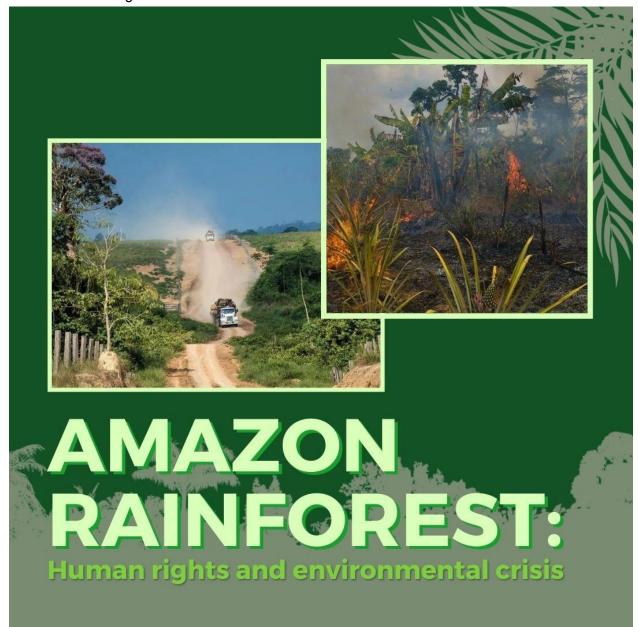
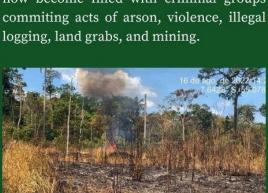
Name: Jason Huang Team: Green Goblins Username: jason_huang School: Jericho High School



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"What we're seeing in the Amazon is both an environmental crisis and a human rights crisis."

Deep in the Brazillian state of Pará, Terra Nossa, a federally established settlement, is experiencing a crisis unlike any other. Originally intended for indigenous families and small-scale farmers, the territory has now become filled with criminal groups commiting acts of arson, violence, illegal logging, land grabs, and mining.





Since 2018, these groups have been responsible for the deaths of at least four people for speaking up about the environmental crimes committed in Terra Nossa. A fifth man has been missing since 2018 and is presumed to be dead. In 2022, criminals have also started fires in the settlement that has destroyed the vegetation, crops, and forest reserves that residents depend on to survive.

They put pressure until you flee to save your life, and then they take over the land".

- Local resident

Source: Human Rights Watch

According to Human Rights Watch, INCRA, the Brazillian federal land-reform agency who were originally responsible for establishing the settlement in the first place, has been aware of the outsiders who were illegally taking over the land in Terra Nossa since at least 2016, but has yet to take any measures to remove them. This form of government inaction has caused severe environmental and human rights consequences for many innocent indigenous people.





Brazillian president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has pledged to take steps to environmental recovery. However, to address the increasingly urgent crisis in Terra Nossa, president Lula and his administration must establish firm policies that will combat the criminal networks responsible for the destruction and violence.

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The Lula administration should mobilize th government at all levels and coordinate with prosecutors to fight the criminal networks responsible for environmental destruction and deadly violence."

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Source: Human Rights Watch

