

WEEKLY REPORT



06/12/21

POLITICS

BRAZIL HAS SIGNALLED WTO AGREEMENT TO NEGOTIATE VACCINE PATENT SUSPENSION

The Brazilian government has said for the first time that it accepts to negotiate and stresses that it will seek "tangible results" in the shortest possible time frame. Brazil on Tuesday announced at the World Trade Organization (WTO) that it is ready to start negotiating on the proposed patent suspension during the Covid-19 pandemic. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL TO SERVE ON THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IN 2022 AND 2023

Brazil was elected this Friday, June 11, as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 2022-2023 biennium, equaling Japan as the country that has been selected for this body the most times. It will be the eleventh time that Brazil sits on the highest decision-making body of the United Nations, where for years it has been demanding a permanent seat. [Read more.](#)

U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL TODD CHAPMAN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

The United States' ambassador to Brazil, Todd Chapman, said on Thursday that he is retiring for "positive personal reasons" after a State Department career stretching back 30 years, and will move to Denver, Colorado to be closer to family. [Read more.](#)

"NO ONE WILL DICTATE ANYTHING TO ANYONE," SAYS BRAZILIAN NEGOTIATOR ON MERCOSUR REFORM

Brazil's main negotiator in MERCOSUR, Ambassador Pedro Miguel da Costa e Silva, Foreign Ministry Secretary of Bilateral and Regional Negotiations in the Americas, said that there is no interest in forcing a new Common External Tariff (TEC) on Argentina and other bloc members. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO CHALLENGES BARROSO AND SAYS THAT IF CONGRESS APPROVES, 'WE WILL HAVE A PAPER BALLOT AND THAT'S IT'

In the habit of casting suspicions about the Brazilian electoral system without evidence, President Jair Bolsonaro used his weekly social media livestream this Thursday (10) to challenge the president of the TSE (Superior Electoral Court), justice Luís Roberto Barroso on the paper ballot. "If Congress approves the printed vote, we will have elections with a paper ballot, period. This issue will no longer be discussed. Period," Bolsonaro said. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S LEADING EMPLOYMENT INDICATOR IN MAY SHOWS CONTINUED RECOVERY – FGV

Brazil's Antecedent Indicator of Employment showed continued recovery in the labor market in May, although the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) on Friday alerted to risks to this movement. [Read more.](#)

EMERGENCY AID TO BE RENEWED FOR ANOTHER 2 OR 3 MONTHS – BRAZIL'S ECONOMY MINISTER

According to the Minister, once the payment of aid installments comes to an end, the government will implement a new, redesigned Bolsa Família (Family Grant). Economy Minister Paulo Guedes said on Tuesday, June 8, that the government should extend the round of emergency aid payments to the most vulnerable for another "two or three months," hoping to buy time to advance Covid-19 vaccination. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL INFLATION TO PEAK IN JUNE OR JULY - ECONOMY MINISTRY OFFICIAL

Brazil has some "issues" with inflation right now, but it will peak in June or July then fall toward the central bank's target range thanks to combined monetary and fiscal policy action, a senior Economy Ministry official said on Wednesday. [Read more.](#)

EXCHANGE RATE: U.S. DOLLAR NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS LEVELS – BRAZIL'S ECONOMY MINISTER

Economy Minister Paulo Guedes said on Tuesday that the exchange rate has experienced what he classifies as "overshooting" and that the dollar rate, currently around R\$5.00, should not return to its previous R\$5.60-R\$5.80 high levels. "The exchange rate is also calming down, because we have indeed observed what we classify as overshooting." [Read more.](#)

MOURÃO SAYS BOLSONARO AUTHORIZED NEW MILITARY OPERATION IN THE AMAZON

Vice-President Hamilton Mourão today, Friday 11, said that President Jair Bolsonaro has authorized a new operation by the Armed Forces to fight environmental crimes in the Amazon region. [Read more.](#)

BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT LASHES OUT AT 'THE ECONOMIST' OVER LATEST COVER STORY

The Brazilian Government is lashing out at the British magazine The Economist. It accuses it of creating a "fallacious, histrionic and exaggerated" narrative after a critical report against the administration of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro. In a series of tweets published Sunday night, the Government Communication Secretariat (Secom) asserts that The Economist "buries journalistic ethics" and "extrapolates all the limits of public debate" in its special report, entitled "Time to go" and in which Christ the Redeemer appears with shortness of breath. [Read more.](#)

HEALTH

BOLSONARO SAYS THAT BRAZIL'S MINISTER OF HEALTH IS PREPARING TO RECOMMEND NO MASKS FOR THE VACCINATED AND ALREADY INFECTED

President Jair Bolsonaro said this Thursday (10) that the Health Minister, Marcelo Queiroga, is preparing a recommendation in which those who have been vaccinated or infected already do not have to wear masks. "I just talked to a man named Queiroga, I don't know if you know who he is. Our Minister of Health. He's going to finalize a recommendation aimed at freeing those who are vaccinated or who have already been contaminated from wearing masks, which obviously, has its uses for those who are infected," said the president. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO SAYS BRAZIL MIGHT BE ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WITH THE LOWEST COVID DEATH RATES

The president of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro, insisted on Wednesday that the number of deaths from covid-19 in Brazil is "inflated" and argued that, in fact, the country might be "one of the countries with the lowest rate of deaths per inhabitant" in the world. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO ADVOCATES HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE USE DURING KEY DELIVERY CEREMONY

President Jair Bolsonaro once again advocated the use of hydroxychloroquine for the treatment of Covid-19. On Friday afternoon, June 11, during a key delivery ceremony of 434 low-income

houses to families in the municipality of São Mateus (ES), Bolsonaro said he chose to take to the streets since the beginning of the pandemic rather than "staying at the Alvorada Palace" and that when he contracted the disease, he took the drug. [Read more.](#)

SINOVAC URGED BOLSONARO GOVERNMENT TO STOP CRITICIZING CHINA TO ENSURE VACCINE CONTRACT FULFILMENT

The Butantan Institute has received less active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) than agreed with the Asian pharmaceutical company, which in a meeting with diplomats complained about Brazil's stance. Sinovac laboratory executives urged the government of Jair Bolsonaro to stop criticizing China to ensure compliance with contracts for coronavirus vaccines, according to Brazilian diplomats. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL'S CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES PASSES BILL AUTHORIZING MEDICAL CULTIVATION OF CANNABIS

The bill authorizing the legalization of controlled cultivation of cannabis sativa in Brazil for medicinal and scientific purposes was passed on Tuesday, June 8, by the Chamber of Deputies. The text was being processed by a special committee established to analyze Bill 399/15, in conclusive terms. The text was then dispensed from passing through the plenary session and should be forwarded to the Senate. [Read more.](#)

BOLSONARO TELLS SUPREME COURT HE WAS NOT IRRESPONSIBLE IN PROMPTING CROWDS IN BRAZIL

Answering a request by Federal Supreme Court (STF) Justice Edson Fachin, the federal government justified the violations of restrictive measures committed by President Jair Bolsonaro during the pandemic. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL OK'S CLINICAL TESTS FOR HOMEGROWN COVID VACCINE BUTANVAC

The vaccine developed by Butantan, one of Brazil's two top biomedical research centers, will not need imported active ingredients like the main vaccines produced in Brazil, the AstraZeneca shot and Sinovac Biotech's CoronaVac. [Read more.](#)

COVID-19: MAP SHOWS 'EXTREMELY HIGH' TRANSMISSION ACROSS MOST OF BRAZIL

Based on data from SIVEP-Gripe, the Ministry of Health's Epidemiological Surveillance Information System on Influenza, and corrected estimates, researchers observed the growth in the number of hospitalizations for SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) by date of first symptoms and found that in the week starting June 7, community transmission of the virus is "extremely high" in all states, except for Roraima and Espírito Santo. [Read more.](#)

BRAZIL LAGGING BEHIND IN PANDEMIC, GRIPPED BY FEAR – RESEARCH

The research surveyed Brazilians' expectations of the pandemic's side effects, reaching a scenario it described as a "double crisis of mental health and unemployment." The vast majority of Brazilians (90%) say they are still "thinking as if they were in the pandemic," compared to 65% of Germans, 56% of Americans, and 35% of Chinese. And 78% of Brazilians are worried about another pandemic on its way, worse than Covid-19. [Read more.](#)