



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

**Brazil's Unjust Trial of Lula da Silva: Political motives are locking the people's
President away**

#StandWithLula



ICSFT stands with Luiz Ignacio Lula da Silva, former president of Brazil, as he is being forced to surrender to a 12 year prison sentence. Lula has been charged with money laundering, influence peddling and obstruction of justice and other charges. However he has been denied his due legal process, and has not been given his due process of law.

His trial has been unjustly cut short, and he is forcefully being made to surrender, in spite of not having exhausted all of his rights to appeal, as is his right. ICSFT stands

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with Brazilian activists who believe that the charges and the unjust trial are symptoms of a much more problematic issue: an undemocratic trial process in Brazil, and meddling of political powers in the democratic process, to steal power from Brazil's people's president.

Da Silva- commonly known as Lula, was one of the founders of the Partido dos Trabalhadores, or Workers Party in Brazil. He is known for his connection with the people of Brazil, and for representing worker's rights, and the rights of the common person. Before his first election to the Presidency in 2002, he was known for his civilian, one-of-the-people style, often wearing Che Guevara shirts.

He was elected in 2003 and served as President of Brazil until 2011. He established successful social programs for the poor and middle class, extending needed food and social services to those who are most often ignored by those in power. He was a president of the people. **He was known as the "Son of Brazil" and has been recognized as one of the popular politicians in the history of Brazil** and during his Presidency was known internationally as one of the most popular politicians in the world.

However, political forces are working against him, and have been fighting to lock him away. In 2016 Lula was charged with corruption charges, linking him to oil companies and claiming that he was illegally positioning himself to gain from oil expansion.

He pled the charges, but on April 5, 2018, was forced to surrender to 12 years in prison, without due legal process.

The party that loved, and fought for him throughout his popular presidency is still fighting for him now- **the Partido dos Trabalhadores are rising up in demonstrations, protests, sit-ins, and other acts of courageous activism**, in order

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to fight for Lula's access to due legal process. Crowds of supporters are camping outside of his prison cell in Curitiba, Brazil, determined to fight for their leader's freedom.

Lula can still register to run in the upcoming presidential elections even while imprisoned, and polls indicate that he would be the front runner. It is likely **that unjust political mechanisms will act to sever this possibility.**

The International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights condemn the agenda-based and untrue intervention of any political mechanism in legal processes. Justice is a fundamental, and necessary pillar of human rights: to uphold an equitable society where the people's true needs and rights are represented by a responsive government, fair trial, and un-interrupted, comprehensive legal mechanisms are absolutely essential. **The ICSFT is in solidarity with the people of Brazil, who are demanding that their chosen leader is free, and justly respected by the government of Brazil. .**

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