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UGT GLOBAL
Citizen, Ethical and Innovative Syndicalism

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Government of São Paulo attends UGT’s seminar on Labor Day

Marcio França, governor of the State of São Paulo, attended the opening of the Labor Day 2018 Seminar, organized by UGT, which is taking place at the Braston Hotel in São Paulo, from April 26 to 27.

Concerning the theme of the event, “4th Industrial Revolution - The impacts on the world of work and the construction of a new society based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),” Márcio França was emphatic by saying that this is one of the main challenges of modern society, because technology is inevitable. “I went to an assembly plant in Taubaté these days to inaugurate a new line of engines and there were so many robots there that there were almost no employees.”

According to the governor, due to this scenario, it is essential to strengthen democratic institutions, so that our country has quality jobs and better income distribution. “They are trying to demoralize the public servant, passing the idea that, in the public service, nobody cares about anything. By doing this, one will decrease the size of the State, making it increasingly weak.

UGT attends public hearing on racism

On April 9, Ana Cristina dos Santos Duarte, UGT’s Secretary of Human Diversity Affairs, attended a Public Hearing in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, related to the impacts of racism on youth in the city.

The hearing was conducted by the Human Rights Commission for Children and Adolescents of the Niterói City Council, along with Bem TV channel, and aimed to denounce racism and fight against oppression.

Data released by the United Nations reveals that every 23 minutes a young black man is killed in Brazil. The figures are from the Map of Violence 2016, from the Latin American College of Social Sciences (Flacso), collected until 2014, and show the victimization of the black population in Brazil.

The homicide rate for the white population dropped from 14.5% in 2003 to 10.6% in 2014. The numbers for the black population increased from 71.7% to 158.9% in the same period. That is, they die 2.6 times more than white people by firearm.

The same happens with the homicide rate of women. The percentage of deaths of black and brown women killed rose 19.5%, while the rate of homicides against white women decreased 11.9%. 
Paulo Rossi takes over the Labor Department of the State of Paraná

The union leader Paulo Rossi took over the Labor State Department precisely on Labor Day. The inauguration was given by Cida Borghetti (PP party), governor of Paraná, in Curitiba, and was attended by more than 700 people, including union and community leaders, businessmen, congressmen, councilors and workers of several categories.

Paulo Rossi is president of UGT’s State branch of Paraná (UGT-PR) as well as president of the Union of Workers in Companies that Provide Services to Third Parties (Sineepres). This is the first time that a unionist has taken over the Labor department. For the governor, Rossi has enough knowledge to help in the employment policy of the State Government. “A worker and a leader, he is prepared to collaborate with our important policy of attracting investments and creating employment opportunities for the parents of the state of Paraná,” she said.

Cida also emphasized that Rossi’s appointment is a way of bringing the State Government closer to the world of work. “We want to stay close to this important class that generates jobs and needs work.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 6 Photo Contest: get to know the winners!

Parallel to the 8th World Water Forum, held in Brasilia, in March, UGT and UNDP (United Nations Development Program) launched the “SDG number 6 Photo Contest”.

This contest aimed at stimulating the dissemination and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal number 6 - Clean water and sanitation. The participant should send images that refer to the country’s economic, social, environmental and institutional development goals, based on the theme of water.

The three best photos were selected. The first place was for Marcelo Aparecido de Oliveira, from São Paulo, with an image that, according to him, portrays “women who walk more than 1 km in search of water, which, although untreated, is the only one available.” Marcelo won a prize in the amount of R$ 1 thousand.

Tayany Romano, also from São Paulo, won the second place and was awarded R$ 500 with the picture “It’s a drop of water”. According to the author, the message that the photo wants to pass is: “Be the drop of water that makes the difference, not the one that is needed for those who suffer from the shortage. By 2030, together, we will be a spring.”

And the third chosen image was that of Luana Neves Cordeiro Cavalcanti: “Madeira River: a spectacle of nature”. Luana, who is from Rondônia, won the prize of R$ 300. “Besides being water sources, the rivers are of great cultural, social, economic and historical importance for my State.”
Isaú Chacon, president of UGT’s Regional Branch of the Federal District; Lourenço Ferreira do Prado, UGT’s Secretary of International Affairs; and Robson Haritiana, assistant secretary of UGT’s Indigenous Peoples Department, participated in a public hearing held by the Commission on Human Rights and Participatory Legislation (CDH) in Brasilia.

“Currently, we, indigenous people, are invisible characters of history, threatened with extinction, with lands invaded by environmental predators and discriminated against by the prejudice of those who consider us useless or enemies of progress.

“I want to propose the construction of an inclusive development, with a focus on the human being, and not only on capital.

“We cannot accept development at any cost, especially when that cost is human and indigenous rights,” said Robson Haritiana.

During the hearing, which was requested by Senator Paulo Paim (PT party - State of Rio Grande do Sul), a consensus was reached: the demarcation of lands and the guarantee of access to natural resources are the solution for strengthening the autonomy of indigenous peoples.

Regina Perso-na Zagretti is in Brussels, Belgium, this week to attend the 12th meeting of ITUC Women’s Committee to discuss issues related to violence and harassment against men and women in their workplace. There will also be a seminar to set the agenda for discussion at the next meeting of the ILO (International Labor Organization), which will be held in June.

As Secretary of UGT’s Women’s Department and vice-president of ITUC’s Women’s Committee, Regina is well aware of the difficulty of dealing with this sensitive issue: harassment can be serious both for employees as for the companies. This event that took place in Brussels gathers women from Europe, America, Africa and Asia to discuss this recurring topic, since harassment is a crime and makes many women victims of unimaginable situations.

The “clock of violence”, a website created by the Maria da Penha Institute, makes the high indexes of harassment related to the female population clear.

During the seminar, participants will be able to get a general view on the “Yellow Report”, which describes violence and harassment in the workplace and also makes a wide evaluation on the relationship between the government and employers concerning this subject.