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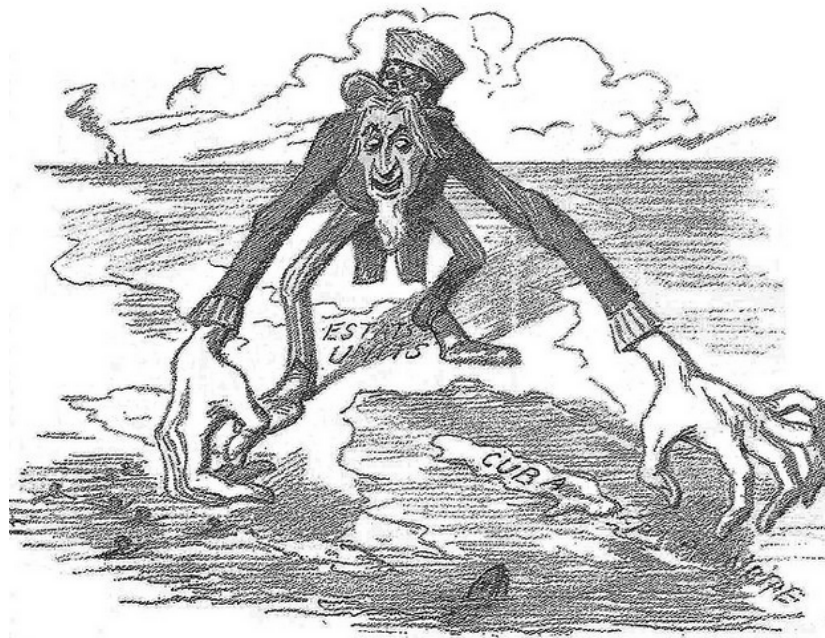
Renán Vega Cantor

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The United States and the Monroe Doctrine: Two Centuries of Death and Desolation

These, and thousands of other facts, are what demonstrate that in two hundred years of existence the Monroe Doctrine is the worst thing that could have happened to our America, because, as the Argentine thinker José Ingenieros said, the formulation of that doctrine in 1823 "turned out to be the key to our future conquest.

LA FATLERA DEL ONCLE SAM (per M. MOLINE).



Guardarse l' isla porque no 's nordi

"The United States seems destined by providence to plague America with miseries in the name of freedom."

Simón Bolívar

This December 2 marks two centuries since [James Monroe](#), a nondescript figure who presided over the United States, delivered his annual address to Congress. In that speech, the United States claimed from Europe the privilege of dominating these American lands, although this conception is found between the lines in the midst of high-sounding declarations about respect for freedom by the United States. At the time of its presentation, that speech went unnoticed and it was not until the 1850s that it became a "doctrine," that is, a set of guidelines to justify and guarantee the expansion of the United States into the Americas.

[The Monroe Doctrine](#) as a formulation is linked to [Manifest Destiny](#), that claim that the white Anglo-Saxons of the United States have been sent by Divine Providence (God) to expand and populate the northern lands of the continent from coast to coast and exterminate the barbarian peoples they encounter in their path. Manifest Destiny is based on racist precepts of the alleged superiority of whites over other human groups, who can be killed and extirpated from the face of the earth, because this is determined by the power of arms and war.



John Gast, American Progress (1871). Allegorical representation of Manifest Destiny. In the scene, an angelic woman (sometimes identified as Columbia, a 19th-century personification of the United States of America) carries the light of civilization westward alongside the colonizers, laying telegraph and railroad lines as she travels. Amerindians and wild animals flee in the dark towards the uncivilized

In the name of these doctrines, the United States liquidated the indigenous peoples who inhabited North America, carrying out massacres and applying the scorched earth policy as a premise for white settlers to appropriate those lands and their resources. In the name of these doctrines, he maintained the enslavement of millions of blacks of African origin for more than half of the nineteenth century and after the abolition of slavery - through a bloody civil war - he maintained discrimination and racism against former slaves, a discrimination that continues to this day.

The Monroe Doctrine was the [justification for invading, occupying, looting, and expropriating half of Mexican territory in the 1840s and 1850s, killing and expelling](#) Indians and mestizos and handing them over to murderers, racists, and slaveholders.

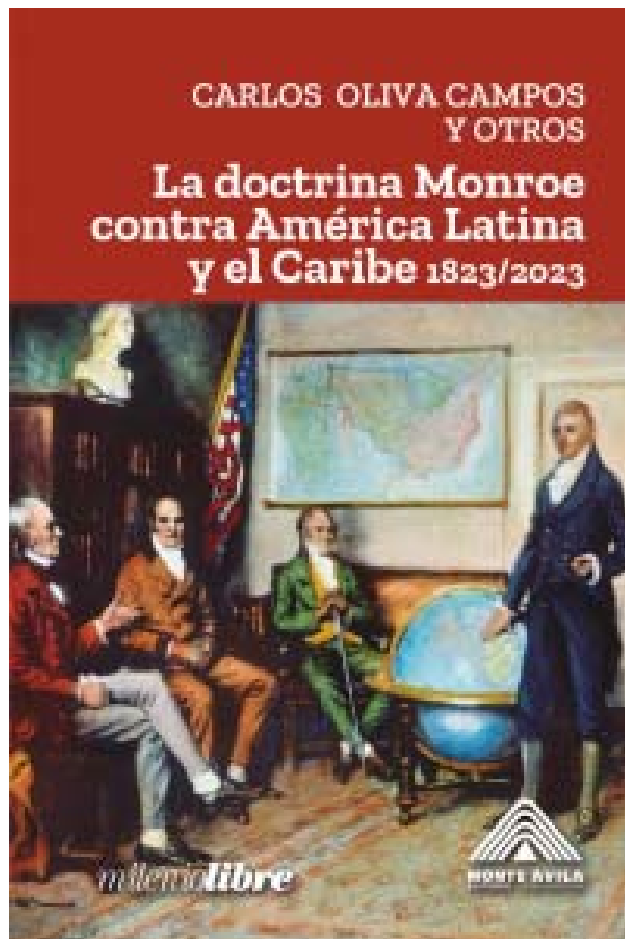


The Monroe Doctrine was the support for the [United States during these two hundred years to turn Latin America into its "backyard", where it has carried out all kinds of outrages in the name of "Freedom", "Democracy" and "Human Rights"](#). It invaded and occupied countries where it remained for years (Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, in the first thirty years of the twentieth century). He dismembered Colombian territory by creating a country tailored to his interests to control the Panama Canal, a territory he turned into an enclave where he remained for 97 years.



During the 20th century, he established dark dictatorships throughout the continent that sowed terror and death. It destroyed democratic governments, nationalist and revolutionary processes, in the name of defending the "free world" and anti-communism, as happened in Guatemala (1954), Brazil (1964), Chile (1973) and instead sponsored, financed and supported extreme right-wing dictators, who annihilated thousands of people who were considered enemies because they had another project for society.

He created the sinister School of the [Americas](#) (Eduardo Galeano called it the [Dictators Factory](#)) in Panama in 1946, where he has taught courses on torture and death, in which he has "educated" thousands of military personnel from the continent (most of them Colombians), who have flooded the countries of the region with pain and death. For decades, it has blockaded countries that do not agree with its purposes and interests, as it did with Haiti during the 19th century, because black slavery had been abolished there, and it has repeated it for 60 years with Cuba, for having proclaimed its separation from the U.S. yoke, and more recently with Venezuela, in order to seize its oil.



[The Monroe Doctrine against Latin America and the Caribbean \(1823-2023\)](#). PDF Format

In the name of National Security and anti-communism – both supported by the Monroe Doctrine – the United States, in partnership with the local ruling classes and their armies, has showered the continent with [death squads](#) since the mid-twentieth century, leaving thousands tortured, imprisoned, disappeared and exiled. In the name of the supreme values of the Monroe Doctrine, the United States recycled and cleansed the faces of Nazi criminals that it spread throughout the continent and who became the instructors of horror and promoters of groups of murderers who filled our lands with death and desolation.

In the name of the Monroe Doctrine, the United States has opposed the implementation of elementary democratic reforms, which are essential to lift countries out of poverty, dependency and economic backwardness. Instead, defending the interests of its multinationals and financial capital, it has promoted the indebtedness of countries, the appropriation and plundering of their natural resources by multinational companies, which, in addition, have supported coups d'état and supported dictatorships and corrupt governments throughout the continent.

In the name of its continental omnipotence – in the background of which is the Monroe Doctrine – the United States invented the "[war on drugs](#)" in 1971 and with it has converted entire societies (starting with Colombia) to a criminal logic, which in its path has left thousands dead. While the United States controls the business of drug production and trafficking for its own benefit and with enormous profits, poisoning its own citizens in the process, if it is remembered that the CIA flooded the streets of cities in the United States with crack cocaine (bazuco) to subjugate the poorest population, including African Americans.

In the name of the Monroe Doctrine, and its absolute belief that we are its backyard, [the United States has imposed leonine Free Trade Agreements](#) that exclusively benefit them and their companies and banks, even though it pays lip service to it that this is bringing development and prosperity to our countries.



The United States in the Caribbean in the early 20th century, with a club as a representation of its brutal conquering power.

These, and thousands of other facts, are what demonstrate that in two hundred years of existence the Monroe Doctrine is the worst thing that could have happened to our America, because, as the Argentine thinker José Ingenieros said, the formulation of that doctrine in 1823 "turned out to be the key to our future conquest.

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Edited by [Maria Piedad Ossaba](#)

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