

INVITATION LETTER

The undersigned social organizations and movements come through this LETTER to summon Brazilian, Latin American, and worldwide civil society to engage in the process of preparing and holding the World Social Forum on Justice and Democracy to be held in Brazil from September 22 to 26, 2021. This process results from the union of several progressive entities formed by members of the Justice System, namely, the collectives Transforma MP, Brazilian Association of Jurists for Democracy, Association of Judges for Democracy, Association of Lawyers and Public Attorneys for Democracy, Collective Defenders and Public Defenders for Democracy and Anti-fascism that, in the face of attacks on the democratic rule of law in Brazil, Latin America, and other parts of the world, felt the need to join efforts to create joint initiatives of resistance.

Encouraged by the processes of the social forums, these organizations sought to expand contacts and add new movements and organizations to firstly promote a space for meetings and sharing of perceptions and information and ultimately nurture conditions for concrete and collective actions in response to the current challenging scenarios.

The reasons and urgency are well known. The so-called modern society has accommodated itself in the face of thousands of human rights violations, with special emphasis on the open structural racism that plagues us, and the manipulation of democracy through increasingly sophisticated techniques of disseminating fake news.

The entire economic and social structure is nourished and based on the inequalities inherent in the capitalist system which leads to the extreme

exploitation of human labor and remains focused not only on racism, but also on violence against women and the LGBTQI+ community, the segregation of the unequal, and the violation of the rights of indigenous people, Quilombola and riverine communities, among others. It is for no other reason that in the first six months of the pandemic, when the overwhelming majority of Brazilians had their income reduced, became unemployed and more than 150,000 lost their lives, statistics indicate that the elites profited more than 30 billion Brazilian reais.

All the same, the current system has been sustained through violations against the environment and its guardians, i.e., against indigenous and riverine populations, against quilombola communities, against farming families, and all sustainable ways of life. Needless to say, the fires that this year devastated the Brazilian ecosystem, with irreparable damage to the fauna and flora of the Amazon, Pantanal, and the Cerrado biomes. Biodiversity, Brazil's main natural wealth, is literally being burnt down to give way to soy plantations, cattle raising, and mining, under the pretense that such activities sustain the country's economy when it is well known that the wealth they produce almost all ends up in the hands of fewer and fewer people. These are inhuman and irreversible violations that will cost thousands of lives for present and future generations.

If the constant violations against people and the environment were not enough, the current system has been improving in subverting democracy in the world, and it is thus possible to identify a new dynamic of anti-democratic ruptures through the capture of state apparatuses and institutions for the interests



of the big international capital. We can mention, like highlights, the situations in Honduras in 2009; Ecuador in 2010; Paraguay in 2012; Brazil in 2016; Bolivia in 2019, without forgetting the fragile situation Venezuela has been in since 2002. In common, these ruptures of the democratic rule of law in several countries are materialized by the capture of democratic institutions by international interests that aim to appropriate the natural wealth and work of the populations.

Given the severity of the moment, it is unthinkable for the active and organized citizenship to remain inert, not to rebel, not to react, not to resist. It is necessary to disclose who the perpetrators of these violations are, with special attention to the responsibility of state institutions, without overlooking the violations also perpetrated by individuals, groups, organizations, and economic sectors. It is necessary to denounce every sort of violation, to create a powerful movement of national and international solidarity, to join efforts and seek to build

ways out. It is necessary to think about alternatives, paths. Moreover, all of them must involve the uncompromising defense of democracy and justice.

The movements and organizations engaged in this process believe that it is possible, with an active, organized, and mobilized citizenship, to stop human rights violations and build a new society, socially just and environmentally sustainable. For this reason, the World Social Forum on Justice and Democracy has its relevance. Because it is necessary to gather all the progressive, democratic, popular, and humanist forces together, we seek to point out solutions. The horizontal and radically democratic dynamics of the Social Forums will be an ally so that, while respecting specificities, plurality, and various interests, it can be possible to seek points of unity, convergence, and common actions. Come and join this process. Brazil, Latin America and the World need our creativity, solidarity, and commitment.

CONVOKE

ABJD - Brazilian Association of Jurists for Democracy
 AJD - Judges for Democracy Association
 APD - Association of Lawyers for Democracy
 Collective Defenders for Democracy
 Collective Transforma MP
 Movement Police Anti-fascism

SUPPORTS

ABET - Brazilian Association of Labor Studies
 ABEFC - Brazilian Articulation for Francisco and Clara's Economy
 ABMMD - Brazilian Association of Doctors and Physicians for Democracy
 ABONG - Brazilian Association of Non-Governmental Organizations
 ABRASTT - Brazilian Association of Workers' Health
 ALIT - Latin American Association of Labor Judges
 APD - São Paulo Law Academy
 AMDH - Articulation for Monitoring Human Rights in Brazil
 AMSUR - South American Institute for Cooperation and Strategic Management of Public Policies
 APIB - Brazil's Indigenous Peoples Articulation
 ANEPS - National Articulation of Movements and Practices of Popular Education and Health
 Brazilian Justice and Peace Commission

Broad Front in Defense of Workers' Health
 CAMP - School of Citizenship
 CLACSO - Latin American Council of Social Sciences
 CONAQ - National Coordination of Rural Black Quilombola Communities Articulation
 CONEN - Black Entities Collective
 SNAJ/CUT - National Secretariat of Legal Affairs/Unified Workers' Central
 DECLATRA - Working Class Defense Institute
 FACC - Underprivileged Children Assistance Front
 FENED - National Law Students Federation
 FESPSP - Foundation School of Sociology and Political Science of São Paulo
 Research Group The Law Found in the Street
 PREROGATIVES Group
 GPMT - Research Group Labor-World and its Metamorphosis
 ICS - Sustainable Cities Institute
 IDDF - Institute of Democracy and Fundamental Rights
 IDhES Institute - Institute of Legal Studies on Human, Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights
 IMAG - Minas Gerais Lawyers Institute
 Instituto Terre des hommes Brasil
 INP - New Paradigms Institute
 Instituto OCA - Observatory of Children and Adolescents
 Interozoes - Brazil Collective of Social

Communication
 IPDMS - Institute of Research, Rights and Social Movements
 Lavoro Institute
 MCVI - Every Life Matters Movement
 MST - Landless Workers' Movement
 MTST - Homeless Workers' Movement
 NUCEPEC - Ceará's Nucleus for Studies and Research on Children
 NEP - Nucleus of Studies for Peace and Human Rights of the University of Brasília
 NUDIJUS - Nucleus of Applied Studies Rights, Childhood and Justice - Federal University of Ceará
 OPJ/CES - Permanent Observatory on Portuguese Justice, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra
 Vida Brasil Group
 RedhBrasil - Network of Intellectuals, Artists and Social Movements in Defense of Humanity - Brazil Chapter
 REMIR Labor - Network of Studies and Interdisciplinary Monitoring of Labor Reform
 RENOSP - LGBTI+ National Network of Public Security Operations
 TDH - Instituto Terre des hommes Brasil
 TV Mamulengo
 UPMS - Popular University of Social Movements

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