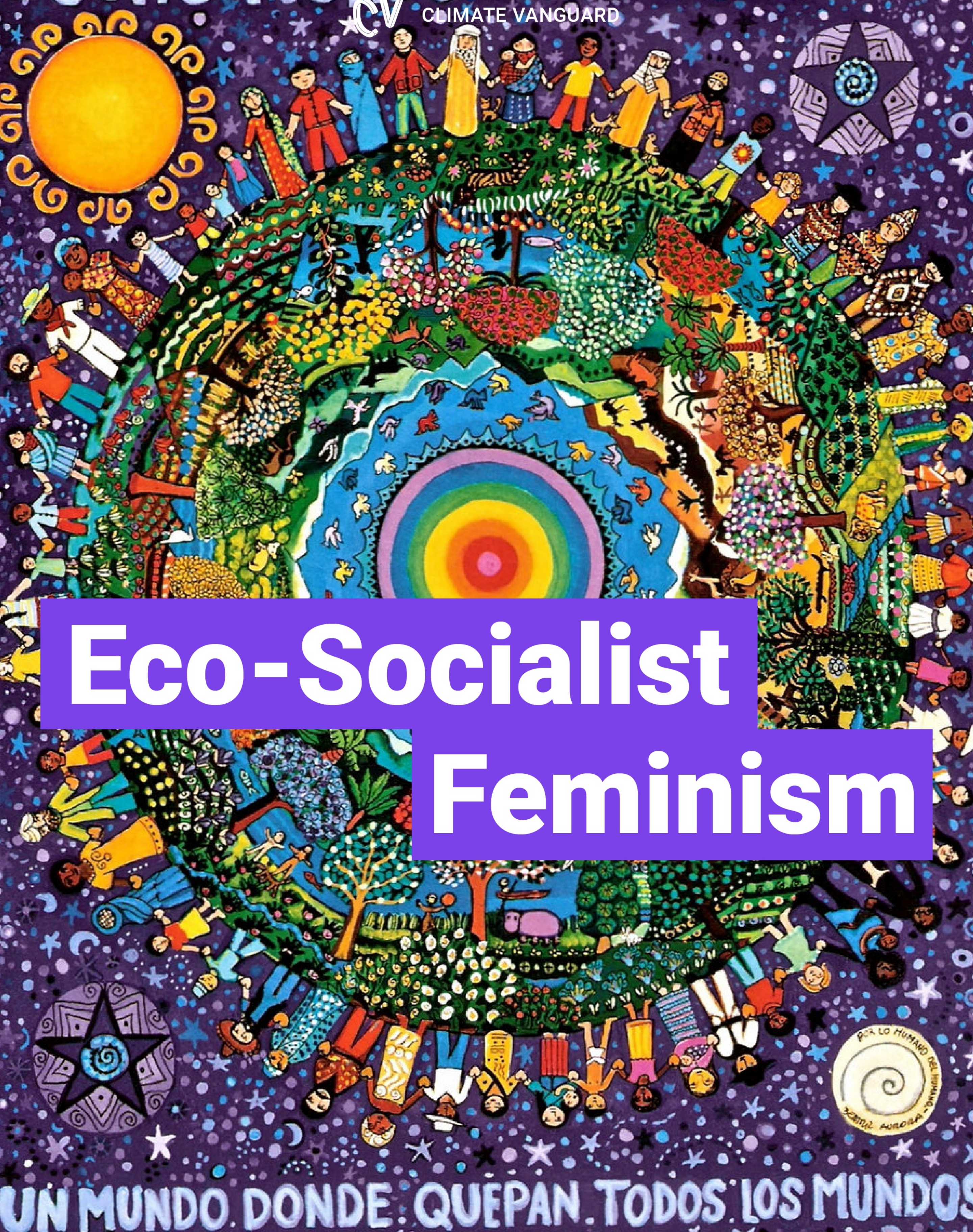


OTRO MUNDO ES POSIBLE



CLIMATE VANGUARD



Eco-Socialist

Feminism

UN MUNDO DONDE QUEPAN TODOS LOS MUNDOS



Today, March 8th,
commemorates the **feminist**
struggle for liberation.

Across the world, people are struggling
against gendered oppression and exploitation
– from the home and the workplace, to
all-too-common experiences of gender-based
violence, to the frontlines of imperialist war
and ecological breakdown.



Gendered oppression has a long, bloody history.

Patriarchy is a social system in which power and authority – endowed by political, economic, and social rights and norms – are predominantly held by people socialised as men, while people socialised as women and other subordinately gendered people are systematically denied equal power, rights, and treatment.*

***Note:** Gender is a complex social construct, in which people may be socialised as one gender but identify as another or be perceived as another by other people. This, too, can influence their access to power and experience of oppression.



Through this power imbalance, people socialised as women have historically been exploited and marginalised in ways that reinforce gendered hierarchy. In feudal Europe, for example, women could not own property and were themselves treated as property of their fathers or husbands.

So, feminist struggle rightly focuses on dismantling inequalities between genders.



CLIMATE VANGUARD

Intersections of Capitalism and Patriarchy



But centering gender inequality alone does not reveal the whole story. **It's not people's *biology* that leads certain groups to be subordinated, but the social relations in which they are embedded.**

Under capitalism, the foundational social relation is that between the capitalist class and the working class. Specifically, members of the working class must sell their labour power to the capitalists who own the means of production and extract profit.

In this exploitative arrangement, **gender is weaponised to serve the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the ruling class.** Therefore, patriarchal oppression cannot be understood without considering class.

Gendered oppression and exploitation under capitalism take many forms.

In the formal economy, there is gendered division of labour, with certain, often poorly compensated jobs (e.g. cleaning, caretaking, teaching), being carried out by working-class women and other subordinately gendered people. And they are often **paid less than people who are socialised as men for performing the same work.***

***Note:** This gendered exploitation is intensified by its intersection with other systems of domination, including racism, xenophobia, queerphobia, ageism, and ableism.





Women also perform the majority of unpaid care work in our societies, including household and emotional labour. Usually, they do this in addition to paid work, leaving them less free time to care for themselves and explore personal interests.



Like the extraction of natural resources, these are gendered subsidies, or 'free gifts,' that capitalism depends on.

Even if there were more subordinately gendered people in positions of power, the vast majority would remain working-class. They would continue to face oppression as long as the capitalist structure of society remains intact.

The liberation of subordinately gendered people is, therefore, only possible through the abolition of class society.

Feminist struggles must be unapologetically anti-capitalist.

Towards an Eco-Socialist Feminism

On March 8th, and
everyday, we must
struggle against all
forms of oppression,
from gender-based
violence to the
domination of
non-human nature.

We need to construct
a feminist
eco-socialist society
that enables
collective flourishing
for all life and for
people of all genders.

