Friends of the Earth International as an organisation that works for the construction of environmental, social, economic and gender justice, and the organisations and movements that work for the defence of territories and the rights of peoples and their human rights, are closely following the events taking place in Brazil, especially in the Brazilian Amazon, which in recent years have increased the threats and violations of the rights of indigenous peoples.

Latin America and the Caribbean is a region of high risk for those who work in defence of the rights of peoples and their human rights, and in the protection of territories. One of the most recent and regrettable events is the disappearance on June 5 of the Brazilian indigenist activist Bruno Araújo Pereira and the British journalist Dom Philipis, a contributor to The Guardian newspaper, who disappeared in the indigenous territory of Vale do Javari, in the state of Amazonas, while on their way from the community of Ribeirinha São Rafael to the city of Atalaia do Norte. Both were working with the Union of Indigenous Organisations of Vale do Javari (UNIVAJA).

We are aware that there is permanent tension in the area, including threats to the indigenous organisation UNIVAJA and the assassination of the indigenist Maxciel Pereira dos Santos in 2019. This is why an international solidarity alert has been launched to find the whereabouts of these people immediately.

The search for Bruno and Dom must be carried out urgently and uninterruptedly until they are found and must be coordinated, planned and executed by the Brazilian State, and the protection of indigenous peoples and other environmental defenders must also be guaranteed.

We request your valuable services so that the responsible institutions and authorities in Brazil, as a matter of urgency:

1. Continue to send a search and investigation team, providing the necessary helicopters, boats and contingent of officers to locate the missing. According to local reports, the search is not being carried out adequately.

2. Conduct investigations through competent institutions in a transparent manner and punish those responsible for the disappearance of Bruno Araújo Pereira and Dom Philipis, and the invasion of the Javari Valley Indigenous Territory;

3. Guarantee the territorial rights and self-determination of indigenous peoples in Brazil.

We will continue to follow the evolution of this case, hoping that there will be justice for the human rights defenders and the people responsible for their disappearance will be brought
to justice, and that the Brazilian government can take preventive measures to protect all human rights defenders in the free exercise of their activities.

Yours sincerely,

Signature
Name of your organisation
Date