



## EDITORIAL

With this edition we are starting the trajectory of the electronic journal **REBELA**. It is with great satisfaction and expectative that we provide this first issue to all of you interested in the themes of Latin America. The **Brazilian Journal of Latin American Studies** has the aim of disseminating the production of intellectuals and activists about Latin America. Assuming the inseparable unity between theory and practice, REBELA is interested in analysis and reflections which contribute to understand the actual context and its particularities, considering its multiple dimensions. REBELA is a Journal committed to the liberation of our peoples and to the construction of socialism.

We refuse the transplant of ideas. We want to contribute for the construction and consolidation of a social thought which adopts the fundamentals of the Marxist tradition, mainly of Latin-American Marxism, without discarding the reinventions of the humanist thought. We consider that, in the interlocution with these traditions it is indispensable to practice, from our situation, the sociological reduction - the critical assimilation of the foreign sociological patrimony – and the cultural re-origination, as Alberto Guerreiro Ramos and Aníbal Quijano taught. We value the dissemination of the knowledge produced by social activists in their struggles. We want REBELA to be a space for the dialogue between the knowledge produced in the struggles and the one produced in the academia, as well as a space for the articulation of different areas of knowledge, such as economics, social and political sciences, organization studies, social service, philosophy and history.

In this issue this purpose is expressed by means of a set of eight unpublished scientific papers which come from different parts of Latin America and from different disciplinary spaces.

*Rafael Cuevas Molina* reviews the proposal that the Nicaraguan Augusto César Sandino (1895-1934) did to the presidents of America in the Bolivarian spirit of the

Latin America union. In **Bolívar in Sandino: A proposal for an antiimperialist union from Las Segovias in Nicaragua**, the author provides evidences of a historical line coming from the XIX Century to our days, advocating for distinct forms of collaboration, integration and union of Latin-American countries. In the same thematic, but writing from the Argentinean context, *Leandro Morgenfeld* reviews the trajectory of different alternatives of unity and integration of the countries located at the South of the continent, since the Latin-American wars for independence. In **Argentina and Latin America Latina facing a historical dilemma: united or dominated**, the author alerts for the need of overcoming historical obstacles for Latin-American unity, in order to express the anti-imperialist position demanded by many popular organizations. *Marina Corrêa de Almeida* discusses **The emerging legal culture in Latin America: legal pluralism as an interruption of imperialism in the law**. In this article she addresses the Latin-American constitutionalism, highly influenced by the European legal culture, to demonstrate how the processes of Constitutional reform in some countries of the regions represent efforts to break up with this culture, recognizing, among other aspects, the ethnic plurality represented by the originary peoples. Remaining in the field of Law, *Alejandro Olmos Gaona*, in **Argentinean debt illegality: an issue not addressed by Criminal Law**, demonstrates the continued and indefeasible character of the Argentinean debt defined as a crime. In **Chile 2010: from one closure to another nothing to celebrate**, *Maria Emilia Tijoux* starts acknowledging that the logic of capital is deeply inserted in the Chilean society as well as in the citizens subjectivities. Taking the year of 2010, the moment of celebration of the Bicentenary of independence and also of traumatic events – the earthquake followed by a tsunami, the burrier of thirty three miners in the Atacama Region and the long hunger strike of prisoners members of the Mapuche community - the author share her reflections and sentiments. In **Ideology and popular power in El Salvador: the metamorphosis of FMLN and the possibilities of a new subject**, *Stefano Motta e Dagoberto Gutierrez* take the Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation (FMLN) as a historical subject in El Salvador, analyzing how the institutionalization of one of the most strong guerrilla and mass movement contributed to the destruction of the political accumulation of twenty years of construction of popular power. *José C. Valenzuela Feijóo*, in **A wider and stranger world: neoliberalism and regional inequalities**, analyzes the patter of neoliberal accumulation in Mexico considering the

contemporary forms of production, appropriation, distribution and use of surplus in Latin America. Finally, *Fernando Correa Prado* presents the intellectual trajectory of Vânia Bambilra, whose work includes, among other themes, the formation of Latin-American dependent capitalism, the characteristics of fundamental historical processes such as the Cuban Revolution, as well as the thoughts of classic Marxism on the transition to socialism. The article **Vânia Bambilra and Latin American critical Marxism** has great relevance also because, in contrast with the recognition she has in other countries of Latin America, this Brazilian author is still scarcely studied in her own country.

This first issue of REBELA includes two works in complementary formats accepted by the Journal: the review of an internet site, written by *Elaine Tavares* about the site of **CONAIE – Espace of Indians Movement in Ecuador**; and a photographic essay, **Haiti – March, 2011** by *Maria Ceci Misoczky*.

The new Latin-American context with political initiatives by the masses demands from the social sciences and from the intellectuals of the region political attitudes. The traditional academic posture, supposedly neutral in scientific terms, has to open space for the intellectual organically committed with his/her people. Therefore, the research program cannot be distanced from the search for a new social system where colonialism, commodification of education and Eurocentrism become nothing more than scars of history. This Journal is a space to express positions such as this.

We also wish that the act of reading this first issue of REBELA is taken as a political act, in such a way that you feel instigated to write and publish, contributing to the strength of the Latin-American people's struggles.

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