

INDIAN LAW RESOURCE CENTER

CENTRO DE RECURSOS JURÍDICOS PARA LOS PUEBLOS INDÍGENAS

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The Indian Law Resource Center Launches Partnership with the Coordination of the Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon to Defend Indigenous Lands and Indigenous Rights

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The Indian Law Resource Center (the Center) is proud to announce a partnership with the Coordination of the Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB) to advocate internationally for the protection of the indigenous lands and resources and the rights of the indigenous communities in the Brazilian Amazon.

Our joint advocacy work could not be more urgent. Indigenous peoples of the Brazilian Amazon rainforest are battling escalating, severe violence and threats to their rights to use, manage, and steward their lands. Their human rights to exist as indigenous peoples and to maintain their ways of life are being severely attacked. With the current Brazilian government and influential private sector interests working to expand large-scale agriculture, mining explorations and other endeavors on indigenous lands, as well as weakening the institutions and regulations that protect them, invasions of indigenous lands and illegal deforestation are causing increased violence and environmental devastation. Killings of indigenous leaders, violence against indigenous communities, and rapid destruction of the Amazon forest – as evidenced by the record number of fires in the Brazilian Amazon now being reported – are being carried out at increasing and alarming levels.

The Indian Law Resource Center is honored to join COIAB leaders in this great partnership to fight for the defense of indigenous rights and to work together to bring international attention and scrutiny to the consequences of Brazil's anti-indigenous political agenda and against deforestation in the Amazon. COIAB is the largest indigenous regional organization in Brazil, with more than 200 member organizations from all nine states of the Brazilian Amazon. The 30-year-old organization works to defend land rights, health, education, culture, and sustainability of indigenous peoples and organizations of the Brazilian Amazon.

The Indian Law Resource Center is one of the pioneers of using international human rights standards and mechanisms to defend and advance indigenous rights. As early as 1979, the Center's work to assist the Yanomami people in Brazilian Amazon was a key part of a forceful and successful international campaign that led Brazil to create a 23+ million acre Yanomami indigenous territory and expel illegal gold miners from their region.

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For more information see <https://indianlaw.org/brazil>