

A group of consumer-citizens, knowing the critical moment that we are living, are decided to take a step forward to achieve, all together, a new active, global and critical movement to start up. To make our objectives known we have developed the Manifesto which you will find attached. We invite you to read it to join this consumer's movement and contribute with own proposal and initiative. The movement that we are introducing to you t is open and participative and it is addressed to all consumers in order to make our problems understood and overcome and to achieve a better future as well.

We are sure that our objective is shared by most of consumers. Because of this, if you agree on the basic ideas of this Manifesto, we asking you to join us and you participate and be agent of this collective project.

If you are initially interested, it is enough for you to send us an email to this address: [criticosyactivos@hotmail.com](mailto:criticosyactivos@hotmail.com), starting your full name, your e-mail and town/city. We will keep you informed on our activities and our meeting for you to participate. You can also join our website on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/consumidores.criticosactivos>

You are invited to give the widest diffusion of this Manifesto amongst all contacts who may be interested.

## **MANIFESTO FOR A NEW, ACTIVE, GLOBAL AND CRITICAL CONSUMER'S MOVEMENT**

Today is more necessary and possible than ever a global, active and critical consumer's movement that awakens an active collective conscience and avoids citizens to continue being the weakest and most manipulable and wronged piece in the economic system.

The current situation of economic, social and political crisis can be the necessary catalyst in order to achieve consumers, as economic citizens, to organize themselves and, overcoming the consumerist standards, they will give way to some sort of new economic relations in which a true consumer ruling will take place instead of the tricks that are sold to us by publicity. Consumers, united and conscious of our possibilities, will be able to determine the general economy direction by means of our collective actions.

Facing the present economic and social reality it is necessary to give global responses to the consumer challenges in order to represent and protect their interests and rights in all consumer aspects that mainly affect their quality of life: energy, telecommunications, health services, transports, and other sectors that are controlled by the big distribution schemes. These services are, to a greater or lesser extent, linked to the Financial System that every day controls more aspects of our daily life.

The powerful economic agents have managed to impose the simplistic idea of assimilating the possessions of goods with the social success. The financial organizations and the big companies all over the world have enjoyed a "general opacity" and they have been able to commit the biggest irresponsibilities and economic disasters in a situation of absolute impunity and lack of control. The very same economic powers that have enriched themselves before the crisis, seek to go on being enriched afterwards. They want to set the economic recipes to relaunch on their own benefit, the same economic and financial system in which consumers (if they do not do anything to prevent it) can be more and more wronged.

Because of this, we believe that only a collective, global and critical consumer's action can push the future towards a new economic model that benefits the citizens' interests

### **OUR OBJECTIVES ARE:**

- **A new, global, plural and critical movement that sums up citizens to the active consumerist movement.**

It is necessary to boost the awareness of the general consumers' collective as active economic agents capable of joining and working to defend their interest facing the business, the public powers and the financial institutions.

The creation of a global citizens' movement, open and participative, above the individual interests, can produce very deep changes in the international economy.

- **A movement able to fight for the consumer's interest facing the aggressive commercial and advertising strategy of the big business and financial institutions.**

Confronting the big companies that use and abuse of their economic power and the media, it is necessary a wide, critical and responsible consumer's collective that spreads objective formation and information to largest amount of citizens. It is about to achieve every individual consumer to be able to make their own decisions in a free and smart way, knowing the economic, social, ethical and environmental consequences of these decisions. It is also necessary for them to know that responsibilities can and must actually be requested to people and organizations that have unfairly made themselves rich by causing serious damages to the general collective of citizens.

- **Acting together, above any partisanship to ensure that our interest and problems are taken into account.**

It is necessary for consumers to be able to keep together, above any partisanship, to assure that our interest and our voice are taken into account. An active and mobilized consumer collective will be a permanent surveillance force of political actions and will have capacity to take part in political decisions. This way it will be possible to achieve regulation in economic and consumer matters to be based on their repercussion on general citizens welfare and quality of life, instead of the interferences and political power of big business.

- **A new economic development model which fairer, sustainable and beneficial for everyone.**

Our purpose, as consumers is to actively participate to get a new consumer and development economic model, more sustainable, responsible and beneficial for all consumers after the crisis. We have to be conscious that we will only able to influence on the productive model if we do so in an organized and collective way: supporting our associations and taking actively part in their demands and protest campaigns requesting a policy that promotes investments in the sustainable social and economic sector.