



XXI ORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN EDUCATORS CONFEDERATION – AEC

FINAL STATEMENT

Meeting at the University of Panama, Panama City, on November 16, 17, and 18, 2022, the XXI Congress of the American Educators Confederation - CEA, under the motto: "For the UNITY of those who make education possible" declares and resolves:

- 1 - Renew once again its commitment to the defense of free, secular, obligatory, quality, socially referenced public education for our people.
- 2 - Reaffirm its determination to consolidate and protect the civil, political, and union education workers' rights, in particular those related to organization, hiring, collective negotiation, strikes, and public demonstrations.
- 3 - Reaffirm the independence, autonomy, and respect for the political-union diversity of our Confederation, without renouncing its general tactical-strategic objectives established in its statutes.
- 4 - Reaffirm and make visible the necessary political will consistently improve adequate economic investment in public budgets so that public education is of quality and social content, through which to promote access and permanence of all people throughout their lives at all educational levels.
- 5 - Implement incentive and support policies for the union organization of education workers who today are subject to private sector contracts struggling to have a comprehensive and integrating vision and action on the educational issue with the necessary regulation and responsibility of the State.
- 6 – Position the CEA as an example of the unity of action and respect for the diversity of expressions that exist around a common struggle: that education be a right and that its exercise can be guaranteed for each and every person, preventing this becomes – because of the voracity of the market – a simple exchange commodity.
- 7 - Recognizes that despite a weakening of neoliberal ideas and measures during the pandemic recognizes that they have intensified with all their strength and continue to directly affect education, both as public policy and about the rights of education workers, placing the CEA as an entity that articulates and all forms of confrontation with neoliberalism and the excesses and attacks of the market and international organizations of the financial system and imperialism that impose neoliberal measures and agenda on countries.
- 8 - It affirms our concern for the growth of the neo-fascist, neo-colonial, and supremacist right and extreme right that has acted against education, especially against autonomy, freedom of teaching, the defense of science, and secularism. Given this, the

CEA undertakes to always act together with the forces in defense of democracy, creating forums and joint actions of its affiliated entities and their union members to face the growth of ideologies, organizations, and governments with authoritarian orientation.

9 - While our Congress is taking place, COP27 is taking place in Egypt, a Conference that debates the causes and consequences of climate crises. CEA is committed to the debate and construction of all actions that allow us to protect life on the planet and face climate change that is already affecting populations around the world, especially in the poorest countries.

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Finally, to express the most absolute solidarity with education workers currently mobilized in defense of their labor and union rights in our continent and in the rest of the world.

At the same time that we expand our commitment and solidarity with the peoples of the world who today suffer inhuman living conditions – due to the lack of committed leaders – who have not been capable of adequately resolving the serious conflicts that end up resulting in cruel wars in which it is the people who pay the highest price: life itself.

Aggravated in many cases by the lack of implementation of forms of sustainable development, using natural resources in consonance with due respect for human rights and the permanent search for integral human development in line with the needs of a dignified life and for peace.

Panama, November 18, 2022.