

WEEKLY REPORT



12/18/21

POLITICS

BRAZIL'S SUPREME COURT MAJORITY VOTES FOR MANDATORY VACCINE PASSPORT

The Federal Supreme Court (STF) has reached a majority in the trial analyzing the injunction of Justice Luis Roberto Barroso, who last Saturday ruled that the vaccine passport is mandatory for travelers entering Brazil. So far, the rapporteur Justice Barroso, Cármen Lúcia, Alexandre de Moraes, Rosa Weber, Edson Fachin and STF Chief Luiz Fux have voted, totaling 6. No justice has voted against so far. The trial takes place in the Virtual Plenary of the STF and will continue until 11:59 PM today, Thursday, December 16. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S FORMER FEDERAL ATTORNEY GENERAL TAKES OFFICE AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Former Federal Attorney General André Mendonça was sworn in yesterday, December 16, as a Federal Supreme Court (STF) Justice. Nominated by President Jair Bolsonaro and approved by the Senate, Mendonça will fill the seat vacated by Justice Marco Aurélio, sworn in in 1990 and retired in July this year when turning 75. This is Bolsonaro's second nomination to the Supreme Court. Last year, the President nominated Justice Nunes Marques to Celso de Mello's chair, who also retired. [Read more.](#)

NEW STF JUSTICE MENDONÇA WILL INHERIT CASES AGAINST BOLSONARO

After having his name endorsed by the Senate, André Mendonça will take office at the Federal Supreme Court this Thursday, December 16. He will inherit the reporting of 967 proceedings. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO SAYS NEW DEMARCATION LINES FOR INDIGENOUS COULD RENDER BRAZILIAN AGRIBUSINESS IMPOSSIBLE

According to the President, if the Federal Supreme Court allows the recognition of new areas of traditional indigenous occupation after 1988, the decision "simply buries Brazil". [Read more.](#)

SURVEY: BRAZILIANS NOT YET THINKING ABOUT 2022 ELECTIONS

Brazilians are not yet considering the elections and, therefore, are more sensitive to the issues of the moment, points out a Modalmais/Futura survey, released on Tuesday, December 14. [Read more.](#)

JUSTICE EDSON FACHIN ELECTED BRAZIL'S NEXT HEAD OF TOP ELECTORAL COURT

Justice Edson Fachin today (Dec. 17) was elected the next chief justice of Brazil's Superior Electoral Court (TSE), to take office on February 28. Justice Alexandre de Moraes will be second in charge. The election is usually protocol, with Supreme Court justices who work at the TSE taking turns in its chair. Fachin is to replace Justice Luís Roberto Barroso. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO CAMPAIGN SEEKS OWN POLLING INSTITUTE

Faced with a succession of electoral polls that place Jair Bolsonaro (PL) far behind ex-president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT), the President's allies argued in favor of hiring a polling institute

of their own. The issue has been discussed with Valdemar da Costa Neto, president of PL, Bolsonaro's party. The resources to pay for the polls cannot be public. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO MINISTERS: SERGIO MORO WOULD NOT LAST 90 DAYS

Behind the scenes, Ministers of President Jair Bolsonaro have been spreading a bleak prognosis for a potential future government of Sergio Moro (Podemos). Bolsonaro's staff believes that, if elected president in 2022, Moro "would not last 90 days" in office. He would be toppled by Congress within this time. [Read more.](#)

ECONOMY MINISTER SAYS COUNTRY WILL SLOW DOWN IN 2022

Economy Minister Paulo Guedes said today (15) that the country should experience an economic slowdown in 2022. According to him, the drop will be due to the effect of higher interest rates and the fight against inflation. However, according to the minister, the slowdown may be counterbalanced by the increase in investments already contracted, arising from privatizations, and by Auxílio Brasil, which should increase consumption. [Read more.](#)

INCREASE IN BRAZIL'S CORE INFLATION WORRIES, SAYS CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT

In Brazil, the president of BC said that the measures to combat the pandemic were effective and allowed a faster return to activity. However, he said it is now possible to see emerging countries accelerating more strongly than the Brazilian economy. [Read more](#)

BRAZIL'S CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT: "FED DECISION HAS LITTLE BEARING ON WHAT BRAZIL WILL DO"

Central Bank President Roberto Campos Neto on Thursday said in a press conference on the Quarterly Inflation Report (RTI) that the change in the Federal Reserve's monetary policy positioning will not greatly affect the Brazilian institution's strategy. Campos Neto recalled that some Central Banks assumed that inflation was a transitory issue, with supply-linked causes, but argued that the figures do not corroborate this, as defended a few months ago. "The Fed has been assuming that inflation is more persistent and with a demand component." [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO GOVERNMENT FAILS TO DELIVER ON PRIVATIZATION

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's government has arranged more than 35 privatizations during its time in office. However, political pressures and lack of support from citizens and Congress have forced it to back down on its promises. [Read more.](#)

ELETRORAS' PRIVATIZATION IS MAINTAINED FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2022

Despite the postponement of the analysis of the privatization of Eletrobras by the Federal Court of Accounts (TCU), the government maintained the schedule for the auction for the capitalization of the company in the first half of next year. According to the Investment Partnership Program Council (CPPI), the sale of Union shares to private investors should take place in the first four months of 2022. The Special Secretary for Privatization, Divestment and Markets at the Ministry of Economy, Diogo Mac Cord, said that, despite the TCU minister Vital do Rêgo having asked for a review, the agency gave the approval for the government to continue with the next stages of privatization. Eletrobras. "This was a great victory and a great recognition of the government's work", he declared. [Read more.](#)

PRESIDENT EDITS MP TO ADDRESS IMPACTS ON THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR

President Jair Bolsonaro edited, in an extra edition of the Official Gazette published this Monday (13), a provisional measure (MP) that allows the structuring of credit operations to cover the additional costs of electricity distributors resulting from the shortage to be amortized with funds from the Energy Development Account (CDE). These costs will be paid with the creation of a specific tariff charge for this purpose. [Read more.](#)

CHAMBER APPROVES MICRO AND SMALL BUSINESS DEBT PROGRAM

The Chamber of Deputies approved this Thursday (16) the debt installment program for micro and small companies participating in the Simples Nacional, including individual micro-entrepreneurs (MEI) and companies undergoing judicial recovery. The matter goes to presidential approval. [Read more.](#)

CHAMBER REGULATES ICMS PAYMENT ON INTERSTATE TRANSACTIONS

The Chamber of Deputies approved this Thursday (16) the bill that regulates procedures for the payment of the Tax on Circulation of Goods and Services (ICMS) in interstate transactions of goods and services in purchases when the consumer does not live in the state in which he was purchased the product. The text returns for analysis by the Senate. [Read more.](#)

CONGRESS ENACTS REMAINING PART OF THE PEC OF THE PRECATÓRIOS

The president of the Senate and the National Congress, Rodrigo Pacheco, promulgated this afternoon (16) the still pending sections of the Constitution Amendment Proposal (PEC) 46/21, the so-called PEC dos Precatórios. Yesterday (15), the Chamber concluded the vote on the amended sections of the PEC in the Senate. A part of the PEC, with the sections of consensus already formed in the two Houses, had been promulgated last week. [Read more.](#)

FERNANDO BEZERRA LEAVES GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP IN THE SENATE

Senator Fernando Bezerra Coelho (MDB-PE) handed in this Wednesday (15) the position of government leader in the Senate. The senator informed that the request was formalized to President Jair Bolsonaro, whom he thanked for his confidence in exercising the function. The decision was taken a day after Bezerra took third place, with just seven votes, in the dispute for a position as minister of the Federal Court of Accounts (TCU). Senator Antonio Anastasia (PSDB-MG) was in first place with 52 votes and senator Kátia Abreu (PP-TO) had 19 votes. Anastasia's nomination needs to be analyzed by the Chamber of Deputies. [Read more.](#)

AT MERCOSUR SUMMIT, BOLSONARO ARGUES FOR QUICK ANTI-INFLATION EFFORTS

President Jair Bolsonaro today (Dec. 17), argued for a quick fight against inflation, including efforts with international scope. In Brazil, the National Broad Consumer Price Index (IPCA), which gauges the country's official inflation, stood at 0.95 percent in November, and is up 9.26 percent year to date and 10.74 percent year on year—the sharpest surge since November 2003. [Read more.](#)

IMF ANNOUNCES CLOSING OF OFFICE IN BRAZIL

After 23 years with representation in the country, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced today (16) the closing of its office in Brazil. The unit in Brasília will close on June 30, 2022, when the mandate of the current representative of the agency in the country will end. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL CAN BE HIGHLIGHTED AS A PROVIDER OF LOW CARBON SOLUTIONS

The Brazilian Center for International Relations (Cebri), in partnership with the Energy Research Company (EPE) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) launched today (15th) the study of the Energy Transition Program (PTE), which provides a diagnosis of the Brazilian energy sector, drawn from debates organized throughout this year. Public authorities and decision makers from the private sector participated in the debates. [Read more.](#)

NOVEMBER REGISTERS A 19% DROP IN DEFORESTATION IN THE AMAZON

Deforestation in the Amazon Region registered a decrease of 19%, compared to the same period in 2020. Data from the Deter-B system (Deforestation Detection in Real Time), by the Space Research Institute (Inpe), were presented this Tuesday (14) by the Minister of the Environment, Joaquim Leite. During a press conference, accompanied by the Minister of Justice and Public Security, Anderson Torres, Leite highlighted that the month of November registered

the smallest area of deforestation alerts in the Amazon since the beginning of the historical series that began in 2016. [Read more.](#)

HEALTH

APPROVED BY THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, PROVISIONAL MEASURE ABOUT THE UPDATE OF THE ANS LIST NOW GOES TO THE FEDERAL SENATE

The Plenary of the Chamber of Deputies approved, on Tuesday (14), the text of Congresswoman Silvia Cristina (PDT-RO) to Provisional Measure 1067/2021, which amends Law No. 9,656, of June 3, 1998. The approved text defines that the evaluation of the inclusion of antineoplastics for oral use on the ANS list will follow the procedure of other technologies, and the analysis must be completed within a maximum period of 180 days. From the date the incorporation request was filed, the National Supplementary Health Agency has 120 days to evaluate, a period that can be extended for another 60 days. [Read more.](#)

FEDERAL SENATE PLENARY APPROVES TWO ANS NOMINATIONS

The Federal Senate Plenary approved, this Thursday (16), two nominations from the Executive Branch for vacancies on the board of the National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS). Thus, the name of Eliane Aparecida de Castro Medeiros is approved. She will fill the vacancy of Paulo Roberto Vanderlei Rebello Filho, who assumed the role of CEO of ANS. Eliane Medeiros has a degree in law, specializing in public policy. She is retired from the Public Defender of Minas Gerais and is currently vice president of the Association of Public Defenders in the state. From 2012 to 2013, she was a legal assistant at the Extraordinary Secretariat for Metropolitan Management of the government of Minas Gerais. Another approved name was Maurício Nunes da Silva, nominated for the vacancy resulting from the end of the term of Rodrigo Rodrigues de Aguiar. Graduated in administration, with specialization in public finance and master's degree in public administration from Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV-RJ), Silva has been a civil servant at ANS since 2007, where he currently holds the position of deputy director of Inspection. Prior to that, he was deputy director of the agency's Product Licensing and Standards Directorate. The Federal Senate Plenary did not vote on the names of Alexandre Fioranelli and Antonio Barreira De Araujo, who had their nominations approved by CAS. The President of the Republic published, in an extra edition of the Official Gazette of the Union this Wednesday (15), messages 692/2021 and 693/2021 requesting the removal of the names of the nominees. [Read more.](#)

VOTING ON THE VETO ON THE BILL THAT DEALS WITH THE COMPULSORY LICENSING OF PATENTS POSTPONED

After a meeting of the leaders to discuss the vetoes to be analyzed in a session of the National Congress scheduled for this Friday (17), it was decided to postpone the vote on veto 48/2021, affixed to Bill 12/2021, which deals with on the compulsory licensing of patents or patent applications in cases of declaration of national, international or public interest emergency, or recognition of a state of public calamity nationwide. [Read more.](#)

MINISTRY OF HEALTH MAY PROVIDE CLARIFICATION ON THE END OF PRIOR CONSENT BY ANVISA IN PATENT APPLICATIONS

Congresswoman Talíria Petrone (PSOL-RJ) presented Information Request 1459/2021, which requests the Minister of Health, Mr. Marcelo Queiroga, for information on the processing of patent applications with the end of prior consent by the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa). The congressman explained that the revocation of prior consent by the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) in patent applications for pharmaceutical products and processes from Provisional Measure 1040/2021, later consolidated by the publication of Law 14195/2021, occurred without any study impact on its developments. [Read more.](#)

INTERVAL OF THE 3RD DOSE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE WILL BE FOUR MONTHS

The Ministry of Health will reduce the application interval of the third dose of the vaccine against covid-19 from five to four months. The information was released by the Minister of Health, Marcelo Queiroga, on Twitter. According to the minister, the ordinance with this change will be published next Monday (20). [Read more.](#)

ANVISA AUTHORIZES PFIZER'S VACCINE AGAINST COVID-19 IN CHILDREN

The National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) approved the use of the vaccine produced by the Pfizer-BioNTech consortium, Comirnaty, against covid-19 in children aged 5 to 11 years. Approval was announced today (16), after a technical assessment by the agency, on the request presented in November, indicating the use of the vaccine for this audience. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO WANTS NAMES OF VACCINE-APPROVING OFFICIALS DESPITE DEATH THREATS

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said on Thursday that he has asked for the names of health officials that had approved COVID-19 vaccines for children in Brazil, saying he planned to make their identities public despite previous death threats. [Read more.](#)

SOCIAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CREATES SUBCOMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE MODERNIZATION OF LEGISLATION IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

In a deliberative meeting held this Tuesday (14), the Committee on Social Security and Family (CSSF) installed the Special Subcommittee to discuss the modernization and improvement of legislation applicable to the Unified Health System. [Read more.](#)

SOCIAL SECURITY COMMITTEE APPROVES FINAL REPORT OF THE RARE DISEASES SUBCOMMITTEE

The Committee on Social Security and Family (CSSF) of the Chamber of Deputies approved this Tuesday (14) the final report of the Subcommittee on Rare Diseases, with a focus on the Neonatal Screening Program. [Read more.](#)

APPOINTED RAPPORTEUR OF THE BILL THAT DEFINES CRITERIA FOR PRICES OF GENE, CELL AND STEM CELL THERAPIES

The Consumer Defense Committee (CDC) appointed deputy Vinicius Carvalho (Republicanos-SP) rapporteur of Bill 3499/2021, which defines the use of differentiated criteria for the definition of prices for gene, cell and stem cell therapies, with the objective of contemplating the specificities and particularities of each type of technology and its research and development process. [Read more.](#)

COMMITTEE CONCLUDES VOTE ON PROPOSAL THAT ALLOWS PRIVATE PRODUCTION OF RADIOISOTOPES

The special committee of the Chamber of Deputies that analyzes the possibility of production of radioisotopes for medical use by the private sector concluded this Wednesday (15th) the vote on the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution (PEC) 517/2010, by the Senate, which deals with the subject matter. The last highlight of the report by Deputy General Peternelli (PSL-SP) was rejected. With that, the text can go on for analysis by the Plenary of the Chamber. [Read more.](#)

CONGRESSMAN SPONSORS BILL TO CREATE A NATIONAL FUND AGAINST CANCER

Deputy Weliton Prado (PROS-MG) presented Bill 4434/2021, to create the National Fund to Fight Cancer (Funcancer), with the purpose of providing resources and means to finance actions for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease. [Read more.](#)

APPROVED URGENCY FOR THE ANALYSIS OF THE BILL THAT DEFINES THE PRACTICE OF TELEMEDICINE IN BRAZIL

The Plenary of the Chamber of Deputies approved, off the agenda, in a deliberative session held on Thursday (16), Application No. 2783/2021, requesting the urgent assessment of Bill No. 1998/2020 and its appendices, which authorizes and defines the practice of telemedicine throughout the national territory. [Read more.](#)

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FEDERAL SENATE PASSES BIL WITH MORE TIME TO FINALIZE THE NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL SYSTEM

The Senate Plenary approved this Wednesday (15) the bill that extends to 2025 the deadline for full implementation of the National System for Control of Medicines (SNCM) (PL 2.552/2021). The project goes to the Chamber of Deputies. The SNCM was conceived in 2009 to track all medicines in circulation in the country, from manufacture to consumption (Law 11,903, 2009). According to the original deadlines, it should have been fully operational in 2012, but a change in legislation has postponed this forecast to 2022. Now, the bill approved by the Senate is postponed for another three years. The rapporteur of the text, senator Nelsinho Trad (PSD-MS), explained that the measure is justified because the covid-19 pandemic interfered in the preparations. [Read more.](#)

FLU OUTBREAK HITS AT LEAST FIVE STATES

After Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, other states and capitals have raised the alert for an unusual increase in flu cases. With the demand high for health facilities, they have opened exclusive spaces for these patients and have mobilized vaccination. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S FIOCRUZ TO TEST FLU VACCINE AGAINST NEW H3N2 VARIANT

In addition to the considerable number of cases, the flu epidemic in Rio de Janeiro has a worrisome component. Among the variants of the influenza virus circulating in the city, there is a recent mutation of the H3N2 that had not yet been identified in Brazil. [Read more.](#)