

# May Day 2018 Reports from Across U.S. and the World

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**<http://www.ImmigrantSolidarity.org>**

A national day of multi-ethnic unity with youth, labor, peace and justice communities in solidarity with immigrant workers and building new immigrant rights & civil rights movement! Fight Against Trump's Racist Anti-Immigrant Agenda!

Wear White T-Shirt, organize local actions to support immigrant worker rights!

1. No to anti-immigrant legislation, and the criminalization of the immigrant communities.
2. No to militarization of the border.
3. No to the immigrant detention and deportation.
4. No to the guest worker program.
5. No to employer sanction and "no match" letters.
6. Yes to a path to legalization without condition for undocumented immigrants NOW.
7. Yes to speedy family reunification.
8. Yes to civil rights and humane immigration law.
9. Yes to labor rights and living wages for all workers.
10. Yes to the DACA, Clean DREAM Act and LGBTQ immigrant legislation.

We encourages everyone to actively linking our issues with different struggles: wars in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria Palestine & Korea with sweatshops exploitation in Asia as well as in Los Angeles, New York; international arm sales and WTO, FTAA, NAFTA & CAFTA with AIDS, hunger, child labors and child soldier; as well as multinational corporations and economic exploitation with racism and poverty at home—in order we can win the struggle together at this May Day 2018!

## LA May Day Immigrant rights march

By: Lee Siu Hin

There're several marches, one of them late afternoon at MacArthur Park, march to LA city hall, approx 2.5 miles, several hundreds people joined, also a small groups of white right-wing anti-immigrant counter protesters. The march end with positive energy music and slogans.





## **US May Day marchers denounce Trump immigration policies**

**Steve Gorman - Reuters**

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Organized labor activists led May Day rallies in several U.S. cities on Tuesday, though in smaller numbers than last year, decrying President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown as an assault on vulnerable workers in some of America's lowest-paying jobs.

The biggest gathering was in Los Angeles, where a boisterous but peaceful crowd of several hundred marched through downtown, carrying pro-union and pro-immigration banners while chanting, "Union power" and "This is what democracy looks like."

In New York City, several hundred May Day activists marched up Broadway to Wall Street while police in Seattle arrested a man suspected of throwing a rock during a rally there.

Organizers sought to combine traditional May Day themes of protecting workers' rights with a denunciation of Trump's efforts to increase deportations

and a call for voters to show up at the polls for the upcoming mid-term congressional elections.

Protesters also took aim at Trump administration policies and rhetoric they viewed as hostile to the environment, racial and ethnic minorities, women and to members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Many railed at the administration's decision to end temporary protected status for thousands of immigrants from several countries hurt by natural disasters or conflict, including Nicaragua, Haiti, El Salvador, Sudan and Nepal.

They also cited the uncertain status of an estimated 700,000 young immigrants brought to the United States illegally as children and now facing possible deportation after Trump moved to scrap an Obama-era program protecting them.

Rally leaders sought to emphasize that such policies fell especially hard on undocumented workers toiling in low-wage, non-unionized sectors such as fast-food, hospitality, child care and agriculture.

The marches in the United States capped a day of protests elsewhere in the world. In Paris, hundreds of masked and hooded anarchists smashed shop windows, torched cars and hurled cobblestones at riot police on Tuesday, hijacking a May Day rally by labor unions against President Emmanuel Macron's economic reforms.

## **FESTIVE AND DEFIANT**

Tuesday's Los Angeles turnout under cloudy skies and a slight drizzle was considerably diminished from the thousands who took to the streets of America's second-largest city in 2017, for the first May Day celebration after Trump took office.

But the mood was festive and defiant, nevertheless.

"No rain, no clouds, no hate, no division is going to keep workers from celebrating with immigrants, with refugees ... with the LGBT community, with the criminal justice reform community, with the environmental justice community," union leader Laphonza Butler told the crowd, speaking from a flat-bed truck.

Butler heads the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 2015, representing some 380,000 long-term healthcare workers statewide, one of the largest collective bargaining units in the nation.

But marchers represented a broad cross-section of organized labor and other constituencies, from the Teamsters union and nurses to street vendors and a group called the Clean Carwash Campaign.

“May First is a celebration of workers, and a lot of workers in this city are immigrants,” said Karla Cativo, 36, a community organizer with the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund, which provides services to Central American immigrants.

Cativo, a Salvadoran native who entered the United States as an undocumented immigrant, said she gained U.S. citizenship with “a lot of work and because of a lot of people fighting for my rights.”

Fellow protester Fabian Barcenas, 55, said he wanted to give voice to “millions of workers who pay taxes and support their families who don’t have the chance of having legal status here.”

Reporting by Steve Gorman in Los Angeles; Additional reporting by Jonathan Allen in New York, John Herskovitz in Austin, Texas, and Omar Younis in Los Angeles; Editing by Lisa Shumaker

## **New York, NY**





## May Day protests in NYC target Trump, corporations and labor rights

Lauren Cook and Alison Fox - Newsday

Immigration and workers' rights melded into one cause on Tuesday as hundreds of people marked May Day, also known as International Workers' Day, at various protests in Manhattan.

One march from Union Square to Washington Square Park, funneling protesters from one rally to another, temporarily shut down traffic on part of University Place while police cleared people from the street.

While marching between the two parks, Democratic Socialists of America member Ian McMahan said he joined DSA after President Donald Trump's election in 2016.

"The theme today is protection for immigrants, but May Day is generally a worker's holiday," McMahan, 78, said. "The most important labor issue today is the right-to-work laws which are an attempt to eviscerate the union movement."

In Washington Square Park, Audu Kadiri, 40, joined about 500 people demanding better rights for immigrant workers.

Kadiri, a community organizer for African Communities Together, said his workers are often afraid of being targeted by Immigration Customs and Enforcement.

"Today, we just expect a lot of people to celebrate workers. One day of 365 is not much," he said of the May Day events.

A crowd of roughly 200 also gathered in Union Square but the impassioned people, with music blasting and protest signs held high in the air, often varied on what they were protesting.

Imani Henry, a member of the Workers World Party who helped plan the protest, led the group in a chant of "long live Palestine, free, free Palestine," as a couple of people sold anti-Trump buttons nearby.

"In the rest of the world this is a holiday," he later said, adding that the country needs to work harder to revive a workers' rights movement. "I'm proud, I'm standing with every single worker across the world today."

The origins of May Day date to 1886, when around 300,000 workers across the United States staged a walkout to demand better conditions, including an eight-hour workday, according to the Industrial Workers of the World union.

"May 1 is an important date to assert the power of the working class," said Nina Macaphinlac, 25, a spokeswoman for the International League of Peoples' Struggle, which organized the Union Square rally. "It's working people that should dictate how society goes."

Though the rallies tend to be rooted in the fight for fair labor practices, some of this year's events took on a more political tone, with organizers targeting corporate greed, immigrant deportation and Trump's policies.

Standing amid the crowd in Union Square was 25-year-old Shirley Capa. The Bronx native said she was rallying in support of immigrant rights.

"I came because I have the luxury of being here and if I get into trouble, I won't be deported," she said.

Capa said her cousin, Luis Marin, is in the process of being deported to Ecuador. He was detained by Immigration Customs and Enforcement agents on Long Island and sent to a detention center in Texas, she said.

Earlier Tuesday, gubernatorial candidate Cynthia Nixon joined immigration activists who marched from Battery Park to Wall Street to protest against several major financial institutions.

Organizers allege the banks are complicit in the mass incarceration of Americans and family separation of immigrants because of their investments in private prisons and detention companies.

"This #MayDay, we are sending a notice to Wall Street: Stop funding Trump's prison policy and backing his racist agenda. No one should be profiting off of human misery," Nixon tweeted.

A workshop at 5 p.m. in Times Square, meanwhile, taught folks how to make their own wearable protest signage.

Last year's May Day protests resulted in 32 arrests around the city. Though there were no reports of arrests in New York City as of Tuesday evening, police in Paris arrested over 200 people and used water cannon and tear gas against masked protesters who smashed shop windows and hurled petrol bombs, hijacking a planned peaceful May Day rally by labor unions.



## Oregon



### **Hundreds join May Day rally at Oregon State Capitol**

**Lauren Hernandez, Molly J Smith and David Davis - Statesman Journal**

More than 300 people chanted "si se puede" at the foot of the Oregon State Capitol steps Tuesday while Gov. Kate Brown signed two bills intended to benefit immigrants as part of the 13th annual May Day rally and march.

Supporters clutched signs reading "Stop ICE raids" and "Keep Oregon a sanctuary state" and craned their necks to watch Brown sign House Bill 4111 and Senate Bill 1563. House Bill 4111 allows the DMV to renew and replace a limited-term driver's license for DACA and Temporary Protected Status recipients whose status may have expired due to federal immigration policy changes; SB 1563 would ensure continuation of current state policy on tuition equity for eligible undocumented students.

"House Bill 4111 guarantees that our dreamers and otherwise law abiding hardworking Oregonians can obtain an Oregon issued driver's license," Brown said. "Senate Bill 1563 ensures our dreamers and immigrant students the opportunity to do their higher education goals in Oregon regardless of their immigration status."

Brown held up both bills, chanting "si se puede," inviting the crowd to erupt in identical chants.

While Brown signed both bills in the spirit of May Day's evolving focus from workers rights to include immigrant rights, rally speakers and participants focused on condemning Initiative Petition 22. That initiative petition would repeal Oregon Statute 181.850, which states law enforcement agencies may not use agency money, equipment or personnel to detect or apprehend people who are only violating federal immigration laws by being foreign citizens in the United States.

Rep. Mike Nearman, R-Independence, Rep. Sal Esquivel, R-Medford, and Rep. Greg Barreto, R-Pendleton, are sponsoring the petition. Oregonians for Immigration Reform, an organization that says it's calling for an end to illegal immigration, is "cosigning" the initiative.

Cristina Delgado, 29, of Washington County, said the petition would cause racial profiling to return to levels Oregonians experienced prior to the passage of the state's sanctuary state law in 1987.

"Even now we have community members who don't feel safe going into court houses and public spaces," Delgado said. "If IP 22 makes it on the ballot and Oregon voters pass it, that would make our communities of color feel unsafe."

Tim Stoelb, president of the Oregon School Employee Association, told the crowd that "elitists" have used fear of different races, genders, ethnicities and sexual orientations to justify racist and prejudicial behaviors. He did not specify who are the "elitists."

"Together we must end the hatred and remind everyone that we are part of a much larger family — the human race," Stoelb said.

Delgado called Initiative Petition 22 a scare tactic targeting immigrants, but OFIR officials told the Statesman Journal last year that every nation has the right to set its own immigration policies, and voters should have the right to vote on the state's sanctuary state law on the November ballot.

Kris Foster, 24, of Clackamas County, joined a handful of counter-protesters who attended the rally in hopes of confronting Gov. Brown with their concerns about their Second Amendment rights and legal immigration.

He said Oregon's sanctuary law allows the state to harbor criminals, and it impacts law enforcement's role in maintaining lawful order in the community.

"Not all of them are criminals, but not allowing law enforcement to work with federal law enforcement makes it harder to track down criminals who are not law abiding," Foster said.

At one point during the rally, when Ramon Ramirez, president of Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, was talking about Initiative Petition 22, a handful of counter-protesters got in verbal confrontation with May Day supporters. Rally supporters drowned out the whirring of a megaphone with "si se puede" chants before the confrontation subsided into mumbled insults.

Oregon State Police troopers hovered nearby but no arrests were made.

At the culmination of roughly two hours of speeches from Gov. Brown, union members, immigrant rights organizers and Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon, D-Woodburn, hundreds of supporters weaved through Downtown Salem, encircling the Oregon State Capitol, waving American and Mexican flags and chanting "El pueblo unido jamas sera vencido."

"The people united will never be defeated."

## Chicago, IL



## May Day around the Worlds

### Baghdad, Iraq



### Barcelona, Spain



## Havana, Cuba



## Hong Kong, China



## Lahore, Pakistan



**Manila, Philippines**



**Moscow, Russia**



**Nizhny Novgorod, Russia**



**Phnom Penh, Cambodia**





Seoul, South Korea



Taipei, China



Tunis, Tunisia



Yangon, Myanmar



**National Immigrant Solidarity Network**

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**ActionLA Coalition** <http://www.ActionLA.org>

**Peace NO War Network** <http://www.PeaceNOWar.net>

**Activist Video Service** <http://www.ActivistVideo.org>

**China-US Bi-National Activist Solidarity Network**

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