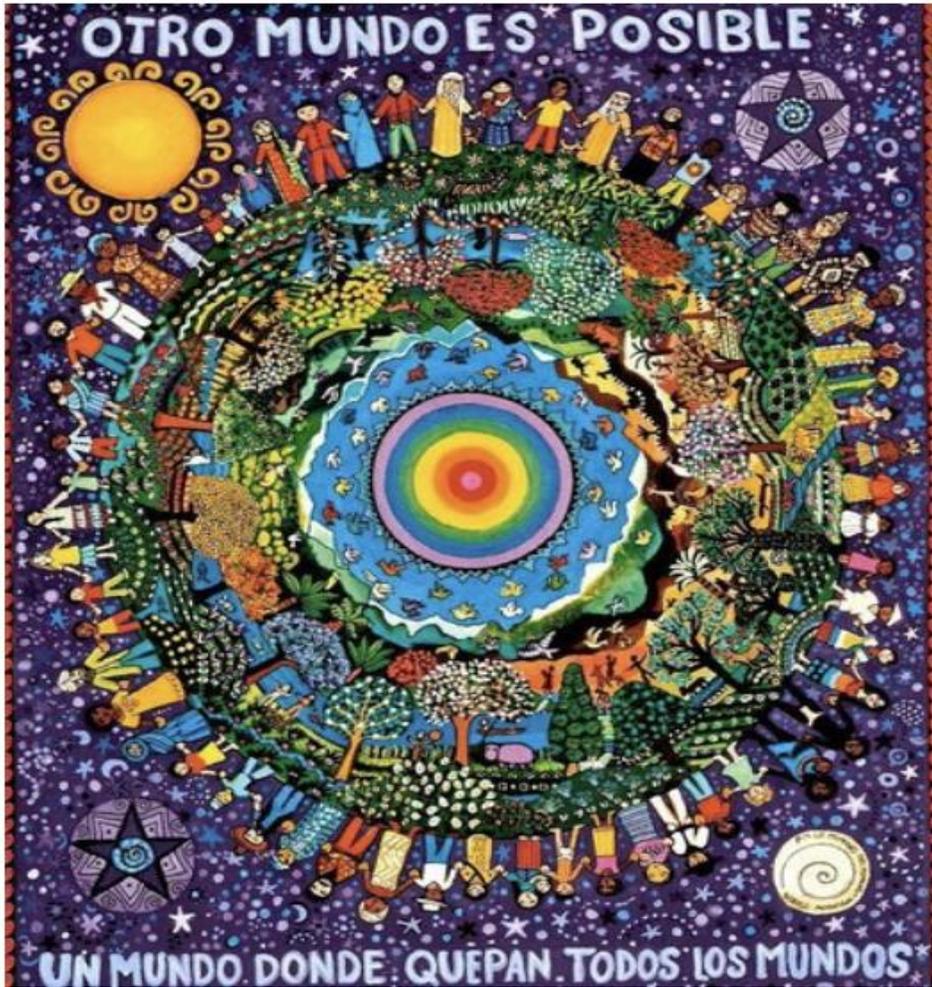


Mission 21 Summer School

Decolonizing cooperation and development:
A critical perspective from Latin America

María Ximena González Serrano

Pluriverse



“There are words and worlds that are lies and injustices.

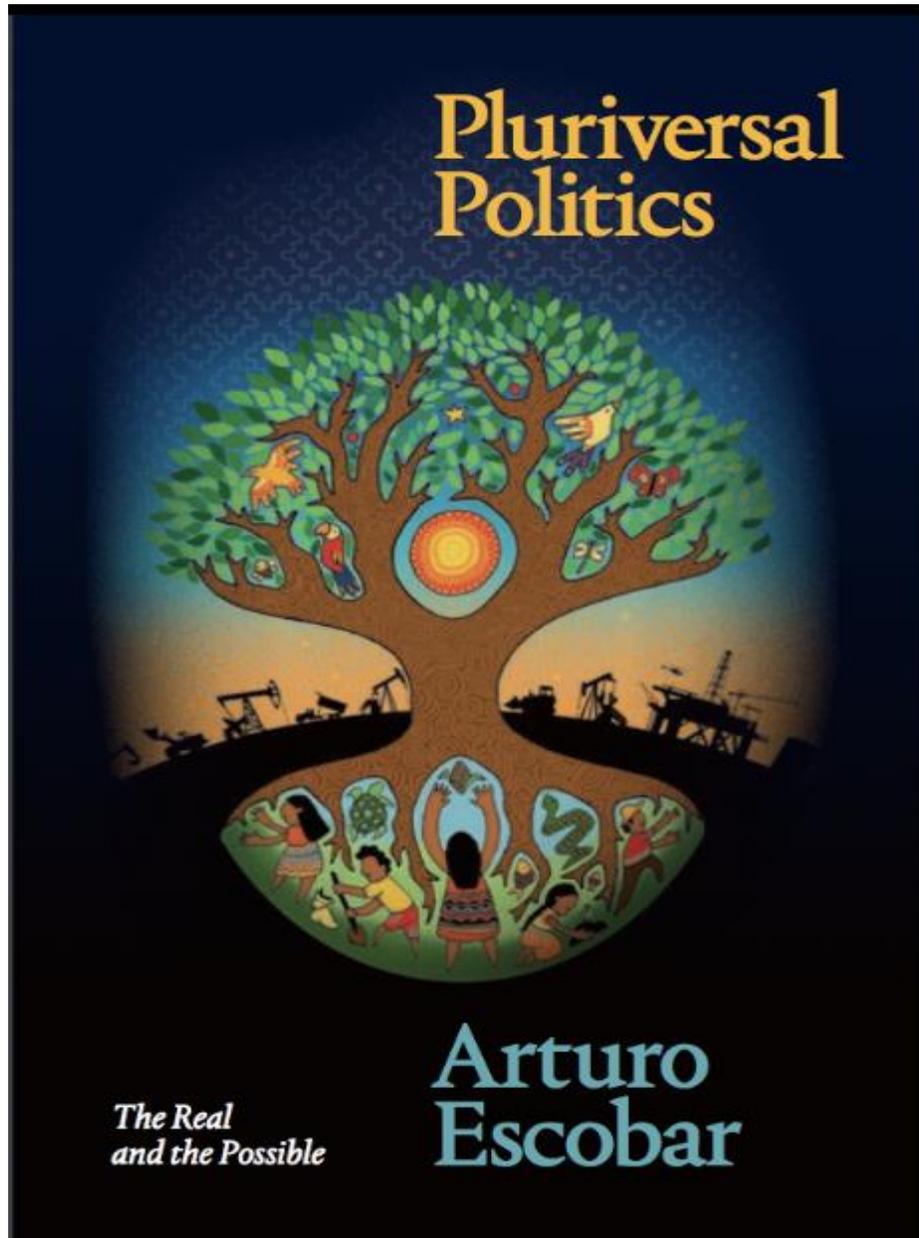
There are words and worlds that are true and real. We make worlds true. We are made by true words.

In the world of the powerful there is room for only the great and their servants.

In the world we want there is room for all. The world we want is one where many worlds fit”.

Zapatista Movement of National Liberation

Artist: Beatriz Aurora - Inspired in the Zapatist Movement in Chiapas - Mexico



The idea of pluriverse is composed of two main objectives:

- The first refers to the construction of "an ecologically wise and socially just world", which seeks to question current continualist or reformist discourses, to overcome structures of oppression and inequality such as racism or patriarchy and to find a new way of relating to nature.
- The second objective seeks to eliminate dichotomies by integrating historically discriminated groups and promoting change from the universalism imposed by the West towards a "pluriversality".

Buen vivir-Suma Kawsay- Good Living: A proposal woven in the Andes



Suma Kawsay – Good Living – Buen Vivir

- Solidarity, complementarity, and reciprocity between humans, and humans and Nature
- The Andean world is a world of nurturing, love, and respect, where we are all equivalent living beings (nature/*sallqa*, humans/*runas*, deities/*apus o wacas*).
- All beings are relatives (*ayllu*) and we form and live collectively in a territory (*pacha*) to care for and regenerate life.
- La *Chakra*, understood as a space destined to the cultivation of food, must be cared for and tended according to an agro-festive ritual calendar.
- The rituals are fundamental, because through them life is created and recreated in all its extensions and practices, in order to seek harmony and balance among all visible and non-visible living beings.





VIVIR SABROSO



VIVIR SIN MIEDO

Vivir Sabroso/ Tasty living

It is an ethical bet that gathers traditions, practices and life experiences of the black populations of the Pacific and the Colombian Caribbean, to propose another way of understanding welfare, where the center is not the individual but the collective.

It is not the I, but the we, and that we, not only includes the human beings, but also the people.



For the populations of the middle Atrato region that have suffered enslavement, war and dispossession, life and well-being do not imply the absence of sadness, mourning or death.

In contrast, it implies a particular attitude willing to recompose life, to insist on it and on its collective enjoyment even in the midst of death, pain and deep conflicts.

Tasty living is a horizon that has been proposed by peoples who have been enslaved, marginalized and beaten and that invites us to find a collective sense of existence (Restrepo 2018).



“Alabaos y gualíes”: Rites of prayer, burial and connection of worlds in the Medio Atrato Choco, Colombia
Source: Andrés Mauricio Mosquera

Tasty living is based on an understanding of the world in which different elements of nature (rivers, mountains, stones, trees, jungles, animals, among others), as well as ancestors who have died, are existences that have spirits and participate together with humans in the unfolding of life and death.

It is a vision of the world that is always in movement, in constant change and where all living beings are mutually constituted and are necessary conditions for existence.

In addition, the concept of people or community is the center of political, social, spiritual, productive and festive action, which distances itself from European individualism, where the subject is the center of life in society and its vital purpose is to accumulate and maximize profits.



Artist: Angie Vanessita - Colombia

Decolonial cooperation relationships

- The role of the actors involved
- The character of the relationship
- The objectives, concepts and definitions used

