



**Resolutions #2 to #16**

**Emergency Resolutions #1 to #3**

**Statement on Venezuela**

**PSI Interamerican Regional Conference**  
**June 24-28, 2019**  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**

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**Proposed Resolution #1 - Regional Programme of Action – separate document**

## **Proposed Resolution #2 – For a fair system of social security**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the basic precepts of social security as a universal human right, established in ILO Convention No. 102 of 1952, identify minimum standards that have been agreed upon with state structures and with capital in order to guarantee rights in what the technicians classify as “classic branches”, including old age, maternity, employment injury, family benefits, unemployment, medical treatment, survivor’s benefit, invalidity and sickness.

**Considering** that the economic policies and social and political contexts that brought some development to countries during the post-World War II period, the ideology of the “welfare state” was a pattern agreed to and adopted from 1945 to 1975; and that social security has become a right of universal citizenship with the state becoming responsible for ensuring health, sickness insurance, unemployment insurance, old age or disability pensions, coverage for occupational accidents and illnesses, family allowance, maternity aid and death pensions.

**Considering** that this period known as “regulated capitalism” was gradually replaced by neoliberal thinking in the late 1970s which became hegemonic by the beginning of the following decade. Neoliberal structural reforms with fiscal adjustment mechanisms included deregulation of markets, privatization of the public sector and reduction of the state.

**Considering** that since then, criticism of excessive state intervention has become a standard in conservative political and economic discourses and that labor and union rights, and social security have been fiercely attacked. Social service networks created by the state have been dismantled. As a result, according to data from the beginning of the current decade, about 5.1 billion people or 75% of the world’s population are not covered by an adequate social security system.

**Considering** that the phenomenon of deconstruction of rights remains active and that the regional laboratory for these measures was initiated in Chile, beginning in 1980. At present, other regional governments make use of interventions in social security systems and policies that lead to the flexibilization or elimination of fundamental rights for millions of citizens of their countries, mainly affecting those with greater socio-economic vulnerability. This is a blow idealized by capital that understands the expansion of markets as a promising alternative to overcome its current contradictions and cyclical crises, like the crisis of 2008.

**Given that** one of the ways to achieve these goals is to co-opt liberal and ultraconservative governments, thus guaranteeing the erosion of state structures through the privatization of public policies and services.

**Considering** these strategies, even while having different nuances in their application in the countries of the region, lead to the same results including the destruction of the welfare state, the reduction of public policies and services, privatization and the elimination of jobs. Programs use very similar tactics: *the drastic reduction of investments in social areas with emphasis on social security such as health, retirement and social assistance;*

*changes to the forms of employment contracts beginning with unrestricted outsourcing; flexibilization and elimination of rights through labor reforms; expansion of privatization policies; and the dismantling of public social security.*

**Considering** that the deconstruction of public social welfare is a current phenomenon in several countries of the Region and has its form established by the degree of commitment of the rulers to the dictates of national and international financial capital. The excuse created for such restrictive measures is based on alleged deficits in this area, a fallacy widely denied by technicians and economists. The major issues of revenue recovery - such as combating corporate fiscal evasion, policies to expand the formal labor market, and respect for the tripartite division of system funding - are not addressed by local governments.

**Considering** that in some countries the policy is to limit access to rights, raising the age to receive benefits, premeditated policies of reducing benefit amounts and even the complete exclusion of rights. Measures that seek to disguise the real intention of provoking workers to participate in private pension models. Another nefarious mechanism is the capitalization that leads the worker to enter the financial market without having the guarantee of receiving in the future the adequate for their survival. Governments that choose this system have condemned their populations to a very low level of income in the future. They are policies adopted to meet the demand of financial capital that starts to absorb unthinkable volumes of workers' resources.

**Given** that in this general context of dismantling the structure of the state, the first to feel the strong impacts of the measures are the public servants, especially those of social security, who suffer by eliminating the number of jobs, the overlap of tasks, the lack of infrastructure, a fall in investments, a lack of a professional valorization policy and the devaluation of wages. Governments deepen the crisis even more with the option of outsourcing their workforce. A path that always leads to substitution by another worker with lower remuneration and almost always with very few rights.

**Given** the framework of challenges to the organization of workers, it is essential to ensure resistance to these measures.

**We reiterate** the need for a strong unionization policy that will bring the largest number of workers to the union structures and assist in the financing and maintenance of their organizations and struggles.

**Be it resolved that** PSI support the strengthening and expansion of regional integration among the various trade unions to jointly develop strategies to combat conservative and ultraliberal measures.

**Be it resolved that** we develop effective communications that reflect the aspirations of the leaders and the membership at the base and that contribute to the execution of those strategies.

**Be it resolved that** we to expand the use of social networks as a mechanism for disseminating and approaching workers with their representative entities.

**Be it resolved that** the defense of a fair public (state-guaranteed) social security system should be one of the central struggles of PSI in the next period.

*Presented by the National Confederation of Social Security Workers (CNTSS/CUT), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #3 – Privatization of health**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the private health sector deserves special attention in order to strengthen the relationship and articulation between workers of the Region and with workers from other continents in order to build integrated strategies for combating the attacks on rights and job reductions due to the intense process of internationalization of capital in companies in this sector.

**Considering** that the acquisition of health facilities by transnational corporations - such as United Health Group, Fresenius Group, Rede D'Or and Notre Dame - has allowed the formation of conglomerates capable of targeting the labor market, substantially depreciating the wages of professionals while conditioning them to intensified work including situations of reduced infrastructure which can compromise the services provided.

**Recognizing** that while there are cases of similar attacks in the region, the Brazilian case is particularly challenging due to the labor reform that flexibilizes hiring practices, liberates outsourcing, reduces rights, leads to the growth of precarious working conditions and relations, and drastically alters the form of financing of representative workers' organizations.

**It is therefore a priority**, as a form of resistance, to build a broad trade union strategy capable of, among other things, expanding membership forms and uniting trade unions and their struggles to find answers to the interventions of international capital in health care enterprises.

**Noting** that it is also necessary to reverse the logic of capital and governments that impose difficulties in financing and maintaining trade union structures and their struggles.

**Noting** that recent discussions about this reality involving several Brazilian Trade Union Centers pointed to the initial paths to be followed based on denouncing and fighting against the poor treatment of workers by transnational companies.

**Noting** that agreements were reached to create local and global groups of unions that have structures of this nature in their bases in order to exchange information and integrate strategies through social networks.

**Be it resolved** that ISP Interamerica form groups of trade unionists organized by transnational company that will define joint actions.

**Be it resolved** that ISP Interamerica prioritize these points in the next 5 years.

*Presented by the National Confederation of Social Security Workers (CNTSS/CUT), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #4 - Brazil at risk**

### **The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that Brazil is now living in a context of social fascism and that the Brazilian reality demonstrates to conservative forces that it is no longer necessary to break with the democratic system since democracy, in practice, no longer exists.

**Considering** that a totalitarian regime has gradually been implemented, the results of which are violence against oppressed populations, a police state, censorship of the press, the cutting of social and labor rights, and conservative theological-political indoctrination.

**Considering** that social fascism has been growing since the institutional crisis that led to the coup of 2016 and that the tendency is for it to be deepened during the Jair Bolsonaro government.

**Considering** that Jair Bolsonaro has demonstrated his racist, macho, homophobic, anti-people character and exposed himself as a great threat to democracy in Brazil and that his way of acting by disseminating fake news and by requesting that his supporters kill political opponents with their guns demonstrates how they intend to treat the opposition.

**Considering** that the prospects with Bolsonaro in power are increases to an already high level of unemployment, increased dismay, increases to precarity and poverty, indicating that the country is going downhill in terms of economic and social policies.

**Considering** that the slogan that unifies progressives in Brazil after the outcome of the electoral process is “resistance”.

**Considering** that for the first time since the re-democratization of Brazil, the president-elect himself has to be reminded of the rules of the democratic game.

**We encourage** PSI affiliates to extend all forms of international support and solidarity to trade unions, trade unionists and Brazilian workers so that the unity of progressive forces throughout the world allows us to face the challenges of the next period, which can be summed up as defense of the very existence of democracy and of a democratic national project with a guarantee of basic rights to the entire population.

*Presented by the Federation of Municipal Public Service Workers in the State of Ceará (FETAMCE), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #5- In defense of Brazilian ex-President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's freedom**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Whereas** former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva was arrested to prevent the return of a progressive and popular government.

**Whereas** Lula is in solitary confinement, almost deprived of visits and forbidden to express himself publicly – an exceptional treatment usually reserved for the most dangerous criminals.

**Whereas** the Public Prosecutor's Office has admitted that the conviction of the former President rests solely on the convictions of his investigators and that during the prosecution process the Public Prosecutor's Office has not even been able to prove an act of favoritism committed during Lula's presidential term.

**Considering** "Operation Car Wash", the vast judicial operation investigating corruption at Petrobras, has used questionable practices that threaten the democratic balance.

**Whereas** the practical result has been the court's arbitrary elimination of the front-runner of the October 2018 presidential election; meanwhile, Lula's competitors are under investigation for various improprieties, they remain unpunished.

**Whereas** this has created room for Jair Bolsonaro's growth and eventual coming to power in the context of a degradation of the rule of law and threats of a possible military coup.

**Whereas** the agenda that guides the Brazilian judiciary can be understood to be political rather than legal and sought to overthrow former President Dilma Rousseff and prevent Lula from being a candidate.

**We affirm** that Lula is a political prisoner and that his guilt was not proven prior to the elections. Thus, the former president will go down in history as the first political prisoner of this "non-democracy".

**Be it resolved that** Public Services International continue to support the struggle for Lula's freedom and the defense of his political and social legacy.

*Presented by the Federation of Municipal Public Service Workers in the State of Ceará (FETAMCE), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #6 - Defense of public services**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Whereas** the precariousness of public services resulting from a lack of investment and amplified by successive budget cuts has a perverse effect not only in combating inequality and promoting the well-being of the population, but also produces conflicts and divisions within the working class.

**Whereas** neoliberal hegemony is characterized by individualism and meritocracy and that workers in the public sector are understood to be privileged by society as a whole, because it is presumed that public sector workers have stable jobs and because their remuneration is not directly determined by productivity, as is the case in private enterprises.

**Considering** that when the execution of a public service is poor, service recipients and the general public rarely perceive the relation between the neoliberal agenda, the reduction of the state and the poor quality of service; rather, it is common to blame public sector workers.

**Considering** that there are recurrent reports of symbolic (including psychological) and physical violence committed by users of public services against workers and that unions have increasingly received reports of direct attacks, assaults, workers in health, education and public safety.

**Considering** that instead of the absence of the state offering a source of mobilization for sectors of the population in search of quality public policies, the reaction has been a conflict between users and public sector workers, a situation that not only politically weakens the struggle for income distribution and quality of life, but also becomes one more impulse driving the rise of precariousness of working conditions in the public sector.

**Be it resolved** that PSI Interamerica undertake regional actions that demonstrate the structural origins of the problems of public services in the Americas, that combat the division of the working class, and that promote mobilizations of society in defense of common goods and public policies.

**Be it further resolved** that audiovisual materials be elaborated, seminars and activities involving different social movements be organized, extending the defense of public services beyond the professional categories directly involved.

**Be it further resolved** that PSI Interamerica exposes the situation of systemic and constant violence to which public sector workers are subjected.

*Presented by the Union of Public Health Workers of the State of São Paulo (SINDSAÚDE-SP) and the Federation of Municipal Public Service Workers in the State of Ceará (FETAMCE), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #7 – Young workers of Public Services International**

### **The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** the challenges that young workers face at this historical moment, their potential, and the fact that they are humans with dignity that are attributed rights and responsibilities from and to the rest of humanity.

**Considering** that both externally to internally in PSI, the role of young workers in decision-making on any subject related to PSI's young workers must be strengthened.

**Considering** that there are no mechanisms that guarantee true participation of young workers in decision-making spaces in the public sector, private sector or in civil society organizations which results in the elaboration and execution of adult centrist lines of action.

**Considering** that respect for human and fundamental rights is the maximum guarantee for development of human dignity when present as a basis for the actions of every entity and person.

**Considering** that the guarantee and protection of human and fundamental rights of young workers, encouraging respect for diversity and inclusion, applying the criteria of equality and equity in every sense, tends to create spaces where young workers are entitled to these types of rights without any discrimination based on odious criteria.

**Considering** that the rights of young workers are not only guaranteed in International Human Rights Instruments, but in other specialized norms, including the Ibero-American Convention on the Rights of Youth, PSI proclamations and manifestos and those of related organizations as well as in resolutions and decisions of various other international organizations that maintain social objectives and which have considered the vulnerability of this population and its strategic importance for a better future.

**Considering** that the United Nations Agenda 2030 promulgated in 2015, from which emerged the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which aim to promote integral human development and democratic sustainable development in such a way that the whole world advances without leaving anyone behind.

**Considering** that the SDGs contemplate 17 broad goals and 169 specific targets, ranging from the elimination of extreme poverty and hunger by 2030, to the conservation and protection of the environment and the fight against climate change, prioritizing alliances as the main instrument to realize the goals.

**Considering** that the environment, understood as the place where we all live, which is made up of all life forms of the planet, and provides us with daily sustenance deserves special attention from young workers, for which they must be motivated and endowed with instruments with which to guarantee their conservation and protection, promoting environmental friendliness and sustainable development.

**Considering** that not only must the environment be understood as stated in the previous paragraph, but it must also be protected from anthropogenic climate change and its

adverse effects, understood as the greatest challenge that the human species and all other life forms of the planet have ever faced through the elimination of life; all of which leads to create initiatives and public policies on mitigation, adaptation, education, financing, generation and transfer of technologies, among other connections and related aspects, while also from a young workers' approach.

**Considering** that PSI should give special attention to the relationship between young workers and employment and decent work, since it is through the enjoyment of employment and decent work that wealth, equality and social equity are generated in minimum conditions that guarantee the human dignity of young workers, ensuring that they enjoy the right to work and comply with the duty to do so as a way to comply with the development of nations.

**Considering** that within the framework of the foregoing, the future of work must also be considered with the purpose of encouraging young workers to foresee the direction that societies will take to adapt, particularly to new jobs, to automation, pensions, social security and other related subjects, always in the search of social justice, integral human development and sustainable development.

**Considering** that our organization should strengthen the fight for the rights of young workers, articulated in the Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Organization, as a specialized entity in the field, applying an innovative young workers approach in their application.

**Considering** that the rights of young workers in the context of public services are not well addressed in most countries, so that they are the main victims of poor public services, which translates into injustice, and limits the dignified development of this population with strong impacts on the environments in which they are located, including family, work, educational, recreational, social, etc.

**Considering** that all of the above should not signify omitting the implementation of programs and public policies aimed at encouraging entrepreneurship in young workers as a mechanism of wealth generation and adequate distribution of wealth, with high socio-economic impact.

**Considering** that it needs to be understood that young workers are not the future, but the present, and that from that philosophy, they should not be blocked from their historical role in determining the designs of the planet.

**Considering** that the analysis of young workers, their needs, potentials and fundamental role in society must be done from a holistic approach, so that interventions that involve decision making are not made hastily.

**Considering** that guaranteeing the promotion, protection, fulfillment and restoration of all the rights of young workers, with the specific approach of PSI, ensures equitable and equal integral human development with absolute respect for the diversities of young workers.

**Be it resolved** that we strongly request support for the insertion of an inclusive agenda with a gender focus, real participation of women, young workers, the LGBTI+ population, ethnic groups, people with disabilities, among others, in order to promote an integral human development that is equitable in the fight for the defense of public services, and inclusive societies that guarantee human rights.

**Be it resolved** that we encourage and sponsor the development of a strategy by these young workers, within the framework of a process of participatory formulation, which ensures the implementation of the aforementioned agenda.

**Be it resolved** that the support to execute this agenda and the strategy mentioned in the two previous statements is allocated.

**Be it resolved** that the creation of intersectoral alliances with a view to strengthening work strategies in the construction and implementation of work agendas with a focus on social unionism is promoted.

**Be it resolved** that within the framework of IAMRECON 2019, binding agreements with this resolution, especially during the meetings of the SUBRACS and IAMREC 2019 and 2020 are adopted.

*Presented by the PSI Young Workers' Committee for Mexico, Central America and the Dominican Republic.*

## **Proposed Resolution #8 – Latin American electricity sector<sup>1</sup>**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the current world energy situation is the result of a combination of factors whose trends in the political, economic, social and environmental context coupled with the adoption of new technologies and the exploration of more renewable energies in the face of the instability of fossil fuel prices, essentially oil and gas, due to its high consumption in the richest countries in the world and the imminent risk of shortages, has encouraged the countries of the Region to change their energy policy and strategy, clearly serving the interests of the large energy multinational corporations active in the region.

**Reaffirming** that energy is an essential public service and that its access must be fair and equitable.

**Considering** that the lack of investment by governments due to a progressive fiscal deficit stimulated by tax avoidance and evasion among other problems including corruption is worrying.

**Considering** that the building of new energy projects to meet the growing demand for electricity in the region poses important financial and technological challenges for the development of renewable energy projects for governments which opens the door to public-private partnerships (PPPs) while governments directly take on all types of risks in the implementation of these projects: construction, financing and operation.

**Considering** that another important challenge facing Latin American governments are the effects of climate change and growing global warming whose average growth rate is 1.2% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, very similar to the global average, being that 79% of the emissions originate in Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela and Argentina, respectively.

**Considering** that one of the main reasons for these emissions is the change in land use, followed by agriculture, electricity generation and transportation.

**Considering** that it is very important for unions and their social allies to demand information from their governments to determine the level of compliance with Intended Nationally Determined Contributions so that the planet does not exceed 2 degrees Celsius temperature in accordance with the COP21 agreements of 2015 in Paris.

**Considering** that the process of nationalization (re-nationalization or re-municipalization) of hydrocarbon reserves, gas and oil companies, strategic electric companies since 2006 by the government of Bolivia has been successful to date and is a good counter example to the privatization of energy.

**Considering** that while facing these challenges, it is true that access to new forms of generation of modern and clean energy is vital for human and economic development

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<sup>1</sup> Proposed resolution based on the political declaration of the Meeting of PSI Electrical Sector Workers of Latin America, realized in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 31<sup>st</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017.

through the adoption of well-defined national plans and supported by adequate legislation to reduce levels of energy poverty.

**Affirming** that it is necessary to include discussions about energy democratization governed by a regime of just transition that is progressive, sustainable and participatory, based on greater social and political control, capable of transcending to a larger scale and ensuring access universal energy as a human right and in accordance with respect for labor rights, freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.

**Affirming** the need to demand greater regulation of investment funds in the sector and to deepen the debate about the impact of climate change and public strategic alliances as opposed to PPPs.

**Considering** that the process of transition from traditional energies towards renewable energies could significantly affect the labor market due to the different modalities of hiring including new outsourced jobs or temporary contracts which will tend to be less secure and devoid of rights necessary to the realization of decent work and social security which is one of its important pillars.

**Considering** that in view of this scenario, PSI and its member organizations in the energy sector in Latin America are clearly committed to supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Global Agreement on Climate Change (COP21).

**Considering** that, faced with this scenario, PSI and its affiliated organizations in the energy sector in Latin America are clearly committed to supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Paris global agreement on climate change (COP21)<sup>2</sup>.

**Supports** PSI's efforts to strengthen access to these rights - for example by strengthening the International Framework Agreements and their compliance mechanisms - and the training offered to affiliated unions to promote the rights and interests of workers in multinational companies and their suppliers.

**Believes** that the transformation of the energy matrix in the region and the new forms of privatization supported by IFIs (eg the World Bank) are increasing risks to the physical and psychological security of workers, job stability and freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining and reduces the quality of service provided to users by clearly increasing workplace violence.

**In conclusion**, it is imperative for trade unions to understand the dimensions of these changes for workers and to define common union strategies for the sector.

**Be it resolved that** a regional energy conference be held in 2020 with the aim of working on the consolidation process of this sector, urging and inviting other trade union organizations to form a regional network of PSI energy workers.

**Be it resolved that** labor rights, freedom of association and collective bargaining should be realized in strict adherence to international norms and conventions established by the International Labour Organization (ILO Conventions 87 and 98).

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<sup>2</sup> <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/lo9r01.pdf>

**Be it resolved that** solidarity between trade unions in the sector be made effective through coordinated effective actions.

**Be it resolved that** workers whose activities are outsourced or made precarious through temporary contracts be organized and protected by trade unions.

**Be it resolved that** this Regional Conference adopt a work plan that recognizes the inclusion of workers in this sector and is consistent with the PSI equality and equity policy.

**Be it resolved that** any type of initiative aimed at stimulating the commodification of energy be rejected and that the activities of this sector are excluded from bilateral and multilateral trade agreements and treaties, such as the Trade and Services Agreement (TISA), the Pacific Alliance (AP) and the Transpacific Treaty (TPP).

**Be it resolved that** a fight for better public control of energy is organized in alliance with other social sectors in order to reduce energy poverty, still persistent in the countries of the region, in favor of a more equitable, participatory and inclusive matrix.

**Be it resolved that** we contribute, with our trade union policy, to mitigate the environmental impact generated by the increase of emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG).

**Be it resolved that** Latin American governments be required to comply with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the framework of the United Nations Agenda 2030, in order to guarantee access to energy for all.

**Be it resolved that** Global Framework Agreements and their enforcement mechanisms are supported, so that multinational companies respect labor rights, specifically in the areas of health and safety at work and against violence in the workplace.

**Be it resolved that** work be done to influence governments to adopt Public-Public Partnerships instead of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in this sector.

**Be it resolved that** within the framework of social dialogue, the legal regulation governing energy development in our countries be implemented politically and that more efficient public energy policies be required.

**Be it resolved that** the installation of prepaid electric meters for low-income users as a palliative measure against energy poverty in urban areas of high informality be rejected.

**Be it resolved that** support is given to the political initiatives for the recovery of electricity companies in favor of Latin American states.

**Be it resolved that** a regional day against precariousness and labor flexibility be established.

**Be it resolved that** a map of the energy sector situation in Latin America be drawn up.

**Be it resolved** an information exchange mechanism be established using social media resources such as social networks and electronic mail, among others.

*Presented by the Union of Electricity Sector Workers (STSEL), El Salvador, and the Union of Electrical and Similar Industry Workers of Panama (SITIESPA), Panamá.*

## **Proposed Resolution #9 – On the future of work in public administration**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the world is ever changing and uncertain and that we are going through enormous changes at an increasing rate, we must try to understand these changes. Indeed, we live in a multipolar world where the main actors, the United States, the European Union, Russia, China and India, and their corresponding alliances, cause changes in multilateral and plurilateral organizations; modifying the configuration of the international relations system at a global level.

**Considering** that the examples that best demonstrate this process are the gradual substitutions, in political and consensus terms, of the global strategies of the United Nations system by the G20, whose members (among which members in our region include: USA, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina) hold 85% of world GDP, and of the WTO by plurilateral or bilateral trade agreements, mainly of services and which tend to replace democratic international organizations by other mechanisms controlled by the great powers.

**Considering** that these alterations have a strong impact on the degraded world of work and, notably, on the ILO's agenda, the issue of the future of work appears as the central theme of debate for the next ILC 2019, which offers a positive and timely proposal, although evidently incomplete and insufficient, since the current production regime is established on two intrinsically related factors, capital and labor. It is thus discouraging that the focus is only on the future of work and not on the future of capital, on which work clearly has depended, depends and will depend.

**Considering** this, we believe that it is imperative to understand that the destinies of capital and labor are inseparable, and that the misfortunes of the world of work cannot be solved if we do not understand the current lack of appetite for investment and production, contrary to the strong tendency to accumulate in tax havens.

**Considering** that this “expatriate” accumulation is, without a doubt, one of the biggest incidents in the second axis that we want to develop: how it negatively affects the extraction of capital (in consideration of the speed with which it is reproduced and the liquidity that it has today) in the quality of life of those countries where the commercial transactions that originated the profits took place, depriving the nation states of great resources that could be used in function of the multiple tasks that correspond to them and reducing the unemployment rate.

**Considering** that these tax resources could be used in industrial developments, infrastructure, research and technological development, community services and better working conditions in public administrations, quality public services, with quality work.

**Considering** that the removal of these resources from national economies is often accompanied by vulnerable labor relations and precarization of essential services for the community. It is not a coincidence that when faced with the fiercest face of liquidity, the tendency to devalue labor relations within the public administration increases and the quality and accessibility of public services declines, generating for the least prepared sectors, perversely, a hopeful mirage in the privatizations of the most profitable services

and / or those that compete efficiently with the private sector, creating a vicious circle (less resources for the state, more unemployment, more precariousness for those who have the luck to remain inside the system).

**Recognizing** this, PSI has developed strong campaigns under the understanding that there is a “... growing trend of part-time, temporary or demand-driven work that affects the most vulnerable workers in society, PSI and its affiliates around the world support initiatives aimed at substituting precarious work for decent jobs that support families.” And that “Privatization is a dangerous trend that has to be reversed.”

**Highlighting** the particular labor scenario of the public administration in Argentina and in the rest of the countries of the region, we note that the situation of both employment and work suffer from the same problems and threats as in the rest of the world: privatizations, implementation of new technologies and job insecurity. In other words, the tendency to destroy the sense of community and the dignity of human beings consecrated through labor rights, under the false appearance of reforms that should be entitled “abolition”.

**Considering** that concessions to private companies and the privatizations carried out in Argentina in the 90s generated the loss of multiple sources of jobs in the public sector and, although we have seen processes of re-nationalization after the proven uselessness of this form of management, the threat of new privatizations is permanent.

**Considering** that the pressure of the private sector to control public services linked to human rights, such as education, health, water, etc., by transforming them into a simple merchandise subject to the logic of supply and demand (or even worse, controlling those services through monopolies or oligopolies) is permanent and is increasing even more in international organizations such as the WTO under the argument of free trade in services (TISA), and in bilateral or plurilateral agreements, basically by the US and its system of alliances, although with the Trump government they are under review.

**Considering** that attempts to control benefits through information technology (IT) including through mechanisms of electronic commerce, Big Data and access to social networks (inspired by the giants Amazon, Facebook and Google that concentrate on the data management business) have grown in importance recently. While efforts to advance this agenda at the last meeting of the WTO in Buenos Aires were unsuccessful, this issue will return.

**Considering** that the latest generation of labor reforms maintains that new technologies require a greater degree of flexibility.

**Considering** that it is important to differentiate between work flexibility and employment flexibility. According to the French researcher André Lamarche “to achieve flexibility in work is necessary to train the worker and trust him, so that he can adapt to different tasks and technologies; that is exactly the opposite of flexibility in employment, which is what these reforms want to apply, denigrating the worker and being able to fire him from one day to the next”.<sup>3</sup>

**Observing** that public administrations in the countries of the region exhibit very similar characteristics in terms of job insecurity including: extortion, exhausting schedules, labor mobility, harassment, labor flexibilization, etc.

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<sup>3</sup> André Lamarche in Cash 28/01/2018

**Maintaining** that there can be no open and democratic structure in any country without social dialogue and collective bargaining.

**Considering** that the precarization whose tendency is towards the “uberization” of the market in general and of work in particular, the advances of the “freelance” or “Zero Hour” jobs develop an individualist consciousness tending to generate non-collective labor relations with the consequences that this implies for workers under these modalities.

**Convinced** that for the project of “Modernization of the State” to be constituted as a true process of updating and bettering public administration, it is necessary that it be oriented towards a greater and more effective democratization of public institutions.

**Affirming** that the privatization of public services is negative in many ways: it alienates the people of the democratic administration and the indispensable assistance that a state must provide for its own; and that the collective and individual degradation of state workers and the annulment of the public interest in general promotes an individualist conscience that undermines the development of the nation-state.

**Considering** that generating equal access to opportunities offered by new and innovative technological advances is a valuable opportunity to optimize the development possibilities of all people. There is no possibility of democracy without equal opportunities nor is it possible to conceive of open government in a closed society.

**Affirming** that the only possibility of building a modern and strong state capable of effectively and efficiently fulfilling its objectives and providing quality services is through social dialogue, the democratization of labor relations, collective bargaining and collective agreements where job stability, an administrative career, permanent training, equal opportunities and, in general, working conditions are compatible, at least, with the characteristics established by the ILO on decent work and included in the action plans of the G20 / L20<sup>4</sup> and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**It is clear** that the strength of our organizations and an unwavering hope allows us to face the constant attacks of a savage capitalism that, as Pope Francis opportunely expressed, does nothing but “... make the strong stronger, weaken the weak and exclude the excluded,” adding that “what’s needed is a great freedom, no discrimination, no demagoguery and lots of love. We need rules of behavior and even, if necessary, direct interventions by the State to correct the most intolerable inequalities.”<sup>5</sup>

**Be it resolved** that this resolution be adopted as an introductory text for the holding of a regional meeting in 2020 on “The future of work in public administration”.

*Presented by the National Union of Civil Personnel (UPCN), Argentina*

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<sup>4</sup> L20, or Labor 20 It is an affinity group of the G20. It is constituted by trade union centers of the member countries, representatives of the global unions and coordinated by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

<sup>5</sup> Scalfari, Eugenio. Interview with Pope Francis, “El Papa: así voy a cambiar la Iglesia”. La República. 01/10/2013.

## **Proposed Resolution #10 – Migration problem of the countries of Central America**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the human tragedy represented by the massive migration of thousands of Central American and Central American immigrants to the United States, who are desperate due to high rates of extreme poverty, unemployment, lack of citizenship, lack of human development opportunities, insufficient access to basic public services, among other problems, and made the decision to leave their respective countries, abandoning everything in order to improve their lives and that of their children.

**Alarmed** by the abuses and inhumane treatment that these migrants have received from the police forces of the countries and states where they have passed.

**Considering** the cynicism and indifference of Central American governments in not taking effective and serious actions to guarantee the dignified life of its citizens, which for the most part survive below the poverty line and in extreme poverty; forced these people to embark on this wave of migration from their places of origin, regardless of the multiple risks along the way.

**Repudiating** the unfortunate xenophobic statements made by President Trump and senior officials of his administration, which have encouraged the intolerance of many US citizens, predisposing them to act in a manner that increases risks for migrants.

**Reaffirming** that human dignity must be respected above all acts and that respect for fundamental human rights for the development of a dignified life is not negotiable and should thus be the priority for every state, for every government, to provide these minimum guarantees to its citizens.

**Urging** the authorities of the countries and states where migrants pass, to refrain from assaulting them and, as a consequence, guarantee their full fundamental human rights.

**Demanding** that Central American governments urgently put into practice policies and concrete measures to eradicate poverty and extreme poverty, as well as guaranteeing greater citizen security, promoting full employment and decent work, a basic condition for the integral development of people within the framework of the fulfillment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Requesting** of the United States government, senators, congress(wo)men and other officials to refrain from issuing xenophobic comments against migrants. Instead, to rethink their migration policies, in favor of these migrants.

**Urging** the United Nations to send a contingent of Blue Helmets to ensure the safety of these migrants, as well as providing food and basic necessities to help them continue their pilgrimage.

**Requesting** that PSI affiliates and human rights organizations in the countries of the region take practical action in solidarity with these sisters and brothers, because this migratory crisis is an unprecedented event that will establish a 'before and after' in the migration policy of the region.

**Requesting** that PSI Interamerica organize a regional conference on migrants.

*“The displacement from the south to the north is inevitable; no fences, walls or deportations will work: they will come in the millions. Europe will be conquered by the hungry. They come looking for what we steal. There is no return for them because they come from a famine of centuries and come tracking the smell of pitaya. The cast is getting closer. The trumpets have begun to ring. Hatred is served and we will need politicians who know how to live up to the circumstances.”*

José Saramango

*Presented by the National Committee of PSI Affiliates of Guatemala.*

## **Proposed Resolution #11 - Repudiation of the Peruvian government's privatization policy in the water and sanitation sector**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that the Peruvian government of Kambio (PPK), through the enactment of Legislative Decree 1280, the Framework Law on the Management and Provision of Sanitation Services and their Regulation, has been implementing a privatization policy in the sanitation sector and intervening in Peruvian Municipal Sanitation Service Providers (EPS).

**Considering** that reality shows us that the privatization is a failure, it is enough to observe the concession of the Aguas de Tumbes (ATUSA) company in the Tumbes region, which after 13 years of privatization has had its contract terminated, leaving an inefficient service and with services and construction projects unfinished.

**Considering** that the Peruvian Government's trial of managing HPSs under the so-called Transition Support Scheme (TCR), with its appointment of directors and staff, has resulted in inefficient management as in the specific case of the Moquegua S.A. EPS.

**Considering** that despite the publication of Supreme Decree 018-2018-Vivivenda which has generated a wave of protests in Peru through which the citizens of the countryside and the city have been demanding that President Martin Vizcar's government revoke it because it is understood as privatization, the privatization process remains intact since the main rule that promotes the privatization of water companies, Legislative Decree 1280, has not yet been revoked, a request that has been made in various platforms of struggle of trade union, social and political organizations.

**Considering** that the manifest management failures of the current privatizing government, such as the mismanagement of part of the Technical Administrative Body for Sanitation Services (OTASS) of the 13 EPSs under the RAT regime, the direct responsibility of the Ministry of Housing for mismanagement of Grau S.A. EPS in Piura, and more recently the incompetent management of the water and sanitation service crisis in the District of San Juan de Lurigancho in Lima, whose government appointed Board under the control of the Ministry of Housing has not yet identified those responsible.

**Be it resolved** that PSI support the process of signature collection for the repeal of Decree-Law 1280 which the unions affiliated to the Peruvian Drinking Water and Sewage Federation (FENTAP) have been carrying out, with the support of all the union organizations affiliated to PSI in Peru, as it is unconstitutional, privatizing, interventionist and centralizing.

**Be it resolved** that PSI requests that the Peruvian government repeal Legislative Decree 1280 which seeks to deliver the management of Peru's water companies into private hands.

**Be it resolved** that PSI demand that the Peruvian government strengthen the EPSs and the company Serviço de Agua Potable y Esgoto de Lima (SEDAPAL S.A.); through efficient management, elimination of corruption and through the implementation of fair and

accessible tariffs for all Peruvians which would mean quality public services in public hands and with respect for the rights of workers.

**Be it resolved** that PSI demand that the Peruvian government and its respective authorities initiate a summary investigation into the alleged irregularities present in the appointment of Mr. Jorge Luis Angel Bustamante Dawson as Chairman of the Board of Directors of SEDAPAL S.A.

**Be it resolved** that PSI demand that the Peruvian urgently review the contracts with private companies that are responsible for 70% of SEDAPAL's main activities; identify the supervisory companies, the results of their management and the proportion of the annual budget that SEDAPAL earmarks for these private companies.

**Be it resolved** that PSI demand transparency and publication of drinking water and sewage treatment plant projects and megaprojects which are under concession; as well as the status of the functioning of each of them and the annual budget that SEDAPAL invests in them.

**Be it resolved** that PSI demand the return of all activities that are in the hands of private companies and which have not achieved an efficient and effective result in favor of the management of SEDAPAL, all workers at outsourced companies be integrated into the contingent of SEDAPAL employees.

*Presented by the National Federation of Drinking Water and Sewerage Workers of Peru, FENTAP.*

## **Proposed Resolution #12 - Persecution, judicialisation, criminalisation and murder of indigenous leaders and defenders of mother earth in Abya Yala<sup>6</sup>**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that indigenous peoples have the same rights over land as any other people, which are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and many other international or supranational instruments, which the different countries have ratified and adopted in their legal systems and for the benefit of their citizens.

**Considering** that indigenous peoples have their own particular way of interpreting life and therefore have their own practices, cosmologies, knowledges, epistemologies, philosophies, sciences, technologies, languages, forms of government and conflict resolution, and their particular ways of relating to Mother Earth, the Pachamama; forms and ways that are friendly and that establish interdependence, respect, harmony, balance and mutual care with nature, since they understand it as the mother that gives them everything they need, they understand it as a living being, like human and animal beings, subject to law, accepting themselves as part of that which exists and not as foreign entities, external or superior to what surrounds them, much less as owners of Mother Earth, the Pachamama.

**Affirming that** various international instruments, such as ILO Convention 169, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and others, as well as various other supranational and national provisions, recognize the self-determination of indigenous peoples and the unrestricted respect for their collective and individual rights, the defense of their territory and the freedom to develop in accordance with their ways of life.

**Conscience that** indigenous peoples have historically faced various forms of submission, repression and disrespect for their human rights, whether through colonialism, capitalism or neoliberalism; and that they are currently experiencing the siege of the extractive corporate model that is attacking and undermining their territories, their communities and their right to self-determination through mining and hydroelectric megaprojects that not only disrespect their rights, violate international agreements such as Convention 169 and cause ecological disasters, but are also one of the greatest fallacies of development, since they do not result in improvements in the situation of exclusion, poverty and extreme poverty in which indigenous peoples survive or leave significant contributions to the weak economies of the countries where they cause irreparable damage and irreversibility.

**Considering** that various studies have shown that indigenous peoples have historically been the guarantors of biodiversity and guardians of Mother Earth, the Pachamama, and the regions where they live today are the last places with the greatest natural wealth and biodiversity on earth; a fact that is due to their relationship of respect, harmony and balance that they have with the earth.

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<sup>6</sup> Abya Yala is the name of America in the language of the Kuna people in present-day Panama and Colombia.

**Considering** that the sum of these aggressions has led indigenous peoples to organize themselves to defend their rights, to defend their territory, to demand from the governments of the countries in which they live minimum compliance with national and international norms that establish their rights in the face of the aggression of extractive projects, which has cost them persecution, judicialization, intimidation, criminalization and regrettable murders of leaders like Berta Cáceres, of the Lenca people, in Honduras; Rolando Crispín, Zapoteca, in Mexico; Juana Raymundo, ixil, in Guatemala; Mauricio Capaz, naza, in Colombia; Jorginho Guajajara, guajajara, in Brazil; Camilo Catrillanca, Mapuche, in Chile, to mention just a few of the hundreds of cases that mourn the ranks of the indigenous leadership throughout Abya Yala, as well as emblematic cases such as the Maya Q'eqchi Bernardo Caal Xol, who remains spuriously imprisoned because of his leadership against the Oxec-Renace hydroelectric case.

**Conscious** that extractive projects such as the Oxec-Renace, in Verapaces, Guatemala; Tren Maya, in Yucatan, Mexico; the various aggressions in Cauca, Colombia; the expropriation of indigenous reserves in the Brazilian Amazon by the government of Jair Bolsonaro; the conflict in Araucanía, Wallmapu, Chile; among hundreds of other cases happen because governments do not take into account the opinion of the original peoples, violating their rights and generating conflict, instead of seeking the protection of individuals, families and peoples, as well as the search for peace and the common good, as the Political Constitutions and other legal instruments declare and that should ensure respect for fundamental human rights for all.

**Given** that the general principles governing PSI's actions are the pursuit of the common good, respect for human rights for all, the consolidation and pursuit of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); that the spirit of this Inter-American Regional Conference is the struggle of the people over profit and the defense of the State against corporate power; that the PSI has organs of struggle in these spaces, such as the Committees for the fight against racism, indigenous peoples, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination; and that trade union organizations are also part of the people and should not limit their struggles to exclusively trade union struggles.

**Be it resolved** that PSI encourage all affiliated trade union organizations to consider the struggle of indigenous peoples as part of their axis of struggle, establishing spaces for exchange with indigenous organizations to accompany their demands; since the struggles of indigenous peoples are collective struggles for the conservation of biodiversity, which are for the benefit of all humanity.

**Be it resolved** that organizations affiliated to PSI become natural channels for indigenous organizations to present their demands to the ILO within the framework of Convention 169 and to seek joint spaces for the resolution of conflicts in their respective countries.

**Be it resolved** that committees to combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination be formed in order to guide trade union leaders in these joint struggles.

**Propose that** that PSI open spaces and seek the necessary channels to strengthen the anti-racism committees so that they can consolidate themselves in the best way, better organize their actions and fulfill the aspirations of this resolution.

*Presented by the Delegation for Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Other Forms of Discrimination in the Sub-Region of Mexico, Central America and the Dominican Republic.*

## **Proposed Resolution #13 - For the right to legal abortion**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 6 million induced abortions occur each year in Latin America alone.

**Considering** that PSI represents professionals from different areas of public services, especially in the health sector, where women in situations of abortion are often assisted, either under legal conditions or in conditions considered unsafe

**Considering** that induced abortion has been one of the main causes of maternal death in our region, according to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

**Considering** that in the few countries in the region where abortion is considered legal, there has been a drastic reduction in maternal mortality rates due to the existence of appropriate clinics for this purpose.

**Considering** that poor and working women are the main victims of this difficult situation, since money can be used to obtain, even illegally, the appropriate procedure for the practice of abortion.

**Considering** that the search for this procedure in the few places in the region where this practice is allowed has become increasingly frequent, such as Uruguay, Colombia, some cities in the United States and Mexico, thus further reinforcing the discriminatory and elitist nature of the prohibition by enabling access to the performance of a safe abortion only for those with resources and information.

**Considering** that even in places where abortion under certain conditions is permitted, there is still prejudice and discrimination, making it difficult for women who are entitled to this procedure to do so.

**Be it resolved** that PSI fights for the legal right to abortion with adequate clinics and professionals for the exercise of this procedure in all countries of the region.

**Be it resolved** that at the same time, PSI press for guaranteed access to all available means of contraceptive so that women can have the possibility of using contraceptive methods as their first choice, enabling them to guarantee their sexual and reproductive rights

**Be it resolved** that PSI promote, together with other public health organizations, women's organizations, etc., an awareness campaign on the subject, defending the rights of women, regardless of whether they are rich or poor, to terminate their pregnancy safely and with assistance.

*Presented by the Union of Municipal Workers of São Paulo (SINDSEP-SP) and by the Union of Public Health Workers of the State of São Paulo (SINDSAÚDE), Brazil.*

## **Proposed Resolution #14 - Against femicide, violence and mistreatment of women and girls in Colombia**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that Public Services International prioritizes the defense of women and girls, social and union leaders, and seeks means and strategies of protection to eradicate the manifestations of gender-based, class and racist violence present in our region, in the face of the "lack of will" to develop clear policies that allow the effective protection of women and their rights in the countries of our continent.

**Considering** that it is important to put into practice the motto of the 30th PSI World Congress: "People over Profit", and point 1.1.1 of the Programme of Action which states that, "Our objectives for the next five years will be to defend a strong democratic state and an inclusive society that is committed to guaranteeing gender equality, respect and dignity for all, economic development for all, the redistribution of wealth and the empowerment of workers".

**Considering** that since 2015, 1,437 murders of women have been reported to the Colombian Attorney General's Office, which together with the UN are calling for greater government commitment.

**Considering** that despite the conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), unfortunately the standards and laws that the Colombian Government has created in order to safeguard the integrity and dignity of women and girls are not complied with because of an environment of violence and corruption and an inoperative system of protection.

**Considering** that not only does Colombia lack decent work policies for women, but gender inequality and informality in the world of work are gradually increasing and genuine spaces for women's participation are scarce, making it more difficult for their voices and feelings to be heard and, in this discouraging and frightening context, the exercise and defense of their human, labor and trade union rights are preceded by fear not only of exclusion but also of the loss of their lives.

**Considering** that in rural areas armed groups recruit girls and women, who are then subjected to serious physical and psychological abuse, rape, kidnapping, slavery and forced displacement.

**Be it resolved** that PSI express its rejection of all forms of violence against women and girls and demand the implementation of effective measures to combat this reality.

**Be it resolved** that PSI call on the Colombian State to apply international standards that require the implementation of urgent measures against femicide and all types of violence against women and girls.

**Be it resolved** that PSI call on all affiliates in Colombia to confront all types of violence against women; strengthen counseling, training and psychological assistance services for women displaced and reintegrated from the conflict; and organize actions that require the Colombian State to promote public policies that facilitate changes in the area of social and sexual violence against women and girls.

**Be it resolved** that PSI consider the development of training and research strategies aimed at confronting and eliminating differences and inequalities of all kinds for the effective participation of women in building a new inclusive, equitable and egalitarian society.

**Be it resolved** that PSI foster, promote and support intergenerational dialogues, while facilitating and strengthening the full participation of young people, in order to provide them with new opportunities for social, political, economic, cultural and career development.

**Be it resolved** that PSI provide real spaces for social dialogue in its various structures, both within trade union organizations and in the international bodies and other spaces in which it is present.

**Be it resolved** that PSI highlight the importance of collective bargaining as an effective and integral tool for obtaining better working conditions, transforming reality and improving quality of life.

*Presented by the National Colombian Women's Committee of PSI.*

## **Proposed Resolution #15 - Support for the Colombian peace process**

### **The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Noting** positively the decrease in the general rates of violence in the Republic of Colombia, a fact that is undoubtedly a direct consequence of the signing of the General Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace, as a result of the Negotiation Process between the FARC-EP and the government of the Republic of Colombia, ending more than 50 years of armed confrontation between compatriots.

**Highlighting** that this conflict has sunk its roots into the bowels of that nation and has not allowed it to become a modern, inclusive and participatory state; instead, it has stagnated its growth and deepened the gap between a large multi-million dollar minority and an extremely impoverished majority, without any possibility of access to quality public services.

**Noting** with concern that, despite the efforts made in the Colombian Parliament, which in the midst of complex debates managed to pass legislation as a result of the aforementioned agreement, with the arrival of the new government led by Iván Duque Márquez, these efforts were truncated due to the manifest intention of not allowing the implementation of legislation that advances in fulfilling the objectives of the agreement.

**Highlighting** that a specific element of this attitude is the repeated refusal to sanction the law that permits the definitive operation of the Special Justice for Peace (JEP), the fundamental axis of the agreement which will allow the Colombian people to have: Truth, Justice, Reparation and not Repetition; that another relevant fact that goes against the peace in Colombia is the suspension of the negotiation table with the National Liberation Army (ELN), after the reprehensible attack against the Santander General Police School, which led to an escalation of the conflict between the Colombian State and this insurgent organization; that in addition to the above, more than 200 civil society and union leaders died in the 12 months prior to February 2019, as recorded by the People's Ombudsman's Office, alarming figures in relation to the rest of 2019.

**Noting** that the Colombian trade union movement, a victim of this process, is hoping and striving to contribute to the construction of a stable and lasting peace, as this would enable it to fulfil one of its historic goals: to carry out its activities in a democratic environment, in which the rights agreed to in international agreements are respected; and also to know the truth about the genocide suffered in recent years, as well as to obtain appropriate justice and reparation and prevent reoccurrence.

**Considering** as worrisome the regressive tendency of labor and union rights expressed in the political decisions of the government and in the National Development Plan that was presented to the Congress of the Republic for discussion and approval.

**Be it resolved** that PSI urges the signatory parties to the General Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace, especially the National Government of the Republic of Colombia, in an environment of broader national dialogue, invite all the representative forces of the nation, including trade unions, to continue seeking to provide a solid and sufficient legal and political basis for the

agreement, and that it not be ruined by harmful political calculations, so that the supreme value of peace is preserved once and for all for the Colombian people.

**Be it resolved** that PSI call on the Colombian Government to resume negotiations with the National Liberation Army (ELN) in order that progress can be made in negotiations that offer the Colombian people full peace.

**Be it resolved** that PSI call on the Colombian Government to clarify details about the escalation of the murders of civil society and trade union leaders and to present measures to the international and national community to prevent the death of civil society and trade union leaders, which is causing so much damage to democracy and peace.

**Be it resolved** that PSI call on the Colombian Government to eliminate measures that represent a weakening of labor and union rights, both within the National Development Plan and in relation to other public policies, and that the principles of progressiveness, continuity and no deterioration of rights.

**Be it resolved** that PSI, as an international trade union federation, continue to collaborate with all of its experience and capacity, to the construction of a stable and lasting peace in Colombia, particularly in strengthening the role of state workers in this sense and in guaranteeing decent work for all workers in the public sector.

*Presented by the National Coordinating Committee of PSI Affiliates in Colombia.*

## **Proposed Resolution #16 - The political situation in Peru**

### **The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that March 2019 was the one-year anniversary of the inauguration of Peruvian President Martín Vizcarra's government, and that despite the results of a referendum that gave him a high margin of popularity, he still faces a crisis in the legislative and judicial branches.

**Considering** that the political forces whose former leaders and party leaders are linked to corruption continue to defend their positions of power within the State structure and through the networks of corruption built in the Judiciary intend to discredit and disarm the team of prosecutors and judges who are advancing against corruption by demanding a thorough investigation into all the allegations against Keiko Fujimori, Alan García, Alejandro Toledo, Ollanta Humala, Susana Villarán, Lourdes Flores, Pedro Pablo Kuczinsky and current President Martín Vizcarra.

**Considering** that the current government intends to impose a regressive labour reform through Supreme Decree 345-2018-MEF which flexibilizes rights, making them more precarious. The social dialogue realized at the National Labour Council (CNT) which is the space for discussion of all labor matters prior to decision-making was negated.

**Considering** that a change in the economic development model requires changes in the Constitution and firm political decisions, since the current terms favor the large transnationals.

**Considering** that the Meeting of the Peoples, held in the capital Lima on February 16, 2019, concluded with an affirmation of the need to articulate a proposal for a broad-based popular organization that expresses a great unity of the people and promotes an alternative project of power that demands democratic change, with social justice and regeneration, and a New Political Constitution for a New Republic.

**Considering** that we express our solidarity with the people of Venezuela and defend the principle of non-intervention and the defense of the sovereignty of peoples, raised by Raúl Porras Barrenechea in 1960 in the Organization of American States (OAS), on the occasion of the discussion of the blockade imposed by the United States on Cuba, while not expressing a position of support for the Venezuelan president, Nicolás Maduro, but rather, solidarity with the Venezuelan people themselves in their call to defend their rights and their freedom in all its citizen and human dimensions.

**Considering** that PSI in Peru, together with the General Confederation of Workers of Peru (CGTP), state level centrals UNASSE, CITE and CTE, and the affiliated trade unions FEDCUT, FENTASE, FENTAP, SITREL, FENTATSUNAT, SITMA, SUNESS, SINESSS, SUTSA INIA NACIONAL, SINDICATO SENASA, SINTRAJUP, have been systematically fighting in Congress for the approval of the Collective Bargaining Law, observed by the Executive, for a civil service reform that respects rights, for a tax reform with a gender and equal opportunities approach, and for a public budget with fair and gender sensitive redistribution.

**Considering** that the Executive Branch has presented a new bill harmful to the interests of workers with the aim of replacing what is already under way in Congress and awaiting approval in plenary, a fact that has provoked the repudiation of trade union organizations.

**Considering** that the PSI Global Programme of Action points out that violations of trade union rights are increasing and must be combated; that these attacks constitute fundamental and existential threats to the human rights, dignity and economic interests of our affiliated organizations and their members and undermine democracy and the provision of quality public services, which are top priorities for PSI.

**Be it resolved** that PSI show solidarity with Peruvian workers, to support and accompany the union actions that their organizations carry out in defense of their labor, union and collective bargaining rights, and for a public service reform that respects rights, a labor tax reform with a focus on gender and equal opportunities, and a public budget with fair redistribution, prioritizing the most vulnerable sectors while maintaining sensitivity to gender.

*Presented by PSI affiliated trade union organizations in Peru.*

## Emergency Resolutions submitted by affiliates in April 2019

### Proposed Emergency Resolution #1 - The struggle for pensions in Chile

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** the radical shift in the rise of political force of governments of the Americas (and the world) that favor the reactionary positions of the neoliberal ultra-right, especially symbolized in the elections of the U.S. (Donald Trump) and Brazil (Jair Bolsonaro); a shift that represents a very serious setback for the advances achieved in previous decades, following advances achieved by progressive governments, that, in addition to the significant reduction of poverty in the region, allowed for substantive improvements in access to health, education, housing, decent work, among other policies.

**Considering** that under the current right-wing business-run governments, policies are being implemented which aim to impose the neoliberal logic of the free market for the benefit of large transnational corporations with a new vigor to the detriment of the interests of the great majorities of the countries subject to that logic, which, while favoring economies subordinated to interests alien to each country, will cause serious social damage.

**Given that** the neoliberal logic assigns a subsidiary role to the State, as opposed to the welfare State, resulting in a progressive withdrawal of State control over social protection issues, with the consequent reduction of its action and of its size.

**Recalling** that in the 1980s, in the midst of the implementation of the structural adjustment policies imposed by the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) on our countries, including Chile, under the most ferocious military dictatorship incited and promoted by the Government of the United States, it had the sad “honor” of being the laboratory for experimentation of neoliberal policies, generating a profound transformation of Chile’s economic, social, political and cultural model, with extremely damaging consequences in terms of social, political, environmental and cultural rights, in addition to the loss of sovereignty.

**Considering** that some of the highest authorities of some current governments in the region have publicly signaled the intention to import the AFP (Pension Fund Administrators) model that keeps retirees throughout Chile in extreme misery.

**Understanding** that it is unavoidable that PSI accelerate the promotion of information and awareness regarding what happened to the basic rights of the population (health, education, work, pensions) in Chile within the framework of the privatization policies imposed by the dictatorship with the support of the World Bank and the IMF, and the consequences that this entailed which are demonstrated in the fact that Chile has one of the highest levels of inequality in the world, serious difficulties for the great majority to access health and education, increasingly precarious employment conditions and miserable pensions.

**Be it resolved that** PSI develop a regional work programme aimed especially at countries in which the governments in power are attempting to dismantle social security policies.

*Presented by the PSI Women’s Committee in Chile.*

## **Proposed Emergency Resolution #2 - The struggle for Tax Justice in Chile**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** that exactly when global tax debates are focusing on progressive, equitable, transparent tax systems that deal with tax avoidance and evasion, but also advance in obtaining the highest possible revenue collection, so that income redistribution reduces inequality, the right-wing government of Sebastián Piñera in Chile presented a bill at the end of 2018 called “Tax Modernization” that is totally regressive, and delivers large sums of money to the richest 1% of the country.

**Considering** that if this law is passed, Chile will become an even more unequal country with the greatest concentration of wealth in the fewest hands and will not have the resources to finance social projects for future administrations, i.e., it will become a tax haven.

**Considering** that this is also a project that reduces the powers and tools of oversight, leaving them in their weakest form, and that in the face of this unprecedented attack, the unions that unite the workers of the internal tax services (AFIICH and ANEIICH), with the support of PSI Chile, undertake a campaign of more than six months to warn citizens, parliamentarians and other social actors of the pernicious effects of the government’s proposal.

**Be it resolved that** PSI and others continue to strongly support this campaign regarding the project at the Chilean Congress in the coming months.

**Be it resolved that** that PSI support the creation of a regional tax forum, with the participation of high economic authorities from the countries of the Americas, in a form similar to the “African Tax Forum”.

**Be it resolved that** a more active and permanent cooperation is established with the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation, ICRICT, to harmonize the discussion of tax justice in the region.

*Presented by the PSI Women's Committee in Chile.*

## **Proposed Emergency Resolution #3 - For lasting social and political peace in Nicaragua**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Regretting** the sad events in Nicaragua, which began on 18 April and lasted until the end of August 2018 and were provoked by the proposed reform of the country's social security system announced by the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua.

**Recognizing** that the escalation of violence during those months resulted in the death of 253 people, registered by the Nicaraguan Truth, Peace and Justice Commission as follows: 22 members of the National Police, 48 of supposed Sandinista affiliation, 4 of the 19<sup>th</sup> of April Movement, 27 of the 'Auto Convocados' and 152 for whom no information is available.

**Informed** by the members of the PSI mission that visited Nicaragua from 18 to 21 February 2019, that among these deceased are four municipal sector workers, the whereabouts of one remains unknown; one from the public water and sanitation company ENACAL and one from "Correos de Nicaragua", associated with the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, all of whom were members of the National Confederation of Workers - UNE, affiliated to PSI.

**Welcoming** the news of the February 27, 2019 meeting held by the Government of Nicaragua with representatives of the private sector of Nicaragua and the accompaniment of representatives of the Catholic Clergy in that country, Cardinal Leopoldo Brenes and Apostolic Nuncio Waldemar Stanislaw Sommertag, which had the purpose of undertaking a new effort at national dialogue to build a path of peace and of reciprocal social and political understanding.

**Reinforcing** the call for peace, dialogue, respect for human rights and preservation of the principles of sovereignty and self-determination of peoples as essential conditions for ending the conflict in Nicaragua, PSI makes itself available to affiliates and the Nicaraguan people to contribute to a peaceful and lasting solution, so that no such episode will ever happen again in Nicaragua.

**Be it resolved that** any binding agreement that reinforces this resolution within the framework of IAMRECON 2019, be adopted.

*Presented by PSI affiliates in Nicaragua: Federation of University Workers Unions of Nicaragua (FESITUN), National Workers' Confederation - UNE and Health Workers Central (FETSALUD).*

## **Statement on the crisis in Venezuela<sup>7</sup>**

**The PSI Interamerican Regional Conference, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 24 – 28, 2019,**

**Considering** the very serious political and socio-economic situation in Venezuela, as well as the threat of external military intervention in that country, a possibility that was not ruled out by US President Donald Trump and some Latin American governments.

**Firmly rejecting** any armed solution as a way of solving the serious problems experienced in this Andean nation.

**Affirming instead** that the sovereignty and self-determination of peoples is a principle that must be respected by all.

**In support of** any initiative aimed at respecting the democratic process and promoting dialogue between the government of Nicolás Maduro and the opposition.

**Urging** the Maduro government not to promote repression of any kind against legitimate demonstrations, not to promote arbitrary detentions and instead to guarantee respect for human rights and seek dialogue with the opposition.

**Urging** the opposition to abandon its confrontational attitude, which includes the attempted seizure of power by Congressman Juan Guaidó on 30 April 2019 and his self-proclamation as “president in charge”, positions that do not contribute to a solution to the country’s problems. On the contrary, such an attitude, supported by some governments, threatens the stability of the country and the region, making it return to periods where coup d’états and military dictatorships were much more common.

**Calls for** peace, dialogue, respect for human rights and the principles of sovereignty and self-determination of peoples as essential conditions for ending the conflict in Venezuela.

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<sup>7</sup> Statement based on the position of Public Services International regarding the crisis in Venezuela.