

Help build the movement against Trumpist tyranny!

No Kings Day comes again as the fight against Trumpism grows. Millions of demonstrators, scattered all over the US will be coming out to denounce Trump plan to replace people's rights with a bigoted state where MAGA is king.

All over the US, demonstrations will denounce the anti-democratic atrocities that follow day after day from Trump. Trump is trying to suppress all opposition. He has found a new reason for cutting social programs — “they're Democratic programs”. He has been sending troops all over the US to suppress opposition to his ICE thugs. And he has been arresting opponents and forcing companies and schools to purge their staff.

His plan to consolidate power and build a one-party white supremacist state where everyone lives in fear and workers are supposed to live on his absurd claims about how prices are good and the economy is great again.

The government shutdown

This time the No Kings Day protests also coincide with a shutdown of the federal government. The issue in the shutdown is whether Trump and the Republicans will let the subsidies for Obamacare health premiums lapse, forcing millions of people to give up health insurance. For now, the Democratic senators won't vote for a budget that doesn't continue these subsidies. But more generally, the issue is whether Trump's one-person rule will be allowed to do whatever it wants, moving closer and closer to outright authoritarianism.

This is an important struggle. It affects the welfare of millions of people. But while the Democratic Senators are fighting on this, but earlier this year in a previous budget fight they backed down. They are fighting now because they were lambasted by millions of people who were

outraged that the Democrats gave in.

This shows that we can't rely on the politicians. We must vote against the MAGA Republicans whenever we can. But even when we vote for Democrats we should have no illusion in them. It's the great wave of anger from the millions of people, hurt by the cutbacks in social programs or outraged by the savage campaign against immigrants, that has pushed the Democratic Party to fightback.

In fact, angry people haven't waited for the politicians. They are the ones in the street protesting; they are the ones who are whistleblowers in government agencies; they are the ones who have booed Republican diehards at townhall meetings.

* More and more people have defiantly stood up in defiance of ICE's attack on the immigrant communities and on non-white people. Even Trump's utilization of the National Guard has not stopped this resistance.

* Networks have formed to preserve access to abortion pills.

* Workers have persisted in strikes and organizing despite the growing hostility of the federal government.

* Researchers, scientists, librarians, medical personnel, teachers and others have resisted the book burnings, the destruction of scientific data on climate change and health issues, and the rewriting of history,

* The Palestinian solidarity movement has persisted in the face of arrests, deportations, purges of schools, etc.

On this and other fronts, the MAGA movement has met determined resistance.

These are variegated movements, drawn from different sections of the population, and with different viewpoints. To strengthen their staying power, we should strive to meld them into strains of the overall movement against tyranny and authoritarianism.

The labor movement

The Democrats vacillate because they represent one section of the capitalists while the Trumpists represent another. Both parties support market measures, seek the support of rich capitalists, and provide subsidies for corporations while always short of money for the people.

So it's only working people who can wholeheartedly oppose the Trump offensive. The liberal capitalists have shown how flimsy their democratic words are, with many university presidents, rich lawyers, CEOs who pretended to support diversity, and others of the privileged conceding to Trump's demands.

But the labor movement has faltered in representing the interest of the workers. Some unions have issued statements against Trumpism, or gone on strike despite difficult conditions. But on the whole the unions in the US are dominated by a class-collaborationist leadership. They have been passive on fighting Trumpist and xenophobic demagoguery among their membership, and at best trail the Democratic Party and liberal capitalists. Some, such as the Shawn Fain, head of the UAW, have gone out of their way to find something to support in Trump's tariff war. And the Teamster leadership has covered itself with shame, as its head attended the Republican Convention before the election, while the Ohio Council of Teamsters has endorsed the ultra-Trumpist Vivek Ramaswamy for governor.

This shows that that militant workers have to build up rank-and-file groups at the workplace and in unions in order to revitalize the union movement. Only in this way can the unions play a major role in the anti-Trump movement, rather than trailing the Democrats at best.

Prepare for a long struggle

Make no mistake. The fight against Trumpism, bigotry, and authoritarianism is going to be a protracted one. Whatever the result of the coming elections, the MAGA movement is not going away. Even when the Trumpists are defeated in an election, it doesn't mean that the horrible things they have done will be reversed immediately.

But the Trumpists will never suppress the resistance to their tyranny. Millions of people will see life become harder, but they will also learn to organize better. It will be a long struggle, but it will open the eyes of millions of people to who their real enemy really is.

No to racism and xenophobia!
No to white supremacy!
No to voter suppression!
No to illegalization of protest!
No to book burnings!
No to grinding poverty and starvation wages!
No to climate and science denialism!
No to fascism!
NO TO TRUMP!

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For more on the struggle against Trumpism and other national and international issues see
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