



VIDEO CONFERENCE

Fact Sheet

**"Brazil after the Elections:  
Future Relations between Germany, the EU and South  
America's Largest Country"**

*Monday, November 17, 2022  
18:00-19:30h (Berlin time)*

### General Information

- Brazil is the largest country in both South America and Latin America. At 8.5 million square kilometers (3,300,000 sq mi) and with over 217 million people, Brazil is the world's fifth-largest country by area and the seventh most populous. Its Amazon basin includes a vast tropical forest, home to diverse wildlife, a variety of ecological systems, and extensive natural resources spanning numerous protected habitats. This unique environmental heritage makes Brazil one of 17 megadiverse countries, and is the subject of significant global interest.

### Economy

- Brazil is considered an advanced emerging economy, having the twelfth largest GDP in the world by nominal, and ninth by PPP measures, the largest in Latin America. As an upper-middle income economy by the World Bank and a newly industrialized country, Brazil has the largest share of global wealth in South America and it is one of the world's major breadbaskets, being the largest producer of coffee for the last 150 years. However, the country maintains noticeable amounts of corruption, crime and social inequality.
- The EU is negotiating a free trade agreement with Brazil as part of the EU's Association Agreement negotiations with the Mercosur countries (which also include Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay).
  - Brazil is the largest economy of Latin America and its trade with the EU makes up 30.8% of the EU's total trade with the Latin America region in 2016.
  - The EU is Brazil's second-biggest trading partner, accounting for 18.3% of its total trade. Brazil is the EU's eleventh-biggest trading partner, accounting for 1.7% of total EU trade (2017).

- EU imports from Brazil are dominated by primary products, in particular foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco products (16.3% of EU imports from Brazil), followed by vegetable products (17.8%) and mineral products (21.8%).
- Brazil is the single biggest exporter of agricultural products to the EU worldwide.
- The EU's exports to Brazil consist mainly of machinery and appliances (26.6%), chemical products (23.6%), and transport equipment (13.6%).
- The EU is the biggest foreign investor in Brazil with investments in many sectors of the Brazilian economy. The EU had 48.5% of its Latin American investments in Brazil in 2015.

### Politics

- General elections were held on 2 October 2022 in Brazil to elect the president as well as other high officials. As no candidate for president more than half of valid votes in the first round, a runoff election was scheduled for 30 October 2022.
- Incumbent, right-wing president Jair Bolsonaro is a candidate for re-election. He had been elected in 2018.
- Former socialist president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who was elected in 2002 and re-elected in 2006, is a candidate for a third non-consecutive term. His successor from the same party, former president Dilma Rousseff, was elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2014 but was impeached and removed from office in 2016 due to administrative misconduct. Lula's intended candidacy in 2018 was disallowed due to his conviction on corruption charges in 2017 and subsequent arrest; a series of court rulings led to his release from prison in 2019, followed by the annulment of his conviction and restoration of his political rights by 2021.
- In response to Lula's advantage in pre-election polls, Bolsonaro made several premature allegations of electoral fraud. Many observers denounced these allegations as false and expressed concerns that they could be used by Bolsonaro to challenge the outcome of the election or to execute a self-coup, in a strategy mirroring attempts to overturn the 2020 United States presidential election by Donald Trump.
- In the first round of voting, Lula came out ahead with 48.43% of votes to Bolsonaro's 43.20%, becoming the first presidential candidate to ever obtain more votes than an incumbent president in Brazil. While Lula came close to being elected in the first round, the difference between the two leading candidates was closer than what opinion polls had suggested. The closeness of the results was accompanied by unexpected gains for right-of-center parties in Congress.

### Fundação Getulio Vargas

- The Fundação Getulio Vargas Foundation is the oldest business school in Brazil, based in Rio de Janeiro. It is considered the most important think tank in Latin America and the 7th most important in the world, by the University of Pennsylvania. It is a first-class training center for the largest and most important country in Latin America with 7000 faculty and staff.
- FGV has a tradition of excellence in research, innovation, and consulting in the areas of administration, economics, law, social sciences and applied mathematics.

FGV maintains academic collaboration agreements with renowned institutions around the world, encompassing research, joint projects and exchanges of students and professors.

- The Fundação Getulio Vargas was founded in 1944. Its original goal was to train qualified people to work in the public and private administration of Brazil. At that time, the country was already beginning to lay the foundations for the growth of the following decades. Anticipating a new era, the FGV decided to expand its sphere of action, moving from the narrow field of administration to the broader field of social and economic sciences. The institution went beyond the boundaries of teaching, including into the fields of research and information, and became known as a center of excellence.
- FGV is a non-partisan institution, although strongly committed to Brazil's national interests. In addition to a representative office in Cologne, the FGV maintains partnerships with over 250 renowned institutions in America, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania. The most important partner countries of the FGV are the USA, France and Germany. In Germany alone, FGV works with 35 partner universities. More than 1,000 professors and researchers from FGV schools have attended universities abroad, and more than 500 foreign professors and researchers have attended FGV schools. The purpose of these partnerships is to foster academic and professional experiences around the world among its faculty and students.
- FGV is opening a representative office in Berlin in November 2022.