

# Struggle ☐ La Lucha PDF - April 22, 2024

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

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► La inmigración en EEUU: Ese gran negocio



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Socialist Unity Party

Partido de Socialismo Unido

# Iranian response to Israel attack: Signals a turning point

*Resistance News Network  
report from the Popular Front  
for the Liberation of Palestine.*

The Iranian response to the Zionist entity is a pivotal event that will establish new rules of engagement in the region.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine praised the Iranian Revolutionary Guard's targeting of Zionist military sites with dozens of missiles and drones in response to the entity's aggression against the Iranian consulate in Damascus, describing the Iranian response as a significant pivotal event that will establish new rules of engagement in the region.

The Front confirmed that the legitimate Iranian response broke the prestige of the Zionist entity, revealing its fragility and inability to defend itself or restore its deterrence power. At the same time, it confirmed the ability of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the resistance factions to deliver painful strikes to the Zionist entity, deepening its internal crisis due to its inability to achieve any of its goals in eliminating the resistance in the Gaza Strip or stopping the strikes directed at it by the resistance in Lebanon, Yemen, and Iraq.

The Front explained that the rush of the American administration and its partners in Britain, France, Germany, and some

*Continued on page 2*

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Photo: Al-Awda

## BALTIMORE

PPA shuts down city council for Gaza  
Protesters denounce Biden's genocide

► Global actions vs.  
U.S./Israeli war

Puerto Rican talks of  
rise in colonial crimes



Berta Joubert-Ceci

## Crackdown fuels nat'l student protests for Gaza

April 19 — Columbia University students continue their "Gaza solidarity encampment" on the main lawn of the New York City campus, defying a heavy police crackdown. The action, coordinated by various student organizations, including Columbia University Apartheid Divest, Columbia Students for Justice in Palestine, and Columbia Jewish Voice for Peace, has persisted for over 48 hours.

Inspired by the Columbia stu-

dents' actions, students at the University of North Carolina and Miami University in Ohio have staged their own encampments in solidarity. National Students for Justice in Palestine issued a "call to action" for students nationwide to "seize the university and force the administration to divest, for the people of Gaza." A large crowd has also taken to the streets outside Columbia University in support of the encampment. #

► Remembering  
Fred Goldstein

► S. Korea seizes ship

► Never forget  
Ludlow & Veracruz  
massacres

► Earth Day:  
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destruction

**STOP THE GENOCIDE IN GAZA: AL-QUDS IS THE CAPITAL OF PALESTINE!**

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## The scam behind 'free elections'

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
April 21, 2024



Hillary Clinton went on a late-night talk show and told U.S. voters to “get over themselves” and choose between Genocide Joe and Donald Trump in this year’s U.S. presidential elections.

“Get over yourself. Those are the two choices,” she said. The smirk, the arrogance, and the “we don’t care about you” eye roll reminded me of psychopaths profiled in crime shows. The complete lack of empathy, the sense of superiority, the fake pleasantries and charisma. It’s the same attitude Biden displays when dismissing questions about Israel killing children in Gaza while casually licking an ice cream cone.

To be honest with you, she is right. Nobody should care about Biden or Trump because they both belong to the same ruling political and economic elite, they represent the interests of corporations, they are both professed Zionists, and share a profound love for imposing murderous sanctions against sovereign countries like Cuba and Venezuela.

The U.S. “democracy” is, and always has been, about the elite’s bipartisan rule. A circus that allows for the same warmongering government to continue spreading

corporate greed and eliminating any resistance or political alternatives around the world.

Hillary's words are a reminder, in case somebody needed it, that Washington does not care about democracy or freedom inside the U.S. or anywhere else. These are just tools to drive their neocolonial agenda. The formula is quite simple: Elections are only "free" and a country is only "democratic" when a U.S. puppet rules. Otherwise, collective punishment is coming for you until you capitulate.

For over two decades, Venezuela has been the target of the "free elections" broken record alongside regime change operations and economic sanctions, leaving a long trail of destruction behind. How does the U.S. get away with this "free elections" scam? With the unconditional support of the remorseless corporate media. Remorse, another emotion psychopaths lack.

For years, we have read the same lie over and over again: the 2018 presidential vote was "fraudulent" because the U.S.-backed far-right opposition decided not to participate and called for abstention (although anti-Chavista candidates still ran and got a sizable amount of votes). The election was preceded by U.S. financial sanctions against Venezuela's oil industry to cause economic instability and pressure people into voting Maduro out of office.

When that strategy failed, more sanctions came raining down in the form of a full-fledged blockade while media stenographers piled one lie on top of another to set up the stage for more intervention. For example, according to [The New York Times](#), the upcoming July 28 presidential vote is only happening because of a "commitment [made by Caracas] to the United States to hold elections this year in exchange for a lifting of crippling economic sanctions."

There's a lot to unpack in that small sentence.

The dialogue process and electoral agreement signed between Caracas and the U.S.-backed opposition in Barbados was entirely meant to steer the opposition away from fascist violence and into the electoral path. Presidential elections were constitutionally mandated for 2024, with or without the dialogue or the far-right participation.

While the government (and every human rights expert/organization) has demanded the lifting of sanctions, the relaxation was not a consequence of the Barbados Agreement. It was the result of a migration wave that came roosting home after years of economic aggression against Venezuela. Not to mention years of lobbying by corporations like Chevron that wanted to recoup debt from their Venezuelan joint ventures.

The “crippling economic sanctions” were also not lifted, just the energy and gold sectors’ [measures](#) were suspended for six months. As that period has now come to an end and Venezuela approaches another election we are once again tormented with threats of reimposing all sanctions because electoral conditions are still not “free.”

This time, the “free elections” campaigners focus on María Corina Machado’s [ban](#) on running for office. Anyone might think people are rallying in the streets demanding this Venezuelan heiress and sanctions enthusiast candidacy, but nothing could be farther from the truth. Then why is she promoted as a crucial factor that would finally make elections “free” according to Western liberal standards?

First, she represents the elite that would guarantee two things: U.S. economic interests and the extermination of popular power that shows socialism is viable. It is no surprise that Washington would cheerlead for Machado, but it’s surprising to see the Latin American left or even the Venezuelan left that opposes Maduro choosing her political rights to take a stand.

Are we supposed to pretend we live in a classless society? For decades, if not centuries, the upper crust has banned the working class from political power. This was the case in Venezuela until Hugo Chávez arrived and with him, the wretched of the earth finally tasted and began to transform power.

From my point of view, nobody like Machado should ever be allowed to run for office, especially when they openly admit their intentions to exterminate a grassroots force like Chavismo. She is on the record calling for a foreign invasion of Venezuela. Should fascists and oligarchs have political rights? Doesn't that completely contradict the struggle for social justice and humanity's well-being and survival?

Haven't we learned how the far-right instrumentalizes hate speech and the "othering" of the poor, the Black and Brown, the different and the left, to rally support to achieve power? False promises and manipulation to turn our countries into U.S. vassal states again. Just look at the recent heartbreaking examples of Ecuador and Argentina. It seems to me that the only thing worse than being a country targeted by U.S. imperialism and resisting is being a U.S. neo-colony with no dignity.

I know that some might say, "But democracy means all political options should run and people can choose freely." Venezuela is honoring that principle to the core. There are 13 candidates of which 12 are opposition, between newbies and old foxes, and they come in all flavors. You have free-market lovers, religious conservatives, businessmen, and libertarian comedians. Some might drop out of the race, but most will likely to plow ahead. Some have been pre-campaigning for quite some time now.

What is it about them that does not contribute to "free elections"? According to corporate media, they are Maduro allies because they don't openly support U.S. sanctions and regime change. It's either be a shameless servant or don't even bother.

The reality is that Maduro is in a strong position to win the July vote, though not overwhelmingly, so Washington is preemptively delegitimizing the possible results. The United Socialist Party (PSUV) has superb electoral machinery and solid grassroots bases, while the far-right will most likely do what it does best: sabotage the election unless one of them, the creme de la creme of society, is set to rule. Otherwise, remaining out of power is better as they can continue to rely on U.S. funding.

As my mind continues to ponder the scam behind the “free elections” campaign and how it’s just a facade to impose Western-style democracy, I can’t help but wonder what would it feel like to participate in elections without having to worry about U.S. imperialist retaliation. Yes, we have learned to resist and we are in a much better economic situation than five years ago, but that does not mean that our situation is not PTSD-inducing.

Will the U.S. fascist agenda take more lives? How can we have (truly) free elections and free lives when we have a guillotine five millimeters from our already strangled necks?

I would love to be able to measure up Maduro’s government without factoring in sanctions to make a decision as a voter based entirely on how well or badly people are living exclusively because of government policies. It has become an agonizing exercise of self-control not to make rash decisions about the future and trust our leaders.

A lot of people like me are not entirely happy with the government’s liberal overtures in the name of circumventing the U.S. blockade that moves away from the socialist alternative. We have felt ignored when making criticisms or requesting information regarding salaries, socioeconomic data, and the real state of healthcare, education and the electrical system and what investment is going (if any) into them.

We don't want to surrender our country to the U.S., but we also need guarantees about the next six years if Maduro wins. Will the government continue trapped in its echo chamber? Will they weed out the opportunists and corrupt? Will the socialist project be revitalized?

No matter what goes down on July 28, only the Venezuelan people can save themselves and guarantee real democracy on the ground and hope for the future. As Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish once wrote: "Hope is not the opposite of despair. Perhaps it is the faith that springs from divine indifference that has left us dependent on our own special talents to make sense of the fog surrounding us. Hope is neither tangible nor an idea. It is a talent."

*Andreína Chávez Alava was born in Maracaibo and studied journalism at the University of Zulia, graduating in 2012. She immediately started working as a writer and producer at a local radio station while also taking part in local and international solidarity struggles.*

*In 2014 she joined TeleSUR, where in six years she rose through the ranks to become editor-in-chief, overseeing news, analysis and multimedia content. Currently based in Caracas, she joined Venezuelananalysis in March 2021 as a writer and social media manager and is a member of Venezuelan artist collective Utopix. Her main interests are popular and feminist struggles.*

Source: [Venezuelanalysis](https://www.venezuelanalysis.com)



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# **Puerto Rican activist Berta Joubert-Ceci tours U.S., exposing colonial crimes and crises**

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
April 21, 2024

Berta Joubert-Ceci began her U.S. tour speaking on the conditions and crises facing the people of Puerto Rico. The first stop, on April 10, was a presentation to Latin American students at Hostos Community College in the Bronx, New York.

Joubert-Ceci spoke about history, starting with the 1898 U.S. invasion during the Spanish-American War and then focusing on the current \$72 billion debt crisis. Her talk — illustrated with visual documentation — opened an intense discussion. Many students asked questions that proved their education on the colonization of Puerto Rico was obscured by deliberate misinformation.

Joubert-Ceci revealed the cause of this misinformation by quoting authorities

responsible for U.S. policy on the colony. Below are a few instances of that policy she spoke about.

- While responding to an island-wide agricultural strike in 1934, the Puerto Rican Chief of Police, Yale-educated E. Francis Riggs, whose father owned the Riggs National Bank, promised that: “There will be a war to the death against all Puerto Ricans.”
- Today, agricultural production on the fertile island has been reduced to the point where 85% of the food has to be imported from the U.S.
- An authority on health care, Cornelius Packard “Dusty” Rhoads, the first director of Sloan-Kettering Institute, reportedly said, following a vile racist rant: “What the island needs is not public health work but a tidal wave or something to totally exterminate the population.”
- Health care in Puerto Rico used to be administered by a universal system. Now, the closing of hospitals and clinics and the general deterioration of health care are being driven by private insurance companies funded by the government. These companies open their own private clinics and absorb the greatest portion of the public funding.

Joubert-Ceci described a similar process of cutbacks and privatization that is ruining the economy and affecting housing, education, the power grid, and the environment.

By imposing the administration of bankers under the guise of the “debt crisis,” most government services, now privatized, are inundated by corrupt officials from the U.S.

Living conditions are so dreadful that the Island is in danger of being depopulated. Census figures show that since 2000, the population has shrunk by 14%, and the median age has gone from 30.2 to 41.6.

Following the meeting at Hostos, Joubert-Ceci spoke at two community centers on

the Lower East Side in Manhattan. Independence activists, community organizers, and students joined the discussions, which they summed up by suggesting a range of possible activities to end the colonization of Puerto Rico.

Berta Joubert-Ceci will continue her tour, speaking next in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Los Angeles. She is the convenor of the 2018 Puerto Rico International Tribunal of Colonial Crimes of the United States. She is also a founding member of Women In Struggle/Mujeres En Lucha, a member of the Women's International Democratic Federation, and a regular contributor to Struggle-La Lucha. Joubert-Ceci resides in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



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## **Columbia crackdown fuels national student protests for Gaza**

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

April 19 — Columbia University students continue their “Gaza solidarity encampment” on the main lawn of the New York City campus, defying a heavy police

crackdown, with 122 arrested. The action, coordinated by various student organizations, including Columbia University Apartheid Divest, Columbia Students for Justice in Palestine, and Columbia Jewish Voice for Peace, has persisted for over 48 hours.

Inspired by the Columbia students' actions, students at the University of North Carolina and Miami University in Ohio have staged their own encampments in solidarity. National Students for Justice in Palestine issued a "call to action" for students nationwide to "seize the university and force the administration to divest, for the people of Gaza." A large crowd has also taken to the streets outside Columbia University in support of the encampment.



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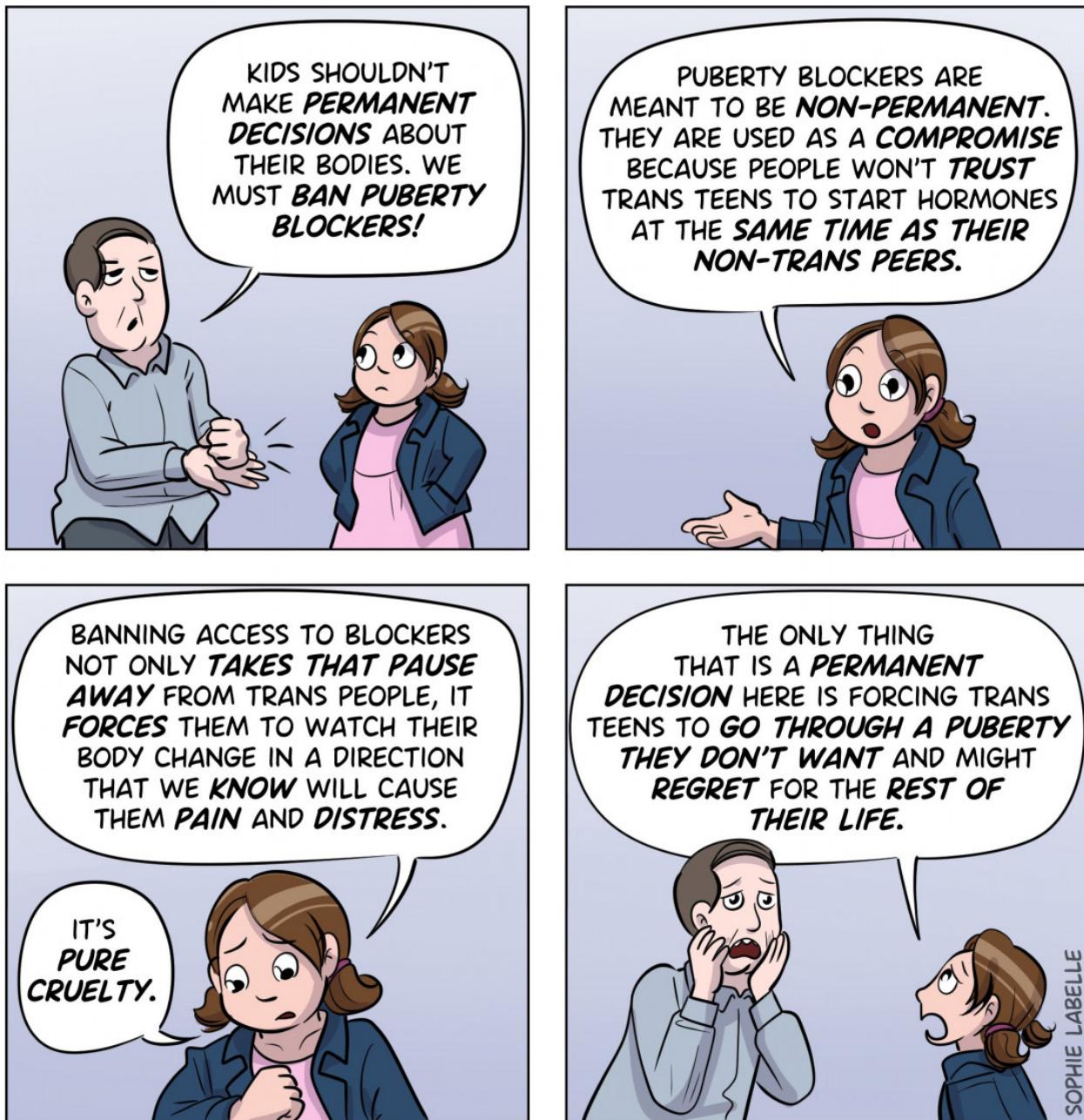
## **Opinion: England's anti-trans Cass Review is politics disguised as**

# science

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

**The recent report borrows from DeSantis bans on transgender care in Florida and appears designed to provide political justification for further attacks on transgender care.**



The anti-trans frenzy is peaking in England this week following the release of [a much-anticipated review](#) by Dr. Hillary Cass on transgender care. Many anticipated that the report would serve as a pretext to ban transgender care in England, and it

appears to have been crafted to provide just such a rationale. Nations already enacting restrictive laws against transgender individuals will likely use it as justification for further discrimination. In the United States, far-right Christian nationalist groups, including [Heritage Foundation \(retweeted\)](#), [Association of Christian Schools International](#), and the [Alliance Defending Freedom](#), have cited it to support anti-trans legislation they are involved in drafting or lobbying. The Cass Review is an exercise in politics with predetermined conclusions, not science and medicine, and health authorities worldwide should reject its findings.

For those unaware of the Cass Review and the general situation in England for transgender people, that's understandable. Transgender people have been struggling to raise alarms there for some time after wait lists to obtain gender-affirming care have ballooned [in excess of 5 years](#), which is often prohibitive in obtaining care. After a series of political attacks on transgender people and rising anti-trans sentiment in the country, the NHS [commissioned a review and tapped Dr. Hillary Cass](#), a pediatrician whose list of follows on social media include extremist anti-trans sources such as Transgender Trend (which argues, as is obvious, that being transgender is a "trend"), the LGB Alliance (a LGB group that believes in "dropping the T," or transgender people), and Graham Linehan (an anti-trans activist and comedian), along with many other noted anti-trans voices. From the outset, there were concerns about her ability to conduct a study neutrally.

Over the course of the review, these concerns intensified. On one occasion, Cass met privately with medical board members selected by Governor Ron DeSantis in Florida to ban transgender care through the Florida Medical Board and appeared to [collaborate via email](#). This only came to light during [a contentious trial](#) that revealed the board's intention to ban transgender care from the outset, prior to any review. Cass's involvement in what was essentially a predetermined strike by DeSantis against transgender people raised red flags. On another occasion, her team enlisted a researcher with [a history of promoting conversion therapy](#) as a viable

option for transgender individuals to handle reviews of evidence on which the report would be based.

Now that the final report is out, it is evident that it was crafted with a predetermined conclusion in mind. The review, [highly susceptible to subjectivity](#), disregarded the body of research on transgender care as [not “high quality,”](#) a subjective judgment that cannot be trusted as politically unbiased given prior concerns. The Cass Review lends credence to claims that being transgender is “contagious” and that it can influence others around them, claims that have been [debunked](#) by dozens of medical organizations. It cites YouTube propagandists that [share material](#) from “Gays Against Groomers,” a Republican-aligned anti-transgender organization in the United States. It fearmongers that being transgender might be caused by depression, anxiety, and autism, claims that the American Psychological Association, the world’s largest psychological organization, has [rejected in a recent policy resolution](#). It asserts that rates of detransition or desistance are high, citing outdated studies from conversion therapists like Ken Zucker, who reportedly used methods such as [withholding wrongly gendered toys](#) in an attempt to “treat” transgender youth. These purportedly high rates of “detransition” or “desistance” are challenged not only by [external fact checks](#) but also data within Cass’ own review.

The review cites heavily studies that have been misleadingly used to claim that being trans may be caused by being friends with other trans people. For instance, immediately after making social contagion claims, [it references a study](#) of “2,772 adolescents” that purportedly links the question “I wish to be of the opposite sex” to “poor self-concept” and “same-sex attraction.” Cass uses this to essentially claim that many transgender individuals do not know who they are, suggesting that trans individuals may actually just be gay people influenced into being trans by being friends with other trans people—a claim without evidence, often perpetuated by those opposed to trans care. It is important to note that the study Cass cites does not

concern trans people; rather, it focuses on cisgender individuals who occasionally wish they were the opposite sex for any reason, including tomboys, feminine gay boys, people experiencing sexism, and more. In that particular study, 19% of participants responded this way, a rate magnitudes higher than the often-estimated 0.5% of transgender individuals. Nevertheless, Cass includes this study as though it applies to transgender individuals, whose desire is not “occasional” but enduring.

It is important to note that the Cass Review contains very little new data and evidence. Any statements it makes are based on the same level of evidence that every major medical organization in the United States, along with some of the largest mental health societies in the world and professional associations of transgender health, have determined to support transgender care. If its claims differ from those institutions, it's because reviewers made choices to view the evidence around transgender care negatively. For instance, Cornell University has reviewed over [51 of these studies](#) and found that gender transition improves the well-being of transgender people. Interestingly, the scant data the Cass Review did commission on its own actually turned out to support gender-affirming care for trans youth.

For instance, the review on page 168 notes that in a study of patients in England, fewer than 10 transgender youth detransitioned or desisted. This could be seen as evidence of careful transgender care, supported by other research indicating that [97.5% of transgender youth are stable in their gender identity](#) five years later. However, Dr. Cass interprets this as evidence that puberty blockers cause transgender youth to feel locked into their gender identity, despite their role in giving both the youth and their care providers time to ensure that transition is appropriate. No evidence was presented that transgender youth feel this way, and the review certainly had the opportunity to ask the question of the youth it interviewed. It is conceivable that if a larger number of youth were desisting or detransitioning, Cass and others with similar views would argue that clinicians are failing to correctly identify transgender individuals and would use this as

justification to block care. They have created a situation where the evidence will be interpreted negatively no matter what it shows.

The Cass Review, like the Florida review, was not conducted through a rigorous scientific process by the field's leading experts. Instead, it seems designed to manufacture a consensus, using science as a guise for politics—there can be no other explanation for the decisions made in the document. This is evident when, after reviewing the same evidence, virtually [every major medical organization in the United States](#) strongly supports the evidence base for transgender care. Meanwhile, in Germany, [another report was announced](#) last month, which judged the exact same evidence strong enough to justify keeping transgender care for youth accessible. Announced in a press conference, this report involved collaboration among 27 professional medical organizations and 2 patient organizations. The press conference announcing the guidelines states that “not providing treatment can do harm” and that “These are not merely our personal observations; there are several longitudinal studies that now also show that there are some improvements in the medium to long term for these young people who are supported in such a fashion.” This full report is expected to be published soon after a four-week review, at which point it will likely become the official recommendations of the Association of the Scientific Medical Societies in Germany.

Transgender individuals in England deserve far better than sham reports concocted to justify escalating crackdowns on their care. They merit more than being subjected to DeSantis-style politics that weaponize fear over their very existence and their fundamental right to bodily autonomy. They are owed individualized care, collaboratively done with their doctors and caregivers, that is meticulously tailored to meet their unique medical needs. Documents like the Cass Review fall drastically short of protecting transgender youth and instead serve to shield the sensibilities of those who tirelessly seek to justify their control over the lives of transgender people.

Source: [Erin In The Morning](#)



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# San Diego: May Day 2024

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
April 21, 2024

**MAY 1, 2024**

**SAN DIEGO**

# **INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY**

**RALLY & MARCH**

**MEET AT THE FEDERAL BUILDING**

**4:30PM  
CARPOOL  
ENCOURAGED**



ASSOCIATION OF RAZA EDUCATORS



**ANAKBAYAN  
SAN DIEGO**



**PALESTINIAN  
YOUTH  
MOVEMENT**

**TRUMP & BIDEN  
NO SOLUTION  
WORKING CLASS  
FOR REVOLUTION**



San Diego International Workers' Day Rally & March

Wednesday, May 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Meet at the Federal Building, 880 Front Street, San Diego



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## **Los Angeles: May Day march**

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

# MAY 2024 DAY

**WORKER POWER WORLDWIDE!  
DON'T COMPLY WITH GENOCIDE!**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 1ST  
4:30PM GATHERING | MACARTHUR PARK**



FOR INFO: (323) 306-6240

We invite everyone to participate in this year's May 1st March on International Worker's Day! Dozens of organizations are joining together to organize this march to defend worker's rights and to demand an end to the Israeli genocide and occupation in Palestine!

The march will begin at MacArthur Park and will end at the Downtown LA Federal Building.

These are the march demands!

FREE PALESTINE NOW!

End the Occupation!

Stop ALL US \$\$\$ to Israel

Defend Free Speech & Worker's Rights to Organize!

Universal Healthcare, Education, Housing for ALL!

Stop LAPD & ICE Terror!

Stop Deportations! Full Legalization NOW!

Abolish Colonial Borders & the US War Machine!

Stop US Intervention in Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Haiti

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¡Invitamos a tod@s a participar en la marcha del 1 de mayo de este año en el Día Internacional del Trabajador! ¡Docenas de organizaciones se están uniendo para organizar esta marcha para defender los derechos de los trabajadores y exigir el fin del genocidio y la ocupación israelí en Palestina!

La marcha comenzará en MacArthur Park y terminará en el Edificio Federal del Centro de Los Ángeles.

¡Estas son las Demandas de la marcha!

¡Libertad para PALESTINA!

¡Alto a la ocupación!

No mas \$\$\$ a Israel!

¡Defender la libertad de expresión y los derechos de los trabajadores a organizarse!

¡Atención sanitaria universal, educación y vivienda para TODOS!

¡Alto al terrorismo de la Policía (LAPD) y de la migra (ICE)!

¡Alto a las deportaciones! Legalización Total YA!

¡Abolir las fronteras coloniales y la maquinaria de guerra estadounidense!

Alto a la intervención de Estados Unidos en Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua y Haití



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# **The voice of Israel's defeat; a confession by Israeli newspaper Haaretz**

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024



*One of the leading Israeli media confesses that they are losing the war despite military superiority and genocide.*

A few days ago, Haaretz – one of Israel’s most influential Israeli newspapers – published an extraordinary article. Under the revealing title “Saying what cannot be said: Israel has been defeated, a total defeat,” the author presents an absolutely pessimistic picture of Israel’s war in Gaza and its overall situation. As this is not an “opinion piece” but written by the newspaper’s “Political Correspondent,” it is fair to say that this paper represents the viewpoint of Haaretz.

Let us first reproduce the most important parts of this remarkable article.

“We have lost. The truth must be told. The inability to admit it sums up all that needs to be known about Israel’s individual and mass psychology. There is a clear, clear, and predictable reality that we should begin to probe, process, understand,

and draw conclusions from for the future. It is no fun to admit that we have lost, so we lie to ourselves.

[...] We can't say it, but we have lost. People have a tendency to believe for the best and be optimistic, hoping that tomorrow everything will be fine and that we will be in a process that will be more successful in the end. That is the most fundamental flaw in human thinking: the notion that the direction we are going is good, that we simply have to get there now, that in a little more time, with a little more effort, the hostages will be returned. Hamas will surrender, and Yahya Sinwar will be killed. After all, we are the good guys and good will triumph.

It is the same mentality that leads to the notion that "the Iranian regime will soon implode" and other notions that have more to do with Hollywood scripts than with life itself. They are not the truth and relate to something that is uncomfortable. After all, it is uncomfortable to tell the truth to the public.

[...] No cabinet minister will restore our sense of personal security. Every Iranian threat will make us tremble. Our international standing suffered a severe blow. The weakness of our leadership was revealed to the outside world. For years, we managed to fool them into believing that we were a strong country, a wise people, and a powerful army. In reality, we are a village with an air force, and that is on condition that they wake up in time.

[...] Rafah is the latest bluff the spokesmen are plotting to fool us into thinking that victory is only minutes away. By the time they enter Rafah, the real event will have lost its significance. There may be an incursion, perhaps a small one, sometime, say in May. After that, they will peddle the next lie, that all we have to do is \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank), and victory will be on the way. The reality is that the war aims will not be achieved. Hamas will not be eradicated. The hostages will not be returned through military pressure, and security will not be restored.

The more the spokesmen shout that “we are winning,” the clearer it is that we are losing. Lying is their trade. We need to get used to that. Life is less secure than it was before October 7. The beating we took will hurt for years. The international ostracism will not go away. And, of course, the dead will not return. Neither will many of the hostages. For some of us, life will return with the petrifying fear of an imminent repetition. And for some of us, life will not get back on track. Those people will walk among us like the living dead. That’s what we voted for. That’s the way it is. We need to get used to the sad reality of our homeland.”

Basically, the article acknowledges that Israel has lost the war. Of course, Israel’s armies have not been eradicated. But in a war between the world’s fourth strongest official army against the guerrilla forces of the Palestinian resistance in the tiny enclave of Gaza (population 2.3 million), the standards for success are different.

It is true that Israel has “succeeded” in committing genocide against the Palestinian people in Gaza, massacring tens of thousands of people, destroying most of the homes, and displacing most of the population. But despite all these horrible war crimes and despite the fact that Israel is waging the longest war in its history, it has not been able to defeat the heroic Palestinians!

In fact, Israel’s all-powerful army – with total superiority in air, sea, and land, with artificial intelligence-driven killer programs, the latest missiles and bombs, and with unlimited financial, political, and military support from US imperialism – failed to conquer the strip, failed to defeat the resistance forces and failed to bring back their hostages. What a remarkable achievement for the resistance forces, as my comrade Yossi Schwartz, an anti-Zionist Jew in Israel and a Trotskyist for six decades, pointed out some time ago.

Not only this: never before has Israel been so isolated in international politics, it has become a country hated and despised by the masses of people all over the world. The genocidal war of the Zionists has provoked an unprecedented pro-Palestine

solidarity movement that continues to mobilize relentlessly against the Apartheid and Terror State. Several trade unions have already taken active boycott actions against military and economic supplies to Israel.

Under pressure from the masses, an increasing number of bourgeois governments feel compelled to criticize and distance themselves from the Zionist entity. The same pressure has pushed the ICJ to open an investigation into Israel's genocide in Gaza, and even the UN Security Council felt obliged to vote in favor of a cease-fire against the furious resistance of Israel and its US masters.

This is not to deny all the difficulties and dangers ahead, not at all, as the murderers will continue to kill, and the traitors will continue to betray. Still, it is fantastic to see the heroic Palestinian people inflict a political defeat on the Zionist state!

Unity - Struggle - Victory

Source: [Cuba en Resumen](#)



# April 16: Three glorious Cuban anniversaries on one date

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

Every April 16, Cuba celebrates three glorious anniversaries. First, the declaration of the socialist character of the Cuban Revolution. Second, the Day of the Militiaman. And the third, the founding of the Cuban Communist Party. These three events are nourished by a single root: patriotism, unity, and the people's willingness to defend the Revolution at any cost.

Sixty-three years ago, on April 16, 1961, the island bid farewell to seven Cubans who had lost their lives on the previous day, victims of the U.S. bombing of the airports of Santiago de Cuba, Ciudad Libertad and San Antonio de los Baños, a precursor to the Bay of Pigs invasion on April 17, 1961. In the busy avenues of 23rd and 12th, in the capital's Vedado district, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro proclaimed that the newborn Revolution of 1959 would be patriotic, democratic and socialist, of the humble, by the humble, and for the humble.

With their fists and rifles raised, the militia people swore to defend the Revolution that Fidel described at whatever cost. In every corner of the country, the armed people were ready to defend the revolutionary work and the socialist ideology.

Those who witnessed that day remember April 16, 1961, as if it were yesterday. The combatants of the 148th battalion of the National Revolutionary Militias were part of that crowd gathered with rifles in hand at the corner of 23rd and 12th. The emotion multiplied after Fidel's words, which were immortalized in newspapers and radio stations of the time: "Fellow workers and farmers, this is the socialist and democratic Revolution of the humble, with the humble and for the humble".

After his words, the notes of The Internationale, the official anthem of the workers of the world and of the majority of the socialist and communist parties, were sung. Hours later, the militiamen present there fought alongside Fidel on the sands of the Bay of Pigs.

That disposition materialized in combat, when the militia, along with the Rebel Army and the National Revolutionary Police, fought the invaders, annihilating them in less than 72 hours. Every inch of land in the country became a trench. And in honor of that victory, April 16 was chosen as Militia Day, celebrated every year, as a tribute to the men and women who fought the mercenaries or were willing to do so throughout the country.

Many witnesses of that struggle are the same ones who in 1965 joined the ranks of the Communist Party of Cuba, which took April 16, 1961, as its founding date, given the symbolism of that occasion. The protagonists of that struggle will relive today the emotion of those April days, in a political tribute that will take place in the same avenues of 23rd and 12th this afternoon.

Today, Fidel's words will resound once again: "The people of yesterday, semi-literate, with a minimal political culture, were capable of making the Revolution, defending the Homeland, later attaining an extraordinary political consciousness, and initiating a revolutionary process that has no parallel in this hemisphere or the world. I say this not out of a ridiculous chauvinist spirit, or with the absurd pretension of believing ourselves to be better than others; I say it because the Revolution that was born on January 1st, 1959, by chance or destiny, was subjected to the hardest test to which any revolutionary process in the world has ever been subjected to."

Those words do not lose their validity, nor does the Revolution, which frightens the reactionaries in the world so much, but which today stands as a lighthouse before the eyes of the world. This hardest test of ours continues but we are aware of the

enormous responsibility we have to the peoples of the world, and we will always know how to be up to that responsibility.

Source: [Resumen Latinoamericano - US](#)



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## Never forget the Ludlow, Colorado, and Veracruz, Mexico, massacres

written by Struggle - La Lucha

April 21, 2024

Over 20 people were killed by the Colorado National Guard in Ludlow on April 20, 1914, during a coal miners' strike. Eleven of those murdered were children. They choked to death when the tent above them had been set on fire by soldiers.

The next day, April 21, 1914, the U.S. began a military occupation of Veracruz, Mexico. Hundreds of Mexicans were killed during the invasion.

These two atrocities 110 years ago were committed on behalf of Wall Street banksters who are still running the United States today. Their Pentagon war

machine is supplying the bombs and shells that have killed over 14,000 Palestinian children in Gaza.

The coal miners in Colorado were on strike against the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, which was controlled by the Rockefellers, the world's first billionaire family and founders of Big Oil.

Nine thousand miners had walked out of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company-owned camps on Sept. 23, 1913. They struck against \$1.68-a-day wages.

They revolted against the CF&I company stores, CF&I-controlled schools, and CF&I-censored libraries. Strike leader Louis Tikas, a Greek immigrant, was shot in the back and killed.

The U.S. attack on Veracruz was in response to the Mexican Revolution, which began in 1910. The United States had stolen half of Mexico in the late 1840s to expand slavery.

Thirteen years before the U.S. occupation of Veracruz, Los Angeles oil tycoon Edward Doheny opened his first oil well in Tampico, Mexico. President Woodrow Wilson invaded Mexico to protect the profits of U.S. oil outfits, mining, and railroad companies.

Wilson was a super bigot who segregated government lunchrooms. He had "Birth of a Nation," a film that glorified the Ku Klux Klan, shown in the White House.

Wilson's Navy Secretary, Josephus Daniels, helped overthrow Wilmington, North Carolina's Black elected government in 1898. An estimated 300 Black people were killed.

## **Every worker needs a rifle**

Just as Wilson refused to do anything about lynchings, he did nothing to stop miners and their families from being killed in Colorado. The Ludlow massacre horrified the country.

Victor Berger — the socialist member of Congress from Milwaukee — got up in the House of Representatives and urged every worker to get a rifle. The Cleveland Leader wrote, “The charred bodies of two dozen women and children show that Rockefeller knows how to win!”

Enraged strikers in Colorado attacked mines being operated by strikebreakers. President Wilson sent in U.S. troops to break the strike.

The heroic strike was finally defeated. But, the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company was forced to sign a contract with the United Mine Workers in 1933.

Decades later, New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, a grandson of Big Oil founder John D. Rockefeller, had 30 Attica prisoners massacred in 1971.

Poor and working people in Mexico, Palestine, and the United States have the same enemy: the billionaire class whose headquarters is Wall Street.

Always remember the Ludlow, Veracruz, and Attica massacres. Fight like hell for Gaza and all of Palestine.

