S. is lashing out like a wounded animal against anything that it sees as a threat, both internally and externally it becomes more militarized and despotic, in other words, this country is becoming fascist, more and more every day, in a process called fascistization. One of the prime examples of the growth of fascism in this country are the ICE raids that the ruling class has unleashed on our neighbors and communities, with militarized police breaking down doors and dragging people from their homes! If you look at where many poor migrants come from, they are fleeing the poverty and repression that is a direct result of U.S. imperialism, countries where U.S. corporations like chevron and Chiquita extract and exploit the labor and natural resources leaving the people in utter poverty.

During this rally, People's Defense Columbus continued their call to build Neighborhood Defense Units in every neighborhood of the city, part of the broader call by the People's Defense Committee to *Build Neighborhood Defense Units Everywhere!* Activists also called attention to the several undercover police officers observing the rally from an unmarked vehicle, as well as an undercover officer standing among demonstrators who was signaling to them. This surveillance of demonstrators demonstrates the potential of the masses to threaten the power of the ruling class, as well as the ongoing process of increased militarization and fascistization in the US.

On January 4 in **Oklahoma City**, members of People's Defense Oklahoma City, Edmond Students League, and the Oklahoma City New Labor Committee mobilized to the Plaza Calle Dos Cinco to condemn the undeclared war on Venezuela. Activists in both cities spoke on the pressing need to build an independent and class conscious anti-imperialist movement, while community members and supporters expressed their outrage at the attack and support for the people of Venezuela against US imperialism.

The same day, in Chicago, members of the Borikén Liberation Front and People's Defense Chicago mobilized alongside fellow residents in Humboldt Park to denounce the imperialist attack on Venezuela.

On January 11, exactly one week later, People's Defense Chicago, the Borikén Liberation Front, the Chicago Workers' Circle, Revolutionary Students Union – Chicago, Black Youth Project 100, and Unidos por el Pueblo mobilized in the West Side neighborhood of Humboldt Park alongside over 40 sympathetic masses to protest US imperialist aggression in Venezuela.

From the park, demonstrators marched down North Avenue to the National Guard Armory, where activists from several organizations spoke against imperialism abroad and connected it to the ongoing fascistization in the US, and emphasized the need to develop an independent and class-conscious mass movement to combat these problems. An activist representing People's Defense Chicago stated:

> These militaristic actions are not disconnected. In all cases, there is a common thread, a common contradiction, between the oppressed and the oppressor, the working class and oppressed nations of the world against the imperialist class. What drives the imperialists to target immigrants in their fascistic attacks at home? Profit! What drives them to bomb Venezuela and take over oil extraction? Profit!

Speaking on the necessary steps to take in order to develop the fight against the imperialist system, an organizer with the Chicago Workers' Circle elaborated that,

> If we want to one day put the Beast on trial, we must fight our share of the fight. This means getting organized. This means fighting small fights when we know we can win and building up revolutionary forces to eventually fight big fights. Our fight against US imperialism will be one of the longest and hardest anyone has had to face. Yet there are many already fighting it, abroad, and at home. For us in Chicago Workers' Circle, we take that fight to our bosses in our shops. The students must take that fight to their school administrations, and the people in the neighborhoods must unite into Neighborhood Defense Units. Puerto Ricans will unite to fight their occupation, and the black youth will unite to fight their national oppression. All of this means organization. If you are serious about the fight, make the commitment and join one of the many organizations here today. The fight is international, and all must play their part.

After these speeches, activists led the demonstrators onto the street, marching along Kedzie Avenue. This was met by a massive police response, demanding that demonstrators leave the street and that the march was an "unlawful assembly." Despite the efforts of Chicago Police Department to break up and intimidate the protest, the masses held their ground as they broke out into chants of "Whose streets? Our streets!" The march eventually returned to the corner of North Avenue and Humboldt Drive, where police issued dispersal warnings. In spite of this, demonstrators remained, confronting and denouncing the police as individuals stepped on an American flag. After a few intense moments of conflict, police eventually fell back, allowing attendees to voice their grievances using the megaphone before a formal end to the rally was called by the activists.

The day after, on January 5, in **Providence** a coalition of activists from People's Defense Rhode Island, Providence Revolutionary Student Union, and Rhode Island New Labor Committee also mobilized in protest of the attack on Venezuela. During this rally, People's Defense Rhode Island announced its new ICE Watch initiative, as part of the broader call by the People's Defense Committee to *Build Neighborhood Defense Units Everywhere!*

On January 7, in **Denton, TX** the Denton Student Union and People's Defense Denton mobilized against the bombing. They discussed the connections between the ongoing wave of imperialist aggression and the surveillance, ICE abductions, and general militarization and fascistization occurring domestically

On January 6, members of People's Defense D.C. mobilized to a rally at the Kennedy Center in **Washington, D.C.** to condemn the attack on Venezuela and the capture of president Nicolás Maduro and wife Cilia Flores. President Trump was present at the Kennedy Center at a House of Representatives Republicans retreat that same day. When attendees condemned Representatives walking by, police and security swarmed to protect the Representatives and push the demonstrators back. People's Defense D.C. highlighted the need to build up an independent and class-conscious mass movement that connects neighborhood defense against fascistization and militarization with struggle against US imperialism.

On January 8, members of the League of Revolutionary Students (LRS Washtenaw), Solidaridad Organizada para la Liberación (SOL), Students Allied for Equality and Freedom (SAFE), and the TAHRIR Coalition held a teach-in on US imperialism in Venezuela, Latin America, and worldwide. At least 30 students and community members were in attendance.

On January 11, People's Defense Johnson City held a protest against the war on Venezuela in front of the Johnson City police station. Around 10 people were in attendance. Demonstrators chanted against US imperialism and in support of the Venezuelan people, as well as against ICE and in commemoration of Renee Good, who was recently murdered in Minneapolis.

ICE and the Torture Apparatus of the State

By Aeneas Leviné

The Everglades Detention Facility, nicknamed "Alligator Alcatraz," has been built and operated as a place where the U.S. regime can disappear people into heat, concrete, and paperwork in the middle of the wetland in Florida. Amnesty International has documented cruel, inhuman, and torturous treatment there, in addition to sites such as the Krome North Service Processing Center, where overcrowding and starving conditions caused imprisoned neighbors to spell out "SOS" with their bodies on the grounds of the facility in south Miami. This is not the case of a few bad sites. It is a networked architecture of abuse, a system that treats captivity as policy and suffering as procedure.

At "Alligator Alcatraz," people have described being shackled and left in a tiny outdoor metal cage, exposed to sweltering temperatures and insects. When imprisoned neighbors sought counsel, they testified they were punished for it, that monitored calls dropped when they mentioned lawyers, that they were denied writing materials, and had to improvise with soap to write attorney's numbers.

However, Florida is not the whole story, it is one window into a system of horrors.

Chicago's Broadview ICE facility is a "black box" where people are held for long-periods in inhumane conditions and denied access to counsel, food, medical care, and basic necessities, alongside overflowing toilets and infestations of cockroaches and centipedes. Santos Altamirano described trying to alert guards that an old man was not feeling well, and was verbally abused and ignored until the old man began foaming at the mouth, at which point the old man was removed from the cell. Fredy Gonzalez reported beatings he and his cell mates endured from guards which resulted in wounds that festered without care in the overcrowded cells.

Tacoma's Northwest ICE Processing Center, operated through a for-profit contractor, where imprisoned neighbors drink brown, Clorox-like water from sinks, has seen deaths that open directly onto the medical neglect question, in particular José Manuel Sánchez-Castro, who was murdered via medical isolation and denied treatment while detained in 2024. This mirrors the case of Paraday La in Philadelphia, who died during a drug withdrawal in ICE custody. A Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request into the death was denied by ICE.

On January 3, in El Paso, Texas, at Camp East Montana, Geraldo Lunas Campos, who suffered from depression and bi-polar disorder, was murdered by guards who asphyxiated and crushed the life out of a him while denying any wrongdoing, attempting to frame the killing as a suicide. Neither the family of Campos, nor fellow imprisoned neighbors who overheard the killing accept the ICE narrative. Víctor Manuel Díaz died there as well on January 14, which ICE also reported as suicide, his family similarly doubt the state narrative.

In the South Texas "Family Residential Center" concentration camp in Dilley, Texas, children, infants, elderly, and entire families are detained in harrowing conditions. On January 24, hundreds inside protested conditions and treatment, chanting for freedom, while Eric Lee, an attorney representing many inside, was on the scene outside the camp and reported hearing hundreds of children with urgent, high pitched voices, and recorded shouting, "Let us out," and "Liberty for the kids!" This center was built under the Obama regime in 2014 and operated by both his successors, Trump and Biden. It is the same for-profit facility where 5-year-old Liam Conejo Ramos was being held prior to his recent release back to Minneapolis. It is also the site of a measles outbreak that has begun to tear through the facility. Lee described conditions inside Dilley, noting that baby formula is mixed with contaminated water, the food is infested, and guards are abusive.

The Department of Homeland Security's response to the measles outbreak at Dilley has been to issue abject falsehoods through Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin, who erroneously claimed that ICE "immediately took steps to quarantine and control further spread" and that "all detainees are being provided with proper medical care." Instead, the lockdown is a control measure designed to keep out journalists, independent doctors, and attorneys, while giving ICE full discretion to obscure the outbreak and continue the neglect.

Torture and Imperialism

The US' torture story did not begin in Florida, and it did not begin with ICE. In fact, it is a theme permeating throughout the history of the country: from the genocide of the Indigenous, the mass enslavement of the New Afrikan people, Japanese concentration or "internment" camps of the 1940s, to more recently in Abu Ghraib under Bush, where torture and humiliation were treated as operational tools and even outsourced through private contractors. It runs through the Guantánamo prison camp, which remained open through the Obama years despite promises to close it. The theme is present today through the detention and deportation machine operated and expanded by Trump after his predecessors, Biden and Obama. It is the same logic in a different uniform: counterinsurgency

methods brought home, aimed at a population made vulnerable by design.

To name it correctly, precision about the accepted definition of torture is required. The United Nations Convention Against Torture defines torture as:

"an act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity."

International humanitarian law prohibits torture and humiliating and degrading treatment as a basic rule, not a suggestion. Torture does not come only in the form of the electric wire and waterboarding. Torture is solitary confinement used to break the mind. Torture is medical neglect used to break the body. Torture is disappearance inside "processing," retaliation for grievances, detention of children, and the suppression of communication, all of it wrapped in administrative euphemisms so the regime can pretend the suffering is an oversight. Physicians for Human Rights document a systemwide surge in solitary confinement in immigration detention: over 10,500 people were confined in solitary over a 14 month period from July 2024 to September 2025, with the publicly available data likely understating the scale. In a similar escalation, the number of children in ICE detention on a given day has sextupled since the start of the second Trump term to 170 children on average, with a peak of 400.

The illegal US prison camp in Cuba, the Guantánamo Bay Detention Camp, world symbol of torture, is a blueprint the U.S. regime perfected for how to torture people while claiming legality through exception. There, torture is practiced as routine technique and as environment: prolonged sleep deprivation, stress positions, sensory and temperature manipulation, shackling, and humiliation, all paired with isolation meant to break the mind. ICE alone has held 730 men at Guantánamo.

El Salvador is the offshore extension of that same architecture, the outsourcing of the cage when the regime wants distance and deniability. When the U.S. regime sent migrants to Bukele's CECOT mega prison, investigations described beatings, severe sleep deprivation, starvation or inadequate food, denial of medical care, and psychological torture, with accounts including sexual violence. Hundreds of Venezuelans sent by the U.S. regime in March and April 2025 have been tortured and subjected to other abuses there prior to being permanently disappeared.

The Democrats' retreat into legalism will offer no salvation for the masses, as if the right lawsuit or the inspector memo could cure a machine built for coercion, exploitation, and repression by the same big capitalists that lead both Parties. Torture under a capitalist regime is not an accident that happens to an otherwise neutral system. As the ruling class fans up hatred against the immigrant working class in the face of a deepening economic struggle, torture, as a side product all too familiar to the enforcers of US imperialism, becomes both a natural byproduct by the bloodthirsty reactionaries and a necessary ingredient to strike fear into the hearts of the people.

After all, violence against the people is very familiar to US imperialism: from Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan, torture, abuse, and indiscriminate killings by the genocidal US army have been a common occurrence. During the Vietnam War, the U.S. military procured over 20,000,000 gallons of Agent Orange – an extremely toxic chemical herbicide and defoliant – on Vietnamese soil to starve out the revolutionaries hidden in the jungle, destroying entire ecosystems and disabling more than 1 million people. In Guatemala, the US backed death squads murdered 400 thousand people, mostly indigenous Mayans, in an attempt to defeat the People's War.

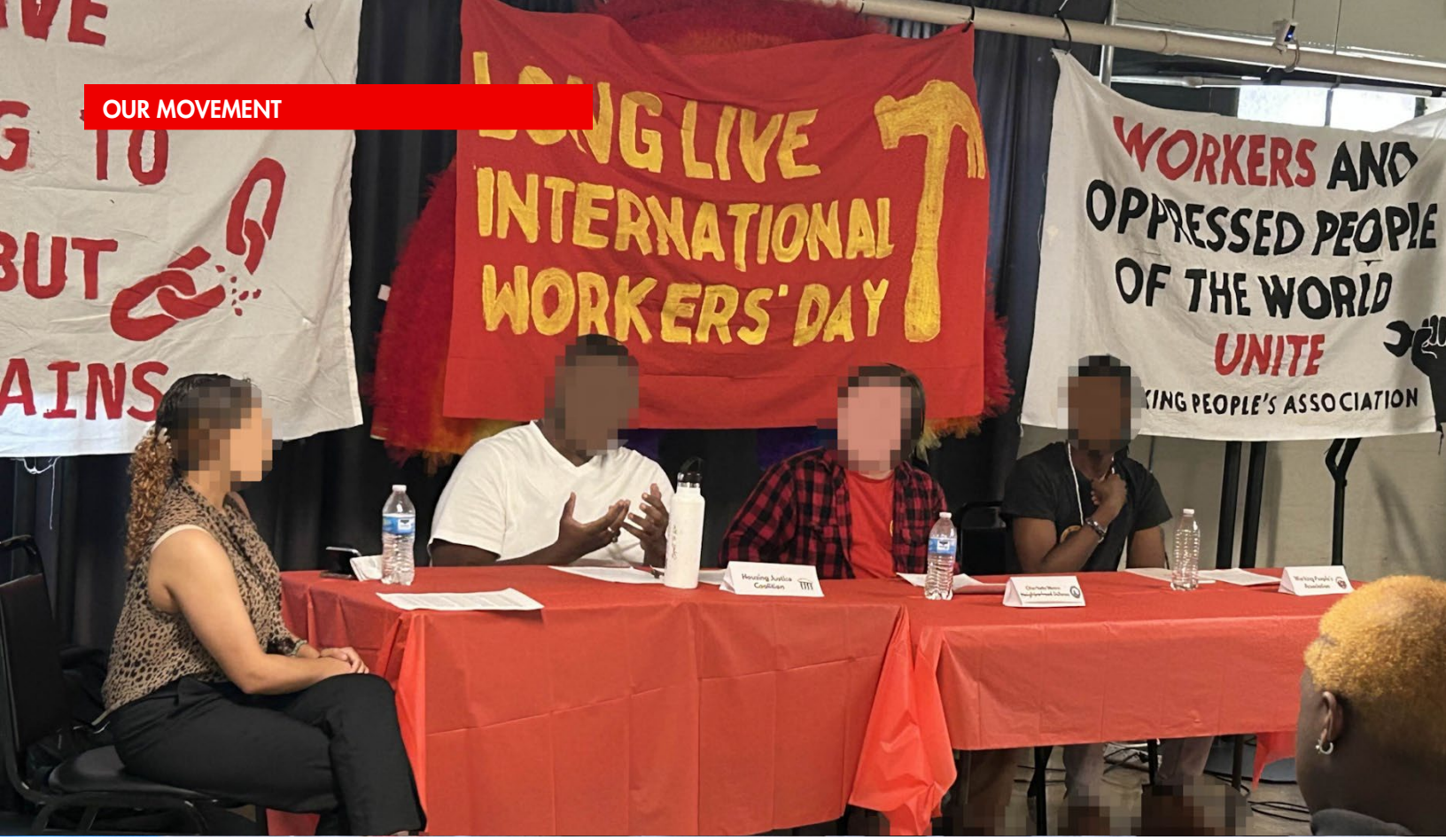
The State does not call it a cage, but a "detention center," a "processing" site, a "service" facility, a "family residential center," or a place governed by "standards" and "oversight;" when it needs to hide the worst of it, it calls isolation "administrative segregation." These euphemisms aim to cover up the attacks against the people.

Violence against detainees and the lack of medical resources in ICE concentration camps are a part of the daily enforcement of hierarchy. Deaths in custody are the predictable output of a system built to warehouse and break human beings, not an unfortunate malfunction. The question of power is paramount here: who rules, by what methods, and for whose benefit. ICE exists to enforce the imperialist order that requires a terrorized, divided working class and a permanently deportable layer of labor. Torture is not a failure of policy. It is a method of rule.

The Path Forward

The torture regime will not be shamed into reform, because it is not an embarrassment inside the system. It is one of the system's operating modes. The same regime that builds concentration camps builds its alibis and has experience laundering terror through "oversight" and elections. What breaks that cycle is not another round of begging, but the construction of organs of defense that can deny the kidnappers the conditions they require: isolation, surprise, fragmentation, and fear.

Organized and militant organs of class struggle and community defense must be formed on the block, complex, neighborhood, street, workplace, school, and city level, involving the broadest masses in the defense of themselves and, in particular, the migrant masses.



Introducing *The Gig Organizer*

[*Editorial Note:* The Partisan *is republishing the founding announcement of The Gig Organizer, publication of the Gig Worker U.S. Forum – New Labor Organizing Committee. We welcome this new and exciting development in the class-conscious labor movement.*]

We are excited to announce the launch of *The Gig Organizer*, a newsletter written by and for gig workers in the service industry, and its Forum, the Gig Worker U.S. Forum. The following is our statement of purpose and plans for the future:

Affiliates of the New Labor Organizing Committee (NLOC) are responsible for constructing independent, class-conscious, and class-combative trade-union machinery as the basis for rank-and-file democracy, economic action, and political power. Trade unions and shop committees seek to unite the majority of workers in a workplace, enterprise, or area, at the point of production, and within a single trade or industry, around the struggles for better working and living conditions. The NLOC differentiates itself from the establishment unions by organizing workers in the long-term struggle for political power amidst short-term struggles for immediate and minimum demands. Through *The Gig Organizer* and our Forum, Gig Worker Committees seek to do just that for app-based ride-share and delivery drivers, as well as for app-based and other informal or "self-employed" domestic workers. This could include workers for TaskRabbit, neighborhood baby-sitters, self-employed house maids, or even migrant workers "illegally" contracted for landscaping or construction on some Yankee's property.

Gig workers reside in the outskirts of everything sacred and formal about capitalist exploitation. We have been forced out of regular employment and into professional isolation, coerced into performing the most menial of tasks for an absolute minimum of wages, and lacking basic employee or even citizenship rights. As a result, we constantly straddle the lines between underemployment, poverty, and pauperism, all while facing the constant threats of vehicular manslaughter, domestic, employer, and customer abuse, and for many of us, deportation and Fascist incarceration. Gig employers have been able to legally justify and our second-class treatment as wage-slaves by misclassifying us as "independent contractors" or refusing to provide any form of classification at all, and have access to the militarized forces of the capitalist State to enforce this persecution. In other words, our rights are entirely up to the bureaucratic decisions of our employer and the State. Gig workers will only gain liberation once we can decide for ourselves the rights we get and the rights we deserve, compared to other workers.

Despite the newness of app-based gig work, an ultra-precarious, super-exploited sector of the service industry has existed since the origins of industrial capitalism. Karl Marx himself, father of scientific socialism and the first great leader of the international labor movement, once wrote about us:

"The third category of the relative surplus population, the stagnant, forms a part of the active labour army, but with extremely irregular employment. Hence it furnishes to capital an inexhaustible reservoir of disposable labour power. Its conditions of life sink below the average normal level of the working class; this makes it at once the broad basis of special branches of capitalist exploitation. It is characterised by maximum of working-time, and minimum of wages. We have learnt to know its chief form under the

rubric of "domestic industry." It recruits itself constantly from the supernumerary forces of modern industry and agriculture, and specially from those decaying branches of industry where handicraft is yielding to manufacture, manufacture to machinery. Its extent grows, as with the extent and energy of accumulation, the creation of a surplus population advances. But it forms at the same time a self-reproducing and self-perpetuating element of the working class, taking a proportionally greater part in the general increase of that class than the other elements. In fact, not only the number of births and deaths, but the absolute size of the families stand in inverse proportion to the height of wages, and therefore to the amount of means of subsistence of which the different categories of labourers dispose. This law of capitalistic society would sound absurd to savages, or even civilised colonists. It calls to mind the boundless reproduction of animals individually weak and constantly hunted down[1]."

Gig work truly has degraded us into animals being constantly hunted down and taken advantage of for our individual weaknesses, but also for the collective strength we can bring to capital, to profit. Migrant domestic workers literally are hunted down, not just violently by ICE agents, but always by rapid capitalist predators who stalk *tiendas* and enclaves to expropriate labor from. The main difference between modern app-based gig workers and historical "self-employed" domestic workers is the socialization involved involved in the technological co-ordination of our labor. Whereas "self-employed" workers have to be physically hunted down by numerous consumers and capitalists, app-based gig workers are digitally hunted down en masse by the same corporations, on behalf of consumers. Because of the greed of the ruling class, their desire for ever greater efficiency at ever lower costs of labor, gig workers are now omnipresent throughout commercial society. This gives Gig Worker Committees the unique ability to operate at the point of production without its members needing to be on the job or in physical proximity with each other. Our day-to-day physical isolation can be utilized to coordinate a massive spread of forces across an entire geographic area. Corporations employ our vast labor to manufacture profits, but we can leverage our labor to cease production and win demands. To build the professional rapport among gig workers necessary for unionization and labor action, organizers must use all available social and technological means to unify our scattered forces independently of corporations and the capitalist State.

The Gig Organizer serves as a voice for the voiceless, written by and for gig workers who are among the most oppressed and impoverished laborers in the world, to illuminate the path forward in our movement towards liberation by exposing the demands that need to be won and the strategies needed to win them. Attached to *The Gig Organizer* is the Gig Worker U.S. Forum, a collective digital communications tool widely available to the gig worker masses that can be utilized both on- and off-the-job. Through these organizations, gig workers can organize, mobilize, and develop their class-conscious labor movement. Gig workers do not have to live in poverty. We do not have to lack basic rights of citizenship and employment. We can raise ourselves above the depths of the ruling class, if only we dare to struggle and dare to win.

The Gig Organizer calls on all gig workers in the U.S. and the World to overcome their physical, political, and ideological disorganization and unite in the struggle for authority over the employment of our labor and property.

To satisfy our demands for a dignified living and standards of labor, gig workers require a trade union, but not just any union. We cannot, for example, allow ourselves to be enveloped by the same government that misclassifies us and criminalizes our labor struggle. We must maintain absolute political independence from all organs of the capitalist State and all capitalist political parties. Otherwise, a "union" becomes nothing more than a shell-corporation for the racketeering of stolen wages (involuntary "dues") on behalf of the employer and ruling the union is supposedly fighting against. These state unions are unfortunately predominant in the labor movement as a whole, and the gig worker movement in particular. But their inability to actually organize the rank-and-file against their oppressors continues to more and more diminish their popularity. Today, the vast majority of workers are unorganized, so it is now left up to us, the class-conscious members of the working class, to restore the rank-and-file democracy and political independence that the state unions destroyed.

The requirements for a Gig Worker Trade Union are even higher than that of regular employee unions. In addition to setting democratically-elected terms, conditions, and standards for the management and employment of our labor, the trade union would have to establish itself as the primary employer of the rank-and-file in opposition to and competition with the capitalist employers. App-based workers, for example, are arbitrarily divided into different corporations due to slight variances in technology only for these corporations to provide less than the bare minimum in terms of hiring, on-boarding, firing, recruitment, promotional, and managerial processes. This is because gig corporations are nothing more than software owners with a big pocket book. The gig workers are the ones who actually own the physical means of production we use on the job. In return, we are given barely what is required to remunerate our costs of production and are left a minuscule portion to spend on our own needs. A union could take advantage of the collective power of our physical ownership to establish our own democratically-elected policies, procedures, and leadership such that the corporation is the one being contracted for their technology, not the other way around. Then when our labor is contracted out, either by individual capitalists or a gig-corporation, we can ensure these contracts have terms and conditions actually beneficial to the majority of us. Gig Worker Committees lay the basis for the professional relationships required by trade-unionism through the congregation and unification of the gig worker rank-and-file into bodies of mass organization that can operate both on and off the job. On the contrary, state unions like CGWU, IDA, and ADU don't operate as mass organizations at all, they operate as slush funds and political action committees for the lobbying of corporate and Party lawyers and officials. The rank-and-file are not just left at the same level of alienation, disorganization, or class-consciousness as before, their unity is actively diminished by the imposition of an unnecessary and arbitrary bureaucracy that only further deflates their wages.

The Gig Organizer calls on all gig workers in the U.S. and the World to overcome their physical, political, and ideological disorganization and unite in the struggle for authority over the employment of our labor and property. We are numerically superior to our exploiters, it is time we become politically superior as well. It is time for us to organize. It is time for us to rebel!

1. Capital Vol. 1, Chapter 25, Section 4 ↩

Røde Fane: All imperialists Out of Greenland!

[Editorial Note: The Partisan *is republishing an article by the Danish revolutionary news service,* Røde Fane *(Red Flag) on the stated goal of Donald Trump to acquire Greenland. The article touches upon the history of US presence in Greenland and need for a consistent standpoint against US imperialism and Danish imperialism in support of national self-determination of the Greenlandic people. Nevertheless, we stress the status of US imperialism as the sole hegemonic superpower and the top enemy of the people of the world.]*

After US imperialism's illegal attack on Venezuela, many were quick to speculate on what impact this would have on the Trump administration's ambition to gain control of Greenland.

Sure enough, after breaking all kinds of laws by kidnapping President Maduro, the Trump administration's spokespeople were quick to announce that "Greenland is next."

This has now blown up into a major political drama, with lots of negotiations and conspiracies going on behind closed doors. The air has been filled with imperialist and colonial rhetoric to justify either one imperialist's or another's dominance over Greenland.

Danish imperialism exposes itself as a colonial power

In recent years, Danish imperialism has worked hard to reconcile the grim past between Denmark and Greenland. Many cases have been dug up, such as the "Spiral Case," in which half of all women in Greenland in the 1970s were effectively forcibly sterilized. Last year, the Danish state took responsibility for this, issued an official apology, and offered compensation to the victims. Danish imperialism is not doing this because it is a more *merciful* or *gentler* colonial power, but to lead the process of Greenland's transition from a colonial country to a semi-colonial country. It is working to ensure that this happens on the terms of Danish imperialism and to Denmark's advantage. This is the next logical step in the transition from "home rule" to "self-government" to full formal independence, but still within the Commonwealth, so that Danish imperialism can refine its exploitation of the country.

As a result, the Danish government has been very cautious in its rhetoric about Greenland lately. It has come up with rhetoric about "Greenland choosing its own destiny," but this rhetoric has fallen flat after pressure on Danish imperialism from the US has increased.

Shortly after the intervention in Venezuela on January 3rd, the Trump administration once again announced its intention to gain control of Greenland for "national security reasons." The timing is no coincidence, as the intervention sends a clear signal to the governments and peoples of Latin America, as well as to all other imperialist powers in the world.

The situation prompted an emergency meeting of the Danish Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee to discuss Greenland's future, but without any representatives from Greenland being present.

The situation reveals what Danish imperialism really still thinks about Greenland and its clear intention that Greenland should remain subject to Danish imperialism. This treatment of Greenland and the Greenlandic people as an inferior country and people has caused much resentment among both Greenlanders and Greenlandic politicians.

US imperialism in crisis

The pressure from US imperialism has now led to Germany, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Finland, among others, sending symbolic contingents of military personnel to Greenland to participate in a Danish-led NATO military exercise called "Arctic Endurance." At the same time, Danish imperialism, which currently has around 150 troops stationed in Greenland, has scrambled to arm itself in the country as quickly as possible.

There is talk of fears that US imperialism will occupy Greenland militarily, but the fact is that US imperialism already occupies Greenland militarily. Pituffik Space Base, which is currently the only publicly known US military base in Greenland, already has more military personnel in Greenland than Danish troops.

The Trump administration claims that it wants to gain control of Greenland for "national security reasons," but the US imperialist treaty with Danish imperialism from 1941 is still in force and allows Yankee imperialism to set up military bases and station troops in Greenland without further ado.

If Yankee imperialism really wanted control of Greenland, they could easily do so; they previously stationed tens of thousands of troops in the country during the Cold War. If it wanted to, it could de facto achieve total military control by establishing bases and sending just a few thousand troops to the country. But the point is that Yankee imperialism does not want to protect Greenland itself, but wants to pressure the rest of the NATO countries to invest more resources in militarizing the Arctic.

On the other hand, there is the economic aspect, which we have described in previous articles, namely control of new shipping routes in the Arctic and access to Greenland's natural resources, especially rare earth metals.

Due to the deep crisis it finds itself in, US imperialism is now trying to tighten its grip on Greenland, along with the rest of the Western Hemisphere. At the same time, it is pressuring the other NATO countries to look after its Arctic "front yard" for it.

In practice, US imperialism has no interest in formally annexing Greenland, but its interests in controlling Greenland are very real. The way it currently appears they want to do this is by sowing discord among the European powers through a dangerous game of punitive tariffs. They also want to make a purchase agreement that will bribe the big bourgeoisie in Greenland to speed up the process of going from colony to semi-colony, but where US imperialism takes over the leadership of this process for its own benefit.

Large protests against the US in Greenland and Denmark

In recent weeks, the largest demonstrations in Greenland's history have taken place. Thousands of Greenland's population of around 57,000 have taken to the streets.

Although many of the protests in Denmark have a clear progressive aspect and are entirely correct in rejecting US imperialism's intentions to gain control over Greenland, they do not direct a nearly as strong and necessary attack against Danish imperialism. Denmark is the current colonial power over Greenland, so when the protests do not also direct their attack against more than 300 years of colonization and exploitation of Greenland, the Danish state can partially use them to legitimize itself as a *milder* colonial power.

News monopolies in Denmark, together with politicians, have now tried to stir up public sentiment in both Greenland and Denmark. The Commonwealth is highlighted as something *good* and *positive*, and the US as *irrational* and dangerous.

Danish imperialism claims that only it can guarantee Greenland's transition to independence. But this is just as big a lie as the guarantee of independence offered by the US. The fact is that 300 years of Danish colonization and exploitation have caused enormous misery and pain to the people of Greenland.

Revolutionaries must clearly reject and combat US imperialism's ambitions to gain control of Greenland. At the same time, they must not forget to combat Danish imperialism, which currently occupies and exploits Greenland. The only ones who can liberate Greenland from imperialism are the Greenlandic people themselves.

The situation currently unfolding around Greenland is the conflict between the imperialist powers and superpowers, which also sharpens the conflict between imperialism and the nation in Greenland. There is currently a great deal of politicization of the masses in Greenland, which makes the question of national self-determination more relevant than ever before. There are many things in motion, and we will continue to report on the situation and its development in the coming period.

Brazil: Peasant Leader Killed as Media Launches Smear Campaign Against LCP

After the murder of peasant leader Adeildo Gonçalves Calheiro, known as "Flecha," a wave of defamation and a smearing campaign were unleashed by Brazilian bourgeois media, reported the revolutionary newspaper *A Nova Democracia*. Bourgeois media outlets in Rondônia published reports accusing the League of Poor Peasants (LCP) of criminal activity, a move aimed at discrediting the rural land struggle.

Comrade "Flecha", 43, was murdered on the morning of January 23 in the Pari settlement, in Alto Paraguai, Mato Grosso. According to initial reports, the operation was carried out by the Special Operations Battalion (BOPE) of the Mato Grosso Military Police, with cooperation from security forces in Rondônia. Comrade "Flecha" was a long-time supporter of the LCP and was present during its various actions, reported *A Nova Democracia*.

The National Commission of LCP questions the official police account. In a statement, the comrades said they found it unusual that the case was first reported in Rondônia, despite the operation taking place in Mato Grosso.

The organization argued that such coverage ignores violence linked to large landowners. The LCP pointed to Operation Amicus Regem, launched by federal authorities in 2020, which dismantled a paramilitary network allegedly tied to landowners and public officials accused of using armed intimidation to control rural areas. "In this context of attack, peasants have resorted to armed self-defense, which according to the LCP 'is a sacred right of the masses' and not terrorism," summarized *A Nova Democracia*.

In a statement, the LCP rejected claims that Flecha was involved in criminal activity and described him as a veteran rural leader who helped organize multiple settlements. The group said the accusations against him are part of a broader effort to stigmatize peasant movements and justified his role as part of what it calls the struggle for land and agrarian reform.

The LCP vehemently denounced the vile and lowly attacks by the bourgeois media to dress up this murder. "Comrade 'Flecha' is not and never was a bandit," declared the comrades."

In conclusion, the LCP said Flecha's death would strengthen its resolve and paid tribute to his role in rural organizing and land-rights campaigns.

The assassination of Flecha serves as the latest episode of Brazilian State violence against revolutionaries and peasant leaders. In recent years, many members and supporters of the LCP have been murdered by the landlords and the Old State for the only crime of struggling for land. Another important martyr is Renato Nathan, a leader of the LCP assassinated in 2012.

Despite these losses, Brazilian peasants have persisted on the path of agrarian revolution and continue to win new advances in the fire of class struggle. It is the duty of US revolutionaries to give them unconditional support, learning from their shining examples to guide and elevate struggles against US imperialism here in the belly of the beast.

Revolutionaries Organize Masses Against ICE

BMass anger continues to rise across the country throughout January in response to the heightened State violence against working-class immigrants. With the murder of Alex Pretti, Renee Good and numerous others, organizations like PDC continues to build up Neighborhood Defense Units as localized, organized, and militant organs of long-term workers' neighborhood defense and resistance, stressing the need to turn spontaneous mass rebellion into a sustained and organized mass movement lead by the multinational US working-class, linking and raising it to the struggle against US imperialism.

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New Labor Organizing Committee

https://newlaborpress.org/

Instagram: @newlaborpress

Email: newlaboroc@proton.me

The New Labor Organizing Committee (NLOC) is a newly founded committee that works as a coordinating body for independent labor organizations and class-conscious workers within the United States and its overseas territories (Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, etc.). To get involved with NLOC you must believe in the importance of the struggle of workers around the world against the owners and their imperialist system, take a stand against the actions and ideas of opportunists in the labor movement, believe in the mission of creating an independent, class-conscious, democratic and militant labor movement, and be willing to get to work actually making that mission a reality.

Revolutionary Student Union

https://revolutionarystudentsunion.wordpress.com/

Instagram: @rsu.usa

Email: revolutionarystudentsunion@proton.me

The Revolutionary Student Union (RSU) is mass organization of revolutionary students in the US and Canada. It's core beliefs include the necessity of revolution to overcome capitalism, the importance of supporting the working class movement, the need to combat racism and national oppression, support for women and LGBTQ liberation through revolution, and the importance of countering opportunism within the revolutionary movement. It also emphasizes the mass line (exchanging ideas to and from the masses) as a means of maintaining direct communication with the masses and supporting militant self-defense of the working class and oppressed peoples.

People's Defense Committee

Instagram: @peoplesdefensecommittee

Email: PDCnational@proton.me

The PDC's sector of work is to organize the proletariat and the oppressed masses where we live and spend our time outside of work. The people's defense committees thus have a dual purpose: they mobilize, politicize and organize the tenant masses around their demands using the *tenant union/committee* form and they use the *popular assembly* form to mobilize, politicize and organize the broader masses around their community grievances, whether those be related to austerity and infrastructure neglect, national liberation, defense of the rights of oppressed groups such as women, migrants, oppressed nations, LGBT people, etc.