



Solidarity and International Cooperation

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John Foster Dulles, famous Secretary of State to US President Dwight Eisenhower told the media that the United States has no friends, they have interests. This was stated in the time of the 50s, when the cold war began and the world was divided into two blocs, the capitalist and the communist.

This famous statement, coupled with the theory of "real politik", where states that in politics and international relations only the interests have importance, and not good feelings and solidarity, has permeated among the nations of the world. However, the government of president Andrés Manuel López Obrador has shown that solidarity, empathy and love of thy neighbor does exist in the political sphere and has very real benefits to all people.

In my experience I can also testify that there are organizations, people and leaders with good feelings and ideals. There is solidarity and cooperation between entire peoples and nations to achieve collective benefits.

Last week I visited Washington, DC. I held meetings with Lizbeth Schuler, the first woman to hold the Presidency of the AFL CIO and its governing body, Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio, Congressmen Jimmy Gomez and Earl Blumenauer, as well as Thea Mei Lee Undersecretary of Labor, Matthew P. Levin the Director of Trade and Labor Affairs, Héctor Sánchez, leader of migrants and Chairman of the Board of Planned Parenthood, and Mi Familia Vota, Iván X. Eskildsen Alfaro, Minister of Tourism of Panama, and even with Mike Singletary legendary linebacker from the Chicago Bears and Head Coach of the San Francisco 49ers.

These meetings were directed towards various objectives that converge in solidarity and cooperation for the benefit of workers, their families and the most disadvantaged people. The world is becoming more unequal and we need to unite as human beings to cooperate effectively in relationships of collective

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benefit and not under the traditional rules of zero-sum relationships and personal benefits.

I am very satisfied with this visit where I was able to reach agreements with people who I already knew and maintained a friendship and companionship for years, as well as with new leaders and politicians, which will allow us to strengthen a cross-border struggle for the dignity of the working class.

Solidarity does work, and I am a living example of this. When the former Mexican neoliberal presidents, in collusion with some businessmen with much economic power, undertook a political persecution against me, workers of the world gave me their unconditional support to continue fighting with my colleagues and fellow miners in a unequal struggle that, with the passage of time, became our strength and thus we were able to obtain the final victory.

Currently, as a Senator of Mexico, I have been for more than three years now legislating and promoting bills that are having a great positive impact on millions, as well as leading the heroic National Union of Miners and the International Confederation of Workers, CIT. We who fight to demand respect, justice and dignity of the working class and of all Mexicans are more. If we unite to not permit that others trample our rights, we will be able to win and advance in just causes and greater democracy and well-being for the entire population.

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