



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for April 1st

17 Mar - Mumia Greets Noted Panther Artist Emory Douglas

Please read the transcript of Mumia Abu-Jamal's latest commentary.

MORE:

via *Prison Radio*

Hey brother, I remember you with sheer joy because every time I saw you there was a smile on your face, you were chewing bubble gum like it was going out of style, and you were either working to create a piece of art or working to reproduce it so it could be put on the cover of probably the most famous revolutionary newspaper of the 1960s: The Black Panther. You were a marvel then. You are a marvel now. And I remember you with such warmth when I worked at national [Black Panther headquarters]. You were one of my heroes as an artist, as a cultural figure, and I thank you for being Emory Douglas, and I appreciate you, and I admire you, and I love you. This is Mumia Abu-Jamal.

17 Mar - Donate to Cara & Celeste's Fundraiser

It's been a little while since we have written about Cara & Celeste, who were arrested and accused of a mink liberation.

MORE:

via *UNOFFENSIVE ANIMAL*

We don't have updates about the case but would like to remind folks of their legal fundraiser, which is still stuck at 16k when they are needing to raise 75k USD.

Please, if you are reading this, send what you can afford to the fundraiser.

If that is 1 USD, that is better than nothing. If it is 100, that is equally as awesome!

Maybe it'd be cool to organize a fundraising event locally with other anarchist and animal rights folks? A fundraising diner, or a gig, or whatever other event that will help raise awareness and funds! If you are organizing anything, we will be very happy to promote it so hit us up!

It is important to remember that c&c have not been convicted for this crime, but that as a movement we are responsible for the wellbeing of all of us, and that includes ensuring that anyone who is facing the court system knows we have their backs!

If you can't afford donating, and you can't organize a fundraiser, it would be awesome if you can share this post far and wide so others read it, collective self-defense will take us far! Donate here:

phillyabc.org/northumberland-2

March 18th - Court date scheduled!

Cara and Celeste have finally been scheduled for court on April 21. At the hearing, the defense will present an omnibus motion. This motion argues that the state has insufficient evidence to continue the case, including and especially the serious charges of RICO and ecoterrorism.

Supporters are invited to pack the court in person! If you attend, please respect court rules and decorum. Download and share the court support flyer from the Media Kit page.

17 Mar - Why Mahmoud?: Ransom and Retribution

MORE:

by Lake Effect Collective (*It's Going Down*)

Mahmoud Khalil, a participant in Columbia's path-breaking Palestine solidarity encampment, has been abducted from his home, labeled a "national security threat," detained and shipped to Louisiana pending deportation. This abduction and its justification distill four years of state responses to the movements to defend the Weelaunee forest and to end the genocide in Palestine. Under the new administration in particular, the Department of Justice has made terrorism charges against cartels and gangs, as well as RICO-charge recipients, their fast-tracked priority, with the stated goal of "total elimination." Samidoun, the cartels, and the forest defenders are all grouped together as internal enemies of the Trump administration's new American experiment.

Some may be inclined to ask: why Mahmoud? We believe the answer is self-evident. A protestor, a graduate student at an elite East Coast school, an immigrant, a Muslim with an Arab-sounding name: hurting Mahmoud Khalil is the perfect way for the new administration to appease its various component parts. He is both the spectre and its sacrifice. This is why the sympathetic media's references to his legal status and his marriage to a pregnant citizen are so clearly toothless. They invoke the same nationalist, islamophobic common sense whose institutional backers – from racist college professors to the President – engineered Mahmoud's detention.

The highest levels of the federal government ordered Mahmoud's deportation at the request of far-right Zionist 'watchdog' organizations, and with the tacit support of Columbia's administration. Regardless of its legality, its effects are clear: the Trump administration gets to leverage Bush-era Islamophobia without having to mention Islam outright, and invites self-styled Good American Citizens to help secure the nation against its enemies.

In the right-wing imagination, Mahmoud Khalil stands in for an urban, college-educated and tenuously-multiracial middle class, at odds with American foreign policy, loyal to foreign interests, and stubbornly opposed to the new administration's attack on the last dregs of the Reconstruction state. This is the bizarre political moment in which the President can order a Palestinian radical's detention one day and call Chuck Schumer a Palestinian the next. These acts seem ridiculous to us, but they're clear to their addressees: on the one hand, vengeance for the humiliation of pulling out of Afghanistan and of watching privileged college students run around American campuses with scarves on their heads; on the other, an escalation of the attack on economically-unproductive sectors of higher education.

Meanwhile the Democrats "expect the Department of Justice to work within the confines of the law and that due process is guaranteed." Their references to Mahmoud's abduction employ the same racist caricatures as their Republican colleagues, while pausing to note Mahmoud as an exception: he was always well-behaved, he did everything right, he never wore a mask, his citizen wife is eight months pregnant... These appeals to right-wing common sense are a stupid compromise made under pressure, but they won't reverse the crisis of legitimacy that lost the Democrats millions of votes in 2024.

While the Trump administration promises "many more of these arrests to come," before we take them at their word or presume the existence of some clear-headed surgical plan, it's worth considering whether they've stumbled into an extrajudicial measure they may not be ready to defend. The ICE agents who broke into Mahmoud's apartment initially believed he had a student visa, plodding ahead and following orders regardless once they learned he had a green card. We suspect this is a blunder.

Time and time again we've watched attempts at repression punch above their weight and invite unforeseen, catastrophic consequences. As we write this, the District Attorney's pursuit of RICO and domestic terror charges against Cop City protestors is languishing amidst a corruption scandal, while support for the arrestees and opposition to policing infrastructure has spread across the country. 2017's inauguration-day mass arrests, the President's bumbling attempt to suppress Portland's 2020 insurgency by disappearing

militants into unmarked vans, and Tom Homan's premature efforts at made-for-TV arrests in Chicago all overextended the state's legal apparatus. Mahmoud Khalil's abduction could do the same.

Without our participation, the way forward is an unchecked downward spiral, as the Democrats' retreats into the rule of law absolve them of responsibility for its suspension, and the right is emboldened to employ counterterror techniques against any political activity that challenges their aims. But these tactical blunders also provide opportunities for us to turn this administration's mistakes into real crises, and to help a movement against this state and its rule of law emerge.

March 18th - 'I am a political prisoner': Mahmoud Khalil says he's being targeted for political beliefs
by Anna Betts (*The Guardian*)

In his first public remarks since being detained by federal immigration authorities, Palestinian activist and recent Columbia graduate, Mahmoud Khalil, spoke out against the conditions facing immigrants in US detention and said he was being targeted by the Trump administration for his political beliefs.

"I am a political prisoner," he said in a statement provided exclusively to the *Guardian*. "I am writing to you from a detention facility in Louisiana where I wake to cold mornings and spend long days bearing witness to the quiet injustices underway against a great many people precluded from the protections of the law."

Khalil, a permanent US resident who helped lead Columbia University's pro-Palestinian protests last spring, was arrested and detained in New York on 8 March by federal immigration authorities who reportedly said that they were acting on a state department order to revoke his green card.

The Trump administration, he said, "is targeting me as part of a broader strategy to suppress dissent" warning that "visa-holders, green-card carriers and citizens alike will all be targeted for their political beliefs."

The statement, which Khalil dictated to his friends and family over the phone from an Ice detention facility in Jena, Louisiana, railed against the US's treatment of immigrants in its custody, Israel's renewed bombardment of the Gaza Strip, US foreign policy, and what he described as Columbia University's surrender to federal pressure to punish students.

"My arrest was a direct consequence of exercising my right to free speech as I advocated for a free Palestine and an end to the genocide in Gaza, which resumed in full force Monday night," the statement said. "With January's ceasefire now broken, parents in Gaza are once again cradling too-small shrouds, and families are forced to weigh starvation and displacement against bombs. It is our moral imperative to persist in the struggle for their complete freedom."

Khalil described his arrest at his university-owned apartment building in New York in front of his wife, Noor Abdalla, who is eight months pregnant with their first child. The agents who arrested him "refused to provide a warrant" before forcing him into an unmarked car, he said.

"At that moment, my only concern was for Noor's safety," he said. "I had no idea if she would be taken too, since the agents had threatened to arrest her for not leaving my side."

He was then transferred to an Ice facility in New Jersey before being flown 1,400 miles away to the Louisiana detention facility, where he is currently being held. He spent his first night in detention, he said, sleeping on the floor without a blanket.

In his remarks, Khalil said that in Louisiana, he wakes to "cold mornings" and spends "long days bearing witness to the quiet injustices underway against a great many people precluded from the protections of the law".

"Who has the right to have rights?" Khalil asked. "It is certainly not the humans crowded into the cells here. It isn't the Senegalese man I met who has been deprived of his liberty for a year, his legal situation in limbo and his family an ocean away. It isn't the 21-year-old detainee I met, who stepped foot in this country at age nine, only to be deported without so much as a hearing."

"Justice escapes the contours of this nation's immigration facilities," he added.

Khalil drew comparison between his current treatment in the US and the ways in which he said the Israeli government uses detention without trial to lock up Palestinians.

"I was born in a Palestinian refugee camp in Syria to a family which has been displaced from their land since the 1948 Nakba," he added, referring to the expulsion of 700,000 Palestinians in 1948 after the creation of Israel.

"I spent my youth in proximity to yet distant from my homeland. But being Palestinian is an experience that transcends borders. I see in my circumstances similarities to Israel's use of administrative detention – imprisonment without trial or charge – to strip Palestinians of their rights," he said.

"I think of Gaza hospital director and pediatrician Dr Hussam Abu Safiya, who was taken captive by the Israeli military on December 27 and remains in an Israeli torture camp today. For Palestinians, imprisonment without due process is commonplace."

Khalil's arrest ignited protests and caused alarm among free expression advocates, who view the deportation attempt as a violation of his free speech rights. Khalil has not been accused of a crime. His lawyers argue that the Trump administration is unlawfully retaliating against him for his activism and constitutionally protected speech. In an amended petition filed last week, they contended that his detention violates his constitutional rights, including the rights to free speech and due process, and goes beyond the government's legal authority.

His attorneys are currently fighting in a New York court to have him transferred back to New York and to secure his release. A federal judge has blocked Khalil's deportation while the legal challenge is pending.

Throughout Donald Trump's presidential campaign and since assuming office, Trump has repeatedly pledged to deport foreign students involved in pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses, frequently framing such demonstrations as expressions of support for Hamas.

Khalil, who has worked for the British embassy in Beirut, served as a lead negotiator for the Gaza solidarity encampment at Columbia University last year, mediating between the pro-Palestine protesters and university administrators.

The Trump administration has accused the former student of leading "activities aligned to Hamas" and was attempting to deport him using a rarely invoked legal provision from the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, which gives the US secretary of state the power to remove someone from the US if their presence in the country is deemed to "have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States".

Federal prosecutors are asking the New York court to order his challenge to his detention moved to Louisiana, where it would likely face more conservative judges.

Diala Shamas, a senior staff attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights and member of Khalil's legal team, said that what happens to Khalil will reverberate beyond his case. "The Trump administration has clearly signaled that this is their test case, their opening shot, the first of many more to come," she said.

"And for that test case, they chose an intrepid and deeply principled organizer who is beloved and trusted in his community," Shamas said.

After Khalil's arrest, Trump said that it was just "the first of many to come" and vowed on social media to deport other foreign students he accused of engaging in "pro-terrorist, antisemitic, anti-American activity".

Khalil said in his statement that he has always believed that his duty "is not only to liberate myself from the oppressor, but also to liberate my oppressors from their hatred and fear".

"My unjust detention is indicative of the anti-Palestinian racism that both the Biden and Trump administrations have demonstrated over the past 16 months as the US has continued to supply Israel with weapons to kill Palestinians and prevented international intervention" he said. "For decades, anti-Palestinian racism has driven efforts to expand US laws and practices that are used to violently repress Palestinians, Arab Americans, and other communities."

He added: "That is precisely why I am being targeted."

Khalil also criticized Columbia University, arguing that university leaders "laid the groundwork for the US government to target me by arbitrarily disciplining pro-Palestinian students and allowing viral doxing campaigns – based on racism and disinformation – to go unchecked."

The university has increasingly taken disciplinary actions against students who participated in pro-Palestinian protests. Meanwhile, the Trump administration is stepping up its attacks on the school under the guise of fighting antisemitism, which it claims run rampant at the university. The administration is using the same argument to threaten dozens of others American universities with potentially crippling funding cuts.

Students, Khalil said, have an important role to play in fighting back. "Students have long been at the forefront of change – leading the charge against the Vietnam War, standing on the frontlines of the civil rights movement, and driving the struggle against apartheid in South Africa," he said.

"In the weeks ahead, students, advocates, and elected officials must unite to defend the right to protest for Palestine. At stake are not just our voices, but the fundamental civil liberties of all."

He concluded: "Knowing fully that this moment transcends my individual circumstances, I hope nonetheless to be free to witness the birth of my first-born child."

18 Mar - 18-year-old anarchist Lyubov Lizunova transferred to prison in Tomsk

Russia: On February 14, Lyubov Lizunova, a defendant in the Chita Anarchists' Case, was taken out of Pre-Trial Detention Center No. 1 in Chita in the Russian Far East and, after a three-week transfer, arrived at the juvenile correctional colony in Tomsk.

MORE:

TVK-2 is currently the only prison colony for underage girls. By law, inmates can be held there until the age of 19.

During the transfer, Lyuba read a lot, interacted with fellow travelers, and recited her poems from memory, which many of them liked. According to her parents, one of the guards had long conversations with her, read about her on the internet, asked her to read her poems, and even cried when she did.

From Chita to Mariinsk, Lizunova was transported in a "Stolypin" train car, and from Mariinsk to Tomsk in a prison van. The conditions were not the best, but Lyuba remained positive, finding good even in such a

journey. She was glad to see the beauty of Lake Baikal, forests, and fields — even if just through the window of the train car.

Currently, Lyubov is in quarantine. With some free time on her hands, she draws a lot and reads Jane Austen and Charlotte Brontë. Despite her surroundings, she tries to stay strong and not lose hope.

In April 2024, then 17-year-old Lyubov Lizunova and 20-year-old Alexander Snezhkov were sentenced to prison terms for graffiti reading "Death to the Regime" and for administering anarchist Telegram channels. Lizunova was sentenced to 3.5 years in prison, and Snezhkov to 6 years (his sentence was later reduced by 2 months). Support the anarchist in her new prison — write her a letter!

18 Mar - DOJ Seeks Five-Year Minimum Sentences for Tesla Property Damage

Federal prosecutors have filed charges against at least three people for allegedly damaging Tesla property.

MORE:

by Ethan Corey and Meg O'Connor (*The Appeal*)

Attorney General Pamela Bondi announced on Tuesday that the Department of Justice has filed charges against people who allegedly damaged Tesla property. Tesla is Elon Musk's car company.

The DOJ did not immediately respond to requests for further information. Bondi did not say how many people had been charged or what they had been charged with.

"The swarm of violent attacks on Tesla property is nothing short of domestic terrorism," Bondi said in a press release. "The Department of Justice has already charged several perpetrators with that in mind, including in cases that involve charges with five-year mandatory minimum sentences."

Federal court records show that U.S. Attorneys in Colorado, South Carolina, and Oregon have filed charges for malicious destruction of property against three people arrested for allegedly damaging Tesla property in separate cases.

In Colorado, a woman allegedly sprayed graffiti on a Tesla dealership sign before attempting to use a Molotov cocktail to burn a Cybertruck in February. In South Carolina, a man allegedly spray-painted anti-Trump slogans and unsuccessfully attempted to light a Tesla charger on fire on March 7. If convicted, both face between five and 20 years in federal prison.

In Oregon, court records show that federal prosecutors charged a man with possession of an unregistered explosive device, which carries a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison. The complaint alleges that the man shot empty vehicles at a Tesla dealership in Salem, Oregon, and threw Molotov cocktails into the dealership lot in two separate incidents in January and February.

None of the incidents involved deaths or injuries. According to the *Guardian*, federal agents are investigating separate vandalism incidents in Nevada, Oregon, and Missouri.

Bondi said the DOJ will impose "severe consequences" on those involved.

Last week, President Donald Trump held an unusual press conference at the White House promoting Tesla vehicles in a bid to boost the company's plummeting stocks. Musk is Trump's biggest individual donor.

At that press conference, Trump pledged to charge Tesla protesters as "domestic terrorists."

"We're going to catch them," Trump said. "You do it to Tesla and you do it to any company, we're going to catch you and you're going to go through hell."

Protesters have gathered across the country in recent weeks to decry Musk's role in Washington, where he leads the Department of Government Efficiency. Musk's department has fired thousands of federal workers, ended social security for some elderly Americans, and cut U.S. aid programs, including one that provides children with H.I.V. with lifesaving medical care.

The "Tesla Takedown" movement describes itself as a peaceful protest movement aimed at demonstrating outside Tesla dealerships to "stop Musk's illegal coup." The movement says it opposes violence, vandalism, and the destruction of property. None of the persons facing federal charges have documented connections to the "Tesla Takedown" movement.

19 Mar - Until the end of the sentence - Why we came here

Greece: Received via email, written by Nikos Maziotis.

MORE:

Some time ago (26/2/2025), as I had published the text «Revolutionaries are not "corrected" nor "morally improved"»*, the Lamia Misdemeanor Council had rejected my request for conditional release for the umpteenth time. As I had also said, the fact that I will now serve my entire sentence, all 5/5, is the result of the general tightening, the last time, of penal and "penitentiary" repression, which in turn is a consequence of a long chain of socio-political evolution starting from the defeat of the social and popular uprising against the memoranda in 2010-2012. The retreat of social struggles and results in the state totalitarianism we live in today. However, I believe that part of this development towards the worst is the political defeat of the "movements" and resistance spaces that refused during the period of the anti-memorandum uprising in 2010-2012 to have a catalytic role and raise the issue of a subversive and revolutionary attempt at the time.

I will have to go back in history to understand what I mean. This retrospective has to do with the history of the Revolutionary Struggle, the context in which it acted, its proposals and the criminal treatment it has had throughout this period until today.

From 2003 to 2017, Revolutionary Struggle —the organization I was part of— was the greatest internal security threat to the regime in Greece, to the State, and to Capital. The history of the organization is placed within a specific historical context of socio-political conditions that were characterized, on the one hand, by the period of the rise of globalization, the dominance of neoliberalism and, at the same time, the existence of the war on "terrorism", within a period where there was euphoria about the omnipotence of the system, and, on the other hand, by the period of the onset of the global economic crisis from 2008 onwards, which dramatically affected Greece. Within this historical context, the Revolutionary Struggle, after the uprising of December 2008, raised the issue of a revolutionary attempt in Greece in the favorable conditions for it, which were characterized by the debt crisis, bankruptcy, the political crisis of the representative system and the general delegitimization of the political-economic system in the eyes of the social majority due to the policies to address the crisis and the memorandum programs, the imposition of which the Revolutionary Struggle had predicted in 2009 when it had carried out the attack on the Athens Stock Exchange in September 2009. Revolutionary Struggle had already spoken about the risk of national bankruptcy in the event of a global financial crisis when it carried out an attack on the Ministry of Labor in 2005. With the perspective that the crisis presented a unique opportunity, the organization, through its campaign of attacks in 2009—including armed attacks on riot police (MAT) after the murder of Alexis Grigoropoulos, as well as bombings against Citibank, Eurobank, and the Athens Stock Exchange— proposed to the movement and resistance groups the creation of a revolutionary movement with armed struggle as one of its goals. The aim was to seize the opportunity at the right moment to overthrow the government and the state-capitalist system.

That opportune moment could have been the repeated sieges of Parliament by thousands of people during 2010-2012, where such a mass revolutionary movement could have hypothetically assisted in occupying

Parliament and subsequently taking over all centers of political and economic power (ministries, banks, the Bank of Greece, etc.), leading to the collapse of the then-government of George Papandreou, the annulment of Greece's submission to the IMF, ECB, and EU programs, and paving the way for a revolutionary attempt in Greece for the benefit of the people.

A revolutionary attempt, as Revolutionary Struggle advocated, would have led to the expropriation of capitalist and state property and means of production by the people and the working class, their socialization, and their management by the people themselves —through communities, popular assemblies, and workers' councils, following the examples of past revolutions, such as the Paris Commune of 1871, the Russian Revolution of 1917-1921, and the Spanish Revolution of 1936-1939.

In 2009, Revolutionary Struggle spoke of establishing an Athenian Commune. However, just as the organization was unfolding its campaign to sabotage Greece's submission to the bailout program, at the most critical moment, comrade Lambros Foundas was killed in a shootout with the police on March 10, 2010, during a preparatory action of the organization (seizing a vehicle) that was to be used in a large-scale attack. His death led to our first arrests on April 10, 2010.

After our arrests, in a Political Letter to Society, we took political responsibility for our participation in Revolutionary Struggle and clarified that Lambros Foundas was a member of the organization, defending his actions and the organization's struggle. Lambros Foundas was killed to prevent the bailout programs, which Revolutionary Struggle correctly identified as a policy of social genocide and euthanasia of sections of the population.

The governance of Syriza marked the final burial of reformism and the idea of alternative capitalist management. It erased the last illusion that any left-wing party could hold power today without transforming into a neoliberal force. This is why those within movements and resistance spaces who supported Syriza, believing it would resist the creditors, lead Greece out of the Eurozone, and create opportunities for struggle, were at best naive.

Revolutionary Struggle has always maintained —whether active in the field, in prison, or underground—that **THE ONLY ANSWER TO THE CRISIS IS SOCIAL REVOLUTION.**

This position of the Revolutionary Struggle was based on the analysis that the organization had before the imposition of the 1st memorandum, according to which the dominant role in the global system is played by the markets that have imposed their dictatorship. Thus, alternative avenues for the system in the current form of capitalism, such as the social-democratic (Keynesian) model that prevailed from the end of World War II until the 1980s, have gone bankrupt. So, the memoranda were a one-way street for the system and the historical dilemma of the time was a Memorandum or a Revolution.

The Loan Agreements, the well-known memoranda, represent a profound turning point in modern Greek history. They essentially marked the end of the post-dictatorship era, the end of social consent to the capitalist system and representative pseudo-democracy, and the end of the illusion that capitalism brings prosperity. The memoranda are a form of serfdom or slavery for the Greek people, who from now on will live to pay off the overwhelming and unbearable debt, for which they are not responsible, but the political and economic elite of the country. This debt is impossible to repay or drastically reduce. Therefore, the austerity and impoverishment policies—essentially policies of robbery and plundering of the Greek people—will be a permanent and ongoing condition. This proves the lie of the governments about the end of the memoranda. The memoranda are not simply the loans granted by international organizations to the Greek state, which ended in 2018, but a set of conditions and terms that dictate these policies of constant austerity and impoverishment of the Greek people so that the debt can be paid. And as long as the debt exists—which it will forever—these policies will persist, imposing austerity, degrading social infrastructures, compressing labor costs, and selling off public assets that were mortgaged according to the first memorandum agreement of 2010 for the granting of the loans.

Furthermore, the memoranda signified the ongoing crisis and decline of the representative political system, as it no longer matters what the people vote for every four years or which party is in power. The policies implemented by Greek governments, regardless of the party and ideological origin, are dictated by the decision-making centers of the international state-capitalist power bloc: the EU in Brussels, the IMF, the ECB in Frankfurt, NATO, the US, the G7, or the G8.

Greece and the greek state are a colony of the international power system, which imposes a permanent regime of dependence and subjugation. The memoranda are a monstrous social crime, the greatest in modern Greek history. They are responsible for thousands of deaths—murders—due to austerity, impoverishment, lack of healthcare, suicides, while the degradation of social infrastructures is also the cause of massive social crimes—not accidents—such as the Tempe disaster two years ago and the Mati fire in 2018.

And the culprits for the memoranda are the state itself, the executive and legislative branches, all those who voted for it, whose main interest is to pay the debt to the bosses of the transnational elite and enrich themselves. Just as guilty are the country's own economic elite but also the "independent" judges who declared them "legal" and "constitutional" while they are illegal and unconstitutional that violate all legally guaranteed human rights.

When the Revolutionary Struggle carried out the attack on the Bank of Greece and the IMF in 2014, and comrade Roupa attempted the helicopter hijacking for my escape in 2016 from Korydallos prison, the conditions had changed dramatically. The defeat of the social uprising of 2010-2012, coupled with the loss of the unique opportunity for a revolutionary attempt in the country, is the cause of the social deadlock we face today at every level. After the regime overcame the obstacle of the 2010-2012 uprising, it can now impose any policy with almost no resistance and with relative ease, regardless of which government is in power. This also affects the way criminal repression is carried out and how the Revolutionary Struggle has been treated since 2014, as well as some other political prisoners, but not all. Throughout history, criminal and “correctional” repression is first applied on political prisoners and opponents of the system and then extended to the rest of the criminal prisoners. For example, I was the first prisoner, and in a state of injury and disability, who was transferred to the type C prisons in Domokos in December 2014—established by the Samaras government— and this transfer had been announced as early as July 2014 when I was arrested after the clash in Monastiraki, by the then Minister of Public Order, Kikilias (former Minister of Civil Protection and Climate Change and current Minister of Maritime Affairs and Island Policy).

I would like to remind you that previously, the 187 law of the Penal Code on “organized crime,” imposed at the request of the UK and the USA, served as the first anti-terrorism law and was applied initially in the trials of post-dictatorship resistance organizations such as 17N and ELA (Επαναστατικός Λαϊκός Αγώνας - Revolutionary People's Struggle) in 2003-2004, and then became widespread.

Due to our consistent and unwavering stance to defend the action of the Revolutionary Struggle, due to our choice to continue the action of the EA after 2012, after the defeat of the anti-memorandum uprising, due to the danger of the Revolutionary Struggle for systemic stability, as had been admitted by regime actors, both I after my arrest in 2014 and comrade Roupa after her arrest in 2017, We suffered a particularly brutal treatment, whether the government was New Democracy or Syriza. It is no coincidence that the Revolutionary Struggle and its members were bountied twice, once in 2007 when the organization had hit the US embassy with an anti-tank rocket RPG and the State Department offered €1 million. dollars while the Greek state 800,000 euros for our arrest and a second time, in 2014, when the Greek state gave us a bounty by name, me and comrade Roupa, offering 1,000,000 euros. It is no coincidence that since 2015, despite being in prison, I was placed on the State Department's list of "international terrorists". Thus, for the attack of the Revolutionary Struggle on the Bank of Greece and the IMF in 2014, both me and comrade Roupa were sentenced to life imprisonment (during the Syriza government), an extreme and disproportionate sentence for an attack that had no fatalities since there was a warning precisely to prevent injuries. Let me point out that in the trial of 2015-'16 in which I was sentenced to life imprisonment for this attack. The comparison between the first trial of the Revolutionary Struggle, which ended in 2013 where

we were sentenced to 50 years in prison for 16 actions of the organization, and the life sentence for a single action, for the Bank of Greece-IMF attack in the 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 trials, dramatically demonstrates the change in social and political conditions and balances for the worse after the social defeat of 2012.

However, the worst was the treatment reserved for our 6.5-year-old child in 2017, when comrade Roupa was arrested. It was an unprecedented treatment, one that only fascist and totalitarian regimes have shown in the past. The state treated our child as if he was the "terrorist" himself, who, instead of being handed over to our relatives, was kidnapped by the "anti-terrorist" unit and transferred to the psychiatric department of the Children's Hospital. At the time, the Juvenile Prosecutor M. E. Nikolu (the same one who, a year earlier, had proposed the acquittal of the main accused in the rape case of the 12-year-old from Kolonos) removed our parental rights, even though she had no jurisdiction. It is well known that the then Minister of "Justice" from SYRIZA publicly defended the inhumane treatment of our child, providing clear political cover for this outrage. In their attempt to deal with us, they even exceeded the limits of the law. Although SYRIZA, during the period it still resisted the Troika in the spring of 2015, abolished type C prisons for clientelist reasons, aiming to absorb parts of the "movement" and the resistance sectors—including some of the anarchists and political prisoners who viewed their rise to power favorably—at the same time, along with the Paraskevopoulos law, they passed a provision that imposed consecutive sentences for prisoners who committed acts of violence within prison, which would not be merged with the main sentence, as had been the case until then. This resulted in longer prison sentences. Later, when SYRIZA made a major shift and capitulated to the demands of the creditors after passing the third memorandum, they planned to pass a "penal" code that would, among other things, provide isolation wings for "disobedient" or "dangerous" prisoners or those who attempted or succeeded in escape, similar to the high-security prisons legislated by the Mitsotakis government in 2022. Indeed, when comrade Roupa and I went on a hunger strike in November-December 2017 with demands to not limit our visits with our child (so we could see them four times a year) and for me to be released from illegal solitary confinement for five months, following an incident in court when a former member of our organization openly separated from us and made statements of repentance, we also demanded the withdrawal of the provision for isolation wings in the bill that was under consideration but was ultimately not passed. However, before Syriza left power, they legislated a section on July 11, 2019 (with Minister M. Kalogirou) that stated that multiple-life prisoners would have the right to apply for conditional release after 25 years instead of 19, as was stipulated in the old penal code. This is now being applied retroactively by the Mitsotakis government in Domokos prison, even though, according to the law, for older prisoners, the more favorable provisions of the previous penal code should apply. The pilot implementation of this provision was first applied to comrade D. Koufodinas and later to other multiple-life prisoners in Domokos prison.

The difference between the last SYRIZA and ND governments regarding criminal repression is that while SYRIZA followed a more selective approach to repression, ND follows a more sweeping repressive policy against everyone. The period of SYRIZA's "left-wing interlude," which made the expected turn to comply with the demands of the Troika, paved the way for the bulldozer of the ND government from 2019 onwards. It is a link in the chain of the socio-political evolutionary path from 2010-2012 to today, as I mentioned at the beginning of the text. The ND government from 2019 onwards has revised the criminal and "penal" code more times than any other government in the past. The first revision of the penal code was the first thing they did during their term, as early as August 2019.

Apart from the ongoing policy of surpluses, which arise from the continued plundering of the people to pay the enormous debt, at the repressive level, they immediately implemented an aggressive policy based on the doctrine of "law and order." Thus, they evacuated most of the squats in the anarchist/anti-authoritarian space and the refugee and migrant squats, legislated restrictions on demonstrations, and reduced the right to strike. During the same period, in the fall of 2019, Kikilias made a statement that Maziotis would be able to be released in two years, a statement that seems more like a warning/advice to the judiciary, since indeed in January 2022, I had completed 3/5 of the sentence required for conditional release according to the old penal code.

The defeat of 2010-2012 also paved the way for the unprecedented totalitarian measures (e.g., total lockdown) applied during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. Measures that led to a zombie society, which did not aim at citizens' health but at the management of the health system, which was impossible to handle due to the governments' previous undermining and destruction of it—an ongoing process due to the austerity policies. Regarding the revision of the criminal and "penal" codes, this was primarily aimed at targeting political prisoners who had remained in prison since the summer of 2019 and later, as well as prolonging the stay of prisoners in prison.

Thus, the maximum limit of temporary imprisonment sentences increased from 15 years (as defined in the 2019 penal code) to 20 years. In cases of multiple cumulative sentences, the maximum limit rose to 25 years instead of 20. The conditions for parole have become stricter, as the required time served for most temporary imprisonment cases increased from 3/5 to 4/5 of the sentence, while for a single life sentence, the threshold rose from 16 to 20 years. In the "correctional" code, the limits for granting prison leaves have also been extended. In most cases of temporary imprisonment, the previous threshold of 1/5 was abolished, and now the required time served has nearly reached the parole threshold, making the right to prison leave almost extinct. For a single life sentence, the threshold for granting leave increased from 8 to 12 years, while for multiple life sentences, the limit is extended by three years for each additional life sentence, with a maximum cap of 22 years. Now, not only is the right to prison leave practically abolished, but parole itself is granted in minimal cases. In fact, disciplinary infractions from the distant past, even those that should no longer be considered per the law, are still being used as a reason for denial. Additionally, prisoners convicted under Article 187A—essentially political prisoners—have been excluded from serving their sentences in agricultural prisons, as well as certain categories of convicts serving life sentences under Article 187 (criminal organization). The purpose of this measure is to prolong incarceration since the work credit system in agricultural prisons allows for a greater reduction in actual sentence time compared to high-security prisons. Finally, Type C prisons have been reintroduced as high-security facilities, where, among others, prisoners convicted under Article 187A—i.e., political prisoners—will be held. Another crucial amendment, in direct contrast to previous legal practice, states that parole is no longer solely based on a prisoner's behavior while incarcerated. Instead, it also depends on the state's perception of the "moral reprehensibility" of the crimes committed and whether the prisoner acknowledges the supposed gravity of their actions.

This provision was already applied in my case by the previous Council of Misdemeanor Judges of Lamia, which denied my parole request. The decision cited, among other things, my refusal to renounce my actions as one of the reasons for rejection—clear evidence that the ruling was politically motivated.

Thus, ruling 175/2024 of the Lamia Council of Misdemeanor Judges states in its reasoning: "...In this regard, the character traits of the defendant are taken into account, as they were demonstrated during their remote personal appearance before the present council via technological means. During this appearance, the defendant exhibited complete disregard for the justice system and the prison facility where he is serving his sentence. These positions have been consistent, and the defendant has not abandoned them... by persistently refusing to acknowledge the criminal nature of the acts for which he was convicted, emphasizing that he does not recognize them as violations of social harmony or criminal offenses... This stance, in any case, indicates the defendant's personality structure, of which delinquency is a fundamental component, as evidenced by their refusal to exhibit the appropriate remorseful behavior. It is also indicative of his lack of moral rehabilitation, which is the intended purpose of the sentence imposed and served, despite its long duration, and which the defendant has explicitly stated he has no intention of demonstrating."

Within this context of escalating state and regime-driven authoritarianism—an outcome of the defeat of the 2010-2012 social and popular uprising against the austerity memoranda— and in conjunction with the tightening of criminal repression, it becomes clear why my parole request has been denied seven times over the past three years, despite the fact that I have been granted 17 temporary prison leaves. The same logic explains why, when comrade Roupa was released under restrictive conditions in November 2023, the Deputy Prosecutor of Appeals in Chalkida immediately filed an appeal against her release. Two court

rulings were issued within a year to decide whether she would remain free or return to prison. It is now certain that I will pay the full price for the history of Revolutionary Struggle—a crucial chapter in contemporary social and class struggles, as well as modern Greek history—until the very last day of my sentence.

The armed revolutionary struggle, according to our perception, must go hand in hand with social and political correlations and conditions, with the wider social environment, while there is also a dialectical relationship and interaction with the rest of the "movement" and the spaces of resistance that feed it.

The blows that the Revolutionary Struggle received in both 2010 and 2014-'17 were parallel blows to society itself, social resistance and the "movement" from which we come.

The failure of the organization to escalate its action again, at the time of the memorandums, from 2012 onwards, was the result of the defeat of the social anti-memorandum uprising of 2010-2012 and the retreat of social struggles and resistance in the immediate aftermath, and on the other hand of the retreat of the "movement" and the spaces of resistance whose sections saw "opportunities for struggle" during the Syriza government in 2015-'19. The result of the retreat of the "movement" was, to some extent, the lack of solidarity we faced, which in turn fed the brutal criminal treatment we had on the part of the state. But the Revolutionary Struggle was never defeated politically. Because defeat is not exclusively a "military" defeat but first and foremost political defeat. And political defeat is not the killing of someone on the struggle like comrade Lambros Fountas, nor the long-term imprisonment, as long as he remains consistent in his struggle, his action and his choices. Political defeat is the revision and repentance, the discrediting of revolutionary action, the separation of one of his comrades in front of the court in order to save or lighten his position, a stance supported by parts of the "movement" in a court of the Revolutionary Struggle, something that is a world first in the history of movements and armed revolutionary organizations. The Revolutionary Struggle may have ceased to act as some within the "movement" wanted – from 2012 onwards– but it was never defeated politically. Because his analyses and predictions have been vindicated over time. Because his proposals for another society, without state and capital and without classes, remain relevant.

PS: The fact that after many years after February 12, 2012, millions of people in Greece took to the streets against the state crime of Tempis – a result of the degradation of the social infrastructure of all the Memorandum governments (G. Papandreou, Papademos, Samaras, Tsipras, Mitsotakis) –is a hopeful message. However, the complete overthrow of the current state and regime totalitarianism remains a... revolutionary cause.

1 Apr - Illustrated Guide Version 18.2 Uploaded!

nycabc.wordpress.com/2025/03/20/guide_18_2

MORE:

We've finished the latest version of the NYC ABC "Illustrated Guide to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War" and it's available for viewing (and download) by visiting the link at the top of this post. This update includes updated mini-bios, photos, and address changes for several prisoners. Unfortunately, this edition includes the addition of Peppy.

23 Mar - Marcelo Villarroel Reaches 17 Years in Prison

Chile: On March 15, Marcelo Villarroel, an anti-authoritarian subversive prisoner, served 17 years in prison, after being sentenced in 2014 to 14 years for two bank robberies, a sentence that was completed on December 16, 2023, however, the state still maintains his kidnapping in prison.

MORE:

by La Zarzamora (Abolition Media)

With multiple activities and actions of solidarity, different affinity groups showed solidarity with the current situation faced by the comrade, who should have been out of prison for 1 year and 3 months, however the legal apparatus of Power ignores its own legality, ignoring the fulfillment of these sentences and imposing sentences issued by the exorbitant and disastrous military prosecutor's office, which according to power is no longer active, but which continues to be used to keep Marcelo in confinement.

A BRIEF STEP THROUGH HIS HISTORY

Marcelo Villarroel, a comrade who at the age of 13 took his path in the Lautaro Youth Movement, a structure with which he later broke 10 years later, entering into autonomous, non-hierarchical perspectives and anarchic ideas. From a very young age he lived imprisonment thanks to his active participation in the urban combat against the dictatorship and the post-dictatorship.

In prison he is part of the *kolectivo kamina libre*, an anti-prison collective that deepens the questions about horizontality, prison struggle, the understanding of being uncertain in prison society beyond prison walls, the consumption of animals, among other reflections, all accompanied by publications characterized by their graphics, composed of drawings by the same imprisoned comrades.

The current stage of imprisonment begins after the robbery of the Security Bank where Paco Moyano died, which generates a media, political and judicial persecution against a group of comrades who had a long history of combat. This persecution campaign culminated in the arrest of Marcelo Villarroel and other comrades on the other side of the mountain range on March 15, 2008.

On December 16, 2009, Marcelo was expelled from Argentina after 21 months of confinement, passing through different detention units in the province of Neuquén, thus being at the disposal of the *\$hilena* jurisdiction. Since then, he has remained in prison, but always active becoming part of the outside through his writings, words, graphics, and music, among others, which accompany activities, experiences and also facts and farewells that have marked the last years of the anarchic offensive.

THE PREVAILING NEED

The maintenance of these sentences issued by the disastrous military justice system is an aberration that is not supported even under the same legal parameters of bourgeois justice, so the comrade's legal team remains fiercely in the effort to achieve the annulment of these.

Under the current context of worsening confinement and isolation in prison, the situation of the comrade becomes urgent and paramount in the fight against prison society, and his release to the street, a priority in it.

SOLIDARITY GESTURES

As a way of showing solidarity with the comrade, various like-minded groups carried out informative activities about his situation. The Anti-Karcelaria Solidarity Network “Marcelo Villarroel a la kalle” (★ RSAMVALK) released a new statement of support, along with a set of large posters and pamphlets as part of the agitation and propaganda necessary in this context. In addition, in Santiago, the recovered Space La Kopa (La Granja commune) held a day for the annulment of the sentences of the military prosecutor's office, in which there were theatrical interventions, live music and a discussion on Marcelo's legal situation, amplified simultaneously by Axolote radio (Mx), Radio Lafkenche de San Antonio and Radio La Zarzamora.

From the support networks of Buenos Aires, Argentina and from the Iberian Peninsula, greetings have been sent in solidarity with the situation of the comrade.

Similarly, at the Tattoo Circus in Torino, Italy, the presentation of Kamina Libre, a book was held within the framework of the internationalist campaign for the annulment of military justice sentences, and also from different territories graphics, gestures of solidarity and other activities will be carried out during the coming weeks within the framework of the unwavering campaign for his release from prison.

“We call for active solidarity with Marcelo, a comrade who has not given up and who, despite the multiple adversities of prison society, continues to make a concrete contribution to the anti-authoritarian struggle, maintaining an explicit harmony with the street, never in silence, and that should be highlighted.” ★
RSAMVALK

It is vital to enunciate the relevance of this year in the legal resolution of the situation of the comrade and from there the importance of redoubling the gestures and acts tending to disseminate, agitate, contribute and propagate, extending his struggle as part of a collective anti-authoritarian struggle that keeps alive the memory of resistance for the total destruction of prison society beyond mere slogans, through an active history that does not die.

It is time to break down the walls of indifference, articulating constant initiatives to achieve the objective of getting the comrade out of prison, snatching him from the state and its social-fascist institutionality, which still legitimizes Pinochet's disastrous military justice, 35 years after supposedly having ended the Dictatorship.

For the departure to the street now of the comrade Marcelo Villarroel! To extend Active Solidarity! Strength comrade, prison cannot be eternal!

23 Mar - Speeches of the Comrades Dimitra Z. and Marianna M.

Germany: On February 22, 2025, a demonstration took place in Berlin in solidarity with Daniela Klette, who is currently imprisoned in Vechta prison awaiting her first upcoming trial.

MORE:

via Act for Freedom Now!

On this occasion, the anarchist comrades Dimitra Z. and Marianna M., who are currently in Korydallos prison, sent speeches that were read out.

Statement of Dimitra Z.

On the 26th of February, last year, and after 3 decades of being in underground, Daniela Klette was arrested in the center of Berlin and was transferred to the Vechta prison. The accusations that the comrade has to face in the trials are the participation in armed bank robberies as well as the participation in some of the attacks with the armed organization RAF. It is worth to mention the way of the arrestment of Klette, that some journalists played the role of the cop and with the help of artificial intelligence they used an old photography of her and assimilated how she could look like today with the result to detect her in a random picture on facebook. The whole operation of the arrestment of Klette was reminding the manhunting of the 70s and 80s and it came to the front the myth of RAF. The state propaganda played a huge role in all the mainstream media by reliving the narratives of the past by mirroring the personalities of the fighters, depoliticized their actions and calumniated them.

However, the comrade Klette (as well as the comrades Ernst-Volker Staub and Burkard Garweg, who are still in underground) managed for 34 years to live free in the heart of the beast being unobserved from the radar of repression. Their life is a proof that the so called powerful german state is a narrative that comes from their own propaganda and is nothing more than a house of cards. Even though the high developed technologies of surveillance, the uncounted of specialized units of repression, LKA, BKA, specialized scientists and technocrats and the militarized equipment, the comrade managed in these three decades to

humiliate them by living in the center of Berlin, in Kreuzberg, one of the most surveilled neighborhoods of the city.

The comrade with her life managed not only to prove the weakness of German repression, but also the fact that today there are still the means and the people who can ensure a life in underground.

The ridicule of the German cops was continued with the fact that the comrades of Klette, Ernst and Burkhard escaped from the arrestment despite the tremendous measures that were taken from the repressive mechanism the next days and the case of the three comrades is not the only example. The last years many accused Antifas, have chosen the road of outlaw and they do not negotiate their right to freedom and life.

Statement of Marianna M.

The level of the whole operation, the state of emergency which was prevailed during the first days of her arrestment and the perseverance that the German state preserves all these years in order to locate the “terrorists” are leading to one main conclusion. The Western anti-imperialist armed guerilla which was active during the decades from the 60s until the 80s still constitutes an open “round” for every state, especially the German which declares that it never forgets.

And that’s because all the armed formations which were active those years, as RAF, managed to exert polemic critique, to attribute responsibilities and to put on the table matter of revolutionary perspectives. During a period when people were revolting against their colonists, the Western movements practically stood next to them, preparing for the battle, transferring the war back to the “belly of the beast,” creating an open front internally. A front strong enough to create obstacles to Western imperialism. Today, 50 years later in a period of social and political contempt and retreat, the arrested anti-imperialist struggle consists one of the political tools that radical movements dispose. The transgression of the ruling laws is a fighting strategy which continues to surprise and frighten them, a dynamic condition where emancipatory perspectives could arise.

Except the timelessness, the necessity of this means of struggle, even the slogans of the past could inspire the present fights. The international place in local fights and the anti-imperialistic confrontation in Western metropolis connect the struggles of the past with the contemporary fights and offers revolutionary perspectives at resistance. The greedy ambitions of the West should find obstacles in the places from where they emanate the West centers. Comrade Klette was a member of the 80s movement, of the international movement.

She fights against exploitation and oppression, against patriarchy and capitalism, war and militarism. Comrade Klette from her early age decided to dedicate her life in the revolutionary struggle with unlimited commitment which accompanied her during her life managing to fight the repressive mechanism of the German state. She constituted parts of the radical movement and even now, from the cells of democracy she continues to fight and inspires us with her stance.

It is her consistent cause, her commitment and her determination, her not reconciliation and her uncompromised fight which reminds us why we should still fight, why we should still struggle. Even during our most difficult moments, when the system takes the life of armed fighters like Georg von Rauch, Petra Schelm and many more, as it took the life of the armed guerilla, our comrade and friend Kyriakos Xymitiris four months ago we must continue the fight.

We should stand next to our dead comrades, those wonderful people, the consistent, the sensitive, the ones who gave their lives for the revolutionary cause. Those who understood themselves as part of the Western revolutionary history, those who took their responsibility and debouched into the battle as the armed Guerillero Kyriakos Xymitiris who felt the same agony with the 80s Guerilla, the same rage, the same commitment, who was one of the few fighters who chose to grasp the threat of armed struggle and 2024, when the fight in the Western metropolises is wavering between alternativism and conventions.

Even if the wall keeps us apart, even if the struggle took our closest comrades, we are together as we keep fighting. Together with Daniela, Monika, with Alfredo and Francesco, Mumia, Abdullah and all the political prisoners.

Together with Kyriakos, Wolfgang, Margerita and all those armed Guerillas who fall in the battle for a better world. Together with Holger, Helin, Bobby and all those who were murdered in the cells of democracy. Because revolution says: I was, I am, I will be again.”

Solidarity with Daniela Klette!

25 Mar - Marius Mason Back in Women's Prison After Anti-Transgender Rulings

After the hard-won battle of getting Marius Mason transferred to a men's prison the increasingly transphobic state in the so-called USA have decided to return him to a woman's prison.

MORE:

via *UNOFFENSIVE ANIMAL*

Marius still has just under two years to serve. An eco, animal lib minded anarchist sentenced with terrorist charges for his involvement in property damage against ecocidal companies. His arrest was part of what's now known as the 'green scare'.

The 21+ year prison sentence that was given to Marius has not stopped him fighting against injustice as he has tirelessly fought for trans prisoner rights while behind bars.

“My blood pumps still because you live and fight... I see through your eyes and dream with you”

29 Mar - These states are reversing reforms of criminal justice

Louisiana voters will go to the polls soon to consider substantially stiffening juvenile justice laws.

MORE:

by Jamiles Lartey (*The Marshall Project*)

The proposal, constitutional Amendment 3, would give state lawmakers new leeway to send teenagers to adult courts, jails and prisons. Currently, 14-to-16-year-olds can only be charged as adults for the most serious crimes like rape and murder. Advocates for the amendment want the power to add new felonies, like the distribution of fentanyl.

It's a far cry from the mid-2010s, when state legislators advanced a bipartisan law that pulled youth out of the adult criminal justice system, followed by broader sentencing reforms that reduced the state prison population by about a third. Most of those reforms were scrapped last year. If today's ballot measure passes, it would further slide the state toward an even more punitive system than the one reformers sought to change a decade ago.

Louisiana is not alone in reversing course. Across the country, the tide of legislative criminal justice reform efforts, which crested in 2020, continues to stall or be actively rolled back, generally in the face of resurgent "tough-on-crime" narratives.

Lawmakers in New Mexico also pushed a law this session to expand the list of crimes for which young people could be tried as adults, but the measure failed after youth advocates raised concerns. So did an alternative effort that would have expanded intervention and reentry programs for teenagers, but also would have added manslaughter to the charges that could see youth charged as adults.

The alternative bill was not punitive enough for many lawmakers. "These kids need our attention and our help, and at the same time, they need to be held accountable, and we must send a message to the juvenile

violent criminals in this state that it's not a badge of honor to go to jail for 20, 21 months. It's not going to happen that way anymore. We have to do more," Republican state Sen. Nicole Tobiassen told *KOAT-TV*.

New Mexico lawmakers have been rattled by recent developments in two high-profile crimes. Last week, three minors aged 11, 13, and 16 were arrested in the apparently intentional hit-and-run death of a cyclist that occurred last year. Just days after those arrests, a mass shooting at a park in Las Cruces also allegedly involved three underage suspects.

In Michigan, lawmakers didn't even get the chance to consider criminal justice reforms this session. House Speaker Matt Hall announced bluntly in January that no reform efforts would advance, including prospective proposals to eliminate cash bail and juvenile life without parole, or a push to introduce "second look" sentencing reform.

Second look laws allow for incarcerated people to request a reduced sentence, generally after they have been locked up for years. A judge reviews their prison conduct, the circumstances of their offense, and victims' perspectives before deciding whether to grant the sentence reduction. That would be an important release valve for a state where the average prison sentence is nearly three times as long as the national average, argued an editorial in the *Detroit Free Press* last week.

In New York, reforms are not only stalled, but are being actively unraveled. Gov. Kathy Hochul is backing legislation to scale back portions of the state's 2019 discovery reform law. The proposal would reduce the amount of evidence prosecutors are required to share with defense attorneys before trial, and limit judges' ability to dismiss cases over prosecutors' non-compliance. Prosecutors say the changes are needed because case dismissals have increased since the law was enacted. Defenders of the reform argue that was part of the point, and that most of those dismissals came in misdemeanor cases.

"These minor offenses, the majority of which involve no allegations of physical harm, often result from the overpolicing of Black and brown neighborhoods," wrote defense attorney Kathryn Miller in an editorial this week.

The push to undo discovery reforms follows New York's backtracking on bail reform. This week, New Hampshire followed the Empire State's lead after Gov. Kelly Ayotte signed a new bail law on Tuesday. The legislation rolled back a 2018 bail reform, reducing the legal hurdles for a judge to deny bail and adding mandatory detention after arrest and before the initial court appearance on certain crimes. The Texas Senate also recently approved a bail law to keep more people accused of violent crimes in jail before trial. Similarly, in Tennessee, lawmakers are making progress on a constitutional amendment that would expand the list of charges for which people can be held without bail.

But Tennessee also shows that even as the winds shift towards more punitive approaches to justice, it's still possible for legislatures to embrace laws aimed at accountability. This week, the state senate advanced a bill that would financially penalize private prison company CoreCivic if the death rate in one of its facilities reaches double that of a state-run facility. The move was spurred by ongoing violence and overdose deaths in the Trousdale Turner Correctional Center, an hour east of Nashville. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the CoreCivic-run facility has the highest homicide rate of any prison in the country.

But there's no denying those efforts at reform and accountability are fewer and farther between than they were a few years ago — and much smaller in scope. Take a bill being considered in the Florida House of Representatives to expand parole eligibility. Even if passed, it would apply to fewer than 4% of the state's roughly 88,000 incarcerated people.

30 Mar - Anarchist Comrade Francisco Solar Comes Out of Isolation After 5 years

Chile: After spending almost 5 years in solitary confinement, touring different maximum-security modules and facing the recent hardening of the prison regime that kept Francisco Solar with 21 hours of

confinement in the cell, without TV or radio and with restrictions on visits, today we have news regarding his situation in prison.

MORE:

via Abolition Media

After successive hearings and technical advice, the gendarmerie has run out of excuses to keep the comrade in this punishment regime, being forced to transfer him.

Today the anarchist comrade manages to get out of the circuit and labyrinth of isolation and maximum-security modules, being transferred to module 33 inside La Gonzalina Prison, where other anarchist and subversive prisoners are held.

30 Mar - Anarchist Salvatore Vespertino (Ghespe) transferred

Italy: Arrested in Spain on February 15th on an international arrest warrant, and extradited to Italy on March 4th, anarchist comrade Salvatore Vespertino, “Ghespe”, was first brought to Rome’s Rebibbia prison, and then transferred to Spoleto prison in late March.

MORE:

via La Nemesis

We remind that Ghespe faces an eight-year sentence for manufacturing, possessing and carrying an explosive device, causing grievous bodily harm, and causing damage, related to the 2017 “Panico” repressive operation in Florence on charges of making the homemade explosive device found in front of the entrance of “Il Bargello” bookstore in Florence, home of CasaPound fascists.

In the early days of his detention in Spain, Ghespe was subjected to pressure and harassment by guards. At Rebibbia, the correspondence wasn’t delivered to him; visits and phone calls were not allowed until shortly before his transfer to the prison of Spoleto.

If guards and servants of the state think they can use such tricks to break our closeness, they are sorely mistaken.

7 Apr - Against Mass Incarceration and For Clemency

WHAT: Rally

WHEN: 10:30am, Monday, April 7th

WHERE: NYS Governor's Office, 919 Third Avenue, New York

COST: FREE

MORE:

The need for clemency in New York State has never been greater. Join us for a rally to tell Governor Hochul: your prisons are killing us, grant clemencies NOW to save New Yorkers' lives!