



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

SEP/ 07

Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

Over the past week, Brazil's international insertion has exposed, with particular clarity, the tension between the availability of strategic assets and the effective capacity to convert them into power. Domestically, the slowdown in GDP, combined with high interest rates and fiscal constraints, limits the State's margin to sustain investment, innovation, and industrial policy. In other words, potential wealth does not automatically translate into autonomy: without internal coordination, natural resources, infrastructure, and markets tend to be incorporated into externally commanded chains.

This contradiction is especially visible in critical minerals. The advance of rare-earth, niobium, nickel, and cobalt projects reinforces Brazil's geoeconomic weight but also reveals the risk of reproducing a peripheral insertion based on extraction. The integration of Serra Verde into a western rare-earth shelf shows that decisive control remains in the stages of processing, technology, financing, and component manufacturing. For this reason, the policy approved by the National Congress for critical minerals is relevant: it will only produce structural change if it shifts value, knowledge and industrial capacity into the country.

The same goes for data centers. The approved incentives can expand digital infrastructure and attract capital, but the central question is who controls equipment, cloud, algorithms, data, and computing capacity. In an order still shaped by Pax Americana, technology, finance, and regulatory standards function as instruments of hierarchy. Attracting investments without internalizing capabilities can deepen dependencies rather than reduce them.

In the climate field, international financing for tropical forests increases Brazil's diplomatic weight, but it also requires attention to governance. If the country provides only environmental services, it will remain subordinated to the rules and metrics set by external financial and regulatory centers.

Finally, Brazilian diplomacy has demonstrated its capacity for diversification by expanding connections with Africa, India, Mercosur, and the ALADI, while resuming trade dialogue with Washington. This combination is strategic because it expands the room for maneuver without breaking with the current international architecture. Even so, tariffs, health regulations, and technological standards show that the space for autonomy remains conditioned. The Brazilian challenge, therefore, is not only to participate more in the system but also to dispute who defines the rules, who controls the chains, and where value remains. Without this strategy, mineral, environmental, and territorial advantages can strengthen companies and states that already occupy dominant positions.

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

Economy, Trade and Investment

GDP slows down in the second quarter

The Brazilian economy grew 0.5% in the second quarter of 2026 compared to the previous three months, decelerating after expanding 1.1% in the first quarter. In the annual comparison, [GDP](#) advanced 2%. The cumulative growth in the semester and in four quarters was 1.9%. Agriculture sustained part of the performance, while high interest rates continued to weigh on consumption, investment, and economic activity in the country.

Why is this important? The pace of GDP affects Brazil's ability to invest, negotiate, and project power; weak growth increases financial vulnerability and limits structural change in productive sectors.

EU reopens the way for poultry and honey

A health audit of the [European Union](#), concluded on September 4, assessed Brazilian controls on poultry and honey as satisfactory. The mission, which began on August 24, visited establishments and verified measures adopted after European restrictions. The result favors the resumption of Brazilian exports, which remain dependent on the definitive formal stages of the reinclusion of establishments and products in the European market.

Why is this important? The reopening preserves access to the European market, reduces Brazilian trade vulnerability, and demonstrates how sanitary standards function as instruments of structural power in global trade.

Animal protein under European restrictions

The Brazilian government has expressed concern about [European Union](#) restrictions on national animal protein products, which have been in force since September 3. The measures stem from the application of European Regulation 2019/6 on veterinary and antimicrobial medicines. Brazil and the European Union maintain bilateral technical and diplomatic contacts to clarify requirements, preserve trade flows and seek a solution compatible with the applicable health rules.

Why is this important? The episode highlights how European regulatory standards condition access to markets and distribute power, forcing peripheral exporters to adapt production to the standards established at the center.

Economy, Trade and Investment

New markets for Brazilian agribusiness

Authorities from the United Arab Emirates, Namibia, and the Malaysian state of Sabah have accepted [sanitary requirements](#) for new Brazilian products. The UAE has authorized pet food; Namibia, chicken offal; and Sabah, frozen poultry meat. The openings result from sanitary negotiations conducted by the Brazilian government to expand and diversify destinations for national agricultural exports abroad.

Why is this important? Market diversification reduces dependence on traditional centers, expands the Brazilian negotiating margin and strengthens South-South insertion in asymmetric global chains of global power.

One thousand certificates for fish in the USA

The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture has obtained a thousand Certificates of Admissibility for the export of fish to the [United States](#). The document, required since January 1, 2026, proves that establishments and products meet North American requirements. The framework expands control, traceability, and compliance in the sector, facilitating access to the United States market and strengthening the international competitiveness of Brazilian fish.

Why is this important? Complying with U.S. requirements guarantees access to the central market, but reveals regulatory dependence: those who control sanitary standards also condition flows, competitiveness, and international distribution of value.

Mercosur–EFTA goes into operation

The MDIC has published manuals on the Siscomex Portal to guide Brazilian companies on the [Mercosur-EFTA Free Trade Agreement](#). The documents explain tariff relief, rules of origin, geographical indications and procedures for using preferences. The Brazilian implementation begins with Iceland in October and Norway in November, expanding access to EFTA economies, whose GDP exceeds US\$ 1 trillion.

Why is this important? The agreement diversifies ties beyond the large traditional hubs, improving Brazil's access to rich markets, partially reducing asymmetries through negotiated rules and greater economic integration.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Drawback cushions US tariffs

Companies whose exports were affected by additional tariffs imposed by the United States can request an exceptional 12-month extension under the suspension [drawback regime](#). Secex Ordinance 536 covers concession acts with specific deadlines and requires proof of commercial intent before the tariff measures. The initiative seeks to preserve export operations, avoid the loss of benefits, and allow time for the redirection of goods.

Why is this important? The measure cushions the effects of U.S. protectionism, showing how decisions by a central power shift costs to dependent economies and require national protective state responses.

Brazil and India expand economic agenda

[Brazil and India](#) made progress in negotiations to expand trade and investment, including expanding the Mercosur-India preference agreement, market access, and reducing barriers. Bilateral trade totaled US\$10.1 billion between January and July 2026, up 32.9%. The parties discussed diversification, investments, and bilateral business cooperation, with the signing of a memorandum between the MDIC and the IIC.

Why is this important? The Brazil-India rapprochement expands connections between peripheral economies, diversifies markets, and creates collective capacity to reduce dependence on traditional centers of trade, finance, and technology.

2027 budget projects surplus

The government presented the [2027 Budget Bill](#) with a forecast of a primary surplus of R\$18.6 billion. With legal adjustments, the projected result reaches R\$83.4 billion, above the target's midpoint. The primary expenditure ceiling will be R\$2.576 trillion, while the minimum wage is expected to be R\$1,741 and the share of mandatory spending is expected to decrease.

Why is this important? The budget defines the state's capacity to invest, redistribute, and induce development; fiscal constraints shape national autonomy in the face of financial markets, creditors, and international economic hierarchies.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Planning details 2027 Budget

The Ministry of Planning presented the [2027 Budget Bill](#) with a forecast of a primary surplus of R\$ 18.6 billion. With legal adjustments, the projected result reaches R\$ 83.4 billion, exceeding the target. The ceiling for primary expenditures will be R\$ 2.576 trillion, while the minimum wage forecast is R\$ 1,741 and the share of mandatory expenditures is expected to decrease.

Why is this important? Budget policy reveals who controls public resources and priorities, conditioning Brazil's ability to transform wealth into infrastructure, social protection, and international economic autonomy.

Brazilian jewelry targets Europe and Asia

The Precious Brazil project, a partnership between IBGM and ApexBrasil, will support 35 Brazilian companies in two international fairs in September. Our participation is at Milano Fashion & Jewels in [Italy](#) and at Jewelry & Gem World Hong Kong on the 24th. The initiative promotes Brazilian gems, jewelry, costume jewelry, and biojewelry, seeking buyers, new business, and the simultaneous diversification of the Brazilian commercial presence in the European and Asian markets.

Why is this important? The internationalization of products through design and processing expands the value captured in Brazil, reducing its merely primary-export position in global chains dominated by central markets.

Brazilian handicrafts arrive in Paris

The Handicraft Export Journey 2026 of ApexBrasil's Handmade Brazil program will bring 20 artisans, cooperatives, associations, and companies from 14 states to [Paris](#). Between September 7 and 10, participants will receive training, conduct technical visits, meet with European buyers, and participate in Maison & Objet. The mission seeks to qualify producers, expanding commercial opportunities for Brazilian handicrafts in the European market.

Why is this important? Integrating handicrafts into global markets converts cultural heritage into economic value, diversifies exports, and enables producers to capture larger shares of international value chains.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Brazilian animal protein in Peru

ABPA and ApexBrasil will participate in [Expoalimentaria Peru](#) from September 23 to 25 in Lima, alongside Brazilian animal protein companies. The space will promote poultry, pork, eggs, and genetic material, as well as their sanitary and sustainable attributes. Between January and July, Peru imported 35.4 thousand tons of Brazilian chicken and US\$70 million worth of related agricultural products.

Why is this important? The presence strengthens regional markets and food security, expands South American integration, and reduces Brazilian export concentration in economic centers better positioned to impose trade conditions.

Brazil and Mozambique expand business

At FACIM 2026, in Maputo, [Brazil and Mozambique](#) sought to expand business, investments, technology transfer, and local productive capacity. Brazil was a country of honor, with a large delegation and about 30 Brazilian companies, alongside approximately 100 Mozambicans. The agenda included agriculture, energy, infrastructure, health, aviation, and digitalization, as well as proposals for direct air connection and joint professional training.

Why is this important? Productive and technological cooperation with Mozambique can overcome trade-based relationships by strengthening local capacities and expanding South-South autonomy in the face of international economic hierarchies.

ApexBrasil opens base in Addis Ababa

ApexBrasil inaugurated its first permanent office in Africa in Addis Ababa, following a business mission across five countries. The unit intends to support Brazilian trade and investment in [Ethiopia](#), East Africa, and the continent, taking advantage of the city's diplomatic position as the headquarters of the African Union. The agency identified 59 export opportunities to Ethiopia, whose Brazilian agenda remains strongly concentrated in fuels.

Why is this important? A permanent institutional presence expands Brazil's capacity to compete in African markets, build its own networks and reduce dependence on intermediaries on a continent that is central to competition between powers.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Portugal beyond oil

Trade between [Brazil and Portugal](#) reached US\$ 4.5 billion in 2025, with US\$ 3.3 billion in Brazilian exports. Although crude oil accounted for 60.6% of sales, aircraft, coffee, and cosmetics gained space. A study by ApexBrasil identified 548 trade opportunities. At the same time, the provisional application of the Mercosur-European Union agreement expanded perspectives for access and diversification of the Brazilian agenda in the Portuguese market.

Why is this important? Diversifying beyond oil allows Brazil to capture more value and technology, reduce peripheral specialization, and leverage agreements to access segments with greater economic complexity.

Dashboard maps U.S. tariffs

ApexBrasil has updated its [U.S. Tariff Measures Dashboard](#) with export data by state. The free tool allows you to consult Brazilian products by SH6 code or description, identify surcharges and exemptions, and assess trade exposure. The dashboard helps companies measure risks, plan exports, and seek alternative markets in response to tariff measures adopted by Washington.

Why is this important? Commercial information reduces business vulnerability to US tariff power and improves Brazil's ability to adapt to shocks imposed by decisions of the global systemic center.

Export Day looks for Canada

ApexBrasil has opened registration for the [Canada Export Journey](#), scheduled from November 9 to 13, 2026 in Toronto and Montreal. In partnership with Sebrae and with the support of ABIMAPI and CECIEx, the mission serves Brazilian food companies interested in private labels. There will be virtual training, visits to retailers and distributors, business presentations, and connections with Canadian buyers.

Why is this important? The initiative facilitates Brazilian access to central retail chains, but private labels also shift brand and distribution power to foreign buyers and large distributors.

Energy and Infrastructure

New concession of BR-116/324 advances

ANTT advanced in the new concession of BR-116 and BR-324 in [Bahia](#) after approval by the TCU, with an auction scheduled for December. The Rota 2 de Julho project covers 641.75 kilometers, has a 30-year term, and includes investments estimated at R\$ 14.8 billion, in addition to operating costs. The model includes a free flow system and replaces the ViaBahia concession, which ended in 2025.

Why is this important? Efficient road infrastructure reduces logistics costs and increases competitiveness, but concessions also redistribute control over strategic corridors between the State, private capital and Brazilian global chains.

Concession of the Santos canal under discussion

ANTAQ held a public hearing on the partial concession of the access channel to the [Port of Santos](#). Representatives of society, research centers, the productive sector, and users presented contributions to the technical and legal documents. The agency intends to improve the feasibility study, investments, and operating costs. Written contributions remain open until September 29, 2026, in the largest Brazilian port.

Why is this important? Santos concentrates decisive flows of Brazilian trade; controlling access, dredging, and port operations means influencing costs, export capacity, and Brazil's position in global trade chains.

TCU releases terminal no Mucuripe

The Federal Court of Auditors approved the modeling for the auction of the MUC04 container terminal at the [Port of Mucuripe](#), in Fortaleza. The concession will have a 25-year term and provide approximately R\$ 430 million in investment. The project seeks to expand capacity, modernize port operations, and meet the growth in cargo handling, including exports relevant to Ceará's export economy.

Why is this important? Expanding port capacity strengthens the Northeast's connection to global markets, but the concession transfers part of the strategic infrastructural control to private operators and investors.

Motiva sells airport platform

Motiva has completed the sale of 100% of its Latin American airport platform to Grupo Aeroportuario del Sureste, [ASUR](#), for R\$ 12.211 billion, considering equity interest and asset debt. The operation involves twenty airports and reduces the company's leverage. The Ambition 2035 strategy focuses future growth on highways and railways, with a broad pipeline of investment opportunities in Brazil.

Why is this important? The sale focuses Motiva on highways and railways and transfers airport assets to foreign capital, changing who controls the infrastructure essential to moving people.

Energy and Infrastructure

Ibama authorizes new wells in Amapá

Ibama has authorized [Petrobras](#) to drill three new exploratory wells in ultra-deep waters in the Foz do Amazonas Basin, off the coast of Amapá. The company will evaluate the potential and economic viability of the discoveries in the Equatorial Margin. The decision expands the exploratory campaign, while debates persist over environmental risks, community impacts, licensing, and potential future oil production in the region.

Why is this important? The Equatorial Margin can expand Brazil's energy and fiscal power, but reproducing oil dependence can reinforce primary specialization and conflicts between accumulation, sovereignty, and sustainability.

Critical Minerals and Rare Earths

\$7.3 billion mineral showcase

ApexBrasil presented a portfolio of 41 mineral projects from 29 companies, spread across 11 states and estimated at US\$7.3 billion. The showcase includes [rare earths](#), graphite, nickel, copper, cobalt, lithium, niobium, titanium and vanadium. The projects span different stages of development and processing, seeking to attract investment in minerals associated with the energy transition and expand value addition in Brazil.

Why is this important? The portfolio shows resources capable of repositioning Brazil in the energy transition, as long as the investment does not reproduce peripheral extraction without processing, technology and domestic capture.

Serra Verde is part of the western platform

USA Rare Earth has completed its combination with Serra Verde, creating an integrated platform of [rare earths](#) and permanent magnets outside Asia. The Goiás operation produces heavy rare earths and aims to reach around 4,000 tons of oxides annually by 2026, then increase to 6,400 tons. The group integrates assets in Brazil, the United States, the United Kingdom and France.

Why is this important? The integration places Goiás within a western chain of technological security, but concentrates verticalization within a foreign company, exposing a dispute over where value and power ultimately lie.

Critical Minerals and Rare Earths

St George tests Araxá ore

St George Mining has started pilot beneficiation tests for the Araxá project in Minas Gerais, using nine tons of saprolytic ore at CIT-SENAI in Belo Horizonte. The program, expected to last four to six weeks, will evaluate flowsheets for niobium and rare earths. Expected results in the fourth quarter of 2026 will support process, recovery, and development studies of the project.

Why is this important? Araxá brings together niobium and rare earths, resources of high strategic value; mastering processing determines whether Brazil will export ore or control more profitable technological steps.

Brazil regulates strategic minerals

The Brazilian Senate approved a bill that establishes a framework for critical and strategic minerals, including rare earths. The proposal creates a R\$ 2 billion guarantee fund, R\$ 5 billion in tax incentives for domestic processing, and a national council with authority over foreign investments. Brazil has reserves, attracts foreign investors, and seeks to expand domestic processing, although it faces environmental and regulatory criticisms.

Why is this important? By combining incentives, processing and control over foreign investment, Brazil tries to convert reserves into industrial power, reducing its peripheral position in a chain dominated by China.

Bravo Metals advances in Barcarena

Bravo Mining reported that its subsidiary, Bravo Metals, has received formal authorization to implement an industrial project in the Barcarena Export Processing Zone in the Brazilian state of Pará. The approval took place at the CZPE and was published in September. The unit will be able to manufacture nickel and platinum group metals and mattes, including platinum, palladium, rhodium, copper, cobalt, and nickel.

Why is this important? The EPZ can aggregate mineral processing in Brazil, but the structure requires examining who controls capital, technology, and markets, as well as the share of value captured locally.

Critical Minerals and Rare Earths

Altris leads engineering for the Ema project

Altris Engineering has been chosen to lead the FEED engineering phase of the [rare earth](#) Ema Project in Brazil. The program will last approximately 24 weeks and will develop plant engineering, infrastructure, equipment specifications, and supplier quotes. The work continues the feasibility study and prepares the project for final investment and construction decisions.

Why is this important? Engineering transforms mineral resources into productive capacity: mastering processing and design reduces technological dependence and shifts Brazil to higher stages of the global chain.

Technology and Defense

Embrapa launches technologies at Expointer

During Expointer, Minister André de Paula visited olive groves in Rio Grande do Sul and participated in the launch of [Embrapa's technologies](#). Among the novelties were the digital publication on blackberries, FertiMatte and ManejoMatte solutions for yerba mate, and the BRS Áurea pear cultivar. The agenda also included a bilateral meeting with Uruguayan authorities and activities aimed at regional agricultural innovation.

Why is this important? Own agricultural technology expands Brazilian productivity and autonomy, enabling it to capture knowledge and value internally rather than relying on technology packages controlled by central companies.

Defense brings academia and Armed Forces closer together

The Minister of Defense participated in the opening of the [21st Academic Congress on National Defense](#), held at the Air Force Academy in Pirassununga. The event brought together military personnel, academics, and students to discuss defense, security, geopolitics, technological innovation, defense economics, international relations, strategy, logistics, and intelligence. The program also addressed climate, biosecurity, the Amazon, and the Blue Amazon, bringing military institutions and universities closer together.

Why is this important? The articulation between defense, science, and universities strengthens the capacity to produce strategic knowledge, a condition for reducing technological dependencies and exercising sovereignty in a hierarchical international system.

Technology and Defense

Data Centers Gain Tax Breaks

The Brazilian Congress approved tax incentives to attract investments in [data centers](#). The regime suspends federal equipment taxes and seeks to stimulate infrastructure, cloud computing, and artificial intelligence in the country. The measure is part of a strategy to expand technological capacity and investment. Still, it entails a significant tax waiver and depends on requirements related to energy use and national technological development.

Why is this important? Data centers are the infrastructure of digital power; incentives can internalize computing capacity, but dependence on hardware, cloud, and foreign platforms can limit Brazilian technological autonomy.

Human Rights

Durban turns 25

Mexico hosted an international meeting for the 25th anniversary of the [Durban Declaration](#) and Program of Action, a global framework against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The agenda resumed the recognition of slavery and transatlantic trafficking as crimes against humanity, debates on reparations and anti-racist policies. Brazil participated by presenting initiatives and experiences aimed at promoting racial equality.

Why is this important? Durban confronts historical hierarchies produced by slavery and colonialism, showing that current racial inequalities also result from the enduring international distribution of wealth, authority, and recognition.

Tourism and Culture

Design brasileiro ocupa Paris

Brazilian companies participated in Maison & Objet in [Paris](#), presenting design associated with memory, identity, and creativity. The initiative, supported by ApexBrasil, brought together products that translate Brazilian cultural references, materials, and techniques into a contemporary language. The presence combines cultural and commercial promotion, connects designers to buyers and opinion-makers, and seeks to expand recognition, business, and the insertion of Brazilian design abroad.

Why is this important? Transforming culture and design into exports enables the capture of symbolic value, brand, and intellectual property, reducing dependence on commodities and expanding Brazil's presence in central circuits.

International Cooperation

Brazil and Paraguay cooperate in aquaculture

Brazil and Paraguay held a meeting on sustainable aquaculture in Foz do Iguaçu, focusing on tilapia production in the Itaipu reservoir. Authorities, researchers and producers discussed bilateral cooperation, technology, sustainability and production expansion. The reservoir has significant potential for cultivation, while Brazil is among the world's leading producers of tilapia, the predominant species in Brazilian commercial aquaculture today.

Why is this important? Aquaculture cooperation in Itaipu strengthens regional production and shared knowledge, expanding South-South integration and the ability to generate food, technology and value outside traditional centers.

Mexico seeks SUS experience

A Mexican delegation sought to learn from Brazil's experience with the Unified Health System to support the development of universal health care in Mexico. The discussions involved training of specialists, access to medicines, digital health, and care organization. Brazil and Mexico maintain a memorandum of cooperation in the area and provide for the exchange of experiences, including on care for indigenous populations and traditional pharmacological knowledge.

Why is this important? The exchange of the SUS transforms Brazilian public policy into a resource for influence, demonstrating the South's capacity to produce institutions and knowledge that are transferable without central mediation.

Environment and Sustainability

Study warns of 1.8°C limit

An article published by the MCTI presents a study indicating that 1.8°C of global warming represents a relevant threshold between potentially reversible and permanent changes in the climate system. The researchers advocate rapid, deep, and sustained cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. The work reinforces the finding that delays in mitigation increase the risk of exceeding tipping points and of producing lasting global climate impacts.

Why is this important? The climate cap shows that industrialized countries have accumulated power through carbon emissions, while environmental costs fall unequally; financing, technology, and development space become structural disputes.

Environment and Sustainability

United Kingdom contributes to the forest fund

The United Kingdom announced a commitment of £400 million (US\$ 541 million) to the [Tropical Forests Forever Facility](#), a mechanism led by Brazil to remunerate countries for conserving tropical forests. The fund aims to mobilize US\$125 billion by combining public and private resources. The initiative seeks to create long-term payments linked to preservation and expand international financing for global forest protection.

Why is this important? The fund shifts resources from the financial center to tropical forests, but its governance will define whether forest countries gain autonomy or remain structurally subordinate environmental providers.

Eucalyptus biomass faces uncertainty

Brazil's eucalyptus industry faces uncertainty over the postponement of rules to reduce the use of native wood as fuel in corn-based ethanol production. An agreement called for phasing out by 2035, but the regulation was delayed. Companies project billions in investment and expansion of eucalyptus plantations, while [concerns](#) about illegal deforestation and biomass traceability persist.

Why is this important? The dispute over biomass shows how the energy transition can shift pressures between resources; control over standards, traceability, and technology determines who captures value and externalizes costs.

Eco Invest bumps into small producers

The [Eco Invest Brasil program](#), created in 2024, has already mobilized R\$ 140 billion in four auctions to finance green projects. Despite the scale, small producers and businesses face difficulties in accessing credit, meeting bank requirements, and structuring bankable projects. The challenge highlights the distance between the mobilization of financial volumes and their effective arrival at smaller agents of the green economy.

Why is this important? Mobilizing billions does not automatically democratize green finance: credit requirements can concentrate resources in agents, reproducing inequalities in access to capital within the ecological transition.

Environment and Sustainability

Entities contest CVM's retreat

Entities will go to court to try to compel the CVM to reinstate the mandatory disclosure requirement for companies. The 2023 rule provided for mandatory adoption as of 2027, using 2026 data, but a later rule made reporting voluntary. The organizations allege setbacks and [lack of consultation](#), while companies point to additional costs of auditing and adaptation.

Why is this important? Sustainability rules shape access to capital and reputation; making them voluntary shifts informational power from stakeholders to companies and reduces disciplining pressure from markets.

Diplomacy

Brazil and the US resume trade dialogue

[Brazil and the United States](#) resumed dialogue after talks between Presidents Lula and Donald Trump. Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira and the executive secretary of the MDIC, Márcio Elias Rosa, met virtually with the U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. The objective: to advance negotiations on recent tariff decisions by the United States and the Section 301 process, seeking referrals for the bilateral relationship.

Why is this important? Washington retains tariff and regulatory power; reopening dialogue seeks to reduce unilaterally imposed costs and restore Brazil's room for negotiation amid a structurally asymmetric relationship.

Egypt grants agrément to Paula Alves de Souza

The Brazilian government informed that the government of the [Arab Republic of Egypt](#) has granted agrément to Ambassador Paula Alves de Souza as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil in the country. Paula Alves de Souza is currently Permanent Delegate of Brazil to UNESCO. As determined by the Constitution, her appointment to the post in Egypt will be submitted to the appreciation of the Federal Senate.

Why is this important? The agrément confirms recognition and diplomatic continuity; ambassador posts are state infrastructure for negotiating access, information, and influence within a hierarchical international order.

Diplomacy

Itamaraty reacts to European restrictions

Brazil expressed concern about [European Union](#) restrictions on national animal protein products, which have been in force since September 3, related to European rules on veterinary drugs and antimicrobials. In a joint statement, Itamaraty and the Ministry of Agriculture said they are maintaining diplomatic contacts with European authorities to clarify requirements, defend Brazilian sanitary controls and preserve conditions of commercial access to the European market.

Why is this important? By transforming a health issue into a diplomatic agenda, Brazil contests European regulatory power and seeks to preserve exporters' access to a highly standardized central market.

ALADI and Mercosur articulate integration

Foreign ministers participated in the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of ALADI and in an informal Mercosur meeting in Montevideo. The agenda included the election of the new secretary general of [ALADI](#), regional integration, trade facilitation, and the elimination of technical barriers. In Mercosur, ministers discussed foreign relations, trade negotiations, ongoing agreements, and the renewal of FOCEM, in view of the expansion of regional and extra-regional trade.

Why is this important? ALADI and Mercosur expand regional negotiating capacity, creating scale to reduce peripheral fragmentation and improve South America's position relative to major economic and commercial centers.

Diplomacy opens three agricultural markets

In a joint statement, Itamaraty and the Ministry of Agriculture announced the opening of [markets](#) for Brazilian products in three destinations. The United Arab Emirates authorized food for companion animals; Namibia, chicken offal; and the Malaysian state of Sabah, frozen poultry meat. The authorizations result from sanitary and diplomatic negotiations aimed at diversifying destinations and expanding exports from Brazilian agribusiness.

Why is this important? Health diplomacy converts capacity into commercial access, diversifying markets and reducing dependence on a few buyers who concentrate power over prices, norms, and international flows.

Diplomacy

Itamaraty resumes dialogue with Washington

Brazil and the United States resumed dialogue after contacts between Presidents Lula and Donald Trump. Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira and the executive secretary of the MDIC, Márcio Elias Rosa, met virtually with Jamieson Greer, the U.S. trade representative. The conversation sought to advance negotiations on U.S. tariff measures and the Section 301 process, while maintaining an open diplomatic channel for bilateral referrals.

Why is this important? The dialogue tries to limit damage from US tariff power; maintaining channels allows Brazil to negotiate asymmetries without breaking ties with a decisive global technological center.

Brazil and Mozambique deepen relations

Brazil and Mozambique deepened their economic relations during FACIM in Maputo, focusing on trade, investment, technology, and local production. Brazil participated as a country of honor, taking about thirty companies to meetings with Mozambican companies. The agenda covered agriculture, hydrocarbons, renewable energy, infrastructure, health, aviation, services, and digital government, as well as the possibility of a future direct bilateral air connection.

Why is this important? Relations based on production, technology, and investment can overcome peripheral commodity exchanges, strengthening local capacities and creating South-South networks that are less dependent on traditional centers.

ALADI elects new secretary general

The Council of Ministers of the ALADI elected the Bolivian economist Adhemar Guzmán Ballivián as secretary general by consensus for the period 2026–2029, with the inauguration scheduled for September 22. The thirteen members reaffirmed their commitments to regional integration, trade facilitation, and the reduction of technical barriers. The meeting also approved decisions aimed at strengthening the organization and deepening intraregional trade in Latin America.

Why is this important? A functional ALADI expands the Latin American scale and reduces regional fragmentation; its leadership can influence rules, productive integration, and collective capacity in the face of external economic powers.

National Congress

Alcolumbre celebrates exploration in Amapá

President of the Senate, Davi Alcolumbre, celebrated Ibama's authorization for [Petrobras](#) to drill three new exploratory wells off the coast of Amapá, in the Foz do Amazonas Basin. According to him, the measure helps to size the regional energy potential. Petrobras will still evaluate the economic viability, while Alcolumbre associates exploration with opportunities, sustainable development and Brazilian energy sovereignty.

Why is this important? Exploration can increase revenues and sovereignty, but it reinforces the peripheral dilemma: to export primary resources or to transform wealth into long-term industrial and technological capacities.

Profert comes into force

The Fertilizer Industry Development Program, [Profert](#), created by Law 15,496 of 2026 to stimulate national production and reduce dependence on imports, came into force. The rule establishes a mandatory blend of synthetic and mineral domestic fertilizers, starting at 2% in July 2027 and reaching 10% in 2037. The presidential sanction took place with only one veto.

Why is this important? Fertilizers are strategic inputs that depend on external supply chains; expanding domestic production reduces Brazil's vulnerability and strengthens autonomy in the face of geopolitical shocks and dominant global suppliers.

Senate zeroes rate on blouses

The Senate approved MP 1,357 of 2026, zeroing the [Import Tax](#) on international purchases of up to US\$ 50. For remittances between US\$ 50 and US\$ 3 thousand, the rate may be 30%. The text maintains ICMS, establishes measures against fraud and illegal products, provides for impact assessments, and proceeds to presidential sanction after approval in both Houses.

Why is this important? Reducing tariffs favors consumers but intensifies competitive pressure from foreign platforms on producers, illustrating how e-commerce redistributes power among the state, industry, and global corporations.

National Congress

Senate approves new Coffee Agreement

The Senate approved the [2022 International Coffee Agreement](#), updating the rules of the International Coffee Organization. The text reduces Brazil's financial burdens, establishes a working group on price volatility and sustainability, and changes the calculation of votes and quotas to take into account the total value of trade. The draft legislative decree now goes to formal enactment by the National Congress.

Why is this important? As a producer, Brazil gains influence by reforming coffee rules; votes, quotas, prices, and sustainability determine how value and power are distributed in the chain.

Brazil-Cambodia cooperation advances

The Senate approved the technical cooperation agreement between [Brazil and Cambodia](#), signed in 2021. The text regulates trilateral cooperation mechanisms, project implementation, governance, planning, monitoring, transparency, data protection, and logistical support for technical teams. The initiative seeks to establish an institutional channel between the two countries and expand Brazil's presence in a region of growing international importance.

Why is this important? Cooperation with Cambodia diversifies ties in Southeast Asia and strengthens South-South networks, reducing diplomatic dependence on relations concentrated in traditional powers and centers.

Brazil-Croatia Cultural Agreement approved

The Senate approved the cultural cooperation agreement between [Brazil and Croatia](#), signed in 2023. The instrument establishes the basis for action in cultural policies, language, literature, heritage, museums, libraries, arts, and cultural and creative industries. It also covers the creative economy, cultural entrepreneurship, and intellectual property. After analysis by the Chamber and the Senate, the bill is sent to the Brazilian National Congress for enactment.

Why is this important? Cultural cooperation creates channels of influence and circulation of symbolic value, allowing Brazil to compete for recognition and creative markets beyond the dominant global material chains.

National Congress

Senate approves critical minerals policy

The Senate approved the [National Policy on Critical and Strategic Minerals](#). The proposal aims to stimulate research, extraction, processing, and industrialization of resources considered relevant to national security, energy transition, and technology. The text creates coordination and incentive instruments to expand productive capacity and value addition in the country. After legislative approval, the matter now goes to the federal president for sanction.

Why is this important? Transforming strategic minerals into industrial policy seeks to prevent reserves from occupying only the extractive stage, strengthening control over technology, processing, and value in the energy transition.

CPLP social security agreement approved

The Senate approved the [CPLP Multilateral Convention on Social Security](#), allowing Brazilians working in Cape Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe, Mozambique and Portugal to add contribution periods to obtain social security benefits. Each country will pay the portion corresponding to the time contributed in its territory. The agreement contemplates retirements and pensions, establishes exceptions and provides for administrative cooperation between national authorities.

Why is this important? Social security portability reduces the human costs of labor mobility and strengthens the CPLP, thereby creating transnational social protection outside the system's main economic and migratory centers.

CRE approves nominations for UNESCO and Mali

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee [approved nominations](#) of Pedro Marcos de Castro Saldanha to represent Brazil at UNESCO and Félix Baes Baptista de Faria to the Embassy in Mali. In the hearings, priorities in education, culture, science, artificial intelligence, and relations with Mali were discussed, including agriculture, energy, mining, trade, and consular assistance for Brazilian residents.

Why is this important? Representation at UNESCO and in Mali expands Brazil's presence in African arenas, where education, culture, mining and cooperation structure influence and strategic access to resources.

National Congress

Congo's debt goes to enactment

The Senate approved an agreement with Brazil on the [Republic of Congo's](#) debt and sent the text for promulgation. The renegotiation involves about US\$ 9.9 million and stems from commitments linked to the financing of Brazilian exports from the 1970s and 1980s, which were later restructured. The new understanding establishes financial conditions and a payment schedule without forgiveness of the principal due.

Why is this important? Renegotiating debt preserves South-South financial relations but highlights asymmetry between creditor and debtor; payment rules constrain the fiscal capacity and autonomy of indebted peripheral countries.

Retirement abroad gains protection

The Senate approved a [social security agreement](#) of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries that allows Brazilian workers abroad to add up periods of contributions made in participating countries. The measure facilitates access to age, disability, and death pensions. Each state assumes only the portion corresponding to the period contributed in its own system, applying the rules of coordination between national social security systems.

Why is this important? Social security coordination transforms mobility between Portuguese-speaking countries into a social right, strengthening South-South institutional integration and reducing individual costs imposed by borders of fragmented national systems.

Military agreement with Guyana advances

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a military cooperation agreement between [Brazil and Guyana](#), signed in 2009. The instrument provides for exchanges, training and joint initiatives, including in areas related to the border and security. The matter goes to the Plenary for analysis. The agreement gains relevance in the face of Guyanese expansion, oil and security issues in the border region.

Why is this important? Military cooperation with Guyana expands regional security capacity in a space marked by oil and territorial disputes, strengthening South American coordination in the face of external interests.

National Congress

Senate approves incentives for data centers

The Senate approved Redata, a tax incentive regime for installing data centers in Brazil. The text suspends Import Tax, PIS/Cofins, and IPI on equipment, with an estimated waiver of R\$5.2 billion in 2026. Beneficiaries must comply with renewable or low-emission energy requirements, water-efficiency requirements, supply to the domestic market, and local investments in research and development.

Why is this important? Data centers concentrate infrastructure of the digital economy; internalizing expands autonomy, but subsidies can benefit foreign corporations if technology, data, and property are outside Brazil.

Senegal's debt will be refinanced

The Senate authorized the refinancing of [Senegal's](#) US\$ 4.8 million debt with Brazil. The liability arises from Proex's operations to finance Brazilian exports. The agreement reorganizes payment conditions and seeks to regularize the bilateral obligation. After legislative approval, the text proceeds to enactment, allowing the implementation of the new financial conditions agreed upon by the governments.

Why is this important? The refinancing preserves trade relations with Senegal, but it also reveals how export credit creates bonds of dependency, negotiation and political influence between states.

Critical Minerals Policy Goes to Sanction

The Senate approved the [National Policy on Critical and Strategic Minerals](#), creating instruments to stimulate research, mining, processing and transformation in Brazil. The proposal provides for up to R\$ 7 billion in incentive mechanisms and seeks to strengthen chains linked to the energy transition, technology and defense. The text seeks to increase domestic value addition and reduce strategic vulnerabilities following the presidential sanctions.

Why is this important? The framework attempts to convert geology into industrial power, using incentives to retain processing, technology, and value in Brazil amid the global race for strategic minerals.

Brazil's international insertion this week should be read against the backdrop of an international system in which Sino-American competition is reorganizing production chains, energy, technology, and financing. Brazil's centrality in critical minerals, rare earths, data centers, and environmental assets grows precisely because Washington seeks to reduce strategic dependencies on China. The combination of USA Rare Earth and Serra Verde, as well as Brazil's new policy on critical minerals, shows that the country has gained relevance, but it remains to be seen whether it will remain a resource supplier or internalize processing, technology, and value.

This dispute comes as the United States reinforces material instruments of the Pax Americana in the hemisphere. In Venezuela, Washington began to control financial flows linked to new oil agreements. It preserved a 35% stake in a project with rights to key fields, in addition to securing a preference for part of the production. The reorganization of the Venezuelan sector, accompanied by Chevron's expansion and new international contracts, reduces the space previously occupied by China and demonstrates that financial, legal, and military power can continue to reorder the ownership and circulation of strategic resources.

However, the reach of this power finds limits in the Middle East. The offensive against Iran and the naval blockade have virtually paralyzed Iranian exports, but Washington has failed to restore normalcy in the Strait of Hormuz. Commercial traffic remains sharply below pre-war levels; oil tankers have been attacked, and negotiations remain unresolved. The paradox is clear: the United States can impose extraordinary costs on Tehran, but it cannot convert military superiority into lasting stability over a fundamental artery of the world economy.

At the same time, the war in Ukraine is worsening. Russian drone attacks have become more intense and continuous, hitting infrastructure, urban centers and even the headquarters of the Ukrainian security service. At the same time, risks persist around the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. American attempts at negotiation therefore coexist with military escalation and growing European attrition.

In this context, the Brazilian movements of the week (diplomatic diversification in Africa and Asia, critical-minerals policy, incentives for data centers, and climate protagonism) represent an attempt to expand the room for maneuver. The challenge is not to choose between Washington and Beijing, but to leverage the competition between them to build their own productive, technological, and financial capacity, thereby preventing Brazilian strategic resources from being incorporated solely into third parties' power architectures.



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