



CALL TO MOBILIZE

## 1 June 2013 International Day to Call for the Withdrawal of MINUSTAH from Haiti

Exactly 9 years ago, on 1 June 2004, military troops of the MINUSTAH, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti invaded the country under the pretext of restoring 'stability'. Quite the opposite.

Instead of improving the situation created by the 2004 coup, MINUSTAH managed to increase the level of violence inflicted on a people deprived of all its rights, protecting an oppressive system resting on semi-slavery work relations, where unemployment blights 70% of the economically active population and wages are at inhuman levels.

Far from promoting peace, the UN troops are committing systematic violations of the most basic human rights and introduced the scourge of cholera, which has already killed more than 8,000 and sickened over 600,000. We want to express our outrage at the United Nation's attitude on this matter, as they chose to invoke immunity for their troops in order to refuse to provide any compensation for the families of the direct victims or any reparations for the immense harm caused to the country.

Whichever way you look at it, it is untenable to continue to argue that MINUSTAH - soldiers and police officers mainly from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia, Paraguay, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Colombia, El Salvador - should remain in Haiti.

In 2010, the Haitian Senate voted unanimously for the withdrawal of MINUSTAH troops by 2012. The Defence Ministers of the UNASUR countries noted the need to reduce the troop presence and put in place a withdrawal mechanism in June 2012, although this has remained mere words. Haitian organisations have carried out countless mass demonstrations against the MINUSTAH presence, including symbolic funerals in Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite and Port-au-Prince in October 2011. Legal proceedings are underway against the United Nations over the issue of cholera and a grouping of organisations called '*Kolektif òganizasyon pou dedomaje viktim kolera yo*' is working tirelessly on this.

MINUSTAH has failed miserably to achieve the goals set out by the United Nations Security Council, the only objective accomplished being the military occupation of the country on behalf of interests that are not those of the Haitian people. Its presence is part of a policy that deprives the Haitian people of their citizenship, their public services, their land and their natural resources. It is also clear that MINUSTAH has only remained in place through the military and diplomatic support of Canada, the United States and France, at the service of their transnational businesses and the free trade and investment agreements that benefit them. The Haitian Senate had courageously voted against two American and Canadian mining companies entering the country, companies that are now plundering rich deposits of gold, copper and silver in the 'poorest country', under MINUSTAH's protection.

Haiti must cease to be the laboratory for neo-liberal economic and '*security*' policies, which, allied with the debt, have become an extra weapon against the peoples, as we are witnessing on the American continent, in all countries of the global south and now in Europe.

**Haiti does not need military troops, or MINUSTAH, or any other country.**

**Haiti needs recognition and its dignity, its potential and its right to self-determination, as do all other nations.**

**Haiti needs to get rid of the hands and boots that dominate it. Haiti needs doctors, sanitation workers, educators, engineers, technicians, all at the service of the reconstruction demanded by the Haitian people, a people who have been decimated over the course of history, but who keep the dignity of being the first free and anti-slavery nation in the world.**

**For those reasons, on 1 June 2013, we're calling for mobilizations for the following demands:**

- The immediate withdrawal of MINUSTAH and all foreign troops from Haitian soil;
- The end of the economic occupation and the plunder, including the repeal of free-trade agreements;
- Recognition of the crimes committed by MINUSTAH, in particular the introduction of cholera, punishment for those responsible and compensation for the country's victims;
- The repayment of the historical, financial, social and environmental debt that is owed to the Haitian people:
- A genuine policy of international cooperation that is respectful of the rights, sovereignty and self-determination of the Haitian people.

#### **First signatures**

##### *Regional:*

CLOC/Vía Campesina

Jubileo Sur/Américas

Servicio Paz y Justicia en América Latina

Campaña contra las Bases Militares Extranjeras en América Latina

Grito Continental de los Excluidos/as

Convergencia de Movimientos de los Pueblos de las Américas-COMPA

Secretariado Internacional Cristiano de Solidaridad con los Pueblos de América Latina-SICSAL

Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo-PIDHDD

Sociedad Latinoamericana de Economía Política y Pensamiento Crítico-SEPLA

Amigos de la Tierra América Latina y el Caribe-ATALC

Alianza Social Continental-ASC

Movimiento Mundial de Poesía-MMP

CADTM-AYNA

SOAWatch

HAITI: PAPDA, Batay Ouvriye, Tet Kole Ti peyizan Ayisyen-TK, Défenseurs des Opprimés-DOP, Confederation des Syndicats des secteurs privés et public-CTSP, Mouvman Peyizan Papay-MPP, Wooldy Edson Loudor, MPNKP, Jean Claude Chérubin-KSIL, Renel Sanon-FRAKKA, Nicolas Pradhally, TK region Artibonite, Platfòm rezistans Peyizan Latibonit-PREPLA, SICSAL-Haiti

ARGENTINA: Comité de Solidaridad por el Retiro de las Tropas Argentinas de Haití, Central de Trabajadores de la Argentina-CTA, Diálogo 2000-Jubileo Sur Argentina, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel-Premio Nobel de la Paz, Nora Cortiñas-Madre de Plaza de Mayo Línea Fundadora, Mirta Baravalle-Madre de Plaza de Mayo Línea Fundadora, Servicio Paz y Justicia-SERPAJ, Comité Oscar Romero Buenos Aires-SICSAL Argentina, Asociación Cultural José Martí, Museo Ernesto Che Guevara, Movimiento Argentina Rebelde, Fundación de Investigaciones Sociales y Políticas-FISyP, ATTAC-Argentina, Acción por la Biodiversidad, Resumen Latinoamericano, Amalia Molinari

BRASIL: Comitê "Defender o Haiti é defender a nós mesmos", Rede Jubileu Sul Brasil, PACS, Coordenação Nacional da INTERSINDICAL, Movimento Nacional Quilombo Raça e Classe, CSP-Conlutas, Partido Comunista Brasileiro-PCB, Fórum Mudanças Climática e Justiça Social, Central Única

dos Trabalhadores do Brasil-CUT, Pastoral Operária Metropolitana SP

COLOMBIA: ILSA-Instituto Latinoamericano por una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos, Serpaj-Colombia

CUBA: Rev. Luis Carlos Marrero Chasbar-Grupo de Reflexión y Solidaridad Oscar A. Romero, Revda. Daylins Rufin Pardo-Centro de Estudios del Consejo de Iglesias de Cuba

CHILE: Comisión Ética contra la Tortura, Observatorio por el cierre de la Escuela de las Américas, Comité Oscar Romero-SICSAL Chile, Colectivo Viento Sur

ECUADOR: Centro de Documentación en Derechos Humanos "Segundo Montes Mozo S.J." CSMM, Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo, PIDHDD-capítulo Ecuador

EL SALVADOR: Instituto de la Mujer-IMU, Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña-UNES, Red Sinti Techan

ESPAÑA: Comité Oscar Romero Madrid, Comité Oscar Romero Vigo

FRANCIA: Elvire Eugene-Director Ejecutivo AFASDA, Collectif Haiti de France/Colectivo haitiano en Francia, France-América Latina-FAL

HONDURAS: Convergencia Refundacional, La Casa de los Pueblos

MEXICO: Otros Mundos AC/Chiapas, Red Mexicana de Acción frente al Libre Comercio-RMALC, Alianza Mexicana por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblo-AMAP- Bia'lii, Asesoría e Investigación A.C-México

NICARAGUA: Movimiento Social Nicaragüense "Otro Mundo es Posible", Intipachamama, Equipo de Servicios de las CEBs, Cristianos Nicaragüenses por los Pobres

PANAMA: Colectivo Voces Ecológicas-COVEC

PERU: Comité Oscar Romero-Amazonía peruana

PUERTO RICO: Comité Pro Niñez Dominico-Haitiana, MUSAS Mujeres Solidarias y Anticolonialistas

URUGUAY: Coordinadora por el Retiro de las Tropas de Haití, Plataforma Descam

VENEZUELA: Comisión de Movimientos Sociales y Poder Popular PSUV Caracas, CTC/COMPA Venezuela

League of Revolutionaries for a New America-LRNA, Revolutionary Poets Brigade-RPB

INDIVIDUALES: José Luis Soto-Espacio de Comunicación Insular, Esther Alvarez-CENCA Gustavo Patiño Alvarez, Manuel Vargas Chavarría, Iolanda Toshie Ide, Leticia Rentería, Tania Jamardo Faillace, Margarita Merklen, Rachel Fernández-Trujillo P, María Cristina Güena, Amaylin Riveros

20-05-13

More information and adherence to: [jubileosur@gmail.com](mailto:jubileosur@gmail.com)