

The situation of Human Rights Defenders and of the National Policy towards Human Rights Defenders in Brazil

Shadow report prepared by the Brazilian Committee of Human Rights Defenders (CBDDH) for the Universal Periodic Review of Brazil

The CBDDH is a network of social movements and civil society organizations established in 2004 to monitor and follow the national protection policy (Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders - PPDDH) for human rights defenders carried out by the Brazilian government through the Secretariat for Human Rights. The role of the committee, through the preparation of letters and advocacy actions, has always stressed, from the beginning, that, besides protecting both male and female defenders at risk, it should be the articulator of public policies aimed at overcoming the structural problem that generates vulnerability for the defender or for the social movement. Another challenge was coping with the criminalization of defenders, which has become one of the practices most often used to immobilize social struggle and which is often enhanced by the media. Over the last year, the CBDDH ventured in a new challenge: discussing how can we generate policies of self-protection in civil society organizations, besides just monitoring the state policy.

Today the committee is composed of 23 civil society organizations and social movements acting throughout the country, which are: Artigo 19, Associação de Advogados de Trabalhadores Rurais no Estado da Bahia – AATR, Associação de Apoio a Criança e ao Adolescente – Amencar, Central do Movimentos Populares, Centro de Defesa de Direitos Humanos de Sapopemba, Centro de Defesa de Direitos Humanos Gaspar Garcia – SP, Centro de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos da Serra – ES, Coletivo Margarida Alves – MG, Comissão Pastoral da Terra – CPT, Conselho Indigenista Missionário – CIMI, CPP – Conselho Pastoral da Pesca, Dignitatis – Assessoria Técnica Popular, Grupo Tortura nunca mais da Bahia, Instituto de Direitos Humanos – MG, Justiça Global, Lajusa - Laboratório de Justiça Global e Educação em Direitos Humanos na Amazônia, Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens, Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra, Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos, Rede Justiça nos Trilhos, Sociedade Maranhense dos Direitos Humanos, Sociedade Paraense de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos – SDDH, Terra de Direitos.

The CBDDH has a facilitator group that is responsible for stimulating the articulation of the organizations and performing the most urgent actions, and consists of the following organizations: Artigo 19, Comissão Pastoral da Terra – CPT, Conselho Indigenista Missionário – CIMI, Justiça Global, Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos e Sociedade Maranhense dos Direitos Humanos, Terra de Direitos.

To contact the CBDDH, use the following e-mails:

Artigo 19 – julia@article19.org

Comissão Pastoral da Terra – paulo@cptnacional.org.br

Conselho Indigenista Missionário – assessoriajuridica@cimi.org.br

Justiça Global – defensores@global.org.br

Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos – ademirtorresdh@gmail.com

Sociedade Maranhense dos Direitos Humanos – jogambaster@gmail.com

Terra de Direitos – layza@terradedireitos.org.br

For more information about the CBDDH, the letters we issued at various moments since the beginning of our work can be accessed on the links available here:

<http://terradedireitos.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Carta-Comit%C3%A1rio.pdf>

<http://terradedireitos.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Carta-para-o-Secret%C3%A1rio-Nacional-de-Promo%C3%A7%C3%A3o-e-Defesa-dos-Direitos-Humanos.pdf>

<http://global.org.br/programas/carta-do-comite-brasileiro-de-defensorases-de-direitos-humanos-2014/>

<http://terradedireitos.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/CARTA-DO-COMIT%C3%88A.pdf>

BRASILEIRO-DE-DEFENSORAS-2013-1-Erina.pdf

<http://www.ecodebate.com.br/2012/12/17/carta-do-comite-brasileiro-de-defensorases-de-direitos-humanos-a-ministra-da-secretaria-de-direitos-humanos/>

<http://global.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Comit%C3%A9-Brasileiro-de-Defensoras-2010.pdf>.