

*Let nothing be called natural
In an age of bloody confusion.
Ordered disorder, planned caprice,
And dehumanized humanity, lest all things
Be held unalterable!*

Bertold Brecht

Political crisis and its impact on Public University

Brecht's words seem to be very appropriate to open this editorial, once it cannot be unaware of the frail political moment in which the country is. Beyond the partisan discussions, manifested in a polarized way in the last months, we believe it is necessary to highlight the condition on which Brazilian democracy stands. It is important to remember that, even though the capital interests are outstanding in capitalist production (Marx, 1985), the Brazilian Federal Constitution, promulgated in 1988, by means of an effective public participation, is an undeniable achievement of people's rights assumed as State policies. That Constitution, also named "The citizens' Constitution", draw new possibilities for the elaboration and the implementation of policies based upon precepts of human person's dignity and political plurality.

The achievement of the recent democracy was marked by the outbreak of intense movements of struggle and resistance during the obscure period of dictatorial governments that dominated the Brazilian scenario for 25 years. The "years of lead" were characterized by the censorship and other restrictions to liberty of communication and expression. There were also intimidations of all kinds, silenced voices and lives of people who represented opposition to the military ideals. The extremely common acts to prosecute the ones who were considered to be subversive to the dictatorial governments culminated in political imprisonment and killing of Brazilians; they were tortured and experienced the atrocities committed by the military force of a centralized and oppressive regime. The dictatorial repression received official recognition only recently, by means of the establishment, in 2012, of the National Truth Commission (2014). This commission aimed at investigating the countless massive violations of human rights, and made public the numerous testimonials of people who survived that sad period of Brazilian history.

In remembrance of the ones who died and disappeared in that period, the only thing left is the allusion of the resistance of the ones who dared to diverge, dared to disagree, dared to think of other ways of producing equalities and "democratic liberty" and, above all, who dared to fight for life. Indeed, if the history is made by women and men in their daily lives, it must be understood that many lost their lives so that we had the liberty that we have nowadays, such as believing, speaking, fighting, discussing, researching and debating, actions that we consider to be relevant and pertinent in varied scopes. Liberty, therefore, is not any kind of achievement, it is something priceless in the life of every citizen being s/he aware of this or not.

Nevertheless, we had to watch, astonished, Brazilian Parliamentarians, people's desires representatives, applauding one of their colleagues for speaking in favor of that sad and obscure period of Brazilian history, honoring a man who was known for being a relentless Brazilian torturer. Watching that, we felt the frailty of the democratic State, still so young and achieved at the cost of so many lives.

The recent news of political projects of an antidemocratic government, which promises to reduce the role of the State in the economy and in the assurance of social rights and workers' rights recently achieved are also an imminent alert on the critical situation of Brazilian politics. We highlight some facts of the political scenario, in a state of incredulity, facing so much regression: the disarticulation of important ministerial agencies that assured the human rights, investment in culture, racial and gender equality; declarations on the reduction of investment in education, health and social programs; proposal of workers' rights limitations; the closeness between politics and religions in a supposedly secular State; the risk of disarticulation of Public Policies established after the promulgation of the Citizens' Constitution.

Marilena Chauí (2016), in recent debates published in a widely known Brazilian newspaper, warns us on the risks of the establishment of a performance in which there are not possibilities to guarantee the democracy. This conjecture is favorable to form the basis of a "fascist universe". This fascism, as Foucault (1991) warns, is imposed in the texture of the daily life, determining the repetition, the obedience, the subjection, the rule, restricting creativity and weakening the existence.

The political situation and the topics related to democracy – with its frailties in the current production form – must be discussed and debated, mainly in academic circles. Universities seem to be important devices for such discussions, once they embrace diverse knowledges that favor the construction of the Science and the formation of critical and ethical professionals. However, the university also becomes intimidated when the democracy is threatened, when private interests overcome collective interests, there is room for precarious services, due to the lack of investment in high-quality public education and to the establishment of policies that steal achieved rights.

When democracy is frail and working is precarious, we question what has been the commitment and the possibilities of action of public universities in Paraná, which have had their services scrapped year after year, because of the neglect of governmental spheres. It is relevant to remember that, in 2015, the universities in Paraná were in strike for almost three months, as a way to try to impede the state government to take ownership of the social security money. The date April 29, 2015 was marked by the historic violent action, in which teachers, professors and other public servants were systematically attacked by armed military police officers carrying gas bombs, rubber bullets, dogs and other devices. This attack occurred because public servants were trying to impede the voting of a proposal that aimed at confiscating the money of the social security. In spite of the attacks occurring outside, the voting process continued inside the Legislative Assembly. The proposal was approved, and, until now, there has not been any punishment for the ones who hurt more than 200 people that day. As if that regrettable episode was not enough, we started the year of 2016 with the news that all the universities would have to give the state government 80% of the money collected with fees for university entrance tests, post-graduation courses and other sources. If the universities do not comply with this decision, they will not receive the annual fund for their expenses and maintenance. After the realization of some debates, until now, it is known that the government gave up on its resolution. However, it is also known that many expenses funds have not been provided in full to all the institutions.

We re-affirm, then, the urgent necessity to fight against the reprocesses and, as Foucault (1991) remarks, to oppose any kinds of fascism, including the colossal ones, which are around us and smash us, and also the smaller forms that produce the soft tyranny of our daily lives. Therefore, promoting the debate broadly and mobilizing resistances to fight for historical achievements that cannot be forgotten and lost. Those actions must be one of the roles of University.

The journal *Psicologia em Estudo*, which has struggled to keep the quality of its publications despite of the lack of resources, is an important instrument to spread researches, not only for the Department of Psychology of Maringá State University, but also for its related areas, once it proposes the publication of other research areas. It is a way to democratize the knowledge as well.

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