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Ecosocialism

Many Fronts, One Struggle: A Report on the 7th International Ecosocialist Encounters

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In May 2026, more than 250 activists from some forty countries gathered in Brussels Université libre for the 7th International Ecosocialist Encounters. William van den Heuvel reports on the key thematic threads that ran through an ambitious programme: the role of trade unions in the ecological transition; the growing convergence between ecosocialism and degrowth; the centrality of feminist and ecofeminist perspectives; Latin America as the front line of extractivist resistance; anti-campist solidarity with Ukraine and Palestine; and the rise of what speakers termed "fossil fascism." Van den Heuvel argues that the apparent diversity of themes pointed toward a single strategic insight: that these separate struggles share one crisis, and can only be turned around together. [AN]

PS:

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[1] The previous (sixth) International Ecosocialist Conference was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in May 2024. See: Germán Bernasconi, "Ecosocialism to change everything – the Sixth International Ecosocialist Conference", *Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières*, 20 May 2024. Available at: <https://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?article70858>

[2] The CDT (Confédération Démocratique du Travail) is one of the major trade union confederations in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Kambiniam's affiliation and the confederation's full name are given in the conference programme; further details were not available at time of publication.

[3] ELA (Euskal Langileen Alkartasuna — Basque Workers' Solidarity) is the largest trade union confederation in the Basque Country, representing more than 100,000 workers. It defines itself as independent of both employers and the state, and critical of institutionalised social dialogue. See: <https://www.ela.eus/en/about-ela>

[4] Daniel Tanuro is a Belgian ecosocialist activist and agronomist, author of *L'impossible capitalisme vert* (2010, translated as *The Impossibility of Green Capitalism*) and coordinator of the drafting committee for the Manifesto for an Ecosocialist Revolution adopted by the Fourth International at its 18th World Congress in 2025. For his foundational statement of ecosocialist strategy, see: Daniel Tanuro, "Foundations of an ecosocialist strategy", *Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières*, 4 April 2011. Available at: <https://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?article22770>

[5] Michael Löwy is Emeritus Research Director at the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique — National Centre for Scientific Research) in Paris. He is co-author, with Joel Kovel, of *An Ecosocialist Manifesto* (2001) and author of *Ecosocialism: A Radical Alternative to Capitalist Catastrophe* (Haymarket, 2015). His concept of "fossil fascism" as a description of the far right's relationship to climate denial and the fossil industry has been developed in recent years alongside his broader ecosocialist and anti-neofascist analysis.

[6] Leonidas Iza is a Kichwa leader and president of Ecuarrunari (Confederación Kichwa del Ecuador), the Andean regional branch of the indigenous movement representing Kichwa peoples of the highlands, and a former president of CONAIE (Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador — Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador). He was the only candidate in Ecuador's 2025 presidential election to oppose expansion of extractive industries. Iza faces multiple legal proceedings and surveillance by the Noboa government.

[7] The occupation was centred on Cargill's port terminal in Santarém, in the state of Pará. Several thousand people from fourteen ethnic groups, primarily from the Mundurucu, Arapiun, and Apiaká peoples, blocked road access to Santarém airport on 4 February 2026 and occupied Cargill's

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terminal on 21 February. The Lula government revoked the privatisation decree on 24 February 2026. COP30 took place in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025. Sources: Green Left, 27 February 2026; Amazon Watch, 27 February 2026.

[8] Sotsialnyi Rukh (Social Movement) is a Ukrainian democratic socialist organisation founded in 2015. It stands for democratic anti-capitalism, feminism, and ecosocialism. Since Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, it has campaigned internationally for support for Ukrainian resistance, debt cancellation, and reconstruction under citizen control. See: Sotsialnyi Rukh (Social Movement), "Ukraine: Introducing Sotsialnyi Rukh (Social Movement)", Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières, 12 March 2019. Available at: <https://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?article61539>

[9] Members of SAP–Grenzeloos (Socialist Alternative Politics — Grenzeloos), the Dutch section of the Fourth International, are active in Democratisch Ecosocialisten.