

**TRIBUNAL SUPERIOR ELEITORAL**

Ofício GAB-SPR nº 5605/2021

Brasília, 16 de dezembro de 2021.

Mr. PAVEL DUROV
CEO of Telegram

Subject: Cooperation - Permanent Program of the Electoral Justice to Counter Disinformation

Dear Sir,

I write to you, as the President of Brazil's Superior Electoral Court (TSE, in the Portuguese acronym), to request a meeting to discuss possible means of cooperation between Telegram and TSE on the very pressing issue of countering disinformation.

As you may be aware, TSE exercises both a jurisdictional and an administrative role, i.e., it is responsible not only for providing final rulings on electoral litigation, but also for organizing and conducting elections in Brazil.

In its administrative capacity, the TSE has made significant efforts to neutralize disinformation related to electoral procedures in order to guarantee free and fair elections in the country. Last August, the Court established the "Permanent Program of the Electoral Justice to Counter Disinformation", with the purpose of countering disinformation related to the electoral process, such as fake allegations against our electronic voting system.

One of its main instruments to face disinformation has been a permanent, open, and fruitful dialogue with internet application providers, especially social media networks and messaging apps. Many of those initiatives have joined the Court in its mission to ensure voters have access to truthful information about the electoral process, so that they can exercise their right to vote in a conscious and informed manner.

Telegram is a fast-growing messaging app in Brazil, being present in 53% of all active smartphones available in the country. Through Telegram, conspiracy theories and false information about the electoral system are currently spread in Brazil.

Since the company does not have an office in Brazil, I would be glad to know the most appropriate person or team to establish contact and discuss these issues as well as possible forms of cooperation between TSE and Telegram to the negative effects of election-related disinformation.

I hope to hear from you soon at *presidencia@tse.jus.br*.

Yours sincerely,

LUÍS ROBERTO BARROSO

President

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PRESIDENTE



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