

Brazilian judge bans religious missions on Indigenous lands

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A few weeks ago, hundreds of indigenous people demonstrated in Brazil against measures of the so-called Temporary Framework. | Photo: EFE

Brasilia, September 24 (RHC)-- The judge of the Supreme Court, Luis Roberto Barroso has prohibited the installation of religious missions on Indigenous lands with the presence of peoples in voluntary isolation.

The ban comes after complaints made by neo-Pentecostal missions in charge of the government entity Funai during the mandate of President Jair Bolsonaro. Justice Barroso argued in the ruling that the isolation measure is carried out to protect native peoples from the Covid-19 pandemic.

In view of the imminent danger of contagion, the measure urges the implementation of detention barriers to prohibit under any circumstances the access of religious missions to areas with the presence of Indigenous population.

It is worth recalling that last August 23 hundreds of indigenous people in Brazil demonstrated against the provision proposed by the Executive in the Temporary Framework which would recognize as ancestral lands those occupied by these communities prior to 1988, which would enable companies to use these lands for cattle raising, logging, among other activities.

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