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In Africa, they try to expel colonialist France



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Every time a coup d'état takes place in Africa, questions, speculations and hypotheses arise. The expulsion of the occupant of the presidential palace in Gabon is the seventh coup d'état in Africa in less than 3 years, after those of Mali, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Chad, Sudan and Niger. But who is behind Oligui Nguema the new president: France, the United States, Russia, or the Gabonese people?

A month after the coup in Niger, a military junta calling itself the Committee for Transition and Restoration of Institutions (CTRI) placed President Ali Bongo Ondimba under house arrest and announced the formation of a new government. Bongo, who had

governed the country since 2009, had just won his third re-election in a widely contested election.

In the latest series of coups d'état, from Mali to Niger via Burkina Faso, Sudan and Guinea, the military coup plotters did not lead a popular movement, rather, they acted from within the regimes they claimed to want to change. abolish, cleanse. Part of the urban youth supports the coup plotters, in Niamey as in Bamako or Libreville, attributing to them an anti-French patriotism.

The coup in Gabon It seems to have a script and aesthetic similar to the previous ones. The Common denominator is economic precariousness, and fed up with regimes authoritarian and dynastic interests that guarantee France's neocolonial interests in exchange for keeping a part of the looting mainly of oil and the mining.

The 30 of August, the makeshift military junta dissolved Congress and the Court supreme. And he placed Bongo, his family and cabinet members under arrest with charges ranging from fraud and irresponsible government to treason. How in other French-speaking African countries, there were also scenes of jubilation in Gabon. popular before the fall of Bongo, and slogans against neocolonialism French and its partners in the local elites.

Seeing the experience Since the coup in Niger, there seems to be neither strength nor will to that Africa's procedural institutions – the African Union, ECOWAS and others like it – or the imperialist powers – embark on the adventure. to reinstate by force the old partners who have fallen into disgrace. The The most forceful speech was from President Emmanuel Macron, who spoke of a "epidemic of blows" against its allies, a disease that weakens the already Pale French neocolonial imprint.

Gabon

Africans know that the so-called "democracy" that France, the United States and the United States claim to defend. The Western powers are clearly a farce. Omar Bongo was put in functions by the French government of General De Gaulle and underpinned by the French imperialism. Until 1990 there was a one-party regime in Gabon. the Gabonese Democratic Party, which represents the interests of the family Bongo and the inbred elite built in their environment.

According to the Bank Worldwide, Gabon is an upper-middle income country. As an oil exporter and OPEC member, has a GDP per capita of \$9,000, compared to 500 from Niger, 890 from Burkina Faso, or even 2,000 from Nigeria, considered a regional power. But, just like its neighbors poorer, a third of the population lives below the poverty line, and 40% of young people between the ages of 15 and 24 are unemployed.

Therefore, beyond National particularities, hatred of local elites and the deep Anti-French sentiment – that is, anti-colonial – is the common denominator in the turbulent situation in Africa.

The United States has their own interests in the region. In the context of the war in Ukraine, its The main concern is to prevent the rejection of French imperialism and this "anti-colonial zeitgeist" are used by Russia and China to deepen its penetration into Africa.

Anti-imperialism?

And there are Something that is clear, while the picture is clarified: none of those who now occupy the presidential chairs of transition are Thomas Sankara, Jerry Rawlings or even Amadou Toumani Touré (ATT)(1) .

Let alone are a Patrice Lumumba, the Congolese anti-colonialist and nationalist leader, first Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo between June and September 1960, following the independence of this state from occupation Belgian Colonial. The granting of independence was granted forcing the Congo to inherit Belgium's foreign debt.

After a blow of State supported by President Kasa-Vubu, Colonel Joseph Désiré Mobutu seized power in December 1960. Bob Woodward, American journalist and writer, recalled that the ties of the CIA with Mobutu dated back to 1960, the year the CIA planned the assassination of Lumumba.

"A cable from the 25th of August 1960 to the CIA bureau chief of the then Director of the Central Intelligence Allen Dulles noted that "impeachment of Lumumba must be a primary and urgent objective and that, under the present conditions, should be a fundamental priority of our action covert". Before the CIA's plan could materialize, Lumumba he was killed by another group of Mobutu supporters," he said.

Ali inherited the power of his father Omar Bongo, who ruled Gabon for 42 years, from 1967 to his death. In Gabon, General Brice took power Oligui Nguema, head of an elite military unit, which analysts say Africans are close to Washington, with economic motives more decisive than geopolitical arguments, especially when The deposed president had allied himself in recent months. with Beijing

The intellectual Kenyan Ken Opalo, a professor at Georgetown University, said While Wednesday's coup in Gabon shares some factors Important underlying events in the Sahelian states of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, is of a different kind and presents a lot of perspectives. best for the advancement of political liberalization and institutionalization."

Niger

Meanwhile, dozens of Thousands of people demonstrated Saturday outside a base. French military in Niamey, the capital of Niger, to demand that Paris withdraw all the troops it has stationed in the country and also its Diplomats. Anti-French protests have been happening since the past July 26, when the Nigerien army deposed the pro-French government and A transition process began, in which authorities have already been appointed Civil.

"Down with the imperialism", "French soldiers, Niger is a sovereign country, leave!". and "Macron, Niger is not your property," the population chanted. At the beginning This month, the new rulers canceled a series of agreements. Niger's cooperation with France in an attempt to end the presence French military throughout the country and the subsequent plundering of the resources of the impoverished nation.

On Friday, the Niger's military government lashed out at France for backing president overthrown, accusing Paris of "blatant interference" in its affairs internal." Macron's comments and his relentless efforts for a Niger's invasion aims to perpetuate a neocolonial rule against The Nigerien people, who ask for nothing more than to decide for themselves their own destiny," government spokesman Colonel Major Amadou said. Abdramane, Although the blow of The state has broad popular support within Niger, the new reality has not been recognized by France or the United States, which have expressed their support for the members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a Nigerian-led body that It proposes to restore the status quo ante by means of an armed invasion of its neighbour.

Niger belongs to the Sahel region (transition between desert and savannah), and Gabon is an equatorial territory covered mostly by the Rainforest. The processes that are lived in both countries, although they have some similarities, but also important Differences.

The most noteworthy is that in both countries the Armed Forces have had the enthusiastic support from citizens, who have experienced these movements as a liberation from the French neocolonial yoke and as the awakening of an authentic sovereignty. It must be borne in mind that these countries have resources strategic natural that have turned them into crossroads of interests corporate and geostrategic: uranium in Niger and oil in Gabon. But the groups Military of CA One of the countries has focused its missions on different way. From Libreville, capital of Gabon, it is secured to all external actors that agreements and interests will be respected foreigners in the country, but from Niamey, capital of

Niger, people are encouraged to join an anti-French crusade to end to put an end to the interference of Paris in its territory and in the whole region.

Can't forget that there the Western powers have deployed troops in the last decade under the pretext of combating jihadism.

For now, the An attitude that has been exhibited by leaders and a good part of the societies of Europe and the United States is a colonial mentality that has always been unjustifiable, racist, promoter of looting and enrichment to through violent dispossession, and that has no place today.

It is no coincidence that French President Emmanuel Macron has been an example of the worst concepts and attitudes: without even taking into account that both Niger and Gabon are former French colonies has shown is that it conceives societies African women as immature political subjects who must be protected from the Global North.

No freedom, equality and fraternity. Contempt for self-determination is not surprising when it comes from one who has always shown that he has no any consideration for the will of their own citizens and that they are willing to resort to large-scale repression to impose the interests of The oligarchy.

The powers Westerners must understand that the peoples of the South are thirsty to return. real the independence they have formally enjoyed for decades or centuries, and that the only sensible course and attached to international legality is to take Your hands of the region and let them be the Nigeriens, the Gabonese and the rest of Africans who settle their internal affairs.

Notes:

1.- Sankara was a revolutionary and theoretician Pan-Africanist who presided over Burkina Faso from 1983 to 1987, a charismatic figure and iconic of the revolution, for which he is known as the "Che Guevara" African'. Rawling was a Ghanaian military officer and politician who served jointly the Head of State and Government in 1979. ATT President of the Republic of Mali from 1991 to 1992 and Again in 2002, overthrown by a military coup in 2012.

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