

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

June 7, 2022

Dear President Biden,

As Brazilian civil society organizations, we express concern that President Jair Bolsonaro will be using his upcoming meeting with you to disingenuously claim that your administration endorses his attacks on democracy, free and fair elections, the environment, science, basic human rights, and the Amazon Rainforest.

Mr. Biden, the man you have invited for a special dialogue is anathema of critical values that the majority of Americans hold dear. While you pursue common sense gun control in the U.S., Mr. Bolsonaro is introducing more guns into Brazilian society and promoting paramilitary groups; while your pandemic policies intended to embrace science, Mr. Bolsonaro treated masking and vaccinations - especially for children - with hostility; while you chose the first Black woman Vice President, the first Indigenous Secretary of the Interior, and the first Black woman to the Supreme Court of Justice, Mr. Bolsonaro filled his Cabinet with white supremacists and compared Afro-Brazilians to cattle. While you defend love and inclusion, Mr. Bolsonaro has encouraged physical violence against the LGBTQIA+ community.

Right now, inflation, hunger, violence, and deforestation are soaring in Brazil. Instead of steering his country out of the crisis, Mr. Bolsonaro is staging a coup. He is attacking our Supreme Court and laying the groundwork to discredit the forthcoming elections and kill democracy in Latin America's largest country. We are bracing for Bolsonaro's version of a January 6th if he loses reelection. We understand your goals to bring the Americas together through the Summit, especially in the face of the crisis in Europe. However, **we send this letter to urge you, during your meeting, to stand firmly for democracy, free and fair elections, climate action, and the essential protection of the rainforest.**

If Brazilian democracy falls, Mr. President, all your efforts to "*Build a Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Future*" at the Summit of the Americas will have been in vain. Likewise, the continuation of Mr. Bolsonaro's government would condemn the Amazon rainforest and its peoples, blowing whichever slim chances the world still has of keeping the 1.5°C target alive.

Any agreement with Brazil about the Amazon must involve civil society. Talks should only move forward when Brazil proves its commitment to protecting the forest by slashing deforestation rates and halting the political efforts to weaken environmental laws through various bill proposals that

are supported by Mr. Bolsonaro. We hope that your values and principles will guide you to make the best decisions for the future of democracy, cooperation, peace, friendship, and freedom in our continent.

Signatory organizations:

1. A Tenda das Candidatas
2. Ação da Cidadania Contra a Fome, a Miséria e Pela Vida.
3. Agência Ambiental Pick-upau
4. Aliança Nacional LGBTI+
5. Amigos da Terra - Amazônia Brasileira
6. Apremavi
7. Arayara
8. Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil (APIB)
9. Artigo 19
10. Associação Alternativa Terrazul
11. Associação Brasileira de Relações Internacionais (ABRI)
12. Associação Brasileira de Lésbicas, Gays, Bissexuais, Travestis e Transexuais (ABGLT)
13. Associação Brasileira dos Juristas pela Democracia (ABJD)
14. Centro Cultural Manoel Lisboa (do Brasil).
15. Centro de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos de Petrópolis
16. Centro de Direitos Humanos e Memória Popular de Foz do Iguaçu
17. Centro de Trabalho Indigenista
18. Centro Dom Helder Camara de Estudos e Ação Social - Cendhec
19. Clima Info
20. Coletivo Fernando Santa Cruz/Pernambuco
21. Coletivo RJ Memória, Verdade, Justiça e Reparação
22. Comissão Arns
23. Comissão de Direitos Humanos da OAB-RJ
24. Comitê da Sociedade Civil para a Anistia (CASC)
25. Comitê Memória Verdade e Justiça para Democracia-PE (CMVJD-PE)
26. Conectas Direitos Humanos
27. Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativista-CNS
28. Coordenação das Organizações Indígenas da Amazônia Brasileira (COIAB)
29. Engajamundo
30. Greenpeace Brasil
31. Grupo de Pesquisa Justiça de Transição (PPGD/UnB)
32. Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais/BA
33. Instituto 5 Elementos
34. Instituto Brasileiro de Defesa do Consumidor - Idec

35. Instituto Cidade Segura
36. Instituto de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Baiano - IDSB
37. Instituto de Estudos Socioeconômicos - Inesc
38. Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena (IEPÉ)
39. Instituto de Referência Negra Peregum
40. Instituto Democracia e Sustentabilidade
41. Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil (IEB)
42. Instituto Marielle Franco
43. Instituto Novos Paradigmas (INP)
44. Instituto Physis - Cultura & Ambiente
45. Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza- ISPN
46. Instituto Sou da Paz
47. Instituto Talanoa
48. Instituto Vladimir Herzog
49. IPAD Seja Democracia
50. Jornalistas Livres
51. Mater Natura
52. Movimento dos Trabalhadores Sem Teto (MTST)
53. Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos (MNDH Brasil)
54. NOSSAS
55. Núcleo de Preservação da Memória Política (SP)
56. Observatorio DEMOS
57. Observatório do Clima
58. Observatório do Marajó
59. Plenária Anistia Rio
60. Projeto Hospitais Saudáveis
61. Projeto Saúde e Alegria
62. Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (RCA)
63. Rede GTA
64. SOS Mata Atlântica
65. SPVS
66. Uma Gotinha no Oceano
67. Washington Brazil Office
68. 342 Amazônia
69. 342 Artes
70. 350.org
71. 4Daddy