

Lettre ouverte contre les atteintes aux Droits de l'Homme au Brésil



Open letter against the violation of human rights in Brazil

Lausanne, January 31st, 2019

The Centre for Gender Studies (CEG) of the University of Lausanne works for the development of studies on gender in the social sciences, fostering interdisciplinarity and critical reflection in research, as well as highlighting the value of international cooperation.

As a research centre, we are in constant dialogue with actors from civil society and the political landscape working on the defence of human rights, with a particular interest in women's and minority rights, both in Switzerland and abroad. The CEG is pleased to count several Brazilian nationals among our community of researchers, and we are proud to publicly express our solidarity with Brazilian activists, scholars, and dissidents in Brazil and around the world.

On that note, the CEG comes to reiterate its solidarity with Jean Wyllys, a federal representative of the state of Rio de Janeiro for the Socialism and Freedom Party (PSOL), who has been forced into exile following death threats addressed to him and his relatives. With this letter, we echo the International Manifesto "Jean must stay alive" published on January 30, 2019, and signed by numerous academics, politicians, activists, and associations.

Jean Wyllys de Matos Santos, a black man from the Brazilian Northeast state of Bahia, is one of the first openly gay politicians in the country and a practitioner of the Afro-Brazilian religion Candomblé. As a journalist, activist, and academic, he was first elected as a federal deputy for the state of Rio de Janeiro in 2010 and re-elected in 2014 and 2018. His political career shows his adamant commitment to the LGBT+ community, minorities, human rights and social justice, which are themselves priorities for the research work done at the CEG.

The CEG would like to remind the international community that Professor Débora Diniz, an anthropologist at the University of Brasilia and founder of the Latin American Institute of Bioethics, Human Rights and Gender (ANIS) has been forced into hiding since 2017. Professor Diniz gained notoriety for her advocacy work during the vote on the decriminalization of abortion in cases of anencephalic fetuses before the Brazilian Federal Supreme Court.

The cases of Jean Wyllys and Débora Diniz exemplify the great vulnerability encountered by the LGBT+ community, the women's movement, Brazilian indigenous peoples and Afro-Brazilian descendants (quilombolas), as well as the defenders of their rights, since the election of Jair Bolsonaro on October 28, 2018, and his coming to power on January 01, 2019.

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Pétition sur le Brésil au parlement suisse, lancée par
l'ONG Solifonds:

<https://www.solifonds.ch/fra/?fbclid=IwAR3XW2e-GIKfldJGEI4N7OzpOA7h1h7f-kPi26LIw2A0owzM1sF0rXHf9iY>

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