

PART's Perspective:

Do Fascists in Government Mean That Fascism Is In Power?

by Michael Novick, Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART)

There is no question that there has been a qualitative and quantitative change in regard to the reality and threat of fascism. There is a greater necessity for anti-fascism as a central aspect of a strategy and practice for thoroughgoing economic, social and political transformation. Grasping the full extent of this development requires taking off the blinders that Euro-centrism, "American exceptionalism," and other forms of white supremacist thinking impose.

Fascist-rooted parties have either come to power and lead government, as in Italy, or are an essential part of a government coalition while not technically in the government, as in Sweden. Fascist forces in Germany have been arrested in sweeps over an advanced plot to topple the government. Fascists are part of the government and military/state security apparatus in Ukraine, with the full backing of the US and NATO. Russia has fascists of its own.

Fascist backers of Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil have stormed and damaged government and judicial offices in an effort to reverse the outcome of the recent elections there. With 'centrist' support, Lula, the former Workers Party president of Brazil, defeated Bolsonaro. Lula took the presidency, but Brazilian fascists are also well-represented in the Brazilian legislature. In India, Modi's fascist Hindu nationalist forces seem to have a lock on the government, if not the entire society.

But we need to recognize that a nakedly fascist government has also been installed in settler-colonial Israel under Netanyahu. Based on reactionary Jewish fundamentalists and rabid settlers and expansionists, it faces no restraints or consequences in response by the US or other Western patrons of Zionism. Arab reactionaries are perfectly willing to accommodate and do business with it.

In the US, pundits in the media focus on the narrow margin of GOP victory in the House of Representatives, and the spectacle of the "historic" multiple ballots for the speakership. But this obscures the reality that "divided government" means that a major political party openly committed to misogyny and white supremacy has taken control of part of one branch of government. In parallel with the more parliamentary systems in Europe, the Republicans are dependent on an openly fascist element for their majority.

Fascism, despite its anti-establishment rhetoric and "revolutionary" pretensions, is deeply rooted in capitalism, imperialism and (settler) colonialism. It's also true that those material realities and organizing principles of the US and other societies have been guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity. Capitalism of any variety is a system of immiseration and impoverishment of the masses of humanity, of looting the planet and the future for the enrichment of the few. Nevertheless, there are both threats and opportunities that arise from the coming to power, within supposedly democratic and normalized states, of openly fascist forces.

The willingness of fascists to embrace and apply violence, up to the level of civil war, either to supplement or to substitute for state power, is reaching a level not seen in decades. We must take these realities into account in any dynamic class analysis and strategic visioning process by those committed to liberation. They also underscore the need for physical, organizational, and technical security



measures and for community self-defense capacity.

The "culture wars" are not a figure of speech but an element of low-intensity civil war already underway. The same is true about the concept of "class war." Imperialism and settler colonialism always represent a state of war by the empire and settlers on the planet and on those the system is trying to subjugate, dispossess, or exploit. But fascism and the glorification of violence by fascists, in or out of power, ups the ante on that war. Fascism brings the war home to every aspect of life and every part of the social terrain.

We cannot afford to repeat the errors of anti-fascist forces the last time fascism began to take power in various European societies. There are a host of lessons from the rise of fascism in Germany and Italy. One of them is that the Communists targeted the Social Democrats as "social fascists". (This was not without some justification, as it was the Social Democrats who carried out the execution of the Spartacists after World War I). But the partisan splits of the workers divided and weakened opposition to the Nazis. Such sectarianism and partisanship prevented a "united front from below" of anti-fascist and anti-imperialist working people. The Nazis were thus able to build a cross-class alliance that appealed to and organized sectors of the German workers.

The left never advanced a revolutionary alternative to fascism and the German imperial state (that might also have embraced Catholic anti-fascists, Jewish bundists, anarcho-syndicalists and others). A similar analysis can be made of the errors on all sides in the anti-fascist struggle in Spain to defend the Republic against Franco's military/Falangist forces, backed by Hitler and Mussolini.

In that same historical period, the Vietnamese communists began a peoples war strategy against the Japanese, which continued against the French and then the US. The Chinese Communists carried out a similar people's war strategy against the Japanese invaders, which enabled them to win a subsequent civil war against the repressive Kuomintang government. The Eurocentric left was incapable of a similar strategy of uniting all who could be united in a political-military struggle, even where there was a clear civil war going on, as in Spain.

A protracted people's war approach is not primarily about

pitched street battles with fascist forces, though that may be inevitable. It is about organizing and uniting people, especially poor and working people, around a struggle for freedom and for a better future. It means building that future and exercising that freedom in the here and now to the extent possible, so that people are fighting FOR something real and tangible, not just AGAINST fascism.

Anti-fascism and anti-imperialism have each had historic weaknesses of class collaboration in one form or another. Many anti-fascists have sought to unite with supposedly democratic elements of their bourgeoisie against the fascists. Many anti-imperialists and advocates of national liberation have sought to unite with allegedly patriotic elements of a national bourgeoisie. Divisions within the left (broadly defined) between anti-fascist and anti-imperialist analyses and tendencies has also been a source of weakness and an obstacle to unity.

Those weaknesses and divisions can and must be overcome. A clearer understanding of the roots of fascism in colonialism, particularly settler colonialism, is necessary. So is an understanding of the inherently patriarchal and racialized nature of "actually-existing" capitalism. These understandings are also critical to block any sort of "red-brown" alliance between left anti-capitalists and allegedly anti-elitist fascist groupings. These anti-colonial understandings also prevent the so-called fascist creep, in which ideas migrate into leftist circles from fascist thinkers, and then leftists start to migrate into fascist formations, as Mussolini famously moved from the Italian Socialists to the Fascists.

An authentically revolutionary analysis and practice must be anti-fascist and anti-imperialist, anti-racist and anti-patriarchal, but it also cannot be defined solely by what it is against. It requires a revolutionary imagination and vision of what we are fighting for, of an egalitarian and sustainable society recognizing indigenous sovereignty and a communal, respectful relationship with the land, water, air and biosphere we are part of. We need to envision, and begin to bring into existence, a world free of expropriation, alienation, exploitation, and oppression. Such a vision can cultivate solidarity and love, and mitigate fear and hate. It can demobilize and disintegrate the base for fascism, for empire, and for capitalism.

100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of *Turning the Tide*

Over its 35 year publishing history, *TTT* has been published in magazine format, as a 24-page tabloid, and from time to time on a bi-monthly basis, six issues a year. For the last few years, economic necessity has dictated that we guarantee four 8-page issues a year. To restore bi-monthly publication, we launched a fund-raising campaign we've dubbed "100X100." We got 5 issues out this year, and with your support, can aim for 6 in 2023.

We are still looking for one hundred people who will donate \$100 a year, or \$10/mo, to make it possible for *TTT* to resume publishing six issues a year, and continue mailing about 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. Postage alone has increased twice in the last year and is increasing again by 5% January 22.

Turning the Tide doesn't print itself, or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps.. Often, they pass the copy of *TTT* that they received from hand to hand, cell to cell, or they send in the names and addresses of half-a-dozen or more other prisoners. **Prisoners, if you can find donors or subscribers outside prison to subsidize your sub, that would help a lot!**

If you'd like to see *Turning the Tide* more frequently, if you want to contribute to breaking down the walls of isolation and separation imposed by the prison system, please contribute. If you can't manage \$100 all at once, you could donate \$10 a month. But any donation you make can help. Postage costs for a single issue of *TTT* are \$1000 and climbing. If you can't donate yourself, please help spread the campaign via your social media, to your Facebook friends, Twitter followers, and email contacts. Everything helps.

If the campaign is successful, we will resume publishing every other month in 2020. Postage is our biggest expense. Nobody gets paid at *TTT*, and our printer has added a surcharge for paper costs. We have a handful of people who are sustainers, making a monthly donation, a larger number of people who subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA area supporters could set up house meetings, where the editor will pitch to your friends for support. The future of *Turning the Tide* is in your hands. Now, while you're thinking about it, go to:

https://ko-fi.com/anti_racist_action_la and donate, or use paypal to antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com if you prefer. Then share it with your contacts. With your help, *Turning the Tide* can step up to the "urgency of now" -- the necessity for radical organizing, educating and analyzing to respond to the growing crisis of the Empire -- endless war, police terror with impunity, mass incarceration, colonialism, ecological devastation that will shortly become irreversible. If you think *TTT* is a useful tool in the struggle for people's power and a new world, please donate today. If you wish, you can also just send cash, check or money order payable to:

Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232

Movimento Sem Terra (Landless Rural Workers' Movement) Analyzes Social Movement Victory Reflected in Brazil's Electoral Results

Peoples Dispatch: *What is your major take away from the victory of Lula da Silva in the October 30 election?*

João Pedro Stedile: The electoral victory was very close. But that does not reflect the correlation of forces in society. Over the past few months, the crisis has deepened significantly, in the economic, social areas as well as with environmental crimes and the political crisis itself.

This led the social classes to take different positions in relation to the elections. The main one was the change in the bourgeoisie, because the bourgeoisie had put Bolsonaro in government. Bolsonaro has no strength of his own. He has a group of fanatics, but he has no organized social force, because there is no fascist mass movement. He is the result of the crisis and in 2018, the bourgeoisie put him in government.

Now the bourgeoisie changed its position. Only a small part supported Bolsonaro. Even his biggest support in terms of resources, was from the extreme right-wing in the United States, from the Republicans, from Bannon. It is said that they sent 40 million dollars to [the Bolsonaro campaign], in addition to equipment, and people to manipulate social networks.

A large part of the bourgeoisie wanted a third way: neither Lula nor Bolsonaro. But they failed to make it a viable option. And a growing part of the bourgeoisie opted for Lula.

This changed the correlation of forces in society.

The same thing happened with the middle class, the petty bourgeoisie. 90% had supported Bolsonaro. Now 90% support Lula.

And in the working class, the same thing in 2018, even among the spaces of the working class, such as trade unions, trade union centers, and left-wing parties, we were divided. And now we are united for Lula. Although the poorest part of the working class that lives in the periphery, who are influenced by the Pentecostals, also voted for Bolsonaro.

So I wanted to convey to you that, despite the close election victory, in Brazilian society there is a broad spectrum of social and popular forces that support Lula. And that is why his victory is more than electoral. His victory is a political and social victory that gives us strength to begin making the necessary changes in the country.

PD: *What is your perspective on the pro-Bolsonaro blockades that took place across the country?*

JP: Well, Bolsonaro managed to become a leader using all possible resources in those four years of an extreme right wing [government].

But who are these militants of the extreme right?

They are a fraction of 10% of the reactionary right-wing white middle class who follow their leader Bolsonaro. But they're not even a majority in the middle class, by and large. What happened? They are very influenced by that international coordination that exists globally of the extreme right. That's the great novelty of the last six years that the extreme right in the world began to work together in various countries and help each other. And they have the same characteristics and that's why they adopt the same tactics.

[The Bolsonaristas] lost the election, and oriented by that international bloc, they applied here what they had applied in Bolivia and what they had applied in the United States with the defeat of Trump. What happened both in Bolivia and in the United States? Their leaders are in jail and they did not achieve the support of the majority of the people.

The same thing happened here. Immediately after the defeat, those radicalized sectors, which are a minority, tried to block the roads with the support of sectors of the police, which was the same thing that happened in Bolivia and the United States.

But the major forces within Brazilian society, and the business community itself, the great majority were against it. And that created even greater isolation of Bolsonaro.



Bolsonaro did not know how to take advantage of the 58 million votes [that he won]. He essentially threw those votes away because in two days the public opinion of all Brazil turned against them because of the road closures. To the point that Bolsonaro had to go on television and ask them to stop. So, little groups of them went then to the barracks.

Saying what? Crying out to the military to stage a coup to prevent Lula's inauguration. But all these are acts of desperation of an extreme right wing that in reality has no social strength. Because if they were an organized social force, they would have carried out the coup before the elections and not now, when they are becoming more and more isolated.

PD: *What will be the major challenges that people's movements will have to face with the incoming Lula government?*

JP: There are many challenges. The first challenge is that the popular forces have to maintain unity, like what we built in the campaign "Out Bolsonaro". We have also built it with an organizational process that we call the Popular Committees, and we have managed to organize around 7000 Popular Committees throughout the country.

Our intention is that these committees are not just electoral, but that they should be permanent committees and that from there the ideological struggle in society will be waged, with action on social media.

And the first task now is to try to discuss with our rank and file about an emergency plan that Lula must implement in the first four months of government from January to April.

This emergency plan has to address the key problems that the people are facing, with concrete measures that help to solve their needs. And above all to show to the people, that there have been changes not only of the president, but changes in the policy in the country.

We believe that it is necessary to have concrete, immediate measures to confront hunger, [which will need] quick food production, and there the peasantry will have an important role. It is necessary to have measures to tackle unemployment, which affects 70 million people and for that we have to restart the building of housing for the people, because it is a way to recover industry and employment. And we have to invest and put a lot of money into education so that young people can go back to school and especially to university. Throughout this crisis, 3 million young people dropped out of school and withdrew from university because they had no way to survive. So we have to bring back those young people who want to study but do not have resources.

And we must invest heavily in the Unified Public Health System, called SUS, because with more investment in public health we can hire more health professionals, deliver more medicine to the people and in this way you also solve the serious health problems that we are currently facing in the country.

So, in general, those are some concrete measures and in these coming weeks we will be discussing and coordinating so that the popular committees can discuss them and at some point by December we can present these proposals to the incoming president Lula.

PD: *How do you think Lula will handle international relations with countries of the Global South, especially Latin America?*

JP: Personally, I believe that the easiest and most visible changes the new president can make or the new government of Lula, will be in the international realm, because Lula has an internationalist vision.

He can become a great international leader and join the efforts of President Xi of China, of Pope Francis, who is a leader for Europe and the Western Christian world. And Lula emerges here in Latin America, also as a leader.

In his previous governments he visited 88 countries, and had opened doors of relations with Africa, with Asia, with the Arab world. So I think that Lula's policy towards the Global South will be very effective in two directions.

First, in relation to Latin America. We have a new correlation of forces. The big countries are ruled by progressive governments like Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina and Brazil. And that allows a correlation of forces with which we can retake the unitary processes that had been started before and that in the last four years were slowed down. I am referring to CELAC which can be a necessary alternative to the OAS, that in spite of the changes of governments, continues to be manipulated by the United States. Transforming UNASUR into a large South American bloc. Mercosur, I believe that more than being of the Southern Cone, it has to become an economic bloc of South America. And also to promote other initiatives such as the Bank of South and projects of Latin American integration.

At the level of the Global South, I believe that the main instrument that Lula is going to work for and recover is the BRICS. BRICS for now consists of five countries, but the Chinese and the Russians have the political will to expand the BRICS and hopefully become a powerful economic bloc to confront the decaying imperialism of the United States and not to be following what the Europeans think. Argentina has already expressed its willingness to join, [as well as] Saudi Arabia, Nigeria.

So I think that Lula is going to work so that many governments will be able to participate in the BRICS and broaden participation. And from there it would become a very important economic bloc.

Lula is also committed to building a new international currency because the Dollar only serves the interests of the gringos. The Euro is in decline. So, there is a need to build a new international currency. It is not about changing to the Chinese currency. It is about building a new monetary reference that can serve as a parameter for commercial relations without any country having the right to issue currency, as is the case of the Euro and the Dollar, which is also a way of exploiting the Global South. And I believe that Lula is also going to push for several mechanisms to defend nature and expand trade with the Global South, be it from Latin America to Africa, be it with Asia. So I am very optimistic with the changes that Lula will surely push for in international relations.

November 17, 2022

From Peoples Dispatch | Original URL on MST website: <https://mst.org.br/2022/11/17/joao-pedro-stedile-lulas-victory-is-a-political-and-social-victory-not-just-electoral/>(link is external)

FREE ALEX STOKES

Report from One People's Project about the case of antifascist prisoner, Alex Stokes, who faces 20 years for defending counter-protesters on January 6, 2021 in Albany, New York.

On Friday, many in the nation observed the second anniversary of what might have been the biggest threat to democracy since perhaps the Civil War: the Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. It seems fitting that the observance came at a time when some in Congress that are causing some of the drama of selecting a House Speaker from within their own party were among those who were supportive of what happened that day. Perhaps it was their proximity to the gears of power and the possibility of such an Insurrection happening again that prompted President Biden, as he on Friday awarded Presidential Citizens Medal, a major civilian honor, to election workers, Republican state officials and several law enforcement officers who were heralded for their actions as the events of that day unfolded, that Jan. 6 was "a reminder that there's nothing guaranteed about our democracy," and that "every generation is required to earn it, defend it, protect it."

On that day, there were those of this generation that tried to do just that, particularly against those who are part of a neo-fascist organization whose leaders will soon be on trial on federal sedition charges for their alleged role in orchestrating the Insurrection. Sadly, it is coming at a cost for one who did so.

A huge cost.

Alex Stokes is a writer, a poet, an artist and a journalist. He has made a name for himself from the Albany, NY area via his Albany Banana Corps broadcasting on local public access television which has been noted often on mainstream local news such as when he shot the video of an Albany woman who hit her head on a curb while in police custody in 2016. He has been to a few domestic hot spots around the country as well, namely the inauguration of Donald Trump, Charlottesville and a pro-Trump rally in Washington, DC that happened on the same day as a Juggalo march against Juggalos being classified as a gang by the federal government. Juggalos were none too happy with the juxtaposition that day with a rally that included American Guard and Proud Boys, those with ideals Juggalos are decidedly against. And Stokes was there to cover it because he is an antifascist and he wanted to show how antifascists handle things. He rolled with the Juggalos that day. But there is also how he has contributed to the artistic and cultural landscape of his community assisting in refurbishing murals in Riverfront Park in Rensselaer, NY.

His is the kind of work that has got him in close proximity to legendary figures ranging from DJ Grandmaster Flash to writer and professor Cornell West. But it has also made him a target of fascists and police alike. He was one of hundreds arrested during Trump's inauguration, but he was merely videotaping the day's events and saw his charges dropped. The fascists went after him for his presence in Charlottesville, marking him in a list of antifascists they compiled after the events of that day where one from their number murdered 34-year-old Heather Heyer when he drove into a crowd of antifascists. And they knew him well enough to refer to him by name at a rally also on Jan. 6, 2021 but 363 miles away from Washington, DC in Albany, NY. This one saw two Proud Boys getting stabbed after they attacked others and Alex getting arrested and charged with the stabbing.

In November, Alex Stokes Contompasis was sentenced to 20 years in prison for that stabbing after being convicted in October during what his supporters saw as a rushed



three-day trial. He has received more prison time than many who have to date been convicted and sentenced for their actions that same day at the U.S. Capitol Insurrection, but accounts say his actions were in self defense. To that end, those aforementioned supporters have launched an effort to see that Alex is freed and his charges dismissed.

It was approximately an hour before the insurrectionists at the United States Capitol began their attack. The events unfolded at a so-called "Stop the Steal" rally outside the New York State Capitol in East Capitol Park was timed to coincide with was being held that day in DC. This was a much smaller group of Trump supporters numbering by some accounts only 35 people. Among them were about seven or eight associates of the Proud Boys, according to Douglas Michael Ruso, the leader of the local chapter there. A convicted felon convicted for assault in 2011 after a bar fight, he would later say that he knew Stokes all of his life and even played baseball with him, which was news to Stokes as he hadn't played baseball since he was six. Ruso came with Proud Boy Dominic Wierzbicki and his brother James P. Warner, who reportedly chooses to use his mother's maiden name and denied that he was a Proud Boy even though he was wearing their colors and logo that day.

According to Ruso's own statement given later, the Proud Boys were ignoring those that came out to oppose the rally, but at some point, one of his number began talking and walking towards them. The verbal exchange went on for several minutes and just kept getting louder. Video from the scene shows what happened next: a reputed Proud Boy who was later alleged to have a taser taking a swing at a counter protester. That sparked a brawl with not just Proud Boys but other participant in the rally, including one that attacked a woman with a flagpole. Until this point, Stokes is sitting on the sidelines watching the exchanges go back and forth, but when one of the Proud Boys tased a counter protester, that was when he rushed in to help. He is seen in the video trying to protect counter protesters from the Proud Boys who were kicking one that was on the ground when Stokes pushed them away. When all was said and done Ruso and Warner suffering from stab wounds.

Others participating in the "Stop the Steal" rally were similarly engaged in assaulting persons. 66-year-old Colin Dermody, of Loudonville, NY attacked a woman with a flagpole and although he was arrested he ultimately did not face charges. The Proud Boys also saw

no charges even though one of them reportedly employed a Taser, according to witnesses. Two other counter-demonstrators were arrested once police came onto the scene, but both had their charges dismissed eventually.

Stokes too was arrested for his role in the melee and from the start he had tried to point out how his involvement was an act of self-defense. He was eventually released on bail and spent the next year and a half trying to generate support, even though there was reportedly a court-ordered gag-order on the case. Complicating matters was a 2004 charge of third degree attempted assault that he pled guilty to serving probation, but it was a matter that he felt he would have been able to overcome.

When the trial finally began in October Stokes and his family felt the three days it took to get to a conviction was more than a little rushed and when sentencing took place a day before it was announced they were sure something was amiss. "We're not talking about someone who poses a threat to society on a daily basis," Stoke's friend Paul Kane told Cynthia Pooler in her Issues That Matter podcast. "We're not talking about someone who's crazy and is gonna stab you if you think something different. We're not talking about that person. So if that's not what we're talking about, how in the world is twenty years fair when we're talking about this situation?"

But the story does not end here. Plans are underway to appeal and Stokes' supporters are raising funds for the legal fight. He is being supported by groups like Antifa International, an organization whose mission has been to raise money and other support for antifascist political prisoners around the world. Meanwhile, family and friends created FreeAlexStokes.com to bring more attention to the case.

The Proud Boys as an organization are going through turmoil because of their actions on January 6 not only in Washington, DC, where today the sedition trial for their leader Henry "Enrique" Tarrío begins but also in Olympia, Washington where Proud Boy Tusitala "Tiny" Toese is facing felony charges for storming the Governor's mansion there. The Proud Boys who were in Albany that day however have been allowed to go on with their lives with few media outlets even mentioning their names. Still, they were stopped that day before they caused possible harm to more people. Now the next part of that fight begins: working to free the person who stopped them.

By One Peoples Project posted to ItsGoingDown

From a communication written by Ana Belen Montes herself:

I am more than happy to touch Puerto Rican soil again. After two rather grueling decades and in need of earning a living again, I would like to pursue a quiet and private existence.

Therefore, I will not participate in any media activities. I encourage those who wish to focus on me to instead focus on important issues, such as the serious problems facing the Puerto Rican people or the US economic embargo on Cuba.

Who in the last 60 years has asked the Cuban people if they want the United States to impose a suffocating embargo that makes them suffer?

The pressing need for global cooperation to halt and reverse our destruction of our environment also deserves



attention. I as a person am irrelevant. I am unimportant, while there are serious problems in our global homeland that demand attention and a demonstration of brotherly love.

Sincerely,
Ana Belén Montes

At the request of Ana Belén Montes, this statement is issued as the only public expression authorized by, or on behalf of, her in relation to her release. No additional interview or comment authorized by her will be granted. Please respect this decision and her privacy.

Linda Backiel
Lawyer for Ana Belén

Photo of Ana Belen on release courtesy of Carlos Rovira

International People's Tribunal on U.S. Imperialism

Launch of the International People's Tribunal on U.S. Imperialism: Sanctions, Blockades, and Economic Coercive Measures takes place on January 28, 2023. This project is a first ever international effort to build systems of accountability—rooted in global cross-movement solidarity—both within and outside of the law, to challenge the violence of imperialism through sanctions. With an impressive group of internationally renowned jurists from across the world, we interrogate sanctions not from the perspective of those who enforce them, but from the perspective of those most impacted by them, namely the peoples of Asia, Africa, and South America.

This half-day event will take place on January 28, 2023, at People's Forum located at 320 W 37th St, New York, NY 10018, by an international coalition of over 30 organizations. The Tribunal will last for approximately six months and will conclude with a closing event hosted by the Simón Bolívar Institute in Caracas, Venezuela in July 2023. For more information and to register to attend in-person or virtually, go to: <https://sanctiontribunal.org/>

The launch event will feature a distinguished group of jurists, scholars, and activists, including:

Nina Farnia, Co-chair of the Tribunal Steering Committee & Professor of Law, Albany Law School



Niloufer Bhagwat, Confederation of Lawyers of Asia and the Pacific

Brian Becker, ANSWER Collation

Mireille Fanon Mendès-France, The Frantz Fanon Foundation

Booker Omole, Communist Party of Kenya

Carlos Ron, Vice Minister of Foreign Relations for North America

Suzanne Adely – President National Lawyers Guild & Tribunal Steering Committee

Alfred-Maurice de Zayas, Former United Nations Independent Expert

Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, Historian & Scholar

Claudia De La Cruz, People's Forum

Sara Flounders, Sanctions Kill

Helyeh Doutaghi, Co-chair of the Tribunal Steering Committee & Adjunct Professor, Carleton University

Register here:

<https://peoplesforum.org/events/tribunal/>

FREE THE POLITICAL PRISONERS OF THE GEORGE FLOYD UPRISINGS!

From the Atlanta (GA) Anti-Repression Committee

Find more info on uprising prisoners and support resources: <https://uprisingsupport.org/georgia/>
Atlanta Anti-Repression Committee:
<https://aarc.substack.com/about>

Ellie Brett

Ellie Brett was arrested on November 2nd, 2020 in an inter-agency raid along with two others, John Wade and Vida Jones. Held without bond, he faced charges related to a string of arsons against government property and police cruisers. Ellie was sentenced in March of 2022, and his projected release date is in January of 2025. Ellie's birthday is December 1st.

Ellie Brett 14822-509
FCI Petersburg Medium
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. BOX 1000
Petersburg, VA 23804



John Wade

John B. Wade is a Black Atlanta activist facing charges related to the George Floyd Rebellion in the Summer of 2020. He was arrested on November 2nd, 2020 in an inter-agency raid along with two others, Vida Jones and Ellie Brett. They faced charges related to a string of arsons against government property and police cruisers. Wade has been repeatedly harassed by law enforcement since the beginning of the mass rebellion. He currently faces charges for his alleged participation in the



John Wade

vandalism and burning of the former Wendy's restaurant on University Avenue following the murder of Rayshard Brooks. Brooks was killed by Atlanta Police Officer Garrett Rolfe, who was indicted for murder following the burning of the Wendy's — outside of which Rayshard was murdered — and clashes between police and protesters. Without the determined acts of large crowds following the killing of Brooks, it is unlikely that Rolfe would have been indicted on charges at all. John Wade was sentenced on 2/28/22 to a mandatory minimum of 5 years (to include time served) after conviction on his federal charges. His projected release from federal prison is in January, 2025, but he has other pending state charges from the summer of 2020. John's birthday is November 11th.

John Wade 14762-509
FCI Beckley
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. BOX 350
General and Legal Mail
Beaver, WV 25813

Alvin Joseph

Alvin Joseph was held without bond since June of 2020, facing arson charges related to fires targeting police officers' vehicles in Gwinnett County. He was found guilty of attempted arson, and was sentenced on 3/8/22. Alvin's birthday is February 9th.

Alvin Joseph 1002016959
Metro Reentry Facility
PO BOX 17668
Atlanta, GA 30316

Urooj Rahman

Urooj was a legal aid lawyer from New York who was arrested on the first night of the uprising in Brooklyn and accused of throwing a molotov cocktail at an empty NYPD van.

After over a year of fighting a slew of federal charges that together carried a mandatory minimum of 45 years in prison and a possible life sentence, Urooj initially took a non-cooperating plea to one count of possession of an unregistered destructive device which carries a sentence up to 10 years.

Prosecutors indicated that they would seek to apply a "terrorism" sentencing enhancement against Urooj, which would make it much more likely that she would be sentenced to the full 10 years.

In June of 2022, after months of additional litigation and negotiation, Urooj entered a new non-cooperating plea deal to only one count of Conspiracy, which carries a maximum sentence of only 5 years, and prosecutor agreeing to recommend a sentence of 18 to 24 months.

On November 18, 2022, Urooj was sentenced to 15 months in prison with two years of supervised release and over \$30,000 in restitution.

She is ordered to turn herself to begin her sentence on January 15, 2023. As TTT was going to press, Urooj was not yet incarcerated or in custody. Check the websites for updated information on her situation and how to support her and other political prisoners of the George Floyd uprising. The tens of thousands who took to the streets about his murder must stand with those being repressed and incarcerated for taking action at that time.

<https://vowenx.wixsite.com/supporturooj>
<https://uprisingsupport.org/new-york/>



Urooj Rahman

COUPS AND COUP ATTEMPTS SEEK TO REVERSE POPULAR GAINS IN SOUTH AMERICA

COUP, MASSACRE IN PERU

Peruvian Prime Minister Alberto Otárola announced that the Government of President-designate Dina Boluarte declared a three-day curfew in the southern Puno department in place from “20:00 hours until 04:00 in the morning.” The measure follows a day of harsh protests in Juliaca, San Roman province, in which police repression left at least 17 deaths.

“Today, a Supreme Decree has been approved in the Council of Ministers that declares the mandatory immobilization in Puno for the period of three days from 20:00 hours until 04:00 in the morning,” said Otárola.

During his presentation before the Congress for the process of parliamentary confirmation of his investiture, the Prime Minister said that a working mourning was declared for Wednesday, January 11, regarding the victims in the Juliaca protests Monday.

Today’s session of the Peruvian Congress witnessed a suspension over shouts of a group of parliamentarians against the president of the Council of Ministers and other Executive members, calling them “Murderers!”

The president of the Council of Ministers of Peru, Alberto Otárola, announced that a curfew would be in force in the Puno region, starting this Tuesday after the violent day of protests registered on Monday in the area. “Today, it has been approved by Council

The action was due to the massacre on January 9 over the repression of the security forces in the city of Juliaca, department of Puno. As a result, there were 17 deaths, while the death toll since the beginning of the protests last December amounts to 46.

Yesterday’s events triggered a new prosecutor’s file against President Dina Boluarte for the deaths registered, according to the National Prosecutor, Patricia Benavides. This adds to the preliminary proceedings being carried out for the deaths of December 2022.

Protestors are demanding the resignation of President-designate Dina Boluarte, the closing of the Congress, the advancement of elections in 2023, and the release of former Peruvian President Pedro Castillo (2021-2022). Castillo is serving 18 months in preventive prison since dismissed by Congress on December 7 for allegedly committing the crime of rebellion.

COUP ATTEMPT IN BRAZIL

Supporters of the former president Jair Bolsonaro invaded the Supreme Federal Court, National Congress, and the Planalto Palace, the office of the president, this Sunday January 8, breaking through the blockade of the Military Police and the National Security Force of the Esplanade of Ministers in Brasília.

The Planalto Palace, where the cabinet of the President also works from, was one of the key targets of the Bolsonaroistas. According to CNN, there were members of the government in the building, that awaited rescue inside.

Dozens of buses had arrived on Saturday January 7 to the Federal District to carry out the coup actions. Estadão estimated that 100 buses and approximately 3,900 people had traveled to the capital.

“I want to tell you, that all of the people who did this will be found and punished. They will see that democracy guarantees the right to freedom and free expression, but demands that people respect institutions.”

PRESIDENT LULA

On Saturday January 7, the Minister of Justice and Public Security Flávio Dino had authorized the use of National Force as security in the capital in light of the threat of violent actions.

“In addition to all of the federal forces available in Brasília, and of the constitutional action of the Governor of the Federal District, we will also have the help of the National Force in the next few days. I just signed an act authorizing its action in the face of threats carried out against democracy,” the minister had written on Twitter.

Flávio Dino had also previously affirmed that those who financed the illegal protests would be punished. “The taking of power can only take place in 2026, in new elections,” the minister highlighted.

In an interview with CNN on following the attacks, Luciano Bivar, vice-president of the Chamber of Deputies, said that he spoke with



Peruvians take to streets against parliamentary coup and massacre of president’s supporters.

the president of the body, Arthur Lira, and with Anderson Torres, former minister of justice, and current Secretary of Public Security of the Federal District. Torres confirmed that the Military Police would send back-up and that new contingents were sent to the area.

“Unfortunate developments right now in the Ministers Esplanade. I called on the operations sector of the Public Safety of the DF to take immediate measures to reestablish order in the center of Brasilia,” wrote Anderson Torres on Twitter.

LULA CALLS FOR FEDERAL INTERVENTION IN BRASILIA’S PUBLIC SECURITY

An hour after the coup attempt, President Lula gave a press conference to condemn the situation and announce the response of the government to the actions. After criticizing the complicity of Brasilia’s public force in the coup attempt, he announced he was signing a decree for the federal intervention in public security of the Federal District until January 31. The announcement was made in Araraquara, São Paulo where the president was visiting to survey the impact of torrential rains in the region.

Lula told the press, “Those people that we call fascist, that are everything that is abominable in politics, invaded the seat of government, they invaded the Congress, and they invaded the Supreme Court. As true criminals and destroying everything they found in front of them. We believe

that there was a lack of security. And I want to tell you, that all of the people who did this will be found and punished. They will see that democracy guarantees the right to freedom and free expression, but demands that people respect institutions.”

“The criminals, that we can call fanatic nazis, fascist fanatics, did what has never been done in the history of the country. The Brazilian left has already had people be tortured and killed, and you have never read about a left movement invading the Supreme Court, Congress, or Planalto. What they did is unprecedented. We are going to find out who are the people that financed these criminals that went to Brasilia. They will pay with the force of the law for holding responsibility in these anti-democratic acts, actions of vandals and fascists,” he declared.

BOLSONARO IS SILENT

Hours after the coup attempt by his own supporters, the former president Jair Bolsonaro, who fled to Florida on December 30, 2022, has yet to make a comment about the situation.

On social media, the Chief of Staff of the Bolsonaro government did not condemn the actions but called for “balance and sense” of the invaders and declared “democracy is strengthened in the contradiction and respect of differences.”

Former vice president and current senator Hamilton Mourão is also yet to make a statement.

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WHY THE CIA ATTEMPTED A MAIDAN-STYLE COUP IN BRAZIL

by Pepe Escobar <https://thecradle.co/Article/Columns/20209>

A former US intelligence official has confirmed that the shambolic Maidan remix staged in Brasilia on 8 January was a CIA operation, and linked it to the recent attempts at color revolution in Iran.

On Sunday, alleged supporters of former right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro stormed Brazil's Congress, Supreme Court, and presidential palace, bypassing flimsy security barricades, climbing on roofs, smashing windows, destroying public property including precious paintings, while calling for a military coup as part of a regime change scheme targeting elected President Luis Inacio "Lula" da Silva.

According to the US source, the reason for staging the operation – which bears visible signs of hasty planning – now, is that Brazil is set to reassert itself in global geopolitics alongside fellow BRICS states Russia, India, and China.

That suggests CIA planners are avid readers of Credit Suisse strategist Zoltan Pozsar, formerly of the New York Fed. In his ground-breaking 27 December report titled *War and Commodity Encumbrance*, Pozsar states that "the multipolar world order is being built not by G7 heads of state but by the 'G7 of the East' (the BRICS heads of state), which is a G5 really but because of 'BRICspanion', I took the liberty to round up."

He refers here to reports that Algeria, Argentina, Iran have already applied to join the BRICS – or rather its expanded version "BRICS+" – with further interest expressed by Saudi Arabia, Turkiye, Egypt, Afghanistan, and Indonesia.

The US source drew a parallel between the CIA's Maidan in Brazil and a series of recent street demonstrations in Iran instrumentalized by the agency as part of a new color revolution drive: "These CIA operations in Brazil and Iran parallel the operation in Venezuela in 2002 that was highly successful at the start as rioters managed to seize Hugo Chavez."

Enter the "G7 of the East"

Straussian neo-cons placed at the top of the CIA, irrespective of their political affiliation, are livid that the "G7 of the East" – as in the BRICS+ configuration of the near future – are fast moving out of the US dollar orbit.

Straussian John Bolton – who has just publicized his interest in running for the US presidency – is now demanding the ouster of Turkey from NATO as the Global South realigns rapidly within new multipolar institutions.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his new Chinese counterpart Qin Gang have just announced the merging of the China-driven Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Russia-driven Eurasia Economic Union (EAEU). This means that the largest 21st century trade/connectivity/development project – the Chinese New Silk Roads – is now even more complex, and keeps expanding.

That sets the stage for the introduction, already being designed at various levels, of a new international trading currency aimed at supplanting then replacing the US dollar. Apart from an internal debate among the BRICS, one of the key vectors is the discussion team set up between the EAEU and China. When concluded, these deliberations will be presented to BRI-EAEU partner nations and of course the expanded BRICS+.

Lula at the helm in Brazil, in what is now his third non-successive presidential term, will offer a tremendous boost to BRICS+, in the 2000s, side by side with Russian President Putin and former Chinese President Hu Jintao, Lula was a key conceptualizer of a deeper role for BRICS, including trade in their own currencies.

BRICS as "the new G7 of the East," as defined by Pozsar, is beyond anathema – as much for Straussian neo-cons as for neoliberal.

The US is being slowly but surely expelled from wider Eurasia by concerted actions of the Russia-China strategic partnership.



Vast social movements of landless rural workers and houseless urban workers supported Lula and used the electoral period to advance the social movements from below. In response, US-backed forces bused neo-fascist into the capital to attempt to topple Lula and call for a military coup.

Ukraine is a black hole – where NATO faces a humiliation that will make Afghanistan look like Alice in Wonderland. A feeble EU being forced by Washington to de-industrialize and buy US Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) at absurdly high cost has no essential resources for the Empire to plunder.

Geo-economically, that leaves the US-denominated "Western Hemisphere," especially immense energy-rich Venezuela, as the key target. And geo-politically, the key regional actor is Brazil.

The Straussian neo-con play is to pull all stops to prevent Chinese and Russian trade expansion and political influence in Latin America, which Washington – irrespective of international law and the concept of sovereignty -- continues to call "our backyard." In times where neo-liberalism is so "inclusive" that Zionists wear swastikas, the Monroe Doctrine is back, on steroids.

All about the 'strategy of tension'

Clues for Maidan in Brazil can be obtained, for instance, at the US Army Cyber Command at Fort Gordon, where it's no secret the CIA deployed hundreds of assets across Brazil ahead of the recent presidential election – faithful to the "strategy of tension" playbook.

CIA chatter was intercepted at Fort Gordon since mid-2022. The main theme then was the imposition of the widespread narrative that 'Lula could only win by cheating.'

A key target of the CIA operation was to discredit by all means the Brazilian electoral process, paving the way for a prepackaged narrative that is now unraveling: a defeated Bolsonaro fleeing Brazil and seeking refuge at former US president Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago mansion. Bolsonaro, advised by Steve Bannon, did flee Brazil, skipping Lula's inauguration, but because he's terrified he may be facing the slammer sooner rather than later. And by the way, he is in Orlando, not Mar-a-Lago.

The icing on the stale Maidan cake was what happened this past Sunday: fabricating a 8 January in Brasilia mirroring the events of 6 January, 2021 in Washington, and of course imprinting the Bolsonaro-Trump link on people's minds.

The amateurish nature of 8 January in Brasilia suggests CIA planners got lost in their own plot. The whole farce had to be anticipated because of Pozsar's report, which everyone-who-matters has read across the New York-Beltway axis.

What is clear, is that for some factions of the powerful US establishment, getting rid of Trump at all costs is even more crucial than crippling Brazil's role in BRICS+.

When it comes to the internal factors of Maidan in Brazil, borrowing from novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez, everything walks and talks like the Chronicle of a Coup Foretold. It is impossible that the security apparatus around Lula could not have foreseen these events, especially considering the tsunami of signs on social networks.

So there must have been a concerted effort to act softly – without any preventive big sticks – while just emitting the usual neoliberal babble.

After all, Lula's cabinet is a mess, with ministers constantly clashing and some members supporting Bolsonaro even a few months ago. Lula calls it a "national unity government," but it is more like a tawdry patchwork job.

Brazilian analyst Quantum Bird, a globally respected physics scholar who has returned home after a long stint in NATO lands, notes how there are "too many actors in play and too many antagonistic interests. Among Lula's ministers, we find Bolsonaroists, neoliberal-rentiers, climate interventionism converts, identity politics practitioners and a vast fauna of political neophytes and social climbers, all well aligned with Washington's imperial interests."

CIA-stoked 'militants' on the prowl

One plausible scenario is that powerful sectors of the Brazilian military – at the service of the usual Straussian neo-con think tanks, plus global finance capital – could not really pull off a real coup, considering massive popular rejection, and had to settle at best for a "soft" farce. That illustrates just how much this self-aggrandizing and highly corrupt military faction is isolated from Brazilian society.

What is deeply worrying, as Quantum Bird notes, is that the unanimity in condemning 8 January from all quarters, while no one took responsibility, "shows how Lula navigates virtually alone in a shallow sea infested by sharpened corals and hungry sharks."

Lula's position, he adds, "decreting a federal intervention all by himself, without strong faces of his own government or relevant authorities, shows an improvised, disorganized and amateurish reaction."

And all that, once again, after CIA-stoked "militants" had been organizing the "protests" openly on social media for days.

The same old CIA playbook though remains at work. It still boggles the mind how easy it is to subvert Brazil, one of the natural leaders of the Global South. Attempted old school coups cum regime change/color revolution scripts will keep being played – remember Kazakhstan in early 2021, and Iran only a few months ago.

As much as the self-aggrandizing faction of the Brazilian military may believe they control the nation, if Lula's significant masses hit the streets in full force against the 8 January farce, the army's impotence will be graphically imprinted. And since this is a CIA operation, the handlers will order their tropical military vassals to behave like ostriches.

The future, unfortunately, is ominous. The US establishment will not allow Brazil, the BRICS economy with the best potential after China, to be back in business with full force and in synch with the Russia-China strategic partnership.

Straussian neo-cons and neoliberals, certified geopolitical jackals and hyenas, will get even more ferocious as the "G7 of the East," Brazil included, moves to end the suzerainty of the US dollar as imperial control of the world vanishes.

On-Line Resources for Turning the Tide & ARA-LA/PART:

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* at www.antiracist.org that go back 35 years. We produce an occasional e-newsletter. In addition, we are on facebook at facebook.com/tideturning. You can follow @ara_losangeles on Twitter, @antiracistaction_la on InstaGram, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at ara-la.tumblr.com.

Families for a Second Chance

Peg Swan is doing a program called Families for a second chance.

Her email is pgswan3@aol.com /

Tim: email: timothy.zystra@yahoo.com

Phone # 608-536-3993 leave your phone # and when to

call you back if no answer.

website www.prisonforum.org

Weekly conference call. Wed. 3pm: dial 267-807-9495

then you will be prompted for this number 568-065-5401

this will expand other dates/time to include all who need

to attend.

Another subject she is organizing around is hygiene /

food for prisoners. See the petition at

<https://chnng.it/QgKMxnZFD> on www.change.org

California Seeks Federal Funds for Medi-Cal for some Prisoners

California prison inmates could soon become eligible for Medi-Cal coverage up to 90 days before their release, with the federal government expected to approve as early as this month a waiver that would usher in the latest significant transformation of the state's health insurance program for low-income people, CalMatters' Kristen Hwang reports.

California is asking the feds for \$561 million to help cover the cost of pre-release assessments and treatment for eligible incarcerated people with chronic health conditions, mental illness, substance use disorders and disabilities, as well as those who are pregnant.

Part of the goal: smoothing the reentry process while reducing costly hospital stays. Medi-Cal data shows formerly incarcerated people average around \$4,000 in emergency room and hospital bills within the first year of release compared to \$1,000 among Medi-Cal members without a history of incarceration, and they're also 10 times more likely to become homeless, said Jacey Cooper, director of the state Health Care Services Department. Early data from county pilot programs show promising signs in improving those figures.

Dr. Shira Shavit, a family medicine doctor at UC San Francisco and executive director of the Transitions Clinic

Network: "When people are reentering the community ... all of their basic needs are up in the air at the same time, and it's very challenging for people to rebuild their lives, especially while also dealing with health conditions."

James Mackey, a community health worker who manages a Transitions Clinic Network program in the Stockton area: "I came home five years ago after 28 years" in prison for first-degree murder. But "every time someone treated me like a human, it was easier for me to act like a human and feel like a human."

In Memoriam: Lawrence Reyes, Presente!

Born July 7, 1958

Died December 31, 2022

Rest in Power

Lawrence Philip Reyes, of the Puerto Rican Alliance, a member of the KPFFK Local Station Board, the Pacifica National Board, and the Executive Board of SEIU Local 721, passed away on December 31, 2022 at the age of 64.

Lawrence was a devoted internationalist and advocate of Puerto Rican independence, a leader in the LA US Hands Off Cuba Committee, a stalwart advocate to free Peltier and all political



prisoners, a supporter of the American Indian Movement and participant in ceremony, host of "From Decolonization to Liberation" on Radio Justice, father of two including his son Taino Rodriguez Reyes, a founder of Grassroots Community Radio Coalition and Pacifica Fightback, and a social worker with LA County Department of Mental Health. Rest in power. A memorial is planned and will be announced soon.

Lawrence is irreplaceable and will be missed. You can hear people's appreciation of him at <https://pacificafightback.org/in-memoriam-lawrence-reyes-presente/>

Lawrence Reyes - Live like him!

Que Viva Puerto Rico Libre!

PROSPECTS AND PERIL AT PACIFICA RADIO

KPFFK, listener-sponsored Pacifica community radio for Los Angeles and all of Southern California, is refreshing its programming schedule. The station has added new more radical, community-based, solution-oriented programming. It launched a locally produced newscast for the first time in over a decade. Anti-racist, anti-war, and anti-capitalist viewpoints are taking center stage in a new morning mix radio magazine. The station has brought back some other important voices from communities of color that have been missing from its airwaves, and moved others to greater prominence, in an effort to increase the station's relevance to a new generation of social, political and economic struggles, and revive its impact, membership and fortunes, according to new interim General Manager Michael Novick.

But KPFFK and Pacifica in general are facing an ongoing financial crisis because of reduced listener support for many years at most of its stations, and the costs of litigation and settlements over actions by a rule-or-ruin faction within the Foundation that tried to shut down WBAI in NY and is now targeting KPFFK in LA.

Here are the highlights of the new line-up, heard on 90.7 FM in L.A., the strongest FM signal west of the Mississippi:

Mon-Friday, 6:00 AM – Democracy Now! is moving back to its original time slot, right after its live broadcast from NYC.

Mon-Friday, 8:00 AM – KPFFK's morning mix radio magazine: Mon: The Blunt Post with Vic Gerami and Ricky Herrera. Tue: Voices from the Frontlines, with Eric Mann, Barbara Lott Holland, Channing Martinez and others from the Labor Community Strategy Center; Wed: La Raza Radio with Matt Sedillo, Dr. Vanessa Bustamante and Jenaro Ernesto Ayala; Thurs: Radio Insurrection with Hamid Khan and co-hosts from Stop LAPD Spying Coalition and LA Community Action Network; Fridays: "Cut to the Chase" with Sylvester Rivers and sister Ife Jie. These programs provide voice to the movers and shakers, the movements that are shaping the future. The station also seeks a new young social media coordinator to overcome stagnation on that front.

Arts, Culture, Peace, Human Rights, and Environmental Justice

Phil & Ted's Sexy Boomer show is moving to Tuesdays at 1 pm. Monday and Wednesdays at 2 PM, KPFFK is adding additional half-hours of arts and cultural programming as a bridge from the station's health and spirituality strip to afternoon public affairs programming, and providing greater prominence to anti-war and pro-socialist voices. Monday, Making Contact will be followed at 2:30 by Richard Wolff with "Economic Update," moving from Sundays. Wednesdays, Poet's Café is back on the air at 2 pm, followed at 2:30 by the

Laura Flanders program. Thursdays, the LARB Radio hour will be followed at 2:30 pm by Antiwar Radio with Scott Horton, also moving to weekdays from its prior slot on Sundays. Additional anticipated changes include returning Bibliocracy with Andrew Tonkovich to the airwaves Tuesday at 2 PM, followed at 2:30 by a program with Lydia Ponce of AIM and Idle No More, focused on Indigenous environmentalism and land and water protectors. Cary Harrison would move to Fridays at 9 AM to accommodate that.

Radio Powered by the People, and Empowering the People

NewsViews with Garland Nixon moved to Tuesdays at 3 pm as a result, and the Lawyers Guild, with Jim Lafferty and Maria Hall, to Wednesdays at 3; Living in the USA with Jon Wiener on Thursdays at 3.

Thursdays at 4 pm XR Now! from Extinction Rebellion will provide coverage of direct-action environmental solutions and challenges locally and from its international network, particularly the Global South. EcoJustice Radio, from SoCal 350, will be shifting to Fridays at 4 PM.

At 5 PM, Flashpoints with Dennis Bernstein will continue on Mondays, Fridays, and the fifth Thursday of each month. But three new programs have come on mid-week.

NY Times best-selling author Max Blumenthal will present a radio version of The Grayzone podcast; youthful antifascists present "It'sGoingDown" on Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 5 features an alternating focus on our bodies and our health, with "Body Politics", a public affairs talk show about sex and gender, love and liberations with Dr. Vanessa Carlisle & Dr. Christa Sacco on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, and "Health Care 4 US", with Maureen Cruise, RN, Erika Feresten, and Gina Viola, on single payer, medical apartheid, and public health; Flashpoints will also be on for the 5th Thursday of the month.

The big news is that Mon-Fri at 6 PM, starting Nov. 28, KPFFK is running a locally-produced hour-long evening newscast, something the station has not had for many years. The all-volunteer news gathering and newscast effort is led by KPFFK SB chair Ziri Rideaux, a former foreign correspondent, who will function as editor and producer. A crew of 20 volunteers from independent journalistic efforts and collegiate media and journalism students are involved, and will be seeking to implement the "Pacifica In the Steets" initiative to cover major events, rallies and protests.

KPFFK's Rebel Alliance News will feature commentary, culture, and reports from the wide ranging geographic communities the station serves, from Santa Barbara to San Diego, along with state, national and

international news. More volunteers and beat reporters are needed. Email news@kpffk.org if you can help.

"KPFFK's audience and impact began to decline when the local newsroom was shut down, supposedly as an economy move," interim GM Novick said, "and the local newscast was replaced by the so-called Pacifica Evening News from sister station KPFA in Berkeley, which was disconnected from So Cal realities and movements, and featured a dry, AP-style format that often reflected the official US and corporate political positions on national and international issues."

At the same time, a diverse array of community voices was abandoned in favor of a few gate-keeping strip programmers. Feeling abandoned, many listeners dropped away, especially as the station began to spend more time in longer and more frequent on-air fund drives offering high priced premiums to cover excessive costs. The new programming is an effort to reverse that decline and restore the station's credibility, impact and listener-member support base.

KPFFK's early evening public affairs programming continues, with a monthly community news report from students at Cal State LA's media education program added to the mix.

KPFFK's unique bloc of progressive Spanish language and indigenous programming also continues. The Association of Spanish Language Programmers hosted a successful benefit fiesta/party for station, Festivo Re-Encuentro, on Sat. Dec. 17.

There are changes on the weekends, too. Saturday mornings at 6 AM, Bike Talk – which has been a podcast on KPFFK for about 14 years, will finally break through to the airwaves, with folks working for safer streets and sustainable mobility. At 10 AM, Liberated Sisters with Charlene Muhammad and Angela Birdsong, has returned to KPFFK.

On Sundays, Chris Hedges is back with his new program, The Chris Hedges Report from The Real News Network at 8:30 AM, and at 9, Think Outside the Cage, with Geri Silva, Jitu Sadiki and others will air the voices of men, women and non-binary or trans people who are locked down inside CA's mass incarceration system of prisons and jails.

"Tune in!" says GM Michael Novick. "Start your day with KPFFK, and stay with us. Check out the diverse and wide-ranging music programming, with world music, jazz, salsa, hip hop, blues, reggae and more. And be sure to donate generously."

Hundreds of unpaid volunteer programmers and producers give generously of their time and effort, augmenting a small crew of paid staff who often go far beyond the 9-to-5, to give you programming unlike anything you can find on corporate dominated commercial, public or social media.

"Please give generously to keep these unique and empowering voices on the air!" Novick implores. "Help us counter corporate narrowing of the political discourse, and find ways to resist white supremacy and corporate colonialism."

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TURNING THE TIDE

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ★ Sat. Jan. 14, 6pm - Book Talk: Michael Novick, Midnight Books, Whittier
- ★ Mon. Jan 16, MLK Day Peoples March, 1 pm MLK Blvd & Western Ave.
- ★ Sun. Jan 22, 6-9 pm Kali Akuno, Los Angeles for All, Robinson SPACE
- ★ Thurs. Jan 26, 7p, Book Talk: M. Novick, Page Against the Machine, LB
- ★ Sun. Feb. 12, TTT 35th Anniv. Valentine's Fundraiser, location TBA
- ★ March 8, International Women's Day

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