



# Railroad Workers United

**Solidarity • Unity • Democracy**

***The Rank & File in Action!***

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## **RWU Statement on U.S. Democracy**

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The United States of America has a long running tradition of an orderly and peaceful transition of power from one administration to another. This ability to transition in such fashion is a central hallmark of this nation's democracy.

For nearly two and a half centuries, the U.S. has thrived in such a fashion, strengthening and nurturing the ideals of democratic self-governance. While we are a diverse nation of people of many national origins, backgrounds, religions, beliefs and ideologies, we are all bound together, united in our mutual faith and understanding that - despite its weaknesses and imperfections - majority rule through democratic elections where every eligible citizen is entitled to vote and have their vote counted - is the most desirable form of governance.

Democracies around the world look on anxiously in the hope and expectation that the U.S. elections are honored by the defeated candidate, and that a peaceful and orderly transition of power proceeds apace. Likewise, adversaries and opponents hope for calamity and destruction in the understanding that a failure of U.S. democracy will serve to further their ends.

Therefore, Railroad Workers United (RWU) insists that every vote is counted, that every irregularity is investigated and that the candidate receiving the most votes under U.S. election law prevails as the victor. Should the incumbent President refuse to accept the election results in any manner, RWU joins with other trade unions, central labor bodies, other labor organizations and citizens groups in condemning such action and urge our members to take action in defense of our democracy.

RWU lauds the statement of AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka: *The AFL-CIO categorically rejects all threats to the peaceful transition of power. The labor movement simply will not allow any breach of the U.S. Constitution or other effort to deny the will of the people. Union members across the political spectrum are united in our fundamental belief that the votes of the American people must always determine the presidency. America's workers will continue to be steadfast in defense of our democracy in the face of President Trump's antics, and we stand ready to do our part to ensure his defeat in this election is followed by his removal from office.*

RWU urges all rail unions to likewise issue such statements, to join with other sectors of the working class, and to assume an active role in warding off any attempted coup by mobilizing their members to take industrial action as necessary to defend the electoral process and to preserve our democratic institutions.

**Adopted by the RWU Executive Committee 11/2/2020**