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UGT's national president has a meeting with Rodrigo Maia in Brasília



■ Ricardo Patah, president of UGT, attended a meeting with Rodrigo Maia, president of the Chamber of Deputies. During this event, which was attended by representatives of several trade union institutions, Mr. Patah stressed the danger that the approval of Provisional Measure 873

represents for Brazilian democracy. "This measure has the clear goal of extinguishing trade unions," said the leader of UGT.

"Brazil is a continental country with wonderful people, but there are 12 million unemployed and 5 million discouraged citizens. Revolution 4.0 is coming with full force, if the trade union movement does not create a structure that can build possibilities for Brazil to grow once again, our land will be devastated and there will be great disrespect," he concluded.

UGT's State branch of Bahia attends unitarian meeting of trade union centers



■ On March 11, UGT's State branch of Bahia (UGT-BA) attended a meeting with other trade union centers and representatives of social movements at CTB Bahia's head office. The goal was to draw the guidelines of actions that will happen on March 22, when there will be Mobilization and Fight against the Pension Reform. Representatives of CUT, Força Sindical, CTB, Nova Central, CSP Conluta, Frente Brasil Popular attended the meeting.

UGT discusses international affairs with other Brazilian trade union centers



■ International Affairs Secretaries of Brazilian Trade Union Centers had a meeting at UGT's headquarters, in São Paulo. Lourenço Prado, UGT's Secretary of International Affairs, received the guests. There were representatives of Força Sindical, CSB, CTB, CUT and NCST. On this occasion, they discussed the actions to be jointly taken by the Centers with the ILO (International Labor Organization) in defense of the rights and interests of Brazilian workers at the 108th ILO Conference, to be held in Geneva from June 10 to 21, 2019.

UGT's statement on the provisional measure that ends collective bargaining and disrespects the Constitution

NOTA DA UGT

ARTICLE



Trade unions are essential to democracy, say Ricardo Patah and Enilson Simões
Ricardo Patah
President of the General Union of Workers - UGT

■ Provisional Measure 873, published during Carnival holidays in order to people not pay attention, changes the rules of the trade union constitution and it is unconstitutional because it violates article number 8 of the Federal Constitution by promoting interference in Brazilian trade union organization.

It also confronts the guideline of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and damages free negotiation. It is also irregular to treat the issue through a Provisional Measure, because, clearly, it is not a matter of

urgency and relevance. UGT will go to court against this absurdity and our institution will discuss the matter with congressmen and senators, in order to respect collective bargaining and the Brazilian Constitution.

We are in favor of dialogue with the Government, but we understand that this and other measures are escalating to eliminate workers, or their organizations, one of the pillars of democracy.

Ricardo Patah, UGT's National President

Gas station restores water fountain after Sinpospetro- Campinas/SP demanded it

■ The Campinas Trade Union of Gas Station Attendants, an UGT's affiliate, through the staff of its branch of Americana/SP, was able to get a gas station in the city to reinstall a drinking fountain with drinking water for local workers. The lack of the equipment, according to the management of the company 'due to a technical defect', forced the eight workers to bring water from their homes during the working day for almost 30 days.

According to Francisco Jr. Tavares Correia, union director, the company fulfilled the demand in less than a week, brought to the union's knowledge via anonymous telephone complaint. He also said that the complaint caused a task force of the trade unionists along with the other six gas stations in the network, in order to verify

if these sites do indeed have the equipment, which is mandatory according to regulation 24.3.15.1, letter F, (250ml) per hour/man work ".



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UGT's State branch of Rio Grande do Sul prepares regional congress and participation in the IV National Congress

ARTICLE



Trade unions are essential to democracy, say Ricardo Patah and Enilson Simões
Ricardo Patah
President of the General Union of Workers - UGT



■ Norton Jubelli, President-in-Office of the Union of Workers of Rio Grande do Sul (UGT-RS) and financial director of the Union of Workers in Transport Companies of Values, Documents and Escort of Rio Grande do Sul (Sindivalores-RS), considers it appropriate to hold the IV National Congress of the UGT in a scenario of struggle for the preservation of rights and reorganization of union practice. Scheduled for May 30 and 31 in Praia Grande/SP, the meeting has the goal of pointing

out concrete directions for the Center's action within this context. The unionist realized the direction already proposed during the 29th plenary meeting of UGT's National Board of Executives, which brought together national leaders of UGT, on February 15 at the national headquarters, to analyze the understanding of leaderships on the agenda of the IV National Congress of the Center. An intense debate converged to a proposal, approving the motto "4th Industrial Revolution: Future of Labor".

In Jubelli's point of view, the theme that was approved by members of UGT "directly dialogues with what the working class and the trade union movement think".

Unionist considers UGT's Congress to come at the right time



■ Within a context that is currently not favorable to the social movement, Carlos Alberto Schmitt de Azevedo, president of the National Confederation of Liberal Professions (CNPL) and UGT's Housing Secretary, sees it as the right time for UGT's 4th Congress, scheduled for May 30 and 31, in the Ocian auditorium, in Praia Clube, State of São Paulo. The perspective of approving a pension reform following the lines of the labor reform, the exchange of command in the federal government, and the economic stagnation caused by a protracted crisis are issues directly related to the working class.

Provisional Measure 873 is the theme of a meeting between Ricardo Patah and Senator Major Olímpio



■ On March 14, Ricardo Patah, UGT's national, received the visit of Senator Major Olímpio to talk about Provisional Measure 873.

This Measure prohibits the discount of union dues and associative fee in the payroll of the workers, obliging the payment via bank bill.

Major Olímpio affirmed that he was following the debates around the agenda, but said he needed to go deeper into the matter to make a decision.

UGT's State branch of Bahia holds assembly with affiliated institutions and deliberates actions to face the Provisional Measure 873

ARTICLE



Trade unions are essential to democracy, say Ricardo Patah and Enilson Simões
Ricardo Patah
President of the General Union of Workers - UGT



■ On March 07, UGT's State Branch of Bahia (UGT-BA) held a meeting, in its head office, with leaders of several affiliated institutions. During this event, they strongly repudiated Provisional Measure 873, published in the middle of carnival, and they also plotted an action plan to confront anti-union acts practiced by the government.

For the unionists, UGT-BA and the unions they represent will focus on the manifesto of the 22nd, which will be against the social security reform. "This measure aims to extinguish the trade union movement, and is contrary to the various international

conventions that Brazil is a signatory, as it tries to destroy the free organization of workers," said Magno Lavigne, president of UGT-BA. The officers at the meeting decided to wait for the legal guidelines transmitted by the national UGT, which signed a joint note with associate trade union centers, in which they emphasize: Provisional Measure 873 does not change the payroll discount of membership fees and other constant contributions in Conventions and Collective Agreements approved in assemblies; Employers who fail to carry out these discounts, in addition to illegality, will incur in anti-union practices and suffer the legal and political consequences of their acts; Trade union centrals will report the Brazilian government in the International Labor Organization (ILO) and other international organizations for anti-union practices.

UGT's president talks about salary adjustment



■ On February 27, Ricardo Patah, UGT's national president, was in the TV show "Aparecida Debate" broadcasted by TV Aparecida.

Under the command of journalist Marcelo Zanini, the program addressed the theme of "salary adjustment". In addition to the unionist, Renaldo Antonio Gonsalves, doctor and professor of

the Department of Actuarial Sciences of PUC-SP, joined the debate. At the time, Patah talked about the adjustment of the minimum wage below expectations. "The minimum wage is one of the most powerful instruments of income distribution in Brazil. The difference of \$ 8 may seem little, but it is enough to buy a loaf or a bottle of water. It was a disrespect to the worker and to the pensioners." He also discussed the importance of the real gain for a change in the distribution of Brazilian income, "which is currently very bad"; the need for rules to increase public servants; the pension reform; the regional floors; among other subjects.



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