

We, the participants of the 19th Brazilian Logic Conference, reinforcing [the statement of the Brazilian Logic Society](#), hereby repudiate the recent declarations and measures taken by the Minister of Education and the President of the Republic concerning Education, a universal right and a duty of the Brazilian State.

By law, basic education is the responsibility of the municipalities (fundamental level) and the States of the Republic (intermediary level), while higher education is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

To justify the budget cuts to higher education to the population, the authorities have argued that they would lead to more resources for basic education. The argument is misleading, and cannot be accepted. It is inconsistent with the fact that budget cuts for basic education—more than 2 billion Reais—have already been announced. The deceptive stance of the government is also revealed by how it has failed to formulate any clear national education plan, while at the same time stating that the funds withheld from higher education will be released if its proposed Social Security Reform is approved.

As if that were not enough, the appalling unfamiliarity of the authorities with the work and the results obtained by Brazilian public universities is evidenced by two measures already taken against them by the Federal Government. They are:

1st. The sequestration of 30% of higher education funding threatens the continued enrollment of low-income students – the majority – in Federal Institutions of Education. Cuts of such a magnitude mean even the basic expenses of electricity and water are in danger, a situation that effectively makes public education and research in Brazil impossible.

2nd. Cutting grants for graduate students will cause a true “black-out” in the formation of essential professionals for the future of the country – the formation of qualified teachers for basic levels of education and qualified researchers for the development of scientific knowledge.

Several declarations supporting the claims for education and research in Brazil have already been sent by the international community of professors, intellectuals and scientific societies. These declarations have been widely disseminated by the international press and show recognition and esteem for both the quality of our public universities’ education and research and for the services they provide to our society.

We therefore urge parents, professors, collaborators and the people, here and abroad, to unite with Brazilian students against the calamity for education in our country induced by the government’s policies.

Let us all come together in the manifestations of May 15th, at which time we will promote love as the principle of order and progress in defense of the future of Brazil.

João Pessoa, May 9th, 2019
General Assembly of the Brazilian Logic Society
19th Brazilian Logic Conference