



2023

POLICY BRIEF REPORT



PRESENTATION

The Policy Brief Report 2023 is an extremely important document for both the academic community and the general public. It addresses in detail contemporary issues of great relevance in the areas of geopolitics, defense, and international affairs. Throughout the year, our international analysts, who are researchers with backgrounds in various fields, have dedicated themselves to the in-depth study of these issues, providing an in-depth view of current challenges. As a result, this report stands out as a valuable and indispensable source of information, particularly for mainstream academia, diplomats, military personnel, and the general public interested in deepening their knowledge in these areas.

The relevance of the Policy Brief Report 2023 goes beyond the academic realm, as it also serves as a reliable guide for understanding the most important issues of today. With accurate and substantiated information, including thematic maps, the report demonstrates its ability to influence decision-makers of large organizations in managing political risk, while making recommendations to policymakers of possible paths to be taken to assist in the formulation of public policies for the benefit of society. With its specialized approach and commitment to academic rigor, this work has established itself as an important reference for all those interested in understanding global security and how to deal with the challenges of contemporaneity.

Izan Araújo

CEO, CENEGRI, Co-Founder and Director, IIGS

Charles Pennaforte

Professor, UFPEL, and Coordinator, LabGRIMA

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MAY, 2023 #01

POLICY BRIEF

GEOPOLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE US-CHINA TRADE WAR IN MEXICO

BY IZAN ARAUJO AND DIEGO SOUZA

GEOPOLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE US-CHINA TRADE WAR IN MEXICO

What are the geopolitical implications in Mexico regarding the trade war between the United States and China? Nowadays, we often hear widespread mainstream media coverage about the trade war between these two great world powers. Indeed, Mexico is emerging as a viable supply chain option for China because it offers reduced customs barriers for those who intend to export to the American market, its strategic geographic position with the United States, and its relatively cheap and young labor market. Let's first look at the benefits Mexico offers for those who intend to export to the American market.

Mexico's Reduced Customs Barriers to the American Market. Mexico offers reduced customs barriers for those who intend to export to the American market due to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA, in English). Since the Trump administration imposed additional tariffs of up to 25% on various Chinese products, such as semiconductors, avionics, and chemicals, in July 2018, the Chinese have been considering alternatives to overcome these tariff barriers. So, the Bank of China and businessmen announced an investment of 1.2 billion dollars in constructing an industrial park in Nuevo León. Now that we've discussed the benefits offered by Mexico let's look at the border with the United States.

Advantages of Mexico's Geostrategic Position. Mexico's strategic location along the U.S. border positions it to play a hub role supply chain, especially for those seeking to export to the American market

Advantages of Mexico's Geostrategic Position. Mexico's strategic location along the U.S. border positions it to play a hub role supply chain, especially for those seeking to export to the American market. The supply chain in Mexico will allow Chinese products to reach the American market quickly and cheaply. For example, shipping goods from China to the U.S. takes an average of 15 to 25 days, while from Mexico, it takes 1 to 5 days. Therefore, the investors will reduce the cost of logistics, and China will avoid US-imposed customs tariffs. If you still need to invest in Mexico, these facts about the Mexican labor market may help you consider it.

Mexico's Labor Market is relatively cheap and young. While an employee earns an average of \$15 an hour in the U.S., an employee earns less than \$15 daily in Mexico. However, President Andrés Obrador has done an excellent job with his policy of valuing the minimum wage. According to the Secretariat of Labor and Social Security (STPS), the general minimum wage in Mexico has increased from 141.70 Mexican pesos per day (\$7.13) in 2021 to 172.87 Mexican pesos per day (\$8.65) in 2022; while in the Northern Border Free Zone, it went from 213.39 Mexican pesos per day (\$10.74) in 2021 to 260.34 Mexican pesos per day (\$13.09) in 2022.

In this article, we discussed that Mexico is becoming a new global supply chain alternative because it offers reduced customs barriers, borders the U.S., and has a relatively cheap and youth labor market. These investments from Chinese firms position Mexico as a hub for the global supply chain. We recommend that Mexican policymakers maintain the policy of valuing the minimum wage and diversify their trade partners with China and other countries as Global South. Otherwise, It is anticipated to be risk that the government will continue to rely on the American market, which could exacerbate migration flows across the land border.



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Keywords: Mexico; USA; China; Geopolitics.

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JUNE, 2023 #02

POLICY BRIEF

**CONFLICT IN UKRAINE MUST CONTINUE ITS IMPACTS ON
THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY**


BY CHARLES PENNAFORTE

CONFLICT IN UKRAINE MUST CONTINUE ITS IMPACTS ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY

Conflict in Ukraine must continue its impacts on the European economy. The adoption of sanctions against Russia has affected the European economy at a higher intensity when compared to the North American economy. Historical dependence on natural resources derived from Russia is a determining factor in the current scenario. Western sanctions have not achieved the desired effects in promoting economic struggle in Russia because Europe maintains its dependence on natural resources from the country, Chinese acting is decisive in supporting Russian financial stability, and economic sanctions do not promote the downfall of affected regimes. Let's first look at the European lack of autonomy from Russia.

Europe is dependent on Russia's natural resources. The United States is the most beneficiary economically regarding sanctions against Moscow than its European partners for its reduced dependency on Russian energy provision. The significant dependence on these resources alone puts the European economy at a disadvantage in the geopolitical dispute between the United States and Russia. In 2022, the European Union (EU) received 56 million cubic meters of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the United States, a volume 2.5 times more significant compared to 2021. In March 2022, imports of Russian gas by the EU accounted for 37%, decreasing to 16% by the end of the year. In 2023, the EU is the largest consumer market for US LNG, with 52% of imports. Now that we have discussed the impacts of sanctions on the European economy let us analyze Beijing's support for Moscow.

Chinese involvement is decisive in supporting the Russian economy. On the other geopolitical pole, China has become the most influential power in the conflict scenario by providing an economical alternative for Russia in the face of sanctions. The

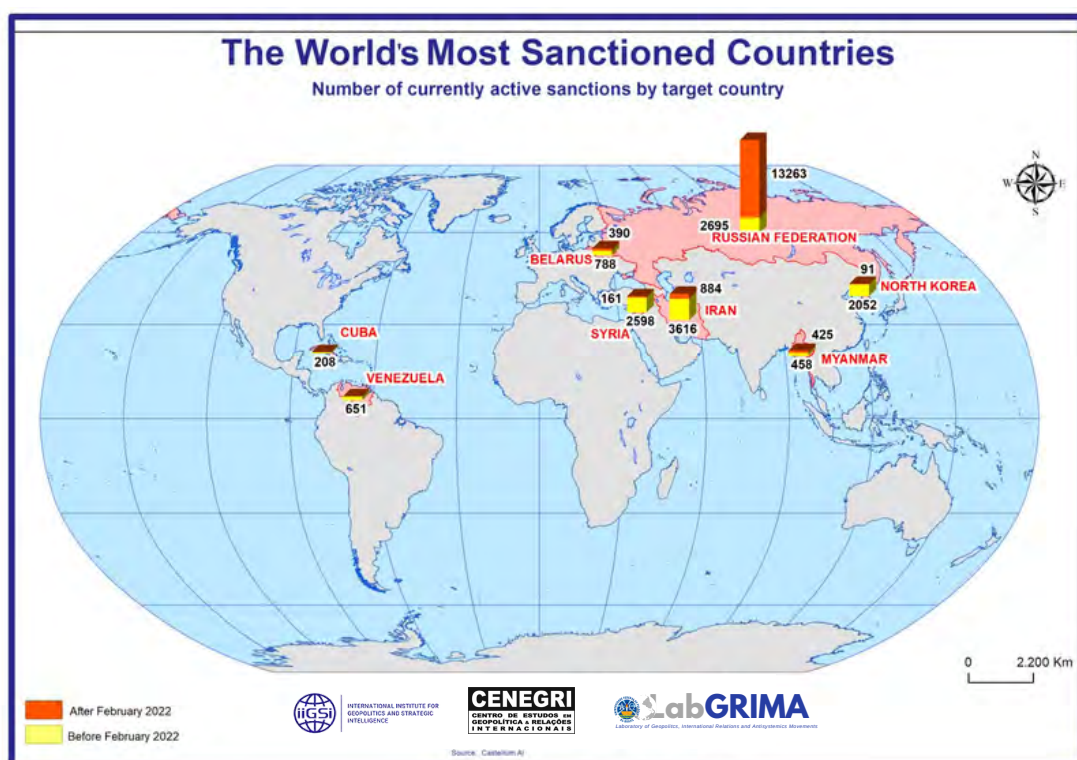


Ending the economic sanctions and reestablishing closer ties between Europe and Russia would be the more intelligent path in light of the current problems. A foreign policy focusing on European interests is paramount, abandoning the political dependence on Washington, which prefers to extend the duration of the conflict for its benefit

Beijing regime had established a "strategic partnership" with Moscow in the geopolitical dispute with the United States. Thus, China's role in being economic support for Moscow was crucial in mitigating the impacts of Western pressure. Several countries did not follow Washington's guidelines, opting for neutrality in the conflict, which has little to do with the concrete economic and political demands of countries not in the dispute's core or immediate periphery. On the other hand, the sanctions have caused another collateral effect: an accelerated pace of de-dollarization in some countries in their trade exchanges. It is not a new phenomenon, but under the example of Russia, it has led to a greater willingness among several nations, including China. Despite the Western belief in economic sanctions as a means to facilitate the downfall of governments, reality shows a different perspective.

Economic sanctions have never managed to bring about the downfall of regimes classified as enemies of the West. Throughout recent history, numerous examples of governments deemed hostile in the eyes of the West, mainly led by the United States, have managed to remain intact despite heavy economic sanctions. For instance, Cuba, North Korea, and Iran have continued with their regimes unaffected, despite the numerous social problems caused to their populations. Therefore, these punitive measures against their supposed enemies have failed to achieve their objectives of promoting significant leadership changes in targeted countries.

The global economy, especially the European economy, bears the impacts of heavy sanctions against the Moscow regime without achieving its objectives of weakening the leadership of Vladimir Putin. Therefore, the remaining hostilities grant significant economic benefits to Washington, while China emerges as a central figure in the international system. Under the sanctions, the Russian regime redirected its exports from the European market to China and India and diversified its global engagement with "neutral" partners. Ending the economic sanctions and reestablishing closer ties between Europe and Russia would be the more intelligent path in light of the current problems. A foreign policy focusing on European interests is paramount, abandoning the political dependence on Washington, which prefers to extend the duration of the conflict for its benefit.



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Keywords: Russia; NATO; Ukraine War; Geopolitics.

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UKRAINIAN CONFLICT WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE
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JUNE, 2023 #03

POLICY BRIEF

BRAZIL AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: A GEOSTRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

BY MATEUS SANTOS

BRAZIL AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: A GEOSTRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

What does President Lula's recent trip to the United Arab Emirates represent for Brazil? The relations between the two states have acquired multidimensional importance. Amidst a framework of systemic instability, the country has become one of the key players in Brazil's trade relations with the Middle East, while also establishing itself as an investment hub in various sectors such as transportation, energy, and sports. Furthermore, these relations assume a geopolitical character. Abu Dhabi is expected to remain a relevant actor for the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Itamaraty) as they represent one of the most important commercial partners of Brazil in the Arab world. The growth of investments can further strengthen these relations, aligning with Brazil's new strategy of international integration, which emphasizes the geopolitical dimension of the Arab states in the Persian Gulf.

The United Arab Emirates represents one of Brazil's most important commercial partners in the Arab world. The country has become one of the main destinations for Brazilian exports, surpassing other states such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia. According to data from the Ministry of Development, Industry, and Foreign Trade (MDIC), the trade between the two countries exceeded 5 million dollars throughout the year 2022, resulting in a surplus for Brazil. Among the main products involved, poultry meat, gold, sugar, pulp, and beef stood out, accounting for over 70% of Brazil's export agenda to that country. In addition to the advantages of growing and surplus trade, the financial dimension of such relations also deserves attention.

The growth of investments also enhances these relations. One of the main responsible in Brazil is the Mubadala Fund and Emirati financial presence in the



We recommend policymakers advance interactions between the two countries, recognizing their potential in defining Brazil's presence in the Arab world.

country demonstrates a certain diversification, particularly in sectors such as transportation and energy. In the case of energy, the acquisition of the Landulpho Alves refinery in Bahia and its management through the company ACELEN represented another step in deepening the UAE's presence in Brazil, directly impacting regional fuel price policies. As part of this growing movement, investments in Brazilian football also cannot be overlooked, highlighting the involvement in sports. In addition to the economic and financial aspects, the political character of the relations between the two states also assumes significant importance.

Brazil's new strategy of international integration values the geopolitical dimension of the Arab states in the Persian Gulf. The systemic crisis comprehends an opportunity for deepening relations with the United Arab Emirates. The meeting between Lula and Sheikh Zayed Al Nayan demonstrated alignment regarding the Ukraine conflict. This indicates a shared interest in mediating the conflict as an alternative to the strategy of sanctions against Russia and military assistance to Ukraine. The UAE gained prominence by mediating an agreement between the two states regarding a prisoner exchange in 2023, in addition to holding a temporary seat on the United Nations Security Council. Thus, Brazil and the United Arab Emirates are capable of performing an assertive role internationally.

We have discussed the deepening of relations between Brazil and the United Arab Emirates, considering the establishment of a geostrategic partnership. Favorable to commercial interests, factors such as increased Arab investments and the development of political gestures indicate the importance of these relations amidst the changes in Brazil's foreign policy. We recommend policymakers advance interactions between the two countries, recognizing their potential in defining Brazil's presence in the Arab world. Otherwise, a setback could directly affect investment flows and issues such as Brazilian energy policy, as well as hinder the political re-engagement between Brazil and the Arab world, considering the relative prominence of the Gulf states in the regional political landscape and their global emergence.



About the Author



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Keywords: Brazil-UAE Relations; Brazilian Foreign Policy; Arab World; Geopolitics.

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#03 June, 2023

**BRAZIL AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: A
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JULY, 2023 #04

POLICY BRIEF

THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE PORT OF CHANCAY, IN PERU, FOR BRAZIL

BY IZAN ARAÚJO

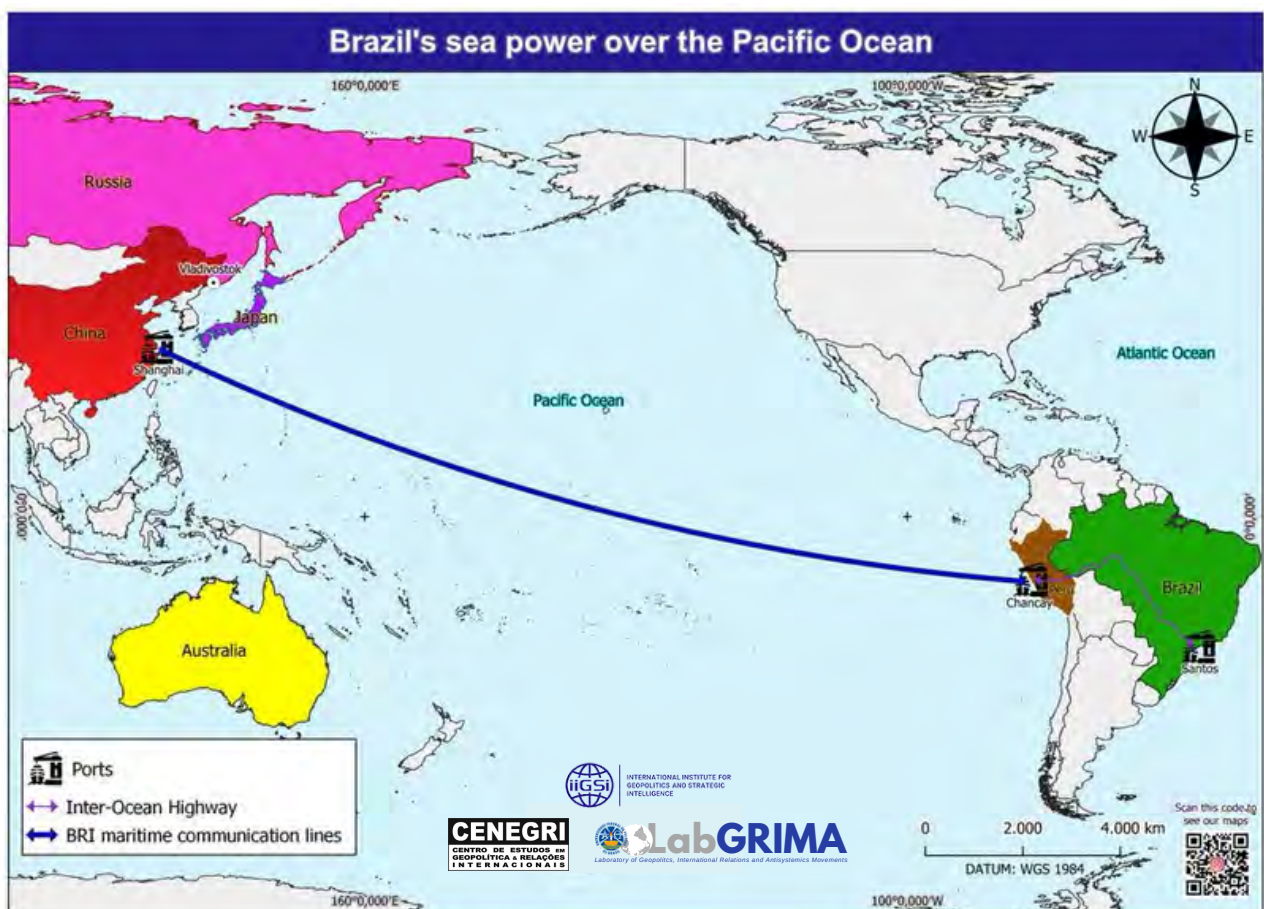
The Port of Chancay will allow Brazil to become a bioceanic country through new maritime communication lines in the Pacific. In the 1930s, Mario Travassos proposed that Brazil should increase its marine communication lines to become a bioceanic country. By going to the Pacific via Peru, Brazil enters the markets of Asia and Oceania. This move aligns the interests of businesspeople who see the Port of Chancay as an opportunity to expand their business with the country's geopolitical goals. Now that we have discussed the geopolitical projection of Brazilian sea power over the Pacific let's look at the Port of Chancay's role as a Latin American hub.

The Port of Chancay in Peru allows Brazil to expand its global influence by establishing new maritime communication routes along the west coast of South America, effectively becoming a bioceanic nation. We recommend policymakers consider the Port of Chancay important to Brazil because of its geostrategic position in the Asia-Pacific.

geostrategic position in the transpacific corridor will give Peru a significant role in Latin America as the main gateway for Asia-Pacific trade. If you are an investor and would like to export your products to China more efficiently, these facts about the logistics of the Port of Chancay may help you consider this as an alternative.

Brazil's trade balance will benefit by reducing transportation time and costs through the Port of Chancay. China is Brazil's largest trading partner and represents a growing market in the e-commerce segment, attracting a significant portion of Brazilian consumers. However, on average, a cargo ship takes 45 days to travel between Brazil and China via the South Atlantic. On the other hand, a new sea communication line from Shanghai to Chancay can cut transportation time and cost from Brazil to China by about 15 days on average. Check out the map below for the route.

The Port of Chancay in Peru allows Brazil to expand its global influence by establishing new maritime communication routes along the west coast of South America, effectively becoming a bioceanic nation. We recommend policymakers consider the Port of Chancay important to Brazil because of its geostrategic position in the Asia-Pacific. Otherwise, Brasilia may miss an opportunity to benefit by exporting more products to Peru. In addition, the Port of Chancay will help to reduce transportation costs and delivery time for Brazilian products in Asia and Oceania.



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Keywords: Brazil, Peru, Port of Chancay, Sea Power
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THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE PORT
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AUGUST, 2023 #05

POLICY BRIEF

**THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK AS A TOOL FOR
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DECENTRALIZATION**

CHARLES PENNAFORTE

THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK AS A TOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DECENTRALIZATION

How could the BRICS Bank be configured as an alternative to the traditional economic centralization in the West? The world is currently in the process of decline of the Systemic Cycle of Accumulation led by Washington. This way, we see anti-systemic action by several countries such as China, Russia, India, and Brazil. The New Development Bank (NDB) creation in 2015 was the first financial initiative outside the US-Europe axis since 1945. In our view, the NDB is an essential tool, not only economical but also geopolitics, because it is an alternative to the G7 and the IMF for the supply of credits; it is the most crucial initiative since Bretton Woods, and the world is witnessing the change in the international economic axis without the central countries in control of the process.

The NDB has become an important economic and geopolitical tool vis-à-vis the IMF and the G7 in offering credit on flexible terms. Since the end of World War II, the US-European axis has commanded the international capitalist financial system and imposed economic measures to provide resources to developing countries. Such economic actions significantly impacted society by setting spending cuts that always affected social areas, promoted investment, and caused recession. The arrival of the NDB without imposing neoliberal measures provides more flexible conditions for bearing the burden, unlike the model traditionally proposed by the IMF.

The NDB places BRICS as a possible global player in the dispute for areas of influence in the international system. Contrary to the strictly economic analysis of the potential role of the NDB, geopolitical analysis is fundamental to understanding the dimension of the process currently being generated. The dispute between the NDB and the IMF or the World Bank over the supply of credit to developing countries could reduce the

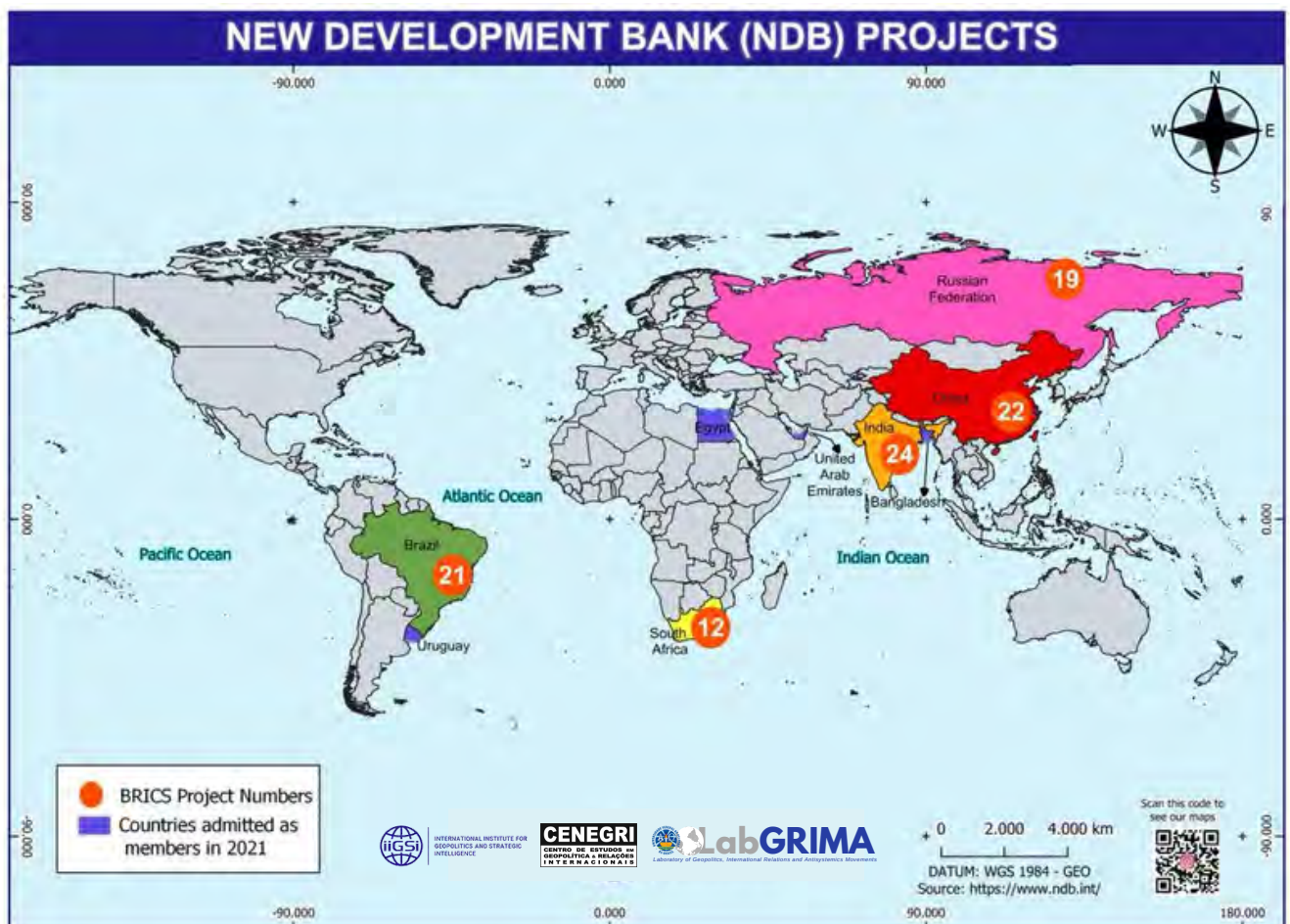


With the help of the NDB, many countries interested in financing can advance their development projects under better conditions.

influence of the central countries on the international economy. The world is witnessing a significant shift in the global economic axis since Bretton Woods and without the major countries participation in controlling the process. Despite the disbelief of the central countries through their opinion leaders, the NDB has the necessary conditions to finance development projects that do not find resources in either the IMF or the World Bank.

With the help of the NDB, many countries interested in financing can advance their development projects under better conditions. It is an essential moment in the international financial scenario, particularly considering that the Global South can be a protagonist. The NDB could become an important geopolitical and economic mechanism in the systemic transition. Consequently, the influence of BRICS in the international geopolitical scenario will increase. The NDB may occupy a prominent position in the global financial system as the primary initiative outside the central countries, positioning the BRICS as a significant factor in the search for areas of influence and reflecting on a possible new global financial architecture.

We should analyze the scenario from two different perspectives. The first refers to the indirect dispute for economic and geopolitical influence with the central countries. The second relates to the West having a possible competitor over traditional (Latin America) or despised (Africa) regions. The result is the increased influence of BRICS in the global context. According to the NDB, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, and Bangladesh were admitted as members in 2021.



About the Author



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Keywords: BRICS; Economic Decentralization; NBD; Geopolitics.

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#05 AUGUST, 2023

THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK AS A TOOL FOR
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SEPTEMBER, 2023 #06

POLICY BRIEF

**REGIONAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE
IMPORTANCE OF BIOECONOMICS IN PRESERVING THE
AMAZON RAINFOREST**


MONICA IHA

REGIONAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOECONOMICS IN PRESERVING THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

Could valuing the standing forest contribute to a new development model for the Amazon? One of the biggest challenges for conservation in the Amazon comes from the economic pressure exerted by sectors directly involved in exploiting natural resources in this territory. Historically, the region has been marked by a violent process of land occupation, resulting in conflicts, irregular ownership, illegal activities, and the rise of organized crime. Knowledge of the value of the standing forest helps raise funds that can be earmarked for public policies because preservation is currently becoming more important for the development of the new bioeconomy; the forest plays a fundamental role in mitigating risks related to global warming, and there is market interest in new investments related to environmental compensation.

The importance of preservation for the development of a new bioeconomy must be considered. According to a World Bank report published in May 2023, the estimated value of the Amazon rainforest is equivalent to US\$317 billion. Although the value is calculated, it isn't easy to project, considering the infinite applications of biodiversity for the bioeconomy. The Amazon is home to around 25% of global biodiversity, providing raw materials for sectors such as biotechnology, chemicals, food, fuels, and others and giving subsistence for rural populations.

The role of the forest in mitigating climate risks is gaining relevance in a scenario in which rising global temperatures have resulted in severe droughts, water shortages, fires, and crop losses. The moisture produced by the Amazon rainforest plays a fundamental role in atmospheric dynamics, being the source of "flying rivers," a phenomenon that favors the formation of rainfall, contributing to water supply, agriculture, and hydroelectric power generation throughout South America.



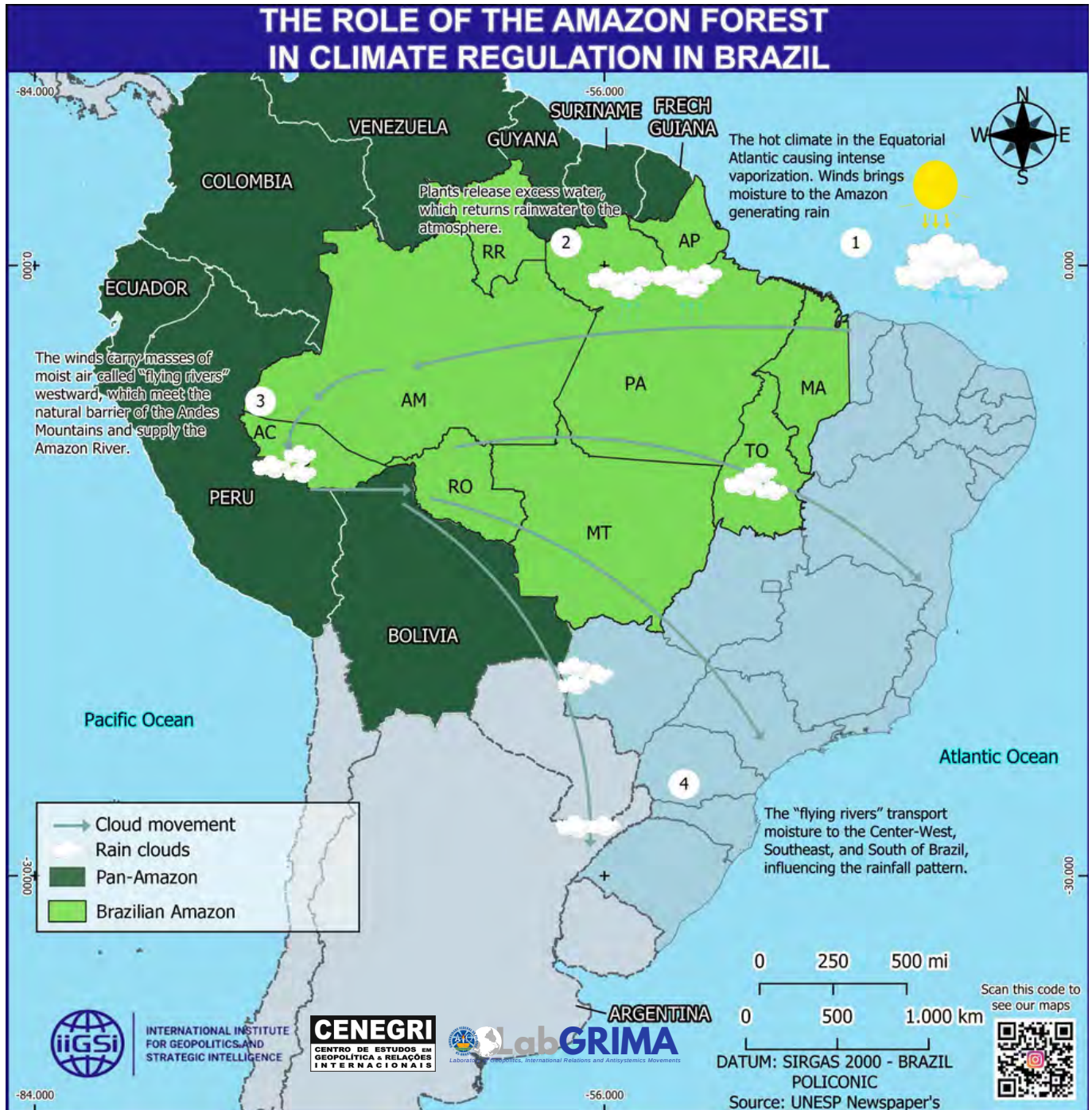
(...) we recommend investment in technology and the development of new sectors associated with the bioeconomy, which could reduce economic dependence on commodities and consequently reduce the pressure to expand the agricultural frontier, thereby reducing deforestation.

In general, forests are fundamental to mitigating the effects of climate change, acting as the main element of the biota capable of fixing carbon, removing around 36% of anthropogenic CO₂ emissions from the atmosphere, which the Amazon rainforest contributes 20% of the terrestrial biota's sink.

Access to investments linked to environmental preservation and reducing deforestation still needs to be improved and easier to access. International agreements and environmental laws have motivated compensation actions, donations for forest preservation (such as the Amazon Fund), and sustainable market mechanisms, including Brazil's efforts to implement carbon pricing. We can also highlight the work of the BNDES (National Bank for Economic and Social Development) in partnership with companies, which made 71 million euros available to implement the pilot project "Raízes da Amazônia" (Roots of the Amazon), aimed at land regularization and the development of the bioeconomy in agrarian reform settlements in Amapá.

In this sense, the valuation of the standing forest, justified by its environmental, social, and economic importance, reveals new development possibilities for Brazil, especially for the Amazon region, in addition to a new approach to raising international funds. The existence of new ways of raising funds for preservation and combating deforestation could have a positive impact on reducing CO₂ emissions, helping to mitigate climate risks. Finally, we recommend investment in technology and the development of new sectors associated with the bioeconomy, which could reduce economic dependence on commodities and consequently reduce the pressure to expand the agricultural frontier, thereby reducing deforestation.





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Keywords: Amazon; Bioeconomics; Climate Changes.

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Policy Brief #06 SEPTEMBER, 2023

**REGIONAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND
THE IMPORTANCE OF BIOECONOMICS IN
PRESERVING THE AMAZON RAINFOREST**



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
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VII CUMBRE DE JEFAS Y JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LA COMUNIDAD DE ESTADOS LATINOAMERICANOS Y CARIBEÑOS (CELAC)

► 24 de enero, 2015 | Buenos Aires



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OCTOBER, 2023 #07

POLICY BRIEF

**BRAZIL'S RETURN TO CELAC PUTS THE COUNTRY BACK ON
THE WORLD STAGE AS A LATIN AMERICAN LEADER**


JÓHIDSON DE OLIVEIRA E IZAN ARAUJO

BRAZIL'S RETURN TO CELAC PUTS THE COUNTRY BACK ON THE WORLD STAGE AS A LATIN AMERICAN LEADER

What does returning to CELAC mean for Brazil? In February 2010, Mexico, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), was established as a political-diplomatic discussion forum bringing together 33 Latin American countries seeking regional integration. Brazil's return to CELAC favors the country's geopolitical projection on a global scale because it removes the country from regional isolation and gives it greater bargaining power to discuss with major international players such as the European Union (EU). Let's look first at the benefits Brazil gains from breaking out of isolationism.

Brazil's return to CELAC signals the end of the country's regional isolation. Under the Bolsonaro administration, Brazil left the bloc in January 2020 because the institution gave a leading role to some undemocratic regimes in the region. Brazil's return to the bloc strengthens the regional integration process. It corrects the mistake of the previous government, which had an ideological foreign policy that isolated the country from the world. Brazil's return to the Latin American forum allows the country to be the leader in Latin America as it has the region's largest economy, population, and territory. Corroborating Ratzel's thesis that "space is power." Now that we've discussed the benefits offered to Brazil let's analyze the country's role in the discussions with the EU.

Brazil's return to CELAC will increase its bargaining power in discussions with the European Union. President Lula attended the III CELAC-EU Summit in Brussels on July 17 and 18. Discussions included environment, social inclusion, and trade between the two blocs. Latin America is important to Europeans because it has a market of 660 million inhabitants and geostrategic natural resources, as seen in the map below. In addition, Chile, Argentina, and Bolivia form the "lithium triangle" as they have 60% of the world's lithium reserves, which is essential for environmental issues and energy transition, especially now after the war in Ukraine.



We, therefore, suggest that the country's return to CELAC means a new Brazilian foreign policy paradigm, which Brazilian political geographer André Martin has called "meridionalist," aimed at securing a brasilian's prominent position among the world's major players. By leading this effort with other Latin American nations, Brazil could solidify its leadership position in the global arena.

Some might argue that CELAC puts the spotlight on regimes that don't respect democracy, institutions, and human rights. It's worth noting that individuals who believe their rights have been violated can still take action. They can turn to the OAS (Organization of American States) to file petitions with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. This process is similar to the European and African Human Rights Systems. CELAC plays a significant political role in the integration of Latin America and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. All these initiatives contribute to a "security community" that will resolve disputes between community members without war but through dialog, democratically.

Finally, Brazil's participation in CELAC is an excellent way of maintaining its global influence. Its return to the Latin American bloc means the end of its regional isolation and strengthens its international role in negotiations with the EU. In today's rapidly changing world, the geopolitics of power are no longer confined to Eurasia, as Mackinder said. We are now witnessing an ebb and flow to other regions of the globe, especially the Southern Hemisphere. We, therefore, suggest that the country's return to CELAC means a new Brazilian foreign policy paradigm, which Brazilian political geographer André Martin has called "meridionalist," aimed at securing a brasilian's prominent position among the world's major players. By leading this effort with other Latin American nations, Brazil could solidify its leadership position in the global arena.



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Keywords: CELAC, Regional Integration, Latin America, Geopolitics.

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Policy Brief

#07 OCTOBER, 2023

BRAZIL'S RETURN TO CELAC PUTS THE COUNTRY BACK ON THE WORLD STAGE AS A LATIN AMERICAN LEADER

VII CUMBRE DE JEFAS Y JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LA COMUNIDAD DE ESTADOS LATINOAMERICANOS Y CARIBENOS (CELAC)

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OCTOBER, 2023 #08

POLICY BRIEF

SECURITY CHALLENGES IN A CYBER SOCIETY

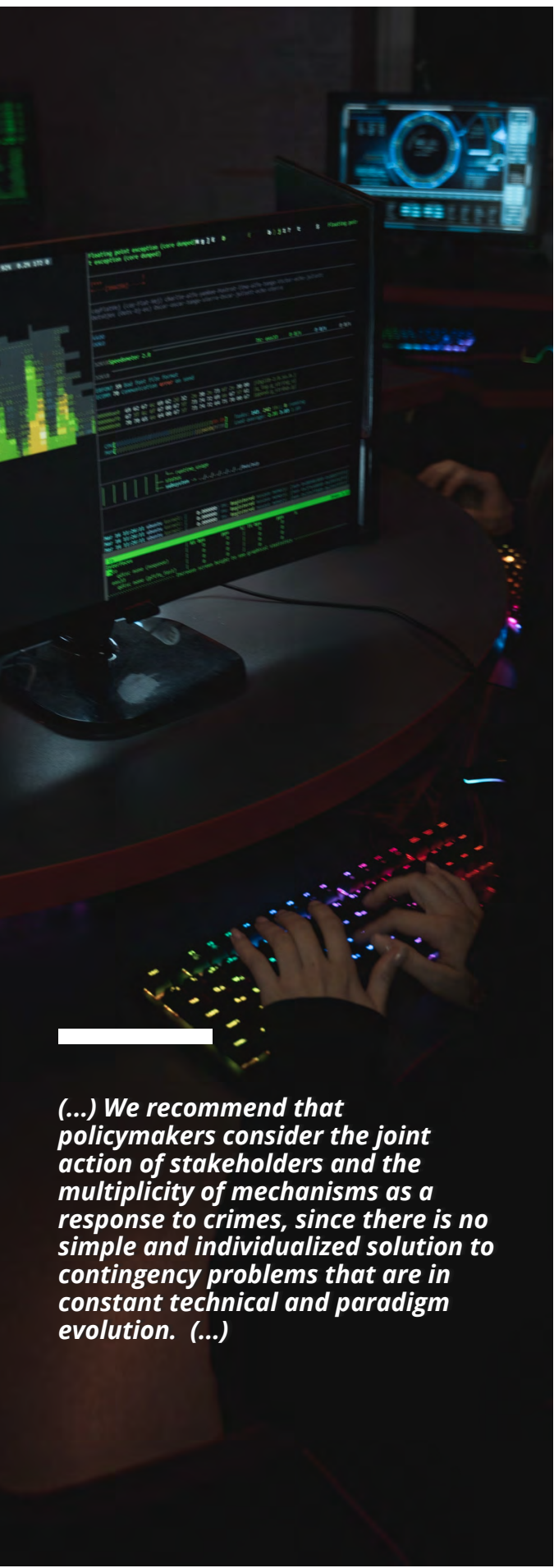
MIRELE THURMER KUHN

SECURITY CHALLENGES IN A CYBER SOCIETY

Why does cybersecurity require joint action for the stability of international policies? Geopolitical disputes over cyberspace control have grown, accentuating the difficulty of formulating universal definitions and standards, combined with the scarcity of regulations and laws. Cybersecurity is essential to ensure the full functioning of the current information society because the increased exposure and use of technologies, in both public and private matters, facilitates many processes of innovation and progress, accompanied by risks that may compromise the development of the poorest countries, and also being among the main challenges accessibility and common jurisdictional specificities.

Given the increased exposure and use of technologies, in both public and private matters, the cybersecurity context requires global cooperation to ensure its sustainable operation. Cyberattacks are considered dangerous to democracies and economies, while cyberspace participates in and interferes with the dynamics of political and social transformation, inside and outside the internet networks. Therefore, it is necessary to assume the reality of the complex interdependence of the international system, with multiple actors and connected events, in a volatile anarchy of relations between states and political transition.

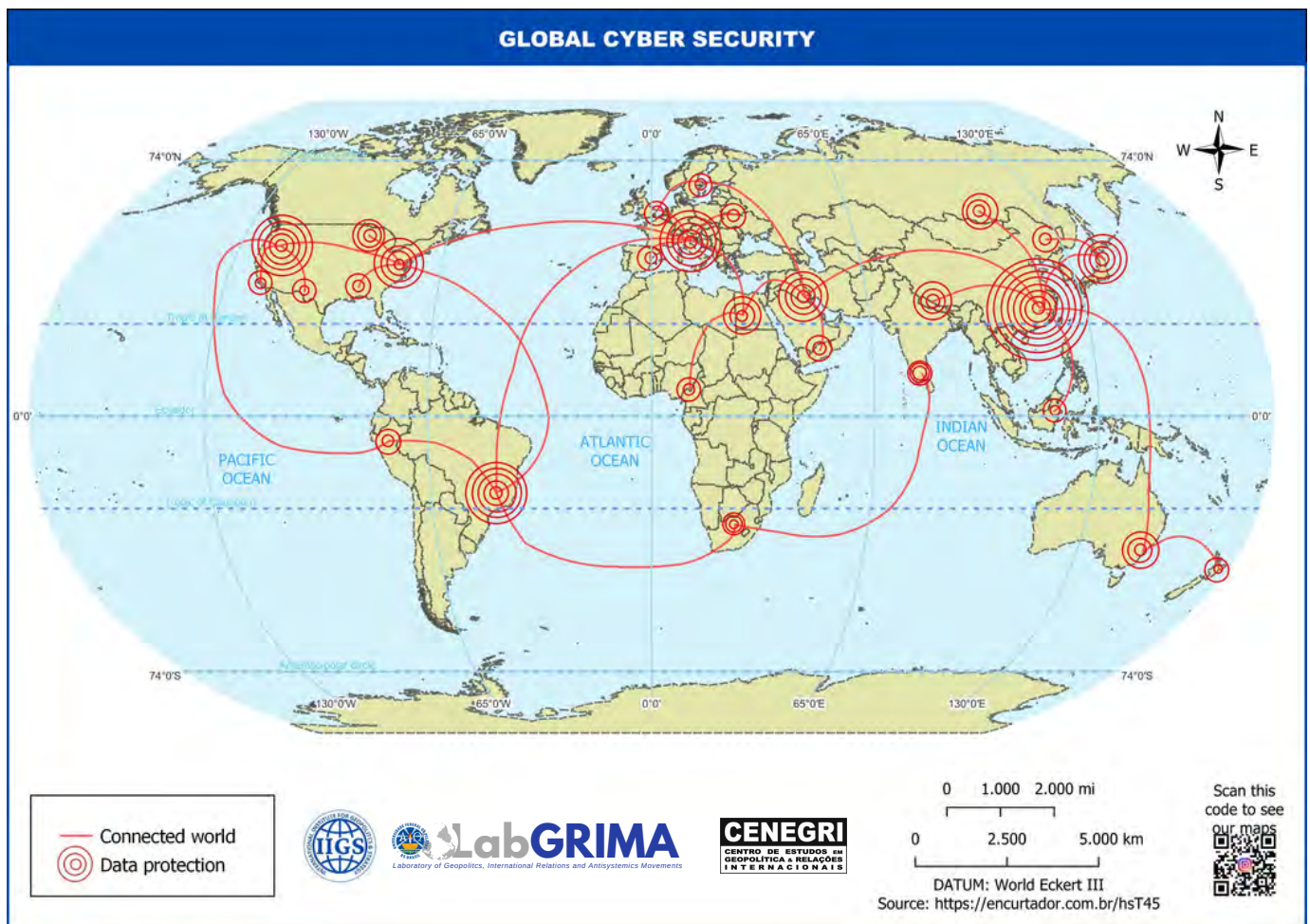
Cyberspace facilitates many processes of innovation and progress, accompanied by risks that can compromise developing countries, with accessibility being among the main challenges. For financial reasons, poorer actors are looking for cheaper options and solutions, often below the recommended security requirements. Cybersecurity has become one of the main concerns among these actors, whose poor defensive capacity and insecure networks make them targets for cybercriminals, serving as a field of preparation for criminals to do more intense attacks. Since cyberspace runs parallel to the rest of the world, developed countries have an interest in exploiting and dominating it in order to gain sovereignty and influence over their rivals, generating dependence on developing countries to protect their information



(...) We recommend that policymakers consider the joint action of stakeholders and the multiplicity of mechanisms as a response to crimes, since there is no simple and individualized solution to contingency problems that are in constant technical and paradigm evolution. (...)

In addition, there are common jurisdictional specificities as challenges to be overcome since cybercrime presents new dilemmas for conflict resolution and interconnected defense mechanisms. As individual defenses are more vulnerable to updated and strengthened cybercrimes, which are constantly being improved, there are still difficulties in the international legal sphere for the common definition of the criminal, the place of the crime, the crime, and the victim, in order to then prosecute cybercrimes, as they involve jurisdictions of different countries, as well as changing domestic policies and governments.

Cybercrimes are damaging to all actors in the international system, where problems in a national territory can become the subject of global discussion. We recommend that policymakers consider the joint action of stakeholders and the multiplicity of mechanisms as a response to crimes, since there is no simple and individualized solution to contingency problems that are in constant technical and paradigm evolution. Bringing together actors from civil society, the private and public sectors, academia, and technical experts will strengthen cybersecurity and improve effective and legal crime resolutions.



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Keywords: Cyber Security, Cyberspace, Cyber Warfare

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SECURITY CHALLENGES IN A CYBER SOCIETY

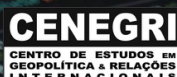
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NOVEMBER, 2023 #09

POLICY BRIEF

THE AMAZON SUMMIT: AN EMERGING DIALOGUE

BEATRIZ DOS SANTOS FERREIRA, SARIZA OLIVEIRA RIBEIRO E IZAN ARAÚJO

THE AMAZON SUMMIT: AN EMERGING DIALOGUE

Why is it still necessary to discuss the Amazon? The Amazon Summit, which aimed to establish new measures for the preservation of the Amazon biome, was hosted in Belém, Pará, Brazil, on August 8th and 9th, 2023, and brought together representatives and leaders from countries that are members of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). The declaration signed during the summit committed to new measures but did not include a common goal of zero deforestation. The dialogue surrounding the Amazon is one of the most crucial topics of our time because it is the most abundant biome among ACTO member countries, the largest tropical forest on the planet, and it directly influences the climate of South America. Let's first explore the benefits this biome provides to member countries of the bloc.

The Amazon is the most abundant biome among ACTO member countries. Eight member countries have a significant portion of the Amazon biome within their territories, including Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. These countries experience direct influences in various economic, political, and socio-environmental aspects. Brazil, in particular, holds over 60% of the biome. The region is home to approximately 40 million inhabitants, including traditional communities from these countries, and it harbors rich ethnic and cultural diversity. Now that we have discussed the Amazon biome in ACTO member countries let us examine the biodiversity of this magnificent tropical forest.

The Amazon rainforest is considered the largest tropical forest in the world, both in terms of size and resources. Its immense biological diversity provides crucial services to the regional ecosystem and its survival. It boasts the largest river basin globally, accounting for 20% of the planet's freshwater. Its natural resources include valuable timber, rubber, and plants with great potential to produce medicines, food, aromas, spices, dyes, and fibers. Additionally, the forest is home to 85% of South

We, therefore, suggest that the country's return to CELAC means a new Brazilian foreign policy paradigm, which Brazilian political geographer André Martin has called "meridionalist," aimed at securing a brazilian's prominent position among the world's major players. By leading this effort with other Latin American nations, Brazil could solidify its leadership position in the global arena.



America's fish species, over 400 species of amphibians, 1,300 bird species, and 400 mammal species. Lastly, we will examine the Amazon's influence on the climate of South American countries.

The third reason why discussing the Amazon is essential lies in its impact on the climate of South America. The forest's evapotranspiration system involves plant transpiration, which is responsible for around 50% of the Amazon's rainfall. According to the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), illegal practices prolong the dry seasons and increase temperatures in deforested areas, impacting the climate of neighboring preserved regions. This occurs because increased deforestation decreases water vapor emission into the atmosphere, reducing local and distant rainfall. After discussing the Amazon biome's influence on the climate of South America, we will present our final considerations.

In summary, the discussion surrounding the Amazon represents one of the most crucial topics of our time, deserving full consideration from society. The abundance of the Amazon biome is evident in ACTO member countries, where the tropical forest is recognized as the largest on the planet, with its undeniable direct influence on the climate of South America. We recommend that policymakers continue to engage with civil society to find alternatives to the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. This is necessary for formulating a new sustainable development strategy for the Amazon based on the bioeconomy, providing a fresh perspective on the biome. In this perspective, the forest will be valued intact, turning ACTO into a geopolitical bloc of reference for socio-environmental issues.



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Keywords: Amazon, Bioeconomy, Climate Change

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NOVEMBER, 2023 #10

POLICY BRIEF

THE GLOBAL DRONE MARKET AND ITS IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURE 4.0


DIEGO VINÍCIUS MARTINS

THE GLOBAL DRONE MARKET AND ITS IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURE 4.0

How can agribusiness maintain food production with quality and low costs? The global drone's market in agriculture alone is projected to grow to \$5.89 billion by 2030 (Allied Market Research). These devices, also known as unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV, in English) have emerged as essential tools to ensure a stable food source. Agricultural drone applications is the key to ensuring a stable food supply because it will prove to be an effective solution in meeting environmental requirements, increasing agribusiness productivity, and helping the sector address challenges such as rising labor costs. Let's first examine environmental protection requirements.

It has been observed that UAVs are an effective solution to meet environmental requirements on various fronts. One of the main advantages of these aircrafts lies in their ability to perform precise monitoring and mapping of cultivated areas. This allows for the detection and assessment of plant health, identification of issues such as nutritional deficiencies, pests, or diseases at an early stage, and contributes to the conservation of water resources. With the use of high-resolution sensors and cameras, drones can help identify areas of inefficient irrigation, where water leaks or wastage occur. Now, let's consider the importance of drones in the productivity of Agriculture 4.0.

Precision agriculture with drones will help the sector increase its productivity. Drones can be employed for various tasks, such as monitoring crops and herds, which was one of their initial uses, enabling an understanding of the main characteristics of a farm. According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, the return on investment for agricultural drones is substantial, with estimates of \$12 per acre for corn and 2 to 3 dollars per acre for soybeans and wheat. Now, let's analyze the sector's challenges, such as the rising cost of labor.

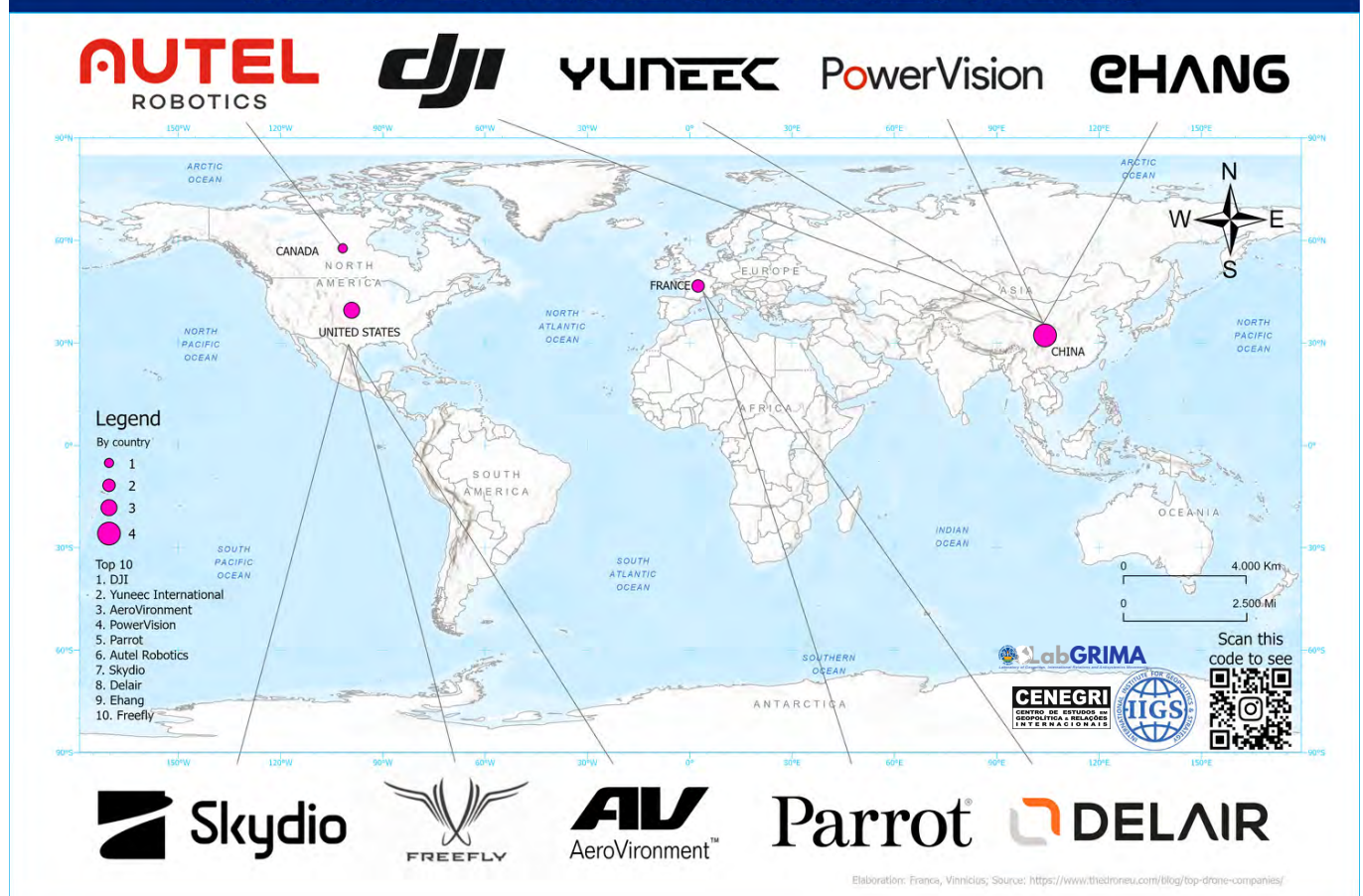


We recommend policymakers consider opening lines of credit for the importation of parts and equipment, coupled with training projects in collaboration with manufacturers to develop specialized workforce, especially operators and maintenance technicians. Additionally, we suggest expediting the approval of legislation that provides legal certainty for sector companies, including dealerships, training schools, and data processing companies.

It will help the agribusiness sector address challenges related to the increasing cost of labor. With technological advancements, UAVs are developed to optimize and streamline various agricultural processes, thereby reducing the dependence on intensive manual labor. For instance, Unmanned aircraft systems in agricultural settings can autonomously herd livestock or assist ranchers in this task, expanding the cattle management capacity, especially on larger properties and in rugged terrains such as mountains and marshy areas. This modernization has proven to be crucial in dealing with human resource limitations. Now, let's present the final considerations.

Utilizing UAVs for farming tasks within the Agriculture 4.0 has been a crucial ally for the agribusiness sector, enabling it to tackle challenges such as the rising cost of labor more efficiently and sustainably. We recommend policymakers consider opening lines of credit for the importation of parts and equipment, coupled with training projects in collaboration with manufacturers to develop specialized workforce, especially operators and maintenance technicians. Additionally, we suggest expediting the approval of legislation that provides legal certainty for sector companies, including dealerships, training schools, and data processing companies.

THE TOP 10 DRONE COMPANIES IN 2023



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Keywords: Agriculture 4.0, Drones, Strategic Hubs.

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THE AMAZON SUMMIT: AN EMERGING
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