

LA VÍA CAMPESINA

Globalization and the Power of Peasants

Annette Aurélie Desmarais, Foreword by Walden Bello

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"... a comprehensive, informative, and intelligent analysis of the current global agrarian resistance to the industrialization and corporatization of farming. The book takes us inside the organizational dynamics to reveal the courage, commitment, and imagination it takes to build coherent resistance. This book offers invaluable information — and articulates hope." — Nettie Wiebe, St. Andrew's College, Canada; former President of the National Farmers Union (Canada) and former Regional Coordinator of La Vía Campesina for North America.

"La Vía Campesina captures the struggles, proposals and actions of a movement that embraces a new understanding of solidarity among farmers, peasants, farm workers, indigenous peoples, and rural women in the North and South as they engage in a common struggle against neo-liberal, free-trade, and pro-corporatization policies." — Paul Nicholson, farm leader with the Coordination Paysanne Européenne, Regional Coordinator of La Vía Campesina for Europe.

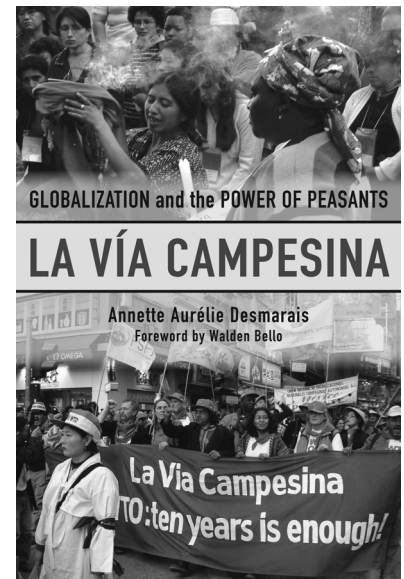
"... a groundbreaking study and a significant contribution to our understanding of globalization, food systems, and social movements. This compelling study is a major step in bringing to light the voices and visions of an emerging global movement for sustainable food practices." — Philip McMichael, Cornell University, USA; author of *Development and Social Change; Agrarian Orders in the World-Economy*; and *The Global Restructuring of Agro-Food Systems*.

"La Vía Campesina is the most important transnational social movement in the contemporary world. They are the leading edge of resistance against neoliberal economic globalization. This book is must-read history and analysis for scholars and activists alike." — Peter Rosset, co-coordinator, Land Research Action Network (LRAN).

"Finally a book from the inside of global resistance by farmers to corporate takeover of the food, seeds and land on which all life depends. This magnificent analysis exposes the pitfalls that await popular movements, beset on all sides by neo-comprador ngos, corporate newspeak, World Trade Organization manipulations, internal division and funders' cooptation. How La Vía Campesina survived and thrived to champion food sovereignty, gender equity and global grassroots solidarity is an inspiring tale, beautifully told." — Terisa Turner, University of Guelph, Canada.

"La Vía Campesina has become one of the most dynamic and creative elements in the global justice movement. Annette Desmarais's insider history of this worldwide peasants' and small farmers' organization is essential reading for all those who seek to understand the opposition to neoliberal globalization and the social and environmental destruction wrought by industrial agriculture. The hopes that have propelled peasants and small farmers to cross-border unity and action are on proud display in this moving account." — Marc Edelman, City University of New York, USA. Author of *The Logic of the Latifundio; Peasants Against Globalization*; and co-editor of *The Anthropology of Development and Globalization*.

"Born from peasants' tenacious determination to continue being peasants ... la Vía Campesina has become a promoter of a 'modernization' which embraces everyone. This curious irony, for a class that classical analysts assigned a role in social transformation equivalent to a mere sack of potatoes, has been magisterially analyzed and explained by Annette Desmarais. Her book is an indispensable text to understand one of the most relevant actors in the new map of alternative social activism." — Luis Hernández Navarro, Opinion Page Editor and a columnist for *La Jornada*, one of Mexico's national daily newspapers.



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