

Analysis of the Extinction of Justice Facilities in the Northeast of Brazil from the Perspective of the Right to Development

This work aims to analyze the eradication of justice facilities as a territorial movement in the north-east of Brazil through the transformation or elimination of jurisdictions, as well as the effects of these measures on the access to justice – which is considered an element of law and development in this region. The article analyzes how state, federal, and labor justice facilities were displaced in nine states in the north-east of Brazil, as shown in news and official court minutes. This article focuses on the last ten years of state and labor justice and the last 20 years of federal justice. The analysis examines the arrival and extinction of the courts, with a special concentration on the extinction movements. It is a qualitative and quantitative research accessing data present in administrative decisions and their motivations.

In the first part, we will argue that the closing of facilities is strengthened by Resolution 184/2013 of the National Council of Justice. Moreover, these disappearances are also strengthened by federal laws and the initiatives of the courts. In the second part, we will analyze the importance of access to justice for guaranteeing assets to overcome social vulnerability, and furthermore, how these facts end up undermining development as a right – either in its collective or individual form.

To conclude, we will argue against the choices that will not guarantee an access to public justice. As for federal justice, there has been a movement of expansion which is currently being threatened. Meanwhile, in state and labor justice, we identify a strong movement towards an eradication of facilities. We will also conclude that the administration of the courts has used the National Council of Justice resolutions as a justification for their removal (although this was not the original purpose of these resolutions.) Such an interpretation of the resolutions disregards issues of social rel-

evance and is based on economic-administrative arguments. This interpretation demonstrates a misuse of the law by disregarding the public policy characteristic of the access to justice.

KEYWORDS: *Access to justice; Vulnerability; Law and development; Brazil's north-east.*