

# GZ.I Galiza International



## Introduction

Since its very foundation in 1982, as a nationalist organisation the BNG has upheld the right of all peoples to freely exercise their right to self-determination in order to advance along the path to social emancipation

based on mutual respect between peoples. The BNG therefore also declares itself anti-imperialist and internationalist.

In its political principles, the BNG defines itself as a pacifist organisation, placing the defence of world peace, disarmament and the dissolution of aggressive military blocs as a priority and championing the peaceful and democratic resolution of international conflicts.

In the current context marked by the emergence of a new world order with US imperialism lashing out in reaction to its loss of dominance in

the face of an increasingly multipolar world characterised by the defence of national sovereignty, international solidarity is more important than ever to combat the global upsurge of the conservative ultra-right that threatens to strip away the hard-won gains conquered by the peoples throughout history.

Spreading our internationalist work and knowledge about the ongoing struggles and the victories achieved in our country contributes to strengthening the bonds of solidarity based on mutual knowledge, respect and support.

## GALIZA

### An intense electoral year: Galizan nationalism on the rise

The last year was especially intense electorally. First, the excellent score at the local elections, enabling the BNG to increase the number of nationalist joint governments and mayors, including the capital Santiago de Compostela and the city of Pontevedra. Followed by the re-election of Néstor Rego as an MP in the Spanish Parliament and the appointment of Carme da Silva as Senator. Then the historic Galizan elections when one in three Galizans placed their trust in the BNG, with a rise from 19 to 25 MPs. The elections came to a close with the re-election of the MEP Ana Miranda. As the National Spokeswoman, Ana Pontón, stated during her Galizan National Day address, the BNG is a force on the rise, without limits, and has already confirmed its leading position in terms of its social and political impact and as the only organisation that defends the interests of Galiza and will continue to make history,



defending the interests of the Galizan people both on the streets and in the institutions.

For more details, see the election specials:



## We refuse to be a colony!

Galiza is undergoing a renewed offensive involving the pillage of our natural and energy resources. This onslaught is clearly colonial in nature, carried out for the benefit of Madrid and brazenly facilitated by the subservient Galizan government ruled by the People's Party that effectively acts as a middle-man greasing the path for large multinationals.

The setting up of large-scale onshore and now also offshore wind-farms, the plans by the Altri-Greenalia conglomerate to set up a huge paper mill in the Ulloa area and the threat of reopening the mine in Touro and O Pino are just some examples of this colonial exploitation.



Just as the Galizan people halted plans for a nuclear power plant in Xove in the eighties and more recently the copper mine in Touro (now with a new threat of reopening) and the gold mine in Corcoeste, we are on permanent

alert to react to any new projects that threaten the environmental and socioeconomic interests of Galiza.

## Huge Turnout on Galizan National Day

Thousands of Galizans thronged the streets of the capital, Santiago de Compostela, in a concrete show of the slogan chosen for this year's National Day demonstration 'The strength of this country', the first to be held after the BNG's historic election results, coinciding with the 40th anniversary of the return of the final rally to the Central Quintana Square won by force after a long ban.

The more than 20,000 people who filled the square eagerly applauded the words of the General Secretary of Galiza Nova, Marta Gómez, and the National Spokeswoman for the BNG, Ana Pontón, in a clear demonstration that the BNG is a force on the rise without limits. We were accompanied on this

special day by international delegates from the European Free Alliance, Més per Mallorca, Més per Menorca (Balearic Islands), the Breton Democratic Union and War-Sav (Brittany), the Communist Party of Brazil and the Workers' Party (Brazil), Ahora Canarias (Canary Islands), Popular Unity Candidacy (CUP), Communists of Catalonia (ERC), Together for Catalonia (Junts) and Free People (PL) (Catalonia), the Peoples' Democratic Party (Kurdistan), Alternativa, EH Bildu, Eusko Alkartasuna and the Basque Nationalist Party (Basque Country), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (Palestine), the Left Bloc and the Portuguese Communist Party (Portugal), the Fronte Polisario (Western Sahara), the Com-

munist Party of Uruguay (Uruguay) and Més-Compromís (Valencia), together with the Consuls of the Republic of Cuba and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.



The celebrations were rounded off with the traditional Festigal, the popular showcase for Galizan music, culture and nationalist ideas jointly organised by the Galiza Sempre Foundation and the BNG's youth organisation, Galiza Nova, made possible every year thanks to the selfless commitment of hundreds of activists and sympathisers. The talks that took place throughout the afternoon included the presentation of a book by Galizan artists dedicated to showing solidarity between the Galizan and Palestinian peoples and a round-table analysing the keys to understanding the advance of the far-right in Europe moderated by the MEP for the BNG, Ana Miranda, with the participation of Pierre Imbert for the UDB and Miguel Urbán, author of a book on neoliberal authoritarianism and the far-right







## In Galiza in Galizan!

Our commitment to the defence of our linguistic rights is integral to the BNG, which took part with its own banner in the national demonstration called by the *Queremos Galego!* ['We want/love Galizan!'] platform on 17 May to mark Galiza language Day with the slogan 'Living Galizan, Living Galiza'. Thousands of people filled the streets of the capital in a peaceful and festive show of their love for our language and to demand respect for our linguistic rights in the face of the unremitting attacks by a Galizan government that does not hesitate to systematically flout legal provisions in a concerted effort to impose its pro-Spanish agenda and to deny our identity as a people with a language of its own. We will never give up the fight for our language because, in the words of the National Spokeswoman: "Our pride in having a language of our own is what enables us to speak out in the world with our own voice"

## Galiza National Football Team Now!

In general, sport plays a key role in the social life of any people, even more so in the case of football owing to its wide appeal. Beyond its purely sporting value, just like any other social phenomenon, sport also has an inevitably political component due to the huge symbolic importance of having a national team that competes

on an equal footing with other nations of the world. This is why the BNG supports the campaign run by the *Vía Galega* platform, helping to spread the petition in favour of a Galiza national team and participating in the massive demonstration that lined the streets of the main city of Vigo on 31 May coinciding with the match between



## The CIG confirmed as the leading trade union in Galiza

The nationalist trade-union, the Galizan Inter-Union Confederation (CIG), secured its place at the top of the recent elections in terms of number of shop-floor delegates totalling 5,131 with an overall score of 31.05%, an increase of 589 delegates and 1.59% compared to 4 years ago. The CIG, which practices a staunch, combative and non-pacting trade unionism, has also increased its lead with respect to the Spanish unions.

The BNG hails these results for the union which a fundamental tool for our working class, which also leads the way in Galiza in terms of its membership and its capacity for social mobilisation.



Panama and the Galizan *Irmandiña* squad, returning to the Balaídos stadium after an eight-year break. The BNG will continue to demand Galizan national teams on a par with any other country to compete in all international events.



## From the River to the Sea, Palestine will be Free!

The BNG maintains its unwavering historical support for the cause of national liberation of the Palestinian people, denouncing the on-going genocide at the hands of the illegitimate Zionist regime of Israel that began 76 years ago. "How many more deaths do we need before they put an end to the genocide? What more has to happen before Europe stops siding with the USA, NATO and the criminal state of Israel?", asked the National Spokeswoman in her address on Galizian National Day. The BNG has actively taken part in the rallies and other demonstrations throughout Galiza, holding talks and presenting motions in local councils and in the Spanish and European Parliaments. In February, the MEP, Ana Miranda, travelled to the Rafah crossing to denounce the genocide of the Palestinian people with the complicity of the West and the European Union and to demand an immediate ceasefire. And the member of the National Executive, Bieito Lobeira, set sail on the Handala from A Coruña as part of the Freedom Flotilla organized by Rumbo a Gaza [Bound for Gaza], whose crew was received by the Vice-president of the Galizian Parliament and MP for the BNG, Montse Prado.

## In Brief

Once again, representatives of the BNG took part in the annual Catalan and Basque National Day celebrations, as well as in the Convention of the Left Bloc (Portugal), Sinn Féin's *Ardfheis* and the international conference Paths to independence in Europe 2024: Recovering identity, becoming a nation, organised by Trinacria (Sicily).

We also sent message of solidarity to the Kanak people in the face of the brutal colonial repression they are suffering at the hands of French colonialism. The BNG congratulated Tāvini Huira atira for its magnificent results at the polls in Polynesia, as well as Plaid Cymru (Wales) and Sinn Féin (Ireland) for their results in the recent Westminster elections.

## Solidarity with the Saharawi People

Last July, the MP for the BNG and Vice-president of the Galizian Parliament, Montse Prado, took part in a Galizian delegation that visited the Saharawi camps in Tindouf in order to finalise arrangements for over 300 children to come to Galiza as part of the Holidays in Peace programme to escape the harsh conditions and temperatures that reach over 50°C in the summer in the camps. The Saharawi authorities, led by the President of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Brahim Ghali, gave an official reception for the Galizian delegation, thanking them for our people's commitment to the cause of independence and the right to build a state in their own territory.



## Elections in Venezuela

In July, together with observers from 107 countries and 5 continents the President of the Galiza Sempre Foundation, Rubén Cela, and the Vice-president of the Galizian Parliament, Montse Prado, both members of the BNG National Executive, took part in the International Meeting on the eve of the presidential elections in Venezuela, when what was at stake was not just the election of the country's President, but a contest between two radically different approaches to domestic and foreign policy, with the fight to defend sovereignty and multipolarity competing with imperialism and foreign interference.

### Webs:



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