

## **Statement of the International Secretariat**

To all delegates of the world Congress

To all members of the Brazilian section

Arising from the Congress debate on the issues raised by the Brazilian comrades, the International Secretariat wishes to make the following declaration:

Our International has a proud tradition of internal democracy and open and fraternal debate of all issues.

In line with these traditions, we have held a series of debates lasting for more than a decade with the Brazilian comrades concerning a number of differences they have raised.

Never at any time has any restriction been placed by us on any of these discussions. The present debate is proof of this.

We leave aside any discussions about procedural matters, since we have no wish to distract attention from the central issues, which are not of a formal character, but arise from serious political differences.

Because of this, we decided to change the agenda of the congress in order to allow a proper debate of the Brazilian delegation majority document in the first session on world perspectives.

In the interests of democratic debate, we offered the comrades the same amount of time as the representative of the IEC, both in the opening speech and in the reply.

We think that the discussion was very positive and served to clarify many questions in the minds of all comrades present. This fills us with satisfaction, since it was the sole aim that we had set ourselves for this debate.

It is therefore unfortunate that statements have been made to the effect that the international leadership was planning to expel the Brazilian comrades.

This is incomprehensible. There should be absolutely no possibility of any misunderstanding following comrade Jordi Martorell's closing statement, which clearly stated the position of the International on this question.

In order to dispel any possible confusion or doubt on this question, the International Secretariat makes the present statement, to be put before the World Congress and all the comrades of the Brazilian section.

At no time in our history has this International ever attempted to solve political differences by administrative measures like expulsions. This runs counter to all our traditions, which are the clean and honest traditions of Bolshevism.

We are sure that all comrades will agree that this is not the way to proceed. We understand that sharp debates of political differences can sometimes create a heated atmosphere. Comrades sometimes get carried away, become excited, and make remarks which they later regret.

In itself, that is not a serious problem. But it is necessary that all comrades should strive to introduce a note of calm and sobriety into the debate, so that the serious issues at its heart can be clearly brought out, in order that everyone can understand them and the level of the cadres is raised.

The Brazilian comrades supporting the alternative document requested proportionality in the election of the new IEC, on the basis of the number of votes obtained by the two documents presented in the debate on world perspectives. This would inevitably mean a drastic reduction of the number of Brazilian comrades on the IEC, compared with our original proposal. But, in view of the comrades' insistence, we decided to accept this proposal, while making it clear that this was not to be taken as a precedent. What was the result of this?

The votes obtained by the two documents were as follows:

For the IEC document: 219

For the Brazilian document: 7

Two delegates abstained.

In other words, the Brazilian position failed to convince even a single delegate from any other section.

This means that the number of Brazilian comrades at the IEC has been reduced from four to two.

We stand for unity of the International, but genuine unity must be on a principled basis. It is only possible on the basis of agreement on all the central issues. Unfortunately, we think that comrade Serge did not address these questions adequately, especially the central question of China, which were left hanging in the air. They remain to be clarified.

The only way to achieve this is by means of a full and democratic discussion with the Brazilian comrades after the World Congress.

A debate must be held that involves, not just the leading comrades, but all the comrades of the section. No one should be excluded or marginalised on the grounds of the ideas which they hold.

For our part, we pledge ourselves to participate fully in this important debate in Brazil. We look forward to the documents on China that have been promised by comrades Serge and Caio. And doubtless, the IS will be producing material of its own.

Such a debate can only help to raise the collective level of the cadres, not only in Brazil, but in the whole International.

We welcome it and look forward to it with every enthusiasm.

Comrades! The issues that divide us are serious, and deserve serious attention. But what unites us is far greater, and we should never lose sight of this fact.

Long live the International and its Brazilian section!

Workers of the world unite!

Bardonecchia, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2025