



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

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Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

Over the last week, Brazil has shown signs of a strategy of international insertion aimed at expanding its capacity for economic, technological, diplomatic and institutional influence in a global landscape marked by geopolitical disputes, the reorganization of production chains and competition for strategic resources. In this context, the country seeks to transform its competitive advantages (such as natural resources, agricultural capacity, consumer market, energy matrix and scientific knowledge) into instruments of greater autonomy and international projection.

In the economic and commercial field, the indicators reinforce the relevance of Brazil's participation in global trade. Exports grew 9.7% until the fourth week of July, reaching US\$ 27.59 billion, while the accumulated trade surplus in the year reached US\$ 48.90 billion. This performance expands the country's capacity for external negotiations and underscores the importance of trade diversification. The opening of markets in China, Paraguay and Palau, the entry into force of the Mercosur-Singapore agreement and the trade defense decisions adopted by Gecex strengthen the competitiveness of Brazilian companies and reduce vulnerabilities in the face of international uncertainties.

In this process, ApexBrasil's strategic role in the internationalization of the national economy stands out. The launch of the 1st Agro Brazil Outlook consolidated a market-intelligence agenda focused on food security, sustainability, and global agribusiness trends. In addition, actions such as participation in WOFEX 2026 in the Philippines, the identification of 693 commercial opportunities in Angola, and the Precious Brazil project, aimed at the international gem market, expand Brazil's presence across regions and add value to national products.

In the diplomatic dimension, Brazil has deepened strategic partnerships with relevant actors in the world economy. The elevation of relations with South Korea to a strategic partnership, encompassing technology, critical minerals, energy, space, and innovation, reflects a pursuit of deeper integration in essential sectors of the contemporary economy. At the same time, Brazil's action in the World Trade Organization against tariffs imposed by the United States demonstrates the defense of multilateral rules and the use of institutional mechanisms to balance asymmetric relations. In addition, investments in infrastructure, renewable energy, water security, digital transformation, and international health cooperation reinforce long-term national capacity building.

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

Economy, Trade and Investment

- [China, Paraguay, and Palau](#) have announced the opening of their markets to new Brazilian products. China authorized the import of bovine gallstones through a health protocol. Paraguay has approved the health certificate for the export of live pigs destined for slaughter. Palau approved certificates for beef, lamb, goat, and pork, expanding opportunities for Brazilian agribusiness.

Why is this important? The decision expands markets for Brazilian agribusiness, diversifies export destinations, strengthens the country's commercial insertion, and reduces dependence on traditional buyers.

- The Brazilian government enacted the [Mercosur-Singapore Free Trade Agreement](#), effective as of August 1. The MDIC has made available on the Siscomex Portal manuals on rules of origin, tariff relief, and operational procedures, as well as commercial data panels. The agreement facilitates preferential access to the Singaporean market and guides companies in using commercial benefits.

Why is this important? The agreement expands access to the Asian market, reduces trade barriers, strengthens the competitiveness of Brazilian exports, and diversifies Mercosur's strategic partners in Asia.

- Until the fourth week of July, Brazilian exports grew 9.7%, reaching US\$ 27.59 billion, while imports advanced 7%, to US\$ 21.05 billion. The [trade surplus](#) reached US\$ 6.54 billion, up 19.4%. In the cumulative total from January to July, the balance reached US\$ 48.90 billion, driven by agribusiness and industry performance.

Why is this important? The result reinforces Brazil's external competitiveness, expands the trade surplus, strengthens external accounts, and sustains economic growth in a challenging international scenario.

- At the 239th meeting, [Gecex](#) approved trade defense measures, extended antidumping on PVC from China, changed import and export tariffs, approved requests for shortages in Mercosur, granted ex-tariffs, updated automotive rules, and incorporated the bloc's rules. The decisions cover industrial, chemical, railway, telecommunications, health, energy and agribusiness sectors, strengthening national competitiveness.

Why is this important? The decisions adjust tariffs, protect strategic sectors, reduce production costs, strengthen industrial chains, improve integration with Mercosur and increase the competitiveness of the Brazilian economy.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- The New Caged registered a positive balance of 145,161 [formal jobs](#) in June, totaling 921,645 jobs created in the first half of 2026. The stock of jobs reached 48 million jobs. Services led job generation, followed by agriculture, trade, industry, and construction. The average salary for admission rose to R\$ 2,404.34 in June.

Why is this important? The growth of formal employment strengthens income, consumption, and revenue, signals economic dynamism, and increases confidence in the recovery of the Brazilian labor market.

- ApexBrasil and MAPA launched the [1st Agro Brasil Outlook](#), bringing together the government, international experts, and industry representatives to analyze agribusiness trends and project the 2026/27 harvest. The event discussed food security, global trade, sustainability and geopolitics, consolidating Brazil as an international reference in market intelligence and strategic planning for future agri-food exports.

Why is this important? The forum strengthens strategic planning, increases the competitiveness of agribusiness, anticipates global trends, and reinforces Brazil's role in international food trade.

- [Brazil and South Korea](#) expand strategic partnership with a focus on trade, investments and technological innovation. A business forum in São Paulo brought together governments and companies to strengthen cooperation in energy, agribusiness, critical minerals, semiconductors and defense. Agreements expand bilateral opportunities and seek to diversify Brazilian markets amid global transformations. The US\$ 11 billion trade relationship has significant potential for future expansion.

Why is this important? It strengthens Brazil's international insertion, reduces trade dependencies, and connects the country to global technological chains, which are essential for innovation and sustainable national economic development.

- ABPA and ApexBrasil start participating in WOFEX 2026, in the [Philippines](#), promoting Brazilian animal proteins and expanding commercial opportunities for national agribusinesses. The action brings together companies in the sector in meetings with international buyers and strengthens brands such as Brazilian Chicken and Brazilian Pork. The Philippine market is becoming increasingly relevant for Brazilian meats, with increased chicken and pork exports, reinforcing diversification.

Why is this important? It expands markets for Brazilian agribusiness, reduces trade risks, and strengthens the international presence of national animal proteins within strategic food chains across Asia.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- GUILD Gem Laboratories' [Chinese expedition](#) visits Brazilian companies from the Precious Brazil project to learn about the gem production chain in Minas Gerais and Rio Grande do Norte. The initiative, conducted by IBGM and ApexBrasil, presents extraction, processing, and marketing processes, strengthening Brazil's image as a supplier of sustainable, traceable, and valued gemstones in the international market.

Why is this important? It brings Brazil closer to the Chinese market, adds value to national gems, and strengthens exports of sophisticated mineral products, expanding trade opportunities and international cooperation.

- ApexBrasil launched a study on trade and investments in [Angola](#), highlighting opportunities for Brazilian companies in sectors such as food, infrastructure, machinery and equipment. The African country has potential for growth, regional integration and a business-friendly environment. The survey identified 693 trade opportunities and reinforces Angola as a strategic destination for exports, investments and expansion of the Brazilian presence in Africa.

Why is this important? It strengthens Brazil's strategy of market diversification, expands its presence in Africa and creates opportunities for national companies in strategic sectors of economic development.

- [Brazilian inflation](#) slowed to 4.52% in the 12 months to July 2026, approaching the Central Bank's target and raising expectations of further Selic rate cuts. The IPCA-15 showed less pressure on prices, especially food, although services and the external environment still require caution. The Copom evaluates maintaining gradual monetary easing amid improving inflation indicators.

Why is this important? The reduction in inflation creates room for lower interest rates, favoring investments, credit, and economic activity, but requires balance to preserve stability and future expectations.

Energy and Infrastructure

- The National Water Agency held a workshop on water security in preparation for the [3rd UN Water Conference](#), scheduled for December 2026. The meeting brought together experts and institutions to discuss integrated management of water resources, climate adaptation, basin revitalization, and social participation. The proposals will contribute to the National Water Resources Plan 2022–2040.

Why is this important? It strengthens water governance, prepares Brazil for climate challenges, and promotes sustainable strategies to ensure water security and future development.

Energy and Infrastructure

- [Infrastructure debentures](#) allow companies to raise private funds to finance priority projects in ports, airports, waterways, and support facilities. Created by Law 14,801/2024, they offer tax incentives to issuers and investors, reducing financing costs. The mechanism seeks to expand investment, modernize Brazilian infrastructure, and stimulate the financial market's participation in large strategic projects.

Why is this important? It expands sources of financing, reduces dependence on public resources, and accelerates investments in infrastructure, which is essential for economic competitiveness, logistics, and national development.

- The Ministry of Ports and Airports and BNDES released R\$ 8 billion in credit to Brazilian airlines through the [National Civil Aviation Fund](#). The resources will support Azul, Abaeté, Gol and Latam, strengthening operations, jobs and air connectivity. In addition, R\$ 5.56 billion was approved for long-term investments in aircraft, sustainable fuel and infrastructure.

Why is this important? It strengthens Brazilian civil aviation, expands national connectivity, preserves jobs, and stimulates strategic investments in the sustainability, modernization, and competitiveness of the airline sector.

- Brazil will start the temporary [mandatory blending of 32% ethanol in gasoline](#), a measure announced by the National Agency of Petroleum, Natural Gas and Biofuels (ANP). The rule will have an initial duration of 180 days, and may be extended. The increase in the share of biofuels aims to expand the use of renewable sources, strengthen the sugar-energy sector, and reduce emissions.

Why is this important? It reinforces Brazil's leadership in biofuels, promotes energy transition, reduces dependence on fossil fuels, and stimulates a strategic production chain of the national economy.

Technology and Defense

- South Korean company [Innospace](#) has updated the launch schedule at the Alcântara Launch Center, predicting the maiden flight of the Sebit suborbital vehicle in August and the mission of the Hanbit-Nano launcher in November. The operation will enable testing of space technologies and the launch of the InnoSat-0 satellite into orbit. The initiative strengthens Brazil-Korea cooperation and expands Alcântara's strategic role.

Why is this important? It boosts the Brazilian space sector, attracts technological investments, strengthens international partnerships and positions Alcântara as a strategic platform for global commercial launches.

Human Rights

- The National Observatory of Human Rights ([ObservaDH](#)) provides a public platform with indicators, indices and information on human rights in Brazil. The environment brings together data from public databases through interactive panels and analytical narratives, enabling consultations by managers, researchers, students, and citizens. The tool addresses topics such as violence, social inclusion, diversity, public security, and protection of vulnerable groups.

Why is this important? It increases transparency, strengthens evidence-based public policy, and facilitates human rights monitoring, promoting more effective decision-making and social participation.

- The University of Brasilia hosted the III International Seminar Weaving Anti-Racist Networks, integrated with the [XIV Brazilian Congress of Black Researchers](#). The event brings together national and international researchers to discuss anti-racist education, affirmative action, intersectionality, social mobilizations, and global experiences. The program also addresses religious racism, legal assistance, and scientific production by black researchers, strengthening academic and social debates on racial equality.

Why is this important? It strengthens research on racial equality, expands international academic cooperation, and contributes to public policies to combat racism and promote social inclusion.

- Brazil is considering incorporating long-acting injectable PrEP into the SUS for [HIV prevention](#), with application every two months. Conitec will analyze the technology in August 2026. The measure expands combined prevention strategies, strengthens the Brazilian response to HIV, and complements actions already available, such as oral PrEP, tests, antiretroviral treatment, and specialized follow-up.

Why is this important? It expands access to HIV prevention, incorporates public health innovations, and strengthens the SUS as an international reference for care policies.

Tourism and Culture

- Brazil has opened a selection for 65 cultural and creative entrepreneurs to participate in [MICSUL 2026](#), in Asunción, Paraguay. The initiative seeks to strengthen the Brazilian creative economy, expand the internationalization of cultural goods and services, and promote business, training, and regional exchange. The event will bring together South American countries in activities such as business roundtables, mentoring, presentations and networking among professionals in the sector.

Why is this important? It expands the international insertion of the Brazilian creative economy, generates commercial opportunities, values cultural diversity and strengthens innovative sectors with potential for economic growth.

International Cooperation

- The Ministry of Education resumed the [Intercultural and Border Schools Program](#), expanding its reach to schools with immigrant, refugee and stateless students. The initiative promotes intercultural education, social inclusion, regional integration and appreciation of cultural diversity. It also strengthens teacher training and educational projects in border territories and migrant communities, contributing to ensuring equitable educational rights and opportunities.

Why is this important? It strengthens regional integration, reduces educational inequalities, and prepares Brazilian schools to welcome diverse populations, thereby promoting inclusion, cultural respect, and human rights.

- The Ministry of Health updated the guidelines for international technical cooperation and strengthened the partnership with [PAHO/WHO](#). The initiative expands articulation among institutions, Collaborating Centers, and the SUS, promoting innovation, knowledge management, and joint responses to health challenges. The Secretariat of Information and Digital Health was recognized as a Collaborating Center in digital transformation until 2030.

Why is this important? It strengthens Brazil's role in global health, expands international cooperation, promotes digital innovation in the SUS, and enables the sharing of Brazilian solutions to global health challenges.

Environment and Sustainability

- CONAREDD+ opened a selection process for representatives of civil society and the private sector in its plenary. The commission discusses the implementation of REDD+ mechanisms, which provide [financial incentives for results in reducing emissions](#) from deforestation and forest degradation. Six entities will be selected, including incumbents and alternates, with registration open until August 14.

Why is this important? Expanded participation strengthens environmental governance, increases transparency, and contributes to effective climate policies, encouraging forest conservation and reducing emissions.

- The federal government announced R\$ 1.3 billion in investments to reduce the impacts of [El Niño in Brazil](#). The measures include food stocks, climate monitoring, firefighting, Civil Defense actions, water security, and support for vulnerable populations. Advances in reducing deforestation, forest restoration, integration of the São Francisco River, and energy diversification were also highlighted.

Why is this important? Preparedness in the face of extreme weather events reduces vulnerabilities, protects affected populations, strengthens food, water, and energy security, promoting greater national resilience.

Diplomacy

- [Brazil and France](#) have begun lifting the requirement for short-stay visas for Brazilians in French Guiana, facilitating movement and strengthening cross-border cooperation. The measure represents progress in bilateral relations, especially considering the 730 km of shared border. In 2026, the countries will celebrate 30 years of the Framework Cooperation Agreement.

Why is this important? The measure expands regional integration, brings border communities closer together, and strengthens the Brazil-France strategic partnership in trade, mobility, cooperation, and sustainable development in the Amazon.

- The Brazilian government expressed [solidarity with Japan](#) after the earthquake that struck Kumamoto Prefecture on the island of Kyushu, causing casualties, injuries, and material damage. The Foreign Ministry monitors the situation through the Embassy in Tokyo and consulates general, maintaining contact with Japanese authorities and the Brazilian community. So far, there are no records of affected Brazilians.

Why is this important? It demonstrates Brazilian diplomatic action in international crises, protects citizens abroad, and reinforces ties of solidarity and cooperation with strategic partners.

- During South Korean President Lee Jae Myung's visit to Brasilia, [Brazil and South Korea](#) signed six agreements on cooperation in energy, education, industrial technology, sports, space, and critical minerals. The agreements expand the bilateral strategic partnership, strengthening areas considered essential for innovation, the energy transition, the security of production chains, and technological development between the two countries.

Why is this important? It deepens cooperation with a technological power, expands access to investments and knowledge, and positions Brazil in strategic global innovation chains.

- [Brazil and South Korea](#) have elevated their relations to the status of Strategic Partnership, establishing the 2026-2029 Action Plan. The joint declaration expands cooperation in trade, technology, energy, critical minerals, defense, space, health, and innovation. The countries seek to integrate production chains, strengthen investments, promote sustainable development, and deepen coordination on global issues such as multilateralism and international security.

Why is this important? It consolidates a strategic alliance with an Asian technological power, expanding investments, innovation, and Brazilian productive integration in essential sectors of the global economy.

Diplomacy

- The Brazilian government is following with concern the [forest fires](#) that affect European countries such as Spain, France, Greece, Italy and Portugal. Brazil expressed solidarity with the affected populations and reaffirmed its willingness to cooperate in actions to manage risks, protect the environment and combat climate change. The initiative reinforces the importance of international cooperation in the face of increasing extreme events.

Why is this important? It demonstrates Brazil's commitment to the global climate agenda, strengthens international environmental cooperation, and expands dialogue on prevention and response to extreme weather events.

- The Brazilian government condemned new [attacks by Israeli settlers](#) against Palestinian civilians in the West Bank, including deaths and injuries. Brazil highlighted Israel's obligations as an occupying power under international humanitarian law and called for accountability for the violent acts. He also criticized the expansion of settlements and warned that new military operations could aggravate regional tensions and hinder peace.

Why is this important? It reaffirms Brazil's commitment to international law, the protection of civilians, and the pursuit of diplomatic solutions to conflicts that affect global stability.

- Brazil has requested consultations with the United States at the [WTO](#) regarding additional tariffs imposed under Section 301 of U.S. trade law. The Brazilian government questions the 25% and 12.5% surcharges, alleging they are incompatible with multilateral trade rules. The initiative seeks to use the WTO's dispute settlement system to defend Brazilian commercial interests and challenge measures considered unjustified.

Why is this important? It reinforces Brazil's defense of trade multilateralism, protects national exporters, and uses institutional mechanisms to resolve international economic disputes with legal certainty.

- [UNESCO](#) has included the Teatro Amazonas in Manaus and the Teatro da Paz in Belém on the World Heritage List as "Theaters of the Amazon". The decision recognizes the historical, architectural, and cultural value of these spaces, which are symbols of the economic and urban transformations of the Amazon region in the nineteenth century.

Why is this important? It values Amazonian culture, strengthens sustainable tourism, and expands international recognition of Brazilian heritage, promoting identity, preservation, and regional development.

Diplomacy

- President Lula confirmed that [Brazil denied visas to two U.S. officials](#), citing concerns about possible interference in Brazil's electoral process. The episode prompted a response from the US State Department, which classified the accusations as unfounded and said the visit would have an institutional character. The case increases diplomatic tensions between Brasilia and Washington in the pre-election period.

Why is this important? It highlights challenges in the Brazil-US relationship, including national sovereignty, external influence, and institutional protections during electoral periods, with significant diplomatic and political implications.

- According to a [Reuters analysis](#), Lula arrives at the PT convention with the Brazilian left more unified around his presidential candidacy, bringing together center-left parties. The coalition seeks to confront the advance of the right and extreme right, but shows doubts about the political succession after Lula. The absence of a consolidated heir represents a strategic challenge for the Brazilian progressive field.

Why is this important? It reveals Lula's centrality in Brazilian politics and the challenges of renewing the left, influencing alliances, electoral disputes, and future strategies.

- [Brazil will resume negotiations with the United States](#) in August to seek tariff reductions and to expand the list of products exempt from surcharges. Minister Márcio Elias Rosa criticized the US measures as unfair and highlighted the need for dialogue given the WTO's limitations. The government seeks to protect affected sectors and maintain trade defense mechanisms and economic sovereignty.

Why is this important? It demonstrates the Brazilian strategy of combining diplomatic negotiation and trade defense to reduce economic impacts, preserve jobs, and protect national strategic export sectors.

- Brazil has activated the [WTO's dispute settlement system](#) against new tariffs imposed by the United States on Brazilian products. The request for consultations represents the first formal step in the process, and challenges surcharges deemed incompatible with international trade rules. The move comes amid bilateral tensions involving trade, Brazilian elections and diplomatic relations between Brasilia and Washington.

Why is this important? It reinforces Brazil's defense of multilateral rules, seeks legal certainty for exporters, and demonstrates the use of international instruments in the face of trade disputes with major powers.

Diplomacy

- Brazil has not granted diplomatic approval to Donald Trump's nominee for [U.S. ambassador in Brasilia](#), increasing tensions between the two countries. The decision comes amid disputes involving trade tariffs, accusations of political interference and the proximity of Brazilian elections. The absence of a U.S. ambassador could further hamper bilateral dialogue in the coming months.

Why is this important? It highlights the deterioration in Brazil-US relations, affecting diplomatic channels, trade negotiations, and the capacity for cooperation between two large hemispheric democracies.

National Congress

- The Senate's Human Rights Commission will hold a debate on the [Gypsy Holocaust](#), also known as the Romani Holocaust, addressing historical memory, combating anti-Gypsyism, and preserving the victims of Nazism. The hearing highlights that hundreds of thousands of Roma were murdered during World War II and seeks to expand the recognition of this tragedy in Brazil and in public human rights policies.

Why is this important? It preserves the memory of victims of genocide, combats historical prejudices and strengthens human rights policies, inclusion and appreciation of Brazilian cultural diversity.

Over the last week, Brazil pursued an international strategy **to expand its relative influence** by strengthening domestic capabilities and diversifying external partnerships. Amid the ongoing reconfiguration of the international order, the country seeks **to reduce structural vulnerabilities** by combining diplomatic, economic, technological, and environmental assets, thereby increasing its capacity to negotiate and operate with greater autonomy within a **hierarchical global system**.

In this context, trade results reinforce Brazil's position as an important supplier in global food, energy, and strategic resource chains. Until the fourth week of July, exports totaled US\$27.59 billion, up 9.7%, while the accumulated trade surplus totaled US\$48.90 billion. Simultaneously, ApexBrasil's initiatives illustrate an internationalization strategy focused on expanding market access and strengthening commercial networks. New opportunities in China, Paraguay, and Palau; participation in WOFEX 2026 in the Philippines; the launch of Outlook Agro Brasil; and the mapping of 693 commercial opportunities in Angola demonstrate efforts to diversify external connections and **reduce dependence on traditional markets**.

Moreover, elevating relations with South Korea to a strategic partnership strengthens Brazil's presence in sectors such as semiconductors, critical minerals, energy, space, and technological innovation. This movement reflects an effort to move beyond a predominantly commodity-based role and gain greater participation in segments that shape technological standards, productive capacity, and long-term competitiveness.

However, these advances occur alongside deteriorating relations with the United States, the principal **pillar of the post-war international order**. Additional tariffs imposed by Washington prompted Brazil to activate the WTO dispute settlement mechanism, reaffirming its commitment to multilateral rules while challenging unilateral trade restrictions. At the same time, the dispute has taken on political dimensions amid **accusations of interference in domestic affairs during the Brazilian electoral process**.

In this environment, the continued delay in approving the new U.S. ambassador to Brasília reinforces perceptions of weakening bilateral dialogue. While intended to safeguard national sovereignty, this situation may also reduce diplomatic channels precisely when strategic communication is most necessary. Consequently, Brazil faces the challenge of maintaining constructive relations with established powers while expanding partnerships that enhance its strategic autonomy and bargaining power in an increasingly competitive international system.



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