



## August, 14: National Action Day

Unified mobilization gathers 20 thousand workers at the Paulista Avenue in São Paulo. Nearly 20 thousand people, according to the organizers, participated in the National Unified Fight Parade, on August, 14, on Paulista Avenue, central region of São Paulo.

The initiative came from **GUW (General Union of Workers)** along with other union centrals, student and social movements and it was held in the main Brazilian cities. The main objective was to spread claims from the working class, especially the approval of the project that foresees the reduction of working time for shift work to 40 weekly hours without reducing salaries, which is following legal ways under the National Congress.



The union chairman José Gonzaga da Cruz, Executive Director of GUW and Vice-president of the Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo, while speaking on behalf of the president Ricardo Patah, reminded that "currently, GUW is the third largest union central of Brazil that condemns this neoliberalism that has nothing to do with the real interests of Brazilian workers". The Federal Deputy Vicente Paulo da Silva, aka "Vicentinho" (PT party), writer of the project of 40 hours, warned that there is a group of deputies that are in on the business class whose been doing everything so that the project doesn't get approved".

The mobilization had its gathering starting at 10 A.M. on the Osvaldo Cruz Square and from there it occupied two lanes of the avenue. Several trade union leaders made speeches criticizing the Federal, State and Municipal governments. Among the crowd, workers were pulling posters, banners and balloons, all of them containing messages or sentences related to the movement. The final gathering was in front of MASP (Art Museum of São Paulo), with a political act. ([read the document containing the workers claims](#)).

**No to dismissals!**

**On for the legal ratification of ILO Conventions number 151 and 158!**

**Reduction of interest rate!**

**End of the social security factor!**

**Reduction of working time for shift work without reducing salaries and rights!**

## Temer receives the visit of G UW



On August, 6, presidents of union centrals gathered with the president of the Federal Chamber, deputy Michel Temer (PMDB party-São Paulo state), to discuss the proposal of Constitution amendment (PEC) 231/95 - that, if approved, will reduce the working time from 44 hours to 40 weekly hours, without a salary reduction.

It was settled that the Chamber will set a General Committee on August, 18, to discuss the measure.

The committee is, actually, a Chamber special plenary session to discuss a relevant issue of project under popular initiative. In this kind of plenary session the guests are allowed to express their thoughts, unlike what usually happens at the sessions, in which only deputies are allowed to do so. On August, 18, businessmen and union leaders will express their thoughts.

**G UW** was represented by its **Vice-President and Federal Deputy Roberto Santiago** (PV party/state of São Paulo) and Miguel Salaberry Filho President of **SECEFERGS** and **Secretary of Institutional Relationships of G UW**.

The deputy Roberto Santiago said that the objective of the meeting was to discuss a calendar to vote the proposal under a plenary session. The intention of unionists is to make viable the PEC vote in the first or second week of September.

The deputy informed that the centrals will start in the following days a series of action to pressure the Chamber into approving the proposal. He advanced that, on August, 14, trade union centrals will nurture manifestations in all the state capitals in pro of the PEC approval. The actions will also include meetings with leaders to negotiate support to politicians benches for the inclusion of the issue in the plenary session agenda.

## 1st National Seminar of Bank and Insurance Workers

The General Union of Workers - **G UW**, through its Department of Finance, Credit and Insurance Issues, and with the support of **CONTEC** and **FENESPIC**, invites the entire class of bank and insurance workers to participate in the "1st National Seminar of Bank and Insurance Workers"

**Lecturers:**

**Lourenço Ferreira do Prado** – CONTEC  
**Deputado Estadual Davi Zaia** - FEEB SP/MS  
 Magnus Ribas Apostólico – Fenaban  
 Armando Vergílio dos Santos Júnior – Susep  
 José Roberto Mendes do Amaral – Banco do Brasil  
 Geraldo Martins/Marcos R.Carnielli – Itaú/Unibanco



## GUW is elected to the FNDC



The **General Union of Workers** was elected to take a seat at the Deliberative Council of the **National Forum for the Democratization (FNDC)** for the biennium 2009/2011. The election took place at the XV Plenary Session, in Rio de Janeiro, on July, 31 and August, 1.

Representatives from the following institutions: National Federation of Journalists - Fenaj (**Celso Augusto Schröder**); Brazilian Association of Community Radio Network - Abraco (**José Luiz Nascimento Sóter**); the National Association of Institutions related to Artists and Technicians of Shows and Entertainment - Aneate, (**Berenice Mendes Bezerra**); the Federal Psychology Committee - CFP, (**Roseli Goffman**); Interstate Federation of Radio and Television Network Companies - Fitert, (**Nascimento Silva**) were conducted to the FNDC Executive Committee.

The enlargement of the FNDC Executive Board was approved under consensus, and it obtained another institution. The measure will be sanctioned in the Forum's next Plenary Session. The new institution, under this management, is CUT, represented by the National Secretary of Communication of the central, **Rosane Bertotti**.

The XV FNDC Plenary Session gathered, in Rio, participants from 42 national and regional institutions and from 10 Forum committees. Besides **the General Union of Workers (GUW)**, the Central of Brazilian Workers (CTB), National Federation of Employees in Companies and Private and Public Organs of Data Processing, Computer and computer alike services (Fenadados) and the Association of Public Radio Network of Brazil (Arpub), affiliated with the Forum in the fight for democracy in communications.

## Journalist talks about media dictatorship at GUW



The journalist and writer **Altamiro Borges**, went to the national headquarter of the **General Union of Workers - GUW** on August, 11, where he gave a lecture on "Media Dictatorship".

The topic is also the title of his most recent book, which was offered to the lecture participants.

During the meeting, the journalist tried and emphasized the importance of the workers in participating in the **1st National Conference of Communication - Confecom**, event in which it should be defined the principles that will rule communication policies in Brazil.

The journalist highlighted that one of the most serious problems to be faced is the concentration of large media companies in the hands of 4 or 5 business groups, that withhold companies in varied segments: television, radio, newspaper, magazine, internet, among others, the so called cross ownership.

## Commerce workers begin Salary Campaign



The **Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo** and the **Commerce Workers Union of Cotia**, both **GUW** affiliates (**General Union of Workers**), along with three other unions from the metro area of São Paulo delivered, on August, 6, an agenda containing requests of the class to **Fecomercio (Commerce Federation of the State)**.

In order to deliver the document to the employers union, a parade was held with the participation of around 600 commerce workers. The command of the manifestation was in charge of the president of the Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo, **Ricardo Patah**, who also presides the National GUW. The act had the support of Fecomercários (Federation of Commerce Employees in the State of São Paulo). The Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo represents around 450 thousand workers in its foundation and it will wait for an answer from the employers sector.

## GUW gathers with unions of Três Lagoas MS

On August, 11, the secretary of the **GUW Organization and Union Politics Department**, **Chiquinho Pereira**, participated in a meeting with several union institutions in Três Lagoas, in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul. The meeting took place in the headquarter of the Union of Employees in Health Companies of Três Lagoas, and counted on the presence of the president of this institution, **João de Carvalho** and the general secretary **Wilson**; **Telma Regina Canisso**, President of the Union of Bank Workers of Três Lagoas, and the director **Manoel Rosa**; **Luiz Carlos Xavier**, Director of the Union of Highway Workers of Três Lagoas; **João Francisco**, Director of the Union of Public Servants of this town; **Sebastião Freitas Borges**, President of the Union of Civil Construction Workers of Três Lagoas; and the General Secretary of the Union of Bakers of Campo Grande, **Fábio Salomão**.

In the event, the importance of organizing the unions of Três Lagoas along with GUW was discussed as a propelling weapon to establish a state **GUW** in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul.

## Mercosur Consultative Forum has meeting at GUW

The Brazilian section of **FCES (Social-Economic Consultative Forum)** had a meeting on July, 28, at the GUW auditorium. Representatives of workers, businessmen, and the third sector (Co-ops and Non-Governmental Organizations - NGOs).

The meeting was opened by the **unionist Valdir Vicente de Barros, National Secretary of the GUW Public Policies Department** and also its representative at Mercosur.



Participants also discussed the methodology of research to the national sections of FCES and the preparation to the 35th Mercosur Plenary Session, expected to take place in September in Montevideo (Uruguay). **Valdir Vicente**, **Cícero Pereira**, **Mônica Mata Roma** e **Joyce Ribeiro** (General Union of Workers), **Ízis Ferreira**, **Darci Piana** and **Jayme Perez** (Commerce National Confederation), **Lúcia Maduro** (Industry National Confederation), **Maria Sílvia Portella** (CUT) and **Ademar dos Santos Mineiro** (FASE) participated in the meeting.



“The General Union of Workers (GUW) reaffirms its historic commitments to the working class, while seeking to expand its methods of action, with ethics, courage and the certainty that Brazil can be better and more just.”  
**Ricardo Patah – UGT’s President**

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