

It has been a year since we received the news we would never have wanted to receive. Night of orphanage and grief. Cloudy eyes and lump in the throat. We heard that day was the sixty anniversary of the day when Fidel and his comrades embarked the Gramma and sail his way to the Cuba Libre We heard that the Commander in Chief, had sailed again: this time alone, heading for eternity. We were sad because we thought Fidel was dead. We were wrong

A couple of days later Daniel Ortega arrived at the Plaza de la Revolution in Havana, and before the assembled crowd, he asked:

-Where is Fidel?

And the crowd, vibrating as when Fidel was speaking in that same square, roared with a voice of thunder: -Here

And Daniel, asked again:-Where is Fidel?

And the people of Cuba responded with one voice:

- I'm Fidel! I am Fidel!

Indeed, Fidel lives. And it's Cuba. It is that worthy, sovereign, healthy and cultured people that he forged. Fidel is the millions of human beings around the world who were touched by his ideas. By his example. For his solidarity.

Fidel is the young people who 'live in a free country' , is the free' the conscious of women, the heart of the workers 'who are happy because they are giants'. Fidel is the peasants, the professionals, the scientists who were formed thanks to the first Socialist Revolution of Our America.

Fidel will continue with us. Next to us. Fighting at our side the battles for justice, for peace. Urging the Unity and the integration of our countries into one: free and sovereign.

Fidel will continue to lead the roads, campaigns and hearts of solidarity against the unjust US government aggressions, blockade and intervention against all progressive governments of Latin America.

US sanctions, blockade and interventions applied to Nicaragua has not created but destroy democracy, development and future. Including the assassination of General Augusto César Sandino and imposing of the Somoza dictatorship that lasted 50 years, the last ruling Marine in Nicaragua, overthrown on July 19, 1979 by the Sandinista Revolution, which initiated the construction of democracy in Nicaragua, and the people for the first time in its history had free and fair elections in 1984.. Despite the Contra war, sponsored by the `reagan administration, Daniel Ortega and the Sandinistas won with 67 percent of the

vote; and last year, despite media campaigns, threats with economic sanctions and bad omens, the FSLN obtained 68% of the vote when Daniel Ortega was re-elected by popular vote.

Fidel vive en Nicaragua. In the heart of the victorious Sandinistas. Live in social programs. In the Restitution of Rights to the indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, that assures them the communitarian property on their land, that brings them the light and the potable water, the health and the bilingual intercultural education. In the advanced laws that protect women from violence and guarantee their fair participation in all decision spaces.

Fidel is inspiration for the commitment of our Vice President, poet, of our 9 women Ministers (who represent 56% of the government cabinet); of the 43 deputies (48% of the National Assembly); Fidel's example is in our Supreme Court of Justice, presided over by a woman; in 40% of magistrates and 59% of judges who are women. Fidel lives in our National Police presided by a woman and in 35% of the police officers, who are women (673 of whom occupy management positions). And in the 76 mayors who preside over 50% of the City Halls nationwide.

Fidel will continue inspiring the development of democratic societies, that under the Sandinista Revolution was not, is not, only about the right to vote and have elections, but most important about reducing inequality, about eliminating illiteracy, about giving land titles to peasants and farmers, about free and universal health and education, about Zero Hunger and Zero Usury.

Since 2006, when Daniel Ortega won the elections and Sandinista Party came to power and continue the social and economic changes initiated in 1979, and continued the second phase of the Nicaraguan Revolution, the same as Ecuador, la Venezuela de Chavez and la Cuba de Fidel, we demonstrate to the world that another way is possible, that left governments can win consecutive elections, can create future for the people, devolving the rights to the people, using all the natural resources for the benefit of the many and not the few. We got together under ALBA, we demonstrate that another way is possible.

Even World Bank, in its last report implicitly recognizes the Nicaraguan Development model of alliance, dialogue and consensus across all sectors of society, promotes and sustain national stability and along with IMF that has called the "Miracle Nicaragua", essentially, acknowledged the undeniable success of the Sandinista Revolution's socialist inspired, solidarity based

policies, decisively prioritizing the needs of people over corporate profit and demonstrating the systemic inability of capitalism to meet those needs.

The results have been historic and resounding achievements against gender inequality, Nicaragua has been recognized by the Economic Forum World as one of the Countries of Latin America and the World with better results in Gender Equity.

The Citizen and Human Security is one of the main strengths of Nicaragua fundamental for the Social, Political and Economic Stability, fostering a better Quality of Life, Justice, Peaceful Coexistence and the Integral Development of Families.

We have achieved this success because Nicaragua has managed to consolidate a serious, constructive and transparent Alliance between the Government, the Workers and the Private Sector in the Model of Alliance, Dialogue and Consensus that we have implemented.

The Cuba that is Fidel, the Venezuela that is Chavez, the Nicaragua that is Sandino, now knows that another way is possible

The US Right Win establishment did not like it, That is the reason why Nicaragua and all the left governments that won elections under the rules of traditional western democracy are now confronting the US Aggressions, that has used the media, ngo's to manufacture dominant negative messages full of lies and twisted half-truth.

US congressmen now want to extend the aggression creating the Nica Act at the request of a few traitors who, protected by unpopular and uninhabited partisan initials, deny the inalienable constitutional right of the Nicaraguans to independence, sovereignty, self-determination and national dignity.

The Nicaraguan Investment Conditionality Act (NICA) of 2017 would mean that the US, who effectively have veto powers on the boards of the international lending institutions, could block all loans to Nicaragua from the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and other institutions. Running at more than US\$500 million annually, used by the Nicaraguan Government to support social spending on health and education, and empowering programmes for women and youth, electrification, roads and other infrastructure initiatives,

NICA Act represents an economic war that poses a serious danger to the economy and would severely undermine the stability not just of Nicaragua but the whole region, resulting in a humanitarian crisis.

The NICA Act, would mean the reversal of the Nicaraguan government's highly successful poverty reduction, education and health programmes; those who are most impoverished will suffer the most serious consequences.

Nica Act has met **unanimous condemnation** in Nicaragua by Government, public, the National Assembly, trade unions, some opposition parties, and religious leaders. The Private Sector represented in the US-Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce and the Supreme Council of Private Enterprise has condemned it as counterproductive, they have even hire professional US lobbyists, and have asked the US Government, and US Senate not to pass the bill, on the grounds that it would have a devastating impact on the economy and would do nothing to promote democracy.

Even, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have called on US legislators to reconsider, expressing concern that the NICA Act would be counterproductive and undermine Nicaragua's economic growth.

Against the Nica Act, the Sandinista Government has express its invariable Commitment to Democracy and the Paths of Harmony, Understanding, Security and Prosperity and continue working for the restitution of the Political, economic, social and cultural rights of Nicaraguans.

The Venezuela de Chavez and the Cuba of Fidel have firmly rejected the Nica Act as an irrational and injurious action against the Nicaraguan people as an offensive, interfering and disrespectful act that violates the sovereignty of the Nicaraguan people and the most elementary norms of International Law.

"They want to destroy Nicaragua, they want to destroy Venezuela. Ecuador and Bolivia are also being under attack. The Cuba, of Fidel, the Cuba of our America, continues under threat, continues to be blocked.

Now, Each and everyone of You is Fide, and It is time to come together, for an active and strong solidarity, it is time to raise your voice and stand firm and tall, like Fidel would have done.

Viva la revolución Nuestramericana,

