

**SALSA Repudiates the Attacks on Democracy
in the Praça dos Três Poderes, Brasília**

The Society for the Anthropology of Lowland South America, an international scholarly organization composed of professors, students, and practitioners, condemns the violent attacks against the institutions of Brazilian democracy that took place in Brasília on Sunday, January 8, 2023. The desecration of the National Congress, Planalto, and Supreme Court buildings constitutes a direct assault on Brazil, threatens democracies everywhere and is an affront to the exercise of the rule of law. Deluded by the former President and his allies, thousands of people engaged in destructive behavior based on the lie that Brazil's October 2022 election was neither free nor fair. Inspired by social-media conspiracies and apologists for Brazil's dictatorship, vandals attempted to destroy the temples of democracy, leaving internationally-noted works of art and architecture in ruins. Though unsuccessful in their goal to achieve a *coup d'état* against the democratically-elected government of President Lula, the destruction wrought by these rioters is the culmination of years of lies and treachery.

SALSA stands with all those within Brazil and throughout the world insisting that a thorough and complete investigation be conducted so that all parties responsible for these deplorable acts be held accountable to justice. Furthermore, we pledge to continue to support those – Indigenous people, *quilombola* communities, Black Brazilians, women, the LGBTQ community, and especially our colleagues and partners in Amazonia – who are working tirelessly for a more just, equitable, inclusive, and democratic Brazil.

January 12, 2023.