

SILVANIA DECLARATION

To the Afro and indigenous movements and communities of Colombia and the rest of the world,
To the defenders of life and territories,
To all organizations, networks, and collectives in solidarity from both the Global South and the Global North,
To autonomous governments and leaders committed to social and climate justice,
To youth, seeds of hope,
To those persecuted or incarcerated for being what they are or for fighting for what they fight for
To those who never give up,
To those whose life was cut short for daring to resist,
To those we miss,

Here we say that one is the word of the day, and another is the word of the night. One is spoken with the voice we safeguard behind our eyes; the other is born from the silence of the earth, from the heat of the fire, from the chest, from the heart. These words are spoken in their own rhythms and ways. They sound according to their own places and moments. But both are shared and woven in our pains, our dreams, and our resistances.

Now, from the spine of the Andes connecting the heart and lungs of the world, from the Cundiboyaca highlands, ancestral Mhuysqua territory of sacred waters and mountains, we bring you our collective voice:

First: Following the path of life traced wince and from the Basel Manifesto of the Global Peoples' Coalition facing Extractivism, we commit ourselves to move toward the eradication of all types of extractivism, and towards the dismantling and radical transformation of the political, corporate, and financial system on which they are based. To this end, we consider it imperative to confront the actors, institutions and mechanisms of a system that today destroys our planet, dispossessing and violating our bodies, communities and territories. This same system perpetuates the physical and cultural extermination of peoples. It appears fundamental to us to struggle collectively for the popular reclaim of credit and the democratic and communal reappropriation of what some call "resources" and that we have been calling for a long time: the land, the water, the wind and the food that we are, care for and cherish.

Second: Our global platform is made of social and environmental defenders from all five continents. It is a platform that walks from the territorial realities of the peoples themselves. Embracing their meanings, it grows from the experience and need of communities in resistance. Its *raison d'être* and its flourishing as a local, national, and international articulation depends on the ability to listen, to accompany and to promote the regeneration of its peoples, communities and territories.

Third: We recognize and support the admirable struggle of the indigenous movements for the protection, defense and care of the knowledge systems and governance structures of indigenous peoples and the call to strengthen our spiritual places and practices here and around the world. Those struggles are also our struggles.

Fourth: We support civil society organizations and popular movements around the world committed to the care and defense of the life of peoples and the planet. Specifically, we support the struggle of the Colombian people who, by taking the streets, are today opening up the possibility of change in the structures of their government. We support the decision of this administration to prioritize the fight against the deforestation of the Amazon and other biodiverse territories, as well as the commitment to support and promote the Fossil Energy Non-Proliferation Treaty to denounce the complicity of financial institutions in environmental devastation and climate catastrophe. We urge others to follow and reinforce this path.

Five: We commit ourselves to weave and strengthen global alliances with those people, organizations, networks, communities, and collectives that converge, from their own places and perspectives, with the path that we are now collectively tracing. As first steps in that direction, we demand the creation of financial regulation measures at both national and international levels to prevent the expansion and perpetuation of

fossil extractivism, and we support demands for the unconditional cancellation of the debts of Global South countries, and for an end to corporate impunity through a binding treaty for transnational corporations and human rights.

Six: We question any type of extractivism, from coal mines and oil wells to critical, rare or strategic minerals, as well as carbon markets with their bonds and off-set assets. We denounce the expansion of the green economy – an economy that today intensifies the commodification of nature and destroys our communities and ecosystems.

Seven: We seek and encourage comprehensive, intergenerational, and intersectional convergence and collaboration with all committed sectors of civil society to push and pressure national governments and their political and financial institutions to guarantee fundamental democratic rights and to stop both hiding and perpetuating the persecution of resistance and the violation of human and environmental rights.

Eight: We defend the self-determination and autonomy of peoples and support the creation of robust legal mechanisms to guarantee the right of communities to free, prior and informed consent, and the Right to Say No to the invasion and destruction of our territories.

Nine: We welcome the possibility of accompanying the generation of alternative proposals from the peoples within the framework of COP 16, and we commit ourselves to organize actions and campaigns of denunciation, pressure and international advocacy facing the G20, in November this year.

Ten: We call all indigenous, Afro and peasant communities affected by extractivism, our elders, all women's movements, organized workers, fisherfolk and dispossessed peoples, committed political leaders, anti-fascist parties and groups, marginalized minorities, unrepresented peoples – nations and communities, scientists, artists, lawyers and all the others committed to embrace this agenda and unite to confront the past and present of colonial extractivism. We urge them to reclaiming credit for the common good, to promote alternatives of subsistence to the National States captured by corporate power, and moving toward democratic transformation, that is, the ultimate replacement of the institutions operating de facto as the heart of transnational capitalism.

For the collective defense of our communities and our territories, for our peoples, for life.

Silvania, Cudinacamarca, Colombia
24/May/2024
Global Peoples' Coalition Against Extractivism

From May 20-24, 2024, the Global Coalition of Peoples facing Extractivism (CGPE) met at the Finca Java Liviana, center of thought of the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC), with the purpose of concretizing a joint agenda of mobilization in the short, medium and long term to confront transnational extractivism and move towards the radical transformation of the political, corporate and financial system that is destroying our planet, our communities, our bodies and our territories.

The CGPE is a collective process formed by a plurality of indigenous movements, civil society organizations, community leaders and social and environmental defenders from more than 30 countries around the world who are fighting for the popular recovery of credit and the defense of life.