

**Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil** works to support Brazilian academics under threat following Bolsonaro’s recent election as President, the Escola sem partido ‘gagging’ agenda and concrete attacks on academics and academic freedom.

TO JOIN, write to academicfreedominbrazil@gmail.com and/or sign up to our closed Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/540115709748101/>

**Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil** is broad-based and inclusive, without a specific political orientation or affiliation to any political party, but united instead around a shared democratic commitment to academic freedom, and working towards the following main aims:

* Increase international visibility for cases of persecution of Brazilian academics and for state and institutional initiatives threatening academic freedom
* Organise material support and solidarity for academics suffering persecution in Brazil
* Fundraise and prepare support in our own institutions for academics who may be forced to leave Brazil
* Articulate this campaign with other international solidarity initiatives and build support beyond the academic community itself
* Organise institutional initiatives to add to international pressure in defence of academic freedom in Brazil

**Build the campaign fund – DONATE NOW!**

EITHER:

· send a cheque, payable to “Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil”, to David Treece, at: Dept. of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, King's College London, Virginia Woolf Building, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE,

OR

· pay by bank transfer: A/c no. 20414126. Sort code: 60-83-01

**Take the campaign to your trade union branch – see the Motion template overleaf**

**Motion in support of academics in Brazil**

...... UCU Branch notes that, since the election of far-right President Jair Bolsonaro in late 2018, Brazilian Higher Education and its workers have suffered increasing attacks on their ability to teach and research without constraints on their academic freedom and security. These attacks have included: attempts to ‘gag’ classroom teaching on progressive issues by filmed monitoring and intimidation; invasions and repression by police of legitimate activities on university premises; a 30%+ budget freeze on public, federal universities (see attached Factsheet).

...... UCU Branch notes that, at a meeting of UCU members and Brazilian academics at King’s College London in November 2018, **Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil (SAFB)** was established to respond to attacks on individual academics and on academic freedom generally in Brazil. SAFB is an inclusive network, without affiliation to any particular political party or tendency. Instead, membership is open to all those concerned with a shared democratic commitment to academic freedom, and the following aims:

(1)   To increase international visibility of cases of persecution of Brazilian academics and of state and institutional initiatives threatening academic freedom.

(2)   To promote the organisation of material support for academics suffering persecution in Brazil.

(3)   To work with other solidarity initiatives and build support beyond the academic community.

(4)   To add to international pressure in defence of academic freedom in Brazil.

...... UCU Branch also notes the motion passed at the May 2019 UCU Congress, ‘61 Composite: Solidarity with Brazil: fighting the far right’. Thiscalls on the National Executive Committee to: “work with the TUC, EI and other broad-based groups to support the Brazilian people in defending democracy, human rights and social progress; encourage and support the setting up of support networks in UK universities and colleges for Brazilian academics; invite Brazilian academics to our universities and colleges in conjunction with Stand up to Racism events to speak about the importance of fighting the far right whenever and wherever we can.”

...... UCU Branch

* Supports Brazilian academics and higher education workers in general in the defence of academic freedom
* Supports the work of Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil (SAFB)
* Resolves to work to implement the UCU Congress Motion ‘61 Composite: Solidarity with Brazil: fighting the far right’
* Resolves to contribute a £100 branch donation to the campaign fund of Scholars for Academic Freedom in Brazil
* Resolves to call on its members to support and publicise the work of SAFB, recommending a £25 individual donation to the campaign fund
* Resolves to support branch members working with SAFB to build solidarity with fellow university lecturers in Brazil through their individual and inter-institutional links

Motion tabled by .....