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The Minister of Education  
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28 October 2019

Dear Mr Weintraub

### **Humanities and Philosophy in Brazil**

I am very concerned to hear from Brazilian colleagues in the humanities, and especially in philosophy, of the dramatic cuts your government is making to the funding of the humanities in Brazilian universities.

The humanities are central to life in a modern, civilized country. They help all citizens of the country shape their goals collectively, and without them it is almost inevitable that a nation will lose its way.

I hope very much that you and your colleagues will be able to protect the resource you have in your wonderful universities in Brazil. These universities have developed into world-leading institutions over many decades, and if they are destroyed it will take many more decades to rebuild them.

Yours sincerely

Roger Crisp  
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Professor of Moral Philosophy, University of Oxford  
Professorial Fellow, Dianoia Institute of Philosophy, Australian Catholic University