



## **POLITICAL DECLARATION**

III Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean: For economic, social and cultural integration, with full democracy, sovereignty and peace!

Santa Marta – Colombia November 8 and 9, 2025

Gathered in the city of Santa Marta, Colombia, women, men and diverse people from all territories of Latin America and the Caribbean, social, trade union, peasant, indigenous, Afro-descendant, fishing, youth and women movements, sexual and cultural dissidents, for environmental justice, health, and all social and political expressions in the region that fight for integration, social and environmental justice, built with full popular participation and international solidarity, join the collective efforts that have historically sought to ensure Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of peace in which the right to national sovereignty, to the self-determination of peoples and to economic, social and cultural integration is exercised freely and democratically.

We face an international situation characterized by the continuity and deepening of the multidimensional and civilizational crisis of capitalism on a global scale, with the decline of US imperialist hegemony as a defining feature. The correlate of this in the international system is the strengthening and consolidation of a multipolar and pluricentric structure, in which political, economic, military, and technological power is increasingly distributed globally. Multilateralism is the only alternative for building models of international cooperation and complementarity that pave the way for a community of shared destiny for humanity, one that strongly advocates for the political and peaceful resolution of armed conflicts and for the solution of the multiple economic, social, and ecological-environmental crises generated by the capitalist system.

Latin America and the Caribbean plays a decisive and strategic role in the struggle to consolidate a multipolar international system that manages to incorporate all States and peoples on full equality in the dynamics of world politics and economics, breaking the logics that naturalize the predominance of some States over others in the international system, making possible the existence of conditions for Our America to become an important center of power that could be decisive and determining in the most complex decisions of international politics.

Faced with the growing advance of the far right, fascism, and Zionism, and the resurgence of racial supremacism and patriarchalism, which, through the interference of imperialist and colonial forces, seek to subjugate sovereign peoples through war, political subordination, and discrimination, we will redouble our solidarity in support of our brothers and sisters in Palestine, Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, and all those under attack or threat. The Palestinian people have been subjected to a horrific and ongoing genocide by the Zionist entity of Israel and imperialism, and we will not rest until the perpetrators of these crimes against humanity are brought to justice, Palestine is protected, and the colonial occupation of its territory ends. We also firmly support the banner of decolonization and the struggle for the total emancipation of those countries that continue to be occupied by colonial forces in our region, as is the case in our Caribbean with Puerto Rico, which fights tirelessly for its independence, and in the Atlantic with Argentina, which continues to claim its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands.

Latin America and the Caribbean is a Zone of Peace. The current imperialist militarism escalation targets the peoples of Our America and their resources. The immediate target is Venezuela. The lethal operations against vessels off the Venezuelan and Colombian coasts constitute a violation of the sovereignty of Abya Yala. This requires urgent action and mobilization by the peoples and governments of the continent. Cuba continues to resist the silent genocide implied by the illegal economic, financial, and commercial blockade imposed by the United States, and we therefore demand an end to this hostile policy and its removal from the U.S. State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism. Likewise, we stand in solidarity with the peoples of Argentina, El Salvador, Ecuador, Haiti, and many others, who face human rights violations and fierce attacks on their political rights by their own rulers.

As a way to materialize solidarity among our peoples, the Social Summit will promote the formation of an interdisciplinary internationalist contingent, which could be financed by the alternative multilateral system of the Global South, such as BRICS Plus or another existing entity, to respond to humanitarian aid situations in Haiti, Gaza, Cuba, Venezuela or any country of the Global South that requests it and is approved by the coordinating body of the Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

We urge the Colombian government to submit the United Nations Resolution on Union for Peace to protect the Palestinian people. We also reiterate that peace in Colombia is peace in the region, and peace in the region means defending sovereignty and respecting the principle of self-determination of peoples.

We call for permanent mobilization to confront, in solidarity, the imperialist and Zionist aggression against our peoples and governments; to defend the democratic decisions of our peoples to have their own governments and socio-economic systems; to coexist and overcome conflicts peacefully; and to build dignified living conditions for all, in harmony with nature. In this spirit, we commit to promoting the construction of an international anti-imperialist, anti-colonial, anti-fascist, anti-patriarchal, anti-Zionist, and anti-racist front.

We welcome the pro tempore presidency of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) held by the President of Colombia, Gustavo Petro, and the possibility of a democratic opening for dialogue with the peoples and their social movements, as articulated at the III Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. We also express our gratitude for the efforts made by several countries at the IV CELAC-European Union (EU) Summit to ensure that regional and international integration projects are built on the principles of equity and justice.

We support the call for a National Constituent Assembly in Colombia, characterized by a participatory and representative process encompassing the social sphere, with broad popular participation through social, grassroots, labor, women's, LGBTQ+, Afro-descendant, and Indigenous organizations, among others. We understand the importance of this proposal for the South American country and the region, as it offers the possibility of continuing the process of economic, social, and democratic change, and guaranteeing rights in territories historically subjected to dispossession and violence—the consequences of strategies and impositions that enrich a few while the majority are excluded and subjected to poverty, discrimination, and inequality. Therefore, the various organizations convening the Third Social Summit of the Peoples

of Latin America and the Caribbean have formed the Promoting Committee for this grassroots initiative to begin the process of collecting signatures to achieve this goal.

We hope that ongoing dialogue will open an inclusive process leading up to the pro tempore presidency of CELAC, which will be held in 2026 by Mr. Yamandú Orsi, the President of Uruguay. And we hope that these democratic efforts toward popular participation in building regional integration will result in the consultative participation of the people in the CELAC Mechanism.

In times of challenges and accelerated transformations, the III Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean defines itself to work in democratic and participatory dialogue with regional bodies, governments and States, with the hope of being incorporated as a consultative mechanism of CELAC.

**The Third Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean commits to the following mandate:**

To fight to guarantee decent work and the dialogued construction of a migration and migrant rights policy that confronts structural racism and xenophobia, and moves towards the materialization of historical reparations and guarantees of non-repetition.

From popular, intersectional, and emancipatory feminisms, and from sexual and gender dissidence, we strengthen our struggles to simultaneously dismantle patriarchy and gender binaries, understanding that these are intertwined forms of power and domination. We work to place the sustainability of life at the center of all social and political construction, which demands dismantling the sexual division of labor and fairly redistributing the burdens of care historically borne by women, especially those who are impoverished, racialized, and migrants. From this position, we vehemently denounce and reject the exploitation, rape, and discrimination of the bodies of women and all gender and sexual dissidences, as well as non-heteronormative identities and orientations, affirming that gender justice will only be possible in a society that eradicates all these oppressions. We are a body in resistance, fighting for the protection of dignified life, our territories, and for the sovereignty, freedom, and dignity of our great America.

We will fight for social justice, which will not be possible without a comprehensive and grassroots agrarian reform that realizes food sovereignty to combat world hunger, coupled with a necessary process of regional reindustrialization. Agrarian reform and reindustrialization will only be achieved through the redistribution of land ownership, the protection of water and seeds, and the strengthening of peasant, Indigenous, and

Afro-descendant territories, agroecology, and the development of rural and urban agricultural networks. Environmental justice and the fight against the climate crisis require a decisive commitment from states and regional institutions to guarantee community management of forests, woodlands, water resources, and biodiversity, and to build a just, feminist, and grassroots transition in partnership with the workers' movement and the women's and LGBTQ+ movements, with effective regional principles and guidelines for the democratization of energy and energy sovereignty.

We will participate in building environmental, social, economic, and gender justice. To this end, we will confront the power and impunity of transnational corporations, continuing the push for an ambitious and effective legally binding international instrument on transnational corporations regarding human rights, and for national laws in various countries of the region that enable its implementation. We will continue the fight against Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) that have subjugated our countries and favored economic powers at the expense of national economies and social rights. And we will confront investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms that are at the heart of the subjugation of national sovereignty; we will strive for the construction of a new global financial architecture with the BRICS and their relationship with the region and its potential to confront the yoke of illegitimate, odious, and devastating debt for our America, promoted by international financial institutions that serve imperialist strategies of subjugation.

We will promote the leading and decisive participation of the youth movement in the region, guaranteeing the organizational processes that allow States to commit to guaranteeing the rights to mobilization and protest, to education as a fundamental right and common good, to decent work, to housing, land and art, which translate into State policies regarding youth, for the development of all capacities and competencies in the scenario of dispute, construction of subjectivity and the battle of ideas.

We will support contemporary processes of developing sovereign communication strategies and tools, and building cultures, arts, and knowledge as the basis for producing emancipatory political proposals from the people and their forms of expression and biological and cultural diversity; only technological sovereignty will guarantee that the communication and culture of our peoples are not dominated by the large transnational agents of artificial intelligence and their technologies of subjugation and destruction of communication and life.

We will defend the right to health as a fundamental human right, prioritizing people's needs over commercial interests. This will be done from a comprehensive perspective that guarantees pharmaceutical autonomy to ensure equitable access to health technologies in the region, reducing dependence on imports and transnational interests. To achieve this, Latin American states are urged to reorient innovation toward the public interest, fully utilize the safeguards of the TRIPS Agreement, implement public policies that guarantee the financing and local production of strategic technologies, strengthen joint public procurement mechanisms, and foster regional cooperation in research, decentralized production, and regulatory harmonization, including the regional health agency.

For Indigenous Peoples, the coca leaf is a fundamental part of the cultural and spiritual heritage of our knowledge systems. This plant was given to us from the beginning to care for, heal, and harmonize our relationship with nature. Therefore, the full, permanent, and decisive participation of Indigenous Peoples must be facilitated to safeguard their cultural identity and ancestral knowledge. We reject the criminalization of the coca leaf and call on the States of the world to remove it from lists that demonize and criminalize it, ignoring its cultural and spiritual origins.

The first line of defense for our continental sovereignty and the rights of the more than 660 million inhabitants of our region lies in the coordination and joint work between the governments and peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. This Third Social Summit of the Peoples is a concrete contribution to the enormous task before us at this historic moment: defending our continent as a zone of peace against imperialist threats and consolidating the regional integration project, which begins with strengthening the regional institutional framework for international relations, established through CELAC.

*For economic, social and cultural integration, with full democracy, sovereignty and peace!*

*III Social Summit of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean Santa Marta – Colombia,  
November 9, 2025*