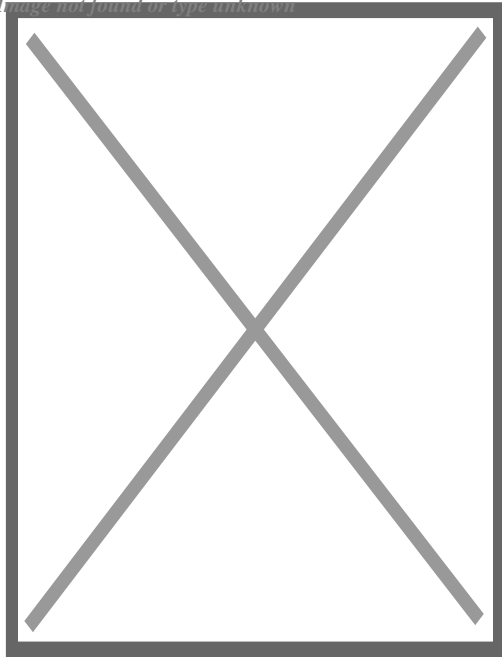


Brazilian Supreme Court orders Bolsonaro to surrender passport

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Brasilia, February 8 (RHC)-- Brazil's Supreme Court on Thursday ordered former president Jair Bolsonaro to surrender his passport amid an ongoing police operation, which was carried out against allies of the ultra-right leader for attempted coup d'état.

The head of the Supreme Court, Alexandre de Moraes, issued the decision in the framework of Operation Tempus Veritatis, which investigates the attempted coup d'état and abolition of the Democratic Rule of Law before and after January 8, 2023.

In turn, the former president's lawyer, Fabio Wajngarten, said that, in line with the judicial measures of this day, Bolsonaro will proceed with the delivery of his passport to the corresponding authorities. The former president Jair Bolsonaro must surrender his passport to the Brazilian Federal Police within 24 hours.

For his part, the president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, declared this Thursday that the attempt "would not have happened without him" (Bolsonaro), while he assured that his predecessor "was not prepared" to lose in the elections that took place in 2022.

"He stayed home crying and went to the United States. He must have participated in the construction of this coup attempt. But we will await the outcome of the investigation."

Lula stressed that the case involves "many people." Meanwhile, he emphasized the need for those who participated in the "policy of disrespecting democracy" to be investigated.

Some 33 search warrants, four arrest warrants and 48 precautionary measures were served by police authorities, after Bolsonaro's former aide, lieutenant colonel Mauro Cid, signed an agreement with the police.

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