



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

No. 63/2019

The Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO presents its compliments to the UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information (ADG-CI) and has the honor to refer to the letter CI/FEM/FOE/fr/2019/38, with requests for updated information on unresolved cases of killings of journalists in Brazil.

In response, the Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO wishes to highlight that the Brazilian government wishes firstly to inform on the measures that have been taken to promote the security of journalists and combat impunity in the country:

PROGRAM FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS (PPDDH). In September 2018, through Ordinance no. 300 of the then Ministry of Human Rights, the Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders was reformulated in order to broaden its scope of action with regards to journalists and environmentalists, Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Social Communicators and Environmentalists.

For the purposes of the Program, social communicators are also considered to be human rights defenders with a regular activity in media activities, whether in the performance of their professional activity or in a non-remunerated personal activity, in order to disseminate information aimed at promoting and defend human rights and that, as a result of their performance, are experiencing situations of threat or violence that seek to constrain or inhibit their performance in this end.

The PPDDH targets human rights defenders, environmentalists and social communicators who have their rights violated or threatened and, because of their recognized performance and activities in those circumstances, are at risk or threatened. For the purposes of the Program, the violation or threat to a human rights defender is characterized by any and all acts of aggression that aim to prevent the continuation of their personal or institutional activity and that manifests, albeit indirectly, about their person or family. The PPDDH has as one of its premises the guarantee of the necessary security for the human rights defender to continue exercising his activities in the place of performance, except in cases in which the maintenance of the activity exacerbates the risk to his physical integrity.

It is worth mentioning that several measures have been adopted to improve the work of journalists in situations of risk and threat, such as adjustments in the mapping of risks and threats, and improvement of the flow between the National Ombudsman for Human Rights and the Protection Program for receiving, registering and forwarding complaints that accommodate the specificities of this public.

ARISTEU GUIDA DA SILVA HANDBOOK. The "Aristeu Guida da Silva Handbook - International Standards for the Protection of Human Rights of Journalists and Other Communicators", launched in December 2018, is aimed at disseminating the standards of the



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

United Nations and the Organization of American States in relation to the duties of member states on prevention, protection and access to justice in cases of violence against journalists due to the exercise of their right to freedom of expression.

The material also explains the programs of the federal government aimed at preventing crimes against journalists and communicators because of the exercise of their right to freedom of thought and expression, as well as the protection of journalists who are at particular risk for the exercise of their profession.

Elaborated in a dialogue with the Inter American Press Association (IAPA), the Handbook complies with the recommendation of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States regarding the murder of journalist Aristeu Guida da Silva in the municipality of São Fidélis, of Rio de Janeiro, in May 1995.

The Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO also wishes to present the following information requested by UNESCO on the cases of unresolved killings of journalists in Brazil, obtained from the Ministry of Justice and the National Public Prosecutor's Office by the report "Violence against communicators in Brazil: a portrait of the survey in the last 20 years"¹, published in 2019:

“Luciano Leitão Pedrosa

Police in Pernambuco have identified two suspects to be the orchestrators of the crime. Police also identified two other people involved in the crime, one of whom was murdered in July 2011. Daílton Gomes Brasil, Josemir Soares da Silva and Josimir Soares da Silva were denounced. All the defendants were acquitted by the jury on behalf of the defence thesis (the defendant did not incur in the crime).

Valério Nascimento

Police investigations have not yet been completed, however, there is suspicion by investigators that the crime is related to the disclosure of a corruption scheme in the municipality of Bananal, São Paulo, by Mr. Nascimento. The investigation is in the police station for the execution of diligences. There was an application for a precautionary measure, granted by the judiciary.

Vanderlei Canuto Leandro

Police investigations have not yet been completed and investigators believe a former mayor of Tabatinga, in the state of Amazonas, may be involved in the crime.

Paulo Roberto Cardoso Rodrigues

Investigators identified the main suspect in the crime, but he was murdered in the city of Jandira, state of São Paulo, in 2015. Police investigations are still ongoing. The line of investigation

¹ (<http://www.cnmp.mp.br/portal/images/Publicacoes/documentos/2019/Violencia-contra-comunicadores-no-Brasil-VERSAO-FINAL-.pdf>)



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

indicates that political issues would have motivated the crime, indicating a possible dispute between militants of the party to which the victim was affiliated. For the moment, there is no link between the homicide and the profession of the victim.

Mario Randolfo Marques Lopes

Police investigations have not been completed, and investigators believe there may be a link between crime and allegations of corruption by the victim against influential people in the Barra do Piraí region of Rio de Janeiro state.

Décio Sá [Aldenísio Décio Leite de Sá]

The police investigation into the murder of Décio Sá resulted in the charging of twelve people to participate, directly or indirectly, in the crime. In addition to Jhonathan de Souza Silva and Marcos Bruno Silva de Oliveira, three other individuals were arrested and are currently awaiting a decision on their appeals: José Raimundo Sales Chaves Júnior, accused of being the intermediary of the murder, Gláucio Alencar Pontes Carvalho, accused of being the leader of the criminal organization; and José de Alencar Miranda Carvalho, Gláucio's father, accused of being responsible for the operationalization of the criminal organization. Five other accused persons have had their cases denied to be heard by the jury and are awaiting a decision on the appeals that have been denied. At present, the police investigation is in a procedural stage within the judiciary of the state of Maranhão. Jhonathan de Souza Silva and Marcos Brunos Silva de Oliveira faced trial on February 4, 2014. After the appeals' judgment, the Court of Justice of Maranhão decided to confirm the sentence of Jhonathan de Souza Silva, but to annul the sentence of Marcos Bruno Silva de Oliveira. Later, the case of Marcos Bruno Silva de Oliveira was tried again and he was sentenced to 18 years and 3 months of confinement. Jhonathan de Souza Silva, a self-confessed murderer, and Marcos Bruno Silva de Oliveira, who was driving the motorcycle used to help Jhonathan escape, are both fulfilling their sentences. In 2015, an appeal by the Prosecution increased the sentence imposed on the defendant Jhonathan de Souza Silva, fixing it in 27 years and 5 months.

Valério Luiz de Oliveira

The police investigation indicated five suspects, including the former vice president of the Atlético-GO football team, whose management team was frequently criticized by Valério Luiz de Oliveira in comments. The police inquiries were sent to the judiciary.

Eduardo Carvalho

In 2018, because the police investigation did not identify the criminal offender, the Public Prosecutor's Office requested the closing of the police investigation, request which was homologated by the judiciary.

Mafaldo Bezerra Goes

The investigation indicates that gang members are involved in the murder of Mafaldo. The police investigation identified two people responsible for the shots that killed the journalist.



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

The procedures are ongoing. In 2019, the punishment of the defendant Francisco da Silva Queiroz was extinguished because of his death. The procedures follow regularly regarding the defendant Diógenes Nunes Soares, and a summons of the defender was made to present final allegations.

José Roberto Ornelas

Police arrested six people accused of leading a militia in the area of Nova Iguaçu, in the state of Rio de Janeiro. According to the police, four of them are directly involved in the murder of Mr. José Roberto Ornelas. Process is in progress in the 4th Criminal Court in the Region of Nova Iguaçu. Hearing session was designated.

Santiago Ilídio Andrade

In February 2014, two people were arrested on the charge of firing the squib that reached Mr. Santiago Ilídio Andrade. In March 2015, after investigations, the case was referred to a Criminal Court in which the accused would be tried. After examining the case, the judge ruled that the accused would not be prosecuted for intentional homicide, but for unintentional homicide or explosion followed by death. The Public Prosecutor appealed to the Supreme Court of Justice. Defendants await decision in liberty. In March 2019, a complaint was presented, which was sent to the 3rd Criminal Court of the Capital.

Edilson Dias Lopes [Ede Wilson da Silva Dias]

The Civil Police of the state of Espírito Santo closed the investigation into the murder of Ede Wilson da Silva Dias (cited as Edilson Dias Lopes in a UNESCO list). Anderson Oliveira Rodrigues and Adenilson Samora de Jesus were identified as perpetrators of the crime. Those represented were hospitalized provisionally. After due diligence, the Public Prosecutor's Office requested the dismissal of the representation, in the absence of proof of authorship. In October 2016, the request of the representation was dismissed, due to the lack of robust evidence as to the authorship of the fact. In January 2017, the suit was shelved definitively. The murder resulted from a street fight, not related to the victim's activities as a journalist.

Pedro Palma

In June 2014, the suspect in the journalist's murder was arrested. Confidential inquiry into the crime has not been completed.

Geolino Lopes Xavier

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives for the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.

Marcos de Barros Leopoldo

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives of the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

Gerardo Ceferino Servían Coronel

The crime investigation is under way. The crime is being investigated as an execution. Investigators are still searching for the motives of the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.

Evany José Metzker

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives for the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators. The Civil Police of the State of Minas Gerais works with the possibilities of political motivation or crime of passion.

Djalma Santos da Conceição

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators believe that the crime is related to the disclosure of corruption schemes in Conceição da Feira, in the state of Bahia. On July 23, 2018, the police investigation was closed, without identification of the perpetrator.

Gleydson Carvalho

In 2015, the Public Prosecutor Office of the State of Ceará formally accused seven individuals of involvement in the planning and murder of the journalist. The investigation pointed out that the crime was motivated by the victim's political criticism on his radio show. Other individuals remain under investigation and may be formally charged during the criminal proceedings. Among the accused are two relatives of the former mayor of Martinópolis, a town next to the hometown of journalist, Camocim. The perpetrators of the crime were detained and arrested. Two other involved persons are fugitives from Justice.

Israel Gonçalves da Silva

A few weeks after the crime, police arrested two individuals who confessed they were involved in the murder. In December 2016, the Civil Police of the state of Pernambuco announced that the murder was due to revenge, in view of the journalist revealing corruption schemes in his radio program. The following were denounced: Henrique Luiz da Silva Ferreira, Fábio Ricardo dos Santos Silva and Mailson dos Santos Lira. In 2018, the individuals mentioned above were accused. The judge imposed a sentence of 27 years and 4 months of imprisonment for Henrique Luiz da Silva Ferreira, 23 years, 10 months and 15 days of imprisonment for Fábio Ricardo dos Santos Silva and 15 years and 5 months of imprisonment for Mailson dos Santos Lira. It became final on March 25, 2019.

Ítalo Eduardo Diniz Barros

The Maranhão Civil Police is currently evaluating the possibility that the crime was orchestrated by local landowner Sebastião Patrick to please his political ally Indalcio Wanderley, who was constantly criticized by the victim. The Civil Police of Maranhão does not, however, rule out the possibility that the crime was committed as a revenge or cover-up.



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

after the victim's involvement in the crime to assassinate former councilman Paulo Lopes. The investigation of the crime was referred to the Court of Justice of the State of Maranhão, in which the case (No. 0004552-62.2017.8.10.0000) is being analyzed by the Second Criminal Chamber.

Orislandio Timóteo Araújo

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives of the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.

João Valdecir de Borba

The crime investigation is under way. The denunciation was offered on September 11, 2017, imputing to the defendant Cleverson Martins Alves the practice of the crime of robbery. The case is currently being heard. In the investigation, it was concluded that the crime has no relation to the exercise of the victim's profession, nor was it perpetrated by reason of its activity. It was the result of an attempted assault in the radio station.

Manoel Messias Pereira

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives of the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.

João Miranda do Carmo

The Civil Police of the state of Goiás arrested two suspects in the murder, Mr. Rooney da Silva Morais, accused of being the shooter; and Douglas Ferreira de Morais, security chief of the former mayor of the municipality of Santo Antônio do Descoberto. The investigations are closed and the resulting information has been sent to the prosecuting authorities. Everyone involved in the crime was already indicted. In 2019, the facts are still under investigation.

Mauricio Campos Rosa

The investigation is ongoing. Investigators continue to search for the motives for the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators. In April 2017, the Civil Police of the state of Minas Gerais conducted search warrants in Santa Luzia, where the crime was committed. Investigation revealed that the case is complex involving several defendants. Currently, final claims are expected for the release of the judgment on the indictment of the accused.

Jairo de Oliveira Silva

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives of the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators.

Luís Gustavo da Silva



Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

The crime investigation is under way. Investigators are still searching for the motives for the murder, their orchestrators and immediate perpetrators. The most recent provision was the return of the police inquiry to the Aquiraz, state of Ceará.

Ueliton Bayer Brizon

The crime occurred on January 16, 2018. It is still in the police investigation phase in the 1st Police Station of the Municipality of Cacoal / state of Rondônia. Case nº 0048/2018 (police station) and 0000413-76.2018.8.22.0007 (judicial).

Jefferson Pureza Lopes

The crime occurred in the municipality of Edealina, state of Goiás. The suspects were reported to the court (Edealina County), and are awaiting trial in jail - including one councilman and three teenagers. Cases nº 201800404268 (Region of Jandaia).

Jairo José de Souza

The crime occurred on June 21, 2018. The suspects have already been reported to Justice (3rd District Court of Bragança / PA), under criminal case No. 0007126-83.2018.8.14.0009. On January 11, 2019, a complaint was presented against José Roberto Costa de Sousa, Dione de Sousa Almeida, Cesar Augusto Monteiro Gonçalves, Madson Aviz de Melo, Jedson Miranda da Silva, Moisanuel Souza da Silva, Otacilio Antonio da Silva, Edvaldo Meireles da Silva, Jadson Roberto Reis de Souza, João Carlos Lima de Castro and Sidney Raymundo Silva Reis.

Marlon Carvalho Araujo

The case is being investigated by the Civil Police of the state of Bahia, and the respective case was referred to the Regional Superintendence of the Federal Police of Bahia, for knowledge, manifestation and joint articulation among the police agencies. The investigation alluding to the murder of Mr. Marlon Carvalho de Araújo was registered under number 99/2018. The investigation, according to the report of the police authority that presides over it, is under way and the dissemination of the investigative measures adopted could jeopardize its progress.”

The Brazilian government authorizes UNESCO to publish the said information in its website, as well as to include it in the report to be elaborated to the 40th Session of the General Conference of the Organization.

The Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO avails itself of this opportunity to renew to UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information (ADG-CI) the assurances of its highest consideration.

To the Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information (ADG-CI).

