

**30 June 2023**

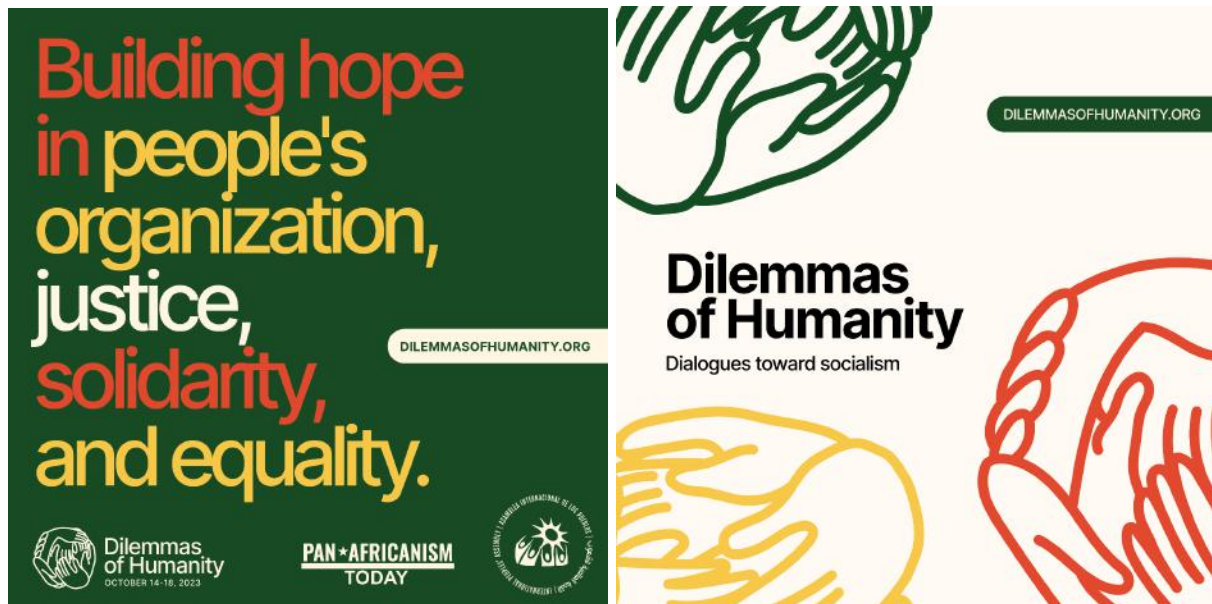
## **Greetings readers,**

As the International Peoples' Assembly launches the Dilemmas of Humanity process, we examine key issues such as debt restructuring in Zambia, rising tensions in Sierra Leone and the looming national strike in Ghana. This while protests erupt in France, following the police shooting of a French Algerian teenager.

We commemorate the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Independence Day, and also look to Cuba as a state sponsor of peace.

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# Popular Struggles



## Peoples movements set to converge in South Africa for dialogues on socialism in Dilemmas of Humanity Conference

The III International Dilemmas of Humanity Conference, organised by the International Peoples' Assembly, is scheduled to be held in October this year, to “confront the crises of humanity” and highlight the socialist solutions that movements, governments, and working people are building together to overcome the system; focused on

mass struggles and concrete initiatives for the construction of socialism.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

See the website & sign up for updates [here](#).

## **Harassment of Ghanaian workers and the looming general strike**

Why are workers going on strike in Ghana? General Secretary of the Socialist Movement of Ghana Kwesi Pratt Jnr and General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress of Ghana (TUC) discuss.

[Pan African Television](#)

## **In Swaziland, June is the Month of the Martyrs**

“29 June 2023 marks two years since King Mswati and the Swazi government ordered the merciless mass killing of over 100 Swazi citizens who marched on the streets demanding a people’s government that will prioritise and work in the interests of the vast majority of the citizens of

Swaziland,” says the People’s United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO).

[PUDEMO](#)

## **Protests erupt in France following police shooting of French Algerian teenager**

Shortly after news broke of the killing of Nael M (17) by police in France on 27 June, people hit the streets and were repressed by over two thousand police with tear gas and dispersion grenades, resulting in the arrest of 31 people; the officer responsible has been arrested on homicide charges.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

## **Tax exemptions for multinational companies are responsible for Zambia’s debt crisis**

The Socialist Party has debunked the so-called success of the much talked about deal to restructure US\$6.3 billion of

Zambia's debt, describing it instead as a failure, says Socialist Party General Secretary Cosmas Musumali.

[Millennium TV](#)

## **Tension in Sierra Leone in the wake of the general elections**

The Socialist Movement of Ghana urges all Sierra Leoneans and pillars of power in the sub-region to work seriously to avoid another needless conflict, and to ensure that the will of the people of Sierra Leone will prevail at all times; the peoples of West Africa need to unite in pursuit of the grand objectives of Pan Africanism and Socialism.

[Socialist Movement of Ghana](#)

## **Will revamped constitution herald stability in war torn Mali?**

A recent referendum has brought about major changes to Mali's constitution and laid the foundations for elections next year; despite challenges posed by separatist groups

and Islamist insurgency, there is hope the referendum is a step in the right direction.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)



*Meeting to formulate a program of action to overcome challenges in the sector, National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa Northern Cape & Bloemfontein hold a joint Motor Regional Shop Steward Council (RSSC) and Bus RSSC at the union's regional offices in Bloemfontein, June 2023. Image: NUMSA*

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# Culture and Education



*30 June marks the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Independence Day and on 2 July we remember the birth of Congolese Pan African icon Patrice Lumumba. Image: Pan Africanism Today*

## Listen

**Pan African Playlist | Congo's struggle for independence and the fight for freedom today**

With the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Independence Day commemorated each year on 30 June, we share songs that speak about the country's struggle for independence, the legacy of Patrice Lumumba and the struggle for freedom today; we also share a fun mix of newly released songs from across Africa.

[Swift Africa](#)

## **Watch**

### **South Africa resolute on BRICS**

As South Africa gears up to host the BRICS summit in August, Mandla J. Radebe of the University of Johannesburg says the country is resolute on BRICS and talks about the kind of pressures it has faced, both externally and internally, on the issue, while also highlighting how the country has responded to the Ukraine war, the developments in the region over the past two years, and the attitude of the people at large to the war.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)



## **Ghana: Predicaments of national service personnel**

On this week's Wednesday Palaver, General Secretary of the Socialist Movement of Ghana Kwesi Pratt Jnr and Frank Odei, a Public Relations Officer in the National Service Association speak on the problems that confront national service personnel and put forward solutions to the problems faced.

[\*Pan African Television\*](#)

## **What are the new details on the Wagner coup in Russia?**

In the days after the attempted coup by the Wagner mercenary group in Russia, what do we know, why did Yevgeny Prigozhin start an armed coup attempt against the Russian government and how was the US involved? On this week's Socialist Program Brian Becker and Eugene Purear discuss.

[\*Breakthrough News\*](#)

## **What the West doesn't get about Africa and China**

What are the struggles and challenges faced by people in Africa and how is the continent still under the exploitation of Western imperialists? What are the misconceptions about the China-Africa relationship?

[Talk It Out](#)

## **Read**

### **Speech at the ceremony of the proclamation of the Congo's independence**

“The Congo's independence is a decisive step towards the liberation of the whole African continent,” said Patrice Lumumba, the first democratically-elected Prime Minister of independent Congo.

[Read the speech here](#)

### **The struggle for environmental justice in Africa**

“The struggle for environmental justice in Africa is complex and broad. It is the continuation of the fight for the

liberation of the continent and for socio-ecological transformations,” reflections from Nigerian environmental activist Nnimmo Bassey on the global ecological crisis and its impact on Africa.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

## **Most refugees are victims of conflict, trying to escape Western wars**

In June, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that the number of people displaced worldwide had reached a record 110 million; this year, the double standards in the approach of rich Western countries towards human rights and humanitarian laws were dramatically revealed a few days before this as an unseaworthy boat carrying 750 refugees capsized off the Greek coast.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

## **Are DRC-China ties set to an uptick?**

Despite a policy pursued since the beginning of his mandate that does not put the interests of the people first, the Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi, by returning from his stay in China (24-26 May) with several agreements, has taken a step that demonstrates he has made a sovereign choice for the country: to negotiate with a major Southern power.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

## **Independence of Mozambique: a historical milestone and its current meaning**

Proclaimed on 25 June 1975, Mozambique's independence was an extremely important event in the history of the country as, after centuries of colonisation, the Mozambican people conquered their freedom and sovereignty – starting a new chapter in their trajectory as a nation.

[MST](#)

## **Poverty alleviation in China**

Did you know that China has lifted more than 800 million people out of extreme poverty? How was this achieved? What methods were used? Where does the country go from here? This issue of Wenhua Zongheng examines China's contemporary battle against poverty and its place within the contemporary decades-long pursuit of modernisation.

[Wenhua Zongheng](#)

## **Life or Debt! Tricontinental's first Pan-Africa Newsletter**

This is the first in a monthly newsletter series where they will share recent activities from the Pan-African institute based in Johannesburg, South Africa; it aims to elaborate on and amplify the theories of leading social and political movements while bridging the gap between movement-based intellectuals and academic thinkers.

[Tricon Pan-Africa](#)



*Leadership training as a process of strengthening MVIWATA across its networks underway in Shinyanga, Ruvuma and Njombe regions, organised and implemented by MVIWATA networks using internal built capacity. Image: MVIWATA*

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# Solidarity Campaigns



Currently, the MST also develops the [Fred M'membe Literacy and Agroecology Campaign](#) coordinated by the MST Internationalist Samora Machel Brigade in Zambia in partnership with the Socialist Party (SP). Image: Iris Pacheco

## Latin America & Caribbean regional update

### **Brazil: Over 100,000 people literate**

For almost 40 years, the MST has given priority to the fight for the right to public education in the territories where rural landless workers live and has taught literacy to more than 100,000 adults across Brazil through the Youth and Adult Education (EJA) campaigns – based on the Cuban

literacy method “Yes, I Can” – created in 1961 and Paulo’s Culture Circle. This has also extended to countries like Zambia.

[MST](#)

### **Cuba is a state sponsor of peace**

On 25 June, activists marched to the White House in Washington DC to demand US president Joe Biden take Cuba off the list of “State Sponsors of Terrorism” and lift the 63 year blockade, with speakers highlighting how the inclusion of Cuba on this list has no legal grounds, and causes immense difficulties with Cuba seeing the most serious food, fuel, and electricity shortages in recent history.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)



## **End Zionism**

### **Israel approves thousands of illegal settlement units in occupied West Bank**

The sanction for 5,700 housing units was described by a Palestinian government official as an “open war against the Palestinian people”, adding that “all settler colonialism in all the occupied Palestinian territories is illegitimate and illegal.”

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

### **The prisoner Wallid Daqqah: A stubborn conscience that cannot be seared**

Following the recent life-threatening diagnosis and deteriorating health of Palestinian Walid Daqqah (61) is a political prisoner, Palestinian organisations launched a campaign to demand Israeli authorities release him and provide necessary medical care, which they have refused to do; renowned writer and former political prisoner Wisam Rafeedie writes about the struggles and steadfast

resistance of Daqqah, a writer, intellectual, and organiser, imprisoned in Israeli jails since 1986.

[Peoples Dispatch](#)

## **Palestinian art produced behind bars**

In 1984, the Committee for Palestinian Prisoners published the book "Palestinian Art Behind Bars," containing a collection of artwork by Palestinian activists detained in Israeli jails; the drawings, full of colour and portraying different aspects of the struggle for Palestinian liberation, have the particularity of having been made on pillowcases, secretly received from their relatives during visits.

[Utopix](#)

# LIBERATION FOR SWAZILAND



*On 29 June we remember the lives lost during the June-July Uprisings against the monarchy in the ongoing struggle for democracy in Swaziland. Watch 'The Month of the Martyrs Memorial Lecture' by the Peoples United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO) [here](#).*

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***For more news and analysis from our friends:***

- [Israel Cannot Rebut Apartheid](#): The Twenty Fifth Newsletter (2023) from Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research.
- [News on China, No. 152](#) | 24.06.2023.

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In solidarity,

The Pan Africanism Today Secretariat

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