Joint statement on the illegal storming of democratic institutions in Brazil

Press Releases



9 January 2023

Lead MEPs condemn Sunday's violent storming of the Congress, the Presidential Palace and the Supreme Court of Justice in Brasilia by supporters of former president Jair Bolsonaro.

Chair of the EP Foreign Affairs Committee <u>David McAllister</u> (EPP, DE), Chair of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly <u>Javi López</u> (S&D, ES), Chair of the Delegation for relations with the Federative Republic of Brazil <u>José Manuel Fernandes</u> (EPP, PT) and Chair of the Delegation for relations with Mercosur <u>Jordi Cañas</u> (Renew, ES), stated:

"We strongly condemn yesterday's violent and illegal storming of the Congress, the Presidential Palace and the Supreme Court of Justice in Brasilia by supporters of former President Jair Bolsonaro. This was an inacceptable and heinous attack on the heart of Brazilian democracy, whose perpetrators and instigators must be punished with the full force of the law.

We express our full solidarity with the Brazilian Congress, the government of President Lula da Silva and all other democratic institutions in Brazil. It is one of the fundamental principles of democracies that results of fair and transparent elections must be respected, and any attempt to overturn them through violent acts must be firmly rejected. We are concerned about the increasing acts of political violence by extremist supporters of Brazil's former president, which directly promote speeches and actions that move to confrontation, hatred, radicalization and even crime. We call on all parties to do everything possible to overcome this dangerous situation and urgently adopt measures to prevent these acts from happening again while bringing those responsible to justice."

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