Juan Iñigo Carrera

Argentina: The Reproduction of Capital Accumulation through Political Crisis

And all science would be superfluous if the form of appearance of things directly coincided with their essence.¹

Se vogliamo che tutto rimanga come é, bisogna che tutto cambi.²

In her article, ‘The Battle of Buenos Aires: Crisis, Insurrection and the Reinvention of Politics in Argentina’, Ana Dinerstein presents a thesis which bears much relevance for the Argentine working class. According to Dinerstein, the events of 19–20 December 2001 in the Plaza de Mayo brought about a fundamental change in the way politics is practised in Argentina. Moreover, the nature of this change is impossible to miss, clearly pointing as it does towards a new form of political action directed at superseding the capitalist mode of production.

Dinerstein bases her thesis on four points related to the people’s march on the Plaza de Mayo: a) its broad-based appeal; b) its spontaneity and horizontal organisation; c) its demand ‘all of them must go!’

² Tomasi di Lampedusa 2000, p. 41.
Compare, for instance, Altamira 2002 and Bonnet 2002.


Anonymous 2002a, p. 17. The actual number of deaths during the looting spree could be significantly higher. According to direct witnesses, for example, four people were killed simply during the looting of a supermarket in José C. Paz. None of these deaths were officially registered.


See, for example, Petras and Veltmeyer 2002.