

LOS ANGELES LETTER

PLANETARIES ELECTIONS

OPEN LETTER TO BRAZILIAN PEOPLE

The electoral campaign for President of the Republic which is taking place in Brazil at this moment is not a common election, nor only Brazilian. It's a globalized election, a planetary election, in that it manifests an exacerbated expression of the struggle between speculative Capital and exploited Labor. The former has already decided that it should impede, at any cost, even if it means sacrificing millions of people, the coming to power of a laborer. Unfortunately, still today, even if it doesn't represent a threat to capitalist greed, not one leader has ever gotten close to the people without paying a heavy price, at least in Latin America. We must not forget the dramatic example of the murder of President Allende in Chile, on September 11th, 1973.

All of the measures of economic and social destabilization that put pressure on the stock exchange and threaten the withdrawal of capital generated by the sweat and blood of Brazilian workers are criminal initiatives orchestrated by local elites allied with the interventionism of the controllers of world financial capital, threatened by a democratic political agenda.

Apart from constituting a dangerous challenge to the health of Democracy on the Planet, these initiatives can unleash an escalation of spurious financial interventions in other social formations that are struggling for the consolidation of their democratic regimes with social justice. We cannot forget the smoking fuse of interventionism which recently burned some nations of the subcontinent, as was the case in Venezuela and Argentina.

The language and the commitment of Capital are on the side of accumulation, confirming, in the Organizational Capitalism of our time, the thesis that the structural tendency of this mode of production leads to inequality and injustice.

Fortunately, however, the interventions of the flagless speculative capital substituting the piracy of the XVI and XVII centuries with the "privacy" of public patrimonies in the XX and XXI have met with resistance as in the recent World Social Forum—which challenges the economic Forum of Davos—or in the vitality of the organization and mobilization of ordinary people who are affected by the artificially provoked crisis.

Because of this, we educators from several continents who are meeting together in the Third International Paulo Freire Forum respectfully manifest, above all party loyalties, our solidarity with the sovereign decision of the Brazilian people as to who should direct the destiny of their country for the next four years. At the same time, we vehemently reject any and all interventionist pretensions either by other nation states or extra governmental organizations in the Brazilian elections or in the process of the construction of democracy in any country in the world.

Los Angeles, September 21st 2002.