National Day of Mobilization and Fight

Employment and Guarantee of rights

On August 16, National Day of Mobilization and Fight, UGT and other trade union centers held a protest throughout Brazil requesting concrete measures to tackle unemployment and to create jobs, as well as to maintain the rights and achievements of Brazilian workers.

UGT and other trade union centers reiterated their position not to accept any proposal or negotiation aimed at removing labor and social security rights of the working class or even create more precarious labor relations.

Workers demand a reduction on working shifts down to 40 week hours without a salary reduction.

Workers also demand a industrial growth restore by reducing the interest rate, the resumption of investment in the productive infrastructure sector, the energy sector (oil, gas and alternative energy), unlocking the construction sector and creating conditions to promote exports of the manufacturing industry and the reindustrialization of the country.

Meeting of UGT’s National Board of Executives

On August 9, UGT’s officers from all Brazilian officers were in São Paulo for the 24th Meeting of UGT’s National Board of Directors with the goal of discussing the Brazilian political situation.

Ricardo Patah, UGT’s national president, emphasized the seriousness of the moment due to the attacks on labor and social rights. "The impeachment process is coming to an end and we all know that UGT is plural, so it is impartial, but in no case it accepts the withdrawal of rights achieved by society and by the working class”, Patah said. (Fábio Ramalho and UGT’s Press)
UGT launches 2030 round

Reaching for sustainability at a wide range of aspects: social, economic and environmental

UGT made the official launch of the 2030 round: 17 goals to change the world. The ceremony took place on August 09, in São Paulo and gathered UGT’s officers from all Brazilian states of the federation present in the 24th Meeting of UGT’s National Board of Directors, as well as several representatives of social movements.

According to Gustavo de Padua, UGT’s Youth Secretary, the goals proposed by SDGs are part of the core of the trade union center, which bears the concept of ethical and innovative unionism in all its activities." It’s a natural thing, but UGT finds it easy to engage in this type of activity that goes beyond the barriers of labor and trade union struggle, seeing the person not only as an employee but as a human being and, thus, may see many other features that influence the the daily life of these people," he explained.

Gustavo emphasized that it is, indeed, the role of the trade union movement to aid in the solution of problems that involve this issue covered by the SDG agenda.

To Paulo Sergio, from ILO’s office in Brazil, it is essential that a trade union institution embraces these goals that are currently set as a development horizon for all 194 countries of the United Nations system.

Within this context, several actions are planned and are related to poverty eradication, food security, health, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, energy, economic growth, decent work, industrialization, infrastructure, reduction of inequalities, sustainable cities, consumption and production patterns sustainable, climate change, protection of marine and terrestrial ecosystems and others.

Trade unions, since the beginning, have as their goals the defense of interests of workers and perform this task using the premise that united these men and women are stronger and more capable of promoting changes. (Fábio Ramalho – UGT’s press / Picture: FH Mendes)

Public servants against project of law 257/2016

The project of supplementary law 257/2016 was sent to the congress on March 22, 2016, to authorize the refinancing of debts of the Brazilian States and of the Federal District, and will cause a devastating effect on public servants from the three government areas, in the opinion of trade union officers.

By predicting changes in the Fiscal Responsibility Act that expand the restrictions on federal, State, Federal District and city servers, the Supplementary law will impose a series of tax demands as a condition for accessing the aid plan to the states and Federal district.

Luiz Carlos Silva de Oliveira, president of Fesmepar and UGT’s secretary of the public servants department, warns to the fact that in each implementation stage of the fiscal adjustment there will be suspension of hiring staff and of job/position creation, preventing changes in the careers of servers that cause increased spending, freezing the salaries of servers and defrayal expenses, limitation of the minimum wage adjustment to inflation level and the introduction of voluntary retirement programs and encouragement of leave for public servers and employees.

The struggle of the servants and the pressure on congressmen brought victories in the vote that is taking place at the House of Representatives, with the removal of the main threats to the servers rights. The forecast that the annual growth of primary current expenditure will be limited to the inflation index, which is measured annually by the National Broad Consumer Price Index – IPCA, still remains a threat.
International Youth Day 2016

Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production through Decent Work for Youth

“Access to productive and decent work is the best way young people can realize their aspirations, improve their living conditions and actively participate in society,” says ILO Director-General Guy Ryder.

On this International Youth Day, we focus on “The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production”.

Young women and men are shaping our future and have the potential to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Decent work for youth emerges where rights and opportunities converge. It guarantees that young women and men can raise their voices and exercise their leadership, today and tomorrow.

The ILO is committed to promoting the expansion of employment opportunities for young people everywhere. It is a formidable task that requires collaboration, action and know-how.

Today, on International Youth Day, we are launching the What Works in Youth Employment knowledge platform, a resource designed to improve understanding of those policies and actions that work to improve labour market outcomes for young people.

Building on our 2012 Call for Action, this knowledge platform draws attention to key intervention areas that are addressing the youth employment challenge, including: skills training, entrepreneurship promotion, employment services, subsidized employment, employment and economic policies, and rights for young people.

The platform is a knowledge anchor of the UN Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, which aims to expand action and partnerships on youth employment and shape global investments for youth, ensuring that youth have the opportunity and choice to build their skills and transform their energy and ideas into products and services that foster a cleaner and more sustainable planet.

Trade union solidarity moves mountains

UNI solidarity campaign in favor of Orhan Akman, with the goal of being a counterpart to his expel from Peru, proved its value. Peru’s Immigration Department presented a new resolution that guarantees Orhan Akman, UNI America coordinator in Peru, to reentry that country.

On behalf of UNI Americas, we thank all of our unionist colleagues in the region for their solidarity. Without these declarations, such as sending letters to president Ollanta Humala and all the other activities against his deportation, this would not be possible.

We would also like to thank our colleagues at CGTP, General Confederation of Workers of Peru, and Ver.di, German union, for all their support throughout the last four months, demanding answers of the Peruvian government. Likewise, we would like to thank the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas, TUCA, for their support to their affiliated institutions reporting this situation at a regional level. esta situación a nivel regional.

We know that, without the solidarity of everyone we could not achieve this important victory for UNI-Americas in defense of democratic freedom and human rights in this country.

Thank you very much and let’s keep on the fight!
UGT in the 12th World Social Forum

A march on the streets of Montreal, Canada, on August 9, marked the beginning of the World Social Forum (WSF) 2016. In its 12th edition, it is the first time that this event, created in Porto Alegre, in 2001, is held in a country in the northern hemisphere.

Gathering more than 10,000 people that represent several social organizations, the WSF’s motto this year is: Another world is needed. Together, it is possible. The event tries to establish a counterpoint to the global capitalist crisis. UGT was represented by officers Cicero Pereira da Silva, UGT’s assistant secretary for the Department of Integration to the Americas and Elimar Damin Cavaleto, UGT’s National Secretary of Human Rights.

Until next Sunday, August 14, more than a thousand civil society organizations from 118 countries will hold around 1,200 activities. “The economic, social and solidarity alternatives to the capitalist crisis, the defense of the rights of nature and environmental justice; migrations and citizenship without borders; human and social rights,” are some of the 13 issues discussed during the meeting.

During its 15 year-history, the WSF was mainly held in Porto Alegre, but it also took place in Belém (Pará), in Mali, India, Pakistan and twice in Tunisia.

Protest against the sale of BR Distributor

Workers answered the call of SINDMINÉRIOS, an institution affiliated with UGT and SINDPETRO and, at the crack of dawn of August 02, held a protest against the intention of the government of selling BR distributor.

Everyone knows the risks. The consequences might lead to precarious conditions and even unemployment.

The delay of activities in the BACUB Unit, in Cubatão - State of São Paulo, was the first of many other protests that are still to come by workers to avoid the dismantling of the company.

Come to add forces to us, SAY NO TO THE SALE OF BR DISTRIBUTOR! (Sindminérios)

Pacific act against lack of public policies

For the end of injustices that motorcycle drivers have been victim of in Sao Paulo.

DIEESE’s Technical Note

Technical Note number 140 – The impact of demographic changes in social security and fiscal adjustment.

This note analyzes aspects of demography, social security and facts related to the need of tax changes to show that ageing population cannot be used to reduce social security rights, but, instead, to create public policies.

The UGT Global is the Newsletter of International Information of the União Geral dos Trabalhadores.

The UGT union is an organization formed to defend the Brazilian workers across a broad trade union movement, national, ethical, supportive, independent, democratic and innovative.

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