

# TOMMY GUNS

NAÇÃO VALENTE

written and directed by Carlos Conceição



Locarno Film Festival  
Official Selection

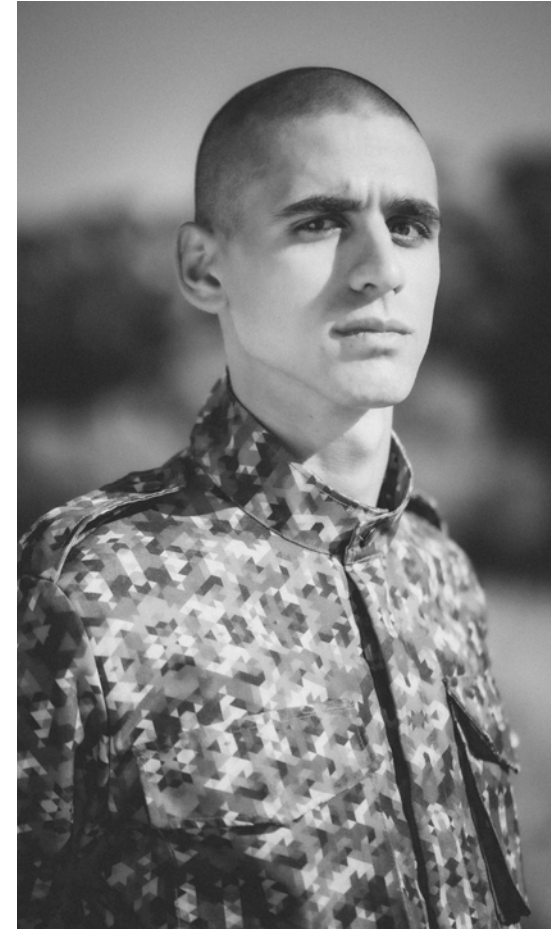
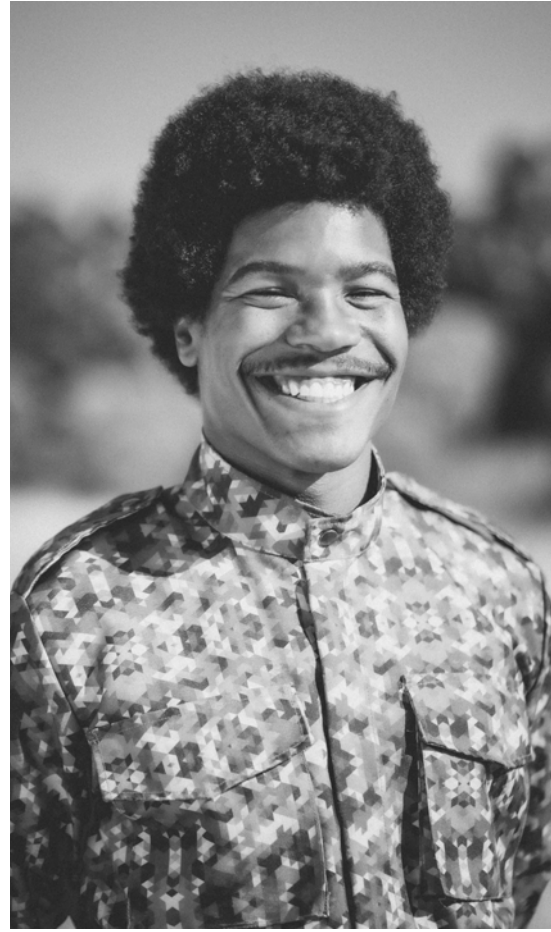
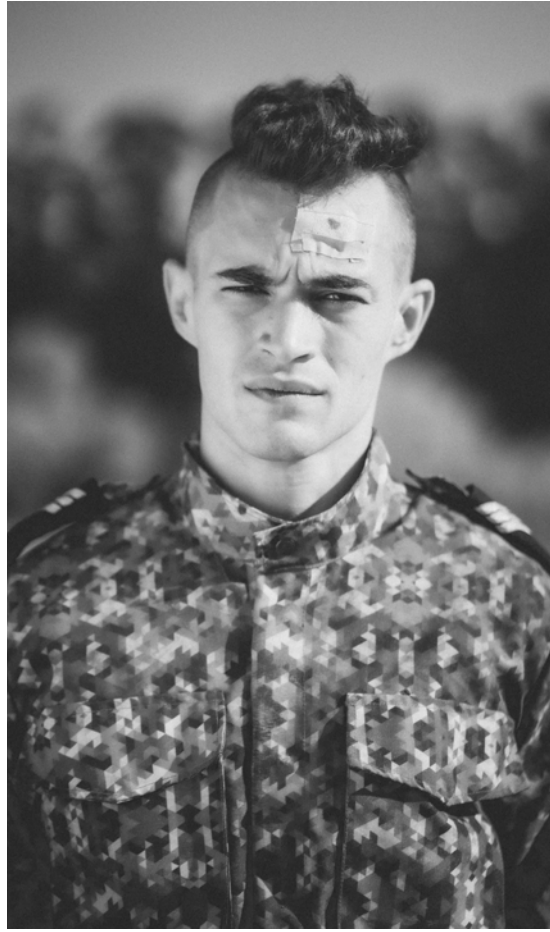


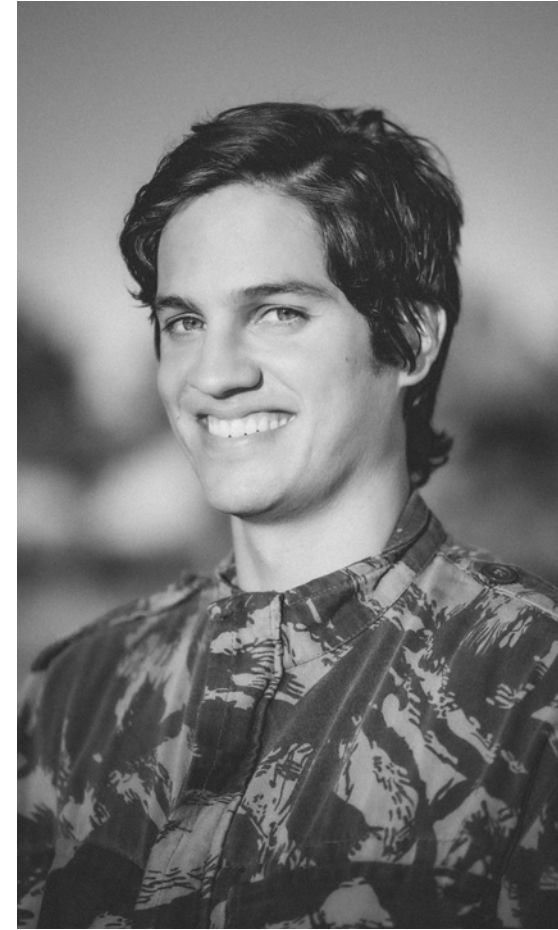
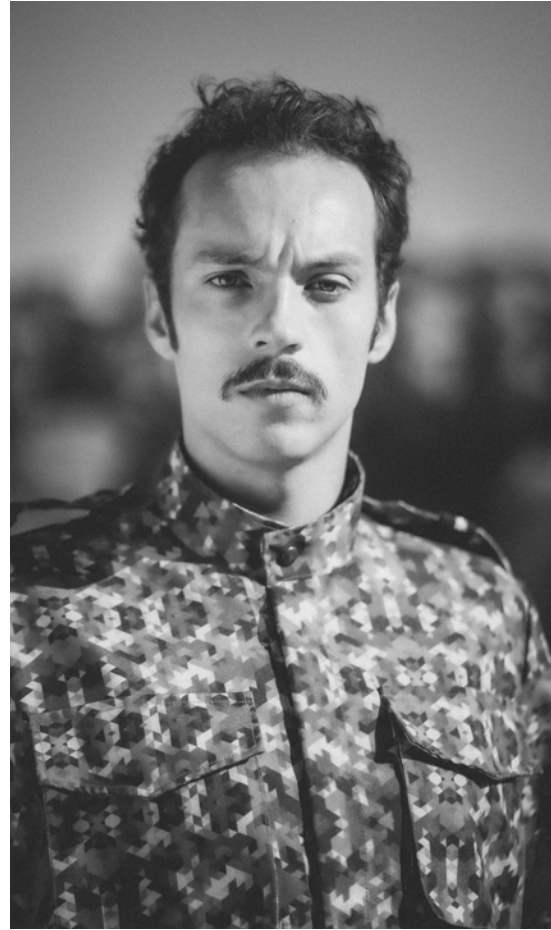
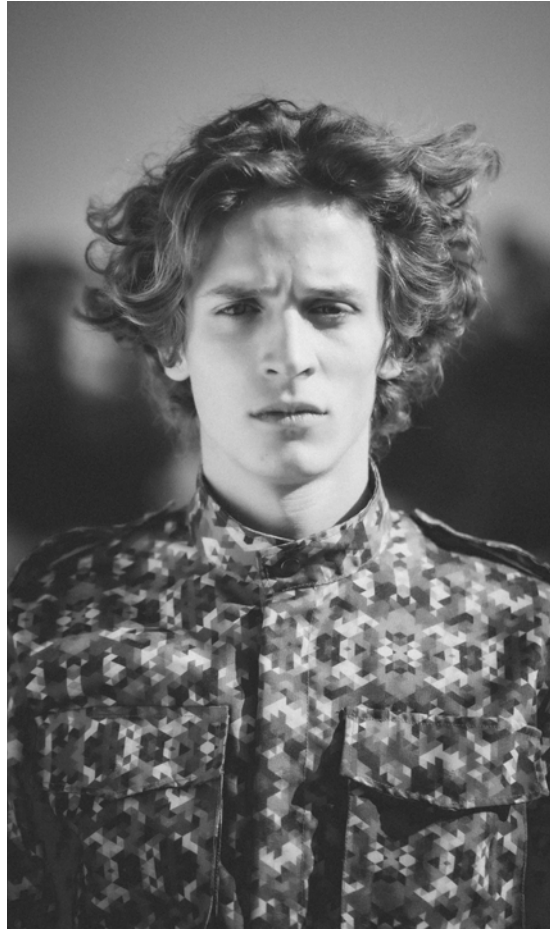




## SYNOPSIS

Angolan-Portuguese director Carlos Conceição's audacious and enigmatic *Tommy Guns* invokes the ghosts of Angola's colonial past while embracing the symbolic power of genre filmmaking. The story begins in 1974, just one year before the country's independence from decades of Portuguese rule. Wealthy colonists are fleeing the country as Angolan revolutionaries gradually claim their land back. A tribal girl discovers love and danger when her path crosses that of a Portuguese soldier. Another group of soldiers, completely cut off from the outside world, blindly follow the brutal orders of their commander in the name of serving their country. But nothing stays fixed in this genre-shifting cinematic puzzle, which playfully swerves from art house drama to war film to zombie flick to escape thriller with exhilarating control. Winner of Best European Film and the Youth Jury Award at the Locarno Film Festival, *Tommy Guns* has elicited comparisons to the work of Claire Denis, Miguel Gomes, and even M. Night Shyamalan, and announces a bold and exciting new voice in Portuguese and Angolan filmmaking.





# cast

## João Arrais

*L'Enfant* (Marguerite de Hilerien, Félix Dutiloy-Liégeois, 2021)  
*Fátima* (Marco Pontecorvo, 2021)  
*Serpentarius* (Carlos Conceição, 2019)  
*Mysteries Of Lisbon* (Raul Ruiz, 2011)

## Anabela Moreira

*Diamantino* (Gabriel Abrantes, Daniel Schmid, 2018)  
*Sangue de meu Sangue* (João Canijo, 2010)  
*Carne* (Carlos Conceição, 2010)

## Gustavo Sumpta

*The Hunchback* (Gabriel Abrantes, Ben Rivers, 2016)  
*Horse Money* (Pedro Costa, 2014)  
*A Zona* (Sandro Aguilar, 2008)  
*Colossal Youth* (Pedro Costa, 2006)

## Miguel Amorim

*Nunca Nada Aconteceu* (Gonçalo Galvão Teles, 2022)  
*The One* (Netflix, 2021)  
*O Cordeiro de Deus* (David Pinheiro Vicente, 2020)

## João Cachola

*Cherchez La Femme* (António Cunha Telles, 2023)  
*Aparição* (Fernando Vendrell, 2018)

## Ivo Arroja

*Remains Of The Wind* (Tiago Guedes, 2022)

## Vicente Gil

*Ubu* (Paulo Abreu, 2023)  
*Dogs Barking at Birds* (Leonor Teles, 2019)

## Sílvio Vieira

*3 Mulheres* (Fernando Vendrell, 2021-22)  
*Amor Amor* (Jorge Cramez, 2017)

## Diogo Nobre

*Causa Própria* (João Nuno Pinto, 2022)

## André Cabral

*Will-O'-The-Wisp* (João Pedro Rodrigues, 2022)

## Ulé Baldé

*Primeira Obra* (Rui Simões, 2023)

## Leonor Silveira

*John From* (João Nicolau, 2015)  
*Gebo and the Shadow* (Manoel de Oliveira, 2012)  
*The Uncertainty Principle* (Manoel de Oliveira, 2001)  
*Abraham Valley* (Manoel de Oliveira, 1993)

## Meirinho Mendes

*Via de Acesso* (Nathalie Mansoux, 2008)  
*In The Hollow City* (Maria João Nganga, 2004)









**1926**

MAY 28, A Military coup led by Gomes da Costa establishes the National Dictatorship against the democratic but unstable 1st Republic.

**1926**

MAY 20, The President of the Republic, Bernardino Machado, resigns.

**1926**

JUNE 3, The National Assembly is dissolved by dictatorial decree. All heads of Municipalities are substituted. The Carbonária is banned. All Political parties are banned.

**1926**

JUNE 22, Censorship is instituted.

**1926**

DECEMBER 16, The Police of Information, a Political Police, is created.

**1927**

MAY 17, Minimum years of schooling reduced from the 6th to the 4th grade, in all levels of non-university schooling. Students are divided by gender.

**1928**

A Missionary Agreement gives special status to the action of the Catholic Church in Portugal's colonies.

**1929**

The Portuguese Communist Party's main office is closed.

**1930**

Roman Catholic religious institutes are again permitted in Portugal. Adapting to its new illegal status the Portuguese Communist Party creates a net of clandestine cells to avoid the wave of detentions.

**1932**

The Colonial Act is published, defining the status of Portuguese colonies (Angola, Cabinda, Cape Verde, Portuguese Guinea São Tomé and Príncipe, Mozambique, Goa, Dili, Daman & Diu and Nagar Haveli, Timor and Macau). On the 4th anniversary of the 28th of May, Minister of Finance António de Oliveira Salazar presents the fundamental principles of the new regime. JULY 5, Salazar becomes Prime Minister.





**1933**

A new Constitution approved in a false referendum defines Portugal as a Corporative, Single Party and Multi-continental Country (in Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania).  
A fascist-leaning right-wing Dictatorial regime entitled Estado Novo is installed.  
The Single Party National Union is created.  
The Code of National Labour is published, prohibiting all free trade unions.  
A Political Police, the PVDE (State Defense and Vigilance Police) is created.  
Censorship, particularly of the Mass media, is systematic and generalized.

**1935**

The Portuguese Communist Party's Secretary

General Bento Gonçalves is arrested by the PVDE after taking part in the 7th Congress of the Comintern.

**1936**

MAY 19. Creation of the Portuguese Youth, a compulsory paramilitary youth organization similar to the Hitler Youth.  
JULY. Beginning of the Spanish Civil War; Portugal promptly supports Francisco Franco and sends military aid (the Vinates) to fight against the Spanish Republicans.  
The Tarrafal concentration camp for political prisoners is opened in the colony of Cape Verde, under direct control of the PVDE.  
Italian Fascist and German Nazi advisors fly in to help model the PVDE after the Gestapo.

**1939**

The Iberian Neutrality Pact is put forward by Salazar to Francisco Franco.

**1942**

Portuguese Communist Party's Secretary General Bento Gonçalves dies in Tarrafal.

**1945**

The Political Police is renamed PIDE (International Police for the Defense of the State).  
Spanish dictator Francisco Franco receives a Doctorate honoris causa from the University of Coimbra.

**1951**

In an attempt to curb criticism of Portuguese Colonialism, all the colonies are renamed Overseas Provinces.

**1954**

The Dadra and Nagar Haveli Portuguese enclave, dependent on Daman, is occupied by India.





**1956**

Amílcar Cabral founds the PAIGC (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde).  
DECEMBER. The MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola), is founded by Agostinho Neto.

**1957**

The FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola), is founded.

**1959**

Portuguese soldiers open fire on protesting dockworkers in Bissau (Portuguese Guinea), killing 50.

**1960**

JANUARY. Ten Portuguese Communist Party members escape from the high-security prison of Peniche. Among the escapees is Álvaro Cunhal.

**1961**

FEBRUARY 4. The Portuguese Colonial War starts in Angola with a revolt in Luanda.

**1962**

MARCH 15. Attacks in northern Angola by the UPA (Union of the Angolan People), against Portuguese colonists, causing hundreds of deaths.  
Salazar appoints himself Minister of National Defense to face the war in Africa.

**1963**

MARCH 24. A huge student demonstration in Lisbon is brutally repressed by the shock police.  
JUNE 25. The FRELIMO (Mozambican Liberation Front) is founded in Tanzania.  
The PAIGC Guerrilla against the Portuguese begins in Praia.

**1964**

JANUARY. Amílcar Cabral and PAIGC declare full-scale war against the Portuguese in Guinea.

**1965**

FEBRUARY. The FRELIMO controls most of Northern Mozambique.  
The Path to Victory - The tasks of the Party in the National and Democratic Revolution, a highly important document in the anti-fascist struggle.  
6th Congress of the Portuguese Communist Party. Álvaro Cunhal releases the tasks of the Party in the National and Democratic Revolution, a highly important document in the anti-fascist struggle.





**1966**

**AUGUST 6**

The Salazar Bridge is inaugurated in Lisbon above the Tagus river. It is the longest suspension bridge in Europe and a replica (by the same engineers) of the Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco. The UNITA (National Union for Total Independence of Angola) is founded by Jonas Savimbi.

**1967**

**By this time the PAIGC has carried out 147 attacks on Portuguese barracks and army encampments, and effectively control 2/3 of Portuguese Guinea.**

**1968**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

Salazar leaves the Government due to health problems.

**1969**

**SEPTEMBER 28**

Marcello Caetano becomes Prime Minister.

**1970**

**JULY 27**

Death of António de Oliveira Salazar.

**1973**

**JANUARY**

Amílcar Cabral is assassinated in Conakry under orchestration of the PIDE.

**1974**

**APRIL 25**

The Carnation Revolution puts an end to five decades of dictatorship. Marcello Caetano exiles to Brazil.

**1975**

**MARCH 11**

Independence is granted to all Portuguese colonies in Africa and promised to East Timor.

**1976**

**AUGUST 2**

A meeting takes place in Iago where a Committee is created supporting democratic trends in Portugal

**1977**

**NOVEMBER 11**

Angola is declared independent by Agostinho Neto.

**1978**

**DECEMBER 7**

East Timor is violently annexed by Indonesia.

**1979**

**MARCH**

Salazar is voted "Greatest Portuguese of All Time" on a public poll.

**1980**

**MARCH**

Publishing of a list of about 25 racial crimes perpetrated in Portugal over the previous decade.

**2007**

**2020**

Alt Right party Chega ("Enough") gets 3rd place in the Legislative National Elections.









# Carlos Conceição [DIRECTOR]

Carlos Conceição was born in Angola. He first came to Locarno with his short film "Versailles" in 2013. His shorts "Goodnight Cinderella" and "Bad Bunny" premiered in Cannes and his first feature length film "Serpentarius" was widely acclaimed after its premiere at the Berlinale Forum in 2019. The hour-long horror film "Name Above Title", has made a few Top 10 lists in 2021, and garnered the notorious Méliès d'Argent. Carlos is currently finishing a body-horror film about body dysmorphia.

## Filmography

*Tommy Guns* - 119' | 2022

*Name Above Title* - 59' | 2020

*Serpentarius* - 80' | 2019

*Bad Bunny* - 33' | 2017

*Goodnight Cinderella* - 30' | 2014

*Versailles* - 20' | 2013

*Hell, or Pool Keeping* - 20' | 2011

*The Flesh* - 20' | 2010





## Vasco Viana [CINEMATOGRAPHER]

Vasco Viana's Cinematography first gained notoriety with *Arena* (João Salaviza), Palme d'Or for short film 2009. In 2015 he was awarded at Manaki Brothers, an international festival especially dedicated to Cinematography. Since then he has been working in fiction films, documentaries, television series, advertising and music videos with relevant directors from Portugal and elsewhere. In 2019 he debuted his documentary *Lisbon Beat*, co-directed by Rita Maia.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY | *Rafa* (João Salaviza, 2012), *The Nothing Factory* (Pedro Pinho, 2017), *Patrick* (Gonçalo Waddington, 2019), *Name Above Title* (Carlos Conceição, 2020), *Dawn* (Leonor Noivo, 2021)



## Leonor Noivo [EXECUTIVE PRODUCER]

Leonor Noivo studied Architecture and Photography before specializing in Film Editing and Directing (2004). She attended the Ateliers Varan Documentary Course in 2006. Since then she has worked as script-supervisor, writer and assistant director to many important directors. She has directed fiction and documentary, most recently *Reynard* (2019) and *Dawn* (2021), and created video installations with several performance artists, as well as workshops at different Film Schools.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY | *To Die Like a Man* (João Pedro Rodrigues, 2009), *The Sword and the Rose* (João Nicolau, 2010), *The Nothing Factory* (Pedro Pinho, 2017), *All I Imagine* (L. Noivo, 2017), *Will-o'-The-Wisp* (João Pedro Rodrigues, 2022)



# Terratreme

TERRATREME is a film production company that offers its projects greater autonomy throughout the creative process by combining research, creativity and education in cinema. They have produced some of the most important portuguese films in recent years, and opened them in festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Locarno, Rotterdam, FID Marseille, Rio de Janeiro, CPH:DOX, Viennale, BAFICI, Cinéma du Réel, FICUNAM, Mar del Plata, IndieLisboa, among others. TERRATREME has also co-produced films with countries like France, Switzerland, Germany, Angola, Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Japan.

# Mirabilis

Mirabilis is a new production joint developed both in Angola and Portugal. They have produced Carlos Conceição's feature film "Serpentarius" (2019) as well as his mid-length horror film "Name Above Title" (2020) and the upcoming "Bodyhackers" in co-production with Italy.

# Virginie Films

Virginie Lacombe has been producing films for twenty years. She produced "The Other Son" (Lorraine Lévy, 2012), "Faith Connections" (Pan Nalin, 2013) and "Blockbuster" (July Hygreck, 2018). She co-produced Vladimir de Fontenay's "Mobile Homes", starring Imogen Poots and Callum Turner (2017 Cannes Directors Fortnight) and "Port Authority" (Danielle Lessovitz) with RT Features ("Call me by your Name") and Sikelia (Martin Scorsese), premiered in Cannes 2019 at Un Certain Regard. She is currently developing "The Wind Also Sings" (Hadi Gandhour), "Niagara Falls" (Christian Monnier), "Flares" (Danielle Lessovitz) and the series "Model" (JT Allen and Sarah DeAnna), to be shot in NY.









# crew

*Writer / Director*

**Carlos Conceição**

*Assistant Directors*

**Paulo Belém**

**José Rito**

*Cinematographer*

**Vasco Viana**

*Production Managers*

**Paula Ribas**

**Frederico Mesquita**

*Editor*

**António Gonçalves**

*Line Producer*

**Carolina Ribeiro**

*Sound Engineer*

**Rafael Cardoso**

*Producers*

**Leonor Noivo**

*Sound Mixer*

**Xavier Thieulin**

**João Matos**

**Luisa Homem**

*Production Designer*

**Artur Pinheiro**

**Pedro Pinho**

**Susana Nobre**

**Tiago Hespanha**

*Costume Designer*

**Patrícia Dória**

*Associate-Producers*

**Margarida Ventura**

*Makeup*

**Márcia Lourenço**

**Carlos Conceição**

*Co-Producers*

**Virginie Lacombe**

*Special Makeup FX*

**Oldskull FX - João Rapaz**

**Arnaud Quesada**

*Script Supervisor*

**Inês Garcia-Marques**

*Stills Photographer*

**Gonçalo Castelo Soares**

*Design*

**Artur dos Reis**



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*"A luta continua"*