



Plenary sitting

B9-0082/2023

17.1.2023

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on the storming of the Brazilian democratic institutions
(2023/2505(RSP))

Margarida Marques, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Javi López
on behalf of the S&D Group

European Parliament resolution on the storming of the Brazilian democratic institutions (2023/2505(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure
 - A. Whereas in the days after the result of the October elections, many pro-Bolsonaro supporters blocked highways across the country and camped for two months in front of the headquarters of the Armed Forces in Brasilia to demand a coup against President-elect Lula da Silva;
 - B. Whereas on 1 January 2023, extreme right wing representatives and movements called the election result unfair using social media to openly question Lula's victory mentioning that "Lula was elected by the Supreme Court and the electoral court and not by the people";
 - C. Whereas on 8 January 2023, one week after the swearing in of President Lula da Silva, thousands of extreme-right movements stormed the National Congress, the Supreme Court and the presidential palace in Brasilia, calling for military intervention to overthrow President Lula;
 - D. Whereas these events represent a very serious attack on Brazilian democracy and display a clear similarity with the last days of former U.S. President Donald Trump's administration and the assault on the US Capitol in 2021;
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1. Condemns firmly these shocking acts of political violence and supports the ongoing efforts to investigate those responsible for the attacks and the passive role of political institutions and security forces of the Federal District of Brasilia and of the Government Palace protection;
 2. Notes that these violent attacks display methods used by the far-right, clearly using social media to spread fake news and disinformation, following a similar mechanism of what happened at the U.S. Capitol on 6 January 2021;;
 3. Deplores that Bolsonaro and some of his political supporters had sought to discredit the voting system and the electoral authorities and that, after losing the elections, did not acknowledge defeat and refused to attend President Lula's inauguration on 1 January;

4. Underlines that before the attacks to the Brazilian democratic institutions, right wing movements used social media to mislead, galvanise and incite supporters to reject and overturn the elections' result and for the armed forces to seize power, which led to protests involving road blockages, marches and a failed bomb attack on the Brasília airport;
5. Highlights the suspension of Brasilia's Governor Rocha and that on 13 January the Supreme Court approved a request from federal prosecutors to investigate Mr. Bolsonaro as he "may have contributed, in a very relevant way, to the occurrence of criminal and terrorist acts";
6. Expresses its most heartfelt solidarity with President Lula da Silva and his government, as well as with the Brazilian people and institutions; supports the measures adopted to restore order and looks forward to deepening and broadening the EU's relationship with Brazil in defence and promotion of democracy and rule of law;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission/ High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe and to the President, Government and Parliament of Brazil.