



COMITÊ BRASILEIRO DE DEFENSORAS E DEFENSORES DE DIREITOS HUMANOS

The Brazilian Human Rights Defenders Committee, CBDDH in the Portuguese acronym, is a national social movements and civil society organizations network comprised of over 35 entities. Since 2004, CBDDH is an active part in public debate acting to guarantee protection to human rights defenders who are at risk, being threatened, attacked and/or criminalized in retaliation to their activities.

We express deep concern about the consequences of the Former President Luís Inácio Lula da Silva imprisonment. The judicial decision, whose constitutionality and legitimacy have been questioned, is provoking extremely intense social turmoil resembling the darkest period in recent Brazilian history, the civil-military dictatorship.

Conservative discourses stimulating hatred and violence widely spread with the support of the mainstream media are reasonable causes of fear and apprehension, especially in the field of human rights defenders protection. As a result, we are already aware of the murder attempting against Mrs. Lindinalva Pereira de Lima Filha, who was participating in a demonstration in Mata Redonda, state of Paraíba, Brazil's Northeast, contesting Lula's criminal charges and imprisonment.

In front of this situation, and because we are facing a scenario of foretold deaths, we call on all organizations, national and international, to be alert to human rights violations in Brazil, mobilizing themselves in defense of the democratic rule of law and the protection of human rights.

Brasília, April 6, 2018.

Brazilian Committee of Human Rights Defenders (CBDDH)

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