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WEEKLY REPORT

BRAZIL'S INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

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Decoding Brazilian Foreign Policy

Dear readers,

The week revealed a shift in Brazil's strategy for international engagement. The country is seeking to combine trade expansion, energy transition, industrial policy, and decision-making autonomy in an environment of geo-economic competition. Total trade reached US$66.3 billion in October, a monthly record, while exports are advancing in markets such as Bangladesh, Malaysia, China, and Europe. At the same time, the government is seeking to turn Mercosur agreements with the European Union, EFTA, and possible Asian partners into effective access to markets, investment, and more sophisticated productive chains.

In this context, rare earths and critical minerals have gained prominence. The National Council approved a list of 27 priority substances and established criteria related to geopolitical risk, supply concentration, and external dependence. The priority is to prevent Brazil from remaining merely a supplier of raw ores. Lula's reelection also reshapes negotiations with the United States, which seeks access to strategic resources. At the same time, Brasília signals a preference for investment associated with domestic processing, technology transfer, and internal value creation.

Environmental policy has become a simultaneous instrument of external legitimacy and economic development. The COP30 Presidency Roadmaps propose accelerating the move away from fossil fuels and halting deforestation by 2030. In parallel, the government approved guidelines for the carbon market, a national energy transition roadmap, and the environmental assessment of new oil basins. This combination reveals a gradual transition strategy: preserving energy security and fiscal capacity while expanding renewables, biofuels, electric mobility, and forest protection.

On the diplomatic front, Brazil is strengthening its presence in multilateral mechanisms. Participation in the Ibero-American Summit, dialogue with Venezuela, the initiative at the Organization of American States on information interference, and preparation for COP31 demonstrate a search for regional coordination and the defense of sovereignty. Finally, the National Congress remains a relevant actor. It approved instruments on democracy in Mercosur, cooperation with Guyana, Venezuela, Croatia, the United Arab Emirates, and Azerbaijan, and monitored the Paraguayan crisis. The challenge will be to turn this intense external agenda into concrete results in investment, innovation, employment, security, and inequality reduction. It is also important to consolidate financing mechanisms, technological capacity building, and federal coordination, without which policies will remain fragmented and strategic autonomy will be limited.

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Economy, Trade and Investment

Mercosur European Union Forum

ApexBrasil held a forum at the European Parliament to advocate for the Mercosur European Union Agreement. Members of the European Parliament, diplomats, and industrial leaders discussed trade, investment, the green transition, and critical raw materials. Participants sought to counter stereotypes about Brazilian production and mobilize political support. The meeting highlighted the potential for local value chains, higher value added, and a lasting strategic partnership among Brazil, Mercosur, and Europe.

Why is this important? The agreement may expand Brazilian markets and investment, but it also subjects domestic firms to European rules, requiring competitive productive, technological, and regulatory capacity.

Corn Distillers Grains in Germany

Brazil participated in EuroTier 2026 in Germany with companies supported by Brazilian Distillers Grains. The project brings together producers of corn distillers grains for animal nutrition. The fair connects Brazilian companies with buyers, trading firms, and international industries. Between January and September 2026, Brazil exported 971,681 metric tons to 21 markets, exceeding the total recorded throughout 2024.

Why is this important? International engagement expands markets for Brazilian agribusiness products, but lasting gains depend on logistics, innovation, certified quality, and commercial bargaining power.

Brazil Bangladesh Trade

ApexBrasil launched a study on trade and investment with Bangladesh, identifying 162 opportunities for Brazilian exporters. Bilateral trade reached US$3 billion in 2025, including US$2.7 billion in Brazilian sales. Sugar, cotton, corn, and soybean meal led the export basket. Between January and August 2026, exports to the Asian country rose 32 percent, reaching US$2.1 billion.

Why is this important? Bangladesh diversifies destinations for Brazilian exports and strengthens South South ties, although a commodity concentrated export basket preserves challenges of industrialization and technological upgrading.

Economy, Trade and Investment

October Trade Record

Brazil's total trade reached US$66.3 billion in October, the highest figure ever recorded for that month. Year to date, exports reached US$321.9 billion, imports totaled US$250.8 billion, and total trade reached US$572.7 billion. These results reflect the country's deep integration into external markets, expanding foreign exchange revenues, productive supplies, and opportunities for Brazilian firms.

Why is this important? Record trade strengthens external accounts and import capacity, but sustainable development requires exports that are more diverse, technology intensive, and less dependent on commodities.

Mercosur and Indonesia

The Secretariat of Foreign Trade opened a public consultation on a possible preferential trade agreement between Mercosur and Indonesia. Companies, associations, and productive sectors will be able to submit interests, barriers, and opportunities related to the negotiation. The initiative seeks to provide technical support for Brazil's position, identify priority sectors, and increase transparency. Such an arrangement could bring Mercosur closer to a major Asian market, diversifying Brazil's international economic partnerships.

Why is this important? Closer ties with Indonesia diversify markets and reduce trade concentration, strengthening Brazil's negotiating position vis à vis traditional partners and global economic powers.

Mercosur EFTA Dashboard

The Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade, and Services launched a dashboard to guide companies on opportunities under the Mercosur EFTA Agreement. The tool compiles information on tariffs, rules of origin, procedures, and trade prospects with Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland. The initiative aims to facilitate practical use of negotiated benefits, bringing Brazilian producers closer to European markets. It also supports internationalization, export planning, and the use of trade preferences established between the blocs.

Why is this important? Trade information lowers barriers for Brazilian companies. However, effective benefits require financing, scale, certifications, and the ability to meet the requirements of developed markets.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Malaysia Reopens

Malaysia resumed imports of Brazilian poultry products after sanitary assessments related to Newcastle disease. The measure reopens the market for domestic producers, meatpackers, and logistics chains. The result stems from technical dialogue, sanitary surveillance, and compliance with the importing country's requirements. The decision reinforces Brazil's image as a supplier capable of responding to international protocols and maintaining its presence in competitive food markets.

Why is this important? Sanitary requirements determine market access. Meeting them protects exports, jobs, and Brazil's reputation in global food chains regulated by importers.

Meat Trade with the United States

Brazil advocated trade predictability and cooperation with the United States during an international meeting of the meat sector. The Brazilian position emphasized clear rules, respect for sanitary requirements, institutional dialogue, and stability for supply chains. The government sought to reinforce a long-term relationship based on productive complementarity. The event brought together importers and national representatives to discuss trade, regulation, logistics, and global food security.

Why is this important? The United States influences global tariffs and standards. Trade predictability protects Brazilian exporters from asymmetric decisions that can rapidly reorganize international markets.

Animal Genetics for Bangladesh

Bangladesh authorized imports of Brazilian cattle and buffalo genetics following sanitary negotiations. The opening covers embryos, semen, and live breeding animals. The country imported more than US$2.66 billion in Brazilian agricultural products in 2025. The Ministry of Agriculture mission identified further opportunities in animal feed inputs, technical cooperation, technology transfer, business missions, and local herd improvement.

Why is this important? Genetics exports add knowledge to Brazil's export basket, broaden South-South relations, and reduce exclusive dependence on commodities in more technologically sophisticated agricultural segments.

Economy, Trade and Investment

Brazilian Seafood in China

Brazil participated in the China Fisheries and Seafood Expo 2026 in Qingdao with eight companies in the Brazil Pavilion. The fair brought together more than 1,600 companies from fifty countries and regions. The initiative promoted Brazilian seafood, facilitated contacts with importers, and monitored consumer trends. The Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Fisheries, ApexBrasil, and Abipesca acted jointly to expand trade opportunities and diversify Brazilian exports.

Why is this important? China offers scale, processing, and distribution, but it requires a Brazilian diversification strategy to avoid excessive dependence on a dominant buyer in global chains.

Energy and Infrastructure

Five Energy Resolutions

The National Energy Policy Council approved five resolutions on energy transition, electric mobility, energy data, waste recovery, and liquefied gas security. It created a group to formulate a National Electric Mobility Strategy and approved the National Energy Transition Plan. The measures also cover data, biogas, biomethane, low-carbon hydrogen, and oversight of the Gas for the People Program. The objective is to modernize the sector and expand investment.

Why is this important? Energy, data, and electric mobility determine industrial competitiveness. They can reduce external technological dependencies and position Brazil in central segments of the global productive transition.

Infrastructure Investment

The Ministry of Transportation concluded its London agenda with international investor interest in Brazil's infrastructure pipeline. The 2027 program provides for R$262.6 billion in 29 highway and railway auctions. The government presented projects to financial groups and asset managers. The strategy seeks to attract foreign capital, integrate transport modes, reduce logistics costs, raise national productivity, and create conditions for a new cycle of Brazilian economic growth.

Why is this important? Infrastructure connects territories to global flows, but external financing may increase financial dependence, requiring public regulation to preserve lasting and strategic national benefits.

Energy and Infrastructure

Environmental Assessment for Oil

The Ministries of Mines and Energy and of Environment resumed the Environmental Assessment of Sedimentary Areas. This instrument identifies areas suitable or unsuitable for oil and gas exploration and development before auctions. The regulations provide for the analysis of the Solimões and Sergipe-Alagoas-Jacuípe basins. A study of the Pelotas Basin will also be prepared. The process brings together environmental and regulatory agencies, increases predictability, and retains environmental licensing requirements for each future project.

Why is this important? Environmental planning conditions oil exploration, balancing revenue, energy security, and Brazil's climate credibility amid increasingly demanding markets, investors, and international institutions.

National Transition Roadmap

The National Energy Policy Council approved guidelines for preparing the National Roadmap to reduce dependence on fossil fuels gradually. The proposal combines energy security, sovereignty, competitiveness, employment, financing, innovation, and social participation. Brazil's energy matrix was 49.5 percent renewable in 2025, while its electricity matrix exceeded 80 percent. An interministerial group will have time to prepare the document and hold a national public consultation.

Why is this important? A planned transition can turn Brazil's renewable advantage into industrial power, provided that the country controls technology, financing, infrastructure, and the social distribution of the resulting benefits.

Biofuels Alliance

Brazil advanced dialogue with the productive sector under the Global Biofuels Alliance. The initiative promotes cooperation among governments, companies, and institutions to develop renewable fuels, sustainable mobility, innovation, and international markets. The country seeks to project its experience in ethanol, biodiesel, and bioenergy. The effort aims to strengthen productive chains, investment, technical standards, and low-carbon solutions globally.

Why is this important? Biofuels can expand Brazil's technological leadership, reduce oil dependence, and influence global standards, provided they generate domestic industrialization rather than merely primary exports.

Energy and Infrastructure

Oil Export Tax

The Executive Management Committee extended the oil export tax to preserve domestic supply. The measure seeks to balance external sales and domestic availability of petroleum products amid geopolitical risks and international volatility. The instrument affects exporting companies, public revenues, prices, and investment. The decision shows that the government regards oil as a strategic resource whose external commercialization must be reconciled with national energy needs.

Why is this important? Controlling exports reduces exposure to external volatility and preserves state capacity over a strategic energy resource that is fundamental to Brazilian security, industry, consumption, and public accounts.

Technology and Defense

Brazilian Space Commitment

Brazil joined the Zero Debris Charter, an initiative led by the European Space Agency to reduce space debris and preserve orbital operations through 2030. The Brazilian Space Agency and two national companies joined the commitment. Measures include disposal planning, collision prevention, object tracking, and space traffic coordination. Satellites support communications, climate monitoring, navigation, environmental monitoring, and other strategic national activities.

Why is this important? Orbital infrastructure underpins data, communications, and monitoring. Participation in these rules protects Brazil's access to strategic technologies dominated by a small number of powers and global companies.

Critical Minerals and Rare Earths

List of Strategic Minerals

The National Council for the Industrialization of Critical and Strategic Minerals approved a list of 27 priority substances. Rare earths, graphite, lithium, nickel, cobalt, copper, manganese, silicon, and uranium received the highest priority. The resolution provides for public support, equity control, and rules for sales contracts. Criteria include geopolitical risk, supply concentration, external dependence, substitutability, and Brazil's industrial position in productive chains.

Why is this important? Critical minerals underpin the energy transition, industry, and defense. Processing them domestically reduces external vulnerability and improves Brazil's position in global value chains.

Critical Minerals and Rare Earths

National Mineral Priority

The Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade, and Services stated that critical and strategic minerals are an absolute government priority. The agenda includes geological research, processing, innovation, financing, and integration among mineral, industrial, energy, and technology policies. The objective is to expand value added in the country and reduce dependence on chains linked to the energy transition, digitalization, defense, and infrastructure. The strategy seeks to leverage mineral reserves to drive domestic industrial and technological development.

Why is this important? Adding value to minerals shapes access to technology and industrial power. Without domestic processing, Brazil reproduces a subordinate position as an exporter of strategic raw materials.

Lula's Victory Redefines the Contest for Rare Earths

A Reuters report highlights that Lula's reelection may complicate the Trump administration's expectations of obtaining preferential access to Brazilian rare earth reserves. According to the report, Washington sought strategic access to these resources, whereas the Brazilian government prioritizes investments that expand domestic productive capacity. The definition of new mineral rules will be decisive for negotiations with foreign investors.

Why is this important?

Brazil gains bargaining power amid competition between the United States and China, but it must avoid letting this contest merely replace one external dependency with another.

Viridis and Solvay Sign Rare Earth Agreement in Minas Gerais

Australia's Viridis Mining and Minerals signed a binding agreement with Solvay to supply approximately 70 percent of the planned mixed rare-earth carbonate production from the Colossus project in Poços de Caldas, Minas Gerais. The agreement covers supply through 2034 and supports estimated minimum revenue of about US$915 million between 2029 and 2034, subject to delivery of anticipated volumes. The companies are also negotiating technology transfer and technical services to produce more refined materials in Brazil.

Why is this important?

The agreement strengthens the project's commercial viability and may expand domestic processing, although a significant share of the technology and commercialization remains tied to foreign companies.

Human Rights

Pact Against Femicide

Brazil's proposed pact against femicide will be incorporated into Mercosur's agenda in 2027 and 2028. The initiative seeks to strengthen regional cooperation, prevent gender based violence, protect women, and coordinate public policies. It places human rights and gender equality within the South American integration process, recognizing that violence requires sustained, coordinated, and transnational responses among governments and institutions.

Why is this important? Gender violence restricts citizenship, work, and economic autonomy. Regional coordination strengthens rights and public capacities against structural inequalities reproduced internationally.

Tourism and Culture

Amazon in Oslo

The exhibition "Afluentes" presents communities and socio-biodiverse chains in Oslo that link conservation and sustainable development. Organized by ApexBrasil, BNDES, and the Ministry of Environment, the initiative highlights Norway as the source of 72 percent of resources received by the Amazon Fund since 2009. Photographs, videos, and Amazonian products portray Indigenous peoples, riverside communities, extractivists, farmers, firefighters, and environmental agents involved daily in protecting Brazil's forest.

Why is this important? The Amazon Fund connects conservation to external financing, enabling the conversion of environmental assets into cooperation, the bioeconomy, and international influence without relinquishing Brazilian territorial sovereignty.

Brazilian Tourism in London

At World Travel Market London 2026, Brazil promoted its destinations and sought to turn international interest into income for guides, artisans, and small entrepreneurs. The fair brings together airlines, hotel chains, tour operators, and global destinations. Brazil's participation sought to expand partnerships, travel sales, and international visibility. The government emphasized hospitality, cultural diversity, and the potential of national destinations to attract foreign visitors.

Why is this important? International tourism generates foreign exchange and soft power, but it requires national control over economic benefits to avoid the external concentration of revenue and cultural promotion.

Tourism and Culture

Amazonian World Heritage

The Teatro Amazonas and the Theatro da Paz received UNESCO World Heritage status. It is the first world cultural heritage designation in Brazil's Northern Region and the country's twenty-sixth recognized site. The title requires protection, management, research, and social participation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will follow international recommendations, together with IPHAN, the Ministry of Culture, and the state governments of Amazonas and Pará, valuing the cultural dimension of the Amazon.

Why is this important? Internationally recognized heritage expands cultural and tourism influence, projecting a plural Amazon and strengthening Brazil's ability to contest global narratives about the region.

International Cooperation

Youth and Regional Employment

The Ministry of Labor held a workshop in São Paulo on youth and employment, attended by representatives from Latin America. The activity sought to exchange experiences on productive inclusion, training, social protection, and youth-oriented policies. The meeting addressed unemployment, informality, inequality, and technological change. The initiative linked Latin American integration to the construction of shared responses to the contemporary challenges of regional labor markets.

Why is this important? Young people occupy vulnerable positions in peripheral labor markets. Regional cooperation can expand skills, rights, and collective capacity in the face of rapid global technological change.

Environment and Sustainability

Brazil's Public Health System and Climate

Brazil will take experiences from its public health system, SUS, to COP31 in response to climate emergencies. The initiative presents policies for surveillance, prevention, care, and protection of vulnerable populations facing extreme events. The government seeks to integrate public health, climate adaptation, and social justice. Brazil's participation shows how universal systems can reduce health risks and strengthen resilience in communities affected by climate change.

Why is this important? Climate-adapted public health demonstrates state capacity and offers a model to the Global South, shifting climate debates from emissions toward inequality and social protection.

Environment and Sustainability

Brazilian Carbon Market

The Interministerial Committee on Climate Change approved guidelines for the Brazilian Emissions Trading System. The cap-and-trade model seeks to contribute to carbon neutrality by 2050. It provides for transparency, competitiveness, high-integrity credits, social and environmental safeguards, and international interoperability. The system will include emissions measurement, a central registry, allowance allocation, offsetting, and use of resources for decarbonization.

Why is this important? National carbon rules reduce the risk of unilateral external standards, attract investment, and allow Brazil to compete in low-carbon markets with regulatory autonomy.

Roadmap Against Deforestation

The government approved the Roadmap to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. The document guides conservation, sustainable management, bioeconomy, restoration, monitoring, financing, and the fight against transnational environmental crime. The proposal seeks to translate multilateral climate decisions into verifiable policies and incorporates Brazil's COP30 legacy by engaging governments, local communities, productive sectors, and international cooperation mechanisms.

Why is this important? Forest preservation influences global climate, trade, and finance, strengthening Brazil's bargaining power and limiting external barriers related to deforestation, emissions, and value chains.

Food Security at COP31

The Ministry of Social Development will participate in COP31 in Antalya, presenting Brazilian experiences in food security, social protection, agroecology, sustainable food systems, and waste reduction. Programming includes panels on social technologies, public procurement, healthy food, cities, and climate-resilient value chains. The initiative seeks to expand international cooperation and bring food policy closer to the climate agenda, highlighting Brazilian strategies to combat hunger.

Why is this important? Food security and social protection condition climate adaptation, showing that domestic inequalities and international financing determine who bears the costs of the global crisis.

Diplomacy

COP30 International Roadmaps

The COP30 Presidency launched Roadmaps to move away from fossil fuels and to halt deforestation and forest degradation by 2030. The documents result from international consultations and propose turning climate commitments into measurable policies, investment, and results. The initiative emphasizes differentiated responsibilities, economic development, energy security, and multilateral cooperation to implement decisions previously adopted by participating countries.

Why is this important? The roadmaps challenge the rules governing the energy transition and climate finance, seeking to include Global South needs in decisions shaped by developed economies.

Brazil and Venezuela

Mauro Vieira met in Madrid with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Oliver Blanco on the margins of the Ibero-American Summit. The ministers discussed trade and cooperation with Amazon. Vieira invited Blanco to Brazil for an official visit, seeking to resume talks on the bilateral agenda. The meeting signals an attempt to rebuild pragmatic channels between the countries, with attention to regional integration, the Amazon border, and common development interests.

Why is this important? Rapprochement reduces South American fragmentation, strengthens Amazonian coordination, and expands Brazil's room for autonomy in the face of external geopolitical pressure on contemporary Venezuela.

Ibero American Summit

The 30th Ibero-American Summit brought together 22 countries in Madrid to discuss a digital alliance, artificial intelligence, reducing technological inequalities, disaster risks, sustainability, care, and academic mobility. The meeting approved instruments to expand regional cooperation in response to social, technological, and environmental challenges. The agenda sought to strengthen the Ibero-American community and project it internationally, connecting governments, organizations, universities, and economic sectors.

Why is this important? Ibero-American cooperation seeks to increase collective capacity in technology, social protection, and climate, reducing dependence on dominant poles of global innovation and finance.

Diplomacy

Information Interference at the OAS

Brazil brought the debate on foreign interference and information manipulation to the Organization of American States. The proposal includes alert exchanges, tracking of coordinated operations, preservation of digital evidence, and contact among authorities. The government stressed that the response must protect freedom of expression, journalism, and fundamental rights. The initiative seeks to strengthen electoral integrity, sovereignty, and regional legal cooperation in the face of new forms of transnational disinformation.

Why is this important? Platforms, algorithms, and data have become sources of structural power. Regional cooperation seeks to limit external manipulation of democracies and informational sovereignty in the Americas.

Brazil's Climate Legacy

The Ministry of Environment presented the COP30 Presidency Roadmaps on moving away from fossil fuels and halting deforestation. The documents will be taken to COP31 as a Brazilian legacy. The proposal links climate action, development, social justice, financing, and international cooperation, emphasizing the need to turn multilateral decisions into concrete results in participating countries' territories and economies.

Why is this important? Brazil's agenda seeks to turn environmental capital into normative influence, linking the global transition to justice, development, and financing for countries with less historical capacity.

Launch of the COP30 Presidency

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the launch of the COP30 Presidency's international Roadmaps. The documents address the energy transition and the halt of deforestation by 2030. Prepared through international consultations, they are voluntary contributions to support implementation of commitments under the Climate Convention. The Brazilian presidency will present their main elements at COP31 events in Antalya, Türkiye.

Why is this important? Climate diplomacy allows Brazil to influence global standards and link its environmental resources to finance, technology, and political recognition in decisive multilateral forums.

Diplomacy

Mauro Vieira in Madrid

Mauro Vieira represented President Lula at the 30th Ibero-American Summit in Madrid. The agenda included understandings on a digital alliance, disaster risk reduction, academic mobility, care, and a cooperation strategy for 2027 to 2030. The meeting also marked the transfer of the pro tempore secretariat from Spain to Honduras. Brazil's presence reinforced political dialogue with Latin America, Spain, Portugal, and other Ibero-American partners.

Why is this important? Ibero-American forums diversify diplomatic partners and channels, allowing Brazil to build coalitions on technology, social, and environmental issues amid competition among major powers.

National Congress

Peace and the U.S. Election

In a Senate plenary session, Paulo Paim linked the Democratic victory in the U.S. elections to the possibility of strengthening world peace. The debate took place during a special session on the Parliamentary Front for World Peace. Government representatives, civil society, the judiciary, the Catholic Church, and international organizations participated. The senator defended cooperation, political dialogue, democracy, and multilateralism as enduring instruments for preventing international conflicts.

Why is this important? Political change in the United States affects alliances, wars, and multilateral institutions because Washington retains structural power to shape global rules, priorities, and security.

Credit for Exporters

The joint committee approved a favorable report on the Provisional Measure for the Sovereign Brazil Plan 3, which makes up to R$18.5 billion available to exporting companies affected by U.S. tariffs and conflicts in the Middle East. The proposal must still be voted on by the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. The measure seeks to preserve production, jobs, companies, and foreign markets amid recent international trade shocks.

Why is this important? State credit reduces vulnerabilities stemming from tariffs and wars, preserving export capacity, productive capacity, and national autonomy in markets dominated by dominant powers.

National Congress

Crisis in Paraguay

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee reported that it is monitoring the political crisis in Paraguay following Santiago Peña's resignation during impeachment proceedings linked to the collapse of Ueno Bank. The Senate would seek information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Paraguayan embassy regarding Brazilian residents and potential economic impacts in cross-border regions between the two countries.

Why is this important? Paraguayan instability affects border integration, investment, and regional trade, revealing how financial institutions and political stability condition national capacities in the international capitalist system.

Democracy in Mercosur

The Senate approved the Montevideo Protocol on Commitment to Democracy in Mercosur, known as Ushuaia II. The text expands preventive mechanisms and regional responses to democratic threats. It provides for consultations with national authorities, diplomatic initiatives, and consensual measures among member countries. The instrument complements the 1998 protocol and will proceed to promulgation following approval by the Brazilian parliament.

Why is this important? Regional democratic rules strengthen institutional predictability, limit political ruptures, and protect integrated markets, thereby reducing South America's vulnerabilities to domestic crises and external pressures.

Brazil Croatia Education

The Senate approved an education cooperation agreement between Brazil and Croatia signed in 2023. The text will proceed to promulgation and formalizes the basis for exchanges, institutional ties, research, and joint educational initiatives. The measure expands the bilateral relationship in areas such as human development, knowledge exchange, cultural diplomacy, and institutional ties between the two countries.

Why is this important? Educational cooperation expands the circulation of knowledge and institutional networks, which are decisive resources for technological capacity, cultural influence, and less-dependent integration into international hierarchies.

National Congress

Defense Cooperation with Guyana

The Senate approved a military cooperation agreement between Brazil and Guyana, signed in 2009. The instrument facilitates border actions and the fight against transnational crime. It provides for exchanges of experience, cooperation in defense, science, technology, training, military equipment, and special operations. The agreement will proceed to promulgation and strengthen bilateral security mechanisms in the strategic Brazilian and Guyanese Amazon region.

Why is this important? Amazonian border control protects sovereignty, resources, and strategic routes, reducing space for criminal networks and external rivalries in an area central to Brazilian security.

Brazil Venezuela Space Cooperation

The Senate approved an agreement on cooperation in space science and technology between Brazil and Venezuela. The text provides for the peaceful exploration and use of space, prioritizing observation, knowledge, and monitoring of national territories. The instrument will proceed to promulgation. Cooperation may involve satellite capabilities, remote sensing, and environmental, territorial, and climate monitoring, bringing the two countries closer in a strategic technological field.

Why is this important? Space technology sustains informational sovereignty, territorial surveillance, and scientific autonomy, reducing dependence on infrastructure globally controlled by foreign powers and companies.

Polish Cultural Heritage

The Education and Culture Committee approved a bill establishing November 11 as National Day of Polish Cultural Heritage in Brazil. The date coincides with Polish independence and recognizes immigrants' contributions to the formation of Brazilian culture. The proposal provides for public dissemination and ceremonies. Approved conclusively, the text will proceed to presidential sanction unless an appeal is submitted to the Senate plenary.

Why is this important? Recognizing diasporas strengthens transnational cultural ties, public diplomacy, and international social networks, resources that expand Brazil's engagement beyond traditional state-to-state relations.

National Congress

Armed Groups in the Amazon

The Foreign Relations and National Defense Committee requested clarification on Colombian armed groups and criminal organizations involved in drug transportation through the tri-border area of Brazil, Colombia, and Peru. The request sought information on presence, movement, and preventive measures. The debate highlighted risks to national security, territorial integrity, and Brazilian sovereignty in the Amazon region, which is marked by cross-border illicit flows.

Why is this important? Transnational crime exploits fragile borders and state asymmetries, contesting territory, resources, and international circulation while weakening Brazilian sovereignty, security, and public authority.

Brazilian Embassy in Madrid

The Foreign Relations and National Defense Committee approved a request for explanations from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the support provided by Brazil's Embassy in Madrid for Fábio Luís Lula da Silva's move to Spain. The debate questioned institutional limits and the possible use of public resources. The committee requested clarification on logistical, diplomatic, human, and material support offered by the Brazilian representation.

Why is this important? External credibility depends on impersonal and transparent diplomatic institutions, because private use of public resources may reduce international trust and the state's negotiating capacity.

Protection of the Marine Environment

The Foreign Relations and National Defense Committee approved the 1996 London Protocol on preventing marine pollution by the dumping of wastes. The report highlighted the environmental, health, and economic threats posed by ocean waste. It also emphasized the Blue Amazon, relevant to biodiversity, minerals, energy, trade, and climate regulation. The text updates Brazil's international basis for exercising sovereign maritime rights.

Why is this important? Maritime governance protects trade routes, ocean resources, and environmental security, structural dimensions contested by states and corporations in the contemporary global economy.

National Congress

Agreements with the United Arab Emirates and Azerbaijan

The Foreign Relations Committee approved Brazilian agreements with the United Arab Emirates and Azerbaijan. The first regulates the transfer of sentenced persons, allowing them to serve their sentences near their families. The second promotes educational exchanges, research, academic mobility, and cultural cooperation. The instruments broaden bilateral ties in legal, humanitarian, and educational fields, linking Brazil to strategic partners in the Middle East and the Caucasus.

Why is this important? Legal and educational agreements diversify Brazil's links with strategic regions, expanding networks of cooperation, cultural influence, and institutional channels beyond traditional centers.

Parliamentary Diplomacy

The chair of the Foreign Relations and National Defense Committee criticized the government's foreign policy and called for diplomacy oriented toward enduring state interests. The congressman questioned relations with Argentina, Israel, and the United States, while demanding respect for Congress and greater priority for national defense. He also linked budget cuts to limited military capacity at Brazil's borders.

Why is this important? Domestic disputes over foreign policy affect coherence in negotiations, defense, and trade, shaping how Brazil responds to asymmetries imposed by major powers



The Republican defeat in the midterm elections reshapes the political environment in the United States, since it returns control of Congress to Democrats and broadens the limits on the White House agenda. Even so, it does not represent a reversal of U.S. China competition. China's technological containment, the protection of productive chains, and the contest for strategic minerals continue to mobilize business and legislative interests in both parties. Therefore, the electoral change may alter instruments, priorities, and interlocutors, but it is unlikely to eliminate pressure on partners such as Brazil.

In this setting, Brazil-United States relations may gain room in climate, trade, democracy, and science. However, competition over investment, technological content, regulatory standards, and access to mineral resources persists. With the Republican defeat in the midterm elections, the political environment in Washington is likely to be reconfigured, but competition with China will continue to run through the U.S. debate. The Lula government's foreign policy presents itself as independent and guided by diversified partnerships, without automatic alignment with the United States, China, or any other power. In this context, Brazil must manage commercial, technological, and geopolitical pressures while preserving its own room for decision-making.

For its part, the Paraguayan crisis introduces an immediate regional variable. The impeachment of Santiago Peña, followed by Pedro Alliana's inauguration amid a banking collapse, exposes the institutional and financial fragility of a central Mercosur partner. Instability may affect trade flows, energy integration, border security, and investors' perception of risk. In addition, Peña's replacement, given his identification as an ally of Donald Trump, creates uncertainty about the channels through which Washington will project influence in Asunción. However, Alliana has also advocated close relations with the United States.

For Brasília, the challenge is not to fill a power vacuum but to sustain regional predictability through Mercosur, financial cooperation, and political dialogue. Brazil's ability to coordinate responses without turning the crisis into a contest of alignments will be relevant to South American stability. In summary, the new balance in Washington and the rupture in Asunción broaden the importance of a Brazilian diplomacy that combines autonomy, economic diversification, regional coordination, and the ability to negotiate selectively with all major powers.

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