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**Brazil**

# **Our comrade Marielle Franco murdered**

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**Activist of the LGTB movement, the World March of Women, City Councilor of the Party Socialism and Liberty (PSOL) in Rio de Janeiro and in charge of the commission of inquiry into the violence perpetrated by the army and the police against young people Afro-descendants in Rio, Marielle Franco was murdered the night of March 14, 2018.**

She was 38 years old and, according to political scientist Maurício Santoro, she "embodies a hope of renewal, at a time when most political leaders in Rio are in prison or about to be," for corruption.

On Saturday, March 10, she relayed on her Twitter account accusations of the inhabitants of the favela of Acari against the 41st police battalion, one of the most brutal of Rio. "This week, two young people were killed and thrown into a pit. Today, the police threatened the inhabitants. It has always happened but it got worse with the intervention. "Marielle Franco was investigating assassinations apparently committed by police who wanted to eliminate people who knew too much about their actions," said Liberation Zeca Borges, coordinator of Rio's Disque-Denúncia, a service that allows people to denounce acts of violence anonymously. [1]

She was returning from a public meeting of black women "making things happen". The car she was traveling in was riddled with bullets by killers. She and the driver were murdered.

This is obviously a summary execution of the style practiced by death squads: the only question that arises is who is the sponsor.

That is why, in many cities of Brazil as well as in other countries gatherings are organized to demand that all the light is made on this summary execution of an activist who did not stop fighting the militarization of the city of Rio imposed by the putschist government of Michel Temer. "Those who believe that we can silence the voices that defend the poor and the victims of injustice," said Ivan Valente, PSOL MP.

One of Marielle Franco's articles, which retraces the struggle since 1975 for the social rights of black women, was recently published by Le Monde Diplomatique Brasil. [2]

Which reminds us that their "democracy" does not recoil, even from murder.

**Website [Mariellevive](#)**

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[1] See *Libération* "[Marielle Franco, renouveau de la gauche brésilienne, tombe sous les balles](#)", and *The Guardian* "[Protests held across Brazil after Rio councillor shot dead](#)".

[2] See "[O novo sempre vem](#)".