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## *The coup, the working class and the student movement*



**Sources:** Rebellion [Image: Road blockade in Arequipa 19/01 (Photo: José Sotomayor)]

### **Why doesn't Dina resign?**

Although the government of Dina Boluarte is weak because of its coup character, which is rejected by a popular majority and, therefore, cannot govern the country (the state of siege in Puno, Madre de Dios, among other regions, does not work), it is not yet clear that the second round of popular rebellions will impose the fall of the government soon.

This is because, on the one hand, the coup feels strong with the call of 04/01 with some 10,000 people to the march "for peace" filling almost the entire Plaza San Martín. And on the other, because the protests in Lima against the coup are combative, but still weak, not

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reaching the dimension of hundreds of thousands of 2000 and 2020 when the dictators Fujimori and Merino were overthrown respectively.

As if it were the Bolivian workers' and popular insurrection of 2003, the masses in struggle harangue, "now yes, civil war". And indeed, in the countryside, there are already attempts at civil war. If we wanted to impose an open military dictatorship, we would move to a bloodier scenario.

This is the *impasse* that will be resolved in the coming days. Dina's coup government is unsustainable. Even the center-left, which was supporting Dina, has had to take shape because of the scandal in the number of deaths in the fight. Professional associations, regional governors, etc. demand the resignation of Dina coup plotter.

This may be one of the political manoeuvres that the bourgeoisie ends up reaching. In Parliament, motions have already been presented to "vacar" (dismiss) the "president" Dina Boluarte making her responsible for an "excessive" repression. In that case, they will want to transform it into a scapegoat for the responsibility of the entire coup regime (Congress, judiciary, police and armed forces).

If the groups of capitalist economic power still support Dina, it is not because they esteem her, but because they are afraid that the collapse of Dina will embolden the masses more and they will then go for more forcefully proposing the liberation of Castillo or the Constituent Assembly.

### **The working class**

As we pointed out, the second march of the 4 *Suyos* does not stop and is combative. In recent days thousands of workers of the agribusiness of the south (Ica) have just sent 3 buses full of workers to the "Taking of Lima". Blockades in the "conservative" north are strong and spreading. We are facing a workers' and popular movement on the rise and with a tendency favorable to the struggle of the working class.

Precisely an important actor in the popular rebellion, but of which even the center-left is silent (because of its turn to the "enterprising and citizen elector") is the intervention of the rural working class, which has become a leading actor in the popular rebellion against the coup. Since the first round of social revolts, the agricultural proletariat (one of the most exploited with daily wage days of 29 soles for almost 12 hours of work), paralyzed the south of Ica and has also intervened in the north of the country. We must remember that in the most important days of struggle after the fall of Merino it was this same sector of workers that put its stamp with a 5-day strike that ended up overturning the fujimorista Climper Law.

This is how we could say that we are entering a period of emergence of the working class (before there were important marches of textile workers) in perspective of its development as a political subject. Bolivia's revolutionary traditions have a direct influence on Peruvian revolutionary traditions. The slingshot, the method of strike and blockade of roads, popular assemblies, committees of struggle, etc. were affirmatively strengthened with the Bolivian peasant workers' revolution of 1952 (the heart of the Latin American revolution) and is expressed today in the rebellion in Peru...

### **The Student movement**

On the other hand there is the university student movement. After the withdrawal of the Combative Secondary movement, the student movement is reviving itself with the participation of students organized in the University Federation of San Marcos (FUSM) and the union in the National University of Engineering (UNI), who have converted the respective campuses into hostels of the delegations of hundreds of workers from the provinces. But also the students of the UNC, Puno, Ayacucho, etc. are intervening decisively.

In this sector there is a tendency of a part of the combative student youth to link themselves to the worker, peasant and popular movement. However, like the exploited classes, the student movement, in order to affirm its alliance with them, must establish a position on the "advance of elections".



*Police cornered as protesters try to take over Arequipa airport*

### **The Early Election Trap**

The working people in struggle propose the resignation of Dina, Williams, which is correct, but at the same time falls into the trap of early elections. And, if the masses in struggle have the majority organized force of society to overthrow the coup dictatorship because it is not going to impose a sovereign Constituent Assembly instead of calling new elections with the same dictatorial rules of the game?

This It is a colossal political contradiction of which neither the Connotted alternative press has been able to take note. If not resolved The same, then, we would go towards a new impasse.

We point this out because the call for new elections would take place under the rules of the game of the same order of capitalist domination. If it is not the hated president of Congress who could assume instead of the coup leader Boluarte, then a provisional government would have to be formed among some figures of the *establishment* itself (Congress, Judiciary, civil society, etc.). But at the same time it would be a government that would try to maneuver politically to impose electoral fraud.

In other words, the advance of elections is a functional maneuver to the pro-Yankee coup. For these reasons it is essential to deliberate in this regard with both pseudo-left "democratizing" positions (capitalism with a human face) that propose political reforms with the neo-fascist right and ultra-right (Avanza País, PP, APP, RP, etc.), as well as with the positions more to the left that, by pragmatism in political negotiation or by omission, end up playing into the hands of pro-imperialist reaction.

As we have pointed out on previous occasions, what is at stake here are the multibillion-dollar economic interests of the Northern empire in its trade war with China and its military war with Russia (preparing the ground for a third world war). This issue is expressed in the renegotiation of the Peruvian State Law contracts with dozens of mining or gas companies such as Camisea (25% of shares belong to the powerful Yankee group Hunt Oil).

For these reasons it is essential that the workers' and popular movement, organized in the CGTP and the Assembly of the Peoples, propose the convocation of a broad and democratic Unitary Command of Struggle, where delegates mandated from their respective bases by region and province are present, which approves a Plan of Struggle, which takes the popular demands of the cones of Lima. in order to crush the coup and impose a sovereign Constituent Assembly (without parallel constituted powers).

*Cesar Zelada. Leader of the Vilcapaza group.*

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