



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

JUL / 13

Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

Over the last week, the Brazilian international agenda has been marked by the country's strengthening of its economic, technological, and diplomatic presence in a global scenario characterized by **geopolitical tensions**, trade disputes, and the search for new opportunities for cooperation. The period highlighted the Brazilian strategy of diversifying partners, expanding markets, and defending national interests.

In the economic field, the **International Monetary Fund** raised its projections for Brazilian growth, estimating GDP expansion at 2.4% in 2026 and 2.2% in 2027. The positive revision reinforces external confidence in the resilience of the Brazilian economy, while highlighting the importance of structural reforms to ensure competitiveness. At the same time, the progress of trade negotiations has gained relevance, especially with Uruguay's push for the rapid ratification of the **Mercosur-European Union agreement**, considered strategic amid the growing dispute over economic influence in South America.

At the same time, Brazil has adopted measures to mitigate the impacts of international instabilities. The Senate approved a **R\$ 15 billion credit** to support exporters and agribusiness sectors affected by trade barriers, while ApexBrasil's initiatives expanded market intelligence and identified opportunities for **Brazilian companies in Australia, the European Union, Africa, and Southeast Asia**. The opening of markets for agricultural products in Nigeria and Mauritania has strengthened the diversification of national exports.

In the area of science, technology and innovation, international cooperation remained a priority. The **BRICS-STI Framework Program** allocated R\$ 33 million to strategic projects in artificial intelligence, energy, health and climate change. In addition, Brazil and China have advanced in the development of CBERS 5, expanding the national capacity for environmental monitoring and strengthening the bilateral space partnership.

In the field of defense and security, the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas resulted in the **Cusco Declaration**, which consolidated regional commitments in cyberdefense, artificial intelligence, and the fight against transnational crime. The Brazil-US rapprochement in the area of security has strengthened bilateral dialogue, although sovereignty-related issues have generated internal political tensions.

Brazilian diplomacy also recorded multilateral advances, with the appointment of Mariângela Simão as **UN Special Rapporteur** on the right to health and with humanitarian actions coordinated by the UN in Venezuela. These initiatives have expanded the country's international projection and reinforced its role in global agendas.

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

Economy, Trade and Investment

- The [IMF](#) raised its projections for the Brazilian economy, estimating GDP growth of 2.4% in 2026 and 2.2% in 2027, above previous forecasts. Despite the positive revision, the Fund predicts a slowdown next year. The estimates exceed those of the government, the Central Bank, and the market, reflecting greater confidence in Brazil's economic performance amid resilience observed despite global uncertainties.

Why is this important? The IMF review reinforces international confidence in the Brazilian economy, favors investments and highlights the need for reforms to sustain growth and competitiveness.

- [Uruguayan Foreign Minister Mario Lubetkin](#) defended the rapid ratification of the Mercosur-European Union agreement, warning that further delays will expand Chinese influence in South America. According to him, Mercosur has fulfilled its part and intends to deepen partnerships with Europe, Canada, India, the United Arab Emirates, ASEAN, and Africa, while maintaining pragmatic relations with the United States and China.

Why is this important? The alert reinforces the geopolitical competition for influence in South America and highlights the strategic importance of the Mercosur-European Union agreement for Brazil.

- The Brazilian government has extended the [12% tax on crude oil exports](#) for 60 days, introduced during the war with Iran to contain inflationary impacts. Gecex will review the measure in 30 days while it evaluates international price behavior. The collection finances fuel subsidies, which are gradually reduced as international oil prices retreat.

Why is this important? The decision highlights how geopolitical crises influence Brazilian trade policy, affecting revenue, domestic prices, oil exports and predictability for international investors.

- The Senate approved a measure that establishes a [R\\$ 15 billion credit line](#) to support exporters and companies affected by US tariffs and geopolitical instability. The program expands access to financing for agribusiness, industry and cooperatives, through the operation of BNDES. Another measure allocates part of the collection from sports betting to the Federal Police Fund.

Why is this important? The measure strengthens Brazil's capacity to mitigate external impacts, preserve exports, expand productive investments and increase the resilience of the economy in the face of international shocks.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- ApexBrasil launched the [U.S. Tariff Dashboard](#) to help Brazilian exporters identify the impacts of U.S. trade measures and opportunities in alternative markets. The initiative integrates the strategy of trade diversification, market intelligence and the defense of interests in Washington. The objective is to reduce vulnerabilities, expand exports and strengthen Brazilian competitiveness in the face of international tariff restrictions.

Why is this important? The initiative strengthens the resilience of Brazilian exports, reduces trade dependencies and expands the company's capacity to respond quickly to changes in international trade.

- [Ethiopia](#) has recognized five health certificates for Brazilian animal recycling products intended for animal feed, expanding access to the African market. The opening is the result of the joint action of ApexBrasil, ABRA, MAPA and MRE, after a trade mission held in 2025. The measure strengthens exports, diversifies markets and expands the Brazilian presence in regional strategic African agribusiness.

Why is this important? The opening strengthens the insertion of Brazilian agribusiness in Africa, diversifies export markets and demonstrates the effectiveness of commercial diplomacy in international expansion.

- The Brazilian Beef project will participate, for the first time, in [Food & Drinks Malaysia](#) by SIAL, in Kuala Lumpur, strengthening the promotion of Brazilian beef in Southeast Asia. The initiative of Abiec and ApexBrasil seeks to expand business, diversify markets and bring exporters closer to regional buyers. Brazilian companies will present their products and hold commercial rounds during the international event.

Why is this important? The initiative expands the Brazilian presence in ASEAN, diversifies export destinations and strengthens the international competitiveness of the Brazilian beef chain.

- Think Plastic Brazil participated in a [trade mission to Venezuela](#), organized by Itamaraty and ApexBrasil, with the aim of identifying opportunities for the Brazilian plastics industry. The Venezuelan economic recovery, the Brazilian logistical advantages and the tariff preferences of the ACE-69 favor new business. The mission resulted in business contacts, requests for quotations and actions to expand exports to the Venezuelan market.

Why is this important? The mission strengthens Brazil's presence in Venezuela, expands export opportunities, and takes advantage of logistical and tariff advantages to boost new industrial businesses.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- ApexBrasil and the Ministry of Agriculture signed an ordinance that establishes official identity and quality standards for corn biorefinery co-products intended for animal feed. The measure strengthens the [corn ethanol chain](#), increases legal certainty, increases international confidence in Brazilian products and favors the opening of new markets for exports and investments.

Why is this important? The regulation strengthens the competitiveness of corn ethanol, expands commercial opportunities and reinforces the international credibility of Brazilian biofuels and their co-products.

- ApexBrasil has identified 324 export opportunities for Brazilian companies in [Australia](#) across the agribusiness, infrastructure, industry, and technology sectors. The study highlights tariff benefits, the potential of manufactured products and the growth of Australian investments in Brazil, especially in mining and the energy transition. The initiative seeks to expand bilateral trade and, strategically, diversify Brazilian exporters' export markets.

Why is this important? The study expands trade opportunities, strengthens market diversification and stimulates Australian investments in strategic sectors of the Brazilian economy, reducing dependence on imports.

- ApexBrasil presented a study that identified 805 export opportunities for companies from [Santa Catarina](#) under the Mercosur-European Union agreement. The survey highlights the manufacturing industry's potential, gains in competitiveness, tariff reductions, and expanded access to the European market. The initiative seeks to strengthen exports, investments, jobs, and Santa Catarina's international insertion.

Why is this important? The study highlights the economic potential of the Mercosur-European Union agreement, strengthening competitiveness, export diversification, and the international integration of Brazilian industry, especially in Santa Catarina.

- In the first week of July 2026, Brazil recorded a [trade surplus](#) of US\$ 2.273 billion, driven by exports of US\$ 5.891 billion. The daily average of exports grew by 40.6% compared to the same period in 2025, with emphasis on oil, beef, gold, cellulose, and industrial products, which significantly increased Brazil's international trade flows.

Why is this important? The performance reinforces the competitiveness of Brazilian exports, sustains the trade surplus and strengthens international confidence in the economy and in the national export sector.

Technology and Defense

- The MCTI and CNPq have extended, until July 13, the deadline for submitting projects to the [BRICS-STI Framework Program](#), aimed at scientific and technological cooperation between the countries of the bloc. The call provides R\$ 33 million for research in strategic areas, such as artificial intelligence, energy, health, biotechnology and climate change, strengthening international networks of innovation and scientific development.

Why is this important? The initiative expands Brazil's technological cooperation in the BRICS, strengthens national scientific capacities and positions the country in the strategic agendas of global innovation.

- [Brazil and China](#) are advancing in the development of CBERS 5, the first geostationary satellite of the bilateral partnership. The equipment will allow continuous monitoring of the Brazilian territory, providing meteorological and environmental data in real time. The project expands Brazil's space technology capacity, with the development of the platform in the country and the payload in China, strengthening long-term scientific and strategic cooperation.

Why is this important? The project expands Brazil's technological autonomy, strengthens space cooperation with China, and enhances climate, environmental, and strategic monitoring capabilities.

- The XVII Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas ended with the signing of the [CUSCO Declaration](#), which reaffirms regional commitments to peace, security, and hemispheric cooperation. Representatives from 34 countries discussed cyberdefense, artificial intelligence, climate change, humanitarian assistance, and border security. Brazil participated in bilateral meetings to expand military cooperation and strategic exchange.

Why is this important? The conference strengthens Brazil's insertion in regional defense mechanisms, expands strategic cooperation, and promotes joint responses to hemispheric security challenges.

- [Brazil and the United States](#) held a bilateral meeting during the XVII Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas to discuss cooperation in combating drug trafficking and enhancing regional security. U.S. Undersecretary Elbridge Colby highlighted interest in establishing partnerships across the continent, while Minister José Mucio highlighted Brazilian initiatives along the borders. The meeting reinforces the strategic dialogue between the two countries.

Why is this important? The rapprochement expands U.S.-Brazil cooperation in security, the fight against transnational crime, and regional defense, strengthening Brazil's role in the hemisphere.

Human Rights

- Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão, Secretary of Health and Environment Surveillance at the Ministry of Health, was appointed [UN Special Rapporteur](#) on the right to health during a session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. The nomination recognizes his trajectory in public health, health policies, and international cooperation. The mandate involves global monitoring, reporting, and issuing recommendations on access to health.

Why is this important? The appointment expands Brazil's presence in multilateral organizations, strengthens the global health agenda, and projects national expertise in public policies.

International Cooperation

- The Brazilian humanitarian mission in [Venezuela](#) has concluded after 15 days of coordinated UN action in response to the earthquake. National teams carried out 90 search-and-rescue operations and sent supplies, medical equipment, and water purifiers. A military field hospital performed more than 1,200 consultations. The operation strengthened international cooperation and Brazil's emergency response capacity.

Why is this important? The mission strengthens Brazil's international projection, demonstrates humanitarian capacity, expands regional cooperation, and consolidates Brazilian operations coordinated by the UN.

- [BRICS countries](#) approved the first ministerial declaration of the Women's Trail, during a meeting in Kochi, India. The document establishes guidelines for cooperation in gender equality, women's leadership, financial and digital inclusion, entrepreneurship, sustainability and food security. The initiative seeks to strengthen public policies, share good practices and expand the economic autonomy of women in the countries that are part of the bloc.

Why is this important? The declaration expands the BRICS social agenda, strengthens cooperation among member countries and positions gender equality as a strategic component of economic development.

- Brazil sent a new shipment of 4.9 tons of hospital supplies to [Venezuela](#) to support the humanitarian response after the earthquakes. The cargo brings together more than 363 thousand medical items, including surgical materials, medicines, and equipment. With this action, the total sent amounts to about 12 tons, in addition to 350 thousand vaccine doses, reinforcing international cooperation in emergency health.

Why is this important? The initiative strengthens Brazilian humanitarian diplomacy, expands regional cooperation, and demonstrates national capacity to mobilize resources for health crises and disasters.

Diplomacy

- The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mauro Vieira, warned the Chamber of Deputies about the risks of the United States classifying the [PCC and the Red Command](#) as terrorist organizations. According to Itamaraty, the measure could generate interpretations that affect Brazilian sovereignty and set precedents for external actions against the country, including justifications for the use of force.

Why is this important? The issue involves national sovereignty, regional security, and U.S.-Brazil relations, requiring diplomatic balance to combat transnational crime without compromising international principles.

- The [ambassador of Uzbekistan](#), Furkat Sidikov, presented credentials to President Lula and reaffirmed the interest of both countries in expanding bilateral relations. During his visit, agreements on trade, investments, fertilizers, geology, education, sports and the creation of institutional mechanisms were discussed. Brazil and Uzbekistan also highlighted cooperation in international organizations, such as the UN and BRICS.

Why is this important? The rapprochement expands Brazil's presence in Central Asia, diversifies economic partnerships, and strengthens diplomatic articulation in strategic multilateral forums.

- Senator [Flávio Bolsonaro](#) sought in Washington to postpone a potential 25% US tariff on Brazilian products until after the 2026 elections. The initiative comes amid accusations by the Lula government of foreign interference and internal political dispute. The tariffs, assessed under Section 301, are still subject to U.S. decisions and involve trade and diplomatic issues.

Why is this important? The episode connects Brazilian domestic politics, Brazil-US relations, and foreign trade, showing how electoral disputes can influence international diplomatic and economic negotiations.

- Brazilian physician Mariângela Simão has been appointed by the Human Rights Council as the [UN Special Rapporteur](#) on the right to health. The nomination recognizes her trajectory in public health and international cooperation, including her work at the WHO and UNAIDS. The mandate involves monitoring global health policies, developing recommendations, engaging in dialogue with States, and promoting the implementation of the universal right to health.

Why is this important? The appointment expands Brazil's international projection on the health agenda, strengthens health diplomacy, and values Brazilian experts in multilateral organizations.

Diplomacy

- [Nigeria and Mauritania](#) authorized new exports of Brazilian products of animal origin, expanding national agribusiness's access to African markets. Nigeria has opened its market to porcine semen and live pigs intended for breeding. Mauritania has approved the export of bovine semen, embryos, and oocytes. The measures result from the joint action of the MRE and MAPA.

Why is this important? The opening of markets strengthens Brazil's presence in Africa, diversifies agribusiness destinations, and expands commercial opportunities for producers and national companies.

- The Brazilian government condemned the terrorist attacks that took place in Damascus, [Syria](#), on July 2 and 7, 2026, which left dozens dead and dozens injured. In an official statement, Brazil repudiated acts of violence, expressed solidarity with the Syrian people and offered condolences to the families of the victims, reaffirming its commitment to international peace and security.

Why is this important? The position reinforces Brazil's diplomatic efforts against terrorism, upholds humanitarian principles, and demonstrates alignment with international efforts to promote stability in the Middle East.

National Congress

- The Senate is analyzing MP 1,344/2026, which authorizes an extraordinary [credit of R\\$ 10 billion to subsidize diesel prices](#) until December 2026. The measure seeks to reduce the impacts of the high oil price resulting from the war in the Middle East. The resources will be managed by the ANP to reimburse producers and importers, complementing the emergency subsidies already adopted by the government.

Why is this important? The measure protects consumers and productive sectors against external energy shocks, but increases public spending and highlights Brazilian vulnerabilities in the face of geopolitical crises.

- The Senate approved the [2017 Film Co-production Agreement](#) between Brazil and China, which allows jointly produced films to be recognized as national works in both markets. The measure facilitates access to incentives, reduces bureaucratic barriers, promotes cultural and economic exchange, and expands opportunities for Brazilian production companies in the Chinese audiovisual market, one of the world's largest.

Why is this important? The agreement strengthens Brazilian cultural diplomacy, expands access to the Chinese market, stimulates investment in the audiovisual sector, and diversifies instruments of bilateral strategic cooperation.

National Congress

- The Senate approved credit of up to [R\\$ 15 billion to support exporters and agribusiness sectors](#) affected by international tariffs and external instabilities. The measure uses guarantees from the Export Guarantee Fund and expands beneficiaries to include agriculture, livestock, fishing, aquaculture, mining, and cooperatives and associations. The resources will finance working capital, equipment, innovation and adaptation to international requirements.

Why is this important? The initiative reduces the impact of trade barriers, protects Brazilian competitiveness, and strengthens strategic sectors amid regulatory changes and global geopolitical tensions.

- The [Senate authorized foreign loans](#), guaranteed by the Union, to the government of Piauí and the municipality of Cabo de Santo Agostinho. Piauí will contract US\$ 50 million with the IDB for the Piauí Mais Digital program. Cabo de Santo Agostinho will receive US\$ 96 million from CAF for urban infrastructure, including mobility, drainage, public spaces, and administrative modernization.

Why is this important? The financing expands cooperation with multilateral banks, supports regional development, public modernization, and infrastructure investments with economic and social impact.

- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved an invitation for Minister Mauro Vieira to clarify a statement regarding potential risks arising from the possible classification of the [PCC and the Red Command](#) as terrorist organizations by the United States. The request, presented by Senator Hamilton Mourão, questions the grounds for asserting possible U.S. military action in Brazil and highlights the relevance of the bilateral relationship.

Why is this important? The debate involves national sovereignty, Brazil-US relations, and international security, and highlights the role of Congress in monitoring Brazilian foreign policy.

- The Senate's Committee on Economic Affairs approved authorization for Brazil to contract up to US\$500 million with the [New Development Bank](#), intended for regional development. The funds will support infrastructure, innovation, energy transition, and productive projects in the North, Northeast, and Midwest, including low-carbon hydrogen, railways, carbon capture, and energy security.

Why is it important? It reinforces the role of the BRICS Bank in financing Brazilian development and expands investment alternatives in sustainable infrastructure and energy transition.

National Congress

- The Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies approved the summons of Minister Mauro Vieira to clarify Brazil's position regarding the United States' classification of Brazilian criminal factions as terrorist organizations. The minister is also expected to explain statements about a possible [U.S. military intervention in Brazil](#) and detail diplomatic communications with U.S. officials.

Why is it important? It expands legislative control over foreign policy and highlights tensions between international cooperation against organized crime and the defense of national sovereignty.

- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved an invitation for Minister Mauro Vieira to clarify a statement regarding potential risks arising from the possible classification of the PCC and the Red Command as [terrorist organizations](#) by the United States. The request, presented by Senator Hamilton Mourão, questions the grounds for asserting possible U.S. military action in Brazil and highlights the relevance of the bilateral relationship.

Why is this important? The debate involves national sovereignty, Brazil-US relations, and international security, and highlights the role of Congress in monitoring Brazilian foreign policy.

- The House Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee approved the [Brazil-Vietnam agreement](#) on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information, signed in 2025. The instrument establishes rules for the protection, transmission and access to sensitive data shared between countries. The measure follows the progress of diplomatic, commercial and strategic relations between Brasilia and Hanoi.

Why is it important? It strengthens institutional trust between Brazil and Vietnam, creating legal certainty to expand bilateral strategic, commercial, technological and diplomatic cooperation.

- The Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies approved a request for information from Minister Mauro Vieira on the creation of the National Council for Brazilian Foreign Policy ([CONPEB](#)). Announced as a mechanism for social participation in the formulation of foreign policy, the body has generated criticism from parliamentarians who question possible impacts on the autonomy of Itamaraty and the diplomatic career.

Why is it important? The debate highlights institutional disputes over the governance of Brazilian foreign policy, social participation, and the preservation of the traditional role of professional diplomacy.

The events of the last week show that Brazil's international insertion takes place in an environment marked by the dispute between different forms of power. Thus, it is observed that the country continues to seek to expand its relative power through trade, market diversification, technological cooperation, and participation in multilateral institutions. However, it faces established power structures in the financial, technological, and security fields, in which the United States, China, and international organizations exert decisive influence.

In the economic field, the IMF's upward revision of Brazil's growth, the trade opportunities identified by ApexBrasil, and advances in agreements with partners such as the European Union, Africa, and Asia demonstrate a strategy to reduce external vulnerabilities. This dynamic dialogues with the concept of structural power, according to which influencing rules, markets, and international standards is as relevant as controlling resources. In this context, the Brazilian trade diversification strategy represents an attempt to expand the country's autonomy in the global economic hierarchy.

However, the conjuncture reveals structural limitations. Dependence on foreign markets, exposure to U.S. tariffs, and the impacts of energy crises demonstrate how Brazil remains inserted in a world system marked by asymmetric relations and structural dependencies. In this capitalist world-economy, in which we are inserted, semi-peripheral countries have the capacity to influence, but face restrictions imposed by the centers of economic and technological power.

In the strategic field, cooperation with China, the United States, and BRICS reflects a foreign policy of balance and pragmatism. The development of the CBERS 5 satellite, the investments of the New Development Bank, and the debates on hemispheric security demonstrate that technology, infrastructure, and defense are central dimensions of international competition. Thus, it is necessary to understand the United States' persistent role in defining security agendas.

Finally, the tensions involving the classification of Brazilian criminal organizations as terrorists by the United States, a subject that has been exhaustively debated in the National Congress, reveal the asymmetry between national sovereignty and international security structures. The episode demonstrates that cooperation against transnational threats occurs within an order still influenced by U.S. strategic primacy.

Thus, the Brazilian international agenda combines the expansion of capabilities with adaptation to global power structures. The central challenge of Brazilian foreign policy has been to transform economic, diplomatic, and technological advantages into strategic autonomy, expanding its influence without ignoring the limits imposed by the international order.



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