



("Don't let them drag us into war". Against the logic of war and the genocide in Palestine)

We are living in a world at war whereas a large part of the Western population seems unaffected by current war events or by the news headlines about them. It seems that these horrors, as long as kept at a distance, are no longer capable of being transferred into consciousness and action.

56 armed conflicts are taking place around the world, 10 of them being high-intensity ones; war victims are about 250,000 each year, most of them civilians; and between 85 and 100 million people remain displaced.

This is the result of warmongering, of the systematic use of war to achieve any objective or solve any conflict. Hence, whoever has the greatest military force can decide over the others and subject them to their interests.

In doing so, agreements and treaties could be regarded as mere strategies to buy time or as a means of propaganda to keep public opinion at bay. This was the case with the Minsk agreements of 2014 and 2015 which would have prevented the war in Ukraine.

Warmongering subjugates the economy, politics, institutions and both ethical and moral orders. The key is the global military-industrial complex, fueled by an annual budget of \$2.44 trillion, more than the combined GDP of countries like Canada, Brazil or Russia. The 40% almost belongs to the United States, which is in the lead with 991 billion, equal to the sum of the 11 countries that follow behind, including China, Russia, India, Germany and the United Kingdom. A budget that has continued to increase since the NATO summit in September 2014.

Military infrastructure and organization reach the same dimension. The United States has approximately 750 overseas military bases in more than 80 countries, and has divided the world into 11 combatant commands that control sea, land, space, cyberspace and other areas, transforming them into theaters of war.

The logic of war involves a strategy aimed at destroying those designated as enemies, in particular by criminalizing and isolating them. To criminalize in order to show them as a threat, to make them responsible for their destruction, criminalizing also anyone who are on their side. To isolate in order to weaken them through economic, political and ideological wars. The end is their destruction by all means, without any limits, as it is being the case in Palestine, and it has been in Yugoslavia, Libya, Iraq, Syria and in many other cases.

The Kingdom of Spain blindly follows that logic. This is clear by the existence of United States military bases on the territory and by its NATO's membership. Due to lack of sovereignty, those bases could be used to attack third countries with which Spain is not involved in direct conflict, posing a serious risk that ultimately might be lethal to the Spanish population.

Spain currently has up to 3,000 military personnel deployed in 17 operations on four continents, including 7 missions under NATO command. In the past, Spanish troops played a role in long-term missions such as those carried out in the territories of Afghanistan and Kosovo, extended for 19 and 10 years respectively, being Kosovo a territory that the Kingdom of Spain does not even recognize as an independent state.

The Western bloc, led by the United States, is setting the world on fire in order to maintain its hegemony. Western nations, that have always faced internal struggles for hegemony, are now encountering a powerful periphery that surpasses them in many ways and their answer is to wage war once again like their last and only choice.

We are already engaged in this war with the risk of becoming direct victims of it. Our leaders, our institutions, our media are insisting on more army, more budgets, more NATO, and more sacrifices to fuel the logic of war, making us complicit in the massacre and genocide of other groups of people.

They threaten us with a Russian invasion in Europe as they threatened us previously with weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, a false statement that cost 2 million Iraqi deaths, most of them civilians.

They insist on defending freedom, democracy and European values, but they consent and participate in the genocide of the Palestinian people and refuse to condemn the Zionist entity, a criminal attitude of unlimited cynicism.

We are already experiencing the effects of this warlike commitment in our living conditions, in our freedoms and in our ethical and moral behavior, with the prospect of suffering them to a greater extent.

It is now up to the people to confront the logic of destruction and the drift towards barbarism. Students from Western universities have already reacted, let's join them creating antiwar movements in neighborhoods, in workplaces, and acting with all of those who are opposed to Western warmongers so that **they do not drag us into war.**

The **Assembly Against NATO Wars and Genocide in Palestine** (Asamblea Contra las Guerras de la OTAN y el Genocidio en Palestina), which already brings together organizations and individuals engaged in the anti-imperialist struggle, calls on all groups of people to join and collaborate with it taking into account the following conditions and **initial considerations**:

- We recognize that the current correlation of forces does not ease a massive antiwar movement in the short term.
- We must exceed the limits of our own organizations by taking to the streets and expressing our opposition in public.
- Our goal is to create a growing and progressive antiwar consciousness aimed at opposing war avoiding equidistant positions.

- We consider that increasing antiwar consciousness in the population can be a medium-to long-term task that does not rule out the task of pushing short-term mobilization.
- Mobilization should be based on clear, simple and powerful slogans that do not provoke rejection among people opposed to war and genocide.
- Slogans should be easily assimilable, without entering into theoretical disquisitions.
- Agitprop should be understandable, facilitate communication and encourage mobilization without excluding the further development of analysis in the medium-term.
- Credibility is essential, so that we must be very rigorous in our statements and explanations.
- We consider necessary to establish the links between the genocide in Palestine and NATO, transmitting this relationship to solidarity networks with Palestine.
- Local groups should plan their actions tailoring common campaign elements (mottos, logos, slogans, etc.) to their particular contexts.
- We are moving forward now with just decentralized actions. Ideas suggested include chats, rallies, graffiti, banners, caravans, performances, etc.
- We are setting the start of this campaign between June 10 and 20, ahead of the prospect of a possible national mobilization in the fall.
- Coordinación Estatal Contra la OTAN y las Bases (CECOB) coordinates the campaign and offers other entities to join the organization or collaborate with it without the intention of creating new structures. At the moment, the main objective is to support this campaign led by the Assembly against the NATO Wars and the Genocide in Palestine (Asamblea Contra las Guerras de la OTAN y el Genocidio en Palestina).

Campaign title:

"Don't let them drag us into war"

Against the logic of war and the genocide in Palestine

Our demands:

- Immediate suspension of arms transfers to countries at war as well as exercises for soldiers intended to engage these armed conflicts.
- Immediate return of all Spanish troops deployed around the world.
- Break of diplomatic and all kinds of relations with Israel and condemnation of this Zionist entity.
- To join South Africa's genocide proceedings against Israel.
- Solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance.
- Drastic reduction in military budgets.
- Strengthen rights and quality public services.
- Withdrawal from NATO and closure of United States bases in the Spanish territory.

Some key ideas to convey (in the form of simple and encouraging slogans):

Get out of the logic of war

- The logic of war aims to offer solutions only by force, whatever the cost. The genocide in Gaza is the paradigm.
- We are offered security by belonging to NATO but it is NATO that is taking us to war.
- The costs of the war will be paid by the working class and popular sectors. Drastic reductions in social benefits are being considered due to the return to budgetary discipline in the European Union.
- We do not want to be involved in a war that is not ours. The only threat comes from the United States, which wants to drag us into war.
- Warlike participation exposes the Spanish population to great risks as United States military bases (Rota and Morón) and NATO's Combined Air Operations Centre at Torrejón (CAOC TJ) can be strategic objectives due to retaliation.
- Militarization implies not only redirecting resources towards war and sacrificing real needs, but also reductions in rights and freedoms, and more repression and censorship.
- The possibility of an open conflict does not seem to be imminent, but there is a warlike drift which is very dangerous, to the point of even considering the deployment of troops by some Western countries. As for the rest of the consequences, they are already visible and can be harsher soon.

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