

**Nota enviada pelo gabinete da Sydney Kamlager-Dove em 08/10/2024**

*Strengthening democracy should be a top priority for the U.S.-Brazil relationship, given our countries' shared experiences with horrific attacks on our democratic institutions. After all, it was the Trump-orchestrated January 6th insurrection that Bolsonaro and his far-right supporters drew inspiration from when they attempted a military takeover, busing in protesters to storm all three branches of Brazil's government on January 8th. That's why it's so unfortunate that yesterday's partisan sham hearing on "protecting Brazilian democracy" was really a Republican attempt to undermine it by interfering in Brazil's judicial process and giving a platform to the very individuals who spread lies about Brazil's elections.*

*House Republicans are only interested in the debate around Brazil's fight against disinformation because it allows them to cry victim over facing accountability for their own anti-democratic actions and gain cover for their enabling of the January 6th insurrection. This hearing promoted a narrow and poisonous view of the U.S.-Brazil relationship that is wildly different from the one shared by many of my colleagues. Brazil is a critical strategic partner with whom we share many areas of mutual interest where we should deepen collaboration, including promoting trade and investment, protecting the rights of Afro-descendent and indigenous communities, addressing irregular migration, combating climate change, and alleviating global poverty.*

*Even though this hearing was an attempt to weaponize the U.S.-Brazil relationship to promote impunity for far-right anti-democratic actors, Brazilian and U.S. civil society, media, and elected representatives came together to reject the premise and goal of this hearing in a unified way, working together to combat threats to democracy in real-time. That effort should speak much louder to Brazilians than a few extreme Republicans being manipulated by far-right Brazilian figures seeking to internationalize their agenda.*