

## INDIGENIA: Manifesto for Digital Buen Vivir (Good Living)

We, Indigenous people of Aymara, Guaraní, Kaingang, Kariña, Mapuche-Williche, Potiguara, Quechua, Tapuya, Tulián and Wichi ethnicities, gathered together at the premises of ASSINDI – the Indigenous Association of Maringá, Paraná, Brazil, in January 2024, and expressing ourselves from our individual perspectives as Indigenous artists, writers, educators, leaders and researchers, declare that a digital culture that could be considered good from an Indigenous perspective should:

- Demonstrate **awareness and responsibility** regarding social and cultural inequalities, recognise the stereotypes and biases reproduced in the media and in social networks, including discourse that denies our existence or treats us as museum objects, and work for the eradication of these elements, and thus work in support of decolonisation, diversity and social justice.
- Be an environment where we can **“be ourselves”** and share what we want of our lives and cultures, without fear of harassment for being Indigenous or of the exploitation of our cultures, knowledge, wisdom, languages, values, practices and spiritualities.
- Promote **sustainability** in all its dimensions. Since the invasion of Abya Yala, the banners of progress and the innovations of capitalism have brought disastrous consequences for the ancestral territories of Indigenous peoples and communities; entire towns have been devastated by fracking and mega-mining. All technologies, including newer tools of Artificial Intelligence, must be aware of, responsible with respect to, and critical of their environmental impacts.
- Have **ethical guidelines** (for example, regarding the right to privacy, the use of personal data and cultural appropriation) and **forms of regulation** for compliance with these guidelines, with representation of Indigenous peoples in these forums and the guarantee of self-selection of Indigenous representatives by the Indigenous peoples themselves.
- Include opportunities for **participation and training** for members of Indigenous Peoples throughout the technology “ecosystem,” including the design of devices such as cell phones and the development of software programmes. In this way, it will promote Indigenous **inclusion and protagonism** in general, as well as opening the way for Indigenous **self-determination, self-management and autonomy**; for example, by promoting collective, cooperative and community-level organisation of our own social networks, the repair of devices in the Indigenous communities themselves, or the design and manufacture of our own sustainable digital technologies. In this way, too, our experiences and worldviews with respect to Buen Vivir (Good Living) will be shared with all humanity.
- Focus on **human needs and desires** in the design and use of digital technologies so as not to impose digital tools on those who do not want them or in such a way that other activities or forms of communication become more limited. Digital technologies must be used in support of practices of Buen Vivir; for example, to facilitate distance education for members of Indigenous communities, as this is an alternative that stops our young people from leaving their communities and territories, thus avoiding experiences of uprooting and other forms of violence, and contributing to their mental health.
- And, with respect to new **Generative Artificial Intelligence** tools in particular, limit the exploitation of our data without permission and design algorithms that do not stereotype or falsify our realities.

And, for our part, we declare that **Indigenous Peoples conceive of the digital world as our territory too, and we propose to appropriate this territory in a critical manner**, using new technologies both for self-determination, self-defense and the strengthening of Indigenous cultures, as well as to promote Buen Vivir for everyone.

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