



**JOINT DECLARATION
PARTY OF THE EUROPEAN LEFT (EL) - SAO PAULO FORUM (FSP)
BRASILIA, 2 July 2023**

The political forces that make up the EL and the FSP, gathered in the city of Brasilia, reaffirm our commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes, the unrestricted defence of human rights without distinction on political, racial, gender, language or religious grounds, and respect for the self-determination of peoples. We support sustainable development with equitable distribution of wealth, guaranteeing the preservation of the environment. We are aware that the political situations of each bloc have particular characteristics specific to each region. However, we are united by ideas, the defence and the struggle for the same causes.

Following the political initiative of the popular forces and progressive governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, incoherent and anti-democratic neo-liberalism is consummating its media attacks, reactive to the ideas of the forces of the Latin American left. The partial setbacks that they had temporarily achieved through judicial persecution (lawfare) and imprisonment of popular leaders, have now turned into victories, or into an open dispute between the neo-fascist ultra-right and broad democratic, progressive and popular fronts that are advancing in the construction and strengthening of unitary coalitions that have emerged triumphant.

The European construction is going through a deep economic and social crisis, with a degradation of democratic coexistence that threatens the rights of women and sexual diversity, with a great advance of the extreme right. The heteropatriarchal capitalist development model has exceeded the biophysical limits of the planet, environmental pollution and the uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources threaten life in the world, and any global alternative must respond to the climate crisis.

The European Union (EU), after timid gestures that pointed towards a political construction of its own, with the events of recent years, such as the war in Ukraine, has revealed the submission of European governments to the centres of economic and political power. The United States (US) and NATO have taken the lead to reorganise the Western and international system, as is being recognised by the EU itself. We note with concern that in this new world order, the EU has given up on deepening multilateral relations.

The West is preparing to go to war against China following US policy. As part of this reorganisation we have seen an offensive like never before against people in the global south in particular, with huge price increases, the winners being above all the energy and arms production sectors.

These consequences have also been detrimental for Europe, with a worsening of the social and economic situation that was already dragging on the continent. One of the most serious crises is the migration crisis both within Europe (with the displacement of millions of people from Ukraine) and at its external borders, a terrible example being the sinking in the Mediterranean of a boat with more than 700 people - including hundreds of children - to which the closest countries did not provide any humanitarian aid for days.

We condemn the international agenda of hatred and regression of rights led by the extreme right in its various national expressions. An agenda whose priority is to eliminate or restrict the rights won in terms of human, feminist and LGTBI+ rights; which is deeply racist, xenophobic and criminalises social protest against the most deprived sectors.

The world is being reshaped, as evidenced by the dollar's gradual loss of influence and China's international role, palpable through economic agreements with Latin America, Asia and Africa, the mediation that has led to the agreement to re-establish relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran, and its growing technological capacity.



Progressive advances in Latin America and the Caribbean have made it possible for the continent to have its own voice and proposals in the international concert of nations that must be heard. A voice that is committed to peace, dialogue, the rejection of all kinds of blockades or unilateral sanctions outside the framework of the UN. This new phase, with an essential role for the forces of the FSP, allows for the recovery and advancement of a process of horizontal, independent regional integration with the capacity to maintain international relations of a multilateral nature, in contrast to the EU's involution.

The renewed strength of CELAC makes it an important and independent interlocutor in the international arena. This circumstance gives special significance to the upcoming CELAC-EU Summit, in which Latin America and the Caribbean are in a position to reject pressures to perpetuate and renew neo-colonial trade systems, in order to move towards equal relations with the rest of the world, recognising asymmetries based on mutual benefit and advancing towards a multipolar world.

It follows from this situation that the US, together with the EU alone, cannot form the bloc from which to confront China, so it needs to reposition Latin America and the Caribbean as its 'backyard', dismantling the integration process that CELAC and other organisations represent, wiping out the region's progressive governments and recovering lost ground in Asia and Africa. Something that has not been achieved even with the manipulation of the causes and consequences of the war in Ukraine.

It is pertinent to recognise that the UN must become one of the main interlocutors for a negotiated and diplomatic solution to international conflicts, recovering the original meaning of its Founding Charter, and put an end to the political, economic and security conflict that the US is pushing against China.

Therefore, the FSP and the EL consider that a priority objective of all governments, social and political forces of a progressive nature must be to push for the opening of negotiations to put an end to the war in Ukraine. All peace plans should be considered, without prior demands for dialogue, even a ceasefire, opening the way to a just and negotiated solution to the conflict that takes into account respect for international legality, respect for the sovereignty of states, and the right to security of all states in the region. The current situation calls for Europe to work towards a strategic autonomy of the EU in its international relations and to dismantle its "NATO security" model before the European peoples, affirming even more the model of "comprehensive collective security". The United Nations should convene a broad and diverse Peace and Security Conference. We also support all initiatives presented by heads of state, regional organisations, social and political actors of different tendencies and ideologies that advance the solution to this confrontation.

History has taught us that only the unity in diversity of the political forces of the left, the social and popular movements and the progressive intelligentsia will allow us to overcome the difficult economic and financial crisis, inflation, the regressive policies of the neoliberal governments and to make the necessary complementarity between our countries, peace and sovereignty a reality, contributing to economic and social development for the benefit of all peoples.

We agree to implement the proposals set out below:

- Strengthen a broad front of struggle for peace that prepares for 21 September (International Day of Peace) a mobilisation in defence of peace and security throughout the planet. As proposed in various international



articulations, such as the European Forum of left, green and progressive forces, which will support and disseminate the proposals made in Latin America.

- To carry out a common campaign in defence of peace and solidarity among peoples, taking as its starting point the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace and, in particular, the process of building "Total Peace" in Colombia.
- Strengthen joint initiatives against sexist violence and also political violence against women and dissident bodies.
- Support for the integration process in Latin America and the Caribbean and, in the short term, the holding of the Peoples' Summit to be held in Brussels (17-18 July 2023).
- Invite an FSP delegation to attend the European Forum of left, green and progressive forces (Madrid, November 2023).
- Participate in the Tribunal against the blockade of Cuba (Brussels, November 2023).
- To conduct a common campaign against EU sanctions against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, against the criminal US blockade against Cuba and against US and EU interference in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Special monitoring of electoral processes in the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean. When the political situation warrants, set up joint election observer missions.
- Deepen channels of exchange, study and collaboration between our parliamentarians and the foundations, institutes and/or training centres of the member parties.
- Invite Latin American and Caribbean sister forces and leaders to participate in the campaign for the upcoming European elections.
- There is an urgent need to prepare an alternative to the UN Climate Change Conference, which is far from being a useful tool in the fight against climate change and the "green transformation" with social justice.
- Hold joint events to commemorate the anniversaries of the coup d'états in Uruguay (June) and Chile (September).
- Jointly hold the Shared Visions 2024 Seminar in Europe