



## **PEOPLE'S HEALTH DEMANDS URGENT MEASURES RIGHT NOW. THERE CAN'T BE ANY EXCUSE.**

***Pandemic figures clearly show that People's Health and Lives ought to be the main goals.***

### **Statement by the Third Plenary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain**

The most up-dated figures related to the development of the pandemic express without doubts the complete failure of the actions performed by the PSOE-UP's government. Its political submission to the capital's interests will lead tens of thousands people to death. The recent Christmas festivities have been marked with a relaxation of the measures linked to the current pandemic of COVID-19. However, this relaxation was not adopted following medical criteria, but those from the capital, and therefore were inserted in the false dichotomy between health and economy imposed by the businessmen. This will bring greater hardships to the currently damages of Public Health Services and more directly to the death of tens of thousands.

Reality comes as hard as it is, and that is why we plainly explain it. But the acceptance of this tragedy not only sinks the whole of society in the hideous depths of a system based on unsupportive egotism and individualism that places above everything the gains of capital, but makes this same society unable to reign over our country's future unless it may be changed from its very roots. This is an absolutely failed social model that, apart from being trapped in the most deep and irreversible structural crisis, is now the only one responsible of the avoidable death of thousands of people in our country and millions all over the world. This demonstrate how impossible a reform is.

The virus knows really well about social classes. In front of it, social classes don't have at their disposal the same defenses, and those overexploited sectors are consequently the most damaged. As it has been clearly shown, the virus also knows about management, and therefore it retreats from those measures that may be efficient against it through the proper social intervention that puts at the disposal of the people the whole of the human, technical and scientific resources. Cuba, Vietnam or China – each country according to its peculiarities – makes a good example of this possibility. On the contrary, Spain doesn't. Figures are clear: 1,074 deaths per million inhabitants;



Cuba: 13 deaths per million; China: 3 deaths per million (source: [datosmacro.com](https://datosmacro.com) at 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020).

The main reason behind the present situation lies on the fact that in our country those conditioning that determine the decisions to be taken concerning the intervention at a health crisis are conditioned by the IBEX-35 (the stock market's main index) and under pressure by what the reaction of the bourgeoisie may be, instead of being determined by reasons linked to the Defense of Public Health. Then, those measures – whatever they may be – are based on very short time criteria that delay the overcome of the crisis, putting forward every possible advance on the vaccination (that has also become a source of business through privatization in all its stages). The ruling class imposes its measures centered in the defense of the interests of key sectors, while sacrificing others, and at the same time taking advantage from the current situation to re-shape the capital flux, to further concentration of wealth, to the modernization of work on technical grounds that may allow them to destroy those jobs they consider superfluous for their interests. In our country, the policies related to health assistance are applied under the directions issued from the CEOE (the main organization of businessmen) as well as by other lobbies. It is the interests of the businessmen what lay behind the decisions taken on what has to be done and what doesn't. And the government headed by PSOE-UP accepts these impositions after brief and useless resistance.

Those who have died and also those ill that are suffering a long process at the hospitals are a direct consequence of this political submission to the capital's dictatorship.

The politicians at its service execute this plan with perfection and without so many regards. This lack of responsibility common to those who managed the Capital has its consequences. Many people will die or will suffer a long and painful process of illness at the hospitals just because the correct measures were not taken in due time.

We want to put in writing to History.

The ideological discourse that turns around individual responsibility tries to hide the way in which the health crisis is being managed and also hides, among other items, the risk of contagion entailed by the displacement to workplaces and the work itself to millions of workers. We stand for disciplined and responsible social behavior performed by the working class as an example of its social responsibility opposed to bourgeoisie individualism. The only freedom the rich are willing to fight for is the freedom of their privileges.



For all items mentioned above, the Central Committee of the PCPE call for the application of the following measures:

1) Immediate government intervention of all existing resources, public and private, to be placed at the disposal of current social needs and for a planned Public Health management against the pandemics; with the subsequent immediate nationalization of all the private healthcare system, including the private and semi-private retirement homes for the elderly. It is not admissible that, meanwhile the capacities of public hospitals are exceeded and people die without access to ICUs or proper assistance, the private health sector holds those much needed resources out unused, waiting for patients who pay for them. Every collaboration agreement between the Public Health system and private companies must come to an end, and the Law 15/1997 must be abolished immediately. Our health is not a business for ghoulish capitalists. No more outsourcing of private health services. All resources must be transferred to the Public Healthcare under an unique political administration.

2) Immediate hiring - without further excuses - of the 1,244 physicians and 5,246 medical assistants who stay unemployed by January 2021. Stabilization of the healthcare workforce, ending precarious contracts. It is not admissible that the primary care continues to lack enough personnel, unorganised, in many cases without physical attention to patients, and without an active community intervention to stop pandemics preventively; while there are thousands of vaccines stored in warehouses and not being administered to the population. After this measure, if it would be required by the severity of the situation, to accept the internationalist aid of the Cuban medical brigades.

3) Lockdown of the population beyond a certain level of incidence, and cease of any activity which is not essential for the reproduction of life, until a reduction in the level of incidence is achieved.

4) Adoption of those economic and social measures which are necessary to guarantee the launch of an Urgent Plan of Social Emergency:

a) Beyond the temporary labour force adjustment plans initiated by the government and the real launch of the minimal vital income, we demand an indefinite compensation for all unemployed workers. Reinforcement of the staff in those organizations in charge of the management of resources and compensations, in particular the Public Service of State Employment (SEPE); recovery of the physical attention in all of them, and with reasonable waiting times. Opening of citizen service modules in the working-class



neighbourhoods, reinforcement of the social services to guarantee full access to these resources and compensations.

b) It is necessary to end with home evictions of persons unable to afford their mortgage loans and/or the payment of their rentals to big owners.

c) No cut off of supplies in the homes of working-class families with unemployed members. Regulation of prices, reversal of privatizations in the management of water, and nationalization of the energy sector companies.

d) We demand public community kitchens in all of the working-class neighbourhoods with largest unemployment levels, with special attention to the childhood. The attention to poverty must not become an opportunity for business for private companies.

e) Expropriation of the entire housing stock belonging to banks, funds, real estate agencies or big owners, to create with them a public stock of social housing for their rental.

f) Reversal of privatizations in the sector of social compensations and aids, guaranteeing a public high-quality management in its broad extension, and avoiding that companies profit from our difficulties.

We make an appeal to the working people to organize ourselves and struggle for our bread and our health, to build a future in which our rights, and even our lives, are not sacrificed for a minority to continue amassing more and more profits.

**Only organised people saves people!**

**10<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020.**