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UGT em defesa dos Trabalhadores

## Workers in the fight

Workers show they are united in an act in defense of rights and against reforms

On the national day of paralysis, convened in a unitary way by the trade union centers, workers showed that they are united in the defense of the rights and in the fight against the reforms that jeopardize social achievements.

In São Paulo, an act that took place in front of the National Institute of Social Security (INSS) building next to the Santa Efigênia viaduct brought together thousands of protesters. These people were not only against the pension reform but also against Constitutional Amendment Proposal (PEC) 241/55, against outsourcing in the end activity, against the negotiated over the legislated, among other projects

Around 11 A.M., Ricardo Patah, national president of UGT, officially opened the demonstrations.



In his speech, Mr. Patah emphasized the need to change the agenda of this pension reform, "which, among other absurdities, established that women are to retire with the same period of contribution as men. Forgetting that in addition to lower wages women still face the issue of double shifts. We cannot afford this setback," he said.

The president of UGT defended the unity of trade union centers in the fight for respect and in defense of workers' civic rights. To Canindé Pegado, UGT's secretary general, it is important to value the unit of action of the centers. "This is the only way to being able to prevent these changes that remove the rights of Brazilian workers."

In addition to members of UGT, the protest had representatives of CGTB, CSP/Conlutas, CTB, CUT, Força Sindical and Nova Central.

### SIEMACO São Paulo is also active

The **Union of Employees in Companies Serving Services of Care and Maintenance, Urban Cleaning and Maintenance of Green Areas of São Paulo (Siemaco)**, a union affiliated with UGT, was also active at the protests and took to the streets to protest against labor rights. In the garages, urban cleaning teams erected banners "in defense of jobs and of the reduction of working shifts without salary reduction", "in defense of retirement and against pension reform", among others.



## Workers say no to rights removal

### Minas Gerais: unions take it to the streets of Belo Horizonte

Sete de Setembro Square, in the heart of Belo Horizonte, was taken by flags of every color on November 25. Trade union centers from Minas Gerais attended the national call and united they occupied the streets of the State capital.



The unified public event of the National Day of Fight, Strikes, Paralysis and Protests was attended by representatives of social movements and university and secondary students, even from schools that are occupied in Belo Horizonte. There were about three thousand people and Minas Gerais made it loud and clear: it will not allow setbacks or removal of rights.

"On this historic day of unity of the trade union movement, we are saying no to this package of evildoers of the government. The state of Minas Gerais will not remain silent. This public act is a symbol of our resistance. We, workers, cannot afford to pay for the incompetence of public managers," Fabian Schetinni, Secretary General of UGT's State branch of Minas Gerais, said.

### Pernambuco is against PEC 55 and reforms of the government

On November 25, national strikes brought together thousands of workers throughout Brazil showing their strength against the PEC 55, currently following legal channels at the Senate. If approved, the government will limit public spending for 20 years, disregarding other factors such as an increase in population and in demand, the need to increase GDP, among others. Also, the social security and labor reforms are object of protest by trade union centers.

In Pernambuco, the joint effort between the trade union centers UGT, CUT, Força Sindical, NCST, CTB, CSP-Conlutas, CGTB and Intersindical caused the state to stop in the morning. Buses stopped, subways were not in service, bank workers twiddled their thumbs, and several other categories joined the movement in favor of a more just nation for its people. Trade union centres understand that there are other less costly ways to get Brazil out of the crisis without involving the worker's money.

### Rio Grande do Sul: take it to the streets to protest against PEC

On November 25, UGT's state branch of Rio Grande do Sul, led by its President Paulo Barck, actively participated in the activities of the National Day of Struggle and Paralysis, Against the Tax Adjustment (PEC/55) proposed by the Federal Government that, in general, will bring a series of losses to workers.

**UGT also demanded in the State Government to withdrawal a bill from the Legislative Assembly, similar to that of the Federal Government, which reduces the contribution of the State and increases the contribution of public servants due to the administrative crisis in Rio Grande do Sul, which was created by poor management that took place in the State.**



### Judicial Power Trade Union against PEC 55/2016

"The servants of the Judiciary Power of the State of São Paulo are not to blame for the crisis in the country," says Wagner Souza, President of Judicial Power Trade Union.

Servants, representatives of UGT and the population, summoned by the Union of Servants of the Judiciary Power of the State of São Paulo, gathered in Praça João Mendes and held a demonstration against PEC 241, current 55/2016, which is being processed by the Federal Senate.

Servers from various forums (Presidente Prudente, Lins, Marília, Cafelina, Itapira, Mogi Guaçu and Santa Isabel) increased the demonstration in the State of São Paulo, showing their revolt against the removal of rights that the governments have been promoting systematically.



TV UGT: National Day of Struggles and Manifestations



Roberto de Lucena: Labor reform is villainous

## Letter of Florianópolis is approved by UGT's 4th National Plenary Session of Commerce Workers

After three days of intense debates, trade union leaders who attended the 4th National Plenary Session, presented a letter. The event was held from November 23 to 25, in Florianópolis, Santa Catarina. This letter expressed the whole process of discussion around the problems pointed out during the lectures and presentations that were given.



Based on the finding of the current threats, "in which the whole working class has its achieved rights threatened by the decisions that aim exclusively to attend the employer sector, with the argument of balancing the economy and seeking to insert public policies of austerity in society", the Letter of Florianópolis proposes:

"UGT must strengthen the union actions coordinated with other trade union centers against the severe threats to the rights of the workers and suggest alternatives that contribute to overcome the crisis without affecting the rights of the workers", and "to fight the types of work that come disguised as legal person in employment relationships that are clearly characterized by a bond between employee and employer. "

The Letter presents "the challenge of incorporating e-commerce workers into trade union representation" and asks the advisory department and UGT's Institute of Higher Studies "a permanent job of prospective analysis and monitoring trends in technological development and its impact on the labor world."

The Letter requests "the participation of trade unions and workers in business reorganization plans that imply changes in labor relations" and "union representation at the level of the production chain" whenever "the trade union of commerce workers also represents the workers involved in transport and storage operations" and encouraging "the creation of Global Work Agreements with international trade union federations such as UNI Americas."

Commerce workers declare themselves "against a pension reform that extends the time of age or contribution so that there is no penalty for the poorest people and for women who have multiple working shifts."

## Union centers demand achievement of US goals

On November 18, the penultimate day of the COP22 Climate Conference, the main concern was about the threat of Donald Trump, the elected president of the United States, in making it harder to achieve the defined carbon reduction goals internally.

Brazilian and US trade union centers, other associations, including international NGOs, were at the protest. The demonstration aims to charge the US government for compliance with its share of the agreement, with the development of contributions by 2030, which is essential to prevent the planet from heating above the expected two degrees.

Renato Guerra, Assistant Secretary of UGT's Environment Department, participated in the protest of the International Trade Union Confederation, which charged the participation of the United States in achieving its goals.

"Making countries to recognize their historical responsibility is very important because it brings us to the level of reducing emissions and transferring technology, which are essential for the sustainable development of the planet," Renato Guerra concluded.



Minister of Labor attends the 4th National Plenary



Jennings Announces Retirement

## Unions advocate leniency against unemployment

Trade union centers issued a joint statement in which they defend the regulation of leniency agreements so that the companies involved in Operation Car Wash can maintain their operations and stop the process of extinguishing job positions. In the text, these institutions analyze the impact of research in the labor market and show that, since the operation started, in early 2014, 87 thousand jobs were deactivated in 29 companies in the infrastructure sector.

"Another 65 thousand indirect jobs can be added to this figure. Such jobs are estimated to have been eliminated in companies that provide services or suppliers of inputs," they said.

But the impact is even greater, says the document, in the face of the fact that for every R\$ 1 million invested in the heavy construction sector, R\$ 1.6 million is traded in economy. "The negative impact of the Operation Car Wash across the economy would be 1.9 million terminated jobs, which would represent about R\$ 22.4 billion in salaries," trade union centers companies said, considering data from consultants of the labor market".

[Check the note in full.](#)

## Protest demands punishment of the slaughter in Unaf

On November 21, the Trade Union Station of the National Union of Labor Tax Auditors in Minas Gerais, with the support of the trade union centers, among which UGT's State branch of Minas Gerais, held a public act in the square of the Legislative Assembly Of Minas Gerais (ALMG), followed by a walk to the Federal Justice building, both in the Santo Agostinho neighborhood, in the Center-South region of the Belo Horizonte.

It was a unified protest against the dismantling of labor laws and also against the impunity of the constituents of the so-called "Unaf slaughter" and for the strengthening of labor inspection in Brazil.

Those who were charged with participating in the crime have already been tried and convicted. But the ones who ordered the crime (the brothers Antério and Norberto Mânica) and the middlemen (Hugo Pimenta and José de Castro) await in freedom the judgment of the appeal.



## UGT-RJ in the celebration of the Black Awareness Day

On November 20, UGT's State branch of Rio de Janeiro (UGT-RJ), through its Department of Human Diversity, participated in the celebration of the Black Awareness Day. Traditionally performed with the washing of the bust of Zumbi dos Palmares, the manifestation recalled the 30 years of construction of the monument, in Square XI.



The program began early at dawn, with capoeira circles, presentations of the afoxés Sons of Gandhi and Ilê Alá and the drum rolls. Speeches, flag raising ceremony, National Anthem performance and cultural presentations filled the commemorative agenda.

**Ana Cristina dos Santos, UGT's Secretary of Human Diversity**, emphasized the 30-year anniversary of the monument to Zumbi dos Palmares, which, according to her, brings to mind a trajectory of great struggles. "We experienced 30 years of dreams, perseverance and resistance, but it was also a period of achievements and advances in the policy of promoting racial equality," she said, lamenting the current Brazilian political and economic moment, in which affirmative action policies are being threatened.

## Active policies of the labor market in Latin America

Executive summary that presents the first systematic analysis of successful experiences in active labor market policies in Latin America and the Caribbean is published. It also evaluates their effectiveness in relation to improving social conditions and the labor market..



Experiências exitosas

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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