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Spanish State:

Build a social bloc capable of leading the country

- News from around the world -

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After the failure of the two investiture sessions of Pedro Sánchez [1], Anticapitalistas is convinced that it is necessary to engage a new social and political dynamic. These two votes have demonstrated that the only majorities that seem arithmetically feasible are the following: either a coalition government between the forces of the dominant elites and in favour of austerity, or a turn by the PSOE in the direction of a government of a new type, a broad coalition with Podemos, benefiting from the neutrality of the Catalan and Basque nationalist parties.

However, after the retrograde agreement concluded between the PSOE and Ciudadanos as well as in the framework of the current relationship of parliamentary forces, we consider that it is politically sterile to continue to expect from the PSOE the formation of a “strong government for change”. The insistence of the PSOE leadership on using its agreement with Ciudadanos as a basic document for negotiations with other political forces invalidates, in fact, the creation of a government of transformation and the conquest of rights for the majority of the population, for the workers. Anticapitalistas therefore considers that it is necessary to recognize today that such a government, an alternative to that of a “grand coalition”, is currently not possible. The PSOE has clearly defined itself in recent weeks: it cannot be a reliable ally for the process of fundamental change of the social and economic structures, that the current situation requires. It is loyal to the Troika (IMF, ECB, and European Commission) and economic policies in neoliberal continuity as well as to the restoration of an exhausted political regime. The process of change opened by 15M [2] is a living process, with its difficulties and refluxes. It cannot progress without struggle and it will never be subordinated to the logic of the “reduction of hopes”. We have not come so far to be satisfied with a “lesser evil”, which would only be a “greater evil”: the assimilation of the block of change to the managerial logic of “No, we can't”.

To still give credit to the idea of a “government of change” on the part of the PSOE generates expectations and could create false hopes. Thus, under the PSOE-Ciudadanos agreement, which can now be extended to the Popular Party, there are only two outcomes: a grand coalition or new elections. In both cases, we must be ready to organize a response and to be in the best conditions to face the two possibilities. And, especially, the discourse for true change will need to be much more precise and clear if we want to defeat this pseudo-change of regime, or be able to face the new government which could emerge from the current operation aimed at forming a “grand coalition”.

These new possible elections should be organized, clearly, around an objective: accumulating the necessary strength in the social and electoral terrain for projects to reform the regime and, in this way, place at the centre of the political debate the horizon of constituent processes as well as the democratization of the economy (repeal of the labour reform, the socialization of strategic sectors such as the banks or the electrical companies, introduction of forms of workers' control in the enterprises, a basic income), leading to a new confederal pact between the peoples and advancing towards a new institutional framework, where power would be exercised increasingly from below. The challenge facing the forces of the “bloc of change” is immense. We must intensify the dynamics of contestation of a possible “grand coalition”, and at the same time act to avoid the end of the political cycle opened by 15M. This means that it is necessary to continue to broaden the social and political terrain of the forces of change. In short, we must prepare to be in the best position in a scenario which will be full of dangers, but also of opportunities for those who want to end the regime of 1978 and of totalitarian austerity.

This grand coalition prepared by the elites, the oligarchies and the European institutions could be formed on the basis of social passivity, facilitating a political dynamic for the restoration of the regime. In the face of this danger, we consider that only a new dynamic of mobilization can change the political dynamic in force. A dynamic oriented toward the creation of a sense of stability in the framework of an economy which, far from so-called recovery, continues to produce unemployment, poverty and insecurity. In the face of this, the forces of change must promote a broad social coalition to disrupt the political and social scenario.

Build a social bloc capable of leading the country

Anticapitalistas thus considèer that now a change of gear is need. That requires, on the one hand, ceasing to have any truck with a PSOE incapable of breaking with the élites and neoliberalism. And, on the other, developing an alternative dynamic to that of the élites, a dynamic which broadens the social base of the bloc of change, involving the popular classes. As the parties of the régime build their grand coalition, we, the forces of change, on the basis of our diversity, will go forward with the construction of a social bloc capable of taking the leadership of the country, so that capital will never govern again.

March 9, 2016

[1] On Friday March 4, 2016, PSOE leader Pedro Sanchez, who had come to an agreement with Ciudadanos, was defeated for a second time in attempting to form a government, with PP and Podemos deputies voting against

[2] May 15, 2011, the beginning of the movement of the indignant