

Position Paper of the Peruvian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist)

The Inter-Imperialist Struggles In Latin America and the Tasks of the Revolutionaries

The Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) gives a revolutionary greeting to the comrade organizers and participants in the 19th International Seminar: Problems of the Revolution in Latin America.

The issue before us is of greatest importance to understand the new scenarios of the class struggle in Peru, Latin America and internationally in the light of Marxism-Leninism, in order to give correct guidance to the struggles of the working class, peasantry, youth and peoples in the achievement of their immediate demands and in the struggle for national and social liberation.

1. On the international situation and the inter-imperialist contradictions.

In the international context of political and economic crises of capitalism, the contradictions between the imperialist powers for the redivision of the world, for markets and spheres of influence, are taking more and more acute forms. These are inevitable events, due to the collapse of the capitalist economic system, which is undergoing one of the deepest crises in its history, in which there are no immediate signs of recovery. And like any system that is about to pass away it is developing the most savage mechanisms of repression, exploitation, looting and the danger of war. In this way it is seeking to re-establish itself by placing the effects of its crisis onto the shoulders of the working class, the peasantry and all working people.

In this sense the contention over systematically exploiting and plundering the peoples is becoming increasingly aggressive politically, economically, militarily and ideologically, not only because of the inter-imperialist contention, but also because of the rise of struggle and resistance of the workers and peoples under attack by the offensive of looting and the reversal of their gains.

The law of unequal development of capitalism determines the emergence of imperialist powers that are pushing forward the contention over markets and spheres of influence

US imperialism and the members of NATO are seeking to maintain their hegemony with their political and economic instruments, the World Bank, IMF, World Trade Organization, UN and other agencies of neocolonial subjugation, while on the other side the imperialist powers China, Russia and the members BRICS are pushing forward the contention and are trying to consolidate their financial instruments of domination, disguising their imperialist policy as the so-called "*democratization of finance capital*." They are trying to consolidate the creation of the "*New Bank of Development* " and the "*Reserve Fund*", for lack of other names or to try to make people believe that they will make financial credits more accessible for the dependent countries, that

they have changed the essence of domination and subjugation by finance capital, since they are responding to the plans of contention over markets and spheres of influence.

The development of these instruments of domination enable the handing over of credits and micro-loans that reinforce the economic and political dependence of the borrower, to ensure maximum profit by exploiting and ruining most of the world's peoples.

The essence of imperialism has not changed, nor have the characteristics and fundamental contradictions of our epoch pointed out by Lenin.

It is true that the formation of economic alliances among the imperialists shows, in form, the manifestations of power, leading to military invasions and inciting the peoples to war. The imperialist powers are at the stage of decomposition and internal decay; a proof of this are the various popular demonstrations and strikes by workers that are developing in the imperialist countries such as the U.S., China, Germany, France and Russia, among others. Besides this there are the internal contradictions and struggles between the powers that make up the blocs of BRICS and NATO. These facts show the correctness and validity of the Marxist-Leninist theses on imperialism and the inevitable proletarian revolutions, for the building of scientific socialism as a transition to communism.

The contending imperialist powers represent the maintenance of the capitalist economic system.

We cannot fall into the opportunist position that tries to characterize one of the imperialist groups or powers as saviors of the oppressed peoples, because in essence they represent the same thing.

Our tactic in this scenario should be to consolidate the advance of the popular movement, to advance in the process of organization, to take advantage of the contradictions of the powers that are contending for the resources of Latin America in order to push forward the popular revolutionary struggle.

Fascism is a tool of finance capital to subjugate the peoples, to impose the costs of the crisis on them and to compete for the world market.

Fascism is the form of government that the capitalist system has developed permanently in order to impose its interests in the framework of its class dictatorship of capital over labor. At the 7th Congress of the Communist International in August 1935, Comrade Georgi Dimitrov warned that *"The imperialist circles are trying to shift the whole burden of the crisis onto the shoulders of the working people,"* adding: *"They are trying to solve the problem of markets by enslaving the weak nations, by intensifying colonial oppression and repartitioning the world anew by means of war."* For one reason or the other he concluded: *"That is why they need fascism."*

2. The political situation in Peru

Presently the peoples of Peru are in a stage of struggle and resistance against the imperialist offensive and penetration, an example of which is the revival and increase in the struggles of the popular movement in rejection of the mining concessions, labor flexibility, the reversal of social gains, the privatization and contamination of the water, the pollution of the environment, the Free Trade Agreements, the entry of genetically modified seeds; on the other hand, they are preparing decisively for the struggle for the defense of national sovereignty, against the incursion of U.S. troops with more than 3,200 marines, against the offensive of Chinese imperialism which is imposing its projects of extraction by fire and sword and the attempt to establish arms factories by Russian imperialism, as aspects that warn of the danger of military confrontation in Latin America.

Gradually the popular movement is coming out of its political and organizational lethargy, learning how to demarcate positions from the paramilitarism of Sendero and from the opportunism of the parties of the so-called left that have always served the local bourgeoisie and imperialism.

All these struggles are also directed against the deepening of neoliberalism, which is seeking to shift the costs of the international crisis, privatization, the decrease in revenues of the transnationals, onto the shoulders of the workers and peoples. This is the objective of the counter-reforms carried out since the period of Alberto Fujimori, Alejandro Toledo and Alan Garcia, and in particular of the present government of Ollanta Humala. Its main characteristic is its slavish genuflection before the imperialist powers and the local bourgeoisie that has been pushed forward by the *National Confederation of Private Institutions – CONFIEP*, the drafting of laws that seek to take away the rights of the workers, peasant communities and peoples, aiming mainly to destroy their capacity of organized resistance. Therefore they have been implementing legal measures such as *Law 30230* and *DS 001-2014-EM* in order to put an end to the organization of the peasant communities. In this way they are facilitating imperialist penetration and the increase in mining concessions, violating the communal property rights and the development of domestic agricultural production. Or the Civil Service Law, Law on Collective Dismissals, Law of Counter Reform for Teachers, Law on Outsourcing, which eliminate the collective bargaining and the trade union organizations of the working class. Under the pretext of reviving the economy, since Peru had been one of the fastest growing economies for the transnationals in Latin America, there has been a slowdown with a growth rate of 2.6% of GDP in 2014. Due to the effects of the international crisis, the decrease in demand for minerals on the foreign market, mainly by China, the fall in the price of oil and the continuing destruction of domestic production by the onslaught of duty-free products and now with the attempt to approve the Trans Pacific Agreement (TPP) that will regulate patents and advance the process of dependence of our country.

Failure of the denationalization or privatization of the principal economic sectors, the selling of the country, the Free Trade Agreements and the "economic recovery"

In the period of the application of neoliberalism in Peru, state enterprises have been privatized and auctioned off, ports and airports and our territory made into concessions, highways have been built, with the claim that this was for the development and connection of peoples largely neglected by the State. But the truth is that they were built to facilitate imperialist penetration and plunder, such as the Initiative for the Integration of the South American Regional Infrastructure, *Plan II RSA*, which is being pushed forward by the IDB, Inter-American Development Bank – CAF, among others, which follow the directives of the IMF and World Bank. Or the planned construction of the *Bi-Oceanic Railway*, which will go between Brazil and Peru, to be built with Chinese capital. In addition there are plans to "improve the infrastructure" by means of tax evasion and fraud, the so-called payment of taxes for public works, or the Public Private Partnerships – APP, which extend highways and access roads to the mining areas to promote looting, but which they claim will improve them in the public interest.

The Free Trade Agreements increase Peru's economic dependence

Since the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States entered into force, the emphasis has been on implementing cutbacks in order to protect foreign investments to the detriment of national agricultural investment. Moreover, when the FTA with China was signed in 2010, the Peruvian textile and clothing industry were hurt by the entry of depreciated garments into the domestic market. Because of this, it is estimated that about 30,000 jobs have been lost in this productive and commercial sphere, with a high rate of closure of small and medium textile companies. The main centers of imports of textile are China and India, which have low production costs; the Peruvian government is resuming talks to sign the FTA with India, an act that would finish the process of the destruction of the national production.

Recently, the Congress of the Republic tried to pass a bill that would allow the entry of genetically modified seeds for small-scale production. This was despite the fact that this was disallowed in 2012 under Law No. 29811, which postponed the entry of these seeds, after a struggle by the peasant communities in defense of national production. It established a 10-year moratorium on the entry of Genetically Modified Organisms, GMOs, and expanded the debate about this risk.

The so-called economic recovery that the State is pushing forward is focused on taking away the rights of the people.

There have been rules to facilitate the looting of our country and to take away the rights of the working people. There are constant threats against the ownership of the land and territories by the peasant and native communities, the mafia-like Environmental Impact Studies (EIA) are being relaxed, all in a systematic manner through the so-called "environmental deals" that aim at pushing forward the mega-mining projects Constancia, the Tia Maria mining project in Arequipa, Las Bambas, the expansion of the Cerro Verde Mining Project, the expansion of the Toromocho

mining project, granted to the Aluminum Corporation of China (Chinalco), at the source of the Rimac River that supplies water to the more than 10 million people of Lima.

The mining sector is dominated by Chinese transnationals, which have control of over 33% of total investment. These projects use police and military force to impose them, just as do the mining projects of U.S. and Canadian imperialism, which pollute the headwaters of the rivers and the areas of agricultural production on a large-scale.

Currently the Shougang-Marcona company allocates 84% of all minerals extracted from Peruvian soil, mainly iron, to the Chinese market, and less than 5% of the minerals supply the domestic market. This has influenced the high cost of production of steel, serving as a justification for the new concession of the iron and steel plant, SiderPeru, in Chimbote, Peru; the Brazilian corporation Gerdau, has stopped producing steel and is importing it from its other sources, mainly from Brazil, leaving the steel workers of Chimbote unemployed and affecting the region, which had been energized by the existence of this industrial center.

Since 2012 the production of Horno Alto, which makes cast iron, has been stagnant, and has become the distributor of steel imported from Brazil in order to supply the Peruvian market. This process is part of the plans to sabotage production that imperialism and its transnational corporations have been carrying out in order to destroy local production and strengthen its chains of domination.

The accelerated move towards fascism of the Government of Ollanta Humala

The increasingly repressive policies of the military-mining government of Ollanta Humala, faced with the growth of the popular struggle, has led it to systematize the policy of repression, covering itself legally with the counter-reforms aimed at destroying the trade union, peasant, popular and student organizations. It is providing a framework for the continued militarization of the zones of conflict, approved by the APRA government of Alan Garcia with Law DL 1095 and 30151, which ensured impunity for murders or injuries caused by the police and military in areas in which the peoples are fighting for their rights.

This legal framework, backed by the state of bourgeois right, forms part of the preparation of the conditions for the deepening of fascism, which permanently serves the parasitic bourgeoisie in our country. As Dimitrov pointed out: *"...fascism is not a local, temporary or transitory phenomenon. It is a system of class rule of the capitalist bourgeoisie and its dictatorship in the period of imperialism and social revolution."* He added: *"After the imperialist war, after the victorious October Revolution, after ten-year existence of the Soviet Union, and in the presence of the enormous revolutionizing impact of these factors on the proletariat, peasantry, oppressed nationalities and colonial peoples, the bourgeoisie is no longer able to hold under its class hegemony the popular masses and to cope with the tasks of capitalist stabilization and rationalization by means of the old forms and methods of parliamentary democracy."* He concluded, *"A way out for the bourgeoisie in this respect is the subjugation of the masses*

through fascism. Fascism is the final stage of the class rule of the bourgeoisie." [Measures for Combating Fascism and the Yellow Trade Unions, *Works*, vol. 8]

These measures are accompanied by the backing of the parties of reaction and the opportunist parties, which involve risks for the advance and revival of the struggles of the popular movement. This makes clear the need to build organizational tactics for the daily struggle and to train the working class, peasants, youth, women and peoples in struggle, to face the offensive of capital, as one of the urgent tasks of the PCP (M-L), which must lead the worker-peasant alliance and its allies in the fight against the offensive of capital, fascism and imperialism.

Protected by these legal devices, the government has repressed the population in Conga in Cajamarca, Cañaris in Lambayeque, Pichanaki and Morococha in Junin, in the rural community of San Pedro de Coris in Huancavelica. It has repressed the villagers who oppose the pollution from the Tia Maria mining project, on whose territory a state of emergency has been declared for 60 days beginning May 23 so that the people cannot organize and the mining company can go forward with the implementation of the Mining Project that would contaminate the largest area of agricultural production in the Arequipa Region.

The government of Ollanta Humala has killed 59 people through police repression in social conflicts. Meanwhile the number of wounded borders on 1,839, according to the People's Advocate.

The struggles that the working class, peasants, youth and peoples have undertaken

They have raised their level of political organization and participation, faced with the new wave of legal and political mechanisms intended to restrict their access to the rights won through great struggles, including the right to job security, health care, free and scientific education, to judicial security since the land of the peasants has been granted as concessions to the transnationals. In all regions of the country the class struggle is sharpening and assuming new forms of confrontation, the creativity of the people to confront the dictatorship of capital and imperialist plunder, are coming together in order to put an end to capitalist aggression and exploitation.

The imperialist offensive and the submission of the government in office is leading to the implementation of the mining projects such as Cañaris, Conga, Toromocho, Rio Blanco, Tia Maria, Lagunas del Sur, etc. and the oil projects. The peoples had rejected and fought against them, since they violate their right to communal property and pollute the water, life and farmlands. Recently the government has implemented a legislative package that removes the minimal restrictions on extraction of resources in our country, Law 30230. They have implemented fascist measures against the resistance of the people in order to criminalize the organization and repress the protest of the popular movement with Law 30151. This shows their inclination to militarize the country in order to strengthen dependency, showing the degree of decomposition of the state of the parasitic bourgeoisie of our country.

3. The tasks of the revolutionaries and the position of the PCP (M-L)

This system will not fall until it receives the final blow from the organization of the working class, its allied force the peasantry and its vanguard Party, until the instruments are developed to organize and educate the working people based on their own experience of struggle, oriented to the task of the seizure of the political power of the State, in order to establish proletarian democracy and advance towards the building of socialism as the transition to classless communist society.

Lenin pointed out: *"only the political party of the working class, i.e., the Communist Party, is capable of uniting, training and organizing a vanguard of the proletariat and of the whole mass of the working people that alone will be capable of withstanding the inevitable petty-bourgeois vacillations of this mass and the inevitable traditions and relapses of narrow craft unionism or craft prejudices among the proletariat..."* (Lenin, Tenth Congress of the R.C.P.(B.), 1921)

Lenin rightly pointed out that the struggle against imperialism is an empty phrase if one does not at the same time fight opportunism.

Some opportunist groups claim that in this inter-imperialist contradiction *"there is a good imperialism with which we can ally"* and *"a bad imperialism which we must fight,"* trying to prettify imperialism by thus denying its criminal nature and the historical task of the working class and peoples for their class emancipation.

They seek to deny that both imperialist gangs are the backbone of capitalism on a world scale. Lenin pointed out that *"finance capital strives for domination, not freedom"*; therefore the imperialist powers, their aggression and their capitalist system must be fought at the same time as one fights opportunism, revisionism, reformism, Trotskyism, Maoism and social democracy in their various shades, which in practice support the domination of capitalism in its phase of imperialist decomposition.

1. We propose to develop the tactics to organize, mobilize and politicize the working class, peasants, working people, students and the popular sectors. We oppose imperialist penetration, exploitation and plunder, fighting capitalism and the parasitic bourgeoisie, the opportunism that prettifies the imperialist powers and supports the concessions of the communal territories and privatizations carried out by the government.

2. To forge the anti-fascist and anti-imperialist united front, on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance, which would be the popular organ that, because of its size, composition and definition, can centralize the popular resistance.

3. In the process of clarifying the political scene, we must identify and fight the class enemies who confuse and divert the working class, peasantry and peoples in their struggles; thus it is necessary to identify who are our friends who struggle to organize and make the revolution, to

put an end to the dictatorship of capital over labor, imperialist exploitation and plunder and to establish socialism as the transition to classless communist society.

4. To fight against the increasingly fascist policies of the State through the militarization of the zones of conflict, against the criminalization of protests and popular organizations, consistently defending the rights to political organization and participation of the working class, peasantry, youth and peoples.

5. To fight for the defense of rights of the people achieved through great struggles. For the working class: labor stability and rights, trade union freedom and collective bargaining. The right to land, property and markets for the products of the peasants. Defense of the right of access to public schools and free education and health care.

6. To fight for the defense of national sovereignty and production, for the withdrawal of the mining, oil and hydro-energy concessions, annulment of the Free Trade Agreements, expulsion of Chinese and U.S. imperialism from the territories seized from peasant and indigenous communities and the expulsion of the troops arriving in the country.

Long live proletarian internationalism!

Long live the struggle of the working class, the peasantry, the youth and the peoples for the Revolution and Socialism!

Long live the International Conference of Marxist-Leninist Parties and Organizations!

Workers of the world, unite!

July 2015

CC of the PCP (M-L)

Read, study and disseminate "Bandera Roja" ("Red Flag")