

NEWSLETTER

# YNUARI- TAPICHE CORRIOR

DECEMBER 2025





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## CTI IN ACTION

### **Updated map of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor highlights its strategic importance and the challenges to its protection**

The *Centro de Trabalho Indigenista* (CTI) and Orpio, in partnership with Univaja and indigenous organizations in Brazil and Peru, have launched an updated map folder of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor, located in the Javari Valley region on the border between the two countries. The material is a strategic tool for the protection of isolated and recently contacted indigenous peoples and brings together, in an integrated manner, indigenous lands, reserves, native communities and protected natural areas in one of the most biodiverse regions of the Amazon.

Covering 16.2 million hectares, the Javari-Tapiche Corridor is home to the largest concentration of isolated indigenous peoples in the world and plays a central role in environmental and climate protection. The map reveals that 83% of the area has some form of protection, with greater consolidation on the Brazilian side and significant gaps in Peru, including in areas with confirmed presence of isolated peoples. The publication also warns of growing pressures, such as deforestation, illegal exploitation and infrastructure projects, reinforcing the urgency of coordinated action to protect the Javari Valley, the Tapiche corridor and the peoples who depend on the integrity of this territory.

**Read more on the CTI website** ➤



## HIGHLIGHTS

### **Peru: Indigenous organizations denounce 'extermination campaign' against isolated peoples**

The main indigenous organizations in Peru have denounced a legislative offensive that threatens to dismantle the system of protection for isolated indigenous peoples. Among the measures, the most notable is the blocking of the creation of the Javari-Mirim Reserve, after 20 years of proceedings, which is the last area for isolated indigenous peoples not recognized within the Javari-Tapiche corridor. In addition, they propose to periodically review, reduce or extinguish all existing reserves, as well as allow projects that would open protected areas for oil and gas exploration. The organizations claim that these attacks, coupled with parliamentarians' denial of the existence of isolated peoples, constitute a 'campaign of extermination'.

The Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDESEP) has released new aerial images proving the presence of isolated peoples in different regions of the Peruvian Amazon and has called on governments and international institutions to suspend climate funding to the country's forestry sector until their rights are recognized. For the leaders, the current proposals pose an immediate threat to the survival of these peoples and represent a historic setback in territorial protection policy in Peru.

**Read more on the  
Survival International website**

### **Isolated peoples: The world has 196 un-contacted indigenous groups; half may disappear in 10 years**

An unprecedented survey by Survival International has identified 196 isolated indigenous peoples in ten countries, almost half of whom are at risk of disappearing in the coming years. Brazil has the largest number

of these groups, especially in the Javari Valley and the Javari-Tapiche Corridor region on the border between Brazil and Peru, which together are home to around 26 peoples in an area of 162,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The Amazon is home to 124 isolated peoples, 36 of whom have no legal protection and face invasions, mining, deforestation and increasing violence.

The report warns that mining, illegal logging, agribusiness and major infrastructure projects directly threaten these peoples, constituting a possible hidden genocide through territorial destruction and the spread of disease. In Brazil, at least 28 groups are at risk from highway, hydroelectric and mining projects, especially in the Xingu and Tapajós basins. Survival emphasizes that the existence of these peoples depends on the effective protection of their territories and respect for their voluntary isolation.

**Read more on the O Globo website**



## Brazil and Peru are failing isolated peoples – and the future of the Amazon is at risk

Survival International warns that 196 isolated indigenous peoples in 10 countries are at risk of extinction in less than a decade due to the advance of deforestation, mining, agribusiness and illegal invasions. Brazil and Peru account for 90% of confirmed groups in the Amazon, including sensitive areas such as the Javari Valley, the Javari-Tapiche Indigenous Reserve (IR) and the proposed Javari-Mirim Indigenous Reserve, all located within the Javari-Tapiche Corridor. In Brazil, the weakening of Funai, structural cuts and the Temporal Framework thesis increase the vulnerability of territories such as Rio Pardo Kawahiva, which is still undemarcated and exposed to constant threats.

In Peru, legislative initiatives seek to reduce or extinguish reserves for isolated peoples, as well as allow oil exploration in protected areas, directly impacting regions such as the Javari-Tapiche and Javari-Mirim indigenous reserves. Indigenous organizations in both countries denounce the contradiction between Brazil and Peru's environmental rhetoric on the eve of COP30 and the permission granted for activities that endanger the most preserved forests in the Amazon and the survival of isolated peoples, who continue to claim only the right to live freely in their territories.

[Read more on The Guardian website](#)



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# JAVARI VALLEY



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## Javari Valley – a continent under threat

The article highlights that the Javari Valley, in the far west of Amazonas, is the largest Indigenous Territory within the Javari-Tapiche Corridor, a gigantic and vital territory that is home to the largest concentration of isolated indigenous peoples in the world. Despite being one of the last sanctuaries of intact forest, it has become the target of disputes and crimes linked to mining, biopiracy and the financial approach towards the forest. Reports from Funai point to attempts to exploit carbon and biodiversity by national and foreign companies, including a contract signed between Univaja and three companies, which is now being challenged by the

Federal Public Prosecutor's Office for irregularities and risks to isolated indigenous peoples.

Even with federal operations attempting to curb illegal activities, pressure on the territory is growing, aggravated by the absence of the State and the expansion of organized crime, especially in the run-up to the election period. The text argues that the protection of Javari is a matter of sovereignty and national security, requiring lasting public policies, effective presence and respect for communities. Treating the Javari seriously is seen as essential for the future of the Amazon and Brazilian democracy.

**Read more on the  
Portal Único website**





## **“Unbearable pain”: Brazil’s Federal Police want to close investigation into murder of Funai employee linked to Bruno and Dom case**

The Brazilian Federal Police has requested the closure of the investigation into the murder of Funai indigenous expert Maxciel Pereira dos Santos, who was killed in 2019 in Tabatinga (AM). The crime occurred amid a backdrop of conflict in the Javari Valley, the largest indigenous area in the Javari-Tapiche Corridor, where Maxciel worked to monitor and combat illegal fishing and other environmental crimes in the Javari Valley Indigenous Territory.

Reports from the Federal Police itself indicated connections between Maxciel’s death and the murders of Bruno Pereira and Dom Phillips, linked to the activities of criminal networks in the Javari Valley region. Even so, the Federal Police claimed there was insufficient evidence to identify the perpetrators and those who ordered the killings. The victim’s family and indigenous organizations contest the request and demand that the investigations continue.

[\*\*Read more on the Intercept Brasil website\*\*](#) 

## **How a ‘green gold rush’ in the Amazon led to dubious carbon deals on indigenous lands**

An investigation by Mongabay revealed that companies linked to Biota, Biotapass and Comtxae signed 10-year contracts in 2022 to exploit carbon and biodiversity credits on indigenous lands without ensuring free, prior and informed consultation. The agreements affected, among other territories, the Javari Valley in western Amazonas, with reports of pressure to sign immediately and promises of benefits that did not materialize.

Funai and the Public Prosecutor’s Office identified serious irregularities, risks to isolated indigenous peoples in the Javari Valley and legal uncertainty in the contracts. Even without concrete results in Brazil and under investigation, the same actors began to seek similar agreements in Bolivia, reigniting warnings about a new rush for ‘green gold’ in the Amazon.

[\*\*Read more on the Mongabay website\*\*](#) 



## Workshop updates strategies for protecting isolated indigenous peoples

From 8 to 12 September, the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples at Brazil held a workshop in Brasilia to update contingency plans for situations involving contact with isolated indigenous peoples, in partnership with Funai and SESAI. The meeting reviewed protocols, updated operational guidelines and presented tools such as the Incident Control System and the reorganization of Situation Rooms, reinforcing rapid and integrated responses in emergencies.

The workshop brought together experts and field teams and included simulations based on real cases, such as contacts with the Korubo in the Javari Valley and recent situations in the Mamoadate Indigenous Territory. The propositions include the revision of Ordinance No. 4,094, continued training, and strengthening of territorial surveillance, essential measures to reduce vulnerabilities and protect isolated and recently contacted peoples.

**Read more on the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples website** ➤

## Brazil's Supreme Court creates park in honor of the last man of the Tanaru people

Brazil's Supreme Court (STF) has approved the creation of Tanaru National Park in Rondônia, ensuring the permanent protection of the territory where the last member of the Tanaru people lived, who died in 2022. The decision recognizes the area as a memorial and as historical reparation to the group exterminated as a result of massacres, and prevents the territory from being used for agricultural expansion. The measure confirms that the physical extinction of a people does not eliminate the right to protection of their territory.

The decision stems from ADPF 991, presented by APIB, which denounced structural flaws in the policy for protecting isolated peoples. The STF reinforced the importance of the no-contact policy and the preservation of the memory and rights of peoples who lived in voluntary isolation. The creation of the park also responds to the invasions and violations that occurred after Tanaru's death, ensuring the integrity of the territory and reaffirming the Brazilian state's commitment to protecting isolated indigenous peoples.

**Read more on the Mongabay website** ➤

## ISOLATED PEOPLES ON THE AGENDA



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## Isolated peoples gain inclusion in UN resolution during 60th Session of the Human Rights Council; attacks on Guarani and Kaiowá territory's re-taking reverberate

The 60th Session of the UN Human Rights Council ended with an unprecedented advance for Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Recent Contact (PIACIs): for the first time, the annual resolution on indigenous rights included an operative paragraph requiring States to protect these peoples and recognized the principle of non-contact as a global standard. The result, achieved through the joint efforts of Cimi and GTI-Piaci with the support of Brazilian diplomacy, updates international obligations and reinforces instruments such as UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169.

Throughout the session, Cimi also exposed contradictions between Brazil's official discourse and the reality in the territories, highlighting environmental setbacks, the unfounded validity of the Temporal Framework thesis, and the advancement of mining and oil projects. Reports presented in Geneva denounced pressures in the Jequitinhonha Valley and serious episodes of violence against the Guarani and Kaiowá peoples, reinforcing the urgency of effective action by the State to guarantee rights and protect communities in the face of persistent threats.

[Read on the CIMI website](#)

## Critical minerals “surround” 45 isolated indigenous peoples in the Amazon

The growing global demand for minerals used in technologies such as batteries and electric cars is intensifying pressure on 45 isolated indigenous peoples in the Legal Amazon. A survey by *Repórter Brasil* identified 1,827 mining applications less than 40 km from these groups, which, according to the Observatory of Isolated Indigenous Peoples (OPI), directly threatens their survival. Lands such as Yanomami (RR), Piripkura (MT) and Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau (RO) already face illegal mining and are now surrounded by hundreds of mining processes, increasing the risks of contamination, violence and possible forced contact.

Companies such as Anglo American, Vale and Bemisa are among the main applicants, alongside cooperatives and single miners, while experts warn of the use of nearby areas as a route for ‘laundering’ illegally extracted minerals, as is the case with tin in the Yanomami Territory. The advance of ‘critical minerals’ mining, driven by public policies and large investments, compromises territorial integrity and could result in the destruction of the forest and the extinction of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation.

[Read more on the Repórter Brasil website](#)





## **‘Brothers in the forest’: the struggle to protect an isolated Amazonian village**

Reports gathered by the BBC show an increase in contact between the isolated Mashco Piro people and riverside communities in the Peruvian Amazon, especially in the village of Nova Oceania, located on the banks of the Tauhamanu River. Without official protection and surrounded by logging companies, the region is in a state of constant tension: residents fear attacks, but also recognize the vulnerability of the Mashco Piro, who suffer from the destruction of their forests and the risk of exposure to disease. The group’s more frequent presence is attributed to the advance of illegal logging, which destabilizes their territories and forces displacement.

In another area of Peru, on the banks of the Manu River, the government and indigenous organizations maintain the Nomole checkpoint to prevent conflicts and support the no-contact policy, responding in a controlled manner to specific requests from the Mashco Piro. Although they have some level of contact, the group rejects integration and maintains traditional practices, reinforcing the need for continued territorial protection. Experts warn that the advance of projects such as a new highway and pressure from illegal mining could endanger one of the world’s largest isolated peoples, whose survival depends directly on the integrity of their forest territory.

**Read more on the BBC Brazil website** ➤

**And watch the video on the subject on the BBC Brazil YouTube channel** ➤



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## **COP30 includes in negotiations the creation of areas for isolated peoples as zones free from oil, gas and mining**

The COP30 negotiations in Belém moved forward with the presentation by the Indigenous Caucus of a proposal to create zones free from oil, gas and mining exploration in areas inhabited by isolated or recently contacted indigenous peoples. The initiative, debated within the framework of the Just Transition Work Program, was formally recorded in the text of the negotiations, still in brackets, and represents a step forward in the international discussion on the protection of extremely vulnerable peoples in the face of the expansion of extractive frontiers.

During the conference, the organization Stand.earth presented data showing that 21% of the world's tropical forests are already earmarked for oil and gas exploration, including 14% of the Amazon. Indigenous leaders denounced the direct impacts of the fossil fuel industry on their territories, such as water contamination and the lack of prior consultation. In the same context, Colombia announced that it had become the first Amazonian country to declare its entire portion of the biome a zone free of oil and mining, classifying the measure as an act of environmental sovereignty and a call for coordinated action among the countries of the region.

**Read more on the  
InfoAmazonia website**



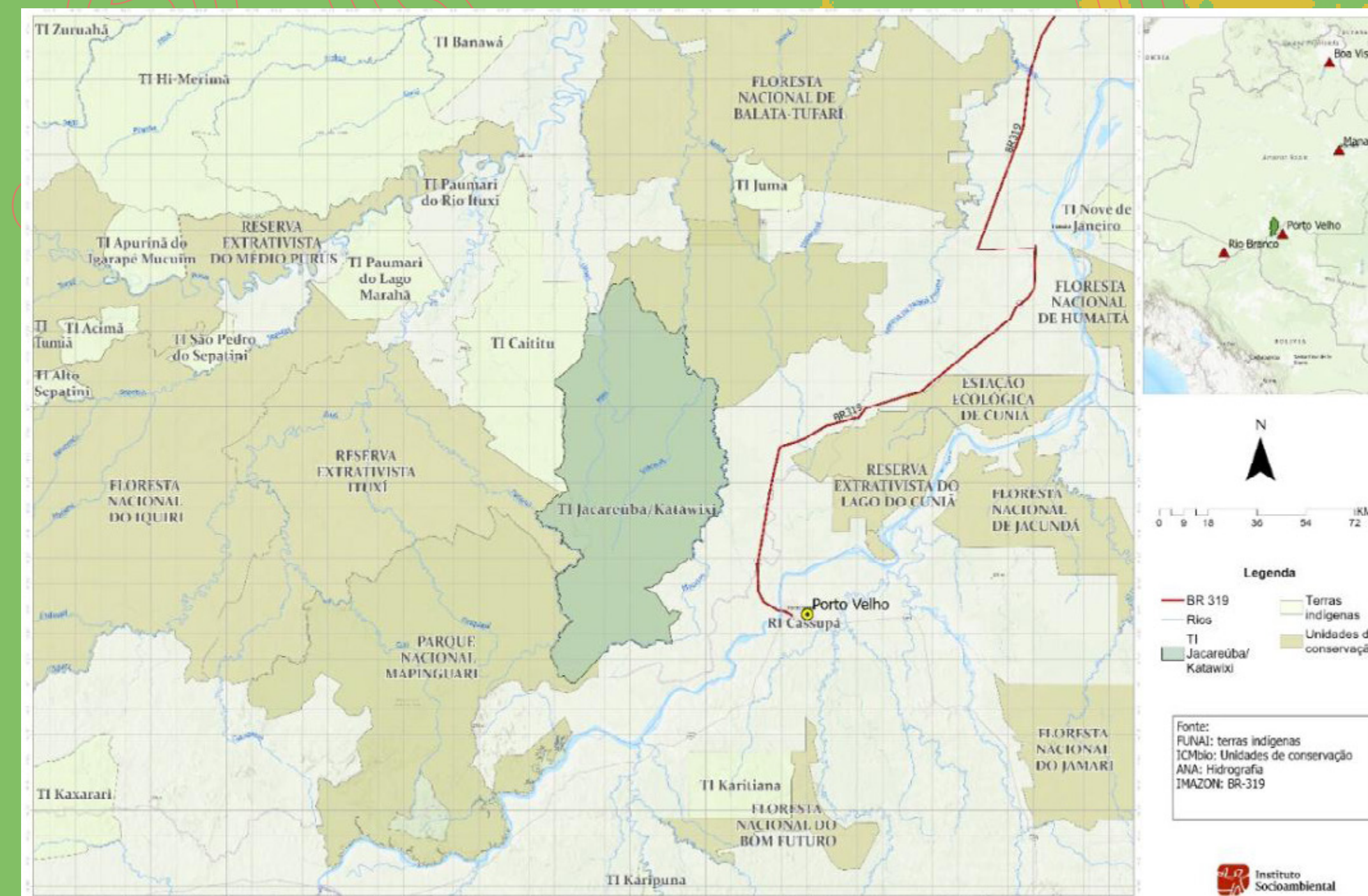
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## Katawixi: traces of a people on the banks of the BR-319 road

The Jacareúba-Katawixi Indigenous Land, covering approximately 647,000 hectares in the Madeira-Purus interfluvium, is home to a territory deeply shaped by the historical presence of the Katawixi people, who today live in voluntary isolation. Archaeological and ethno-historical studies show that the landscape, chestnut groves, hayfields, natural fields and '*bolas de mata*' (small patches of forest), is the result of centuries of indigenous management, with material traces such as ceramics, fire pits and underground cultivation areas. Historical records indicate the continuous presence of the Katawixi since the 17th century, with the last direct sighting in the 1980s, followed by a process of forced retreat in the face of violence and the expansion of economic fronts.

Currently, the Indigenous Territory faces strong pressure from the BR-319 highway, the Santo Antônio and Jirau hydroelectric dams, and the advance of land grabbing, aggravated by the instability of the Use Restriction Ordinances, which leave the territory without effective protection for periods of time. ISA data indicate that deforestation in the area increased by more than 500% between 2023 and 2024, even with overlap with conservation units. Without definitive approval, continuous monitoring, and consistent protection policies, the survival of the Katawixi remains threatened, highlighting the contrast between official climate discourse and the reality experienced by isolated indigenous peoples in southern Amazonas.



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[Read more on the Ovaradouro website](#)



## **Kawahiva: Brazilian Government fails to demarcate indigenous land with isolated peoples**

The Kawahiva Indigenous Land of Rio Pardo, in north-western Mato Grosso, has become a symbol of the state's slowness in protecting isolated indigenous peoples. Despite a decision by the Federal Supreme Court recognizing the risk of genocide and ordering immediate physical demarcation, the process has been dragging on for more than 26 years. Funai admits that it has neither the resources nor the time to complete the installation of the territory's boundaries, an essential step for approval, which keeps the area under legal uncertainty and favours the activities of loggers, land grabbers and cattle ranchers.

Internal documents reveal the successive failure of attempts to finance the demarcation, estimated at more than R\$ 5 million, while threats to civil servants and invasions in the area increase. Recent expeditions have confirmed the presence of the Kawahiva in the territory, highlighting the urgency of comprehensive protection. Indigenous and indigenist organizations warn that further delays could make the situation irreversible and point out that 2026 may be the last political window to ensure the survival of the Kawahiva people of Rio Pardo.

**Read more on the O Globo website** 

## **Loggers and cattle ranchers advance, but Brazil's Kawahiva people still await protection**

In 2024, FUNAI agents confirmed the presence of the isolated Kawahiva indigenous people of Rio Pardo after an expedition of more than 100 kilometers through the forest in the southern Amazon. Recent traces, such as baskets, children's footprints, abandoned shelters and remains of nut and honey gathering, proved that the group continues to live in the territory. Even so, a year later, the Brazilian government has still not complied with the Federal Supreme Court's ruling requiring the acceleration of the demarcation of the Kawahiva Indigenous Land of Rio Pardo, leaving the area without physical protection and vulnerable to invasion by loggers and cattle ranchers.

The demarcation, which involves the installation of markers along more than 320 kilometers of perimeter, remains stalled by bureaucratic obstacles, lack of resources and violent conflicts in the region. Funai states that fieldwork is only expected to begin in 2026, while threats against civil servants and pressure from groups linked to land grabbing are increasing. Indigenous and indigenist organizations warn that the delay constitutes a violation of the Constitution and exposes the Kawahiva to a real risk of genocide, noting that, after 26 years of waiting, time to ensure the survival of this isolated people is running out.

**Read more on The Guardian website** 





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## Brazil leads in number of isolated peoples, but there are gaps in protection

Funai records 115 isolated indigenous peoples in Brazil, but only 29 are officially confirmed, leaving 86 with no validation and with fragile protection. Although the Javari Valley has the largest number of these peoples, experts warn that the most vulnerable live in the Arc of Deforestation, in fragmented territories surrounded by roads, mining and large enterprises.

With the advance of exploitation and the climate crisis, the pressure tends to increase: about 80% of the records of confirmed or under study isolated peoples are surrounded by mining requests. Experts argue that the confirmation of records and the strengthening of Funai are essential to avoid the risk of genocide and ensure the survival of these peoples.

**Read more on the Agência Brasil website** ➤



# ISOLATED PEOPLES AROUND THE WORLD



© Sophie Grig/Survival International

## **‘They are destroying our forest’: Ngigoro, who came from Halmahera to France to save his people**

Ngigoro, an indigenous member of the Hongana Manyawa people, denounces the rapid advance of nickel mining on the island of Halmahera, Indonesia, where he lived in isolation until childhood. The traditional territory of his people has been occupied by the Weda Bay Nickel complex, operated by the French company Eramet in partnership with the Chinese company Tsingshan, one of the largest in the world. The expansion of mining has already caused deforestation, contamination of rivers, disappearance of fish and game, as well as the dangerous approach of workers to indigenous groups that remain in voluntary isolation.

Around 500 isolated Hongana Manyawa remain surrounded by industrial activity, at risk of epidemics and the total destruction of their way of life. The case highlights the paradox of the global energy transition: the nickel used in electric car batteries is associated with the violation of indigenous rights and the devastation of forests. Leaders denounce that, without protection of their territory, the physical and cultural survival of the Hongana Manyawa people is seriously threatened.

**Read more on the Paris Match website** ➔



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