

Abstract

During the period of 2000-2010, Brazil's diplomacy sought to increase its political weight as a global player by focusing on the Global South. Brazil's foreign policy guidelines called for reform and amendment of international regimes in order to promote its own status as an emerging global power. This thesis explores the relations between internal Brazilian developments that stemmed from the democratic transformation and new socio-economic policies, and the international rise of Brazil. It also examines the effects of international changes, mainly the end of cold war, globalization and the increase of elect Left governments in Latin America, on foreign policy changes and the direction of Brazil's diplomacy.

Brazil's diplomacy aimed at asserting its regional leadership through enhancing economic and political integration of South America. Along with South-South cooperation, Brazil also rushed to expand its bilateral and multilateral relations with Africa, energized by the historic ethnic and cultural African roots of many of its citizens. It also used the same motives in approaching Arab and Middle Eastern States. In addition to the Brazilian diplomacy interest in making CELAC work as a Latin American forum for political consultation and regional cooperation, Brazil also focused on accelerating the foundation of FEALAC as an exchange and consultation forum for Eastern Asian and Latin American States. Brazil's diplomacy aimed at enforcing its leadership position in these newly founded networks.

One of the major strategies of Brazil's diplomacy was building up coalitions with regional powers in the Global South, based on a common vision for reform in international regimes. This effort began with IBSA as a dialogue forum with India and South Africa in early 2003, in which IBSA supported Brazil's initiative to form the G-20+, the group of developing countries for coordinating its negotiating positions during the Doha round of WTO. In addition, Brazil's diplomacy was actively involved in institutionalization of BRICS as a group of emerging markets with Russia, India, China, and South Africa. BRICS transformed from countries showing economic signals of high growth economies into an international force,

aimed at enhancing cooperation and coordination for reform and change to international systems. It also involved international multilateral organizations in calling for amendments that meet interests and demands of the Global South, requesting more democratic practices inside organizations, which allowing for due representation of developing countries in global decisions making.

As a result of Brazil's international rise and the pragmatic tendency of Brazilian diplomacy, the USA and European Union recognized Brazilian global ambitions and established strategic dialogue around global partnerships with Brazil. These changes were reflected in expansion in economic, technological and security cooperation.

The conclusion of this study is that, in order for Brazil's diplomacy to continue its international rise, there are major strategic, economic and internal challenges that Brazil must address. There is a great need to improve working methods within the Ministry of External Relations (Itamaraty), in particular inviting participation from new actors of civil society, including academia and the private sector, to participate in planning and implementing Brazil's foreign policy to shoulder the nation's responsibilities as a new global power.

Many aspects of Brazil's foreign policy and diplomacy still in need more research, mainly those related to the link between the rise of Brazil's diplomacy and the rise of new powers of Global South.