



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

MAY / 18

Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

Over the past week, the Brazilian economic and diplomatic agenda has revealed a simultaneous strategy of trade expansion, market diversification, and institutional strengthening, despite persistent external tensions and regulatory challenges. Agribusiness remained the main export vector, registering US\$ 16.65 billion in exports in April 2026, a 11.7% increase over April 2025, representing 48.8% of Brazilian foreign sales. China, the European Union, and the United States consolidated as the main destinations, while the accumulated trade balance reached US\$ 27.5 billion for the year.

ApexBrasil has taken a central role in the internationalization of Brazilian business. The agency expanded trade missions, supported the record 82-company participation at SIAL Shanghai 2026, with an estimated US\$ 3.3 billion in business, and strengthened the industrial, furniture, coffee, pet, civil construction, and oil and gas sectors. The US\$ 605.9 million in business handled by Brazilian companies at OTC 2026 in Houston, and the US\$ 122 million projected by the coffee mission in the United States, stood out. At the same time, Apex launched a study identifying 385 export opportunities for China, despite Brazil's high reliance on commodities in bilateral trade, which reached US\$ 170.9 billion in 2025.

On the diplomatic level, the rapprochement with China has become strategically important. Reciprocal visa waiver agreements, ministerial missions, technology memoranda, and cultural agendas indicated deepening bilateral relations in trade, tourism, education, artificial intelligence, and industrial investments. At the same time, Brazil sought to expand its presence in multilateral forums, such as BRICS, the OECD, and international migration debates, reinforcing a diplomacy guided by South-South cooperation, food security, energy transition, and global governance.

At the National Congress, the international agenda reflected growing concern about security, trade and economic sovereignty. Parliamentarians defended bilateral agreements, criticized European health barriers and debated toughening policy against transnational crime. The discussions revealed divergences on Mercosur, trade integration and economic protection, highlighting tensions among international openness, agricultural interests and Brazil's strategic repositioning amid contemporary geopolitical disputes.

Initiatives related to the energy transition, critical minerals, semiconductors and the regulated carbon market also advanced, aligning with the New PAC and the New Industry Brazil. However, Brazilian responses to the health restrictions imposed by the European Union have highlighted persistent vulnerabilities in national export chains, reinforcing the need for technological aggregation, diplomatic coordination and long-term trade diversification.

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

Economy, Trade and Investment

- In April 2026, [Brazilian agribusiness](#) exported US\$ 16.65 billion, an all-time monthly record, up 11.7% from 2025. The sector accounted for 48.8% of national exports and accumulated US\$ 54.6 billion over the four-month period. China, the European Union, and the United States were the top destinations. Soybeans, beef, cellulose, and cotton drove historic results, strengthening the Brazilian trade surplus.
- Minister André de Paula, alongside President Lula, visited [Fafen-BA](#) in Camaçari after operations at the factory resumed in January 2026. With an investment of R\$ 100 million, the unit resumed production at 1,300 tons of urea per day, meeting about 5% of national demand. The reactivation also created direct and indirect local jobs.
- The Brazilian government has concluded [negotiations](#) to export new animal products to Canada and Chile. Canada has approved the import of porcine pancreas for the pharmaceutical industry, and Chile has authorized the entry of Brazilian sheep and goat embryos. With these announcements, agribusiness has secured 612 market openings since 2023, as a result of the joint action of Mapa and MRE.
- The Brazilian government reacted to the European Union's decision to remove Brazil from the list of countries authorized to export [products of animal origin](#) for human consumption, effective September 2026. Exports continue normally. Brasilia announced measures to reverse the decision and maintain trade with the European market, highlighting the quality of the Brazilian health system and its position.
- Brazil concluded sanitary and phytosanitary negotiations to export new products to the [Eurasian Economic Union](#), Peru, and Togo. The Eurasian bloc authorized shipments of corn DDGs; Peru opened the market to potato pollen; and Togo allowed exports of reproductive horses. With these announcements, Brazilian agribusiness has achieved 609 market openings since 2023, as a result of the joint action of Mapa and MRE.
- The Brazilian government reacted with surprise to the European Union's decision to remove Brazil from the list of countries authorized to export [products of animal origin](#) for human consumption, effective September 2026. Exports continue normally as Brazilian authorities seek to reverse the measure with the European bloc. Brazil stood out for its internationally recognized sanitary system and for leading exports in the sector.
- Brazil registered the first operations under the Mercosur-European Union Agreement's [tariff quotas](#), including exports of beef, poultry, and cachaça, as well as imports of European chocolates, tomatoes, and cheeses. The agreement reduced tariffs and expanded preferential market access. The Siscomex Single Portal began operating fully to process the licenses linked to the planned tariff quotas.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- In the first week of May 2026, the Brazilian [trade flow](#) totaled US\$ 15.4 billion, with a trade surplus of US\$ 2.7 billion. Exports totaled US\$ 9 billion, and imports totaled US\$ 6.3 billion. On an annual cumulative basis, the positive balance reached US\$ 27.5 billion. Agriculture and manufacturing led export growth, while industrial imports also advanced significantly.
- At a forum in New York, Secretary Débora Freire highlighted the tax reform on consumption and the permanent review of public spending as [pillars of Brazilian economic policy](#). According to her, the measures strengthen productivity, growth, and fiscal balance. Freire also cited economic growth, falling unemployment, and greater resilience in the face of geopolitical crises, supported by Brazil's position as an oil exporter.
- At an event in New York, Débora Freire said that Brazil is experiencing a favorable moment for investment, supported by solid macroeconomic fundamentals, economic growth, lower unemployment, and controlled inflation. The secretary highlighted fiscal advances, the ongoing review of public spending, and stronger collection. He also highlighted compliance with the new fiscal framework and the Brazilian economy's resilience in the face of the current [global economic crisis](#).
- [FEIMEC 2026](#), held in São Paulo, increased the international visibility of the Brazilian machinery and equipment industry through the Image Project by ABIMAQ and ApexBrasil. Latin American journalists accompanied companies, experts, and technologies at the fair. The event brought together 1,100 brands and 70,000 visitors, highlighting industrial innovation, business internationalization, and the growth of Brazilian exports in the sector globally in 2025.
- Brazilian companies supported by Brazil Machinery Solutions recorded US\$ 605.9 million at [OTC 2026 in Houston](#), including closed contracts and projections for the next 12 months. The thirty participants made 1,323 commercial contacts with buyers from 24 countries, strengthening Brazil's presence in the global oil and gas chain. The event highlighted industrial solutions, automation, engineering, logistics, and offshore technologies.
- ApexBrasil has opened registration for the [Brazilian Handicraft Export Journey](#) – Paris 2026, a trade mission aimed at internationalizing Brazilian micro, small, and medium-sized companies. Up to twenty participants from the handicrafts, fashion, and decoration sectors will be selected. The initiative includes training, technical visits, and business rounds in Paris, strengthening exports, Brazilian cultural identity, and access to strategic and relevant global markets.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- Embaquitm stood out at [Think Plastic Brazil](#) with innovative, sustainable packaging solutions, including Bag on Farm and Endurit Bag-in-Box. These technologies have reduced logistics costs, waste, and environmental impacts while increasing operational efficiency in agribusiness and civil construction. The company has recently won four awards, strengthening Brazil's international competitiveness in technology for sustainable and innovative packaging.
- Brazil stood out at the [Milan Furniture Show 2026](#), with more than 70 brands exhibiting through the Brazilian Furniture project, promoted by ABIMÓVEL and ApexBrasil. The country presented design, sustainability, innovation, and cultural identity to the international audience. The event brought together 316,000 visitors from 167 countries, consolidating Brazil as a major global player in the international contemporary furniture industry.
- A Brazilian delegation, composed of 35 companies, participated in the trade mission and the [World of Coffee fair in the United States](#), making 1,209 business contacts. The initiative, promoted by BSCA and ApexBrasil, generated US\$ 66 million immediately and a projection of US\$ 122 million for the future. The project "Brazil. The Coffee Nation" strengthened exports, international connections, and the global visibility of sustainable Brazilian specialty coffees.
- [The Embassy of Brazil in Washington](#) hosted the first international action in support of KBIS 2027, bringing together American architects, designers, and entrepreneurs to promote Brazilian natural stones. Organized by Centrorochas and ApexBrasil, the event reinforced business diplomacy after tariff tensions in 2025. The program included a sectoral presentation, networking, and a raffle for a technical visit to Cachoeiro Stone Fair 2026, in Espírito Santo.
- ApexBrasil launched a [study on trade and investment with China](#), Brazil's main trading partner, identifying 385 export opportunities and opportunities for diversifying the national agenda. The report highlighted US\$170.9 billion in bilateral trade in 2025, the strong concentration in commodities, and the expansion of Chinese investments in Brazil. The survey also pointed out opportunities in the industrial, technological, and pharmaceutical sectors, as well as in differentiated agricultural products.
- ApexBrasil's [Brazil Export Platform](#) has opened 30 vacancies for service providers specialized in events, fairs, and international missions. The free registration aims to integrate suppliers into the Brazilian foreign trade ecosystem, expanding commercial opportunities and global partnerships. The initiative brings together ApexBrasil, Sebrae, CNI, CNA, MDIC, and MRE to strengthen the internationalization of Brazilian companies through specialized, connected solutions.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- Brazil participates in [SIAL Shanghai 2026](#) with a record delegation of 82 companies and an expected business volume of US\$ 3.3 billion. ApexBrasil will expand its Brazilian presence in the Chinese market with diversified food products and the debut of the Cooperate to Export program in China. The project will promote family farming cooperatives and bring to market coffee, fruits, honey, wines, and products from Brazilian socio-biodiversity.
- ApexBrasil will hold, in São Paulo, the Construction edition of [Exporta Mais Brasil](#), connecting 32 Brazilian companies to international buyers from the United States, the Middle East, Africa, and South America. The program will include seminars, business roundtables, technical visits, and participation in ENIC. Companies from six states will present products related to civil construction, expanding commercial opportunities and internationalization of the Brazilian sector.
- ApexBrasil will support the record number of 66 Brazilian companies participating in Interzoo 2026, the largest global fair in the pet sector, to be held in [Germany](#). The event will highlight innovation, sustainability, and the application of artificial intelligence to animal care. The Brazilian delegation will bring together food, hygiene, health, and pet technology companies, reinforcing Brazil's role in a global market that moved US\$ 207 billion in 2025.
- ApexBrasil carried out an [official mission to China](#) between May 14 and 22, reinforcing bilateral trade relations and investments. The delegation participated in SIAL China 2026 with a record 82 Brazilian companies and the expectation of business worth US\$ 3.3 billion. The agenda included institutional agreements, the promotion of family farming, business roundtables, and actions to expand high-value Brazilian exports.
- ApexBrasil's new [Executive Board](#) presented the management's priorities, highlighting the Mercosur-European Union agreement, critical minerals, the energy transition, and the next editions of Exporta Mais Brasil. President Laudemir Muller also addressed internal reorganization, structural improvements, and the attraction of investments. Director Maria Paula Velloso highlighted administrative continuity and the strengthening of Brazilian exports, cooperatives, rural producers, and national companies in the international market.
- Between May 17 and 21, ApexBrasil will hold the edition of Exporta Mais Brasil during the [APAS SHOW 2026](#), in São Paulo. The program brought together 35 buyers from 22 countries and more than 100 Brazilian companies from the food and retail sectors. The agenda included business roundtables, technical visits, and the Vice President Geraldo Alckmin's participation in the inauguration of the official Brazilian pavilion.

Economy, Trade and Investment

- Brazil stood out at the [8th Coffeex Istanbul](#), held in Turkey between May 8 and 10, by showcasing specialty coffees, traceability, sustainability, and quality control. The participation resulted from a partnership between the Consulate General in Istanbul and Mapa, strengthening trade relations, promoting national producers, and expanding the Brazilian strategy of market diversification for coffees with higher international added value.

Energy and Infrastructure

- The Federal Government published a provisional measure authorizing economic subsidies to fuel producers and importers to mitigate the impacts of the international rise in oil prices resulting from the [conflict in the Middle East](#). The measure sought to stabilize prices, preserve purchasing power, and reduce inflationary effects. The government maintained a partial exemption on gasoline and diesel, providing for inspection for two months and fiscal neutrality
- The [Extraordinary Secretariat for the Carbon Market](#) held a technical workshop on monitoring, reporting, and verification of emissions in the steel sector, in which the regulation of the Brazilian Emissions Trading System was discussed. The meeting addressed the transparency, competitiveness, decarbonization, and integrity of the regulated carbon market. The government highlighted public consultations, sectoral participation, the creation of official credits, and economic incentives to reduce industrial emissions.
- The Ministry of Mines and Energy participated in a technical visit to the MagBras project in Lagoa Santa (MG), aimed at the national development of [rare-earth](#) permanent magnets. The initiative seeks to strengthen the chain of strategic minerals, expand technological autonomy, and support sectors such as electric mobility, clean energy, defense, and electronics. The project also aims to add value and increase global competitiveness.
- The Ministry of Mines and Energy participated in a [World Bank](#) session on energy transition and highlighted Brazil's electricity matrix, which is composed of about 90% renewable sources. The meeting discussed low-carbon hydrogen, offshore energy, green reindustrialization, and the National Energy Transition Plan. The Gás do Povo program was also presented as a Brazilian example of combating energy poverty.

Energy and Infrastructure

- The Ministry of Mines and Energy participated in the “[Mining 360°](#)” seminar, highlighting Brazil’s potential for critical minerals in the energy transition. The event covered innovation, sustainability, mineral processing, and operational safety. Representatives advocated strengthening national production chains, increasing investment, and consolidating the National Policy on Critical and Strategic Minerals to enhance competitiveness, mineral sovereignty, job creation, and sustainable technological development.
- Brazil consolidated three airports among the ten busiest in Latin America in 2025: [Guarulhos, Congonhas, and Galeão](#). The growth reflected public and private investments in airport infrastructure, modernization, and operational expansion. Guarulhos led the regional ranking, while Galeão recorded a strong increase in passenger traffic. Brazilian air transport also advanced, driven by growth in domestic and international travel.
- President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva visited Fafen-BA, which was reactivated in January 2026 to expand national production of [nitrogen fertilizers](#). With an investment of R\$ 100 million, the plant will produce 1,300 tons of urea per day. The government highlighted reduced external dependence, food security, job creation, and strengthened industry. The resumption is part of the national New PAC’s strategic investments.

Technology and Defense

- The Institutional Security Office conducted [Emergency and Nuclear Physical Security](#) training for CNAGEN members at the Planalto Palace. The exercise evaluated institutional coordination, emergency procedures, and strategic advisory capacity. Federal agencies related to nuclear safety, health, defense, intelligence, and the environment participated. The GSI coordinates Sipron, which is responsible for protecting nuclear facilities, workers, the population, and Brazilian ecosystems.
- On Friday (5/8), it marked 20 years since the creation of the GSI’s information security area, which began with the DSIC and later became the Information and [Cyber Security Secretariat](#). Over the period, the unit established federal standards, created CTIR Gov, strengthened security accreditation, and coordinated national policies for cybersecurity, digital modernization, protection of critical infrastructures, and response to cyber incidents.
- The MCTI hosted negotiations between Ceitec and [China’s Global Power Technology](#) for semiconductor production in Brazil. Ministers Luciana Santos and Esther Dweck highlighted the partnership’s strategic potential for technology transfer, industry strengthening, and digital sovereignty. The agreement, still under preparation, sought to expand national capacities in chips, a sector considered a priority by the New Industry Brazil policy by 2033.

Technology and Defense

- The MCTI launched the Innovation [Working Group for the Mineral Sector](#), tasked with preparing the Inova+Mineral program. The initiative aims to strengthen research, industrialization, and technological sovereignty in strategic minerals. The government has prioritized value addition, the energy transition, and sustainable innovation. The group, comprising scientific institutions, should present a national proposal to expand Brazil's technological, productive, and industrial capacities in the mineral sector.
- In 2027, Brazil will host the [23rd International Symposium of the International Military Sports Council](#), following an agreement signed between the Ministry of Defense and CISM. The event will address physical performance, sports science, and combatant health. The decision reinforced the international projection of Brazilian military sports, expanding cooperation, technical exchange, and preparation for the 2027 Military World Games.

Human Rights

- An action based on the [Hague Convention](#) led to an agreement ratified by the Federal Court of Rio Grande do Sul, allowing a child to remain in Brazil with his mother. The AGU participated in the negotiations and formally agreed to the consensus. The American father authorized his daughter's stay in the country, ending the unlawful retention and extinguishing the international restitution lawsuit filed by the Union.
- Law 15.120/2026 was published, establishing the [National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Covid-19](#), to be celebrated on May 12. The measure honored more than 700 thousand deaths from the pandemic and reinforced policies of memory, truth, and combating denialism. The ceremony featured an artistic installation in Planalto and highlighted the importance of SUS, science, vaccination, and collective human dignity.
- The Ministry of Human Rights published a note from CONATAE warning that fraudulent "pejotization" could hinder the prevention and repression of [contemporary slave labor](#). The document criticized interpretations of Topic 1389 in the STF regarding employment relationships, highlighting the risks of job insecurity and the concealment of formal relationships. The commission highlighted the direct impacts on employers' accountability and on the protection of Brazilian workers.
- Brazil returned to the international debate on migration at the [II International Migration Review Forum in New York](#), with federal ministries participating. The country has made progress in migration governance and in the reception and protection of migrants, refugees, and stateless persons. It also announced 11 commitments aimed at social inclusion, combating xenophobia, strengthening international cooperation, combating human trafficking, and strengthening regional institutions.

Human Rights

- The Ministry of Women released a report on Brazilian participation in [CSW70](#), held in March 2026 in New York. The delegation, with more than 250 members, participated in debates on gender equality, access to justice, and combating violence. Minister Márcia Lopes participated in multilateral agendas and bilateral meetings. Brazil also promoted events on digital violence and female empowerment.
- During the visit to Roraima, Minister Luiz Marinho accompanied actions of Operation Shelter aimed at [Venezuelan migrants](#), visited shelters, and signed a protocol with the UNHCR to expand professional training and labor inclusion for refugees. The agreement provided for technical support, labor intermediation, and articulation among the government, the private sector, and international organizations, strengthening migration policies and economic opportunities in the country.
- The second edition of the course “[Media Education for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights and Diversities](#)” brought together 14,169 participants, validated 7,778 enrollments, and approved 6,528 participants across 1,604 Brazilian municipalities. Promoted by UFU, MEC, Secom, and UnB, the training addressed human rights, diversity, disinformation, and media education, strengthening critical, inclusive, and democratic pedagogical practices across various professional areas nationwide.

Tourism and Culture

- MinC and Ancine issued a public [call for Brazil-Portugal 2026 co-productions](#), aimed at independent production of fiction features, documentaries, and animations. The Audiovisual Sector Fund allocated about R\$ 2 million to the projects. Minority Brazilian producers were able to participate. In Portugal, the ICA launched a parallel selection worth 350 thousand euros, with registrations expected between June and September.
- The Ministry of Culture participated in the panel “[Arts for Peace in Ibero-America](#)” at a congress on art education in Bogotá. Márcio Tavares defended culture and the arts as instruments for confronting violence, advancing social inclusion, and strengthening democracy. Regional representatives highlighted artistic education, cultural mediation in schools, the occupation of public spaces, and continuous investment as strategies for building lasting peace.
- The [Caxambu do Horizonte Group](#) has consolidated itself as an Afro-Brazilian cultural reference by preserving ancestral traditions, strengthening community bonds, and forming new generations in Espírito Santo. Recognized as a Culture Point in 2024, the group participated in the 6th National Web in Aracruz, promoting circles, anti-racist debates, and the oral transmission of knowledge. Its activities annually brought together hundreds of participants from different communities in Espírito Santo.

Tourism and Culture

- The [Ministry of Tourism and UNESCO](#) have issued a public notice to hire a specialized consultancy to strengthen tourism management at Brazilian sites recognized as World Heritage Sites. The initiative provides for the preparation of manuals, technical tools, and a distance learning course to qualify public managers, increase sustainability, and standardize tourism plans. Brazil currently has 25 sites internationally recognized by UNESCO as of exceptional value worldwide.
- Ministers Gustavo Feliciano and Margareth Menezes discussed strategies to promote [Brazil in China](#) following the temporary visa waiver. The government sought to expand Chinese tourism, strengthen cultural exchanges, and promote national destinations through audiovisual media. Official data recorded significant growth in the number of Chinese visitors in 2025 and 2026. The Ministry of Tourism has accredited companies to receive Chinese visitors.

International Cooperation

- Minister André de Paula led an [official mission to China](#) from May 17 to 21 to strengthen Brazilian agricultural exports. The agenda included participation in SIAL China 2026, meetings with Chinese authorities, and business meetings in Shanghai and Beijing. Brazil participated in the fair with a record 82 companies, seeking to expand business, health cooperation, and strategic bilateral relations in agribusiness.
- Minister André de Paula carried out an [official mission to China](#) from May 17 to 21 to strengthen bilateral cooperation and advance health issues. The agenda included participation in SIAL China 2026, business meetings, and meetings with Chinese officials in Beijing. China, the main destination for Brazilian agribusiness, imported US\$ 55.3 billion from the sector in 2025, expanding markets for Brazilian products.
- [Peru](#) has approved the Brazilian model of the International Animal Health Certificate for Indian rhinos, paving the way for sanitary authorization to import these animals. The measure is part of a global conservation project coordinated by EAZA. Before boarding, there will be quarantine, exams, and veterinary inspection. The process was supported by the Brazilian agricultural attaché in Peru, strengthening health cooperation, biodiversity, and international conservation of the species.
- Brazil expanded international scientific cooperation by launching the [7th BRICS-STI Call for Applications](#), with R\$ 33 million allocated to joint research, development, and innovation projects. The initiative prioritizes strategic areas such as artificial intelligence, green hydrogen, energy, biotechnology, and digital security. Registration remains open until July 6, strengthening multilateral networks, Brazilian technological sovereignty, and global, integrated, sustainable innovation.

International Cooperation

- Minister Wellington Dias held strategic meetings in [Paris](#) to strengthen the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty and expand international cooperation on social protection, sustainable development, and food security. The agendas included the European Union, Ethiopia, the OECD, and Germany, with discussions on humanitarian emergencies, development financing, climate change, and the implementation of the Belém Declaration, adopted at the global COP30.
- Between May 11 and 13, MEC participated in the World Conference on Digital Education in [China](#) and signed memoranda on educational cooperation and the application of artificial intelligence in education. The agreements provide for scholarships for Brazilians, digital governance, and educational modernization. The delegation also conducted technical visits and inaugurated a Sino-Brazilian green aviation laboratory, strengthening academic exchange, innovation, and strategic bilateral research.
- The Ministry of Racial Equality participated in the Respice Similia international congress in [Colombia](#), strengthening South-South cooperation on racial equality policies. The event discussed common challenges facing indigenous peoples and Afro-descendant communities, as well as access to rights. The MIR presented advances in SDG 18 and the FIAR program, highlighting the international technical exchange to improve Brazilian public policies and promote inclusive and sustainable development.
- During the [2026 Unifronteiras Meeting](#), the MIDR presented the Development at Play dynamic, an interactive tool for debating regional development in border regions. The initiative brings together universities, students, and managers to collaborate on regional inequalities, sustainability, and public policies. The ministry also launched an award for border institutions to encourage integration, academic innovation, and strategic territorial cooperation.
- The Ministry of Justice participated in Mecodex 2026, a multilateral exercise in Brasilia with twenty American countries, where it presented the Respad project on integrated [disaster response](#). The initiative strengthened cooperation among security forces, civil defense, and international organizations, expanding interoperability, doctrinal standardization, and crisis management. The event highlighted Brazil's strategic role in continental coordination of complex emergencies.
- The Secretariat of International Affairs and Development of the Ministry of Planning hosted officials from the [Ethiopian Development Bank](#) for exchanges on development financing, government planning, and budget coordination. The technical visit included meetings with BNDES and the Ministry of Finance to strengthen institutional reforms, governance, risk management, and bankable project models, inspired by Brazil's experience in sustainable economic development.

International Cooperation

- The Ministry of Health reinforced Brazil's role at the [Ibero-American Health Conference](#) in Madrid by presenting initiatives to strengthen the SUS, improve access to medicines, advance mental health, enhance professional training, and improve the response to health emergencies. Brazil highlighted investments in national production of technologies, epidemiological surveillance, rare diseases, and international cooperation, consolidating its return to multilateral global health forums.
- In Paris, the Brazilian government defended greater international cooperation to combat hunger, poverty, and humanitarian emergencies. Wellington Dias participated in meetings of the OECD and the [Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty](#), discussing social protection, development financing, food security, and sustainability. Brazil also strengthened dialogues with the European Union, Ethiopia, and Germany on climate, social adaptation, and financial cooperation.

Environment and Sustainability

- The Federal Court of Santos upheld Ibama's requirement for laboratory testing for the release of [blue shark imports](#). The decision recognized the agency's authority to inspect fish that may be contaminated with heavy metals. Entities in the fishing sector challenged the measure, alleging commercial losses. The AGU argued that the requirement protects public health, the environment, and national sanitary control.
- The National Monetary Council has adjusted the environmental rules for [rural credit](#) to increase predictability and operational adequacy. The measure set new deadlines based on property size, added required environmental documentation, and established specific rules for settlements and traditional communities. The changes aim to ensure access to credit for regularized producers while reconciling agricultural financing, environmental control, and the gradual implementation of regulatory requirements.
- NOAA estimates an 82% chance of [El Niño](#) formation in the second half of 2026, but INPE considers it premature to predict its intensity given the climate transition season. The phenomenon can intensify extreme events associated with global warming, causing droughts in the North and Northeast, heavy rains in the South, and high temperatures in the Southeast. Climate models will gain more reliability in June.
- MDA presented Brazilian sustainable agroforestry initiatives at the United Nations Forum on Forests for family farming, indigenous peoples, and traditional communities. In partnership with [FAO](#), the ministry promoted the Global Productive Forest Initiative and the TERRA Plan, both aligned with COP30. The debate highlighted social inclusion, productive reforestation, cooperativism, youth, financing, and sustainable development on the global agenda.

Environment and Sustainability

- The Ministry of Finance presented financial instruments at the [2026 Brazil Solutions Summit](#) to boost green innovation and the low-carbon economy. The Eco Invest Brasil program mobilized R\$ 125 billion for sustainable projects, including innovative startups. The government highlighted articulation with the private sector, financing for ecological transformation, technological support, and alignment of the New Industry Brazil with sustainable, inclusive, and social development.
- The Ministry of the Environment held the [8th Meeting of the National Commission to Combat Desertification](#), bringing together government and civil society to discuss climate resilience, sustainable development, and adaptation in the semi-arid region. The meeting addressed preparations for the UNCCD COP17, integration between the bio-economy and the Climate Plan, and the Recaatingar program. The meeting marked the institutional strengthening of Brazilian environmental governance.
- The Ministry of the Environment launched the inaugural session of Indica Clima, a platform that will monitor the implementation of the [Climate Plan until 2035](#). The system will gather indicators on climate mitigation, adaptation, and governance, making data available through interactive dashboards for managers and society. Developed with support from the IDB and GIZ, the project seeks to strengthen transparency, continuous monitoring, and evidence-based decisions on climate change.
- The federal government launched a national panel to monitor pesticides in water resources, bringing together more than 10.4 thousand analyses of Brazilian watersheds. Developed by the [MMA and Embrapa](#), the platform enhances transparency, environmental risk assessment, and support for public policies. The initiative is part of PRO-NARA and aims to strengthen monitoring, inspection, and the protection of aquatic life, human health, and agricultural sustainability in the country.

Diplomacy

- On May 14 and 15, Minister Mauro Vieira participated in the [BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi](#), the first under the Indian presidency after Brazil's. The Chancellor took part in sessions on global and regional issues, innovation, sustainability, resilience, and global governance reform. The conclusions will be forwarded to the XVIII Summit of the bloc, scheduled for the following month.
- Minister Mauro Vieira concluded a [two-day visit to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan](#) to strengthen political dialogue and expand economic relations with Central Asia. In Astana and Tashkent, he met with authorities, business leaders, and local presidents, advocating greater imports of Brazilian fertilizers and closer alignment with the C5 mechanism. The trip marked the first official visit by a Brazilian foreign minister to Uzbekistan.

Diplomacy

- The governments of [Brazil and China](#) have reached an understanding on reciprocal visa exemption for trips of up to 30 days, valid until December 2026. The measure covers tourism, business, cultural and sporting events, and family visits. The agreement seeks to expand tourism, strengthen economic and cultural exchanges, and deepen bilateral relations during the joint Brazil-China Cultural Year.
- President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva received former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet at the Palácio do Planalto in Brasília on May 11, 2026. They discussed her candidacy for [UN Secretary-General](#). Lula highlighted her experience and leadership potential. They also addressed strengthening multilateralism, peace, and development on the contemporary global agenda.

National Congress

- The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies approved a bill that prohibits the entry into Brazil of means of transport linked to [people or companies sanctioned for serious crimes](#). Rapporteur Luiz Philippe de Orleans e Bragança said that the measure strengthens national security, prevents transnational terrorist threats, and aligns the country with international commitments to cooperation and strategic sovereignty.
- The Foreign Relations Commission approved the 2024 agreement between [Brazil and Ethiopia](#) on the transfer of convicted persons. The opinion highlighted the increase in transnational crime, especially international trafficking, favored by the expansion of air connections between countries. Parliamentarians highlighted the strengthening of bilateral relations in the context of the Global South and the BRICS, as well as the expansion of migratory flows and shared legal challenges.
- Luiz Philippe de Orleans e Bragança criticized the federal [government's commercial and security conduct](#). The deputy said that international agreements lack a coherent strategy and denounced European sanitary barriers to Brazilian products. He also classified Mercosur as an economic obstacle and defended bilateral agreements. On security, he accused the government of acting symbolically against transnational criminal factions without effective measures to strengthen law enforcement.
- Luiz Philippe de Orleans e Bragança defended bilateral agreements in a meeting with [Canadian parliamentarians](#), criticizing multilateral instruments for weakening economically stronger countries. The meeting focused on negotiations for the MERCOSUR-Canada agreement, with an emphasis on agribusiness and market access. Brazilian and Canadian parliamentarians highlighted agricultural concerns and discussed technological cooperation to benefit producers in the regional bloc.



Robson Cardoch Valdez – PhD

Latitude – Consultoria, Pesquisa e Análises
latituderelacoesinternacionais@gmail.com

Support:

