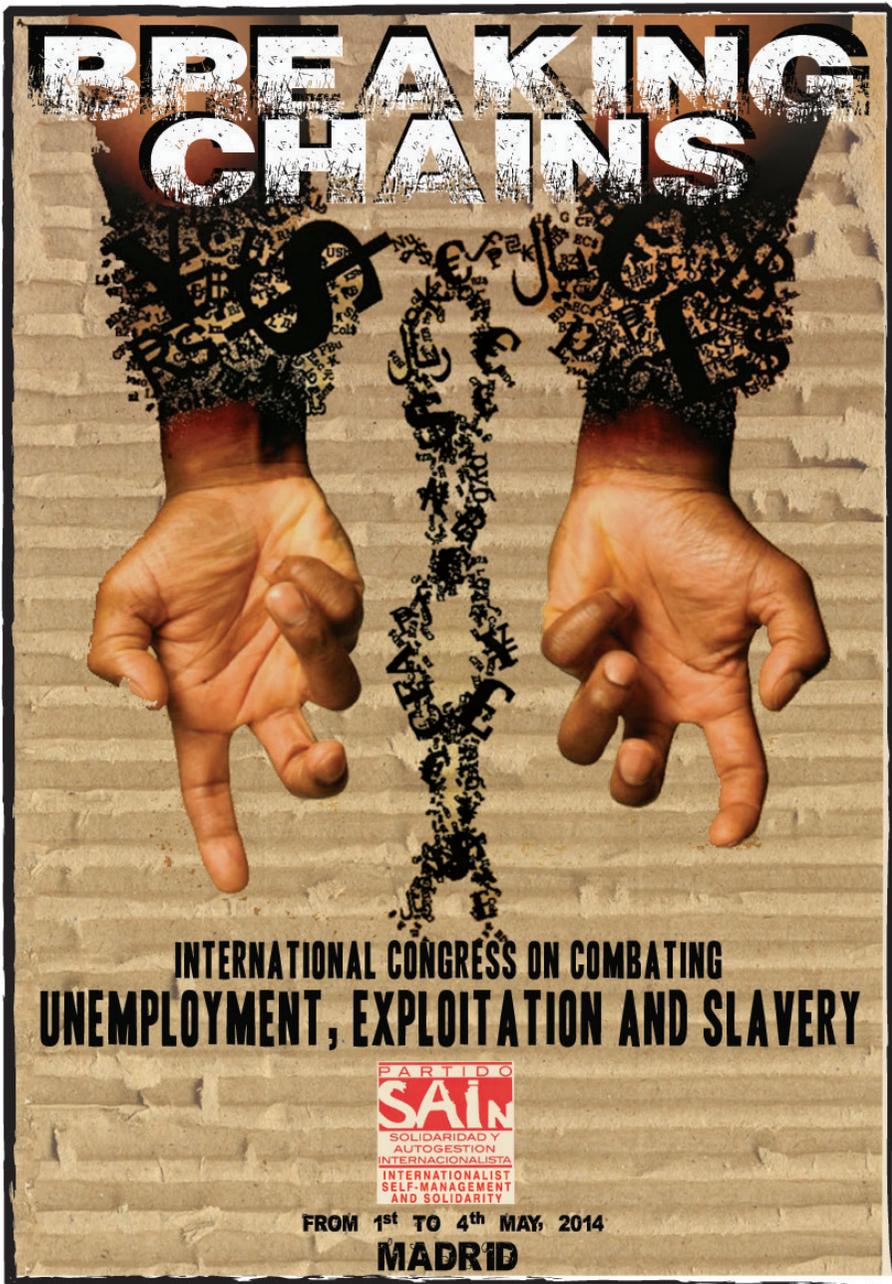


Nº 7

NOTEBOOK FOR SOLIDARITY ACTION

BREAKING CHAINS



INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON COMBATING
UNEMPLOYMENT, EXPLOITATION AND SLAVERY

PARTIDO
SAIN
SOLIDARIDAD Y
AUTOGESTION
INTERNACIONALISTA
INTERNATIONALIST
SELF-MANAGEMENT
AND SOLIDARITY

FROM 1st TO 4th MAY, 2014
MADRID

www.rompiendocadenas.org

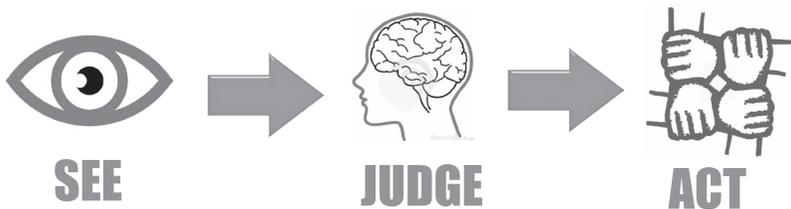
WHAT IS THIS BOOKLET AND WHAT IS IT FOR?

This booklet is the result of the work of a group of friends: workers, families, unemployed, exploited... people who have discovered that there are many who are enslaved to sustain the “well-being” of a few. We have written this booklet to get prepared for an International Congress on Combating Unemployment, Exploitation and Slavery.

The meeting will be held in May 2014. We will get to know about different experiences of fight against exploitation, human trafficking, slavery in the textile industry and in other sectors, about people who risk their lives at the borders. There will be people coming from places such as Pakistan, Morocco, Argentina, Brazil...

This will be a meeting of people who share the struggle for human beings' dignity and justice in varied contexts. Are there experiences which you can contribute? Would you like to join this dialogue? We would like to invite you to disseminate this proposal and to contribute with possibilities.

On page 15, you can find a questionnaire intended to be used to prepare dialogue forums to nurture the Congress. This proposal can be extended to all the groups and people who you consider may be interested.



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UNEMPLOYMENT

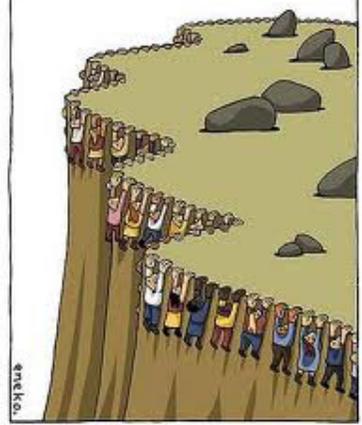
That afternoon, the woman planted herself in front of Puri's counter in the Ikea cafeteria of Murcia. In one hand she carried a five-euro note; in the other, five starving children. She ordered five children's menus: pasta, yogurt and juice, which cost a euro per person.

- "Cook, give us more macaroni, we are hungry!" howled the kids.

- "Listen and do as they tell you. They are hungry... and I don't have more money." said the woman.

The cook was moved by the scene. So, covertly, she served a small extra saucepan to each child. "Yet, the mother had no dinner," she recalls.

JOBCENTER QUEUE



In Spain, there are officially 6 million jobless people and another similar number who are in the revolving door of unemployment and precarious work.

With 52% of youngsters out of work, Spain's youth unemployment rate leads the EU.

This is the first generation in the history of Spain that has **worse working conditions than their parents.**



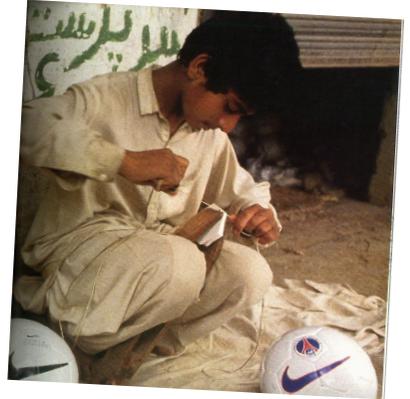
UNEMPLOYMENT KILLS

- The unemployed are up to 63% more likely to die prematurely.
- Unemployed people have significantly higher chances to suffer from anxiety, addictions and insomnia.
- In Spain, at least 26 people committed suicide in the first 9 months of 2013 due to unemployment-related causes.



Children in landfills; children risking their lives as pearl divers; children mining for mica for cosmetics or coltan for mobile phones; child soldiers; children in brothels, in workshops of toys, clothes...

CHILD SLAVERY



400 million children are forced into slavery in an international planning of work which results from a perverse economic system. This world crime, far from disappearing, increases annually in number and cruelty. We cannot be manipulated by deceitful language: they are not child workers, **they are child slaves!**

ENSLAVED, EXPLOITED...

24 April, 2013.

A factory building collapses in Bangladesh killing 1,127 people, who were working for 30€ a month for brands such as El Corte Inglés, Carrefour, Mango, Primark...



The Guardian newspaper and the International Trade Union Confederation warned that up to 4,000 workers will die if working conditions do not change for construction workers employed for infrastructure projects built in anticipation of 2022 Football World Cup. They have also demanded FIFA to break their complicit silence.

AN ESTIMATED 60% OF WORKERS IN THE WORLD HAVE NO CONTRACT; THEREFORE, NEITHER DO THEY HAVE EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OR PROTECTION.

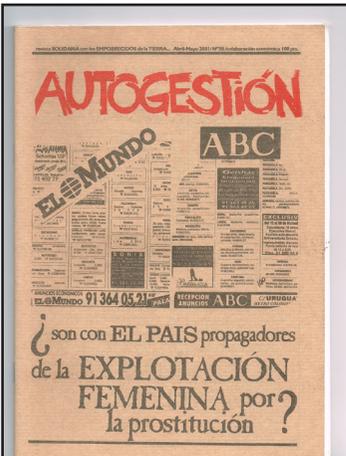
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Profits generated from trafficking in human beings are estimated to be a \$32 billion-dollar-a-year industry.

Labour exploitation is the main reason for human trafficking, says the IOM's, International Organization for Migration, report.

No official information has been released about the actual number of women prostituted in Spain. Different reports estimate that there are between 150 and 400 thousand, 90% of whom are impoverished immigrants.

This business is worth around 5 million Euros a day.



Since 2001 AUTOGESTIÓN (Self-management) Magazine has been denouncing that Spanish newspapers are accomplices of the exploitation of prostituted women.

THE WALLS OF SHAME

They travel more than 5,000 kilometers from Mexico to the United States on an unprotected train known as “La Bestia” (The Beast). The last official figure (May 2011) estimated around 140,000 people crossing the border each year.



“There are dead people and more people who are going to die; the boat is nearly sunk... We are very close to the coast, we can see the houses, we see cars, why isn't anyone rescuing us?” (Voices in the Strait of Gibraltar by Helena Maleno)

HOW BIG DOES MY ISLAND'S GRAVEYARD HAVE TO BE?

On October 3rd, 2013, a boat carrying about 500 African migrants sank off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa. Only 150 were rescued alive. Survivors claim that three fishing boats saw them but ignored their cries for help. The mayor of Lampedusa complains: “our country brought fishermen who saved human lives to court, charging them with aiding and abetting illegal immigration.” He wrote a letter to the EU asking: “How big does my island's graveyard have to be?”

SPANISH UNIFIED POLICE TRADE UNION RELEASE:

“There are raids against immigrants, millions of arbitrary and illegal actions, and some Immigration Detention Centers whose deplorable conditions are an affront to the minimum standards required for the dignity of every human being”.



BIG BUSINESS

Banks and present politicians, as well as multinational companies, are to blame for the current economic crisis. They are the main beneficiaries of labor reforms and the increasing degradation of working conditions.



Inditex Group (Zara, Bershka, Pull & Bear, Oysho, etc.) is the world's largest multinational textile company and numerous allegations of exploitation of adults and children have been lodged against them. But, this group is not the only one...



...and it is not only the textile industry...



COMPANIES ACCUSED OF CHILD SLAVERY

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SLAVERY

An unprecedented increase in inequality is taking place at an unparalleled rate. GDP and income per capita in the world have been increasing; however, there are poorer and more exploited workers who are robbed of the wealth they produce, which becomes highly concentrated in few hands.

In 2012, the world's 100 largest fortunes increased by \$241,000 million; meanwhile 2,500 million people scraped out a living on less than 1.5 Euros per day.

In Spain, 80.5% of the wealth is in the hands of 1,400 people whereas there is a rise in unemployment, junk contracts and jobless households.

According to the ILO, the proportion of wealth creation destined for salaries is decreasing.

THE IMPOVERISHED, DRIVING-FORCE OF THE ECONOMY

70% of food in the world is grown by 50% of the poorest people.



I WORK 12 HOURS A DAY, I GET PAID IN BONDS, AND LIVE TOGETHER WITH 20 MATES IN A HOVEL WITHOUT ELECTRICITY, DRINKING WATER OR TOILET...



... ONE SAME CAUSE

In 2012, companies such as ZARA, BBVA, CEPSA and Repsol increased their profits, and Board members of the Ibex 35 companies got million-euro salaries, 5.6% higher than the previous year. On the other hand, the reduction logic in workers' salaries reaches the zero-euro wage in many cases. We are referring to enslaved workers from Asia or U.S. workers who only receive tips. Also, workers in Spain, such as those picked up by slave traffickers in the Elliptical Square in Madrid or young people who work for free to gain some job experience.



**IT IS NOT AN ECONOMIC CRISIS,
IT IS EXPLOITATION,
IT IS ROBBING THE IMPOVERISHED**

At present, technological advances would allow to satisfy the needs of the world population. All workers could earn a decent livelihood and work fewer hours. This would require putting an end to exploitation and robbery by having a new redistribution of work, which would involve a fair salary and the socialization of profits, which must correspond to work and not to capital.

**A WORLD THAT GENERATES MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT AND
SLAVERY MUST BE REBUILT FROM ITS FOUNDATIONS**

COLLECTION OF TRAITORS

What about INTERNATIONAL ORGANISMS?

The ILO was founded in 1919, supposedly to combat all labor exploitation. It is formed by one-third of members who represent workers, one third who represent government and one-third who represent employers. Like Francoist vertical trade unions in Spain! In this scenario of exploitation, they are bureaucratic.



Its objectives are as shameful and hypocritical as their statement claiming that there can be half of “working children” by 2015.

94 YEARS LATER, IT IS HIGH TIME THEY PASSED JUDGEMENT ON THEIR WORK, ACKNOWLEDGED THEIR FAILURE AND DISSAPEARED.

SPANISH TRADE UNIONS have not shown any solidarity with people exploited by Spanish companies in other countries. In a globalized world, if denunciation is not internationalist, it is serving power.



CCOO y UGT
TRAIDORES

LEGALIZED CORRUPTION. The Spanish Tax Agency employs 6,800 civil servants, 5,500 of whom are engaged to investigate citizens and companies invoicing less than 4 million Euros.

Only 322 can investigate companies with a turnover higher than 4 million Euros (there are around 30,000 in Spain). One in four inspectors is on leave, working for banks and large firms.

The Spanish **PRESS** has remained silent about scandals of exploitation involving Spanish companies. It has been French journalists who have made strong allegations denouncing Inditex. So shameful was their silence about the crime of the collapse of the factory building in Bangladesh and the concealment of the responsibility of Mango, El Corte Ingles...

"JOURNALISTS ARE INTELLECTUAL PROSTITUTES"
said John Swiston, editor manager of the New York Times at his farewell party.

RIGHT AND LEFT WING POLITICAL PARTIES alike have legislated in favor of the powerful, passing labor reforms that have legalized exploitation and allowed tax-evasion of big fortunes.

LA LARGA MARCHA HACIA LA MUERTE DEL TRABAJO DIGNO

1984 - Introducción generalizada del contrato temporal.

1988 - Reforma laboral. Huelga general 14-D.

1992 - Reducción de la prestación de desempleo.
Huelga general 20-M.

1994 - Legalización de las ETT y 4.000.000 parados,



2000 - Ley de Extranjería: los emigrantes despedidos serán expulsados del país.

2002 - "Decretazo" que promueve el despido libre.
Huelga general.



2011 - El gobierno de Zapatero hizo otra Ley de Reforma Laboral y domesticó aún más a los sindicatos. Tras prometer "*pleno empleo*" se despidió con más de 5.000.000 de parados oficiales, el 20% de la población activa y el doble de la media europea.



2012 - Rajoy da más poder a las ETTs. Se facilita el despido. Divide a los trabajadores aún más primando el convenio colectivo de empresa sobre el del sector.



2013-- Sobrepasando los 6 millones de parados oficiales...

Eight different labor laws, reforms and decrees from 1984 to 2012 with different political parties in power, PSOE and PP, have resulted in the deterioration of working conditions; free dismissal; application of temporary contracts; reductions in employment and support allowance; precarious junk contracts; massive layoffs...

THE EXPLOITED FIGHT BACK

Las Patronas, impoverished women in Mexico, get organized to hand out food and water to those migrants travelling on the death train to the United States.

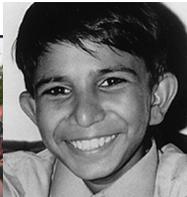


After months of protests and 24-hour camps at the gates of the factory, 160 workers in Cambodia have reached a historic agreement in Kingsland. They have won their case against H&M and Walmart.

The brand “No Chains”, symbol of world fight against slavery. Textile cooperatives around the world can now fight together. For this reason, they have formed one in Argentina and another in Thailand. Exploited people join to self-manage their own work.



The Argentinean association against slavery: “La Alameda”, members of Textile Workers’ Union (UTC), denounce that Zara enslaves workers and violates labor laws.



Cardinal Bergoglio (Pope Francis at present) denouncing human trafficking and slavery in the street together with cardboard collectors.

Children and youth fight against slavery throughout the world. They follow the example of **Iqbal Masih**, Pakistani Catholic child murdered on **16 April 1995** for combating child slavery.

16 April: International Day Against Child Slavery

TOWARDS SOLIDARITY...



Workers and other groups denouncing Inditex in Galicia, Spain



Fight of immigrant Latin women in the United States against exploitation in the textile industry can be seen in the documentary: "Made in L.A."

Locksmiths in Pamplona refuse to collaborate with their work in evictions. November 2012



Policemen sent to quell a protest remove their helmets and join the people. Frankfurt, May 2012

"Non-cooperation is directed not against men but against measures. It is not directed against the Governors but against the system they administer. The roots of non-cooperation lie not in hatred but in justice, if not in love". Gandhi

400 MILLION CHILD SLAVES
 +
 1,600 MILLION UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE
 =
 2,000 MILLION REASONS TO MARCH



2014 SOLIDARITY MARCH

SOLIDARITY ON PRINCIPLE



“Inditex exploits children”. Galicia, Navarra, Madrid, the Great Canary Island, Pamplona... SAIN Political Party defending exploited people.



“The promotion of a culture of solidarity that generates honest and free public opinion; solidarity boycott against products of multinational companies and the promotion of militant civic associations will generate a proper front to put an end to hunger, unemployment and marginalization. Volunteers and NGOs can and must work together to do so, knowing that failure lies in concealing the causes of hunger, unemployment and marginalization. This work is within the reach of any individual or group of good-willed people, which can end these injustices because it does not consist of assistance patches or conceals the causes.”

(Julián Gómez del Castillo, No. 219, Solidarity, Voice of the Voiceless Publishing House)



A non-violent militant person is the one who carries other people’s problems upon their shoulders. SAIN’s National Assembly Banner. August, 2013.



INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON COMBATING UNEMPLOYMENT, EXPLOITATION AND SLAVERY

2014 **MADRID**
FROM 1 TO 4
MAY

SAln Political Party has as its prime objectives: eradicating hunger, unemployment and child slavery, political crimes that exist because there is no political will to do away with them.

SAln wants to be free and it is for this reason that it is financed only through the fees of their members and especially with non-profit work, without subsidies that could enslave it.

SAln wants to promote real democracy and self-management. We do not believe in leaders or committees of experts. We believe in the ideas and the action of those who work, i.e. in the democracy of work.

We are launching this Congress as a meeting for all those people who are determined to build a fair and solidarity world.

QUESTIONNAIRE TO WORK INDIVIDUALLY OR IN A GROUP:

Join us!

1. Name facts you know which expose exploitation or slavery.
2. What are the causes of these facts? Think about them at different levels: personal, environmental and institutional.
3. What experiences of solidarity action against slavery and unemployment have we got in our group or association?
4. In what way would we like to collaborate with the Congress? Posters, a stand with information, communication, disseminating the Congress...

You can send us your answers by email



OFICINA DE EMPLEO



PARTIDO SAIN

SOLIDARIDAD Y AUTOGESTION INTERNACIONALISTA

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