

NEWSLETTER

YUNUÑÍ- TAPICHE CORRIDOR

OCTOBER 2026

CTI IN ACTION

Meeting Strengthens Protection of Isolated Peoples On the Brazil–Peru Border

From August 26 to 28, indigenous representatives and organizations from Brazil and Peru gathered in Rio Branco, Acre (Brazil), to reinforce the protection of indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation in the border region between the two countries. The meeting was attended by *Centro de Trabalho Indigenista* (CTI), UNIVAJA, and various indigenous and civil society organizations, as well as government representatives, such as the Brazilian Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI) and the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples (Funai).

The event facilitated the exchange of experiences regarding territorial monitoring and protection initiatives carried out in Acre, Amazonas, and among Peruvian indigenous communities, contributing to stronger coordination between indigenous organizations and partner institutions.

As a result of the meeting, the organizations developed a Joint Work Plan, with actions scheduled for the period from September 2026 to December 2027. The initiative aims to strengthen protection policies and indigenous action in the Pano-Aruak and Javari-Tapiche territorial corridors, expanding cooperation between organizations and institutions in both countries.

[Learn more on the CTI website.](#)



HIGHLIGHTS

GTI-PIACI Brings Together International Experiences On the Protection of Isolated Peoples

GTI-PIACI, in partnership with the Solutions Insights Lab (SIL), has launched a platform that brings together experiences and strategies to strengthen the protection of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI). The initiative is based on interviews with 29 Indigenous leaders, advocates, researchers, and professionals from countries in South America and Asia and identifies approaches related to territorial protection, Indigenous leadership, community governance, and international coordination.

The platform highlights that at least 188 groups of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation have been identified in South America, but only 60 have official recognition. Among the strategies presented are the strengthening of communities living near PIACI territories, community-based monitoring, territorial protection, and the leading role of Indigenous organizations

in developing protection policies and mechanisms.

[Learn more on the pueblosaislados website](#)

Indigenous Lands with Isolated Peoples Recorded 40 Cases of Invasion in 2025, Says CIMI Report

Twenty Indigenous Lands inhabited by peoples in voluntary isolation recorded 40 cases of invasions, exploitation of natural resources, or other damage to their heritage in 2025, according to the report *Violence Against Indigenous Peoples in Brazil*, published by the Indigenous Missionary Council (CIMI). These territories are home to 45 recorded communities of isolated peoples, who face threats such as illegal mining, deforestation, and logging.

CIMI has documented 119 recorded communities of isolated indigenous peoples in the country, 55 of which have been confirmed by FUNAI. According to the organization, the remaining communities lack specific protection policies. Among the records mentioned in the report are the 18 records of isolated peoples in the Javari Valley Indigenous Land

and the record located in the Serra do Divisor National Park, both within the context of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor.

The report also points out that delays in demarcation and invasions of indigenous lands increase the vulnerability of indigenous peoples and their territories.

[Learn more on the O Globo website](#)



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Protected Areas in the Crosshairs of the Hydrocarbon Industry

A proposal by Peru's Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINEM) calls for the creation of a permanent commission to evaluate and facilitate oil and gas exploration activities in protected natural areas and indigenous reserves. According to an analysis by the Institute for the Legal Defense of the Environment and Sustainable Development (IDLADS), among the areas that may be affected are the Javari-Tapiche, Sierra del Divisor Occidental, and Tamaya-Abujao indigenous reserves, which are designated to protect indigenous peoples in isolation and initial contact (PIACI) and are located in the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor.

IDLADS warns that the proposal could reduce environmental regulations and expand extractive activities in territories considered off-limits, jeopardizing the principle of non-contact and the protection of isolated peoples. The organization also questions the legality of the measure and asserts that an initiative with impacts on the collective rights of indigenous peoples should undergo prior consultation.

[Learn more on the Servindi website](#)

Suriname Hosts International Meeting on the Protection of Isolated Indigenous Peoples

Organizations that are part of the GTI-PIACI gathered in Suriname to strengthen regional cooperation in the protection of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact. The coalition brings together 21 indigenous and allied organizations from eight South American countries and estimates that there are 188 recorded isolated groups in the region, of which only 60 are officially recognized by national governments. Centro de Trabalho Indigenista (CTI) and Orpio —organizations active within the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor and members of GTI-PIACI— as well as the Rainforest Foundation Norway (RFN), participated in the event.

The meeting addressed threats to territories, protection strategies, and cooperative actions among countries, particularly in border regions. In Suriname, where there are still no officially recognized isolated peoples, reports and evidences point to a possible presence in areas near the border with Brazil. GTI-PIACI advocates for careful research, preventive protection of territories, and respect for the principle of non-contact.

[Learn more on the gfcnieuws website](#)



JAVARI VALLEY



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Study Warns of Mounting Threats to the Javari Valley Indigenous Land in Brazil

An article published in the journal *Nature Sustainability* warns of mounting socio-environmental threats to indigenous lands in the Amazon, with special attention to the Javari Valley Indigenous Land, in Amazonas. As the main Indigenous Territory on the Brazilian side of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor, it is home to the greatest diversity of isolated indigenous peoples on the planet, with at least 14 identified groups.

For these populations, the choice to live in isolation represents a historical survival strategy against past atrocities, making their existence entirely dependent on the ecological integrity of the forest and territorial protection. However, the region is experiencing an escalation of attacks driven by drug trafficking, illegal hunting and fishing, and the presence of fundamentalist missionaries.

The study highlights the alarming trend of rapid deforestation encroaching on the Javari Valley Indigenous Land and recommends extending the legal protection of buffer zones —currently applied to conservation units— to indigenous lands. The researchers also emphasize the urgency of strengthening FUNAI's infrastructure —particularly by reinforcing its

four surveillance bases and expanding the agency's administrative and security powers— as well as establishing transnational cooperation agreements to halt invasions before they cause irreversible damage.

[Learn more on the Nature website](#)

Brazilian Prosecution Office Investigates Entry of Foreigners and Religious Activities in the Javari Valley

The Federal Prosecution Office of Brazil (MPF) is investigating the entry of foreigners and the activities of religious groups in the Javari Valley region (Amazonas), the main Indigenous Land within the Brazilian section of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor. The investigation is taking place in a territory that is home to isolated and recently contacted Indigenous peoples, whose protection depends on measures that prevent unauthorized approaches and contact.

The investigation highlights the risks posed by the presence of outsiders in a region of high socio-epidemiological vulnerability. The entry and activities of third parties in the Javari Valley also raise questions regarding compliance with protection protocols and the right of isolated peoples to remain in uncontacted status.

[Learn more on the Cenarium Magazine website](#)

Four Years After the Murders of Bruno and Dom, a Criminal Network Continues to Threaten the Javari Valley in Amazonas

Four years after the murders of Bruno Pereira and Dom Phillips, the Javari Valley remains under pressure from drug trafficking, illegal fishing and hunting, gold mining, logging, and land invasions. The Indigenous Land, located on the border between Brazil and Peru, occupies a large area of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor and is home to at least 14 groups living in voluntary isolation and recently contacted peoples, who are especially vulnerable to the advance of these activities and the risk of uncontrolled contact.

The UNIVAJA Surveillance Team monitors the territory and recorded 456 incidents or signs of encroachment between 2021 and 2024. The organization warns that the encroachment of gold miners, hunters, and drug trafficking routes increases the risks of conflict and disease transmission to isolated peoples. FUNAI, IBAMA, and security agencies claim to have stepped up enforcement efforts to combat illegal activities in the region.

[Learn more on the G1 website](#)

Lack of Personnel and Enforcement: Brazil's Prosecution Office Identifies Failures by the Federal Police at a Strategic Border for Drug in the Amazon

The Brazilian Prosecution Office (MPF) has taken legal action against the federal government to demand the restructuring of the Federal Police (PF) in Tabatinga (AM), on the border between Brazil, Peru, and Colombia. According to the lawsuit, the lack of officers, permanent enforcement, and aerial surveillance compromises investigations and efforts to combat drug trafficking, illegal mining, and other criminal activities in a region that includes the Javari Valley Indigenous Land. According to the Prosecution Office, the absence of permanent police posts at the Brazil-Peru-Colombia Tri-Border has created a “sovereignty vacuum” that is rapidly being filled by criminal organizations in the main entry point on the Brazilian side of the Javari-Tapiche Territorial Corridor.

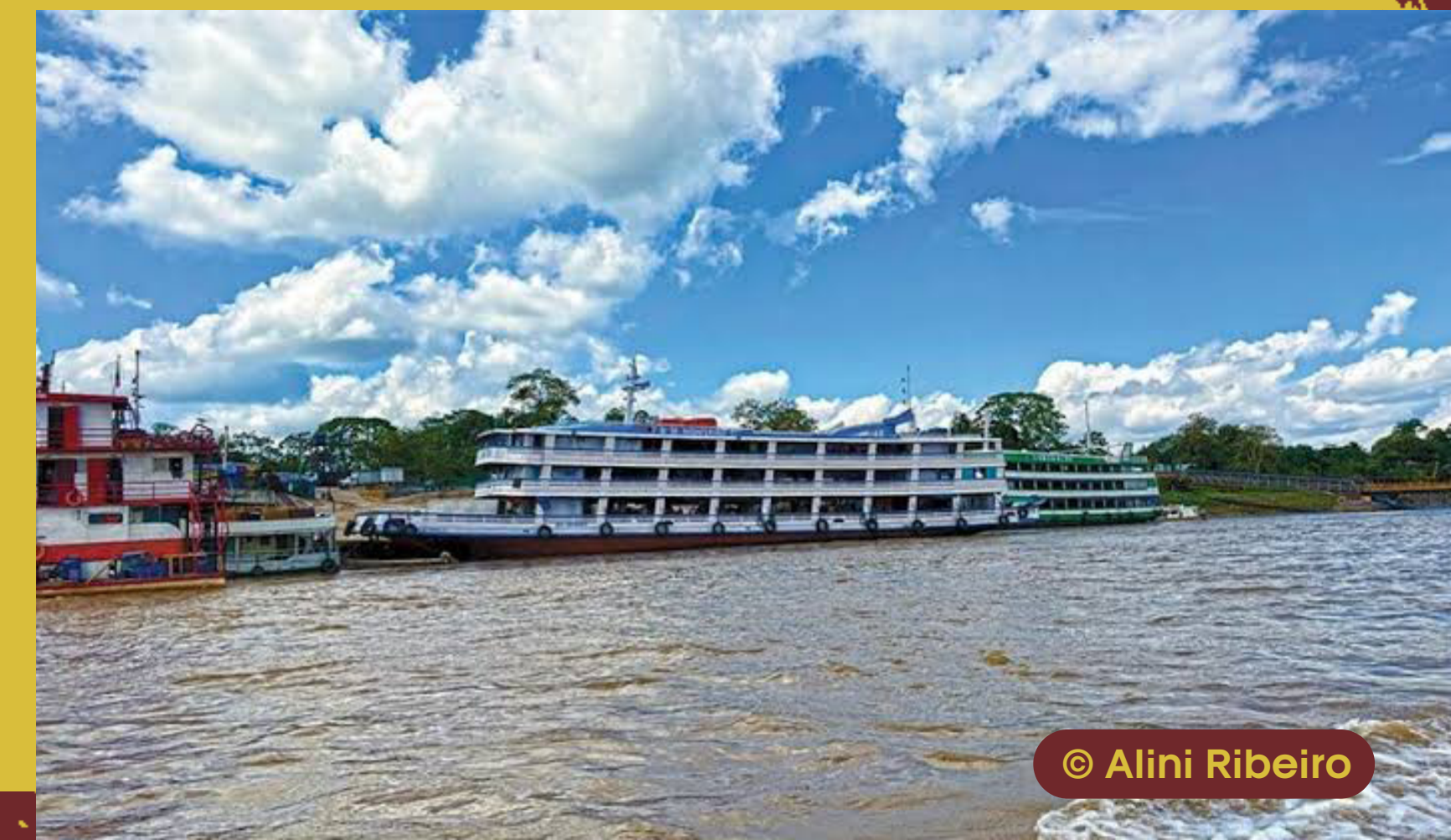
The Prosecution Office notes that the number of police chiefs at the station has dropped from five to two, while the number of investigations rose from 95 in 2024 to 141 in March 2026. The lawsuit calls for the restoration of staffing

levels and structural improvements at the station. The Federal Police reported that new personnel are planned and that investments are also underway in surveillance, equipment, and a new headquarters in Tabatinga.

[Learn more on the O Globo website](#)



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Brazilian Government Declares It Is Working with Peru to Protect Indigenous Lands Along the Border

The Brazilian Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and the Peruvian Ministry of Culture signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation in the protection of indigenous territories, especially those occupied by isolated peoples along the border between the two countries. The agreement, which has been under negotiation since 2024, provides for information sharing and coordinated action in response to invasions, illegal activities, and other pressures on these territories.

The announcement came after Ashaninka leaders demanded protective measures following an incursion by armed men into their territory on the Brazil–Peru border, in the state of Acre (Brazil), during which families and community leaders were threatened. The Federal Police opened an investigation and carried out an operation in the region, while the Army temporarily reinforced its presence at the border. The spread of drug trafficking and criminal organizations throughout the region is also among the main threats reported.

Learn more at [apnews](#)

Waiting for the Mashco Piro, an Isolated People on the Border Between Brazil and Peru

Mashco Piro Indigenous people –living in voluntary isolation– have been approaching villages in Brazil with increasing frequency, just as has already been happening on the Peruvian side, where in 2024, about 50 of them approached a village on the Las Piedras River. This increasingly frequent presence has been a cause for concern among the Manchineri and Yaminawá communities on the Brazil-Peru border. According to SUMAÚMA, Indigenous people and experts link these movements to pressure from logging operations on the Peruvian side, where logging concessions are located near the territories used by the isolated groups. Traces such as campsites, footprints, and food scraps left by the isolated groups have already been found on the Brazilian side.

Faced with the possibility of further encounters, the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (Coiab) and the Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries (Fenamad) have begun training Brazilian Indigenous people living in villages along the Acre River to monitor the presence of the isolated groups and take

action in situations where they approach, thereby preventing conflicts and the risk of disease transmission. The communities are also discussing the development of a contingency plan, while maintaining that the priority is to avoid contact and ensure the protection of the Mashco Piro and the territories they inhabit.

Unlike in the past, when the issue was led by the government, today it is the Indigenous peoples themselves who have taken the lead in the process, avoiding contact and establishing a system to monitor threats to these isolated peoples.

Learn more on the Sumaúma website

Peruvian State Before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights Over the Mashco Piro

The Peruvian State will answer for the first time before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for endangering the lives and well-being of an indigenous people living in voluntary isolation. The case involves the Mashco Piro and challenges the granting of extractive concessions on their ancestral territory in the Peruvian Amazon.

The Mashco Piro live in a transboundary region between Peru and Brazil and face pressures from logging concessions, infrastructure projects, illegal logging, and mining. Brought before the Inter-American System by FENAMAD and Earth Rights International, the case was admitted by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in 2024 and is the first case involving violations of the rights of isolated indigenous peoples in Peru to be examined by this court.

Learn more on the Servindi website

Roads and Loggers Advance on the Unprotected Refuge of the Isolated Kakataibo

An area of the Peruvian Amazon known as the Far North Kakataibo, where there are records of Kakataibo Indigenous people living in voluntary isolation, remains without formal recognition or protection from the government. Indigenous organizations warn that the region faces the encroachment of logging concessions, illegal roads, timber exploitation, and drug trafficking routes, in addition to increased deforestation in recent years.

Since 2021, indigenous organizations have been calling for recognition of the area, located north of the Kakataibo North and South Indigenous Reserve, between Loreto, Ucayali, and Huánuco. The request was rejected by the Ministry of Culture in 2023, and leaders warn that the lack of protection increases the risks of invasions, forest destruction, and contact with isolated groups, who are especially vulnerable to diseases and other external threats.

Learn more on the Mongabay website



Bloody Jungle: The Critical Situation Facing Environmental Defenders

Violence against environmental defenders continues in the Peruvian Amazon, driven by drug trafficking, illegal logging, mining, and land trafficking. A survey by the American Bar Association identified 45 environmental defenders murdered in Peru between 2014 and 2024, 31 of whom were Indigenous. Between 2020 and 2024, six Kakataibo leaders were murdered.

In Ucayali, the spread of coca cultivation, clandestine airstrips, and deforested areas are also putting pressure on the Northern and Southern Kakataibo Indigenous Reserves, where groups living in voluntary isolation reside. Faced with these threats, communities created the Indigenous Guard of the Kakataibo People of Peru, which brings together more than 150 men and women to monitor their territory.

[Learn more on the Servindi website](#)



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ISOLATED PEOPLES ON THE AGENDA



© Courtesy

Protection of Isolated Indigenous Peoples Faces 'Slowness and Indifference,' Says Brazilian Prosecutor

Territories inhabited by isolated indigenous peoples continue to suffer from invasions, land grabbing, and deforestation even under Land Use Restriction Orders. In an interview with Mongabay, Federal Prosecutor Daniel Luís Dalberto states that these measures are important for preventing the entry of unauthorized persons, but they should be temporary and accompanied by the completion of the land demarcation processes.

Among the most concerning cases are the Ituna/Itatá Indigenous Lands in Pará and the Piripkura Indigenous Land in Mato Grosso, which face intense pressure even with the restrictions in place. The prosecutor also mentions territories in Amazonas and Acre where there are as-yet-unconfirmed reports of isolated peoples and no protective ordinances, warning of the risks of invasions, violence, and disease transmission.

[Learn more on the Mongabay website](#)

Organized Crime Is on the Rise and Is Opening Clandestine Airstrips on Indigenous Land

The seizure of approximately 500 kilograms of drugs in Colniza (Mato Grosso, Brazil) revealed that areas near the Piripkura Indigenous Land—inhabited by an isolated indigenous group—are being used as a route for international drug trafficking. According to FUNAI, clandestine airstrips used by aircrafts coming from Bolivia and the presence of intruders on the territory increase the threats to these indigenous people and facilitate other illegal activities and deforestation.

This situation is unfolding while a Federal Court ruling allows non-indigenous people to remain in the Indigenous Territory until the demarcation process is completed. The Federal Prosecution Office filed an appeal with the Regional Court 1 requesting the evacuation of the area, arguing that the invasions contribute to environmental degradation, strengthen the activities of organized crime, and increase the risks of violence and disease transmission to the isolated Piripkura people.

[Learn more on the O Globo website](#)

Mini-Documentary Explores the Presence of an Isolated Indigenous Group in Itapiranga

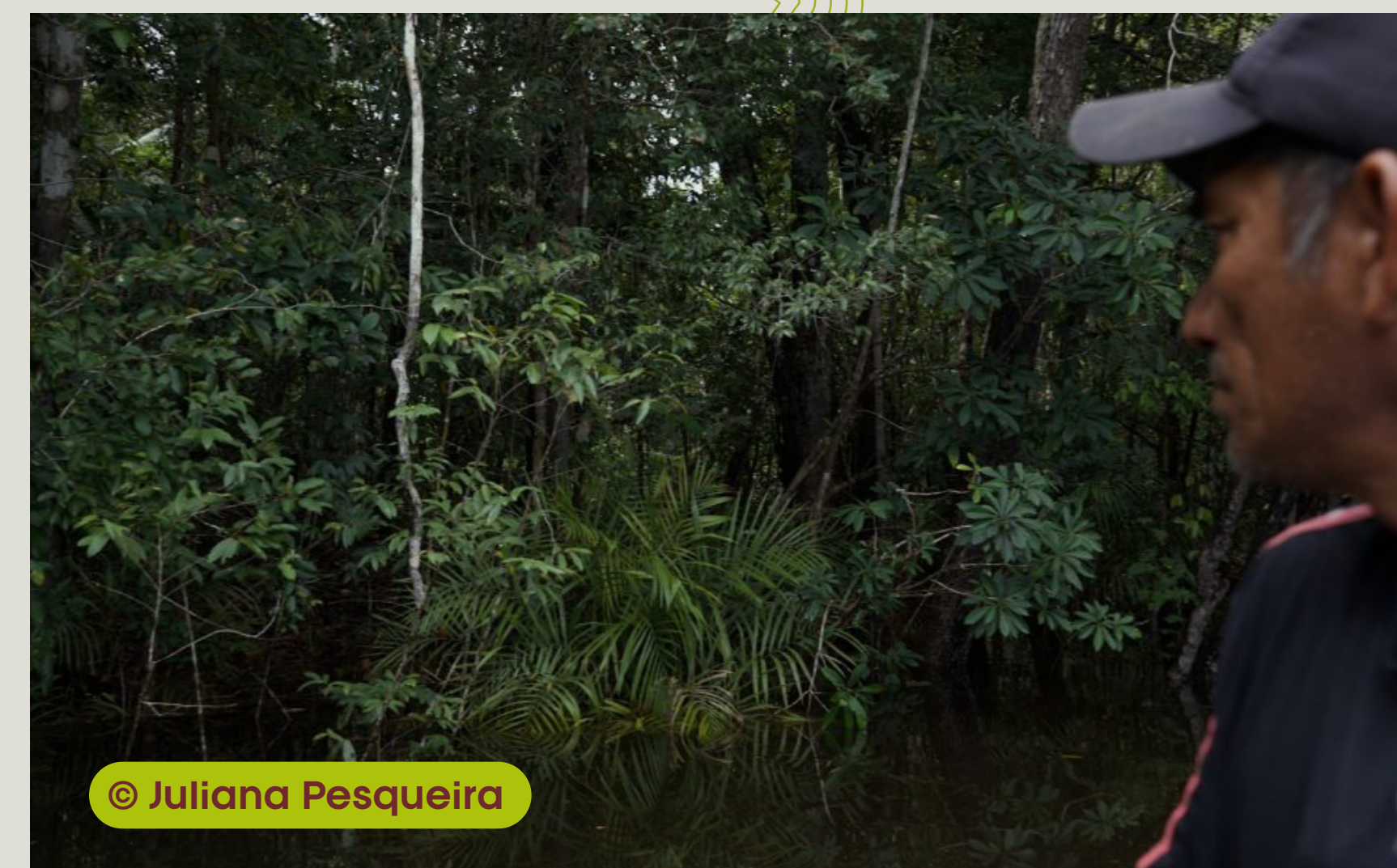
The mini-documentary *“Isolated: The Forest That Still Holds a Free People”* presents accounts and records of the presence of indigenous people living in voluntary isolation in the Itapiranga region of Amazonas. In 2023, agents from the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT) reported sighting adults and children during survey activities in the region, corroborating information previously shared by local residents.

CIMI, through its Support Team for Free Peoples (EAPIL), the CPT, and local residents began gathering accounts, evidence, and information about the sightings. The documentary also features testimonies from federal prosecutors and addresses the need for official recognition and government measures to protect the isolated people and the territory where they live.

[Learn more on Youtube](#)



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Illegal Mining Encroaches on the Territory of Isolated Peoples in Colombia

Illegal gold mining, largely carried out by Brazilian prospectors, is encroaching on the territory of the isolated Yuri-Passé indigenous peoples in the Rio Puré National Natural Park in the Colombian Amazon, near the border with Brazil. Satellite images show the illegal activity encroaching on the areas where these groups live, increasing threats to the integrity of their territory and the forest.

Experts warn of the risks posed by this encroachment to peoples who avoid contact with the surrounding society and depend on the preservation of their territories. The expansion of mining poses a threat both to the Yuri-Passé and to the conservation of this region of the Amazon.

[Learn more on the El Espectador website](#) ➤

UN Calls on India to Suspend Megaproject on Island Home to Isolated Indigenous Peoples

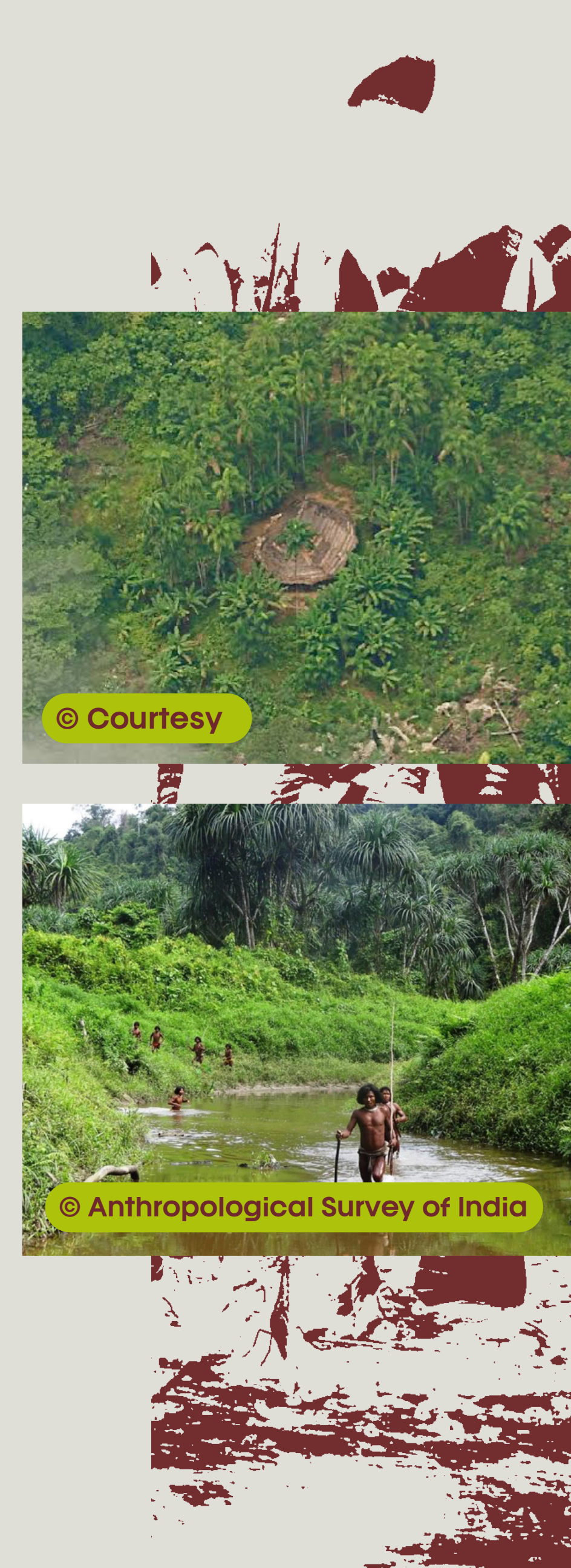
The UN has called on the Indian government to suspend a controversial project on Great Nicobar Island, which would severely impact the lives of the isolated Shompen indigenous people. This mega-development project was launched in 2021 and aims to transform the island, located at the southernmost tip of the country, into a major

economic, logistical, and military hub in the Indian Ocean. The project calls for the construction of a large international container terminal, a new international airport, a new city, an industrial park, solar and gas power plants, and the migration of up to 650,000 settlers—all of which will result in the felling of hundreds of thousands of trees.

The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) has called on India to “suspend the implementation of projects on the islands of Great Nicobar and Andaman until a comprehensive and independent study of the environmental, economic, social, cultural, and spiritual impacts is completed.” It highlighted the “lack of measures taken to address concerns” regarding “the adverse impacts of development projects on the Nicobar and Andaman Islands, which threaten the survival of several vulnerable indigenous/tribal peoples, particularly those living in voluntary isolation.”

This project has already been harshly criticized by 39 international genocide experts, who warned in 2024 that the Shompen are at risk of genocide if the project goes ahead. Survival International’s director, Caroline Pearce, stated today: “The UN has now joined the chorus of voices speaking out against the Grand Nicobar project.”

[Learn more on the Survival Brazil website](#) ➤



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‘This Is Clickbait Colonialism’: Influencers Trying to Find and Film the World’s Most Isolated Peoples

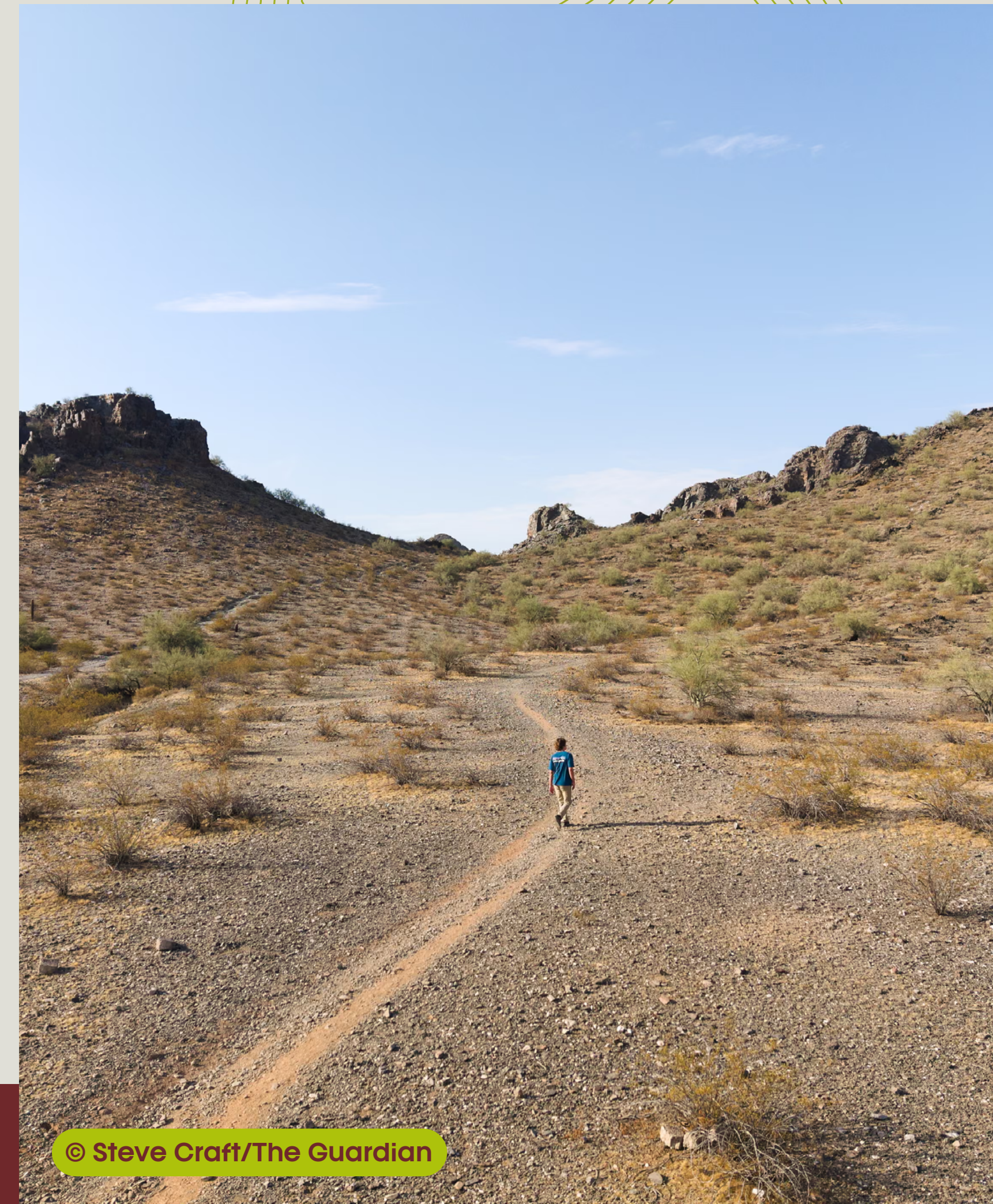
Organizations working to protect isolated indigenous peoples are warning of a rise in influencers who attempt to locate, film, or make contact with isolated indigenous peoples in search of content for social media. The report highlights cases in India, Paraguay, and the Amazon and emphasizes that unauthorized approaches can expose these peoples to disease, conflict, and violations of their autonomy and their right to remain in isolation.

This threat has already entered international discussions on the protection of isolated peoples. GTI-PIACI, a coalition of 21 organizations, is monitoring the issue, which was also debated at a United Nations meeting held in Brazil. Contact with members of these communities can have serious consequences for the entire group, which lacks immunity to certain diseases.

Videos posted on social media platforms owned by American “big tech” companies shape global culture and impose a white, Western perspective on Indigenous societies, thereby reinforcing colonial power structures—a phenomenon that has been termed “platform imperialism.”

Maria Cerda, an Ecuadorian indigenous leader from the Kichwa people, says that even well-intentioned content creators tend to confuse distinct communities and cultures and spread simplistic narratives: “I feel that they are not addressing the issues as they should be—with respect and in their full context.” However, sometimes, when an international platform would be welcome, “when it comes to our rights, they don’t care.”

Learn more on The Guardian’s website



© Steve Craft/The Guardian

“They Must Choose Their Own Destinies”: Manish Chandi Speaks About India’s Isolated Indigenous Peoples

The Sentinelese and Shompen peoples, who live in voluntary isolation on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, face pressures on their territories and natural resources. On North Sentinel Island, fishermen and boats are encroaching on protected waters and exploiting resources on which the Sentinelese depend, while incursions by influencers and other outsiders increase the risks of unwanted contact.

On Great Nicobar Island, an infrastructure project calls for interventions in areas used by the Shompen for hunting, gathering, and housing. Researcher Manish Chandi warns that the loss of forests and resources could lead to displacement and increase these populations’ dependence, advocating for territorial protection, autonomy, and respect for these peoples’ decision to maintain interactions on their own terms.

Lean more on the Mongabay website



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