

## **ALA stands in solidarity with the peoples of Ecuador and Chile**

The Board of Directors of the Latin American Anthropology Association (ALA) expresses its deep concern about the critical situation in our continent, particularly in the countries of Ecuador and Chile, and condemns the use of force by States in both countries against and to repress the legitimate citizen demonstrations that claim against the possibility of further deteriorating their living conditions as a result of measures taken by the respective governments.

The same neoliberal governments that privilege the maximization of economic benefits, concentrating wealth in a small portion of its population, pauperizing the living conditions of the majorities and leaving them helpless; extreme measures such as the “state of exception” and the unsubstantiated declaration that they are “at war” - as in the case of Chile - have been implemented before public demonstrations of popular discontent, enabling the national armed forces and police forces to repress, violate and kill his countrymen. All this with the objective of returning to order, without considering that Latin America is manifesting itself in opposition to the neoliberal order, and not only to the rise of fuel or a public transport ticket.

Democracies in our Latin America are the result of processes of struggle and resistance that left indelible marks of horror on our continent. Therefore, we urge governments to favor peaceful dialogue and exchange, to respond to civil claims and to depose any attempt to use force to silence claims and requests for greater equality.

We also call on the mass media or communication consortiums to report in a balanced way about the realities of their countries, avoiding the criminalization of protest and the silencing of all the voices involved, truthfully informing about the complexity of the conflicts. social and calling the dialogue. Also, we urge the governments involved not to close mass media in these circumstances, which demonstrates the violation of the freedom of the press and the right to information of the peoples.

Latin America does not resist more pain and death in our streets. Latin America no longer resists loss of rights. Latin America standing and fighting.

**2017-2020 ALA Steering Committee**