



International Trade Union Confederation

GENERAL COUNCIL

São Paulo, Brazil, 10 - 12 October 2015

Motion in defence of democracy in Brazil

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) hereby expresses its grave concern at the recent events that threaten democracy in Brazil. The popular will, expressed at the polls, which elected President Dilma Rousseff with 54.5 million votes, is sovereign and must be respected by all the traditional democratic powers and by opposition groups defeated in the 2014 election. Historically, Latin America has been marked by civil or military coups that have brought so much misery to the region, resulting in killings of trade unionists and political leaders, in withdrawal of rights and income concentration.

There are no facts to justify defeated ultra-reactionary groups intending to do in Brazil what we have witnessed with regret in countries like Honduras and Paraguay in recent years. Coups d'état were committed with the support of major local media through judicial and parliamentary manoeuvres, with the intention of going through democratic processes of impeachment. We know that, in addition to serious damage to democracy, these blows resulted in the empowerment of conservative and authoritarian regimes that promoted the loss of civil and political liberties.

Democracy and freedom of expression, as well as the expansion of labour rights and income distribution, are basic assumptions for the construction of a fairer Brazil.

See also the statement from TUCA and regional GUFs: http://csa-csi.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7929%3Acsa-y-consejo-regional-de-sindicatos-globales-lanzan-declaracion-en-defensa-de-la-democracia-en-brasil-&catid=23%3A-1&Itemid=258&lang=pt
