



Professor Michał Buchowski  
Chair  
World Council of  
Anthropological Associations

To: Bela Feldman-Bianco  
President  
Associação Brasileira de Antropologia (ABA)

**Re: Act N° 303, elaborated by Federal Attorney's Office and published on July 17th in the Federal Official Gazette**

Poznań, 30 July 2012

I am writing on behalf of the World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA). As you know, the WCAA is a network of more than forty national and international professional associations in anthropology from around the world. I am writing to endorse Associação Brasileira de Antropologia's formal statement against the passing of AGU 303/2012, as put forth by the General Attorney's Office in Brazil.

Brazil, has had a long and notable history of protecting indigenous population rights so much so that we are surprised and concerned by this current decree. AGU 303/2012 neglects indigenous peoples' interests and violates the democratic values of the Brazilian law and international conventions signed by the Brazilian authorities. AGU 303/2012 also ignores the collaborative practices that have been in place for a number of years. This interpretation of existing legal regulations endangers the security and welfare of the indigenous groups involved. In our opinion, implementation will negatively and irreversibly affect the lives of many powerless and innocent people.

As anthropologists who are dedicated to understanding and protecting indigenous rights we appeal to you to reconsider your decision and not to pass this proposed law.

We look forward to your reply, and hope that this issue will be quickly resolved for the good of the all the people involved.

Sincerely yours,