

Palestine – CEASE FIRE NOW!

Statement from the League of Revolutionaries for a New America

The horrific U.S.-backed Israeli war on occupied Palestine and the siege of Gaza have galvanized a global uprising in opposition to the ongoing bombing and genocide of the Palestinian people. Hundreds of thousands of people in the United States and around the world are marching in the streets, on campuses, and in the halls of power in solidarity with the Palestinian people. Those of us living in the belly of the beast have an international responsibility to stay the hand of the U.S. war machine funding and arming Israel to carry out the annihilation of Gaza. We must demand that our elected officials in the White House and in Congress call for a cease-fire now and freedom for Palestine.

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Today's deadly war in Gaza is the 75-year continuation of the *Nakba* "catastrophe" during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the ongoing dispossession, occupation, apartheid, ethnic cleansing, white supremacy, and massive killing of innocent Palestinian civilians. The United States played a leading role in the creation of the state of Israel in Palestine in 1948 as the world's last settler colony – with support from other global imperialist powers and the UN. Israel operates as a client state serving as an economic, political, and military beachhead for U.S. domination and control in the strategic Middle East region.

The U.S. government and ruling class are more than complicit in the war. They are or-



The watermelon is a symbol of the Free Palestine movement and its image and emoji is widely seen on social media. The watermelon's colors are the same as the Palestinian flag, and they became protest symbols after the flag was banned by Israel in 1967. The Poppy has long appeared in Palestinian art and the flower is a symbol of resilience as it proliferates quickly and covers fields in the Palestinian spring.

chestrating and financing the war. They use billions of U.S. workers' tax dollars to generously support the Israeli war machine – \$3 billion annually plus additional billions in special requests – and send an endless supply of bombs, defense systems, advisers, troops, and warships to the region.

Israel's constant bombardment has turned Gaza – already an open air prison – into a graveyard for over 10,000 innocent Palestinian and international civilians, including more than 6,400 children, journalists, doctors, medical and aid workers, and more. In

clear violation of international law, Israel is bombing hospitals, universities, residential areas, and civilian and medical convoys traveling south to the Rafah border crossing into Egypt. The enormity of the dehumanization, death, and destruction is unimaginable – except that it is being documented on television and social media.

THE STRUGGLE AT HOME

Billions of our tax dollars are funding this murderous genocide that has cut off life essential access to water, food, medicine, fuel,

and energy in Gaza. Yet, the U.S. government says there is no money to fund basic human needs for the American people – nutritious food, clean water, housing, education from preschool through college, universal health care and mental health programs, child care, and a safe environment. At the same time, the Biden administration and Congress do not support a cease-fire in Gaza and Palestine.

We are at a crossroads. In this moment, the United States is concentrating military force and a nuclear armed submarine in the eastern Mediterranean. Instead of supporting a cease-fire, the United States is escalating the war. On Nov. 8, the United States launched airstrikes into eastern Syria – allegedly to destroy Iranian storage facilities. It is urgent that the American people stop this existentially dangerous escalation and expansion of U.S.-backed aggression and war throughout the region.

The twin U.S. ruling class parties of capitalism – Democrats and Republicans – refuse to support a cease-fire in Palestine, refuse to fund the basic needs of the American people, and are expanding the war front in the region. The world is rising up in solidarity with the Palestinian people. The League and all revolutionaries and people of conscience are marching, educating, and demanding a halt to the war crimes and an end to the war makers. Not in our name! Our humanity compels us to demand that the U.S. government at all levels – especially President Biden and our elected officials in Congress – call for a cease-fire now and an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine. **R**

Migrants suffer under the chaos of capitalism

The Statue of Liberty has a plaque with the inscription: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me!" Recent laws and regulations certainly do not convey this welcoming message to migrants. What has changed?

In the United States and Western Hemisphere, we are seeing a global movement of people leaving their homes behind to find life-threatening hardships on their journeys, sometimes crossing up to 14 countries and their borders to get to the U.S.-Mexico border. Many are losing their lives or those of relatives and loved ones. We should not believe the political reasons that the Democrats and Republicans are throwing out to blame each other in order to win the 2024 Elections – everyone is looking for a solution, but we don't need fascist ones.

MIGRATION MASKS GREATER HEMISPHERIC CONTROL

As we near the 2024 Elections, more political forces will be pushing this hot-button issue. Conservative media are heavily injecting their drugs/trafficking/gang and "invasion" fear propaganda, building pressure to "close the border" and blame Biden for "open borders." And, in a major policy reversal from when Biden was elected, he recently agreed to continue building the Trump border wall and has even waived 26 different laws and regulations to build a section of it.

In protest, immigration advocates are condemning Biden's actions. Borderland communities are organizing and denouncing the expansion of harsh enforcement and policing. "The 'invasion' is coming from the north" said América García of the Eagle Pass Coalition in a recent Zoom, referring to the overwhelming presence of National Guard personnel from

different states, the Border Patrol and local law enforcement in the militarized border zone where the deaths of asylees continue.

U.S. policies are changing in violation of the United Nations' recognized human rights for those requesting asylum. Caging and separating children from their loved ones is a fascist policy. After the Biden administration offered Temporary Protected Status to 40,000 migrants from Venezuela, Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua, it then announced the deportation of Venezuelans arriving after July 31, 2023. Officials are meeting in México and in the United States to discuss agreements on slowing down the so-called migrant caravans and other people arriving at the border.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Southern border has been "moved" further south, a fascist expansion of the Monroe Doctrine ideology (this 1823 doctrine claimed that the Western Hemisphere would be economical-

ly and militarily closed to European powers in the interests of the United States). Already, agreements with Colombia and Panamá have increased the militarization of their borders, using drugs like fentanyl and gangs as excuses. Regional centers are to be set up in other countries to streamline the U.S. immigration process, though Mexican president Andrés Manuel López Obrador has so far rejected a U.S. request to set up sites in México.

Technology is being used for surveillance, detention and asylum applications, so corporations are making big profits. But it adds burdens to migrants with fewer resources than others, who travel only with what they can carry. The technology is being used to cause destruction and delays rather than help people. Surveillance towers could help save those on the brink of death, rather than just to ar-

Reproductive rights: Democracy warriors on the march

By the League Basic Needs Electoral Committee

Tyranny of the minority, the ruling class strategy that enslaved and impoverished millions of people deemed fit only to serve the powerful, is once again waging an all-out war on women. It looks like a well-financed war on reproductive rights, but it's really a corporate war on everyone's health care and a war on democracy and other fundamental freedoms including basic needs. We all have to step up to end this, and we can do this. The stepping up has already begun in the electoral arena. Ohio is next up – on November 7, 2023 – and many states where capitalism is failing are weighing in.

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

Reproductive rights is at the center of the overall war on fundamental freedoms. As abortion bans and restrictions expand, their consequences are becoming apparent in ways that not only affect the health and lives of pregnant people, but the destruction of other rights as well.

Just listen to who the opponents of reproductive rights like to blame: They say that since doctors and nurses offer abortion care, let's scare them out of their professions and destroy the health care system. Since schools teach the wrong values, let's cut school funding. Since there's poverty, let's stop helping the poor. Since people have mental issues, let's make mental health care even more inadequate. And why should people with loose morals have any say? Let's curtail their voting rights.

When the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in June 2022, more than 20 million women of childbearing age in the United States lost access to abortion, according to a report from the Guttmacher Institute. As of September 2023, nearly half the states, 23 in all, had abortion bans either in effect or pending; in 13 adjoining states in the South and Midwest, this makes it practically impossible to simply cross the nearest state line for an abortion.

Social media has been full of the human atrocities this causes. In Nebraska, a mother was sentenced to two years in prison and her daughter to 90 days in jail for an abortion, which they wanted because the daughter was in an abusive relationship. Law enforcement obtained private messages between the two on Facebook.

In Mississippi, a 12-year-old girl was raped, yet she could not obtain an abortion due to all the legal, financial, and travel barriers. She was forced to give birth to her rapist's baby.

REPRODUCTIVE PRISON

The atrocities are everywhere. Clinics providing all kinds of care are closing and health professionals are moving out of states with draconian bans because of their inability to provide lifesaving care for those who have miscarriages and dangerous pregnancies, for fear of criminal prosecution. Travel restrictions and encouragement to report abortions by vigilantes lead to an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. Those behind Texas' bounty hunter abortion ban are demanding access to all patient information. The right to privacy and freedom to move without restriction is being struck down for this group, and will be for the majority soon.

In west Texas, Cochran County commissioners voted to let anybody file a civil suit against anyone suspected of using the county's roads or airport to knowingly transport an expectant mother seeking an abortion. Cochran County is next to New Mexico, where abortion is legal.

Wendy Davis, a former Texas state senator, is a senior adviser at Planned Parenthood Texas Votes. She commented to the Texas Tribune: "This is an effort, one by one by one, to create a statewide ban against travel to other states, literally creating a reproductive prison in the state of Texas."

In September, the U.S. Justice Department and the maker of the abortion pill Mifepristone (also known as RU 486) asked the Supreme Court to hear their request to reverse a lower federal court order that blocked U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval

of the drug. Medical abortions make up half of abortions in the United States. If mifepristone is taken off the market, drug-induced abortions will remain available only with another drug called misoprostol, which may be less effective and safe.

These devastating attacks on health care services hit poorer people the most, especially black women and babies, who already suffer a high rate of mortality.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

By contrast, the August 2022 defeat of the Kansas anti-abortion initiative foretold similar positive outcomes in the November midterms in California, Michigan, Kentucky, Vermont and Montana. There has been increased understanding that poor people voting in their own interests would result in huge changes.

In 2023, the spotlight is on Ohio, where supporters gathered 495,000 signatures for a ballot initiative in November to protect abortion access. In a hypocritical move, the Republican-controlled legislature tried to pass a legal hurdle requiring ballot initiatives to get 60% of votes to pass instead of a simple majority! Ohio voters saw through this undemocratic ploy and defeated the measure.

Now there is an all-out campaign to pass the November initiative. The group RuralOrganizing.org has pushed for campaigning in poor rural areas which the Democratic Party has ignored. Passage could energize related movements for democracy. However, defeat would further energize the fascist attack on other basic needs.

So far in 2024, there will be ballot initiatives in Maryland and New York and pending initiatives in Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Missouri,

Nebraska, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

The legal front is also hot. In Wisconsin, they are trying to nullify the election of state supreme court justice Janet Protasiewicz, who supports reproductive rights. Fifteen Texas women are part of a class-action lawsuit against that state's abortion laws. These included a woman who nearly died of sepsis after being denied an abortion when her water broke at 18 weeks. Another woman was forced to carry a nonviable pregnancy to term and delivered a baby who died four hours later. Also more women's support networks and collectives in abortion-restricted states are providing travel assistance or abortion medication.

The corporate war by the ruling class has sparked this new reproductive justice movement that benefits all the working class. It's expressed in the mutual aid actions determined to help women get the healthcare they need. It's expressed at the voting booths. It rests on a growing equality of poverty that has emerged, as more and more workers of all colors are displaced.

This is significant because the privileges granted to white workers over workers of color, to U.S.-citizen workers over migrant workers, and to men over women have kept the working class divided. Expanding Digital technology drives down the value of labor, forcing the ruling class to abandon the special privileges it used to keep the working class divided. This budding movement is giving us the basis for building class unity within a divided working class.

In every place where threats to reproductive health care attack people's basic needs, we have a phenomenal new opportunity to

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Rally! to bring back together and put in a state of order, as retreating troops [to return to attack].

Rally! is a vehicle to reach out to and communicate with revolutionaries both within and outside of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. The Editorial Board is responsible for preparing the printed and website versions of *Rally!* to represent the League's political positions and policies, the Board's editorial and formatting guidelines, and the political points agreed on with article writers.

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League of Revolutionaries for a New America

Today, whether through words or deeds, vast numbers of socially conscious people declare themselves revolutionaries in opposition to the degenerating social and economic conditions. The League's mission is to unite with other revolutionaries around the demands of the working class, especially the class of displaced workers, and show how the solution is a cooperative, communist society, where social wealth is owned in common and distributed according to need.

The demands of this new impoverished class for food, housing, education, healthcare and an opportunity to contribute to society are summed up as the demand for a cooperative society. Such a society must be based on the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need.

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Visit the *Rally!* website!
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Los Migrantes Sufren el Caos del Capitalismo

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discutir acuerdos frenando la llegada a la frontera de las llamadas caravanas de migrantes y otras personas.

Mientras tanto, la frontera sur de Estados Unidos se ha “desplazado” más al sur en una extensión fascista de la ideología de la Doctrina Monroe, que en 1823 cerró económica y militarmente el hemisferio occidental a las potencias europeas, en interés de los Estados Unidos. Los acuerdos con Colombia y Panamá ya han aumentado la militarización de sus fronteras, utilizando como pretexto drogas, como el fentanilo, y las pandillas. Se crearán centros regionales en otros países para facilitar el proceso de inmigración a EE.UU., aunque el presidente de México, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, ha rechazado hasta ahora la petición estadounidense de establecerlos en México.

Se está empleando la tecnología para la vigilancia, la detención y las solicitudes de asilo, rindiéndoles a las empresas grandes ganancias y a los migrantes, que sólo tienen lo que pueden llevar encima, más obstáculos. En vez de ayudar a la gente, esta tecnología se utiliza para destruir y causar retrasos. Las torres de vigilancia podrían ayudar a salvar a gente al borde de la muerte, no sólo arrestar y detenerla, o localizar cadáveres sin identificar para llevarlos al depósito de cadáveres.

EL CAOS CAPITALISTA O UN MUNDO MEJOR

Nos hallamos en una encrucijada, tanto en Estados Unidos como en el mundo entero, y tenemos que comprender las razones por las que tanta gente se ve obligada a abandonar su patria. El capitalismo y su revolución tecnológica han penetrado en todos los

rincones del planeta, desarraigando y desplazando a grandes masas debido a guerras, el desempleo, la violencia y los desastres de la crisis climatológica. Estos cambios son políticos, económicos, sociales, medioambientales/climáticos y tecnológicos. Los gobiernos y la gente, que sólo busca sobrevivir y un lugar para criar a sus hijos, sufren enorme frustración, ira y ansiedad.

Tenemos que escuchar a los migrantes. Su situación nos comprueba que toda clase de personas necesita ayuda para sobrevivir. Cada vez son más las personas que reclaman un cambio que apoye a los seres humanos migrantes y no sólo controlarlos con el encarcelamiento o la detención. Por ejemplo, una marioneta de 3 metros llamada Pequeña Amal recorre más de 10,000 kilómetros por pueblos y ciudades de todo el país promoviendo los derechos humanos, especialmente los de los refugiados. La gente también está movilizándose a través de grupos de ayuda mutua, apoyando no sólo a los asilados migrantes, sino también a muchas personas que viven en comunidades con dificultades de vivienda, alimentación y el alto costo de servicios públicos y gasolina.

Estos activistas reconocen la peligrosa política enfrentando a trabajadores de bajos ingresos contra inmigrantes por las necesidades básicas y un trabajo para sobrevivir. Así, cuando Chicago abrió las puertas a 15,000 recién llegados, hubo propuestas de ayuda empleando fondos destinados a otros programas para personas necesitadas. El alcalde de Nueva York, Eric Adams, disuade en voz alta a los solicitantes de asilo de ir a Nueva York afirmando que “ya no hay sitio en la posada”. La perspectiva política que beneficia a la clase dominante es que los inmigrantes están

invadiendo Estados Unidos, violando la ley, trayendo drogas y pandillas para hacer daño a nuestra juventud y destruir nuestro modo de vida. La perspectiva de la clase trabajadora es que huye de la violencia, la corrupción y el cambio climático destruyendo sus medios de subsistencia.

No hay un orden civilizado, sólo el caos. Estamos viendo que las ideas detrás de la insurrección del 6 de enero no han desaparecido, que el odio y la codicia siguen tramándose. Esas ideas facilitaron que nuestras fronteras se convirtieran en zonas de guerra militarizadas en beneficio de corporaciones fascistas que sacan provecho de contratos gubernamentales. Esas mismas ideas le permiten al gobierno norteamericano respaldar la construcción de una máquina de guerra que se lucra en todo el mundo. Ucrania está en guerra; China es cada vez más un blanco de agresión; y ahora el conflicto entre Israel y Palestina se ha convertido en una guerra. Más muerte y destrucción que son demasiado rentables para detenerlas.

Debemos anteponer el ser humano a las ganancias. Debemos imaginar un mundo nuevo organizado para resolver los retos a los que se enfrentan la gente y el planeta. Por un lado, tenemos los medios para salvar el planeta y dar a todo ser humano y criatura del mundo una vida abundante y satisfactoria. O podemos permitir la creación de un mundo que sólo beneficie a los ricos y a las corporaciones: la solución fascista. Eso es lo que está en juego en las elecciones de 2024. Thomas Paine fue un inmigrante inglés que influyó fuertemente en la Revolución Norteamericana con escritos como “El mundo es mi país, toda la humanidad son mis hermanos, y hacer el bien es mi religión”.

El futuro depende de nosotros. **A**

Migrants suffer under the chaos of capitalism

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rest and detain them, or locate unidentified bodies to send to the morgue.

CAPITALIST CHAOS OR A BETTER WORLD

We are at a crossroads in America as well as the world and must understand the reasons why so many people are being pushed to leave their homelands. Capitalism and its technological revolution has penetrated every corner of the world, uprooting and displacing masses of people as a consequence of war, unemployment, violence and climate-induced disasters. These changes are political, economic, social, environmental/climate and technological. There is an abundance of frustration, anger and anxiety for governments and for people who are trying to survive and find someplace to raise their families.

We must listen to the migrants, whose situation shows us that all kinds of people need assistance to survive. More and more people are calling for change that supports migrating human beings, not just control them through incarceration or detention. As one example, a 12-foot tall puppet called Little Amal is being taken over 6,000 miles to towns and cities

across the country to promote human rights – especially for refugees. People are also mobilizing through mutual aid groups, helping not only migrant asylees but many people who live in communities experiencing hardship in housing, food and high costs for utilities and gasoline.

These activists are aware of the dangerous politics pitting low-income workers against migrants over who receives their basic needs and over who is given work to help them survive. For instance, when Chicago received 15,000 recent arrivals there were proposals to help them by diverting taxpayer funds from other programs for needy people. New York's Mayor Eric Adams is loudly discouraging asylum seekers from going to New York by claiming there's “no more room at the inn.” The political perspective benefitting the ruling class is that migrants are invading the United States, violating laws, bringing in drugs and gangs to do harm to our young people and destroy our way of life. A working class perspective is that they are escaping the violence, corruption and climate change that have destroyed their livelihoods.

There is no civilized order, only chaos. We are seeing that the ideas behind the January

6 insurrection have not gone away, that hatred and greed are still brewing. Those ideas facilitated our borders becoming militarized war zones for the benefit of fascist corporations that have profited from government contracts. The same ideas allow the U.S. government to support building a war machine that profits around the world. Ukraine is at war, China is becoming more of a target and now the Israel-Palestine conflict has escalated into war. More death and destruction that are too profitable to stop.

We must put people before profits. We must envision a new world that is organized to solve the challenges to people and the planet. On the one hand, we have the wherewithal to save the planet and give every human being and creature in the world a bountiful and satisfying life. Or we can allow the creation of a world that benefits only the rich and the corporations—a fascist solution. That is what's at stake in the 2024 elections. Thomas Paine was an English immigrant who strongly influenced the American Revolution with writings like “The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion.”

The future is up to us! **R**

Ahora en línea

Vease en el sitio web de ¡Agrupémonos! nuestro artículo **Los derechos reproductivos: Guerreros en marcha por la democracia**, el cual explica que casi la mitad de los estados – 23 en total – ya tenían en vigencia prohibiciones al aborto, o estas se encontraban pendientes de aprobarse.

Los derechos reproductivos se sitúan al centro de la guerra general contra las libertades fundamentales. En 2024, habrá iniciativas para proteger los derechos reproductivos en Maryland y Nueva York, y hay iniciativas pendientes en Arizona, Dakota del Sur, Florida, Iowa, Misuri, Nebraska y Pensilvania.

Visite Agrupémonos en rally-theleague.org/es/

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end many oppressive ruling class policies that kept society in chains. As we act together to repel these threats and ensure reproductive health and all health care, we act as a new social force, put people ahead of profits and guarantee everyone has their basic human needs.

Just as the mechanical tools of industrialization made our society wealthy and powerful, the immensely more powerful electronic tools of digital production, including Artificial Intelligence, can free us from want and persecution – if they are in the right hands. That is because digital tools, like any tool that amplifies human power, can be used for liberation or oppression. Now that we have enough wealth in the society to guarantee everyone their basic needs, we need to make sure digital tools are used to create a society in which everybody thrives, instead of a society where half the people struggle in or near poverty. **R**