

## **Executive Summary – The case of Júlia Suárez-Krabbe (JSK) and her relationship with Boaventura de Sousa Santos (BSS)**

This executive summary aims to clarify the nature and scope of the relationship between Júlia Suárez-Krabbe (JSK) and Boaventura de Sousa Santos (BSS), following public allegations of misappropriation of intellectual work and alleged unacknowledged power dynamics. The following points are highlighted:

1. **JSK was never a student of BSS nor was she supervised by him**, and she did not participate in the interviews that sparked the public allegations, such as those in Agencia Pública or the NOW channel. However, **she did sign the sixth letter from the group of victims**, which is striking in light of the facts that follow.
2. **The relationship between JSK and the CES was limited and professional**, within the framework of the European project "Tolerance, The semantics of tolerance and (anti)racism: public organisations and civil society, a comparative perspective" (March 2010 - February 2013), where BSS acted as coordinator. During this project, **there was no direct working relationship** between the two.
3. **Subsequent sporadic and consensual collaborations**. For example, on 15 April 2016, **BSS invited JSK to write an entry for the ALICE dictionary on modernity and Eurocentrism**, a proposal she accepted enthusiastically. (*Evidence 1: email dated 15 April 2016*)

**Assunto:**Re: convite Dicionário Alice

**Data:**Wed, 20 Apr 2016 08:04:21 +0000

**De:**Julia Suárez Krabbe [REDACTED]

**Para:**Boaventura de Sousa Santos [REDACTED]

**CC:** [REDACTED]

Querido Boaventura, queridos y queridas Alices,

Con mucho gusto colaboro para el diccionario con las entradas sobre "modernidad" y "eurocentrismo". Les estaré enviando la primera entrega de cada una de dichas entradas a mas tardar el 30 de mayo.

Con muchisimas saudades de ustedes,  
Julia

4. **Academic exchange and mutual courtesy**: both shared praise and gestures of professional respect, such as when JSK sent a copy of her book to BSS and was subsequently invited by him to write a chapter for *The Pluriverse of Human Rights: The Diversity of Struggles for Dignity*. (*Evidence 2: email dated 10 June 2016*):

**De:** Boaventura de Sousa Santos [REDACTED]  
**Enviado:** viernes, 10 de junio de 2016 12:12  
**Para:** Julia Suárez Krabbe  
**CC:** [REDACTED] Bruno Sena Martins  
**Asunto:** sobre tu texto

Querida Julia,

Ya recibí tu libro que está bellísimo y te agradezco muchísimo. Pide a la editora para mandar un ejemplar para la *Revista Crítica de Ciencias Sociales* para podernos hacer una reseña.

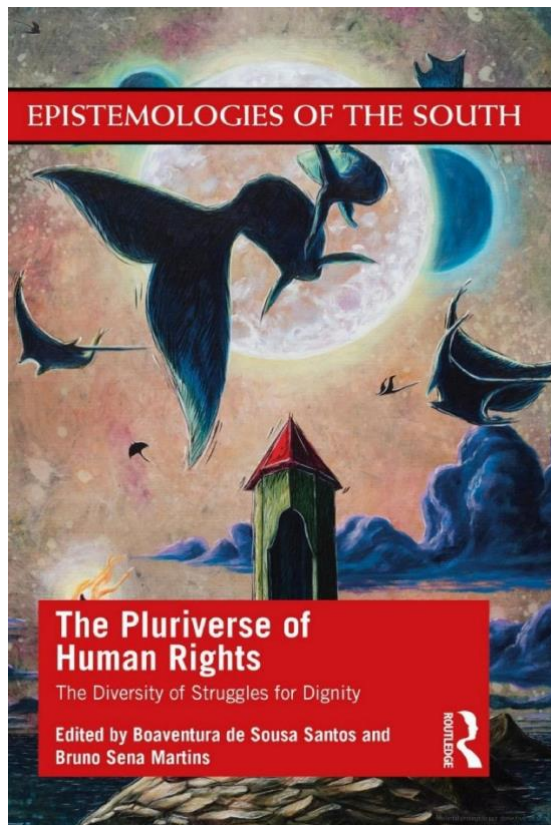
Te escribo para te comentar tu texto para Alice (libro derechos humanos) que está excelente. Ya fue revisado y te mando en anexo para que valides los cambios y me mandes lo más rápido posible.

- JSK is listed as the sole author of **Chapter 11**, with no co-authorship by BSS.
- BSS acts as **coordinator**, not as author.
- JSK gave her consent for publication.

Therefore, the accusation of intellectual appropriation is unfounded.

An excerpt from the book can be found at this link:

[https://www.routledge.com/The-Pluriverse-of-Human-Rights-The-Diversity-of-Struggles-for-Dignity-The-Diversity-of-Struggles-for-Dignity/DeSousaSantos-Martins/p/book/9781032012216?srsId=AfmBOoqiazvgRhSPCgXEwmsNm6KrRSfE2DdkGJCdc\\_IKXV8iJYWUehZK#googlePreviewContainer](https://www.routledge.com/The-Pluriverse-of-Human-Rights-The-Diversity-of-Struggles-for-Dignity-The-Diversity-of-Struggles-for-Dignity/DeSousaSantos-Martins/p/book/9781032012216?srsId=AfmBOoqiazvgRhSPCgXEwmsNm6KrRSfE2DdkGJCdc_IKXV8iJYWUehZK#googlePreviewContainer)



## Contents

[List of Contributors](#)

[Preface](#)

[Acknowledgements](#)

### Introduction

BOAVENTURA DE SOUSA SANTOS AND BRUNO SENA MARTINS

## PART I

### Human Frontiers

#### 1 Human Rights, Democracy and Development

BOAVENTURA DE SOUSA SANTOS

#### 2 "A Being Who is Not Made to Suffer": On the Difference of the Human and on the Differences of Humans

JOÃO ARRISCADO NUNES

#### 3 On the Coloniality of Human Rights

NELSON MALDONADO TORRES

## PART II

### Struggles and Emergences

#### 4 Revisiting the Bhopal Disaster: Times of Violence and Latitudes of Memory

BRUNO SENA MARTINS

#### 5 Pluralism and the Post-Minority Condition: Reflections on the "Pasmanda Muslim" Discourse in North India

KHALID ANIS ANSARI

#### 6 Picturing Law, Reform and Sexual Violence: Notes on the Delhi Protests of 2012–2013

PRATIKSHA BAXI

#### 7 Women and Mass Violence in Mozambique during the Late Colonial Period

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MARIA PAULA MENESES

#### 8 Women's Human Rights, Legal Mobilization and Epistemologies of the South

CECÍLIA MACDOWELL SANTOS

#### 9 The Power of Racism in Academia: Knowledge Production and Political Disputes

MARTA ARAÚJO AND SILVIA R. MAESO

#### 10 The Roma Collective Memory and the Epistemological Limits of Western Historiography

CAYETANO FERNÁNDEZ

#### 11 Rights, Confinement and Liberation: Rearguard Theory and Freedom of Movements

JULIA SUÁREZ-KRABBE

#### 12 The Mediterranean as the EU Human Rights Boundary

ANGELES CASTAÑO MADROÑAL

### Conclusion

BOAVENTURA DE SOUSA SANTOS AND BRUNO SENA MARTINS

5. In 2018, JSK enthusiastically supported the proposal to award BSS an honorary doctorate, an honoris causa doctorate from Roskilde University, indicating a positive and intellectually respectful relationship (*evidence 3: email dated 14 June 2018, sent by Professor Stephen Carney*).

Dear Boaventura,

I hope you are well, where ever you might be!

Some good news. The formal proposal put forward by myself and my good colleague Prof. Lars Hulgård (and with Julia's early blessing) was accepted by our Academic Council. Roskilde University will be writing to you shortly with the invitation to visit us on 21 September to receive an honorary doctor degree. The honor is as much ours and a

JSK's reaction to this news:

Boa, que orgullo! sabes que siempre te he respetado y admiro mucho tu trabajo, en el cual me inspiro infinitamente. Pero que la Universidad te reconozca de esta forma... es lo máximo! Felicitaciones. Es un honor, siempre lo ha sido, tener el privilegio de trabajar con tigo. Abrazo fuerte, Julia

6. **The relationship between the two remained cordial until very recently.**

For example:

- **On 17 December 2022**, JSK wrote a friendly message to BSS.
- **On 30 March 2023**, he sent him another message in a cordial and personal tone (*Exhibit 4: messages dated 17 December 2022 and 30 March 2023*).

Estimado Boaventura,

Qué bueno tener noticias tuyas. En el momento me encuentro en Bogotá, atendiendo asuntos familiares. Muchas gracias por tenerme en cuenta para esta importante iniciativa, con gusto acepto la invitación. Quizás también les interese considerar a esto tres colegas en Suecia, Holanda y Alemania respectivamente:

Adrián Groglopo, Universidad de Gotemburgo, Suecia. Con él estamos por publicar un antología sobre lo decolonial en la región nórdica con la cual justamente buscamos pujar más hacia las epistemologías del sur. [REDACTED]

Rosalba Icaza Garza que recién ha sido nombrada Professor of Decolonial Feminisms en la Universidad Erasmus de Rotterdam, Holanda.  
[REDACTED]

(17 December 2022)

Querido Boa,

Muchas gracias por esa información. He estado muy emocionada con la perspectiva de volver a Coimbra, y especialmente de reencontrarme con ustedes en esta maravillosa iniciativa de la cual realmente quiero hacer parte. Pero se me ha presentado el siguiente problema: mi universidad está en serios problemas económicos (recortes del estado) y nos han dicho que no se financiará nada este semestre, quizás incluso el resto del año. Al mismo tiempo los Inuit en Groenlandia me invitaron (en adjunto) a ser parte de una conferencia en junio 4 y 5 para conmemorar los 70 años en que Dinamarca mediante mentiras y manipulaciones en las Naciones Unidas y Groenlandia logró quedarse con esa colonia. Ellos tampoco tienen fondos para cubrir los gastos. Así que he tomado una decisión difícil, pero que sé que entiendes – de aceptar esa invitación y cubrir los gastos de mi propio bolsillo. Por esa misma razón, y por la cercanía de las fechas de los dos eventos, tendré que cancelar mi participación del coloquio.

Abrazos,

Julia

*(30 March 2023)*

In light of this timeline and evidence, **the signing of the sixth letter by Julia Suarez-Krabbe is contradictory**, considering the voluntary professional collaboration, mutual recognition, and explicit support of BSS towards her career. No objective elements supporting an accusation of academic extractivism are identified in this case.