Latin America and the Caribbean is a peaceful region – no foreign military bases!

Gathered in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in the occasion of the events held to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the World Social Forum and facing a new aggressive escalation of imperialism, we, members of social and popular movements, networks and organizations with varied aims, meet once more in a campaign that is similar to the one we organized against the FTAA in order to affirm that Latin America is a peaceful region and to say no to foreign military bases!

For more than a decade, Latin America has experienced a process of changes. The struggle for sovereignty, rights and the well being of its peoples intensifies. At the same time, the imperialism of the United States and its allies increase the threats to peoples and offers a conservative reaction to the developing political transformations.

Within that context we have seen:
- The multiplication of military bases, as seven bases are being established in the Colombian territory and the signature of treaties with Panama for the placement of 11 military bases;
- A military invasion in the guise of humanitarian help after the catastrophe in Haiti;
- The reactivation of the Fourth Fleet of the US Navy, armed with nuclear weapons and projected to sail the rich oceanic waters of Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Coup attempts such as the one that took place in Honduras with the logistic support of the American military base of Palmerola;
- Plans to destabilize countries such as Paraguay, Bolivia and Venezuela;
- Intensification of hostilities and the maintenance of the blockade against Cuba;
- Criminalization of the social struggle.

Besides intimidating transformative political processes in the region, the intensification of the military presence of the USA in the region is intended to position its war power in strategic zones of great natural wealth, such as the biodiversity of the Amazon region and the oil found in Southern Atlantic deep waters. It constitutes a clear attack against peace, security and sovereignty of all countries in the region.

Much to the contrary of what is divulged by the circles of power and conservative forces, the world has not become a peaceful, safe or stable place. Severe threats are facing humankind, putting at risk world peace, international security and the sovereignty of all countries and peoples in the region.

In Central Asia, the United States and its NATO allies position more troops and intensify occupation and war, including air strikes and devastating actions against civilian population. Iraq is still in flames, turned into the prototype of a new sort of militarized colonialism inaugurated in the Bush era and maintained by the Barack Obama administration.

In Palestine, the martyred people, having its territory occupied by the State of Israel, is being victim of a genocide with the consent and tolerance of the United States and Europe.

As international law is attacked, militarization reaches unprecedented levels. Military expenditure increases, nuclear weapons multiply, the United States develop new plans of
antimissile defense, NATO ratified its aggressive role, the naval presence of imperialist countries in the Indian Ocean grows, while Africa becomes even more vulnerable with the creation of AFRICOM, the military command of the United States for the continent. An immense network of military bases is being spread all over the world.

All that power is not a necessity of the world, but one of the economic system that the empire imposes on the world. The objectives are the same that have kept the imperialist system moving – controlling economic resources and national wealth, ruling markets and fighting against social transformations.

The increasing militarization represented by more than 800 US military bases all over the world is part of an imperialist strategy to deal with the economic and political crisis, preserving its economic model and maintaining its role as the hegemonic power in the world – making use of force, if necessary, to achieve those goals.

Our social organizations vehemently condemn the escalation of militarism. We have deep convictions regarding democracy, solidarity and the defense of peace. The peoples are becoming aware that peace, as opposed to militarization and imperialist wars, is not only something worth defending with passion, but an indispensable means to guarantee the survival and the development of humankind with social justice, democracy, universal rights, national sovereignty and the distribution of income and wealth.

We reaffirm at this moment that Haiti does not need the military intervention, but respect to its sovereignty. We call all countries to cooperate with solidarity, putting doctors, teachers and other professionals to the service of the Haitian people.

As patriotic Latin Americans committed to solidarity among peoples, we want to offer our contribution to the fulfillment of those noble ideals and turn Latin America into a peaceful territory free from foreign military bases.

Latin America and the Caribbean – a peaceful region!

No military bases!

**Para adherir envie um e-mail para:**

americalatinadepaz@gmail.com

Adhesiones hasta el día 08 de febrero

**Organizaciones y redes internacionales:**

CMP - Consejo Mundial por la Paz
ASC - Alianza Social Continental -
Vía Campesina - CLOC
Encuentro Sindical Nuestra América – ESNA
Grito dos Excluidos Continental
Marcha Mundial de Mujeres - MMM
Jubileo Sur - Américas
Compa – Convergencia de los Movimientos de los Pueblos de las Américas
FDIM – Federación Democrática Internacional de Mulheres
OCLAE – Organización Continental Latino Americana e Caribeña de Estudiantes
OSPAAAL – Organización de Solidariedade as Povos da Ásia, África e América Latina
Red Mundial por la Abolición de Bases Miltaries Extrangeras
FSM - Federación Sindical Mundial – Américas
UISTAAC - Unión Internacional de Sindicatos de Trabajadores de la Agricultura, la Alimentación, el Comercio, Textiles y Similares - región America
UITBB - La Unión Internacional de los trabajadores de la construcción, madera y materiales de construcción

Organizaciones nacionales:

Mopassol – Argentina
Frente Popular Dario Santillan – Argentina
Movimiento Evita, de Argentina
Cebrapaz – Centro Brasileiro de Solidariedade e Luta pela Paz - Brasil
MST – Movimento dos Sem Terra - Brasil
CUT – Central Única dos Trabalhadores - Brasil
UBM – União Brasileira de Mulheres - Brasil
CONAM – Confederação Nacional de Moradores - Brasil
CTB - Central de Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras do Brasil - Brasil
MAB – Movimento dos Atingidos pelas Barragens
Consulta Popular
Assembléia Popular
UJS – União da Juventude Socialista Brasil
MOVPAN – Movimento Cubano pela Paz e a Soberania dos Povos
CMLK – Centro Memorial Martin Luther King – Cuba
Capitulo Cubano de la Red de Redes en Defensa de la Humanidad
Serpaj-Py - Servicio Paz y Justicia Paraguay
Frente Social y Popular – Paraguay
La Comuna - Paraguay
Frente nacional de Resistencia- Honduras
FRHHLA - Frente De Resistencia Hondureña los Angeles,California
RMALC - Red Mexicana de Acción frente al Libre Comercio
Otros Mundos AC/Chiapas México
Red Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo - CASM Honduras / CUSO-VSO
Condigo Sur
Attac - Argentina
Movimiento de Transformación Social (MTS - México)
Confederación de Campesinos Indígenas del Ecuador
Multisectorial de Solidaridad con Cuba
Marcha Mundial de Mujeres - Colombia
**GRUDESA -Grupo de Solidaridad-Arenal - Nicaragua**
Movimiento Nacional por los Derechos Humanos - Guatelaama
MAVI - Movimiento de Afirmanción Viequense – Puerto Rico
Coordinadora Política de Mujeres Ecuadorianas.
Ecuaprensa - Quito-Ecuador
Comité Colombia de Lucha contra el ALCA-TLC
Movimiento Cooperativo Nacional y Latinocaribeño – venezuela
Movimiento Antiimperialista Tohalli
Asociación Solidaria de Acción y Propuesta de Petén - Guatemala
CST - Central Socialista de Trabajadores y Trabajadoras de Venezuela
FSBT - Fuerza Socialista Bolivariana de Trabajadores
MOTRAM - Movimiento de Trabajadores "alfredo maneiro"
FUTEP - Federacion Unitaria de Trabajadores de Petroleo y Gas
FENTRASEP - Federacion Nacional de Trabajadores del Sector Publico
FENASIRTRASALUD - Federacion Nacional de Sindicatos de Trabajadoras de la Salud
FETRAELEC - Federacion de Trabajadores del Sector Electrico
SINAFUM - Sindicato Nacional Fuerza Unitaria Magisterial
FETRAHARINA- Federacion de Trabajadores de la Harina
SUTAC - Sindicato Unitario de la Construccion
Telefetratracomunicaciones -Federacion de Trabajadores de Telecomunicaciones
FETRAIG - Federacion de Trabajadores de la Industria Gragica
FETRAUVE Federacion de Trabajadores Universitarios
FENASTRAUV federacion de obreros universitarios
FENASINPRES - Federacion de Sindicato de Profesores Universitarios
La revista de las ideas, Peru
Ascot Central – Uruguay
ESS- Enlace Sur-Sur