



WEEKLY REPORT

B R A Z I L ' S I N T E R N A T I O N A L E N G A G E M E N T

AUG / 17

Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

The Brazilian international agenda over the last week reveals a diversification strategy under **external pressures and internal limitations**. Inflation slowed to 4.44%, but the Selic rate at 14%, persistent deficits, and growing debt constrain investment and public policy. At the same time, **exports to the United States fell by 12.2%**, while tariffs prompted reciprocal measures and exposed Brazil's vulnerability to decisions made by economic centers.

In this context, ApexBrasil sought alternatives. The agency opened a portfolio for low-emission hydrogen projects, presented **SAF** opportunities with a potential of US\$7 billion, subsidized agricultural machinery manufacturers in **Russia**, and promoted meat, Amazonian products, franchises, and equipment across various markets. It also mapped **319 opportunities in Indonesia** and articulated a plan for companies affected by the American surcharges. These initiatives diversify destinations, but require adding technology, processing, and brands. Without this, diversification can only redistribute destinations, preserving specialization in commodities and the external capture of value.

Diplomacy sought to expand spaces of autonomy. Brazil assumed with India the co-presidency of the Global Alliance for Biofuels, deepened relations with the Philippines, and condemned the violence of Israeli settlers against Palestinians. **Cooperation with Cambodia, Croatia and Venezuela**, in addition to the institutional strengthening of Mercosur, expands technological connections. On the other hand, tensions with Washington gained centrality after tariffs, pressure on Pix, and the classification of the PCC and the Red Command as terrorist organizations, a measure seen by the government as a precedent for unilateral actions.

The **intense agenda of Congress reinforced ambiguities**. The Senate authorized successive international loans for infrastructure, health, mobility, sanitation, and climate resilience. The resources enable dammed investments, including by CAF and the **New Development Bank**. However, the scale of the operations shows dependence on dollarized financing, federal guarantees, and multilateral criteria. At the same time, the Legislature approved spending controls that protect financial confidence, but compress distributive policies and intensify oversight of foreign policy, **Avibras**, and relations with the United States.

The discovery of oil in the Equatorial Margin, the internationalization of Pix, and green projects offer instruments of autonomy. The challenge is to convert resources, markets, agreements, and credit into technological, productive, and decision-making capacity. Without coordination between diplomacy, trade promotion, and industrial policy, international expansion can reproduce historical dependencies, even with more partners and institutions.

AI tools were used in the preparation of this report. All content was reviewed by humans.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Agribusiness trade balance in July

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock reported that it had officially released the data on the [trade balance](#) of Brazilian agribusiness for July 2026. The page serves as a publication announcement and directs the reader to two complementary documents: the official press release and a summary of the trade balance, which presents the detailed results of the period.

Why is this important? The release organizes strategic information on agricultural exports, showing how foreign exchange, food, and commercial insertion sustain Brazil's position in the international division of labor.

Market openings in the Eurasian Economic Union and Japan

Health authorities from the Eurasian Economic Union and Japan have announced new openings for [Brazilian products](#). Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia have authorized imports of orchids and foods prepared with fish, crustaceans, mollusks and other fish products. Japan confirmed the entry of Brazilian swim bladders, expanding the external destinations available for specific segments of sustainable national agricultural and fishing production.

Why is this important? New markets reduce trade dependencies, diversify buyer centers and strengthen Brazilian control over agri-food flows, while maintaining their export specialization in global production chains.

August Tax Prism

The August [Fiscal Prism](#) raised the median primary deficit of the Central Government in 2026 to R\$59.145 billion and, in 2027, to R\$55 billion. The projections increased federal revenues and net revenue in 2026, slightly reduced total expenses, and maintained the expected gross debt at 83% of GDP, reaching 86.77% in 2027, according to the expectations consulted.

Why is this important? Fiscal projections shape interest rates, investment, and social policies, revealing how financial markets influence state decisions and constrain development options in dependent and indebted economies.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Export opportunities to the Amazon

The Productive Connections meeting in Manaus brought together the government, companies, experts, and buyers to discuss opportunities arising from the [Mercosur-European Union agreement](#). The program addressed European trends, market diversification, and perspectives on the Legal Amazon. ApexBrasil identified 242 opportunities for Amazonian products; in 2025, the state exported US\$ 199 million to the bloc, involving 112 local companies in local productive sectors.

Why is this important? Entering the European market with Amazon can increase value and diversification, but external sustainability rules condition production, technology, and Brazilian access to global chains.

Disclosure of formal employment data

The Ministry of Labor and Employment announced the release of data from the Annual Report of Social Information for June 2026, consolidating the first half of the year. RAIS gathers information on [formal jobs](#) with a formal contract and civil service ties. The presentation was scheduled for August 13, in Brasilia, with the participation of Minister Marinho and President Lula.

Why is this important? Labor data reveal who controls employment, income and social protection, allowing us to assess whether Brazilian economic insertion reproduces inequalities or strengthens national development capacities.

Inflation returns to target range

Brazilian [inflation](#) decelerated to 4.44% in July, returning to the official target tolerance range after two months above the ceiling. The IPCA advanced 0.07% in the month, with the rise in housing and electricity partially offset by a 0.67% drop in food. The Central Bank reduced the Selic rate to 14%, but analysts project sustainable convergence to the target only in 2027.

Why is this important? Inflation conditions wages, interest rates, and economic autonomy; its control through monetary policy shifts social costs internally and responds to the demands of international financial markets.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Copom Minutes

The Copom minutes assessed that [inflation](#) remains pressured by demand, despite the growing effects of restrictive monetary policy. The committee reduced the Selic rate from 14.25% to 14%, maintained caution about further cuts, and highlighted fiscal risks, geopolitical shocks, and weather events. Decisions will depend on indicators and the convergence of inflation to the 3% target in the medium term.

Why is this important? High interest rates constrain demand and impose fiscal discipline, but they also strengthen the position of creditors, potentially subordinating employment, productive investment, and national development to maintaining market confidence and the country's attractiveness to international capital flows.

Congress approves spending control mechanisms

Congress approved government mechanisms to [control expenditures](#) aimed at containing the growth of public debt. The measures limit mandatory spending while there is a primary deficit and could save R\$10 billion in 2027. They also exclude oil transfers to the Social Fund from the minimum health calculation. The restrictions will remain in force until the country registers an annual primary surplus in public accounts.

Why is this important? Fiscal limits increase creditor confidence but constrain distributive policies and investments, showing how financial and debt-structure choices within the hierarchical world economy are shaped.

Brazil initiates reciprocity process against US tariffs

Brazil has begun consultations to impose [reciprocal measures](#) in response to new tariffs imposed by the United States. Washington imposed a 25% tariff on Brazilian products and an additional 12.5% tariff, alleging failures in the fight against forced labor. Under the Reciprocity Act, the government will be able to adopt tariff countermeasures or restrictions affecting audiovisual companies, pharmaceutical and agricultural patents, and to seek negotiations with U.S. authorities, if necessary.

Why is this important? Reciprocity challenges the unilateral U.S. power to define trade rules, protects national chains and expands Brazil's room for negotiation in a profoundly asymmetric international order.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Brazilian exports to the United States decline

Brazilian exports to the United States fell 12.2% between January and July 2026, totaling US\$ 21 billion, the lowest result in three years. Products subject to the highest surcharges fell 31.5%. While American imports grew by 0.6%, the Brazilian deficit reached US\$2.3 billion. Sectors such as wood, tobacco, granite, juices, beef tallow, and taps were especially affected during the first seven months.

Why is this important? The drop demonstrates how tariffs defined by the center reorganize flows, transfer costs to the periphery, and expose Brazil's dependence on markets, currencies, and external decisions.

Central Bank evaluates Pix's international expansion

The Central Bank is considering connecting Pix to foreign instant payment systems to reduce costs, speed up transactions, and increase transparency. Public infrastructure processed almost 80 billion transactions, exceeding R\$ 35 trillion, in 2025. Its international expansion comes as the United States questions the central bank's role as operator and regulator and imposes new global tariffs.

Why is this important? Internationalizing Pix challenges foreign private financial networks, expands sovereignty, and allows Brazil to influence payment patterns, reducing dependencies on platforms and central currencies.

Portfolio of low-emission hydrogen projects

ApexBrasil has opened applications for a portfolio of low-emission hydrogen projects, intended for promotion before foreign investors. Structured initiatives with minimal technological maturity, operations expected until 2035, and international potential are eligible to participate. Those selected will receive intelligence, matchmaking, and exposure at events. Free registration for investors runs from August 18 to September 30, 2026.

Why is this important? The portfolio seeks to convert renewable resources into industrial, technological, and financial capacity, competing for international capital and top positions in the emerging energy chains of the global transition.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Exporta Mais Brasil Amazônia

Exporta Mais Brasil Amazônia generated R\$ 14 million in two days by connecting projects in the Legal Amazon with 13 buyers from 11 countries. The products included açaí, coffee, nuts, fish and proteins. One sale involved 15 tons of freeze-dried açaí to China. The event highlighted local industrialization, value addition, sustainability, and diversification into foreign markets.

Why is this important? Adding value to biodiversity can retain income and technology in the Amazon, reduce reliance on primary exports, and strengthen regional autonomy in the face of externally controlled global chains.

Brazilian participation in YugAgro 2026

ApexBrasil offers a subsidy of up to 90% for Brazilian manufacturers to exhibit at YugAgro 2026, the main Russian agricultural fair, held in Krasnodar. Russia imports more than \$1.2 billion worth of agricultural machinery and has an aging fleet. The fair connects producers, distributors, and buyers, while its digital platform maintains contacts, meetings, and commercial opportunities throughout the year in new markets.

Why is this important? Entry into the Russian market diversifies buyers, reduces dependencies, and projects Brazilian technology, thereby changing its position beyond primary supply in the international division of labor.

Brazilian potential in the production of SAF

ApexBrasil presented to investors from seven countries the Brazilian potential for sustainable aviation fuel. ProBioQAV predicts a reduction in SAF-related air emissions. The bank evaluates Pix's international expansion to produce 9 billion liters, surpassing current fossil kerosene consumption. The mission projected US\$7 billion in investment, connecting investors, mills, technological centers, and Brazilian public institutions.

Why is this important? Mastering SAF enables the conversion of biomass into regulatory technology, attracts capital without remaining a primary supplier, and increases Brazilian influence in the contemporary global energy transition.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Brazilian Beef na Malásia e nas Filipinas

Brazilian Beef shares in Malaysia and the Philippines generated \$3.87 million in immediate business and are projected to generate \$26.14 million over 12 months. The fairs brought Brazilian meatpackers closer to importers, distributors, and retailers. In the Philippines, Brazil supplies approximately 46% of imported beef, a market driven by population growth, urbanization, rising incomes, and increased demand for animal protein during the period.

Why is this important? Expanding sales in Southeast Asia diversifies markets and broadens foreign exchange exposure, but it consolidates Brazilian agro-export specialization in chains whose consumption, prices, and distribution remain constrained.

SIAVS 2026 Results

At SIAVS 2026, 33 companies in the pavilion organized by ABPA and ApexBrasil did US\$ 41.494 million in business and projected US\$ 312.150 million in exports in the following twelve months. More than two thousand importers participated. The program brought buyers, journalists and opinion makers, promoting Brazilian meat, eggs and poultry genetics with globally recognized attributes of quality, health and sustainability.

Why is this important? The promotion strengthens scale, reputation, and commercial access, but deepens the country's agro-export function, which depends on demand, sanitary standards, and prices set within the chains.

Export Diversification Plan

ApexBrasil brought together sectors affected by the United States surcharges to prepare an Export Diversification Plan. Furniture, beef tallow, footwear, plastics, and textiles reported losses and mapped out alternatives in Europe, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. The plan combines intelligence and trade promotion to reposition companies, especially small ones, that depend on the U.S. market and to reduce future business losses.

Why is this important? Diversifying destinations reduces vulnerability to U.S. tariff power, expands autonomy, and allows Brazilian companies to compete for markets without remaining subordinated to a single purchasing center.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Business Opportunities in Indonesia

ApexBrasil identified 319 trade opportunities in [Indonesia](#), associated with US\$ 46 billion in imports. Brazilian exports reached US\$4.1 billion in 2025, with the largest share in soybean meal, sugar, and oil. Machinery, equipment, energy, and technology offer diversification. Vale's investments in nickel connect countries to global battery chains, electric vehicles, and the low-carbon energy transition.

Why is this important? The rapprochement diversifies markets, but its relevance depends on shifting away from primary exports and on controlling technology, processing, and investments in Asian energy and mobility chains.

Export Journey in Southern Africa

The Export Journey in [Angola and South Africa](#) connected 18 Brazilian companies with 61 buyers, held 185 meetings, and generated US\$ 1.71 million immediately, with an additional US\$ 18.7 million expected. The initiative combined intelligence, training, mentoring, seminars, and technical visits to expand exports of housing, construction, machinery, and equipment and to strengthen Brazil's presence in sub-Saharan Africa.

Why is this important? African expansion diversifies markets, reduces dependencies on the North, and strengthens South-South relations, allowing Brazil to compete for space without reproducing peripheral commodity-based links.

Franchise trade mission to Costa Rica and Panama

The Franchising Brazil mission to [Costa Rica and Panama](#) projected US\$ 1.57 million in new business for six Brazilian chains. The program included market intelligence, entrance seminars, commercial roundtables, technical visits and benchmarking. Supported by embassies and business entities, the initiative sought to internationalize franchises, understand legislation, connect investors and consolidate Brazilian presence in Central America and the Caribbean.

Why is this important? Exporting franchises projects brands, services and business models, increasing the capture of value and cultural influence beyond the peripheral position concentrated in primary products abroad.

Energy and Infrastructure

Southeast Export debates transport infrastructure

Sudeste Export brought together authorities, business people and experts in Vitória to discuss logistics efficiency and competitiveness. Minister Tomé Franca defended strategic projects, especially waterways and railways, with transparency, dialogue and social participation. He highlighted port access as a bottleneck and said that connectivity and intermodality are essential to modernizing transport, moving cargo and people, attracting investment, and promoting sustainable development.

Why is this important? Integrated infrastructure reduces costs, controls territorial flows and increases competitiveness, allowing Brazil to compete in global chains without remaining subordinated to the dominant logistics and technological centers.

Concession of the Southern Integrated Waterway System and Mirim Lagoon

The Ministry of Ports and Airports presented the concession for the Southern Integrated Waterway System and Lagoa Mirim at a public hearing, marking the first waterway concession. The contract, scheduled for 25 years, covers dredging, signaling, monitoring, and traffic management. The model incorporates performance, environmental criteria, and climate resilience and aims to increase safety, navigability, and regional logistics integration, especially between Brazil and Uruguay.

Why is this important? Controlling waterway infrastructure strengthens regional integration and commercial circulation, but the concession transfers operational capacity to private capital, conditioning logistical sovereignty, tariffs, and territorial priorities.

National Logistics Plan prioritizes asset recovery

The National Logistics Plan 2050 began prioritizing the conservation, recovery, and maintenance of existing infrastructure, avoiding the depreciation of public assets. The document organizes corridors for exports, domestic consumption and territorial integration, articulating highways, railways, waterways, ports and airports. The routes should support productive flow, domestic supply, access to services, border connectivity, and long-term, sustainable national integration.

Why is this important? Planning corridors allows the State to organize territory, production and circulation, reducing logistical dependencies and strengthening national capacity to compete for trade flows in the hierarchical world economy.

Energy and Infrastructure

Opening of the free energy market

Lula signed four decrees on energy and [energy transition](#). The free market will be open to low-voltage consumers in 2027 and to residential consumers in 2028, allowing consumers to choose suppliers. The rules establish emergency supply measures, regulate sustainable aviation fuel, set progressive emission-reduction targets, certify SAF, and govern safe carbon capture, transport, and geological storage in Brazil.

Why is this important? The opening reorganizes power dynamics in the electricity market, while SAF and carbon capture enable Brazil to compete for technology, regulation, and investment in the energy transition.

Petrobras identifies hydrocarbons in Mouth of the Amazonas

Petrobras has identified hydrocarbons in the Morpho well, in ultra-deep waters off the [mouth of the Amazon](#). However, tests will still determine whether there is commercially exploitable oil or gas. The discovery supports the strategy of replenishing reserves in the face of the future decline of the pre-salt. Environmentalists contest new fossil frontiers, while government and industry defend energy security, jobs and sustainable economic development for Amapá.

Why is this important? The discovery expands energy reserves and power but deepens conflicts over resource sovereignty, fossil dependence, transnational capital, and climate pressures as defined in world governance.

Lack of workforce threatens New PAC works

Infrastructure entities warned that the shortage of [qualified labor](#) threatens costs, quality, and deadlines for the New PAC works. The deficit would be 75 thousand engineers, and could reach 500 thousand in 2030. The Pact for Brazil proposes curriculum review, technical training, closer ties between teaching and industry, and student retention, following a 30% drop in engineering enrollments.

Why is this important? The lack of engineers limits national capacity, perpetuates dependence, and prevents the conversion of investments into infrastructure, economic autonomy, and top positions in the global division of labor.

Energy and Infrastructure

Worsens the perception of infrastructure investments

The share of executives who consider the [infrastructure](#) environment unfavorable rose from 20.4% to 30.9%, while the share who consider it favorable fell to 38%. Elections, war, inflation, interest rates, oil, logistics, protectionism, and tax reform have increased caution. Despite this, investments reached a record of R\$ 280 billion in 2025, with approximately 80% coming from national and international private capital and foreign funds.

Why is this important? The dependence on private capital makes the infrastructure sensitive to interest rates, wars, and external expectations, allowing investors to condition territorial priorities, public services, and Brazilian development.

Technology and Defense

National Committee for Critical Infrastructure Security

The National Committee for the Security of Critical [Infrastructures](#) approved the submission of the draft of the National Policy for the Security of Critical Infrastructures. It also approved minimum guidelines for the ministries' sectoral plans and received national diagnoses on electricity and land transport. After adjustments by the members, the legislative proposal will be consolidated and presented nationally to the government Executive Committee on August 27.

Why is this important? Protecting energy and transport sectors preserves state capacity, territory, and economic flows, reducing external vulnerabilities and strengthening Brazilian autonomy amid technological, financial, and geopolitical disputes.

Human Rights

Protection of defenders and communicators in indigenous territories

Latin American representatives debated in Brasilia the protection of [human rights](#) defenders and communicators in indigenous, environmental, and border territories. Territorial conflicts, illicit networks, isolation and low state presence increase vulnerabilities. The meeting advocated collective measures adapted to local realities, regional cooperation, information sharing, prevention, institutional articulation and specific protection for journalists, communities, indigenous peoples and local organizations under threat.

Why is this important? Territorial protection confronts transnational illicit networks, strengthens peripheral state capacities, and expands community control over national security, information, rights, and strategic natural resources.

Tourism and Culture

Tourism cooperation between Brazil and the Philippines

Brazil and the Philippines signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Cooperation during a ceremony at the Itamaraty Palace. The agreement aims to bring tourist markets closer together, promote national destinations and encourage the circulation of visitors between the two countries. The Minister of Tourism, Gustavo Feliciano, participated in the signing. In the first half of 2026, Brazil received 3,311 tourists from the Philippines.

Why is this important? The agreement diversifies connections with Asia, expands services and cultural influence, reduces tourist concentration, and strengthens Brazil's projection in international flows of people.

International Cooperation

Brazil introduces school feeding to Ethiopia

An Ethiopian delegation led by Minister Ayelech visited the Federal Institute of Brasília to learn about Brazil's National School Feeding Program and Brazilian experiences in agriculture. The agenda included school feeding practices, agroecology, sustainable agriculture, technical training, laboratory activities, and mechanisms for purchasing food from family farmers. Ethiopia currently serves 8.4 million children and aims to strengthen and universalize its national school feeding program by 2030.

Why is this important? Sharing food policies transforms Brazilian public knowledge into international influence, strengthens South-South cooperation, and offers alternatives to the solutions imposed by dominant financial and technological centers.

Measles Alert in the Americas

The Pan American Health Organization reported that the Americas registered the highest number of confirmed measles cases in 22 years in 2026, maintaining a very high health risk. The Ministry of Health reinforced the Multivaccination Campaign, which ran until the first of September, aimed at children and adolescents under 15 years of age, to check booklets and update overdue doses nationwide.

Why is this important? Outbreaks cross borders and expose health inequalities; public vaccination strengthens state capacity, reduces external dependence, and protects vulnerable populations amid the international circulation of diseases.

Environment and Sustainability

Brazilian participation in the COP17 on Desertification

At [COP17](#) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Ulaanbaatar, Brazil will present policies to combat land degradation and drought. The program will highlight neutrality goals, PAB Brazil, Recaatingar, state plans, and experiences in the Caatinga and Cerrado. It will value soil conservation, climate adaptation, traditional communities, international cooperation, financing, and water and food security.

Why is this important? By designing its own solutions, Brazil challenges environmental standards, financing, and technology, reduces dependencies, and expands its influence over the governance of global natural and climate resources.

Diplomacy

Earthquake in Indonesia

The Brazilian government regretted the 7.7 magnitude earthquake that occurred off the coast of the island of Flores, [Indonesia](#), and expressed solidarity with the Indonesian government and people. The note expressed condolences to the victims' families and wished the injured a speedy recovery. The Foreign Ministry said it is closely monitoring the situation through the Brazilian embassy in Jakarta and the competent local authorities.

Why is this important? Disasters expose inequalities in state capacity; diplomatic solidarity strengthens peripheral cooperation, international legitimacy, and collective mechanisms among countries in the face of growing, shared global risks.

Violence against Palestinian civilians in Qusra

Brazil strongly condemned the recurrent violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians in Qusra, in the [State of Palestine](#). The note repudiated aggressions, destruction of property and impunity, demanding that the Israeli authorities protect the population under occupation and hold the perpetrators accountable. The government reiterated that settlements are illegal under international law and undermine the viability of a two-state solution.

Why is this important? The position challenges geopolitical hierarchies that normalize occupation and violence, reaffirming international law as a limit to Israeli military, political, territorial and regional structural power.

Diplomacy

Co-Chair of the Global Biofuels Alliance

Brazil has assumed, alongside India, the co-presidency of the [Council of the Global Alliance for Biofuels](#). The function reinforces Brazil's role in the international promotion of sustainable fuels, technological cooperation and energy transition. Created during India's presidency of the G20, the Alliance brings together governments, organizations and companies to expand production, consumption, trade and development of biofuels on a global scale.

Why is this important? The co-presidency expands the Global South's influence over energy norms, technologies, and markets, reducing fossil-fuel dependencies and challenging traditional centers of global structural power.

Passing of Zhu Rongji

The Brazilian government received with deep regret the news of the death of former [Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji](#). The note recalled his leadership between 1998 and 2003, a period of economic reforms and China's transformation, as well as his contribution to deepening Sino-Brazilian relations. Brazil offered condolences to the Chinese government and people, as well as to the family of the former leader.

Why is this important? Recognizing Zhu highlights China's rise and South-South ties, which are fundamental to the global redistribution of economic, diplomatic, and institutional power in the modern, progressively multipolar contemporary world-system.

Acts adopted during the visit of the Philippine Secretary

[Brazil and the Philippines](#) adopted acts during Secretary Maria Theresa Lazaro's visit to Brasilia. Instruments were signed to expand bilateral cooperation in areas of common interest, in the context of eighty years of diplomatic relations. The documents consolidate understandings reached by governments and complement the political, economic, and cooperative agenda developed during official meetings on August 11.

Why is this important? The instruments diversify alliances between Latin America and Southeast Asia, expanding peripheral autonomy, economic flows, and collective capacity to influence the system's global rules.

Diplomacy

Official visit of Maria Theresa Lazaro

Philippine Secretary [Maria Theresa Lazaro](#) visited São Paulo and Brasília on August 10 and 11, as Brazil and the Philippines celebrate eighty years of diplomatic relations. The agenda included business and academic contacts, a meeting with Mauro Vieira, a lecture at the Rio Branco Institute, and bilateral, regional, and multilateral discussions, aimed at strengthening political dialogue, trade, and cooperation between partner countries.

Why is this important? The rapprochement connects peripheral regions, diversifies markets and coalitions, reduces dependencies on the Central Powers, and strengthens the negotiating capacity of the Global South in the contemporary international order.

Earthquake in Colombia

The Brazilian government expressed regret for the human and material losses caused by an earthquake in [Colombia](#). In a statement, he conveyed condolences to the families of the victims, solidarity with the Colombian government and people, and wishes for recovery to the injured. The Foreign Ministry said it was monitoring developments through diplomatic channels, keeping an eye on the situation and on the possible need for consular assistance for Brazilians present.

Why is this important? The solidarity response reinforces regional integration and the collective capacity to face vulnerabilities, counteracting the structural asymmetries that make peripheral societies more exposed to major natural disasters.

Decision on the Soy Moratorium

The Brazilian Supreme Court upheld state laws that remove tax incentives from producers participating in the [Soy Moratorium](#), but confirmed the constitutionality of the voluntary pact. Large trading companies had left the agreement, created in 2006 to prevent purchases from Amazon areas deforested after 2008. Environmentalists warn that its weakening could spur 1.4 million hectares of deforestation over the next decade.

Why is this important? The dispute pits agro-export power, subnational governments, and private environmental governance against one another, revealing how global chains, tax incentives, and trade rules structure the use of Brazilian territory.

Diplomacy

Lula–Flávio Bolsonaro electoral poll

A [Quaest poll](#) showed Lula with 43% and Flávio Bolsonaro with 40% in a possible second round, a tie within the margin of error of two points. In the first round, Lula obtained 38% and Flávio, 31%. On the campaign trail, the president emphasized sovereignty, defense, and critical minerals, rejecting foreign interference, while Donald Trump maintains political proximity to the Bolsonaro family and pressures Brazil.

Why is this important? The election articulates sovereignty, strategic resources, and US interference, showing that domestic competition defines Brazil's position within the political and economic hierarchies of the contemporary world-system.

Launch of Lula's campaign

[Lula](#) launched his campaign for a fourth non-consecutive term in São Bernardo do Campo, in the stadium linked to the metallurgical strikes of 1979 and 1980. The report reconstructs his union and political trajectory, describes the conservative transformation of the former labor belt, records the tight dispute with Flávio Bolsonaro, and analyzes Donald Trump's pressures perceived as direct foreign electoral interference.

Why is this important? The dispute in the old industrial pole highlights deindustrialization, labor fragmentation, digital influence, and external pressure, structural forces that reorganize classes, territory, and Brazilian political autonomy.

National Congress

Oil in the Equatorial Margin

Davi Alcolumbre celebrated the discovery of oil in the deep waters of the [Equatorial Margin](#), off the coast of Amapá, announced by Petrobras president Magda Chambriard. The president of the Senate said that years of mobilization guaranteed the right to research regional riches. He defended that any exploration generates employment, income and development, combining economic opportunities, operational safety, environmental preservation and social benefits.

Why is this important? The discovery expands Brazil's control over energy resources, revenues, and strategic decisions, but intensifies disputes among peripheral development, climate transition, and global corporate interests.

National Congress

Relations between Brazil and the United States

Nelsinho Trad said that the Foreign Relations Commission monitors relations between [Brazil and the United States](#). In a statement, the president of the CRE highlighted the historical importance of the bilateral partnership, defended institutional dialogue, balance and mutual respect, and registered concern about tensions. According to him, the Senate will continue to contribute diplomatically to the preservation of national interests and the maintenance of channels of cooperation between countries.

Why is this important? Parliamentary monitoring seeks to limit asymmetries with the United States, preserving decision-making autonomy, diplomatic channels, and Brazil's ability to negotiate economic, political, and strategic pressures.

Credit for green projects in Minas Gerais

The Senate authorized BDMG to contract US\$ 100 million with the [IDB](#), guaranteed by the Union, for the Minas para Resultados program. The resources will finance decarbonization, climate resilience, emissions reduction, and protection of vulnerable areas. The program may generate R\$ 1.5 billion in production and create 14,000 jobs. The financing will have five installments, a grace period, and an extended amortization period.

Why is this important? Climate credit connects Minas Gerais to multilateral finance, expanding green productive capacity, but subjecting territorial policies to currencies, interest rates, and criteria defined by central institutions.

External credit for Maracanaú

The Senate authorized Maracanaú to contract US\$ 60 million with [CAF](#), guaranteed by the Union, for the Sustainable Maracanaú Program. With a total budget of US\$75 million, the initiative integrates sanitation, drainage, parks, ponds, paving, bike paths, transportation, schools, and health services. It also provides for environmental policies, the prevention of gender-based violence, income generation, digital transformation, and the strengthening of integrated municipal management.

Why is this important? Regional financing expands infrastructure and urban state capacity, articulating social justice and sustainability, while CAF strengthens Latin American alternatives to traditional global financial centers.

National Congress

Environmental credit for Pará

The Senate authorized Pará to contract [foreign credit](#) of US\$ 15 million for environmental actions in the Amazon, with a guarantee from the Union. The funds will finance forest restoration, planting of more than four million native seedlings, and measures capable of sequestering 3.6 million tons of carbon. The operation integrates conservation policies, sustainable development, and efforts to combat climate change.

Why is this important? The credit transforms forest and carbon into global governance assets, reinforcing Amazon's capacity while linking local priorities to international environmental finance and metrics.

Loan to Águas Lindas de Goiás

The Senate authorized Águas Lindas de Goiás to contract US\$ 50 million with [CAF](#), guaranteed by the Union. The project brings together infrastructure, sanitation, mobility, accessibility, digitalization and urbanization. It provides for drainage networks, requalification of roads and sidewalks, bicycle paths, recovery of squares and parks, improvements in schools and health units, and strengthening of environmental management, with a counterpart of US\$ 12.5 million.

Why is this important? The operation uses regional financing to reduce peripheral deficits, expand mobility, services, and municipal capacity, and strengthen financial structures that condition development and territorial autonomy.

Loans for Salvador

The Senate authorized Salvador to contract two [foreign loans](#) totaling US\$190 million, with a guarantee from the Union. A \$120 million grant will support the Salvador Social Program. Another, of US\$ 70 million, will finance Salvador Capital Afro, aimed at tourism competitiveness and the economic and social benefits of Afro-Brazilian cultural tourism. The two authorizations now go to final promulgation.

Why is this important? The credits articulate social inclusion, tourism, and Afro-Brazilian identity through multilateral financing, enabling the contestation of resources, cultural narratives, and urban positions within contemporary global economic chains.

National Congress

Credits to Sergipe

The Senate authorized Sergipe to contract US\$ 141.8 million with the [World Bank](#), guaranteed by the Union. Of this amount, \$41.8 million will support fiscal sustainability, efficiency, and effectiveness of public spending. Another \$100 million will fund safe, proactive, and resilient maintenance of state highways. The contracts will have counterparts, a grace period of up to 66 months, and total terms of thirty-35 years.

Why is this important? Loans modernize the state and logistics corridors, but insert Sergipe into dollarized financial relations, in which multilateral banks influence long-term fiscal and territorial priorities.

Environmental recovery in Belo Horizonte

The Senate authorized Belo Horizonte to contract US\$ 204 million with the [IDB](#), under a guarantee from the Union, to finance Drenurbs partially. The program will recover water resources, expand sanitation and reduce flood risks in valley bottoms and natural streams. The city will offer a counterpart of US\$ 51 million. The National Treasury and the Attorney General's Office considered the operation regular.

Why is this important? The financing strengthens urban resilience and water control, although it reveals dependence on international credit to correct inequalities produced by peripheral urbanization and climate change.

Financing for Petrolina

The Senate authorized Petrolina to contract for [international financing](#) of US\$20 million, with a guarantee from the Union. The operation will support municipal investments and will be released gradually, subject to compliance with requirements. The National Treasury assigned the municipality an A classification of payment capacity, while the Attorney General's Office confirmed the legality. Before signing, compliance and federal counter-guarantees must be proven.

Why is this important? External credit expands Petrolina's capacity to finance its development, but it also integrates the municipality into international financial structures in which access to resources depends on rules, assessments, and conditions defined beyond the local level. Subnational autonomy is therefore expanded through financing while simultaneously being constrained by the structures that govern access to capital.

National Congress

Loan to Maceió

The Senate authorized Maceió to contract US\$ 150 million with the New Development Bank, a [BRICS institution](#), with a guarantee from the Union. The resources will finance the Maceió Integration, Social and Sustainable Development Program, which focuses on infrastructure, mobility, and urban improvement. The approval responded to Senator Dr. Eudócia's request for speed and allows the formalization of the international operation.

Why is this important? The BRICS Bank's credit diversification of financial sources, reduction of the centrality of Western institutions, and expansion of municipal capacity, although it preserves dependence on debt for modernization.

External credit for Paraíba

The Senate authorized Paraíba to contract US\$ 50 million with the [World Bank](#), guaranteed by the Union, for the Paraíba Sustainable Rural II project. The state will provide US\$12.5 million in counterpart funding. The Treasury, the Treasury Attorney's Office and the Foreign Financing Commission approved the operation.

Why is this important? The financing strengthens peripheral rural producers and territorial capacities, but submits agricultural policies to the parameters of multilateral banks inserted in the financial hierarchy of the world system.

Transportation and health credits in São Paulo

The Senate authorized three international loans totaling US\$701.9 million for São Paulo, with a guarantee from the Union. Two credits of US\$ 248.3 million will finance the electrification of the bus fleet. Another US\$ 205.3 million will modernize hospitals and specialized care. The operations involve the [IDB, the World Bank, and other institutions](#), require municipal counter-guarantees, and proceed to enactment after approval directly by the Plenary.

Why is this important? The credits connect clean mobility and urban health to multilateral capital, demonstrating how global cities finance modernization through debt and technological standards set internationally by lenders.

National Congress

Urban mobility in Maceió

Dr. Eudócia announced resources to implement the BRT Rapidão in Maceió, presented as the largest urban mobility work in Alagoas. The system should modernize buses and benefit more than 80% of the population, especially residents of the upper part. The senator also asked for speed in disbursing US\$ 150 million in credit from the [BRICS Bank](#) for integration, social development, and municipal sustainability.

Why is this important? Mobility reorganizes access to labor and services, while federal resources and BRICS credit redistribute capacities and diversify financing centers for Brazil's peripheral development.

Renegotiation of Bolivia's debt

The Senate approved the renegotiation of [Bolivia's US\\$50.8 million debt](#) with Brazil. The agreement forgave 95.73% of the debt and confirmed the discharge of the remainder by transferring property in La Paz, where the Brazilian foreign ministry operates. It also extinguished the Brazil-Bolivia Development Fund and transferred assets to the Treasury. Signed in 2004, the contract depended on legislative authorization.

Why is this important? The renegotiation combines regional solidarity and asset protection, reducing Bolivia's vulnerability to creditors and strengthening South-South relations in the face of the hierarchical international system's financial discipline.

Protocol for the Defense of Democracy in Mercosur

The CRE approved the [Montevideo Protocol](#), known as Ushuaia II, expanding preventive mechanisms and responses to democratic ruptures in Mercosur. The text provides for consultations, diplomatic initiatives, and, by consensus, the suspension of rights, trade, transport, communications, and services. The measures must be proportionate and respect sovereignty and human rights. Threatened governments will be able to request support, technical assistance, and monitoring of internal dialogues.

Why is this important? The democratic clause transforms regional integration into a collective mechanism of discipline, reinforcing South American institutional autonomy in the face of external interventions and instabilities in the peripheries of the world system.

National Congress

Technical cooperation between Brazil and Cambodia

The CRE approved the technical cooperation agreement between [Brazil and Cambodia](#) and forwarded it to the Plenary. The instrument establishes conditions for joint projects, knowledge exchange, training and the performance of specialists in areas defined by the two governments. Rapporteur Humberto Costa said that the initiative consolidates dialogue with Southeast Asia and expands the Brazilian diplomatic presence in an internationally relevant region.

Why is this important? Cooperation brings Latin American and Asian peripheries closer together, diversifies partners, knowledge, and state capacities, reducing dependencies on central powers, and expanding the diplomatic margin of the Global South.

Agreements between Brazil and Croatia

The CRE approved two cooperation agreements between [Brazil and Croatia](#) in the cultural and educational areas. The texts encourage exchanges among students, teachers, researchers, and professionals, as well as artistic activities, heritage protection, the creative economy, and linguistic dissemination. They also provide for the recognition of diplomas, scholarships, academic missions, intellectual property, and the diplomatic settlement of disputes. Celebrated in 2023, both go to the Federal Senate Plenary.

Why is this important? The agreements expand the circulation of knowledge and culture, central resources of international influence, diversifying Brazilian connections and reducing symbolic and scientific concentration in the dominant powers.

IDB Competitiveness Loan

The CAE approved a US\$ 100 million loan from the [IDB](#) for the Federal Government to finance the MDIC program aimed at competitiveness and the business environment. Actions include regulation, reduction of the Brazil Cost, digitalization, innovation, sustainability, inclusion, and trade facilitation. The government intends to increase the number of exporting companies to 13,500. The credit will have conditional disbursement and a cost lower than international funding.

Why is this important? The program strengthens regulatory and export capacity, but highlights how national competitiveness depends on financing, indicators and knowledge produced within the architecture led by the economic center.

National Congress

New rules of the International Coffee Organization

The CRE approved the [2022 International Coffee Agreement](#), which updates voting and contribution rules at the International Coffee Organization. The Brazilian contribution is expected to fall, while private and civil entities may become affiliates. The text creates a public-private group on prices, volatility, and sustainability, and addresses trade, statistics, credit, risks, climate, traceability, labor, and cooperation. The matter goes to the Federal Plenary.

Why is this important? The rules affect who sets prices, sustainability, and information in the coffee chain, expanding Brazil's influence over markets historically structured by buyers and central finance.

Mercosur budget

The CRE approved a proposal to unify the budgets of the Secretariat, the Permanent Court of Review, the Social Institute, and the Mercosur Institute of Human Rights. The Secretariat will manage the resources, and the [Common Market Group](#) will supervise the execution and contributions. Audits and impact assessments will be mandatory. Parliament and the Convergence Fund remain outside initially. The text goes to the Plenary.

Why is this important? Budget unification strengthens institutional capacity, transparency, and regional planning, allowing Mercosur to exercise normative and administrative autonomy in the face of more consolidated and powerful international blocs.

Space cooperation between Brazil and Venezuela

The CRE approved a space agreement between [Brazil and Venezuela](#) for peaceful exploration, territorial observation, telecommunications, technologies, and the distribution of public data. The projects will support Amazon monitoring, disaster prevention, and the fight against organized crime. Space agencies will coordinate research, training, exchanges, and technology transfer. Signed in 2008, the agreement will be renewed for five years and now goes to the Plenary.

Why is this important? Regional space cooperation reduces external technological dependence, expands control of data and territory, and strengthens South American sovereignty over strategic resources dominated by the global central powers.

National Congress

Mauro Vieira's new call-up

CREDN summoned [Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira](#) again to explain the conduct of foreign policy. The decision came after his absence in a previous summons and involves tensions with the United States, classification of the PCC and the Red Command as terrorists, and risk of unilateral actions. Deputies demand objective information on diplomatic communications, government measures, and defense of national sovereignty before Washington.

Why is this important? Parliamentary oversight disputes control over foreign policy and responses to US pressures, revealing conflicts over sovereignty, international alignment, and contemporary Brazilian decision-making autonomy.

Acquisition of Avibras

CREDN has approved a request for information from the Ministry of Defense on the acquisition of [Avibras](#) by private groups. Deputies questioned the corporate structure, governance, Martinelli's stake, J&F's contribution of R\$ 300 million, and the transfer of missile and rocket production. The collegiate considers the company strategic and demands transparency to prevent risks to sovereignty and the national defense industrial base.

Why is this important? The control of Avibras defines dominance over military technology, industrial capacity, and national security, sectors in which capital and corporate concentration can limit Brazilian sovereignty.

Criticism of the designation of the PCC and CV as terrorists

[Celso Amorim](#) said that the Brazilian government does not tolerate the PCC or Comando Vermelho, but rejects their classification by the United States as terrorist organizations. According to him, the measure does not improve the fight against crime and may justify military interventions. Amorim defended cooperation against money laundering and weapons, criticized irregularities in the appointment of the American ambassador, and warned of disrespect for the Vienna Convention.

Why is this important? The unilateral classification expands U.S. jurisdiction and military power over the territory, while the governmental position seeks to preserve Brazilian sovereignty, police cooperation, and multilateral diplomatic rules.

National Congress

Possibility of unilateral actions by the United States

Celso Amorim said that the U.S. government's video updates the Monroe Doctrine and signals possible unilateral military actions to ensure regional dominance. He related this risk to the classification of Brazilian factions as terrorists, criticized operations without evidence, and defended national sovereignty. Deputies differed on cooperation with Washington, tariffs, organized crime, and the legitimacy of recent U.S. investigations into Brazilian policies.

Why is this important? The debate exposes U.S. hegemonic pretensions in the hemisphere and Brazil's vulnerability to sanctions, interventions, and extraterritorial jurisdiction, turning sovereignty and multilateralism into instruments of resistance.

Brazil's international insertion occurs within an order still organized around the primacy of the United States, but one increasingly contested by China. Washington retains decisive advantages over currency, finance, technology, security and norm-setting, even though its leadership combines multilateral institutions with selective coercion. The tariffs on Brazilian products, the pressure on Pix, the classification of the PCC and the Red Command as terrorist organizations, and the invocation of the Monroe Doctrine demonstrate that common rules can give way to unilateral instruments when U.S. interests are contradicted.

The Brazilian reaction seeks to preserve autonomy without breaking with the traditional center of order. The Law of Reciprocity, recourse to the WTO, and the defense of the Vienna Convention reaffirm legal limits to American power. However, the decline in exports to the United States, high interest rates, persistent deficits, and reliance on external financing constrain the margin for response. The Senate's strong approval of dollarized loans for infrastructure, health, sanitation, and the climate transition shows that expanding internal capacities remains conditioned by banks, currencies, and external criteria.

China's rise offers alternatives, but it does not eliminate asymmetrical relations. The sale of açai, meat, soybeans, sugar, oil, and minerals expands markets and currencies. At the same time, investments in nickel, batteries, SAF, hydrogen, and digital payments can reposition the country within emerging value chains. However, replacing Western buyers with Asian demand, without mastery of technology, processing, logistics, and brands, would only perpetuate dependence. ApexBrasil's strategy is relevant precisely because it combines geographic diversification with the promotion of machinery, franchises, industrialized biodiversity, and energy projects. Its success requires coordination with industrial policy, technical training, and infrastructure.

Diplomatically, the Brazilian and Indian co-presidency of the Global Alliance for Biofuels, the rapprochement with the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Southern Africa, and Ethiopia, and the strengthening of Mercosur expand coalitions beyond the Atlantic axis. Space cooperation with Venezuela, the internationalization of Pix, and the protection of critical infrastructures also increase control over territory, data, and flows.

Brazil should not automatically align with Washington and Beijing. Its best strategy is to exploit the competition between the two, preserve multilateral institutions, and build its own capacities. Without an autonomous technological, financial, logistical, and military base, multipolarity will be able to expand partners without changing Brazil's subordinate position. Autonomy, therefore, depends less on diplomatic discourse than on the ability to transform resources into innovation and well-being.



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