

THE ARNS COMMISSION FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT  
**2020–2021**

# COMISSÃO ARNS



This report is dedicated to the memory of São Paulo's archbishop, Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns, who would be completing 100 years of age in 2021.

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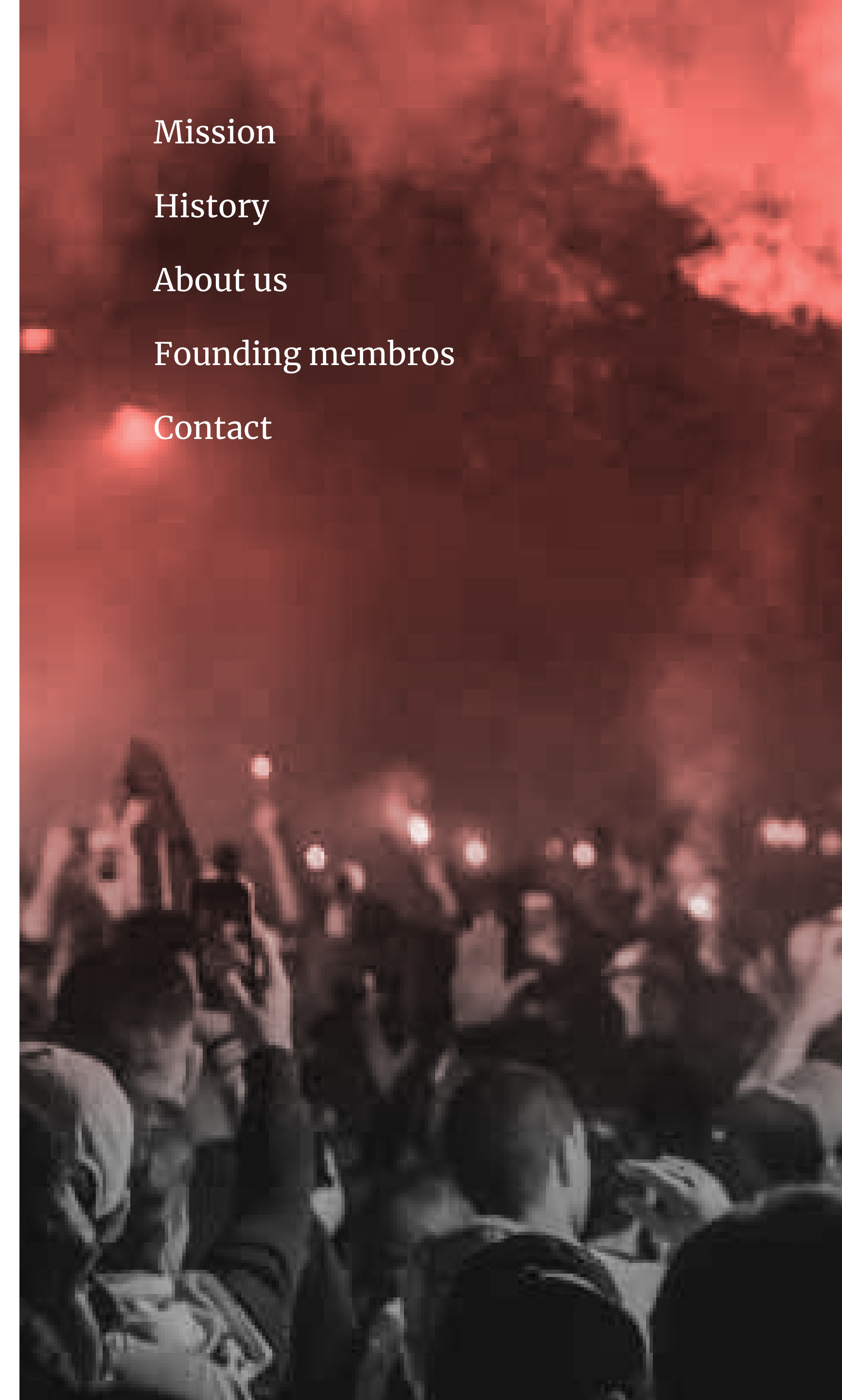
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# Mission

To gather, condemn, and disclose serious violations against the physical integrity, freedom, and human dignity, especially if committed by State agents against discriminated persons or populations. In addition, the AC seeks to provide visibility and legal follow-up, at the national and international levels, to cases of serious violations of human rights through articulated networking alongside pre-existing protection bodies.





# History

The Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns Commission for Human Rights Defense (Arns Commission) was founded in January 2019, with the goal of providing visibility to and gathering of serious violations to the physical integrity, freedom, and human dignity, especially those committed by State agents against discriminated persons or populations, such as blacks, indigenous, LGBTQIA+, women, youth, and urban or rural communities in extreme poverty conditions.



# About us

We are a civil society organization composed of jurists, intellectuals, journalists, nonpartisan activists, and volunteers in defense of human rights. The group, consisting of 22 democrats, acts voluntarily and independently alongside thousands of human rights defenders across the country.





# Founding members



José Carlos Dias  
Presidente



Margarida Genevois  
Presidente de honra



Ailton Krenak



André  
Singer



Antonio  
Claudio Mariz  
de Oliveira



Belisário dos  
Santos Jr.



Claudia  
Costin



Dalmo de  
Abreu Dallari



Fábio Konder  
Comparato



José  
Gregori



José  
Vicente



Laura  
Greenhalgh



Luiz Carlos  
Bresser-  
Pereira



Luiz Felipe de  
Alencastro



Manuela Ligeti  
Carneiro da Cunha



Maria  
Hermínia  
Tavares de  
Almeida



Maria  
Victoria de  
Mesquita  
Benevides



Oscar Vilhena  
Vieira



Paulo Sérgio  
Pinheiro



Paulo  
Vannuchi



Sueli  
Carneiro



Vladimir  
Safatle

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# INTRODUCTION

This report discloses the Arns Commission (AC) activities from March 2020 to February 2021. This period was marked by the human tragedy caused by Covid-19 and aggravated by the federal government's recklessness and inability in dealing with the pandemic, which, as we now know, bet on herd immunity beating the coronavirus. As a consequence, it sought to undermine all of the measures recommended by scientists and experts: social distancing, use of masks, mass testing, and vaccination.

It was also a turbulent period marked by the President's continuous attempts of testing the limits of democratic institutions through discourses disseminating contention, producing pointless confrontations against the Republic's power branches – especially the Federal Supreme Court – and subnational governments. These attempts seek, ultimately, to increase the political polarization that benefits him as much as harms the country.

Thus, the protection of democracy and freedoms, and the assertion of the right to

life under the pandemic were the core issues to motivate the Commission's action on the country and on international forums, or in partnership with civil society organizations.

Alongside those core issues, the following topics comprise the permanent human rights agenda in the country: the protection of indigenous peoples and traditional populations, the fight against racism, the opposition to police violence afflicting the most discriminated population sectors, the protection of those fighting for everyone to have their rights respected, and the preservation of memory and truth about our authoritarian past. This report is organized to show what we have done on each of these issues.

The Arns Commission knows that it is part of a large and dense network of organizations and persons dedicated to the protection of people's fundamental rights. But it also knows that its voice is strong and therefore takes it where it can resonate loudly. Hence, it has been committed to making consistent denouncements in

international forums, such as the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). This year's visits to the UNHRC were possible thanks to the generous partnership with Conectas Human Rights, which we would like to thank here. Our international activities open this report.

At the national level, the Commission is heard through public notes, different ways of accessing the Justice System, articles and interviews in the media and in our social networks, participation in our partners' initiatives, and constructive communication with State powers' authorities, at different levels of the federation. Each and every course of action is described here.

By reporting on our activities for the second time, we thank all of the partner organizations with which we share commitments, aims, and efforts, the entities that believed in us and helped us with resources, and the people who follow our work and strengthen it with their support, critiques or applauses.



# INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES



### Participation in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council, in Geneva, Switzerland

The Arns Commission, in partnership with the Socio-Environmental Institute (*Instituto Socioambiental – ISA*, in Portuguese) and Conectas Human Rights, has organized the participation of the Yanomami leader, Davi Kopenawa, in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN’s Human Rights Council, on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, to denounce the serious situation of indigenous people in Brazil, particularly the isolated groups. The AC was represented by its executive director and founding member, Laura Greenhalgh.

During the Council’s meeting, the o **unprecedented testimony of the indigenous leader** regarding the invasion of the Yanomami territory by gold miners and the situation of isolated communities was shared in three languages (Portuguese, English, and French). The AC also organized a side panel and meetings with scholars, students, and activists to address the increase of illegal

mining in the Yanomami territory. Among the consequences of the gold miners’ illegal activities responsible for making indigenous peoples highly vulnerable are the loss of forests, water pollution, the proliferation of diseases, and the killing of animals.

### Participation in the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council, online session

Conectas and the Arns Commission presented a joint document denouncing the Brazilian government’s actions and omissions in face of the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil. The demonstration took place on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, at the plenary session reserved for the participation of social organizations. Both organizations also denounced anti-democratic demonstrations calling for the shutdown of the National Congress and the Federal Supreme Court, and military intervention.

During the 44<sup>th</sup> Session, the statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Michelle Bachelet, who expressed her concern about countries that deny the seriousness of the new coronavirus, citing Brazil, has generated a false response from the Brazilian government, which was countered by a **joint statement** from the AC and Conectas.

### Participation in an IACHR Session of the Organization of American States (OAS)

The Arns Commission was accepted to participate in a public hearing during the Period of Sessions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the OAS, held in March, to present the situation of human rights in Brazil.

However, due to the pandemic, the hearing was replaced by an online bilateral meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, with the commissioner Joel Hernández García, president of the IACHR and rapporteur for Brazil. At the meeting, the human rights situation during Jair Bolsonaro’s government and its deterioration due to the Covid-19 pandemic was addressed, especially in regard to indigenous peoples and the black population.



### Complaint against Bolsonaro at the International Criminal Court

In response to the complaint against Bolsonaro for “crimes against humanity” and “inciting the genocide of indigenous peoples in Brazil” made by the Arns Commission and the Human Rights Advocacy Collective on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Prosecutor’s Office of the International Criminal Court (ICC) informed both organizations on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, that the facts **featured featured on the two entities’ complaint to the ICC** are under preliminary jurisdiction evaluation.

At this phase, the adequacy of the informed crimes to the ICC’s jurisdiction will be analyzed. After preliminary assessments of jurisdiction, admissibility, and Justice interests, the Chief Prosecutor may denounce President Jair Bolsonaro before the ICC, which will make a preliminary judgment, and then an official inquiry may be opened. In case the facts are confirmed, Bolsonaro may be put on trial and convicted of crimes under the Rome Statute.

### Denouncements to the UN of speaking in favor of the civil-military dictatorship of the Brazilian government

The Arns Commission, the Order of Attorneys of Brazil, the Vladimir Herzog Institute, the *Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS)*, the *Centro de Estudos sobre Justiça de Transição* (Federal University of Minas Gerais – UFMG), the *Memoria Abierta de Argentina*, the coordinator of the *Red de Sitios de Memoria Latinoamericanos y Caribeños (Reslac)*, and the *Núcleo Estado Democrático de Direito (NEDD)* sent a petition, on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence of the Office of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)** to investigate and condemn the actions speaking in favor of the civil-military dictatorship, as well as Bolsonaro’s government non-compliance with legal obligations.

### Letter against the espionage conducted by the Brazilian government at the COP 25

The Arns Commission has signed, alongside 90 civil society organizations and 72 Brazilian parliamentary members, a letter sent to Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), expressing indignation at the presence of four secret agents of the Brazilian government to monitor the activities of Brazilian delegates and civil society during the COP 25, in Madrid.

After the espionage was revealed, Brazil’s Institutional Security minister admitted that the agents were sent to monitor “bad Brazilians” and that they would continue to do so in the future.



# NATIONAL ACTIVITIES





# JOINING FORCES

## The Group of 6 (G6)

The Arns Commission is one of the founding organizations of the Group of 6 (G6), alongside the Order of Attorneys of Brazil (OAB), the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB, in Portuguese), the Brazilian Press Association (ABI, in Portuguese), the Brazilian Society for the Advancement of Science (SBPC, in Portuguese), and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC, in Portuguese).

The rapprochement between these entities occurred in March 2020, as a response to an invitation for debate made by the AC. At that moment, the entities agreed to act together, whenever necessary, in face of the government's attacks against institutions and the Covid-19 sanitary protocols.

The group defends the adoption of joint actions countering and confronting hate speech and violence in the country,

in addition to stimulating campaigns, articulation, and mobilizations in defense of life and democracy.

The G6 is responsible for publishing two important manifestos:

**In Defense of Life**, on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020;

**Pact for Life and for Brazil**, on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020, which counted on the adhesion of more than one hundred civil society entities and was delivered to the leaderships of the National Congress, the justices of the Federal Supreme Court, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Click **here** to know more.





# JOINING FORCES

## Broad Front for Democracy

The Arns Commission has participated in the national campaign #BrazilForDemocracy (**#BrasilPelaDemocracia, in Portuguese**), proposed in partnership with more than 70 civil society organizations and union, student, political, human rights, and popular movements.

Among the activities developed by the campaign, there is a permanent online mobilization movement, which is open to different sectors of society and political lines, to educate the Brazilian population against hate speech and the ongoing authoritarian project, by affirming democracy.

Videos with representatives from the participating entities were produced and disclosed, with an articulated release on social media during the *Democratic Turn* (Virada Democrática) on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, ending with the *Live for Democracy* event, on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The Arns Commission video featured statements from Antônio Cláudio Mariz, Belisário dos Santos Junior, Laura Greenhalgh, Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira, Luiz Felipe Alencastro, José Carlos Dias, and José Vicente.

## Human Rights Matter! Webinar

Held on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, in honor of International Human Rights Day, the webinar was a G6 initiative. Presidents and representatives from the six entities and a staff of experts took part in the webinar and spoke about human rights from the perspective of their work and peoples' lives. Among them Débora Duprat, Jurema Werneck, Kabengele Munanga, Luiz Eduardo Soares, Mercedes Bustamante, and Paulo Buss. The event was mediated by the journalists Flávia Oliveira, Juca Kfourir, and Rubens Valente.





# DEMOCRACY AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

## **Public Note #17 – The President has lost the ability to govern, 05/19/2020.**

The Arns Commission understands that Jair Bolsonaro has lost all conditions for the legitimate exercise of the Presidency of the Republic, due to his inability, propensity to authoritarianism, and the threat to democracy he represents. By sowing unrest, insecurity, and misinformation and, above all, by putting the lives of Brazilians at risk, his removal from office is imperative.

## **PN#19 – In support of the Federal Supreme Court to guarantee social peace, 05/28/2020.**

It declares support and solidarity to the Federal Supreme Court and the Judiciary Branch in general, given its indispensability as the responsible for enforcing the law and eliminating conflicts of interests, in order to maintain social peace and order in accordance with the Federal Constitution and Brazilian laws.

## **PN#20 – In support of the Supreme Court against attacks on the Court, 06/18/2020.**

The Arns Commission expresses solidarity to the Court's members and supports the Federal Supreme Court so that it may, with full independence and without any constraint, continue to exercise its function of safeguarding the 1988 Federal Constitution.

## **PN#23 – On the confidential dossier made by the government, 08/14/2020.**

It requests clarification from the government regarding the secret list, assembled by the Ministry of Justice, of 583 names of police officers and scholars who would have been part of “anti-fascist movements” and calls on the Federal Supreme Court and the Congress to prevent such acts from continuing.



Foto: Artem Podrez



# DEMOCRACY AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

## Confronting the confidential dossier of the Ministry of Justice

The Arns Commission carried out administrations alongside the National Human Rights Council and the Federal Supreme Court, presenting a memorial during the judgment of the injunction in the Claim of Non-compliance with Fundamental Principles (*Arguição de Descumprimento de Preceito Fundamental* – ADPF, in Portuguese) No. 722/DF, in order to suspend the production, by the Ministry of Justice, of a confidential dossier on 579 police officers and four scholars who call themselves anti-fascists. It has also disclosed a video pointing out the seriousness of the violation.

The AC has also filed for representation to the Regional Attorney for Citizens' Rights (*Procurador Regional dos Direitos do Cidadão*,

in Portuguese) in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, which has opened an inquiry to extend investigations on the elaboration of the dossier.

## Online debate on International Human Rights Day

Held in partnership with the Center for the Study of Violence of the University of São Paulo, on 12/14/20, the debate has promoted the celebration of International Human Rights Day on 12/10/20, reflecting on the achievements and setbacks for the realization of human rights in the world.



# THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND OTHER RIGHTS UNDER COVID-19

## **NP #14 – For the health of the poorest, 03/25/2020**

It calls on society as a whole to continue and to intensify acts of solidarity and requests public authorities to comply with their obligations, in order to meet the accumulated social needs caused by their negligence.

## **NP#16 – Support to the IACHR's resolution on the pandemic, 04/21/2020**

It invites entities that defend human rights in Brazil to become aware of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' resolution and divulge it, making its recommendations available to the federal, state, and municipal Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary authorities

## **NP #22 – In support of app deliverymen, 07/23/2020**

It expresses solidarity with the movement of app deliverymen and denounces the unacceptable work conditions to which these professionals are subject. Due to Covid-19, they are now the providers of comfort and safety to millions of Brazilians.

## **In defense of the priority demands of the homeless population**

The president José Carlos Dias presented the priority demands of the homeless population to the then-Mayor, Bruno Covas, and obtained his commitment to assisting the Secretary of Social Assistance and Development. As a consequence, the AC brought a list of the most urgent measures to meet the needs of these people during the pandemic to the Secretary of Social Assistance and Development. The

list is comprised of measures such as hotel accommodation, reducing bureaucracy on the access to emergency income, appropriate service centers for families and children, and provision of adequate food.

## **Against videoconferencing in custody hearings**

An official document was sent on 06/17/20, to the then-President of the Federal Supreme Court and National Council of Justice, Justice Dias Toffoli, defending that videoconferences should not be used in custody hearings. The AC understands that, even with restrictions due to Covid-19, the use of videoconferences in custody hearings does not overcome the problems arising from the non-physical/personal attendance of a prisoner before a judge immediately after the restriction of his/her freedom, and undermines actions to prevent and protect them against torture.



## THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND OTHER RIGHTS UNDER COVID-19

### Defense of the right to visit youth admitted to the socio-educational system

Request for clarifications to the municipal Secretary of Health of the city of São Paulo, through a document from 12/18/20, regarding the protocol of procedures or the guidelines of the Secretary of Health to safeguard the rights of the users of the Unified Healthcare System (*Sistema Único de Saúde* – SUS, in Portuguese), especially the right to receive visits and information on the treatment and clinical state of youth and adolescents admitted to the socio-educational system and/or under police escort.

### Participation in the “Our Lives Matter” Campaign

The Arns Commission, represented by Paulo Vannuchi, has participated in the online release of the campaign from the National Human Rights Movement (*Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos* – MNDH, in Portuguese). Click [here](#) to know more.

### Participation in an event by the Academic Center of the Getúlio Vargas Foundation

The Arns Commission has participated in an online lecture on “Human Rights in Times of Coronavirus”, on 05/28/20. The AC was represented by its president, José Carlos Dias, and the members Laura Greenhalgh and Luiz Felipe Alencastro.

Click [here](#) to know more.



# RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TRADITIONAL POPULATIONS

## **PN #15 – Manifestation on Covid-19 and indigenous peoples, 03/31/2020**

The Arns Commission declares support to indigenous peoples and special concern regarding isolated or recently-contacted communities and reaffirms the State's responsibility in the realization of the fundamental rights of the indigenous population in face of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **PN #18 – Support to the demarcation of indigenous lands, 05/22/2020**

The Arns Commission calls on the justices of the Federal Supreme Court to declare the unconstitutionality of the so-called *Marco Temporal* (Time Milestone) thesis, given the provisions of Article No. 231 of the Federal Constitution of 1988.

## **PN #21 – Repudiation of omission and attacks against indigenous peoples, 07/22/2020**

It manifests indignation and concern with the omissions and attacks from the Brazilian government against indigenous peoples and requests the Federal Supreme Court to take measures to ensure their protection. It also reiterates the request for the Supreme Court to declare the Time Milestone theory unconstitutional.

## **PN #24 – On the eviction in the Campo Grande Quilombo, 08/17/2020**

It recommends the public, judicial, and executive authorities to suspend any actions from private or public initiatives, supported by judicial or administrative decisions, intending to evict quilombola communities and families amidst the pandemic.

## **Request for measures from the federal government to protect indigenous people**

Submission of official documents to the Ministry of Justice and Public

Security, on 05/05/20 and 04/20/20, requesting measures and information on the government's activities to protect indigenous lands and the integrity of indigenous peoples, given the lack of coordination between services oriented at protecting the health of this population.

## **Defense of the Pataxó indigenous people living in Eunápolis, Bahia**

Submission of an official document to the Republic's Deputy Prosecutor's Office of the 6<sup>th</sup> Chamber for Indigenous Populations and Traditional Communities of the Federal Prosecutor's Office calling for measures to protect the Pataxó indigenous people in Eunápolis (BA). The Arns Commission's actions contributed to preventing the eviction of Pataxós indigenous people from the area they occupy in Bahia.



# RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TRADITIONAL POPULATIONS

## Defense of two young indigenous people unjustly imprisoned in Paraty

Articulation with the Public Defender's Office of the state of Rio de Janeiro in defense of two young indigenous persons from the Itatim village in Paraty, who were accused of attempting to steal gauze, alcohol gel, adhesive tape, soap dish, and scissors from the village's medical center. The youth were imprisoned for nearly four months. Their freedom was granted by the Justice System after extensive mobilization of social organizations.

## The signing of a manifesto in defense of indigenous population

Released by the photographer Sebastião Salgado and his wife Lélia Wanick, the document asserts that, without protection against the new coronavirus, indigenous people are at real risk of genocide, through the contamination caused by illegal invaders in their lands. In addition

to signing the document, the Arns Commission has also helped its diffusion on social media.

## Contribution to the resolution on the rights of isolated indigenous peoples

On 12/10/20, the National Human Rights Council (*Conselho Nacional de Direitos Humanos – CNDH*, in Portuguese) approved Resolution No. 44, which deals with the principles, guidelines, and recommendations to guarantee the human rights of isolated and recently-contacted indigenous peoples, as well as to safeguard their life and well-being. The document has received contributions from several organizations and entities, including the Arns Commission.





# RACISM

## **PN #26 – Support to affirmative action policies in companies, 10/01/2020**

It compliments companies, law firms, and civil society organizations that adopt inclusion programs, reserving job vacancies for black people. It states that affirmative actions guaranteeing employment opportunities for people discriminated against due to racism and devalued because of class prejudice need to increase in order for Brazil to advance as a society.

## **PN #29 – For the lost life of João Alberto, 11/20/2020**

It repudiates the death, by brutal beating and asphyxiation maneuvers, of João Alberto Silveira Freitas inside a Carrefour supermarket in Porto Alegre (RS). It demands that the crime be rigorously investigated and that the supermarket's responsibility for hiring a security company capable of inhuman treatment must be examined. At last, it alerts society of the escalation of violence against poor and black youth.

## **Racism in a shopping mall at Governador Island (RJ)**

Submission to the Deputy Prosecutor for Criminal Affairs and Human Rights of the Public Prosecutor's Office of the state of Rio de Janeiro of a request for investigating an alleged episode of racism against Matheus Fernandes, a deliveryman, which took place at the Ilha Plaza shopping mall, on Governador Island, Rio de Janeiro, on 08/06/20.

## **Racism in a court sentence in Curitiba (PR)**

Submission of a document to the Judicial Administrative Department (Corregedoria Geral da Justiça, in Portuguese) of the Court of Justice of Paraná, in August, requesting disciplinary measures in view of the racist and biased remarks formulated by the judge Ines Marchalek Zarpelon in an ongoing sentence in the 1st Criminal Court of the Central District Forum of Curitiba's Metropolitan Region.

In response, the Judicial Administrative Department has informed, on 08/20/20, that it had filed a "disciplinary complaint against the magistrate, to investigate the narrated facts".

## **Interreligious and ecumenical act "My Faith is Anti-Racist"**

The act was held on 12/20/20, in partnership with black movements, religious, and human rights organizations, such as Conectas Human Rights, Black Coalition for Rights, CNBB, Conic, and the Evangelical Front for the Rule of Law. The act was intended to reinforce the call made by the black social movement for an actual and concrete anti-racist commitment, which should not be only reactivated when a black person becomes a victim of one of racism's disastrous results: the elimination of their lives.

## **Support to the "Movimento Ar" Campaign against racism**

The Arns Commission has supported the campaign launched by the Afrobrás organization, the Business Initiative for Racial Equality, and the Zumbi dos Palmares University on 06/30/20. The campaign seeks to promote changes in attitudes aimed at eliminating racism.

# POLICE VIOLENCE, TORTURE, AND ABUSE OF AUTHORITY

## **PN #30 – In defense of the Committee to Prevent and Combat Torture, 02/27/2021**

It denounces the appointment made by Bolsonaro's government of two military men without any competence on human rights for coordination positions in the National Committee to Prevent and Combat Torture (*Comitê Nacional de Prevenção e Combate à Tortura – CNPCT*, in Portuguese). It considers that these choices represent a gesture towards militarizing and controlling the public civil structure, diverting it from its original purposes.

## **Admission as *Amicus Curiae* Federal Supreme Court against a presidential decree**

In partnership with the Marcio Thomaz Bastos Institute for the Defense of the Right to Defense (*Instituto de Defesa do Direito de Defesa – IDDD*, in Portuguese), on 03/19/20, the Arns Commission joined

the lawsuit as *Amicus Curiae*. The lawsuit, which is being discussed at the Federal Supreme Court, defends the autonomy of the Mechanism to Prevent and Combat Torture, as a result of the international commitments assumed by Brazil and the constitutional duty of defending the human person against torture.

## **Abuse of authority by an appellate court judge from São Paulo's Court of Justice**

Submission of an official document to the national judicial administrative officer of the National Justice Council, on 07/22/20, requiring disciplinary measures for the conduct of appellate court judge Eduardo Siqueira, from São Paulo's Justice Court, due to his acts of contempt and abuse of authority against two civil guards, Cícero Hilário and Roberto Guilhermino, in Santos (SP).

## **Violence against women in a court hearing in Florianópolis (SC)**

Referral of an official document to the National Judicial Administrative Office of the National Justice Council, on 11/10/20, requesting disciplinary measures for the conduct of judge Rudson Marcos, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Criminal Court of the city of Florianópolis of Santa Catarina's Justice Court, during the court hearing of a criminal process filed by the state Public Prosecutor's Office against André de Camargo Aranha. In the hearing, the victim and YouTuber Mariana Borges Ferreira (Mariana Ferrer) was subject to misogynistic attacks and embarrassments by the defense attorney, in view of the judge's omission.



# POLICE VIOLENCE, TORTURE, AND ABUSE OF AUTHORITY

## Disapproval of systematic police violence in São Paulo

Submission of an official document to the Secretary of Public Security of São Paulo requiring investigation and an end to the systematic police violence that occurred in the state and city of São Paulo during the months of June and July. At the same time, the Arns Commission requests the adoption of a minimum agenda for the requalification of public security services, with the reestablishment of social control, preventive practices, and instruments for denouncing and investigating abusive conduct.

## Murder of Rogério Ferreira da Silva Júnior by police officers, in São Paulo (SP)

Submission of an official document to São Paulo's Secretary of Public Security, on 08/11/20, requiring investigation and accountability for the death of young Rogério Ferreira da Silva Júnior, in São Paulo, when

approached by two military police officers from Ronda Ostensiva in São Paulo.

## Condemnation of liberalizing the use of weapons by the federal government

The Arns Commission, in partnership with the Sou da Paz and Igarapé Institutes, carried out a campaign to veto the federal government's bill in the National Congress, which was proposed by the then Minister of Justice and Public Security, Sergio Moro, also known as the "Moro package" ("pacote Moro", in Portuguese). The proposal sought to alter the Disarmament Statute, the Penal Code, the Bank Security Law, and the National Security Law by modifying rules for registration, certification, and possession of firearms, as well as liberalizing their use.

The campaign sought to provide visibility and stimulate the debate on the possession of weapons, in the press, and by society.



# THREATS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

## **PN #25 – In support of Fr. Júlio Lancellotti, 09/18/2020.**

It requests São Paulo's state and municipal security authorities to guarantee protection to Father Júlio Lancellotti, who has suffered several threats as a result of his efforts to minimize the pandemic effects on those who cannot defend themselves.

## **Defense of social organizations acting in the Amazon**

The Arns Commission released a **manifesto in defense of civil society organizations** given the federal government's intention to control, by 2022, the social organizations working in the Amazon region.

The AC has also released a **video** on social media regarding the various forms of control to which social organizations are subject, in Brazil.

## **Threats against leaderships and violence against the homeless population**

The Arns Commission sent an official document to São Paulo's Secretary of Public Security requesting an investigation on the abusive police approach against the lawyer Juliana Costa Hashimoto Bertin, from the *Pastoral do Povo da Rua* of São Paulo's archdiocese. The document also requests the urgent adoption of measures to hinder abusive conduct when approaching homeless people, since they

are conspicuously incompatible with the safeguard of human dignity.

The president of AC met with the archbishop of the Archdiocese of São Paulo, Dom Odilo Pedro Scherer, to deal with the importance of the *Pastoral do Povo de Rua* and the role of Father Júlio Lancellotti in confronting the violations against homeless people, especially to mitigate the pandemic consequences.

## **Support to the Marielle Franco Award, promoted by the *Contra Corrente* publishing company**

The Arns Commission supported the edition of the Marielle Franco Award through several publicity actions.



## THE RIGHT TO MEMORY AND TRUTH

### **PN #27 – In repudiation of Mourão's praise of Brilhante Ustra, 10/09/2020.**

The Arns Commission repudiates and regards the vice-president Hamilton Mourão's statement as a defilement of the Brazilian Military honor, an embarrassment to the nation, and disrespect towards the memory of those tortured or killed under Ustra's responsibility, a torturer convicted by the Justice System.

### **PN #28 – In support of the National Truth Commission, 11/05/2020.**

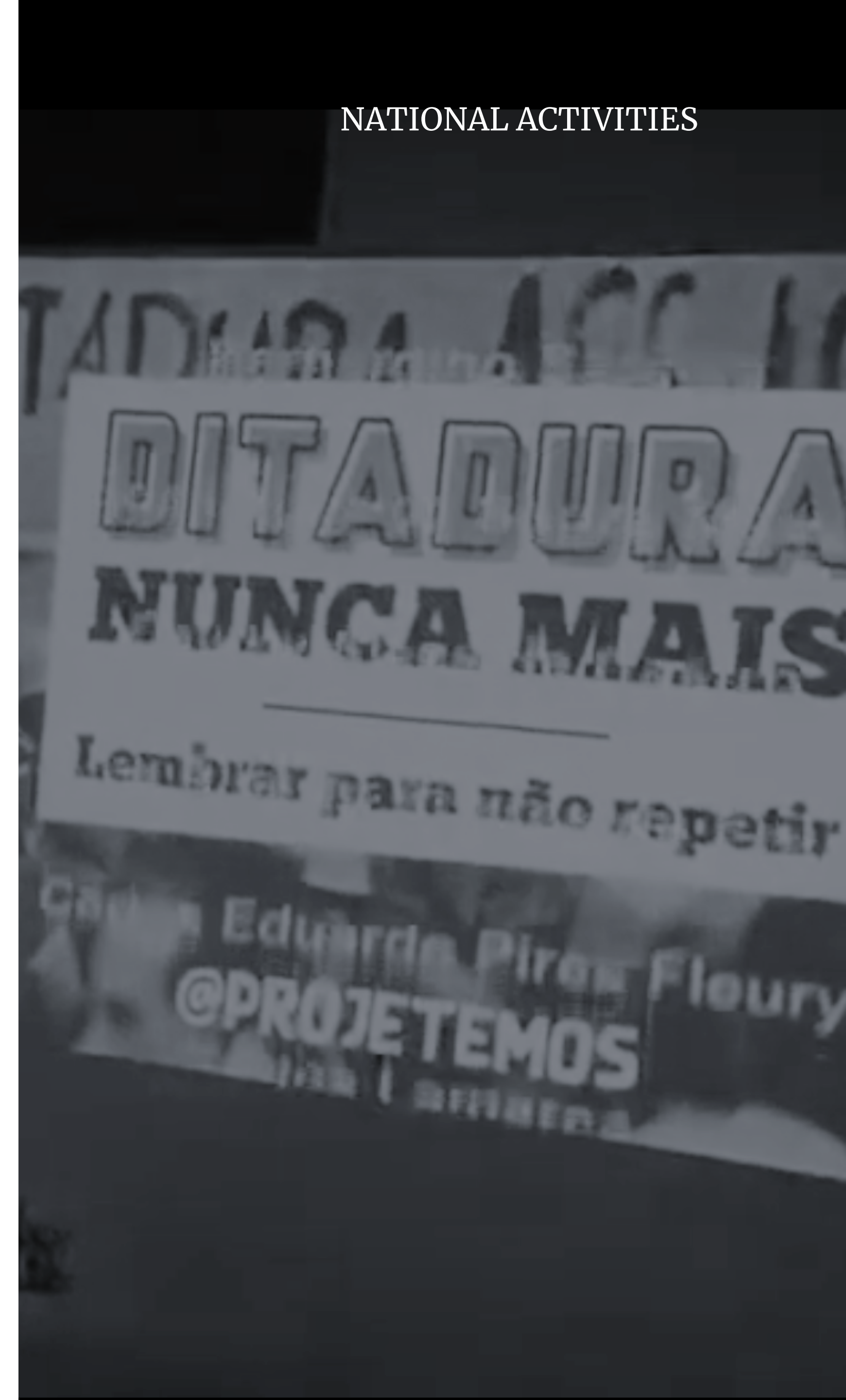
The Arns Commission considers that, by presenting its final report to President Dilma Rousseff, on 12/10/14, the National Truth Commission (CNV, in Portuguese) transferred to the country its legacy in the investigation of serious human rights violations that occurred between the two democratic constitutions of 1946 and 1988, so that the authoritarian past is not repeated and the nation is reconciled around justice, the rule of law, and democracy.

### **The Memory and Truth Working Group of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office**

Participation on the Working Group about Memory and Truth, established by the Federal Prosecutor's Office for Citizens' Rights (PFDC/MPF, in Portuguese) to act in compliance with Law No. 9,140/1995 (Special Commission on Political Deaths and Disappearances), Law No. 10,559/2002 (Amnesty Commission), and Law No. 2,528/2011 (National Truth Commission) and to compel the enforcement of international human rights decisions by the Brazilian State.

### **Support to the 2020 Vigil for Democracy**

Promoted by the Vladimir Herzog Institute and the Memory Center as a re-edition of the Walk of Silence, held in 2019, the Vigil featured several online demonstrations on March 31, 2020. The Arns Commission assisted in the preparation and promotion of the 2020 Vigil For Democracy on social networks.





## ARNS COMMISSION IN THE MEDIA

The Arns Commission media presence has considerably increased over the period. From March 2020 to February 2021, 866 publications were registered in Brazilian and foreign press – including newspapers, magazines, online news reports, television, radio, and podcasts – regarding several of AC’s activities. This represents almost double the exposure compared to the previous period when 488 news or articles were released.

The international action that had the most repercussion was the Yanomami leader Davi Kopenawa’s visit to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN’s Human Rights Council. On this occasion, Kopenawa denounced the risk of genocide of isolated indigenous peoples.

The action generated 59 news articles and was talked about in several European and South American countries. News reports in media outlets such as Radio France Internationale, the newspapers Clarín, Tribune de Genève, Agência Ansa, Página 12, and Agência Lusa stood out.

Domestically, the UN’s event was also widely publicized, being highlighted on media outlets such as GGN, Carta Capital, Carta Maior, Rede Brasil Atual, Observatório do Terceiro Setor, and TVT.

In Brazil, the “In Defense of Life” note and the “Pact for Life and for Brazil” manifesto, signed by the G6, were the most publicized actions,

both in the press and on social media. They were featured in 207 articles or news reports in newspapers, magazines, television, radio, national media, online news outlets, and other places on the web. The delivery of the Pact for Life and for Brazil to the then Chief Justice of the Federal Supreme Court, Dias Toffoli, with 107 articles, had a special repercussion.

On television, the meeting was featured on ten news programs: Jornal Nacional and Jornal da Globo; three news programs on GloboNews; three on CNN; one on SBT, and one on TV Justiça.

It was also featured on 93 publications on online portals, such as O Globo, O Estado de S. Paulo (blog by Fausto Macedo), Folha de S. Paulo, Valor Econômico, G1, UOL, HuffPost Brasil, Jovem Pan, and CNN.

On social media, the post about the delivery of the Pact to Justice Dias Toffoli that had the most repercussion was from CCN Brazil, on Twitter, which received 171 comments. As a matter of fact, Twitter was the social network with the highest engagement, accumulating 80% of the posts.

Public Note No. 17 – “The president lost the ability to govern” – received special attention. Dated 05/18/20, this Public Note was simultaneously published in the country’s four main newspapers and replicated in other 20 national and three international media outlets.

## ACTIONS WITH THE MOST REPERCUSSION

**120** articles

In Defense of Life

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**107** articles

Delivery of the Pact For  
Life and For Brazil to  
Justice Dias Toffoli

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**87** articles

Pact For Life and For  
Brazil Manifesto

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**59** articles

Trip to Geneva with  
Davi Kopenawa





# DIGITAL MEDIA



## AC'S WEBSITE

Total number of blog posts on the website: **224**

Posts in the period: **117**

Increase of **190%** compared to the previous period, reaching a total of **224** posts.

In the period, 17 Public Notes were issued, an increase of **130%** compared to the previous period, reaching a total of 30 Public Notes.

## AC'S BLOG ON UOL

Total posts: **176**, including articles and public notes..

New posts in the period: **70**

### MOST SEEN

- The party must not stop. Even with the dead in the living room, by Vladimir Safatle (**22,600**)
- Public Note #27 – In repudiation of Mourão's demonstration praising Ustra (**19,400**)
- Toffoli: acceptance of the government's celebration of the dictatorship, by Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (**7,600**)
- The Christian far-right in Brazil, by Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (**6,200**)
- Public Note #19 – In support of the Federal Supreme Court (STF) and the Judiciary Power Branch (**4,500**)

## YOUTUBE

Videos published: **33**

Total subscribers: **67**

Total views: **1,230**

### MOST WATCHED

- Public Note #29 – For the lost life of João Alberto
- Entities released “Pact for Life and for Brazil”
- “Human Rights Matter!” Webinar



## TWITTER

Total followers: **2,219**

New followers in the period: **1,651**

Growth of **290%** compared to the same previous period (568)

Posts in the period: **589**

Views in the period: **401,000**

### MOST SEEN

- Antifascist Dossier (**23K**)
- Annexation of the West Bank by Israel (**23K**)
- Minister Damares will not silence civil society (**19K**)
- Enough! (**11K**)

## FACEBOOK

Total followers: **3,859**

New followers in the period: **2,574**

Growth of **150%** compared to the same previous period (1,285)

Posts in the period: **623**

Views in the period: **528,813**

Shares: **12,420**

Likes: **58,160**

### MOST SEEN

- **PN #17** – The president has lost the ability to govern (**23,060**)
- **PN #29** – For the lost life of João Alberto (**13,292**)
- **PN #27** – In repudiation of Mourão's demonstration (**12,885**)
- The “Pact for Life and for Brazil” Manifesto (**9,485**)

## INSTAGRAM

Total followers: **2,088**

New followers in the period: **1,000**

Growth of **100%** compared to the same previous period.

Posts (Feed Posts + Stories) in the period: **820**

Post views in the period: **111,087**

Posts in the period: **200**

Stories in the period: **620**

### MOST SEEN

- Organizations calls on the UN to investigate support to the military coup
- PN #22 – In support of app deliverymen
- One Year of Arns Commission Campaign (vídeo)




# COMISSÃO ARNs

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