

Municipal Elections and Midterm Review of the Bolsonaro Government

Online event series on Brazil

Feb. 26, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Winners and Losers of the 2020 Municipal Elections

March 5, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

The Party System between Fragmentation and Consolidation

March 12, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Domestic Politics and Social Movements

March 19, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Foreign Policy and International Relations

April 9, 5-7 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Government and Congress

April 16, 5-7 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Government and Judiciary

Coordination:

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Via Cisco Webex



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Preußischer Kulturbesitz



**Programa de Pós-Graduação
em Ciência Política**

Universidade de São Paulo

The 2020 municipal elections in Brazil were a first test for the government of President Jair Bolsonaro, who took office in January 2019. The current government has announced and initiated fundamental changes of direction in many policy areas. The Online Event Series brings together scholars from Brazil and Europe to discuss the results of the November 2020 municipal elections in the context of the Brazilian political system, and to draw a balance of the first two years of government under President Bolsonaro.

Format: six panels of approx. 90 minutes each. The panelists will first have 15 minutes to make an introductory statement on the topic, followed by a moderated discussion.

Language: English

Registration: eventsonline@iai.spk-berlin.de



Feb. 26, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Winners and Losers of the 2020 Municipal Elections

How should the results of the 2020 elections be understood against the backdrop of Brazil's fragmented party landscape? Has the weight shifted between the different political groupings? What role do the "old" parties PT, PSDB and PMDB play? Were the "winners" of the 2018 elections, PSL and Novo, able to hold their own in the local elections? What does the result mean for the current federal government, whose president is currently non-partisan?

Panelists:

Claudio Couto (Fundação Getulio Vargas, São Paulo)

Rodrigo Rodrigues-Silveira (Universidad de Salamanca)

March 5, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

The Party System between Fragmentation and Consolidation

Why are there so many political parties in Brazil? How stable is electoral behavior and what factors influence it? How did the 2016 reform of public campaign finance rules and the 2020 ban on electoral coalitions, which applied for the first time, affect the local party systems? What were the consequences of laws promoting women and Black candidates?

Panelists:

Bruno Speck (Universidade de São Paulo)

George Avelino (Fundação Getulio Vargas, São Paulo)

March 12, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Domestic Politics and Social Movements

The Bolsonaro government initiated radical changes in many policy areas. The turnaround in environmental, economic and social policy gives economic interests priority over the common good, while changes in educational, family and foreign policy are shaped by the government's ideological rhetoric. The question of equal rights for women is also central to the new neoconservative canon of values. The Panel deals specifically with the changed situation of women in various areas of society since the Bolsonaro government took office.

Panelists:

Renata Motta (Freie Universität Berlin)

Teresa Sacchet (Universidade Federal da Bahia)

March 19, 4-6 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Foreign Policy and International Relations

The Bolsonaro government has also made a radical change of course in the field of international relations, not only with regard to the foreign policy of PT governments, but according to many observers, with regard to the fundamental paradigms of Brazilian foreign policy. The strong emphasis on conservative and religiously motivated values in foreign policy discourse, the turning away from Latin America and the quasi-automatic alliance with the U.S. government under President Trump are some of the core components of this reorientation.

Panelists:

Britta Weiffen (The Open University, Milton Keynes)

Monica Herz (Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro)

April 9, 5-7 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Government and Congress

The government's political leadership style is distinct from previous governments. Relations with Congress were tense for most of the first two years of government. While the predecessor governments relied on fixed majorities according to the model of coalition presidentialism, the current government repeatedly goes toe-to-toe with Congress.

Panelists:

Fernando Limongi (Universidade de São Paulo / Fundação Getulio Vargas)

Timothy Power (University of Oxford)

April 16, 5-7 p.m. (Germany) / 12-2 p.m. (Brazil)

Government and Judiciary

The prosecutor's office and the judiciary have repeatedly declared government actions unlawful. Sharp disputes have arisen especially between the Supreme Federal Court STF and the president, members of the government and his family. What are the prospects for the relationship between the Government and Congress until the next Presidential elections in October 2022?

Panelists:

Luciano Da Ros (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)

Sérgio Costa (Freie Universität Berlin)