

Brasília-DF, August 08, 2019

Ofício nº 024/2019/ABA

His Excellency
Ernesto Araújo
Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs - MRE
News article entitled "Bolsonaro Gove

Dear Minister Araújo

Ref. "Bolsonaro's government facilitates the deportation of Brazilians from the USA" (The Globe, 29/07/2019)

The Brazilian Association of Anthropology (ABA), through its Migration and Displacements Committee, expresses its deep concern regarding a notice under the caption "Bolsonaro facilitates the deportation of Brazilians from the USA" published by the O GLOBO newspaper on July 29, 2019.

In a conjuncture in which the US government has decided to expedite a hasty deportation process against immigrants who do not hold a proper visa, this report seems to suggest that the Bolsonaro government has accepted the US claim that Brazil's consulates should release the identifications to default of those "deportable" Brazilians citizens.

Our concern is grounded on several factors. First, the alleged cooperation between national states contradicts the international circulation of people's basic principles, centered upon administrative routines that respects rights to defense of persons in transit. Second, the alleged facilitation of deportation from the United States to be accomplished by Brazil's authorities violate the Brazilian State protection principle towards its citizens abroad and, thus, it may lead to cases of summary deportation without due process of law.

If confirmed, besides pointing to an undesirable subservience to US interests, such a Brazilian governmental decision would disclose an unprecedented intention to harm and criminalize citizens who, confronting economic crises and high unemployment at home, looked for life and work alternatives elsewhere. It is worth remembering that, regardless of their migratory situation, Brazilians living abroad have continued to maintain affective and economic ties with the homeland, having been responsible for sending remittances totaling US \$ 1.2 billion, about 40% of which originated in the US, just in the first half of 2018.

Certain that the protection of Brazilians abroad is a directive of Brazil's Migration Law- as specified by its article 3, item IX – and, since it is the Brazilian state constitutional duty to protect its citizens who are in transit beyond national borders defending them of any form of state violence in the host country, the Brazilian Association of Anthropology, through its Migration and Displacements Committee, asks Brazil's government and particularly its Ministry of Foreign Affairs for detailed information on this possible cooperation with the United States government to the detriment of the Brazilian community living in that country.

Sincerely



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