

Argentina and the advance of colonialism

Ana Siufi, RSM; Institute Justice Team

We live in a time of growing confusion, denials of truth, manipulations, violence, and neocolonialism in the Western world, and Argentina is a good example of this. In two years of [President] Milei's misgovernment, while repeating in the mainstream media and social networks that they seek freedom, to defend the republic and become a great power, in reality we see repression, dictatorial decisions, the elimination of fundamental rights, the imposition of negative values such as hatred, rejection and violence, the exponential growth of unemployment, inequality, foreign debt, the narco-state and a shameful submission to foreign powers.

Never before has a government – not even the military dictatorship – shown such obedience to Anglo-Zionism by submitting to the orders of the U.S. Treasury, the International Monetary Fund, significant investment funds, J.P. Morgan (which has several former employees as officials in the Ministry of Economy), and the State of Israel.

All those mentioned above give orders to our government intending to impose poor living conditions on the majority, to plunder our gold reserves that have already gone to Great Britain, to facilitate extractivism of our abundant natural resources such as aquifers, oil, gas, lithium, gold, silver, copper, uranium, rare earths... and to authorize the installation of military bases in our territory, which is of significant geostrategic importance.

Meanwhile, the already weak democracy and the rule of law are being erased, as the separation of powers, the health, education and social security systems, science and technology, sources of employment and social assistance to the most vulnerable are systematically destroyed. We wake up every day with bad news of this tsunami that empties and erases essential state institutions and our sovereignty. Behind the propaganda and deceptions in social media with the slogan "FREEDOM ADVANCES" is the truth: "DESTRUCTIVE COLONIALISM ADVANCES".

These days, Trump has threatened that there would be a tremendous economic disaster in the country if Milei did not win the legislative elections. The result was that he won, although with 16% fewer votes than two years ago (down from 56% to 40%), and with low voter turnout.

It is worth asking ourselves: Did people vote out of fear of pressure from Trump and other envoys, out of hatred of Peronism and polarization, out of an *every person for themselves* sentiment, out of belief in the government's promises, out of political ignorance, out of resignation, or out of support for the violent...? It is difficult to analyze, but we know that the triumph will deepen this colonialist policy – which is devastating for the middle and lower social sectors – while officials and the powerful elite will continue to enrich themselves and cynically practice their corruption, which the official narrative seeks to cover up with absurd explanations. At the same time, the opposition, disunited and weak, does not move forward with the impeachment trial that is so just and necessary.

This situation challenges us as a community of Mercy to unite church groups and organizations that denounce injustices and deceit, accompany legitimate protests,

educate about trampled rights by helping to sustain critical thinking, draw strength from spirituality, and honor the national history of struggle for democracy and resistance to foreign oppression.

In these dark times, may the Spirit of Light and Love encourage us to be reborn from the ruins through solidarity, hopeful union, acceptance of those who are different, and care for all life. Amen.