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By Urariano Mota  
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## How to participate in pro-democracy movements?



**Sources:** Rebellion [Image: Fora Bolsonaro Campaign returns to the streets in defense of free elections and against political violence. Credits: Joana Berwanger/Sul 21]

*In this article, the author values the participation in the events scheduled for August 11 within the framework of the Fora Bolsonaro campaign, made up of the Brasil Popular and Povo Sem Medo fronts, to which are added the trade union centers, student entities, political organizations, popular movements and other entities of civil society.*

Previously, I tried to go through this dilemma: write my column or go out with all the Democrats to demand the return of freedom to Brazil?

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I know many Democrats might answer: Is there such a dilemma? And they would continue: – It is to leave or leave, without any doubt or hesitation. Others, more thoughtful, would say: On this August 11, 2022, there is no dilemma. Write and go. Or, leave and write later...

First of all, I must clarify that I write this column on Thursday because I do not want to delay its publication on Friday. And the protest movement in Recife is within a while, starting at 3 p.m. So, how to find the starting point of the text and its development, to conclude the duty of the writer at 2 p.m.? The space of time is miserable and cruel: it is 10.30 in the morning, about 11, and while I think and order paragraphs, I would have to leave for Rua da Aurora. Would he be happy like this, without finishing the text that has become a religious obligation? On the other hand (and it seems that there is only one), if I cannot arrive on time, finishing the text at 5 pm, thus absencing me from the wonderful protest, will my conscience be at peace? Look, if I express myself as a writer, I must say: this absence is like a night of lost love. He will never come back.

So I keep thinking and looking for a way out, which could be the rehabilitation of the lost texts. I recover and leave, I imagine. But it is useless, because the theme and thought of everything is this: "August 11: [the acts for democracy take place throughout the country](#); check the locations. 25 capitals and the Federal District already have events for democracy scheduled for this Thursday (11); In addition to the capitals, inland cities are also organizing demonstrations in defense of the electoral system and democracy."

So, as I think about participating and doing what I should, I comment.

The infamous occupant of the presidency, just this week, bellowed: "We just saw a letter a while ago in defense of democracy.....".

However, the letter demanding respect for the democratic vote has almost a million signatures. And he possesses the eloquence of the righteous, of a wave that grows in these words:

"In the coming days, in the midst of these challenges, we will have the beginning of the electoral campaign for the renewal of the mandates of the state and federal legislatures and

executives. At this moment, we should have the pinnacle of democracy with the dispute between the different political projects with the aim of convincing the electorate of the best proposal for the direction of the country in the coming years.

Instead of a civic party, we are going through a time of immense danger to democratic normality, of risk to the institutions of the Republic and of insinuations of disrespect for the outcome of the elections.

The baseless and unproven attacks call into question the fairness of the electoral process and the democratic rule of law so hard won by Brazilian society. Threats to other branches and sectors of civil society and incitement to violence and the breakdown of the constitutional order are intolerable.

But we all know that long before the start of the campaign, the one who sits in the chair of the presidency already makes electoral movements to try to buy the conscience of the most vulnerable of the Brazilian population, with a gift of 600 reais a month, to keep the masses like cattle. There goes the respect he has for the people. He sends them a ration until the elections, and each flock will do whatever it wants, so it waits. At the same time, their attacks on the honesty of the ballot box, with the support of the military subservient to Brazil's denial, make declared or illicit, dishonest boycotts of the legitimate vote.

This is how the most just "letter" of recent times speaks:

"Our elections with the electronic counting process have been an example in the world. We have had several alternations of power with respect to the results of the polls and the republican transition of government. Electronic ballot boxes have proven to be safe and reliable, as has Electoral Justice."

To do this, the genocidal who pretends to be president encourages his followers to violence to kill the Democrats:

"Buy your guns. This is also in the Bible."

To which the letter of Brazilian civilization responds:

"Our civic consciousness is far greater than those who oppose democracy imagine. We know how to put aside small differences for the sake of something much bigger, the defense of the democratic order...

In today's Brazil there is no longer any place for authoritarian setbacks. Dictatorship and torture belong to the past. The solution to the immense challenges facing Brazilian society necessarily lies in respect for the results of the elections.

At the civic vigil against attempted rupture, we shouted in unison:

Democratic rule of law always'

Of course, it is more than a letter, it is a roadmap of hope. We all know that the voices of the dictatorship's past remain unpunished, the murderers walk around and shout as if they were brave heroes. We know that torture continues to be practiced in Brazilian prisons and police stations, that death is a permanent condemnation against the poor and humiliated blacks of Brazil. That the very existence of an animal as president is a reflection of the national barbarism that still survives.

But with this script a clamor of the persecuted has been growing, and the protests against hunger, the return of the resistant of all ages, young and old to the rebellion of the youth, are gaining strength. News reports say an electrician named Celestino Conceição Lima, 81, stated:



"In 81 years of my life, I have experienced everything. And I can guarantee that democracy is the best regime Brazil has ever had. I am against any coup d'état. I want to leave my great-grandchildren a Brazil of freedom."

This to me is living poetry, a test of humanity that Homer did not sing.

Meanwhile, the writer did not go out on the street. How could he get out of the quagmire of being present and not appearing in the wonderful act? I hope that friends and readers will grant me the grace of having been among them with these lines. The civilization we fight for is the homeland of understanding. And of the most generous consolation as well.

**Translation: the author, for *Rebellion*.**

**Urariano Mota is a writer and journalist. He is the author of the novel "*A mais longa duração da juventude*", not yet translated into Spanish.**

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