

DRAFT, MODIFIABLE UNTIL 10-4-23

We are going to present this document, at the beginning of May of this year 2023, in all the offices that the European Union has open.

**DOCUMENT AGREED BY THE ORGANIZATIONS
EUROPEAN PENSIONERS AND RETIREES
UNDERSIGNED**

**With the strength of unity and struggle
Retirees claim more decisively
what they have taken from us. We have paid for it and it belongs to us.**

The people who run the Capitalist organization called the European Union must know the opinion of the Pensioners of the 27 countries that compose it.

To this end, we have drafted and signed this letter by the organisations of pensioners and retirees listed at the end.

We know that the recipients of this document do not share our ideas. Whoever runs the EU agrees with capitalism as the political management of the economy.

The signatories of this document, who represent the interests of more than 99% of the voting population in Europe (although a high percentage vote deceived by false promises never kept), do not accept phrases such as those said by the one who was leader of the International Monetary Fund, and now heads the European Central Bank, Mrs Lagarde, who has dared to say publicly what the 1% of the people of the planet think, that is to say those who take advantage of capitalism by exploiting the remaining 99%.

We summarize what Mrs. Christine Lagarde said in two sentences:

- 1) Retired people live too long, and their pensions are a financial burden that our economic system cannot bear, given that they are unproductive people.
- 2) The measures taken at the beginning of the spring of 2023 by the European Central Bank (interest rates at 3.5%) are necessary to save the economy (it will be its economy of Capitalists) although it will cause the death of many people.

In reality, it is not only a leader of capitalism described as inhuman, psychopathic, unsupportive, selfish, exploitative, etc. it is what the leaders of the multinationals who are the ones who rule in Capitalism think.

READ AND SEE NOW WHAT THE WORKING CLASS THINKS, THE GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO MAKE SOCIETY WORK AND CREATE WEALTH:

The public social insurance system has been one of the greatest achievements of the working class of the last century. It has not been a concession due to the sensitivity of the governments of the capitalist countries and the business groups, but the result of a hard, irrepressible and often bloody class struggle.

The workers in the capitalist countries in their struggle for the character of their demands have been positively influenced by the conquests of the peoples of the USSR, which since its foundation, the revolutionary and communist government began to materialize them free of charge for the workers and for the whole people. And later, after World War II, for the entire socialist world. For the first time humanity, the workers achieved important achievements: free health, education, pensions, housing, social benefits, culture, transport and many more rights.

The workers in the capitalist countries, positively influenced by these conquests, with the development of their struggles throughout the world, managed to conquer, at a satisfactory level, social and social insurance rights for the working class and popular family. They forced the capitalists, the capitalist states themselves, under the fear and influence of the conquests in the socialist countries, to open their savings banks and pay a large part of the public health, pensions, social benefits and rights that helped workers and pensioners to have at least a decent life.

Unfortunately, the situation has changed against workers around the world after the dramatic counterrevolutionary overthrows in the Soviet Union and socialist countries in the early 1990s.

The capitalists immediately understood the change in the correlation of forces and went on the counter-offensive through a black propaganda, never before seen against the former socialist countries. Who can forget what R. Reagan has said about the overthrow of the evil empire over the Soviet Union? Who can forget the unfortunate propaganda arguments of the political leaders of the system, of a part of the media, of journalists, in Europe and throughout the world that for the tragic things we lived the fault was the high salaries, the wages, the high pensions?

We have to recognize that the leaders of the capitalist system have the capacity to sow illusions, to make believe that white is black, to disorient the workers, the popular strata in general as regards the real causes of the crisis, absolving the masters of the big business groups on safari for their profits, to those who are the real culprits for the crisis that have created their super profits, placing the blame on the real producers of the riches.

His tactics cannot be said to have been in vain. His campaign has been successful with much of the people in the world of work, who have unfortunately been caught up in

this propaganda and take no part in the struggles, accepting the logic that "we can't do anything".

Our class enemy also uses other more aggressive methods such as arrests (sometimes it even changes the laws to facilitate the arbitrariness of these arrests of people fighting against capitalism. Bourgeois justice does not do the same with fascist people who defend capitalism.)

The worst action of the bourgeoisie is the assassination of popular and social leaders, and it resorts to it when it sees no other way out. The case of Colombia has been the worst example of this with the acceptance by the leaders of pro-capitalist governments around the planet (except for formal declarations that have not helped) for decades.

At the same time, through this propaganda and confusion, they go on the offensive against all workers' rights, wages and above all against the social security system.

Europe, immediately after the overthrow of the countries that built Socialism, is built on the basis of a first important group of countries that were until then in the European Community, draft the Maastricht Treaty of Holland and the so-called "White Paper". In doing so, they put all workers' rights under the guillotine. From that moment begins a black period for the European peoples of the capitalist world. All governments align themselves with this logic and every conquest of the working class is placed under the logic of the laws of capitalism, of competition and its cost is valued.

It is this Europe of Capital that has developed the PePP law, European Private Pension Plan, approved on 22-3-2022, as a mandatory regulation for the 27 countries of the EU. A European Law that Pensioners rejected massively already in its first drafted on 4-4-2019, and that gives the Large Private Banks implanted in the 27 countries the exclusive right to manage future Pension Funds.

That is, the future total privatisation of pensions if we do not prevent, with the struggle, the application of this EU regulation.

Characteristically, from this reality all the guidelines of the European Union, all the laws that are taken in the capitalist states, are under that class logic and are governed by the needs of the profitability of the business groups, ending with anything positive in the life and reproduction of the labor force.

There are many elements and examples that justify all this, but there are two more characteristic of how capitalists have taken advantage of everything to ensure the greatest exploitation of workers.

The first example is the exploitation of the capitalist crisis that erupted from 2010 with its own fault (one more of the crises if it is systemic and structural that capitalism will always have as long as it exists) and based on the super accumulation of capital.

And the second example during the years of the coronavirus pandemic.

In this period, the offensive of capital against the workers-popular rights takes off through the cuts in pensions, health spending by the State, the closure of hospitals and health centers, public health institutions, grandparents' homes or residences, in favor of private ones, the reduction of social benefits, increasing participation in the payment of medicines, raising the retirement age, reducing workers' wages, increasing working hours and much more. This offensive was widespread in all EU countries and also in the former socialist countries.

The workers and pensioners all those years did not sit idly by. In several countries, under the leadership of the class unions, in incessant rivalry with yellow syndicalism, of class conciliation, that is, business and government, they have developed and continue to develop hard and massive class struggles in a framework of demands to solve problems that correspond to their real needs.

In many countries all those years a class movement developed under the leadership of the WFTU for the workers and (with exceptions) the UIS of pensioners and retirees to the extent that workers and pensioners participate, it has become possible to delay a series of anti-worker, anti-pension, anti-disciplinary measures and that others are not applied.

We have to massify our response and demand, our struggle, on this path we have to continue with all our strength. It is the only way to solve problems, hinder and overthrow anti-people policies that are strengthening, since the capitalists and their governments, regardless of how they characterize themselves politically (they put up different posters or images but defend capitalism the same), do not have and do not want to have another option.

On this path, the organizations of class-conscious pensioners, together with the class unions, will raise awareness of the need for the struggle for deeper changes that will reach the level of overthrowing the capitalist economy itself and political power, to build society on the basis of the elimination of the exploitation of man by man. with an economy based on central planning, in which the wealth produced will serve the needs of the real producer who is the worker, who has in his hands the real power eliminating everywhere the state of the exploiting capitalists.

The current situation has to change and it will change only if the workers through their struggle are going to think about the real causes that make up the current tragic situation for the people and turn their backs on anti-worker, anti-people policies, and organize themselves strengthening their struggles.

There will be no solutions to our problems if they follow these policies, if the exploitative system takes courage from the tolerance it is given. Our demands and demands that will guarantee a dignified life do not fit into their policies.

The last decade has been very educational, all those years many formulas have been approved by the system that have not given solutions and nobody can stand still, because nothing is over.

Already in ECOFIN they are thinking about how they are going to apply new anti-people measures against social security. Their cruel policies are not going to stop, we have to stop them the working class with our struggle. And when they cannot achieve their goal by imposing political decisions, then they resort to devastating imperialist wars, such as those in the East and Africa, more so now in Ukraine. Wars in which it is shown that there is money for weapons and to kill people, but not to cover the needs of people.

In this struggle we have to reinforce and demand measures that confront the class enemy and respond to our current needs, according to the wealth we produce, not according to what governments want to grant according to the needs of the antagonisms of capital that have destroyed our rights, our life.

On this basis we demand for the workers, pensioners, the peoples:

- An exclusively public social and health insurance system of the highest quality and financed by the State and employers
- Increase of all pensions based on the real needs that cover the cost of our life's necessities
- Well-equipped nursing homes, with doctors, health personnel, well-trained professional staff
- Lowering the retirement age to 60 for men and 5 years less for women
- Elimination of withholdings for health for pensioners, since that has been paid during their working life

Delivered to European Union offices in early May 2023

THIS DOCUMENT IS SIGNED BY THE FOLLOWING PENSIONERS' AND RETIREES' ORGANISATIONS:

HERE WILL BE PLACED THE SIGNATURES OF EUROPEAN P&J ORGANIZATIONS