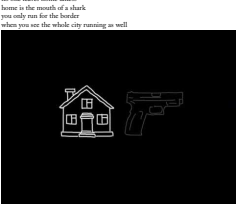


# **You Only Run For the Border When You See the Whole City Running As Well: The Thirty-Seventh Newsletter (2018).**



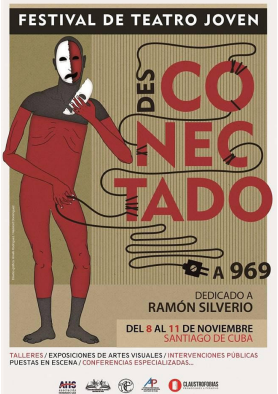
Dear Friends,  
 Greetings from the desk of the **Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research**.  
 Sitting in his office, Donald Trump meets with the head of his economic advisors Gary Cohn. Cohn jokes with Trump. He says, make a speech and say that the wall on the US-Mexico border is ready to be built; the materials are on hand, labour is eager. The only thing that engineers are worrying about is how to spell – over the 2000-kilometre border – the word TRUMP. Trump is not amused. He does not like jokes at his expense. He has other ideas. The cartoon of Central Americans crossing northwards, by any means an invasion. They bring language in the goods that they sell on the border. He has no real interest in using the migrants as a way to make free real dollars. That is the mark of the neo-fascist. Along the length of Central America and Mexico, caravans of human beings walk towards the United States border (the picture above is from pictures done by **Sam Hawkey** of the people on the march). The first caravan of four thousand people reached the town of Matias Romero in Chiapas state on the first day of November. A second caravan of almost two thousand people entered Mexico at Huixtla, Chiapas state, while a third caravan of first hundred people left El Salvador to seek asylum in Mexico and a fourth caravan of more than thousand people left San Salvador and reached the Guatemalan town of Tecun Uman on the Mexican border. Each of these caravans comes with determination to free places that the people think have failed them. It brings to mind the words of the South-British poet Wanda Slater,



When we see the human condition, and former Honduran congressman Ramiro Bustinza, who first said that he would pay the way of people to the United States. In my report *Frontiers*, I told the story of the first caravan and the reasons why people decided to take their chances on the 'border of death' northwards. Part of that story includes climate change and adverse trade deals for the small countries of Central America. But there is also a longer story of political destabilization by US intervention – some of it going back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century – as well as the growth of a deep-bled economy that has brought more violence to places that hoped that the end of that genocide conducted by the military regimes of the 1980s would bring a period of peace. The genocide continues, as bulldozers and dams destroy the way of life for small farmers and for indigenous communities. The assassination of activist Berta Cáceres in Honduras is a signal of the violence that chases out people from their homelands. The trial of her killers is in chaos, the impunity another reason for people to flee. It does not help that the United States, the dragon that whips in tail and breathes fire into those countries, at the same time advertises itself as a 'land of opportunity'. US military force and capital has no borders; only people of limited means run into those borders. The host has become the monster of a child. "Sleep on our backs," says the Palestinian poet John Burt Foster, "long way from home".



When we see the human condition, I say, return people to villages that reject neo-fascism. It is as if the person on the road in these caravans or on the boats in the Mediterranean Sea are to be pitied (if you are a person of sensitive disposition) or hated (if you are a person who has forgotten what it means to be human). But the people walking on or the boats are not without their own capacities and energy, without their own sense of what they are doing and why they are doing it. When they cross the outlying borders, they go to work, building homes, finding work, caring children (the picture above is by **Yara A. Boubas** for a series of migrant workers at their temporary homes). They care money and then turn around to send it to their families who are at home. Even in the Zaatari refugee camp in Ma'arj al-Jedid, there are money transfer agencies that take cash from Syrian refugees and send it to their relatives inside Syria. The lines outside these agencies around the world suggest the immense suffering of humanity that motivates the people who are displaced. The World Bank calculates that displaced people sent a total of \$61.3 billion in remittances to their home countries, most of them in the Global South. To put this into context, the total overseas development aid amounted to \$142.6 billion. In other words, workers who live globally – and there are 258 million of them – send four and a half times more money to their home countries than do the wealthy states of North America and Europe. Even more scandalous, Western China – which is worth \$5.5 trillion – and its confederates take \$30 billion from the poor displaced workers. The total overseas development aid (UNHCR) is \$85 billion. Please pause and re-read these numbers (for more on this, see my article at *NewsAlert*).  
 • Total annual overseas development aid: \$142.6 billion.  
 • Total annual remittances from displaced workers: \$61.3 billion.  
 • Total aid annually plundered by money transfer monopolies: \$30 billion.  
 • Total annual budget of UNHCR: \$8 billion.



Capital and weapons slip past the border without care. People are held back by the borders. It is this inability that acts as an economic knife into the gut of the world's billions. The lack of free mobility of people facilitates lower (super-exploited) wages in some parts of the world as against others. Those who are able to cross borders, but have either no papers or have limited papers, are vulnerable to employers who super-exploit their vulnerability. In other words, on both sides of the border the displaced people will not be able to get by with negotiated wages and poor working conditions. It is not enough to talk about a wall on the US-Mexico border. Trump, like his predecessors in the US government, want to reshape countries that refuse to acknowledge the domination of the United States over their affairs. This was the basis of the Monroe Doctrine (1823), which Trump invoked by name at the UN General Assembly a few months ago. The new phase entered by Trump's advisor John Bolton – the trials of tyranny – points Washington's finger at Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Trump has wanted to restrict one of these countries. Now, with close allies in Brazil and Colombia, the United States will ramp up pressure against those countries and – likely – will intervene in at least one of them. Cuba came to the United Nations General Assembly with the resolution against the US embargo of the small island nation. Since 1992, the UNGA has voted to end the embargo. This year that the US brought the embargo and 2 for it (the United States and Israel). Cuba's Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parilla offered the rationale for the end of the embargo in his important speech at the session in New York on 1 November. It is clear that on foreign policy the world runs the business of US power and dollars. It is there to appear – eyes averted – Washington's allies – for the new sanctions against Iran, for the stepped-up embargo on Cuba and for a war against Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Even Afghanistan, at issue in my report, continues to trade with Iran – despite being virtually occupied by the United States. History is against imperialism. Meanwhile, if you are in Havana there is a Youth Theatre Festival (see above) that is dedicated to Ramiro Bustinza. Bustinza is the founder of the E3 Mojaje Cultural Centre in Santa Clara, where there is an art gallery, a theatre, a cafe and a place for artists and LGBTQ+ activists to breathe. Ramiro Bustinza dreams of a 'world where everyone lives in harmony and respects individuality no matter if they're Marxist, Christian or gay'. The festival is the opposite of the hegemonic theatre from John Burt Foster.



Indigenous ancestral grounds stolen or overgrown forested ones. But there is no border for wildlife, whose habitat is being rarely and swiftly snatched away. The Indian government has just given Reliance Corporation (set worth \$110 billion), owned by the Indian billionaire Anil Ambani (set worth \$2.2 billion), 467 hectares of the reserved forest land in Yamvat to build a cement factory. Precious forest will be carved into, mineral deposits (of limestone and dolomite) will be eaten into. Local inhabitants, who live with the forest, will be slowly but surely displaced. A project named Anni and her cats named the area near the future cement factory. The government said that she had killed thirteen villagers. She had to be killed. Jadupur Hanthaka's third series on the killing of the tiger is inviting – an essential read (**part 1, part 2 and part 3**). It is also tragic. Two ten-month-old cubs survive Anni. Raj Thackeray of the right-wing Shiv Sena said, "I have learned that Anni was killed to save Anil Ambani's project. The government has sold its conscience to Ambani". The World Wildlife Fund has just released its *Living Planet Report* which shows a decline in wildlife population by 68% over the past forty years. The authors of the report blame 'humanity' for increased consumption. Once more, the data here is useful but the analysis is insufficient. There is no 'humanity' by itself only classes and nations, where some classes and certain nations dominate the agenda for the planet. Reliance Corporation wipes out the forest and puts pressure on the tiger, the village who are killed off the tiger are the noblest folk for process that lay beyond them. The problem here is the human failure, but the capitalist system which has made nature into a commodity and does not care at all for its existence. It is this system that drives the destruction of the Amazon Rain Forest and of the Arctic Circle. Profit is more important to this system than people. Private property has made us an empire, wrote a young Marx in 1844.



Remember an anti-imperialist, our doctor on the MLP's return to Argentina. The picture above is a preview from the dossier. Also, go back and download our *NotreDahdehlich* cartoon Samir Amin's last interview. See work on Monday – in Rio de Janeiro, see Brazil's office will be opened as an important seminar on Changes in the World-Economy and the Challenges for Brazil with Ana Esther Cecilio (UNAMA), Renato Brabo (UPR), Maria Beckmann (UPR) and Samir Pichardo Guimarães (former Ambassador to Moscow). You can follow the conversation at our Facebook page. The Brazilianist monk Marcelo Barros writes from Brazil that there is no choice before us but to revive the spirit of resistance, reorganize hope and be militant in our insistence for a new world. Pay attention to him. Weekly Tips: Our image below is of Qiu Jin (1875-1907), a Chinese feminist, poet and revolutionary. After the founding of the feminist and nationalist journal *Zhuqiao* magazine, Qiu Jin was appointed to head the Daqing School, an arms warehouse and military training camp for revolutionaries that was disguised as a sports school. As a martial artist, Qiu Jin trained revolutionaries along with her cousin Xu Xilin. They were both caught, tortured and executed before the Anqing Uprising. "Death will not separate us, we are the staff of heretofore," she wrote.



