

International Women's Day March 8th

ECP coach John interviews Laura from 'Libres y Combativas' about how young women all over the world are getting organised and fighting back against sexism and inequality



This is the transcript of John's interview with Laura at the ECP Hub. Listen to the audio to hear Laura's wonderful English!

John: In this week's Weekly English we're going to talk about the women's strike on March 8th and an organisation called 'Libres y Combativas'. And we're going to talk to Laura from Bilbao. Hello Laura!

Laura: Hello.

John: Now, first question, can you tell us, what is 'Libres y Combativas'?

Laura: Well. 'Libres y Combativas' is a feminist platform and we defend working class feminism and revolutionary feminism because we think it has a lot to do with... you know, the struggle has a lot to do with the worker's struggle and that that's the way that we have to fight.

John: Okay, when was 'Libres y Combativas' set up? When did it start?

Laura: Well, we set up the platform a year ago, and you know, 'cos we were so inspired by the struggles of women in Latin America with all the 'NO MÁS' and 'NI UNA MENOS' slogans against the murders of women, the struggles in Ireland and Poland to defend the abortion right. And you know the women of the United States against Donald Trump. There were lots of struggles of women around the world and we saw the necessity to actually create a platform that could actually organise women, in a, yeah, with revolutionary ideas.

John: Now, on March 8th there's going to be a strike, some people call it a feminist strike, on March 8th, all over the world. But there's going to be in the Spanish State and Basque Country. What activities are you involved in to organise for that? What are you doing?

Laura: Well, what we saw last year, we organised, we stopped the classes for an hour I think. And so what we saw was that it was a massive success and at the same time March 8th last year was a complete, you know, it was a social explosion. Not only in the Spanish State and the Basque Country but all over the world. So, we saw the necessity to give a step forward and to actually organise a strike. So, what we are standing for is for a strike, the student's strike in the Basque Country and also in the rest of Spain and the rest of the State. That's what we are putting out for.

John: Now, most of the students of English Coaching Projects are in Vitoria-Gasteiz and Alava. What activities are you organising in Alava and Vitoria?

Laura: Well, we want all the students, college students, university students, high school students to come to the concert that we are organising at Urban Rock the 9th of March, just the day after the 8th. And we invite you all to come!

John: So finally, what do you hope to achieve with the campaign of 'Libres y Combativas'?

Laura: Well first of all, we want to show off how the women, the young women, are getting organised and how we are becoming to be the leaders of the movement as well because of the oppression we suffer for being women. And so we see the necessity to get out and fight on March 8th... for abortion rights, for equal payment... for all the hundreds of women who have been murdered in the last decade in the Spanish State. But after March 8th we have to continue with the struggle. You know, nothing starts and nothing ends on the 8th. So, what we are calling for is also to get organised. We need to build an organisation that's able to actually fight and organise the working class women. And that's why we see the necessity to build 'Libres y Combativas' and we invite all of you to join us!

John: Okay then. Good luck with your campaign!

Laura: Thank you. <http://libresycombativas.net/> **Now answer the questions on p2!**



ECP Coach Ali will be playing at a benefit concert against domestic violence on March 9th along with Free the Wheel, Dr. Sax and Out Gravity. Tickets available from ECP

[Click here](#) and [here](#) to see the promo videos of the concert!





Activate Your English!

FRED talks

Fun, Relevant, Engaging Discourse



Donations
Aid NGO

Does charity work?



Friday 16th March 20.00-22.00
@ ECP's Molineux Lounge Free food & drinks!

San Ignacio de Loyola 15 bajo (en frente de Molinuevo)

March 2018 is **FRED Talks** month!!

On Friday 16th March we have 3 short talks on the theme of charity and the role of NGOs

There will be debate after to discuss if these initiatives really help people and communities

*Come and socialise in English!
(with craft beer, drinks and pintxos 😊)*

This Saturday is a Coffee Saturday!!

See you in Panadería Bertiz
between 11:00 and 12.30 😊

COFFEE SATURDAYS!

Come and socialise in English!



Where?

Panadería **Bertiz**
C/ Francia 23

3rd March - 7th April
5th May - 2nd June

When? The first available **Saturday**
of every month, from 11:00 to 12:30

Thanks to everyone who came to our
first **CINEMA NIGHT!**

We watched the fascinating film 'Kes'.

The next event will be on **Friday 23rd
March**. See you there!

CINEMA NIGHTS!

Come and socialise in English!

When? The last available Friday of every
month, 20:00 to 22:00, and it's **FREE!**

23rd February - 23rd March
27th April - 25th May - 29th June

Where? The **ECP Hub**

C/ San Ignacio de Loyola, 15

"Let's chat about that!"

Send your answers to your ECP coach!
Why not record your answers and listen to your pronunciation?

- Look at the facts below about gender inequality.
- How do you feel about it?
- How can all this be changed?
- Do you think Laura's campaign is the way to achieve gender equality? Why (not)?

- Over 150 countries have at least one actively sexist law
- Each minute, 28 girls are married before they are ready
- In 2015 there were only 21 female heads of state in the entire world
- 1 in 3 women have experienced physical or sexual violence at some point in their lifetime
- In most countries, women only earn between 60 and 75% of men's wages - for the same work
- There are approximately 781 million illiterate adults worldwide - two-thirds of whom are women
- 63 million girls still need to go to school
- 4 out of 5 victims of human trafficking are girls. The #Malala Fund raises awareness and funds for girls to get out of this cycle and into school.
- Women around the world aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria.