

OPEN LETTER

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Madam President of the Republic, Dilma Vana Rousseff,

We, representatives of Brazilian, Latin American and International civil society organizations, ask in the present letter that the Brazilian government publicly responds to the request for asylum made by Edward Snowden, given the broad movement of support expressed by the public opinion. Brazil is the country that stands out as the most enriched by Snowden's revelations of the espionage practiced by the US National Security Agency (NSA) on electronic communications, secret and private data of other states - including your own data, Madam President, and that of the public company Petrobras.

By positioning yourself openly and frontally against this strategy in your speech made at the UN General Assembly in September 2013, you have not only gained a wide international reputation but you have also opened a new debate on global governance of the Internet, by hosting NETMundial – the first ever multilateral, multisectorial and participatory event on Internet Governance. In addition, through campaigns and mobilizations that the scandal has created, the National Congress was able to obtain the political support needed to adopt the law of "Marco Civil" of the Internet, one of the most advanced texts in the world in terms of citizens' rights on the Internet, which had been debated for 7 years.

During NETMundial, from April 22, to 24, 2014 dozens of Brazilian government officials and organizations praised the courage of Edward Snowden. Minister Secretary General of the Presidency of the Republic, Gilberto Carvalho, even declared that "if our friend Snowden had not been there, with everything that followed his revelations, we certainly would not be here now, "... that is to say, with the « Marco Civil » adopted, and Brazil at the forefront of the construction of a new Internet governance.

NETMundial was an important initiative to rethink a new international order, that is based dialogue and cooperation, and that breaks with the current hegemony of the United States of America. Despite the importance of the event, many points remain insufficient in the final document, like for instance the fight against surveillance. Maybe because of lack of consensus or lack of determination, the NETmundial final declaration simply proclaims the respect for human rights, without binding provisions.

Thus, Brazil is now faced with a choice, and we consider that its place internationally in the construction of a new Internet governance is directly related to its position on the asylum application of Edward Snowden.

This request is supported in Brazil by every day people. More than one million persons in Brazil and elsewhere have signed a petition published on the website Avaaz, a global network for Internet mobilization. This highlights the participation and popular support for a decision that will not simply be that of one government, but of a large part of the Brazilian society. If one also considers the current

Brazilian socio-political context and the urgency to make real reforms in the country, offering asylum to Edward Snowden will be positively received by the Brazilians.

Let us remember, moreover, that there is a diplomatic tradition in Brazil not to deny political asylum : the case of Italian Cesare Battisti, accused of terrorism proves it.

It is also essential that the Brazilian government considers the potential of a cooperation with Snowden, as he has already publicly expressed his willingness to help Brazil investigate espionage by the United States, an important issue for the country.

It has been almost a year since Edward Snowden applied for asylum in Brazil, as he did in 20 other countries. Considering that most countries have already indicated their - negative - response, and Edward Snowden reiterated his asylum request on June 4 in a television interview, Brazil continues to assert that it has not received official request. But his visa expires in Russia in late July.

As Minister Gilberto Carvalho declared on April 23, 2014 at the NETMundial in São Paulo, we ask, for all these reasons, that the Brazilian government officially and publicly, gives its position on Edward Snowden 's asylum application.

Please accept, Madam President of the Republic, the expression of our profound respect.

Signed,

[Internet Sans Frontières](#) – ISF (International)

[Fórum Nacional pela Democratização da Comunicação](#) – FNDC

[Acceso Libre](#) (Venezuela)

[Actantes](#)

[Article 19](#) (International)

[Associação Brasileira de Radiodifusão Comunitária](#) - ABRAÇO Nacional

[Associação das Rádios Públicas do Brasil](#) – ARPUB

Associação Internacional de Comunicação Compartilhada – COMPAS (International)

Associação Nacional das Entidades de Artistas e Técnicos em Espetáculos de Diversões – ANEATE

[Associação Mundial de Rádios Comunitárias](#) – AMARC

[AVAAZ](#) (International)

[Casa de Lua](#)

[Central dos Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras do Brasil](#) – CTB

[Central Única dos Trabalhadores](#) – CUT

[Centro de Cultura Luiz Freire](#)

[Centro de Estudos da Mídia Alternativa Barão de Itararé](#) - Barão de Itararé

Centro de Cidadania e Defesa dos Direitos Humanos Dorothy Slang

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[Clube de Engenharia Brasil](#)

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[Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores em Estabelecimentos de Ensino](#) – CONTEE

[Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores no Comércio e Serviços](#) – CONTRACS

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[Conselho Indigenista Missionário - CIMI](#)
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[Federação Nacional dos Jornalistas](#) – FENAJ
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[Fórum de Transparência, Participação e Controle Social](#)
[Grupo de Estudos de Software Livre da Poli-USP - PoliGNU](#)
[Instituto Bem Estar Brasil](#)
[Instituto Brasileiro de Defesa do Consumidor](#) – IDEC
[Instituto Mais Democracia](#)
[Instituto Mãos Limpas Brasil](#)
[Intervozes - Coletivo Brasil de Comunicação Social](#)
[Juntos!](#)
[Laboratório de Educomunicação Comunitária da Viração](#) – Viração
[Levante Popular da Juventude](#)
[Marcha Mundial das Mulheres](#) – MMM
[Mídia NINJA](#) - Narrativas Independentes, Jornalismo e Ação
[Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens](#) – MAB
[Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra](#) – MST
[Movimento Mega](#)
[Movimento Nacional de Rádios Comunitárias](#) - MNRC
[Núcleo Piratininga de Comunicação](#) – NPC
[Partido Pirata do Brasil](#)
[Rede Desabafo Social](#)
[Rede Internacional de Comunicação Compartilhada](#) – CIRANDA (International)
[Rede Nacional de Adolescentes e Jovens Comunicadores](#) - RENAJOJ
[Rede Nacional dos Observatórios de Imprensa](#) – RENOI
[Reporters Sans Frontières](#) – RSF (International)
[Sindicato dos Jornalistas Profissionais do Distrito Federal](#)
[Software Livre Brasil](#)
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[União Brasileira de Mulheres](#) – UBM
[União Brasileira dos Estudantes Secundaristas](#) – UBES
[União da Juventude Socialista](#) – UJS
[União Latina de Economia Política da Informação, da Comunicação e da Cultura, Seção Brasil](#) – ULEPIC
[União Nacional dos Estudantes](#) – UNE
[União de Negros pela Liberdade](#) - UNEGRO