
[Motion of rejection and solidarity with local leaders facing threats in Acre - Brazil](#)

Press Release

More than 80 organizations and individuals from all over the world sent today the [letter enclosed](#) below to relevant authorities in Brazil, Germany and California / USA rejecting “*any and all attempts to intimidate or censor people and organizations that critique and oppose the environmental and climate policies implemented by the Acre government.*”

In the letter the organizations and individuals reaffirm their “*solidarity with all those who suffer threats or retaliation because of their firm political stance to defend their territories against the incessant exploitation of capital: You are not alone!*”

August 3rd 2017

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Motion of rejection and solidarity with local leaders facing threats in Acre - Brazil

From May 26-28, 2017, a gathering was held in Xapuri, in the state of Acre, Brazil, around "the effects of environmental and climate policies on traditional peoples." In addition to the publication of the [Xapuri Declaration](#), videos were disseminated with statements from indigenous leaders, seringueiros (rubber tappers) and other participants at the event. Since then, many of those leaders have been pressured and threatened by the „owners of power in Acre“.

Outraged by this latest aggression against the rights of peoples and communities that live in and depend on forests, those of us who participated in the aforementioned gathering—and those who support Amazonian peoples and communities' struggles—express our vehement rejection of any and all attempts to intimidate or censor people and organizations that critique and oppose the environmental and climate policies implemented by the Acre government.

We specifically denounce and reject attempts by the Acre government, and non-governmental organizations associated with it, to slander such critics—in particular their claim that critics' questioning could make it impossible to receive resources that could benefit the people of Acre's forest. We know that the government has sufficient resources to protect the rights and serve the true interests of indigenous peoples and local communities. There is no need to put these peoples and communities' futures at risk through questionable and nebulous projects. The government must act transparently in investing the resources it has already received through such projects, disclosing who the true beneficiaries are.

We demand that the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) cease to intimidate officials who participate in these civil society discussions and meetings. We also demand that FUNAI fulfill its mission, which is to protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples. With its intimidations, FUNAI is once again harming these indigenous people's rights to free expression.

We understand that, as the bankruptcy of the underlying model of the environmental and climate policies and projects in question becomes more obvious, those whose private interests are intertwined with such policies and projects tend to defend them in increasingly repressive and violent ways. As the philosopher Paul Valer once said: "He who cannot attack the argument attacks the arguer."

We cannot tolerate these continued attacks! That is why we reiterate our support for the [Xapuri Declaration](#). We reaffirm our solidarity with all those who suffer threats or retaliation because of their firm political stance to defend their territories against the incessant exploitation of capital: You are not alone!

ORGANIZAÇÃO

PAÍS

Rettet den Regenwald e. V.	Alemanha
Forum Ökologie & Papier	Alemanha
Down to Earth Consult	Alemanha
Amigos de la Tierra Argentina	Argentina
Friends of the Earth Australia	Australia
Red de Comunicaciones Indigenas Apachita	Bolivia
Center for Environment from Bosnia and Herzegovina Conselho Indigenista Missionário - CIMI	Bosnia Brasil
Fórum Mudanças Climáticas e Justiça Social	Brasil
Equipo Itinerante Manaus y Equipo Itinerante BOLPEBRA	Brasil
Instituto Agrario de Chimoio-Manica	Brasil
Associação Movimento Paulo Jackson - Ética, Justiça, Cidadania (Bahia)	Brasil
Articulação Antinuclear Brasileira	Brasil
Comissão Paroquial de Meio Ambiente de Caetité (Caetité - Bahia)	Brasil
FASE Bahia	Brasil
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Centro de Educação, Pesquisa e Assessoria Sindical e Popular - CEPASP.	Brasil
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CDDH Marçal de Souza Tupã-i	Brasil
Comissão Pastoral da Terra – CPT-Nacional	Brasil
Terra de Direitos	Brasil
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Justiça Global	Brasil
Fórum de Direitos Humanos e da Terra MT	Brasil
Centro Burnier Fé e Justiça	Brasil
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FAMOC - Federação das Associações de Moradores de Cariacica	Brasil
O Instituto Madeira Vivo	Brasil
Aliança dos Rios Panamazonicos	Brasil
Aliança dos 4 Rios da Amazonia: Madeira, Teles Pires, Tapajós e Xingu	Brasil
Núcleo de Pesquisa Estado, Sociedade e Desenvolvimento na Amazônia Ocidental (NUPESDAO-UFAC)	Brasil
Amigos da Terra Brasil	Brasil
Combate Racismo Ambiental	Brasil
Red de Accion por los Derechos Ambientales (RADA)	Chile
Censat Agua Viva-Amigos de la Tierra Colombia	Colombia
COECOCEIBA - Amigos de la Tierra Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Red de Coordinación en Biodiversidad	Costa Rica
Asociación Conservacionista YISKI	Costa Rica
Accion Ecologica de Ecuador	Ecuador
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