



Editorial

The Eternal Return

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The conversation that the President of Colombia and the United States had, at the end of the visit of May this year, seemed to be a dialogue between those who do not listen. While President Santos recalled that the problem of drugs should be handled by all parties involved and in cooperation between countries that are more exporters and those who are more consumers, the President of the United States responded that this problem would have a solution to the construction of the wall.

When notorious international progress has already been seen on decriminalization of consumption in many countries, including the process of regulating medicinal consumption, the speeches and actions of the U.S. government revive the second season of the “War on drugs.” This time, the particular characteristics are: the noticeable decrease in aid granted to “friends” countries, the true signal of the increase in the expansion of illicit crops, and the consequent claim to increase eradication in all its variants, but without a commitment in the line of crop substitution and efficient supports in agricultural policies that benefit farmers, their families and the regions.

International pressure makes the government dent; While the progress in Colombian legislation is recognized as being more progressive in its laws, clearer in its policies written and disseminated in the world scenarios on the subject both in supply, as in demand, such posture is perceived as rhetoric, because in its actions it continues to dominate the repressive action. There is no denying that pressure on drug trafficking needs to be continued; This must be in all spheres, not only in capturing middle-profile drug traffickers, who according to the same Authorities that expose the lives of their agents, often must be released by expiration of terms, are rewarded at home by prisons or are released by orders of judges who claim errors in the trapping procedures. It is known that the great drug trafficking in the country and other Latin American countries today moves between the illegal – not

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just illicit trafficking, but trade in arms, extortion, prostitution and pimp process, laundering of assets, killings, freight, but also in the legal-management of finance, trade-and locates its representatives in almost all the major areas of the country, the big brains seem untouchable.

It is also true that it is necessary to combat micro traffic, but it must be attacked from sources of origin. The solution seems to be distant when young people or members of families who work in retail are caught, they are taken to prisons or to establishments where they are supposed to be linked to processes of socialization, but whose reality becomes more decomposing to be found with more organized criminal structures and with sophisticated offers for the detainees. In many communities this retail drug marketing is identified; Among other circumstances, it is one of the forms of survival for vast sectors with low coverage in education, employment, food, health, whose detention, although it may be legal, helps very little to solve the basic structural problems.

The proof of the above is that the combos located and identified for several decades, instead of disappearing, they are maintained or even increased, in addition to serving as authority in the neighbourhoods, they show their power and as they are caught with gifts, a part of the inhabitants abide by them, while others defend them. Repression, where is your triumph?

It generates confusion the fact that when after efforts of sectors that move on the subject – Non-governmental organizations, academia, nuclei of professionals from government sectors and conscious citizens –, the alternatives are more on the other roads undertaken by local, departmental, national and even international levels, which support the formulation of progressive public policies, promote preventive work with great disadvantages in human and economic resources in their investment in the face of drug trafficking, they also advocate a sufficient and efficient offer to care for people with addiction problems and work to defend the minimum rights that consumers and non-consumers should have; In the meantime, a necessary but non-integral offensive is observed for security. It is said not integral because the greater security for the population must be accompanied by educational and socialization processes that support themselves with solutions to their basic necessities of health, employment, schooling with quality, recreation and cultural promotion, among others. As long as the attention is not integral, that dignified the human being, it provides opportunities and allows the development of its potentials, and the pendulum will continue back and forth and undermine the confidence. Fortunately, will retake the forces, will maintain the complaint, will deepen rigorously in the explanation and interpretation of the problems concomitant with the consumption of psychoactive substances and will continue in the accompaniment of the new life projects undertaken by our young people, they recover those who fall into discouragement, with their great vital strength and hope.