

# WEEKLY REPORT



05/22/21

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## POLITICS

### **COVID CPI PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE IS A NATIONAL EMBARRASSMENT – BOLSONARO**

President Jair Bolsonaro used his weekly live stream to attack the Covid CPI and the senators who make up the committee against the federal government's role in managing the pandemic in the country. [Read more.](#)

### **COVID CPI BECOMES NATIONAL PASSION**

The plot is tragic, the characters wear the right costumes (with well-defined roles), there is periodicity in the presentation of chapters, and the ending may be surprising. Covid CPI has become the new reality show for Brazilians. [Read more.](#)

### **ANALYSIS: BRAZIL'S EX-MINISTER PAZUELLO COULD BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LIABILITY AFTER CPI TESTIMONY**

Lawsuits against Bolsonaro would only be brought should the Attorney General's Office find the president liable for his actions and authorization is requested from the Chamber of Deputies, where the government holds a parliamentary majority. Ex-minister of health Eduardo Pazuello could be prosecuted in at least three lawsuits, two criminal and one civil over his testimony to the Pandemic CPI (investigative committee). [Read more.](#)

### **FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER CONFIRMS TO CPI BOLSONARO'S ACTION FOR CHLOROQUINE AND LIES ABOUT HIS AGGRESSIONS AGAINST CHINA**

In testimony on Tuesday (18) for the Covid CPI, former minister of foreign affairs Chancellor Ernesto Araújo confirmed that he mobilized the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to purchase hydroxychloroquine in his testimony for the Covid CPI. He added that President Jair Bolsonaro supported the process. Ernesto also lied about his friction with China, a country that supplies raw material for the production of vaccines, and the attacks that he carried out against the Asian country. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO ATTACKS LULA, ARGENTINA, VENEZUELA, AND COMMUNISM IN POLITICAL SPEECH**

Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro lashed out on Friday against leftist former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, as well as Argentina, Venezuela, and communism, in a speech while at a ceremony granting land to peasants. With his mind already focused on the presidential elections of October 2022, in which he will seek re-election, Bolsonaro condemned Lula's intention to run again for the Presidency and, without mentioning him by name, alluded to a "thief who wants to be a candidate". [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S LULA MEETS CENTRIST CARDOSO IN ANTI-BOLSONARO MOVE**

Two former Brazilian presidents overcame decades of political rivalry on Friday with a public show of common purpose: blocking Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro from gaining a second term next year. [Read more.](#)

**"THERE ARE SOME IDIOTS WHO STILL STAY IN THE HOUSE TODAY," SAYS BOLSONARO ABOUT ISOLATION IN THE PANDEMIC**

In a conversation with supporters on Monday morning (17), President Jair Bolsonaro called people who continue to stay at home to prevent the spread of the coronavirus "idiots." Bolsonaro also praised agribusiness, which honored him at an event at the Esplanada dos Ministérios on Saturday (15). He said that people in the countryside did not stop during the pandemic and thus guaranteed food for those who stopped going out on the streets. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO SAYS HE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR COUNTRY'S RISING UNEMPLOYMENT**

The president again said that there is no scientific evidence to support circulation restriction policies, despite the experience, in Brazil and abroad, showing a reduction in infections and deaths when there are fewer people on the streets. [Read more.](#)

**PANDEMIC-RELATED HUNGER AFFECTS 19 MILLION BRAZILIANS**

In a public hearing of the Chamber of Deputies' Social Security and Family Committee on Friday, May 21, a survey with figures from the end of 2020 was presented, showing that 19 million Brazilians are in a serious situation regarding food access. [Read more.](#)

**DOLLAR POSTS HIGHEST WEEKLY RISE SINCE MARCH WITH FED MOVES AND BRAZIL FISCAL WORRIES**

The dollar closed at its highest level in over two weeks on Friday, marking the largest weekly gain in nearly two months, with investors reflecting the strength of the U.S. currency abroad, but also following local political movements aimed at the 2022 election. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S ECONOMIC CLIMATE IMPROVES IN Q2, BOOSTED BY VACCINATION – FGV**

The performance was mainly driven by improved expectations, favored by the hope for a faster pace of vaccination in the country in the coming months, explained Lia Valls, economist at the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV), which conducts the survey. [Read more.](#)

**ANALYSIS: BRAZIL RISKS MISSING OUT ON THE POST-PANDEMIC REBOUND PARTY**

At the current pace of vaccination and maintaining the government's projections based on local production and orders for immunizers abroad, Brazil would have a chance to begin a safe reopening of the economy starting in September, according to a survey by investment bank UBS BB. [Read more.](#)

**INVESTMENT IN BRAZIL BETWEEN 2011 AND 2020 SUFFERED WORST DECADE SINCE 1950S, SAYS STUDY**

From 2011 to 2020 investments in Brazil, both public and private, suffered the worst decade in 50 years. The contributions were equivalent to 17.7% of GDP (Gross Domestic Product), the weakest result since the 1960s to the 1970s, according to a study by researchers Juliana Trece and Claudio Considera, from Ibre / FGV (Brazilian Institute of Economics, from Getulio Vargas Foundation). [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S ENVIRONMENT MINISTER AND IBAMA OFFICIALS INVESTIGATED FOR ILLEGAL TIMBER SALES**

On Wednesday, May 18, the Brazilian Federal Police launched an operation in several cities of the country to determine the degree of participation of the Minister of Environment, Ricardo Salles, and other environmental authorities, in a scheme of illegal exportation of timber to Europe and the United States. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL CAN NO LONGER STAND TO BE LABELED AN ENVIRONMENTAL VILLAIN, SAYS MOURÃO**

Vice President Hamilton Mourão (PRTB) affirmed on Tuesday (18) that Brazil "no longer wants to be plundered and labeled an environmental villain because of mistakes made in the past in the occupation of the Amazon." Speaking at a symposium on the biome, he also defended the Amazon occupation policies adopted by the military governments. This perspective of the country has been "skillfully orchestrated by political and economic groups, who keep harassing Brazil on the defensive, trying to justify their actions in the region as if we were bad tenants of someone else's property," he said. [Read more.](#)

# HEALTH

## GENERIC MEDICINE MARKET LAUNCHES DRUGS AFTER STF DECISION ON PATENTS

The pharmaceutical market is beginning to feel the effects of the STF decision that annulled the section of the Industrial Property Law that gave rise to patents with an indefinite term, highlighted the column S.A. in Folha de S.Paulo. A few days after the authorization for the breaking of more than 3,400 patents in the health area, last week, the Brazilian EMS took to pharmacies its version of generic drug of the molecule rivaroxaban, used in the treatment of stroke, thrombosis, and embolism. With the launch, EMS will compete in the market with Bayer, owner of the reference drug Xarelto, one of the highlights among anticoagulants. The Brazilian manufacturer had five launches of generics in this year's portfolio, such as products for chronic pain and osteoporosis. The Supreme Court's decision raises the plan to seven. The reaction of EMS was seen in the sector as agile and possible because the company bet on the positive scenario and anticipated with the bureaucratic process. "Everyone is looking at the list of molecules that had their deadline extension suspended and can now have their generics produced," says Reginaldo Arcuri, president of FarmaBrasil, an industry association. The list of patents that will be corrected on the effective date or will be overturned was released by Inpi on Tuesday (18). Patents that have already been granted extension will be extinguished. [Read more.](#)

## FOR THE FIRST TIME, AGENCY OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH STANDS AGAINST THE USE OF CHLOROQUINE, IVERMECTIN AND AZITHROMYCIN IN HOSPITALS

Technical group linked to the Ministry of Health disapproves, in a new opinion, the use of drugs with proven ineffectiveness against Covid-19, such as chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin and azithromycin, in hospital settings. It is the first time in 14 months of a pandemic that there is a contrary positioning of an organ linked to the paste in relation to the use of these drugs. The text has already received a favorable opinion from the National Commission for the Incorporation of Technologies in the SUS (Conitec), which opened a public consultation on Monday. [Read more.](#)

## BRAZIL CONFIRMS FIRST CASES OF COVID-19 CAUSED BY INDIAN VARIANT

### B.1.617

Alerts about the possible arrival of the Indian variant in Brazil began on May 15th when a 54-year-old man of Indian nationality was admitted to a hospital in São Luis with symptoms of Covid-19. [Read more.](#)

## SÃO PAULO: PRIVATE STUDY SAYS 41.6% OF ADULTS IN THE CITY HAVE HAD COVID-19

In the city of São Paulo, 41.6% of residents over 18 years of age have already been infected by the novel coronavirus, according to the results of the 6th and last stage of the SoroEpi MSP study, conducted by the Fleury Group, Ibope Inteligência, Semeia Institute, and Todos pela Saúde. [Read more.](#)

## FIOCRUZ HALTS COVID VACCINE PRODUCTION IN BRAZIL FOR SHORTAGE OF RAW MATERIAL

The Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) on Thursday, May 20, suspended production of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine due to a raw material shortage. Fiocruz is expecting the arrival from China of a shipment of the active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) on Saturday, May 22, to restart production. On Friday, May 14, the Butantan Institute in São Paulo had also completely suspended the production of the CoronaVac vaccine due to a raw material shortage. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S ECONOMY MINISTER: "IN A FEW MONTHS WE WILL HAVE FULL VACCINE LOCAL PRODUCTION"**

Economy Minister Paulo Guedes again assessed that the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic is "tremendously fierce" and praised Brazilians who "fight to maintain the economy's vital signs." The Minister reiterated that the economy is rebounding as vaccination progresses. [Read more.](#)

### **COVID-19 VACCINATION RATE DROPS IN BRAZIL IN MAY**

The rate of administration of the first dose of the vaccine against Covid-19 fell 17% in the past week, according to data from health secretariats collected by the media outlet consortium. With respect to the second vaccine dose, the drop reached 23%. [Read more.](#)

### **OVER 1,000 MUNICIPALITIES IN BRAZIL RAN OUT OF VACCINES THIS WEEK**

More than 1,000 cities were left with no vaccines against Covid-19 this week. According to the survey, 795 cities said they had not received the second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, or 79.3% of all those that reported running out of immunizers. [Read more.](#)

### **ONE IN FOUR USED MEDICINE TO TREAT EARLY OR PREVENT COVID-19, SHOWS DATAFOLHA**

About a quarter of the Brazilian population used some medication to treat Covid-19 early or to prevent it, according to a Datafolha survey that sought to identify people's behavior during the Sars-CoV-2 coronavirus pandemic. A share of 23% of all respondents said they had used an early or preventive drug to deal with the disease. Interviews were carried out face-to-face with 2,071 participants by Datafolha in 146 municipalities between May 11 and 12, 2021. The margin of error is 2 percentage points more or less. Of the survey participants, 12% said they had taken some medication on their own, and another 11% said they had purchased the medicine with a prescription. [Read more.](#)

### **CONGRESSMEN COLLEGIATE ON ONCOLOGY CHALLENGES IN BRAZIL DEFINES WORK PLAN**

The working group of the Social Security and Family Commission of the Chamber of Deputies that will analyze the challenges of oncology in Brazil will meet this Wednesday (19), at 4 pm, to define the work itinerary. Proposed by deputy Dr. Frederico (Patriota-MG), the group intends to promote debates on prevention, diagnosis, treatment, challenges during and after Covid-19, advanced therapies in oncology, social aspects of cancer patients and financing models for treatment cancer. [Read more.](#)