Dear Friends,

Greetings from the desk of the Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research.

You will open this newsletter and read it just a few days before Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva will wake up in the Federal prison inDisposition in Curitiba. Brazil on April 7, 2018, the same day we engaged in the demonstration. You will go about your day, perhaps opening this and pieces of this newsletter as you read it and later. Lula will likely have breakfast on his first day in prison, bread and butter with his coffee. He will know that across the planet there will be demonstrations in his name. Você não está sozinho. You’re not alone. It will give him hope.
A few months ago, I had the honor of reading a letter from the Communist Party of Turkey to be its mayor. The letter said, in part, “In that election, the ruling party of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan lost in Istanbul (where we have lost the majority) to the Nationalist People’s Party (MHP). This coalition of the right and extreme right has gained strength in recent years, but the people of Turkey have not given up their fight for democracy.”

In South Africa, this week comes just as in Algeria President Abdelaziz Bouteflika steps aside and opens a new process for his country, and as the Turkish city of Tunceli elected Fatih Altay as its mayor (a new book by India’s leading psephologist Prannoy Roy).

It has been a year since the military coup in Brazil, which overthrew the government of Lula da Silva. The coup was a massive setback for the Brazilian working class, who had fought for years against the right-wing government of Michel Temer. The coup was fueled by a wave of racist attacks against Lula, who had been a leader of the left and a symbol of resistance against authoritarian rule.

The coup was not just a victory for the right-wing forces in Brazil, but also for the global capitalist system. It was a clear demonstration of the power of the ruling class, and a reminder of the fragility of democracy in a world marked by inequality and injustice.

The coup also highlighted the importance of international solidarity, and the need for a global movement to defend democracy and human rights. The struggle against the coup in Brazil is part of a larger process of resistance against the forces of reaction and conservatism, and a call for a world that is更加公平,更加民主,更加包容.

In conclusion, the Brazilian coup was a defeat for the working class and for democracy, but it was also a victory for the的力量 of the people. We must continue to fight for a world that is真正平等,真正自由,真正民主.