

“ CAPAJ “

Juridical Commission for the auto-development of First Andean People

Eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights, Geneva 25-27 November 2019

Our organisation, CAPAJ (Legal Commission for the Self-Development of Indigenous Peoples), in this United Nations forum on business and human rights, leads us to reflect upon the need for a commitment to human freedom and to not allow any attempt to align our way of life with the hegemony of the state. Our goal is not the same as the banks or transnational corporations, our form of resistance is from those at the bottom against those at the top, like townspeople, like ancestral nations. Our responsibility in the promotion of self-development goes beyond any states' legal framework.

Your governments try to determine the fate of Indigenous Peoples, and those of us with indigenous faces are put together and taken to other peoples' fights, wanting to direct the path of our lives towards a systemic goal of perpetual slavery. They use terms such as “sustainable development, development cooperation”, “sustainability”, “self-development”. All of these terms are empty and misleading because the same old colonial, centralist, anti-indigenous state is hidden behind them.

We cannot get back our freedom if we are governed by presidential institutions such as Peru, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Brazil, Chile etc. These inventions, these mapped paths were the the most infamous and painful events of our history. Our culture is not written down. It is a collaboration of an entire community and between us we are making history. Our peoples are legally and constitutionally subjected to a state which continues to impose on us a social model and a process of colonisation, and we resist this colonialism through the recognition of our indigenous authorities to ensure a bilateral relationship between the Indigenous Peoples and the governments. After more than 500 years of oppression, we don't have anything to celebrate but everything to fight for.

What happened in the heart of Ecuador goes against us as the eyes of the state become a dominant company, putting a rope around the neck of the people in the name of economic and centralist freedom. It is these eyes of market economy, and from the democratic “concept” that the roles of subordination are inverted from the very heart of a historic model of dominance.

President Moreno first writes off 4.5 billion dollars of debt owed by transnational corporations for tax evasion and on the other hand, asks for a loan of 4.2 billion USD from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under conditions over four years. Owner of his government and slave to his system, like all presidents in office who walk through the swampy terrain of their

commitments, following the instructions of the United States, the most aggressive country in the world, his gringa face that betrays him. Executioner of people, creator of religious sectors, and promoters of corruption, pretending to defend the interests of the people using fear and terror. Who benefited from the write off of the debt? Simply, ANDES PETROLEUM , OCP, AGIP OIL, REPSOL, PETROORIENTAL, MOVISTAR, BANANERA NOBOA, QUIMICOS SPARTAN, COCA COLA etc.

The ideas and illusions are, as always, false. The protective shadow of the state. Why do the people have to pay for the debt owed by the biggest tax evaders that took money from the country? And on top of the rise in oil prices, hunger.

In the preamble of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights it states that the people have “recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression”. Our lands have gold, oil, silver, wood, large rivers, they have everything and they are looting it all without any form of truce or leaving anything in tact. They have turned us into supporters of “rich countries”, providing them with provisions and all the resources they need to be rich and yet say that we are “poor countries”.

The domination framework was and continues to be the deprivation of everything and in particular of our land. Our cause is therefore to take back our natural goods until our land is free, and everything is free. We will therefore fight until the end to be a culture of harmony and preservation of life and we are not afraid.

We have returned and there are millions of us.

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