



ARTICULATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF BRAZIL

APOINME - ARPIN Sudeste - ARPINSUL - Comissão Guarani Yvyrupa - Conselho do Povo Terena - ATY GUASU - COIAB

Rise for the Earth

MANIFEST FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND THE TERRITORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

We, indigenous peoples, live in a state of constant threat, which requires us to be in constant vigilance and mobilization. Right now, June 2021, still under the restrictions of a devastating pandemic that is approaching the victimization of 500,000 Brazilians, of which 1,110 indigenous people are part of, we are forced to intensify our struggles and amplify our voice of protest to defend our most basic rights: our lives and our territories.

In this manifesto, we make public our concerns, complaints and claims in the expectation and confidence of being heard, respected and having our demands accomplished. We call on the entire Brazilian society and the international community to resonate with this urgent message, and to join forces in our struggles for justice and rights, which are legitimate claims and, foremost, of global interest.

The future of humanity and the livelihood of our planet pass through us, the indigenous peoples of Brazil and those from all regions of the world. We fulfill an ancestral duty of keeping our culture alive, defending our lands, and with them, our forests, the beings that live in them, our sources of water. Without it - without us - there is no food, there is no life, there is no future.

521 years of war and resistance

Our fundamental guarantee to life, as well as its threat, is deeply connected with the theft, swindling and dispossession of our territories initiated by the European invasion. This invasion continues in full swing, having as its horizon the insatiable and unequal accumulation of land and the obsessive and predatory exploitation of our resources.

Everything and everyone who fell with this genocidal and ecocidal policy felt the power of death and destruction. Peoples and cultures were decimated. Territories were ripped from our relatives and devastated by the colonizer-invader.

The peoples that survive only do so by resisting successive attacks and killing operations sponsored by private interests and historically supported by an enemy and genocidal state. At the end of the military dictatorship, our mobilizations, during the Constituent Assembly period, managed to ensure the inclusion of part of our fundamental rights in the Federal Constitution of 1988, which instituted, among others, the recognition of our right to the lands we traditionally occupied. This is what Articles 231 and 232 of our Magna Carta establish, which still reserves to the Union the responsibility to “demarcate, protect and respect” all indigenous goods and lands.

It was only in 1996, however, that the administrative procedure for the demarcation of our lands was finally defined. The rulers who succeeded one another on the command of the Executive Power, however, did not fulfill their responsibility. Nor did the Brazilian State manage to build a system of guarantees and protection for our peoples. While our mobilizations over all these years have generated remarkable achievements, policies are not even close to adequately providing for our most basic rights.

It was with the arrival of Jair Bolsonaro to the Presidency of the Republic, however, that the attacks against indigenous rights, especially territorial ones, acquired inadmissible and unprecedented proportions. We live under the command of a genocidal president who, soon after being elected, declared in all words that he would not demarcate any another centimeter of indigenous land.

Demarcating our lands is neither a favor nor a choice for whoever governs Brazil. Demarcating our lands is a moral and legal imperative, a constitutional right reinforced even by an international pact signed by the Brazilian State and introduced in our legislation with the force of constitutional rule, the 169 ILO Convention 169.

No setbacks can be tolerated! Our rights are non-negotiable and cannot be threatened, terminated or reduced by any authoritarian legislative process, by biased court decisions, or

by obscurant administrative measures. It is against these threats that we stand up in our territories. It is to defend our peoples that we have returned to occupy Brasília!

Our uprising

The fight for life called, and we came to Brasília to set up our **Rise for the Earth** camp in defense of our rights, most importantly, the territorial ones. We returned to occupy the ground of the federal capital after two years without in-person mobilizations, especially the Acampamento Terra Livre (largest assembly of indigenous peoples in Brazil, which, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, was held virtually in 2020 and 2021).

Our leaders, who are already fully immunized with the vaccine against the new coronavirus, gather at this moment to echo our maracas and reaffirm that, in the midst of the greatest health and humanitarian emergency in recent years, **Indigenous Lives Matter**.

In this manifesto, we reaffirm our banners of struggle and decree our **PERMANENT STATE OF MOBILIZATION**.

FOR THE IMMEDIATE INTERRUPTION OF ANY ANTI-INDIGENOUS MEASURES AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS!

1. Final withdrawal from the CCJC voting agenda and shelving of Law Reform Process (Bill) 490/2007, which threatens to nullify the demarcations of indigenous lands;
2. Shelving of 2633/2020 Bill, known as Land Grabbing bill. If approved, the project will give amnesty to land grabbers and legalize land theft, further aggravating violence against indigenous peoples;
3. Shelving of 984/2019 Bill, which intends to build roads through the Iguaçu National Park and other Conservation Units;
4. Shelving of 177/2021 Bill, which authorizes the President of the Republic to abandon Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the only international treaty ratified by Brazil that specifically and comprehensively addresses the rights of indigenous peoples;

5. Shelving of 191/2020 Bill that authorizes the exploration of indigenous lands by large infrastructure and industrial mining projects;

6. Shelving of 3729/2004 Bill, which destroys the environmental licensing and brings major setbacks for the protection of the environment and for guaranteeing the rights of populations affected by the environmental degradation of infrastructure projects, such as hydroelectric plants.

These genocidal and ecocidal projects use the Covid-19 pandemic as a smokescreen, increasing violence against indigenous peoples and conflicts in our territories, including among indigenous people. These conflicts are fueled by the Government with the objective of dividing, weakening and demobilizing our peoples, organizations and leaders. Be aware that we will not let this strategy overwhelm us!

FEDERAL SUPREME COURT (STF): OUR RIGHTS MUST BE GUARDED AND PROTECTED!

The Brazilian Constitutional Court debates a case of general repercussion on the demarcation of indigenous lands, the well-known Extraordinary Appeal (RE) 1.017.365 related to the case of the Xokleng-La Klanõ Indigenous Land, belonging to the Xokleng people, in Santa Catarina state. The status of "general repercussion" given by STF to the case means that its resolution will serve as a guideline for the federal government and all instances of the Judiciary regarding the demarcation of indigenous lands, in addition to serving to guide legislative proposals that address rights of original peoples - such as bill 490, which opens indigenous lands to predatory exploitation and makes new demarcations impossible in practice.

This process has been suspended due to the intervention of Minister Alexandre Moraes. STF has a duty to protect our constitutional right to our territories! The trial must be resumed!

Especially in this moment of attacks, the voice of the Supreme Court needs to echo strongly and guarantee to the Yanomami and Munduruku peoples the removal of invaders from their

lands. This same protection should be extended to five other Indigenous Lands (TIs), also discussed at the STF: TIs Karipuna and Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau, in Rondônia, TIs Kayapó and Trinchiera-Bacajá, in Pará and TI Araribóia, in Maranhão.

This is what Apib is demanding at this time, with a proper sense of urgency, from the ministers of the Supreme Court. We do so through this document, through the voices of our leaders, from our territories throughout Brazil, and also concentrated in the **Rise for the Earth** camp in Brasília. We do it in court, within the scope of the Action for Non-compliance with Fundamental Precepts (ADPF) 709/2020, authored by Apib and several national institutions in solidarity with indigenous peoples. The ADPF 709/2020 is on the agenda of the STF, and must be debated by the plenary until June 18th.

In a sick world and facing a project of death, our fight is still for life, against all viruses, invaders, companies, politicians, and projects that kill us!

No more murder, No more fire, No more shooting, No more famine.

For the life and historical continuity of our peoples, *tell the people to move forward!*

Rise for the Earth

Brasília – Federal District, June 17, 2021.

Apib – Articulation of Indigenous People of Brazil

Apib regional base organizations:

APOINME – Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of the Northeast, Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo

ARPIN SUDESTE – Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of the Southeast

ARPINSUL – Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of the South

ATY GUASU – Great Assembly of the Guarani people

Guarani Yvyrupa Commission

Terena People's Council

COIAB – Coordination of Indigenous Organizations in the Brazilian Amazon