



EDITORIAL

It is both a great satisfaction and a huge challenge to present the second number of REBELA. The satisfaction comes from the possibility of advancing our proposal of strengthening the space for the discussion of Latin-American issues and problems, informed by a Marxist thought critically appropriated to our context. To overcome the barrier of the first issue is also a reason of satisfaction, because REBELA was very welcomed by activists and thinkers of the region, not only by those who sent their contributions, but also by those who manifested an effuse positive reception to the journal. It is also a huge challenge because of the expectations on the continuity of this project and also because we want to answer to them coherently, widening the coverage of themes, subjects, authors, nationalities; ensuring a space for the circulation of knowledge with the purpose of transforming Latin-American reality and contributing to the liberation of the people. The satisfaction and the challenge are visible in the papers published in this second issue, as seen in the brief summary that follows.

Magdalena Juricic Campos and *Cristian Obando Ruiz* seek to explain, in **Gas Conflict in Magallanes, Chile: social movement and natural resources**, the relationship between natural resources and social organization, as they analyze the conflict which occurred between the end of 2010 and the beginning of 2011, triggered by the rise of the gas price in Magallanes, located at the Chilean Patagonia. Besides the geopolitical relevance of the zone, the authors stress, in a historical perspective, the role of the gas and oil companies and of the Chilean government as responsible for the exploitation, uses and distribution of gas and oil in the area, as well as the way people organize themselves in order to oppose and solve the conflict in a favorable way.

The fashion industry is the scenery of a study on the over-exploitation of migrant workers in Argentina, in **Behind Fashion Industry**. *María Ayelén Arcos* and *Camila Montero* present the cases of well-known brands which had been denounced for the the exploitation of migrant clandestine workers, showing that clandestine work is not only related to the informal market, it constitutes the reality of around 80% of the garment production in the country. In **Critics of Brazilian Social Collectives to Social-Environmental Impacts Associated to Projects Funded by BNDES**, *Gabriel Eduardo Schütz* and *Marcelo Firpo de Souza Porto* bring to discussion the results of a exploratory study on the social-environmental

conflicts that are directly connected to BNDES financed projects. BNDES is a Brazilian state bank created to promote economic growth with social development and modernization of the infrastructure of the country. However, affected social movements have denounced the association of some initiatives financed by this Bank with adverse environmental and health impacts, especially at the local level. To *Marcos Antonio da Silva* and *Guillermo Alfredo Johnson*, the persistence of the imperialist relationship in Latin America is sustained, amongst other material and immaterial elements, by the dissemination of a political culture that assures and reproduces liberal values. In **Neoliberalism and Political Culture in Latin America**, they provide a critical balance of the political-ideological notions of imperialism and cultural and political values produced and reproduced around State, Democracy and Civil Society which have been implemented in Latin America at the edge of XXth. Century. The authors state that those concepts mask the domination of capital and emphasize that a political-ideological critique is fundamental to the development of anti-capitalist struggles.

In **The Venezuela Neoliberalist Trajectory and its Current Situation**, *Vandiana Borba Wilhelm* present an outlook of the political, economic and social changes that occurred in Venezuela as a result of both the conditionalities for renegotiating the external debt and the adherence to the guidelines of the Washington's Consensus. Starting from 1998, when Hugo Chávez was democratically elected president of the country, the author analyzes the government policies, discussing and clarifying traits of ruptures and continuities in relation to neoliberal policies.

Anelise Suzane Fernandes Coelho studies, in **The years of spring in the country of eternal tyranny**, the social reforms held in Guatemala from 1944 to 1954. In that year, the Guatemalan revolutionary movement installed a democratic government, legalized the Communist Party and promoted a land reform. Those attitudes, in the context of Cold War, had as consequence the end of the revolution in 1954 with a coup d'état organized by the United States' CIA. The author seeks to understand the social reform, as well as the relation between the reforms and the local Communists in the political scenery of the country.

From Extraction to Agribusiness of Market Livestock in the Northern Mato-Grosso Amazon, *Fiorelo Picoli* discusses the gradual transition of the industry of wood transformation into market livestock in part of the Brazilian Amazon Forest. The author points out the social actors involved and shows how the public sector remains immobilized in relation to the systematic illegal occupation of land and to environmental destruction. He also

indicates the participation of local elites in this predatory action, as well as in the exploitation of workers.

Finally, reflections on the concepts and ideas formulated by Che Guevara around the notion of the *new man*, the necessity of example, volunteer work and the search for perfection, among others, are presented by **Rafael Cuevas Molina** and **Paulette Barberousse Alfonso** in **Educative Implications of the Thought and the Practice of Ernesto “Che” Guevara**. The authors stimulate us to deepen the “pedagogy of donation”, typical of the practice of this revolutionary and social theorist.

In the special section, the pictures taken in the city of João Pinheiro by **Rubens Lopes** constitute the photo essay **Sant’Ana do Alegre**, which keeps the commitment of REBELA to publish unconventional formats that enrich our view over the region in a more colorful way.

Enjoy your reading!

Editorial Collective