

WEEKLY REPORT



02/06/21

POLITICS

BOLSONARO ALLIES WIN CONTROL OF BOTH HOUSES OF BRAZIL'S CONGRESS

Bolsonaro's victories in Congress should help him resist the clamor for his impeachment from critics of his alleged mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic that has killed some 224,000 Brazilians. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO MEETS NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENTS OF CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, SENATE

On Wednesday, February 3rd, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro (no party affiliation) met the newly elected president of the Chamber of Deputies, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), and that of the Senate, Rodrigo Pacheco (DEM-MG), to present his program on healthcare, economic recovery and state reform, to be debated in Congress. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S NEW SENATE LEADER AIMS FOR TAX REFORM WITHIN EIGHT MONTHS

Brazil's new Senate leader said on Thursday, February 4th, that he aims to approve tax reform in six to eight months and that he is working urgently to extend aid to millions of the country's poorest and most vulnerable people. [Read more.](#)

GUEDES SAYS HE FEELS CONFIDENT THAT CONGRESS CAN RESUME ECONOMIC REFORMS

Minister Paulo Guedes (Economy) feels confident that with the new leaders of Congress and the Senate, he can resume his structural reform agenda. Guedes met with Congressional leader Arthur Lira (PP-AL) on Thursday night, and scheduled a meeting with Senate president, Rodrigo Pacheco (DEM-MG). President Jair Bolsonaro (no party) supported the two newly elected leaders. [Read more.](#)

ANALYSIS: BRAZIL'S CRAZY TAX SYSTEM CREATES "BRAZIL COST" FOR NEW BUSINESSES

The Brazilian tax insanity was a demand from those who asked for a differentiated treatment. But Congress and the Planalto have their share of responsibility. Perhaps the greatest of all in this process. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO BOOED WHILE ANNOUNCING GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES TO CONGRESS

Opposition lawmakers booed Brazil's right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro on Wednesday, February 3rd, as he addressed a joint session of Congress to lay out his legislative priorities for the year. [Read more.](#)

'SEE YOU IN 2022', SAYS BOLSONARO WHEN CALLED A GENOCIDIST AND FASCIST IN CONGRESS

President Jair Bolsonaro (no party) was confronted by members of the PSOL party this Wednesday afternoon (3), when he participated in the opening ceremony of Brazil's Congress.

PSOL parliamentarians called him "fascist" and "genocidist" while wearing T-shirts and carrying banners that said "Down with the Genocidist" and "Impeachment Now." In response, Bolsonaro's allies shouted: "Mito" (myth)– a popular nickname for the president. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO CLAIMS ARMING PEOPLE FIGHTS CRIME, PREVENTS DICTATORSHIP BY RULERS

President Jair Bolsonaro said yesterday, February 4th, that he is not afraid of an armed people because that prevents a ruler from becoming a dictator. He also announced that he is preparing new measures in favor of access to arms by civilians. [Read more.](#)

AFTER SEVEN YEARS, BRAZIL SHUTS DOWN CAR WASH ANTI-CORRUPTION TASK FORCE

Brazil's Car Wash ("Lava Jato") anti-corruption unit has officially shut down, the end of an era for a team of prosecutors that helped send dozens of Latin American political and business leaders to jail, including several former presidents. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO FACES BACKLASH AFTER BRAZIL CORRUPTION PROBE IS SCRAPPED

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro is facing a political backlash after the task force at the centre of the long-running Lava Jato — or Car Wash — anti-corruption probe was disbanded. For almost seven years, prosecutors based in the southern city of Curitiba investigated a vast contracts-for-kickbacks scheme that ensnared hundreds of Brazil's most prominent politicians and businessmen. The nationwide probe — which eventually spread around Latin America — resulted in almost 300 guilty verdicts, including the imprisonment of former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Another former president, Michel Temer, was arrested and released but remains under investigation. [Read more.](#)

STRUCK BY AMAZON FIRES, BRAZILIANS SAY THEY WANT GREATER ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The study on climate change views, organized by Brazil's Institute of Technology and Society and the U.S.-based Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, found younger Brazilians see global warming as a major threat to their lives now, as well as in the future. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S VP MOURÃO ADVOCATES NEW DEVELOPMENT MODEL FOR AMAZON REGION

Brazil's Vice-President Hamilton Mourão, on February 2nd, advocated a new development model for the Amazon. Early in the evening, Mourão joined a meeting of the Judiciary Environmental Observatory, promoted by the National Council of Justice (CNJ). [Read more.](#)

EUROPEANS WANT ENVIRONMENTAL RULES FOR IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL AND EMERGING COUNTRIES

The European Union has cautioned that agricultural expansion is the greatest threat to forests and made it clear that it will insist on a commitment to prevent commodity production and supply chains from promoting environmental damage, including in the Amazon. [Read more.](#)

INTERVIEW: BRAZIL WILL SUFFER ECONOMICALLY UNLESS IT COOPERATES IN ENVIRONMENTAL AREA

One of the main allies of French president Emmanuel Macron on the environmental area, European Parliament deputy Pascal Canfin, 46, says that the continent's market for Brazilian products that contribute to deforestation will be progressively closed. [Read more.](#)

BIDEN RECEIVES FILE REQUESTING SUSPENSION OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN USA AND BRAZIL

The cabinet of U.S. President Joe Biden this week received a long file signed by academics and non-governmental organizations calling for a freeze on diplomatic negotiations with Brazil, as

well as the suspension of the import of products linked to deforestation in the Amazon. [Read more.](#)

BIDEN GOVERNMENT STRESSES CLIMATE ISSUE AND WANTS TO WORK WITH BRAZIL, SAYS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR

The U.S. Ambassador to Brazil, Todd Chapman, said on Friday, February 5th, that President Joe Biden's administration has been emphasizing issues related to climate change and wants to be a "good partner" for Brazil in the area. Chapman spoke with journalists after meeting with Vice-President Hamilton Mourão on Friday. According to him, the Biden government has been paying "much attention" on issues related to the environmental area and wants to step up cooperation with Brazil. Biden placed climate issues and environmental preservation among his government's top priorities, inaugurated on January 20th. [Read more.](#)

HEALTH

BRAZIL'S TOP PROSECUTOR PROBES BOLSONARO OVER MANAUS COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Brazil's prosecutor-general has opened a preliminary investigation into its president and health minister for possible negligence in response to a COVID-19 outbreak in Manaus city, according to a document seen by Reuters on Thursday, February 4th. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL TO ALLOW EMERGENCY USE OF COVID-19 VACCINES TESTED ABROAD

Brazilian health regulator Anvisa said on Wednesday it would alter the requirements around emergency use authorizations of COVID-19 vaccines to allow for the approval of vaccines tested outside the country. [Read more.](#)

SENATE APPROVES BRAZIL'S ENTRY INTO VACCINE CONSORTIUM AND GIVES ANVISA 5 DAYS TO GRANT AUTHORIZATIONS

The Senate approved a provisional measure this Thursday (4) that authorizes the entry of Brazil into the World Health Organization's Covax Facility consortium. This will stimulate vaccine development and make vaccines against the novel coronavirus available. [Read more.](#)

WITHOUT SUFFICIENT VACCINE DOSES, BRAZIL REMAINS SILENT IN WTO TO PREVENT CRISIS WITH INDIA

In a change of stance faced with its vulnerability regarding vaccine supply, the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Itamaraty) chose to remain silent during a meeting at the World Trade Organization (WTO) on Thursday, February 4th, which discussed India's proposal to allow the breach of patents on immunizers. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL DRUGMAKER SEEKS CONTRACT, REGULATORY OK FOR RUSSIAN VACCINE NEXT WEEK

Brazilian drug maker União Química expects to have regulatory approval and a government contract by next week for Russia's Sputnik V vaccine against COVID-19, its director for international business Rogerio Rosso told Reuters on Friday. [Read more.](#)

INDIA'S COVAXIN VACCINE TO BE TESTED IN BRAZIL

The Albert Einstein Hospital's Instituto Israelita de Ensino e Pesquisa (Israeli Institute of Teaching and Research) is expected to begin in March Phase 3 trials of the Covaxin vaccine for a period ranging from 45 to 90 days, with results scheduled for May. Approximately 3,000 volunteers will be tested in five reference centers. The vaccine is being developed in India by the Bharat Biotech laboratory. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL TO BUY 20 MILLION MORE DOSES OF CHINA'S CORONAVAC, GOVERNOR SAYS

Brazil is in talks to buy an additional 20 million doses of the coronavirus vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Biotech, the governor of Sao Paulo told Reuters in a Thursday interview, in a show of confidence in the Chinese shot. [Read more.](#)

FIOCRUZ OPENS BIDDING PROCESS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LATIN AMERICA'S LARGEST BIOPHARMA COMPLEX

The Ministry of Health and the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) yesterday launched a public notice opening the bidding process for hiring investors interested in building the new Industrial Complex of Biotechnology in Health (CIBS) in Santa Cruz, in western Rio de Janeiro. [Read more.](#)

ANALYSIS: BRAZIL HAS NEGOTIATED VACCINE DOSES TO ACHIEVE HERD IMMUNITY BY OCTOBER

Considering the local production capacity of vaccines and the contracts already signed with pharmaceutical companies worldwide, Brazil should achieve herd immunity against Covid-19 in October this year, two months after the United States and almost at the same time as Japan and the European Union. In the South American continent, herd immunity should be reached only in March 2022. [Read more.](#)

VACCINATION RATE IN BRAZIL ALMOST FIVE TIMES FASTER THAN NEW DAILY CASES

Vaccination in Brazil is only just beginning, but the pace is encouraging in relation to the number of new cases per day. The latest update of a Bloomberg website survey of immunization rates around the world shows that the daily dose rollout average in the country has reached 231,695. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL INVESTED R\$6 BILLION IN COVID-19 VACCINES, SAYS MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Ministry of Health announced yesterday that it has already spent R\$6 (US\$1.1) billion to secure the immunization of the Brazilian population against Covid-19 since June 2020. To date, Brazil has authorized the emergency use of two vaccines against the disease: the CoronaVac and the Oxford/AstraZeneca. According to the announcement, Brazil is also negotiating with Pfizer, Janssen, Precisa/Bharat Biotech and União Química/Gamaleya, the latter two now hinge on the release of contract drafts, costs and delivery schedules for technical review. [Read more.](#)

NUMBER OF COVID ICU BEDS FUNDED BY MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN FEBRUARY HALF THAT OF JANUARY

Despite the worsening of the coronavirus pandemic in Brazil, this February only half of the ICU beds to treat patients with Covid-19 funded by the Ministry of Health in January will be available – in the health emergency, the federal portfolio pays part of the costs alongside states and municipalities. [Read more.](#)