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European Languages وَبِانِي

By Hedelberto López Blanch 05.10.2022

Blocs against unipolarism



Sources: Rebellion

The economic, political and trade blocs that have emerged over the past two decades are putting in check the U.S.-dominated imperial system, which had strengthened after the collapse of the former Soviet Union in late L991.

Maintaining the unipolar regime by any means has been the premise of the leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties, of the US administrations and of the large transnational companies that have benefited for decades from this system of global control.

On 15 June 2001, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was officially established and has been strengthened year after year. It currently has eight permanent members (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), four observer States interested in joining as full members (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia) and six Dialogue Partners (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey).

In the last edition of the SCO held in Uzbekistan from 16 to 18 September this year, it was approved that Iran and Belarus would become effective members.

Today, this organization is made up of half of the world's population and accounts for 20% of the global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while its members adhere to the "Shanghai Spirit" that is based on mutual trust and benefit, respect for diversity and common development.

Likewise, its members and observers collectively hold a quarter of the world's proven oil reserves, about 50% of the natural gas reserves, and in its current configuration, four nuclear-weapon countries interact, two of which (Russia and China) have permanent seats on the UN Security Council.

Another bloc that is gaining strength every day is the BRICS, made up of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, and to which Argentina and Iran have asked to enter, which will almost certainly be accepted.

During the XIV Summit of the group, held recently in Beijing, it was agreed to strengthen and expand a multipolar world that facilitates the progress of emerging economies, as well as to increase the participation of more countries within them and explore the creation of a single currency.

These rapidly developing countries form an informal intergovernmental economic-trade partnership aimed at strengthening multilateral cooperation.

Since its inception 14 years ago, they have overcome challenges and moved forward with determination to open a successful course of mutual support and win-win cooperation.

Chinese President Xi Jinping during his speech at the event stressed that the group's main efforts are the need for the broadest solidarity, safeguarding world peace and tranquility.

As the five countries have considerable political, economic, scientific, technological and human potential, and at the same time have deepened cooperation on the full range of issues on the global and regional agenda, each year their authority and influence on the global stage is steadily increasing.

Data from the World Bank indicate that the members of the bloc represent worldwide, 43% of the planet's population, 25% of the world's Gross Domestic Product, more than 18% of global trade and 28% of territorial extension.

At that XIV Summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin reported that his nations are exploring the creation of an international reserve currency based on a basket composed of reals, rubles, rupees, yuan and rand, as an effort to develop an alternative to international agreements dominated by the US dollar.

The Russian president explained that it will be a decisive monetary step to change the world leadership and unlock a new wave of economic development with a diversity of transactions.

Another group that advances in the opposite direction to the demands that the United States and the West try to impose on the nations of the world, is the International Economic Forum of St. Petersburg that in its XXV meeting held in that city of Russia, had the participation of 14,000 people from 130 countries. During the meeting, agreements were signed for 5.6 trillion rubles, equivalent to 98 billion dollars.

The organizing committee of the event reported that 691 deals worth 5.639 trillion rubles were signed, but only announced those that do not represent a trade secret in anticipation that Western extortion will not fall on them.

Both Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin have reaffirmed in those meetings that the "era of the unipolar world order has ended despite all attempts to preserve it by any means."

The moral is that while the United States and the European Union wear themselves out in applying "sanctions" against nations that do not follow their dictates, other regional mechanisms advance development, economic integration and trade programs, for the benefit of their members.

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Rebelion 04.10.2022